COMPLETE DIARY OF SERVICE IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR. WITH THE 2ND. 2ND. INDEPENDENT COMPANY FROM THE 12th.12.41. to 16.12.42.

Katherine River Staging as a company. Was called on parade at 0300 hours on 7th. Dec. 41. Japanese declared War. Moved 0600 hours by cattle truck to Darwin. fully equipped unit. Staged at Winellie overnight and boarded troopship Zealandia at 1000 hours on the 8th Dec. 41. accompanied by the troopship Australia carrying the 2nd.40th. Wharf labourers held our departure up by their leisurely manner in handling our stores. Finally pulled away at 0200 hours on the 10th. Dec. 41. Both ships being escorted by corvette only. Arrived Kopang harbour 1000 hours 12th. Dec. 41. And so embarked to camp on the outskirts of drome. Morning of the 16th. Dec. A & C Platoons were ordered to embark for Dilli on the Surabaya (Dutch Cruiser). Landed in full scale operations on the outskirts of the Dili aerodrome on the 17th. Dec. 41. and took up positions awaiting the surrender of the drome and the Mili capital which was brought about by word of mouth and so no action developed. First four days and nights were sleepless ones owing to a primitive defence to protect our objective. the guarding of the Dili As time was limited we mapped the whole area and drew up a plan of retreat. First day of enemy activity 8th. Feb. 42. 2 Jap. fighters dived on our position. no fire exchanged.

Second day of action 13th.Feb.42. 2 Jap. fighters dived similarly. Was first to fire on it but none come in return.

Japanese land Dili 2200 hours 19th Feb.42. Action met by Smithy and Ryan at 0300 hours. Smithy fatally wounded, both taken prisoner. Next action took part on our flank at a range of 20 yards with our Cpl. bayonetting one Jap and the remainder of us accounting of a great number. Great credit for heroism went to Pte. Poynton. Our section runner Pte. C.E. Doyle said in his own words (A man is going to get killed here so he may as well get killed taking this message through) Message bearing importance of our critical positions to our 2/I.C.

He alone carried this through with great heroism and I hereby remark Cyril should have been decorated.

At the first glimpse of daybreak our 2 sappers blew the aerodrome which had been previously mined and our only retreat was through the cover of the falling debris, and so contacted our section leader making us 9 in all to make a decision at the Dutch Headquarters of Dili where lay dead and dying aliens through lack of medical attention; as most of their Doctors had fled with their Colonel Van Strutten numbering 200 soldiers into the hills. We did our best along with two Dutch Doctors, knowing that the township was surrounded by theis, and at 0630 hours we made our dash for the hills. Finally we reached one of the main inland roads and contacted the Dutch staff car and truck, jumping aboard with the intention of making quicker time to the first range of hills. The going was tough with no information of what lay ahead. We blindly ran into a native vallage held by Japanese who made to their defences in quick time, giving us time to make cover. Just at that time the machine guns opened up. There again Pte Poynton displayed heroism silencing a machine gun nest and giving us time to get much needed cover and further away.

Five of us finished up together in a deep creek crevice right below their camp as we could hear their peculiar jabber. Not knowing what became of the other four we stayed doggo until they started to move our vehicles off the road coveringup our noisy retreat down the rocky creek bed, where we hid until dark. Our next objective was our own headquarters at Reliacca, with no knowledge of the country which lay ahead, and our only movements made by night as movement by daylight was out of the question.

After 4 days and nights we ran into our own headquarters perimitive, it being a great welcome to see us and us also to see the rest of the section, and for me most of all to see cyril. In all that time we hadn't had a bite or even slept. There we were organised by Capt. Baldwin (Respirator Ralph) and given our positions as a section approximately a day's march from each other.

On the morning of the 2nd.3.42. our section No.2. contacted approximately 50 Japs killing 31 with no casualty or loss to ourselves.

Our first rays of hope when our signaller from H.Q. section built up an unorthodox wireless, the parts being fought for through hard ordeals by getting through the Jap lines. And so contacted Australia 19th.4.42.

Darwin's message received, we had been given up for lost but now would do their best to help us in every way.

Lockheed plane sighted on the 26th.4.42. checking up on our whereabouts and signalling messages from plane to ground.

Transport plane parachutes equipment, mostly ammunition and arms on the 27th.4.42. Promoted to L/Cpl on the 12.5.42. the day being 12 months after my enlistment.

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2.
Wouned evacuted by Catalina 15.5.42.
Dili capital bombed by RAAF 20.5.42.
Most important received mail, it being the first since the 18.12.42. Mail received 26.5.42.
Boat arrives with stores 27.5.42.
Dili once again by 9 bombers 28.5.42.
American plane machine gunned Dili 31.5.42.
Reports from B Platoon Section OP Dili severe damaging done.
Dili - Earemerza - Tocalilie bombed causing casualties to the enemy 6.6.42.
Letofho - Ailue - Baremerra - Vilamarie - Dili bombed and machine gunned 8.6.42.
8 planes unidentified fly over 13.6.42.
Have destroyed 19 Japanese army trucks up till the 17.6.42.
Recorded Smithy's death by the Australian Consul Mr. Ross who arrived at our headquarters
from Dili with the Surrender Pamphlet saying Dili was ruined and the Japs were moving
out of the town 24.6.42.
No. 2. Section moves to Maliarno near the Dutch border to regain information of
enemy movements 29.6.42.
Successful bombing on Dili ammunition dumps large fires caused through incendiary
bombs and 50 casualties. 2.7.42.
Further pinpointing by our Dili OP enabled the RAAF to wipe out wireless station
and most important ammunition dump, the Dili church situated on the waterfront. 3.7.42.
Boat arrives with mtores. Sick evacuated by same 7.7.42.
Newly erected Jap. barracks wirelessed to Darwin H.Q. and so successfully machine
gunned by 6 RAAF planes 9.7.42.
Jap. planes machine gunned Earemerra.
                                       It being our staging area for the sick.
No casualty. 14.7.42.
Flying Boat arrives with mail and comfortm.
                                              Sick evacuated 16.7.42.
Myself being held up at Anairo Hospital through having a tropical ulcer.
section Maliarno after 50 mile trek taking 16 hours. 17.7.42.
Received mail individually, having 16 letters in mine.
                                                        None from Miss Mawson. 20.7.42.
Received comforts individually 24.7.42.
At 0630 hours further stores arrived by boat escorted by five Boston bombers. 29.7.42.
Bombers more frequently in flights of 5 & 9 from 31.7.42. to 2.8.42.
Information 14. planes dili drome 3.8.42.
Received comforts chocolates. 3.8.42.
Section commander leaves on secret mission Lt. McKenzie. Cpl. Curran takes over command 5.8.42.
Pommy commandoes visit our section question spy information valuable 7.8.42.
Japanese Boats numbering 16. West. Coast. 7.8.42.
Japanese Bombers numbering 7. bomb bobnara. Mape. Beaco. 20 bombs.dropped. 9.8.42.
Moved with Dutch patrol at 2300 hrs. to Wilulie area to contact 50 Japanese & 30 native
coolies travelled all night. 9.8.42.
Return to section Maliarno no loses. 10.8.42.
Japanese 200 hrs. march from Maliarno section moves into hills to prepare for major
battle. 11.8.42.
Moved into Maliarno at 0.600 hrs. to contact Japanese booby traps set kill few open fire
kill more retreated lead flying 12.8.42.
2 Jap boats sunk off south coast. 14.8.42.
Fought for 6 days and nights, no food. Odds 400 Japs to 30 Aussies. 15.8.42,
Covered 100 miles cross country, killed many, lost 2 men. 17.8.42.
Awaiting instructions to move east, Japs pushing hard to cut us off.
                                                                       Same night boat
arrives, sick and wounded evacuated. 18.8.42.
Move at dusk for final attack, Japs being 2 hours away.
                                                         No happenings, owing to the
Japs getting orders to move back to their own H.Q., fearing a major landing by the Aust-
ralians. 19.8.42.
                                                        (Bonnie 19)
RAAF Bomb and machine-gun Japs at Mobesie.
                                             20.8.42.
                                            Dog fight overhead, Jap Zeros and our Hudson
Boat arrives, sick and wounded evacuated.
           1 Zero being shot down and 1 Hudson crashing with the pilot parachuting out,
and picked up by our patrol, safe but badly burnt.
                                                     21.8.42.
                                  Fighting ceased temporarily. Japs seem to be
Jap convoy heading east of Dili.
                     22.8.42.
fearing a landing.
All quiet north south fronts.
                                0900 hours Jap rec. planes scouting around for our
                                                              Plane drops rations,
             Doing day and night patrols covering all roads.
              Whole of campaign estimate, killed 150 Japs. 23.8.42.
bully beef.
Japanese moved right back into the hills and we moved in to Portuguese Postoa's. 24.8.42.
RAAF sunk 2 Japanese ships on the south coast. 25.8.42.
                               Killed 4 and wounded many, with the use of spears only.25.8.42.
```

Continuously doing day and night patrols and day observation on all fronts. 25.8.42. Timorese natives raging war against the Portuguese, 1 Commandant being killed. 26.8.42. Hundreds of natives passing through our lines to fight against the Pro-Jap. natives.

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Natives attack Dutch patrol.

Japs all quiet. 28.8. 42.

Mr. Wall

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Received message from Australia congratulating us on putting up a stout resistance in
our last engagement. 29.8.42.
Hoping for natives to bring in food to our hideouts as we are very hungry. 30.8.42.
20 planes escorting 8 ships. Unidentified. 30.8.42.
Left Aienaro with pony pack train and a Dutchman on stretcher.
                                                                Taking 12 days trek to
       Food very scarce in this area. Make out on a few wild pings. 31.8.42.
Left Same for Betino south coast, spent night on beach awaiting arrival of boat. 1.9.42
Boat arrives at 2210 hours.
                             Herb Thomas going home. Work all night unloading. Go
aboard boat, news from home good. Boat evacuated 14 men. 4 Heads came ashore to stay.
All slept on beach to protect stores. Bitten by sandflies and mosquitos.
of mail and money arrived also. 2.9.42.
Carting stores from beach to cover from Jap aircraft. Lived on maize and pumpkin.3.9.42.
1 Chink spy shot Ainaro. 6.9.42.
Just completed 8 days trip with pony pack train of cemforts and mail. 8.9.42.
Natives return from their individual massacres bringing with them native women prisoner
and so performed The Lorronsyle Dance for the first time since 1912. The custom is,
the men are beheaded at every beat of the drum and the women keck the heads along the
streets. 9.9.42.
Leave on 2 day trek, climb over 7000 ft. range. Return with malaria on the 11.9.42.
Needed by the night of the 13th. 400 horses on south coast.
Strong rumour of reinforcements needed. 12.9.42.
2 Yankee subs in Dili harbour. Shore batteries open up.
                                                           Subs dismiss. 12.9.42.
Japs moving out again in larger force. 12.9.42.
2 Jap ships bombed in Timor Sea. 1 sunk. Our ship turned back. 13.9.42.
Flying boat Batona Have idea advanced party landing. 13.9.42.
Preparations for a landing. Hope to be relieved. 14.9.42.
3 spies shot at Ainaro. Came from Dilil.
                                            14.9.42.
Large ship anchors Batona. Awaiting good news. 15.9.42.
Information 300 Japs go to Bauciu from Dili on push bike.
                                                           50 stay Maututa. 16.9.42.
Information 18 officers landed Batona from boat. No.2. section staging Ainaro. Get
orders to move to Batona by midday of the 20th. 17.9.42.
Leave Ainaro 0120 hours for the Beach, with Jap movement reported. 18.9.42.
Travel all day 1 meal. Sleep bamboo creek, 5 mins. from beach.
Have high hopes of embarking for good old Aussie. 19.9.42.
One section blazed 2 trucks crossing bridge, near Viqueqie. 19th.
                                                                   Japs ring our head-
quarters.
           "Be in Mobesie on the 20th." 2 days march from the beach. 20.9.42.
Turn 21 today.
                20.9.42.
Boat expected the night of the 22nd. with 2ND. 4TH. IND. Cay.
Though we are still in the dark. 21.9.42.
Jap bomber flies over boat enroute to us delaying her. 22.9.42.
Pilot from crashed Hudson eventually reaches our lines to board the boat on arrival.22.9.42.
At dusk a destroyer steamed in (Voyager) and lands the 2nd.4th. Ind.Coy. Runs
aground and eventually becomes beached. New company moves to our old areas by
platoons, some having 3 days march ahead of them. Sailors work all night unloading,
no hope of saving ship. 23.9.42.
Jap bombers and fighters bomb and machine-gun boat.
                                                     Crew bring down 2 planes.
6 of the crew wounded. Bombing goes on till dark.
                                                    23.9.42.
400 Japanese contacted Mobesie. 40 killed. No casualties to us. 23.9.42.
At 2000 hours skipper of the Voyager gives orders to scuttle the destroyer. Depth
charge blows bothsides of engine room. Shells explode. Manage to salvage Vickers
and Lewis Guns. Canteen goods saved.
                                        Had first taste of EMU BEER.
                                                                      Tobacco
                 (Drastic) Bomb lands on 100 doz. of E.B. on the beach.
and cigarettes.
                                                                          And so lies
a gallant ship worth one million £... Jap bombers keep bombing. Machine-gun our
positions. No further casualities.
                                      Amongst the salvaged goods were our 1941 XMAS
          That evening 2 sloops sneak in and evacuate sailors in \frac{3}{4} of an hour. 25.9.42.
Japs bombed the crippled Destroyer for 3 days without hitting her once, dropping
in all 73 bombs. 26.9.42.
A Platoon contact Japs. Kill 60.
                                    Push rest back.
                                                      Our section standing by for
                         Japs re-organise 500 push our way. 2 Platoons fall back
landing on south coast.
losing contact.
                 Our section goes forward to contact Japs at river Junction.
out Japs move to Batano to investigate the Voyager. We move back to base at 0200 hrs.
Batano patrol find out Japs move back at 0300 hours, destroyer having been their main
         Japs capture some of our stores, the rest we had destroyed. 30.9.42.
Our section still enhoying Aussie food unofficially. Continuous standing patrols.3.10.42.
Recalled to our platoon Commander, it being an all day trek. 5.10.42.
Daily routinescrounge for food. Do return trip to the coast to salvage food for
the section, living in Boong huts. In formation gathered Jap HQ. estimated 600
at Aileu. 11.10.42.
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Wirelessed Darwin of same and Aileu bombed at dusk on the 12.10.42. Japs fighters patrolling all fronts. 13.10.42. Night also. Ditto. 14.10.42.

Daily routine and RAAF bombing of Aileu. Japs moving to the East end of island, burning all native huts and Portuguese buildings. (Method) To try and cripple us for winter shelter.16th.

0600 hours 3 Jap planes bomb our base dropping 14 bombs, damage to Portuguese building. 17.10.42.

Information received Japs hard up for food. Also supply routes and communications cut off. Our Dili OP has been spotted and bombed and machine-gunned but still remains intact. A platoon standing by 17.10.42.

Japanese push C platoon out of area. No casualties. 18.10.42.

Pony pack train standing by for arrival of boat, already cancelled 9 times. Still living in hopes. 19110.42.

Japs moving on all fronts. Transport convoy in Dili. 12 truck loads of Japs moving along on east road. 20.10.42.

Dili OP pushed out of position by Jap bombing and machine-gunning. Jap troops surround position, but OP reports safe. NO.L. Section moves out on secret mission. Japs moving interactive south east. 21.10.42.

Section leader McKenzie is recalled to force permanently. Cpl. Curran takes over. Japs moving into Ainaro 22.10.42.

Jap hostile boongs move out with about 20 Jap troops, attacked in each drive, burning likely ambush spots and native huts. One section of Don platoon contact main party of boongs returning. Killing a few, no casualties. C platoon raided Mobesisie finding only Jap boongs. Shot them up and retired without loss. No activity on our front. 23.10.42.

The boat Vigilant arrived landing 4 officers and taking off 12 wounded (sick) 24.10.42. Daily reconnaiscance, moving forward to take up long range firing. 4 Jap native spies shot. Hostile aircraft every merning. 27;10;42.

No. 2. Sub-section take up positions on the 28.10.42.

Transport boat arrives Dili at 1700 hours. Wirelessed Darwin and same was bombed.29.10.42. Manatuta road blown up by our sappers and are continuously being repaired by Jap Coolies. "B Platoon of the 2ND. 4TH.IND COY. killed 70 Japs near previously blown up road. No casualties. One section plus friendly native (Creardo's) kill 100% hostile natives and 1 Jap, in Nunamouga Valley. No casualty. Japs on all fronts moving out to Mape-Beaco-Artsaubie-Mobelsie 30.10.42.

Japs bomb and machine-gun at Mape. (their own troops)

New positions in Dili bombed successfully at 1730 hours. Township in flames.

Bombed by the Dutch. 31.10.42.

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Japanese occupied Mobeisie in force. 1.11.42.

9 American planes bomb and outskirts at 0800 hours all bombs falling on their target. Next Wave came over at 2300 hours, then again 0300 hours and 0900 hours.

The last Wave was intercepted by 4 Jap Zeros, crippling one of the American bombers with a message later informing us that he didn't make his base but all crew were saved. 1 Zero was shot down. 3.11.42.

300 horses (Euda's) in pack train move from Bobanaro to Atsarbi not knowing how many Japs moved with same. 2 Sectionscontacted at Hatabeleco inflicting casualties. Jap Rec. plane machine guns our billets for 10 minutes. No casualities. Information received from Dili Jap Zeros circled the drome on arrival time of our bombers at 8000 ft. and ACK.ACK.keeps practicing all day. Same waswirelessed to bomber crew. 0800 Jap fighter bomber sighted 6 Boston Bomers. Turned tailand fled.

Bomberskeep formation and bomb their objective, that being Aileu and Mobeisie using 2000 lb bombs. A lapse of ten minutes 3 Zeros fly over bombed areas. Bostons return safely. 4.11.42.

300 civil natives joining us for attack on Mobessie Saddle. 5.11.42.

Moved into the hills to take up positions expecting a Jap drive. Meantime boat arrives. Awaiting good news. 6.11.42.

Strong rumour of Jap landing Betona patrol investigated all clear 7.11.42.

50 bags of parcels land off boat. No.1. Section plus 3-400 natives attack Mobeisie Saddle burning all huts, contacting no hostile natives. Movietone man and War officials arrive on boat. 8.11.42.

Daily routine. 9.11.42.

Japanese burned down all native huts in Cassar and moved back to Mape. Received mail. 5 Jap planes patrolling the coast. 10th. 3 latest Hudson Bombersflew overhead at 0600 hours bombing Mobeisie. 11111.42.

Moved out with the Sub Section to relieve forward OP 12.11.42

Small party of Japs and Boongs move to Artsarbe from Bobnaro. 1 Section with wivil enieri. boongs drive them back on the 13.11.42. id squi. Dutch reports party of Japs attack Cassar at 0515 hours then move back to Beaca. Ditto. Helly r 27 trucks of Japs arrive Baucau at 1300 hours. Newly OP position reports 4 small merchant vessels & 3 destroyers arrived Dili. from the west 1600 hours. arrivered for wan planes patrolling. 14.11.42. e i (mad Jap fighter bomber flies over No.2 Section's OP. Japs occupy Ataleare - Earamerra -Manuto bombed on Japs entering. ouile o 250 Japs reported to be on Mindello emrobat Saddle. 15.11.42. tin Jus Movietone Camerman interviews C Platoon stage a mock battle burn down Mindello Posts aniam va and native huts, also a realistic show exchanging shotswith the enemy. Our planes strafed Bobanaro - Mobeisie. Report says Japs in Dili evacuate from severe bombing BOURGE! ह्या प्रताल and move into the hills and seem to be doing likewise to all occupied towns. 16.11.42. mivil Our own Beaufighters mistook Same for Mobeisie and strafed narrowly missing our own our Brief. Australia apologised for the mistake. 17.11.42. 3 33 10 to Our sub-section No. 2. relieved from forward OP with Jap planes patrolling overhead.18.11.42 D. L. () Received immediate report from forward section 200 Japs and 500 pro-Jap nigs moving through our area to Same. rocaltic Took up our positions, slept in relays, watching and waiting for dawn to break, with our only plane of abode, a rocky creek bed. Enive was false. 19.11.42. ection om agel, Boat arrives with stores and mail. 20.11.42. lap ho: Jap pro-nigs reported in our area. Taking all precautions. 21.11.42. Litely One Jap plane bombed our headquarters. Ilalik. No damage. In return our planes good to bombed Mape and Beaco. 22.11.42. f - 0 One Jap destroyer and transport in Dili harbour, wirelessed through, ame night being · From bombed. 23.11.42. 300 DT 200 Japs and pro-Jap nigs reported in Hata-hudo. Dutch contact them. Fruitless r - 119. battle. 24.11.42. s delan Japs reported in Ainaro. Try to circle forward section. Jap pro-nigs burn huts(oomers) .5 .0" in Same valley. 25.11.42. Y112,11,11 We 6 contacted a great number of Jap pro-nigs in Same valley and drove them back and Listinger. incidentally they managed to burn two villages down. 9 of our planes bombed Hata-hud0 Mark B with every success in catching the Japs lined up for breakfast. Later our sub-section reported on that particular incident, of a great number of Japs killed, not being മദ്വ വിദ് , of large buried, also many buried in bomb craters rather hurriedly in their rush to evacuate. -900 Same planes also strafed Mape and Beaco. 26.11.42. ni tur it. 3 to 400 Jap pro-nigs moving our way, move to contact them and they retreated Mer por hastily. 27.11.42. Immediate message recalled us at 0300 hours from our forward positions to move into Letting. achennai. Same and at 0700 hours received orders to proceed to Batona beach, a two day march. Arriving Batona orders given "Must keep Batona beach open for 5 days" 28.11.42. month of A woll Move into positions guarding river crossings day and night. Idea of being evacuated.29.11.4 . 1 044 One boat arrives out of three, one being the corvette Armidale , sunk with 90 e diti Boat evacuates 65 Portuguese. 30.11.42. Dutchmen aboard. 1 Zero Curing x tax ka Received official orders Australian troops will be evacuated on the sed out Tonight 2 Corvettes will take Dutch and Hospital off. 30.11.42. ur anst. Owing to bad visibility 2 boats anchored in wrong bay. Japanese sighted off the 11 .1279 coast and air activity holding up evacuations. Japs now wide awake to our movement. receire Strafed Batano beach. Remainder of hospital and Dutch moving back to safety. 15 For 1985 . Expecting a Jap landing. 1.12.42. ift get Jap planes continuously patrolling. No news from Australia. 2.12.42. $r (\neg d n r)^{\alpha}$ Jap plane dropped one bomb on Fatocauk, our headquarters up from the beach and machine-1 0005 gunned the beach again. 3.12.42. safely Latest report "We will now move on the night of the 7th Dec. No enemy land force 300 ct activity as yet. Waiting ever so anxiously for our homeward journey. Report from Dili "Re-inforcing embark 25 truck loads of Japs. 6.12.42. : bevoil Dutch patrol move out again to gain information of Jap whereabouts. Final report arrive ⇒aord& being 14 bombers bombed Buacuao. 7.12.42. pagd Of 9 bombers flew over, one patrolling coast in search of Jap service craft. 8.12.42. afbhet: Information. everything on theup and up. Navy on the job. But don't know officia when andwhere as yet. 9.12.42. : viliati 0600 hours Same surrounded by Japs. Vickers and Mortars fired on bomb platoon. course. 2 Aussies killed and 6 missing. Don platoon them moves throughto Batano to wait gal. 2 for boat with the loss of their wireless, automatic weapons and money. id (00.27) Dutch Destroyer fastest in Australian waters arrives Batano Bay 0100 hours, evacuates i bernli 300 of us in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Left at 0230 hours. 100% miles out to sea, our own fighter planes escorted them into Darwin. Did the trip in 17 hours, leaving the remainder of us with high spirits and returning on the night of the 10th Dec.

Remainder of the Coy. with one patrol out, contacts Japs between Same and Elas. Have two engagements. No casualty. 11.12.42.

Our section recalled to Batano from our river crossing position immediately. Japs mortaring Fataquak. Only 2 hours away. They eventually surrounded our headquarters, but everyone got through safely, leaving them to occupy Fataquak at 1000 hours. Our section encircles their hill positions and establishes a platoon headquarters between them and our extraction point, it being 1. hours away. Japs move from Fataquak 1500 hours taking up positions at Batano, our previous extraction point at 1730 hours.

By movement observation No.1. Section counted 100 Japs and 300 pro-Jap nigs. Captured the leading scout nig who immediately met his ancestors.(after questioning)12.12.42. We immediately moved back into Fataquak 1200 hours, took up day and night patrols, report Jap still at Batano. 13.12.42.

The previously missing 6 men from the last major engagement at Same, arrived at Fataquak, one being a wounded stretcher case, remainder of company moving in close. 3 Jap planes patrolling consistently, 14.12.42.

0800 hours our section moves to east Batano to guard beach tracks. Most precious orders given "WE'RE BEING EVACUATED TONIGHT."

<u>DUTCH DESTROYER</u> arrives at Alice Bay 2145 hours. Worked hard unloading stores for the 2ND. 4TH. COY. Our sub-section of No.2 being the last to board the dinghy and so we sailed away from the shore of Timor at 0030 hours. Tasted bread, butter and jam, the first for 12 months. 15.12.42.

Have one alert on trip, our fighters escort ship as previously. Arrived Darwin at dusk after an 18 hour trip. 16.12.42.

To conclude. Most important, 4 men of B platoon ambushed a column of Japs headed by the Singapore Tiger on horseback. Cpl Scotty Taylor in charge, with a successfully planned ambush concentrated his line of fire on the Singapore Tiger, who most decidely met his ancestors.

THE END.....