



11 Platoon B Company from back (left to right): Darkie Bulmer, Aub Martini, Doc Doherty, Wes Block, "Blue" Phipps, George Bradshaw, Frank Ballantyne, Kevin Newman, Pat Coglein, Morrie Coglein. Centre: Stan Andrews, ?, Doug McShane, Doug Carey, Vern Block, ?. Behind: Frank Binney, Morrie Moran. Front: Ray Rooke, Wingey Pitt, P. Higgins.



Stan Tucker, Bill Shuttlewood and Rex Baguley were three of the "Sigs" attached to "D" Coy at Munda, New Georgia, British Solomons.



The fenicular railway up Barges Hill, which rose to an approximate height of 2000 feet (600 metres) above the river valley.



Another view of the fenicular railway up Barges Hill (about halfway). Prior to this masterpiece being built all equipment, ammunition, food and supplies, as well as dismantled motor vehicles, had to be carried up the zig-zag track. Barges Hill was approximately 2000 feet high.



One of the Jeeps with crew. These carried supplies along the Numa Numa Trail, as far as Berry's Hill, one of the vehicles man-handled up Barge's Hill after it had been converted to a "Jeep" track.



Another feature of the Numa Numa Trail. With constant rain it was at most times, hard to traverse.



The Numa Numa Trail, which leads across the centre of Bougainville to the East. A jeep track was later constructed all the way from top of Barge's Hill to Berry's Hill, about 5 miles! The vegetation has been literally blasted away by the constant Artillery Mortar and blasting by aircraft on the enemy, as the 7 Bn advanced.



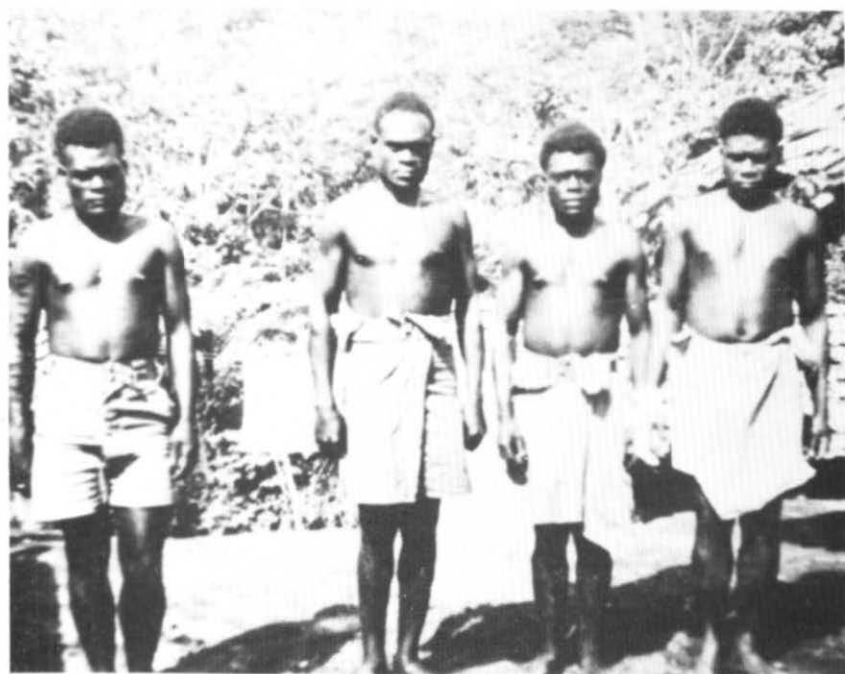
Members of "D" Coy on Bougainville, 1945. L. Floyd, F. Slattery, T. Green, D. Davern, S. Langham and G. Pitt, with two other unknowns.



There's always time for a cup of tea and the YMCA or Salvation Army were always there to supply.



Lt Col Harry Dunkley and some of his officers.



Four of the Native guides and Scouts, Emirau, Willy Silly Supili and Hois, who were considered part of the Battalion.



Jack Wells and Bill Jackson, do their bit to widen the Numa Numa Trail.



Widening the Numa Numa Trail took lots of man hours and hard work. Sgt Bob Hudson and his merry men, with assistance from members of the Mortar and MMG Platoons did an excellent job.





The Sigs had over 70 miles of cable to maintain on Bougainville, as well as supplying radio communication with the rifle companies. Some of the large compliment of men needed to maintain these activities: Stan Tucker, Jack Manley, Bill Roberts, Henry McGauchie, Ron Ziersch, Albert Young, Harry Dean, Noel Wenck, ?, Eddie Schofield, Jack Stackpole, George Isaacs and George Leamon.



Sel Bietzel, Pat Walsh, George Baker, ?, George Leamon, Ron Ziersch, Keith Alexander, Tony George, Stan Howden, Bert Faux and Harold Cook, after a game of volley-ball.



Artillery Hill on Bougainville, so named because of the large number of Artillery strikes called down upon it to dislodge the enemy.



A view of Mt Bagana, a very active volcano which scared the daylights out of nearly everybody when it erupted to greet the 7th Battalion members on Bougainville in April, 1945. It became affectionately known as "Old Smokey" or "Smokey Joe" as it continued to shake the area on a number of occasions.



The ANGAU Camp at the bottom of Barges Hill.



A further view of the Numa Numa Trail, with one of the permanent positions.



Three of the young Lieutenants, Harry Veale, Roy Phippard and Cliff Cameron.



This is a Japanese "Zero", used for dropping surrender leaflets over enemy territory. The leaflets called upon the enemy forces to surrender. This aeroplane was from Buin in the South of Bougainville and was flown to Piva Airstrip at Torokina for the occasion.



War graves at Torokina, Bougainville. The grave on the left is that of Captain Brown, OC "D" Coy, who was killed in an aeroplane crash in 1944.



Graves of the 7th Battalion members when located at Torokina. P.R. Phipps and S.G. Lowe, both members of "B" Coy.

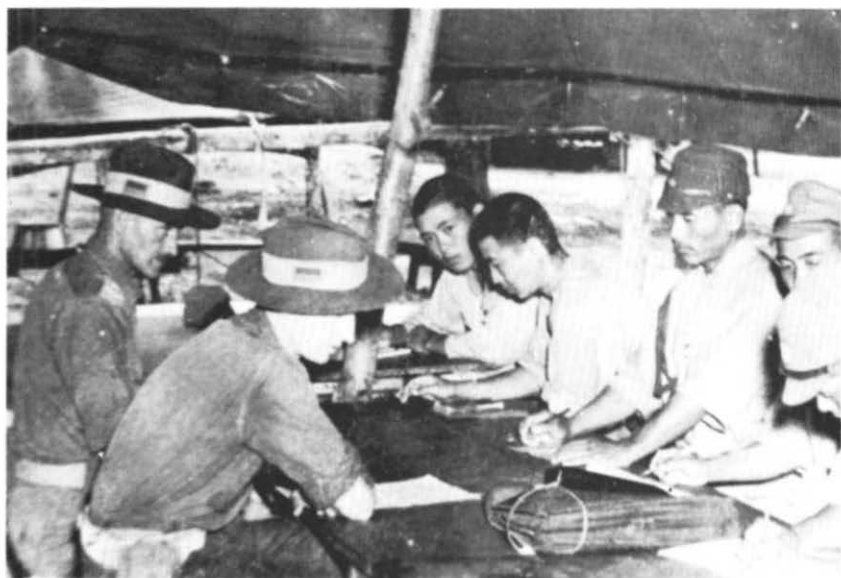


The Signals Platoon had been dispersed over the Solomons area for several months (Treasury Island Group, New Georgia Group, then Bougainville) and finally grouped as a Platoon again on Fauro Island.

*Left to Right (back row):* Harold Cook, Ron Wilson, Bob Burns, George Leamon, Rex Baguley, Brian Johnson, Bill Shuttlewood, Meg Withell, Harold Dean, Tony George, Noel Wenck, Pat Walsh. *Sitting:* K.J. Leen (attached), George Baker, George Isaacs, Stan Tucker, Keith Alexander, Stan Howden, Lt Cliff Cameron, Ron Ziersch, Sel Beitzel, Jack Manley, Ron Harford, Keith Bird. *Front:* G.J. Gorman (attached), Ken Adams, W.D. Myers (attached), Albert Young, Jack Stackpole, Syd Holland.



General Kanda and his entourage arrive aboard the HMAS Diamantina, to sign the surrender documents — Bougainville, 1945.



Major Ces Jones and Capt Bill McInnes, allocate the work tasks for the day to the Japanese.



A view of Fauro Island with the main camp area at Central Bay. On the right background is the island where most of the Japanese were quartered. Each day they would arrive by barge, be allocated their duties and return in the evening to their own island camps. Fauro Island, the final base of 7 Bn before it dispersed to "civvies".