



Type T Patch Code (New Document)

For use with Documents with Protective Markings up to and including [redacted]

Document UIN

1 0 0 0 2 2 6

PM

Caveat

0 0

0 0

NOTE: [redacted]
and other Caveats are
NOT PERMITTED.
Give document special handling.

Prepared By

Number of Sheets

3

2 9

Note: See coding sheet for Protective Marking (PM), Caveat and Prepared By codes.

For use with Documents with Protective Markings up to and including [redacted]

RC29

863

2 10-84

TELEGRAM
AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAM

TELECOM
AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAM

TELECOM
AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAM



AL 434- SBQ 125- NCA205 -
CANBERRA TLX ACT 67 4.44P

URGENT MSGR



23 EIDSVOLD ST

KEPERRA

WOULD YOU PLEASE TELEPHONE ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON
062458553 (REVERSE CHARGES) ON THE SOURCE OF FIGURES USED
IN THE AUSTRALIAN ON MONDAY 23RD MARCH WHICH QUOTED YOU
AS THE SOURCE? STOP I WILL BE AT HOME ON 062731482
WHERE YOU COULD RING ME THIS EVENING STOP
FROM [REDACTED] DEPT OF NAT DEV AND ENERGY CANBERRA

COL 23 062458553 23RD 062731482

TELEGRAM
AUSTRALIA

TELECOM
AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAM

TELECOM
AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAM

TELECOM
AUSTRALIA



UK paper claims mentally disabled used in tests

LONDON, 20 June.—The 'Times' of London claims today that evidence is emerging that servicemen, and even mentally handicapped civilians, were used as ckeee as 1.6 kilometres to joint British-Australian nuclear blasts in Australia in the 1950s.

It says a thorough inquiry would need to test allegations now being made for the first time by Australian servicemen who were at Maralinga that the tests there included secret experiments which have never been officially revealed.

The 'Times' has been running a series of articles on what it calls the bomb tests that went wrong.

Today's report claims that a Mr Terry Toon remembers a scream which he has not spoken about for 28 years.

"It was a helluva scream, like nothing you've ever heard," he was quoted as saying. "It echoed right around the area."

The article says Mr Toon and his fellow fappers with Seven Independent Field Squadron had been detailed to help the scientists to get into some bunkers after the blast in Operation Buffalo at the end of 1956.

But they were not allowed near other bunkers and it was from one of these that the scream was heard.

The 'Times' claims that one source who had access to forward areas said that top-secret tests were performed on the mentally sub-normal. The source said he did not see them, but recalled that they were brought in before One Tree (a codename for the first of the four Buffalo explosions).

One group came into the rail siding at Watson and another was brought by air, the source said.

They were kept in a special area off the main road running up to Maralinga village and south of the airfield, the source was quoted as saying.

"You couldn't see them but you could hear them. That unearthly babble men-

tal patients make. After the second test you couldn't hear them any more," the source is quoted as saying.

The 'Times' says that Warrant Officer Cliff Stuart, of Canberra, told his wife about human tests before he died of cancer 18 months ago. He had been responsible for the forward area during the Buffalo tests, the paper says.

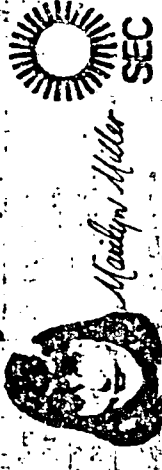
"He said people were put in bunkers. He was very quiet about it," Warrant Officer Stuart's wife was quoted as saying.

"It upset him; quite a bit because of the condition the people were in when they came out. He wouldn't say any more about it."

"He just said: 'One day all this will come out.'"

The 'Times' claims that the Australian Department of Defence is investigating a claim that three servicemen were placed only 1.6 kilometres away during the second Buffalo test, code-named Marcoe.

order the Energy-Watchit resource material. If not, schools can order the material, free of charge, by writing to the Energy Information Centre, 139 Flinders Street, Melbourne, 3000. The letter should specify the age group of the students who will be using the activity-based booklets.



SEC

THE AGE PRICES

Recommended and Maximum rates

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Victoria and 20th, NSW by road	50c
South-eastern SA by road	30c
Broken Hill by road	35c
ACT, Territory, King and Penders Is., NSW (Inc. Cooma and Sm. Coast), South Australia	35c
Southern Queensland	40c
Nth. Queensland (beyond Rockhampton), WA, Alice Springs and 400 elsewhere	55c



MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO

ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

23 EIDSVOLD STREET, KEPERRA, QLD. 4054.

ATOMIC NUCLEUS

JUNE, 1982
VOL. 1 NO. 1

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSN
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA 4054

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC.



When Britain chose Australia as the ideal site for a series of nuclear bomb tests in the 1950s, nobody pondered the potential for disaster. Twenty-six years ago, with [redacted] in power, British scientists only needed to issue a series of glib assurances all would be well. And when the bombs were exploded and deadly radioactive fallout began drifting down over our land - contaminating thousands of servicemen, citizens, plants, animal life and the very air we breathed - still the alarm bells failed to sound. There has been controversy over the nuclear weapons testing at Maralinga and Monte Bello. Now the unvarnished truth can be told of the potentially hazardous role the Australian servicemen played in helping Britain to perfect her nuclear arsenal. The hazardous work with the metallic element, plutonium, was witnessed at Maralinga during 1960 when the complete test site was evacuated to the Transcontinental Railway line. The evacuation occurred after plutonium over-heated due to faults with the air-conditioning.

The potential dangers of atomic radiation is seen to be behind the government effort to trace about 13,500 people believed to have played a part in the test program. Fears of dangerous side-effects from the blasts were fanned by scientific evidence in recent years, suggesting low levels of radiation are more dangerous than was thought at the time of the tests. In those days, it was considered that once radiation fell below certain levels, fallout would not harm human beings. British and Australian authorities used this evidence as the basis for their claims that there was no danger from fallout to the test personnel.

Plutonium is one of the most carcinogenic substances known to man. It is so toxic that an invisible particle less than one-millionth of a gram is a carcinogenic dose. The toxicity of plutonium is thousands of doses of potassium cyanide and cobra venom. One kilogram, if uniformly distributed, could hypothetically induce cancer in every person on earth.

The Federal Government has said that of the 13,500 people involved in the test program about 500 have died, although this figure is expected to rise to 700 by the time the investigation ends. As far as we are concerned, this is a load of rubbish. We totally disagree with the government on the number of deceased people for Maralinga. The government will finally divulge figures for the deceased test veterans of 5 or 6 per cent. The correct deceased figure for Maralinga is between 33 1/2 and 40 per cent. The present Australian Government, like former governments, is guilty of suppressing the truth on the atomic testing in Australia. One example of the suppression occurred last year when the government sent two high ranking Army officers from Melbourne/Canberra to the Repatriation Tribunal hearing at Brisbane of a sick former Maralinga test veteran. The Federal Court judge at the Tribunal hearing threatened to subpoena the medical records of the Maralinga veteran after the Army officers refused to produce them. The test veteran was awarded \$25,000 damages, 70 per cent pension (Warrant Officer's pay rate.) and legal costs of \$5,000.

The anti-bomb lobby people have accused this Association of inaccurate reports concerning the use of live animals at Maralinga. They state that we are committing the same sins as the Federal Government. The following report was made to the government in 1981 by Army engineers in charge of the animals;

Re the radiation contamination of live animals in the forward testing areas at Maralinga. The animals should not be [redacted] with the experimental sheep and rabbits from the [redacted] I.R.O. The forward area animals were secretly

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSN
EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN.
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA 4054

air freighted to Maralinga a few days before the first explosion on the 27 September 1956. Some of the animals were placed in steel containers fitted with air-conditioned motors. Others were penned at varying distances outside of the fireball area. All of the animals had instruments fitted on their necks to obtain thyroid gland radiation readings. Most of them died in a horrifying manner with their mouths dripping saliva and bleeding from the bowels within days and weeks following the four major nuclear tests in 1956.

The N.S.W. Government is considering changes to legislation covering the removal and use of human tissue for experimental purposes following confirmation that ~~ones, legs and arms were removed from the bodies of dead children, anyone under the age of 18 years, as part of a program conducted at Maralinga during 1956 and 1957. The ones and limbs came from the major hospitals, morgues and funeral directors.~~ It is believed that retired Army officers, on the make for money, were involved in this sickening operation. The bones of young people produced good strontium-90 readings.

Most of our members are aware of other groups of nuclear veterans who claim a speck on our behalf. Well the truth of the matter is that [REDACTED] (He never served at Maralinga or Monte Bello.) and others of the QLD. R.S.L. decided to call themselves Aust. nuclear veterans. We have stated previously neither [REDACTED] or he majority of their members are in any sense of the meaning "ATOMIC VETERANS" from Maralinga and Monte Bello. Anyhow we guess these people will sort themselves out in the following months. But make no mistake about us as we know who we are, every one of us is an "ATOMIC VETERAN" not by virtue of having formed an association but by virtue of our bonifide nuclear service to our country, we truly represent what is left of the 3,000 servicemen who served at Maralinga and Monte Bello. All our members have signed "Statutory Declarations" stating that they will not dictate to the government the defence policy of this nation.

WARNING..... THE GROUP KNOWN AS AUST. NUCLEAR VETERANS ASSN. OF BOX 190, (THEY ARE FRIGHTENED TO GIVE ADDRESSES.) FORTITUDE VALLEY, QLD. ARE IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH THE MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN. NO MONEY OR CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THEM.

The Executive Committee of this Association vehemently express our utter disgust in the manner the author of the "Maralinga Book" obtained confidential medical data on the atomic ex-servicemen from Maralinga. The former and present committee members of the QLD. A.N.V.A. involved with the "Maralinga Book" are gutless mongrels of the human race and the monetary gain that they are eager to receive is blood money from the dead Maralinga servicemen.

MAY WE POINT OUT After the first atomic explosion on the Maralinga range during the Totem tests the British scientists and the Federal Parliamentarians made jokes regarding the shape of the mushroom cloud. They laughed and stated that it was a perfect portrait of a myall (Wild native.) blackfeller written with atomic dust. It would be interesting to know if the Federal Parliamentarians were still laughing when the mushroom cloud from the third (ONE TREE.) atomic explosion deposited heavy radiation fallout over the Murwillumbah area and the fifth (KITE.) explosion which coated Adelaide and large sections of Victoria near the Rocklands dam. Myall blackfeller is having the final laugh.

The most prominent barristers and solicitors in Brisbane have advised the Association that millions of dollars for damages will be awarded if proof of harm from exposure to radiation can be established in the courts.

In conclusion we desire to convey our sincere thanks and appreciation to those who have assisted the Association in any way by the supply of information or expression of opinion and advice.

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN.
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA 4054

[REDACTED]
ACT. SECRETARY & INFORMATION OFFICER.

MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO

ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

23 EIDSVOLD STREET, KEPERRA, QLD. 4054.

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSN.
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA 4054

PHONE : 07 355 9308

11 FEB 1983

THE MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA,
PARLIAMENT HOUSE,
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,



RE : MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO ATOMIC TESTS

The Executive Committee of the Maralinga and Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association hereby demands a Royal Commission into the Australian atomic tests at Maralinga and Monte Bello. There is evidence of scandalous neglect by the scientific and military authorities responsible for the safety of servicemen and the general public of Australia. Also, there is fresh evidence of atrocities committed by foreign (British) agents of Military Intelligence - 5" against dying radiation contaminated nomadic Aboriginals.

During the 1950s few Australians knew of the large scale atomic testing or were aware of its inherent dangers to understand the disasters posed by the nuclear testing and the mechanism by which radiation causes cancer was not completely understood by the servicemen and the general public. The Australian medical profession did not (and still does not) have the dexterity and ability to diagnose and treat radiation diseases.

The first "Atomic Servicemen" Canberra bomber pilot, (Second bomber into the mushroom cloud) [redacted] at 34 years of age died on 9 April 1955 from epithelial cancer. We would like to point out that [redacted] 7 years of age with two small children, girl 5, boy 3, was denied any form of compensation by the Australian Government. The bomber crew of the third aircraft into the mushroom cloud were also deceased from cancer. The Sunday Times Newspaper in London are attempting to track down the bomber crew, Group [redacted] (PILOT) [redacted] of the first Canberra bomber into the cloud.

Two nuclear explosions were detonated at Emu Field (Maralinga Range) in 1953. Four more explosions occurred at Maralinga in 1956 and three in 1957. Three explosions were conducted at Monte Bello (West. Australia) during 1952 and 1956. These were all reported to have radiation yields in either the low or the kiloton range. The series at Maralinga and Monte Bello were interrupted, in 1957, by a series of three hydrogen bomb tests, in the megaton range, at Christmas Island (Half way between Brisbane and Hawaii) in the Pacific and followed, in late 1957 and 1958, by a series of six more tests at Christmas Island. The fallout from the Christmas Island tests was carried to the east coast of Australia. YEMPIE, MARYBOROUGH and ROCKHAMPTON received substantial quantities of plutonium and other nuclear materials were dispersed in quantities sufficient to have left residual health hazards.

Thousands of kilograms of radioactive materials are now dispersed through our environment. Non-biodegradable, and some potent virtually forever, their effects on the Nation and on human beings will be grave, many people have and will begin to develop and die of cancer from the atomic tests. The British scientists stated that the radioactive clouds would avoid all main centres of population in their passage across the Australian continent. Why was the people of Lismore, Charleville, Inverell, Rockhampton, Townsville, Dalby, Alice Springs, Broome, Ipswich, Mt. Isa, Mackay, Casino, Toowoomba, Ch. Towers, Onslow, Adelaide, Tennant Creek, Port Augusta, Murwillumbah, Nambour, Gold Coast, Gympie, Maryborough, Chinchilla, Nanango, Longreach and other towns not informed of the nuclear fallout? The population of the cities and towns are reporting problems the incidence of which is known to be increased by exposure to radiation. The health problems are cancers, bone diseases, brain tumours, leukaemia and problems in children and so on. The "National Nine T.V." network recently reported on a young Gympie boy dying from leukaemia and travelling to the "Holy Waters" in France. Maybe the young boy would be still alive today if the British medical scientists' remedy, "HEPASOL WITH PENTABARB", was given to him. The general public of Australia must be told of the deadly plutonium fallout over their regions. We desire to quote the following extract from the Report of the U.N. Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation;

"The late effects are, in fact, usually indistinguishable from diseases induced by other causes, and radiation only increases their incidence in the population. The casual relationship between irradiation and a possible late effect in man can only be established in individual cases from circumstantial evidence, together with evidence derived from the observed induction by irradiation of similar effects in experimental animals. Large scale human surveys may confirm in man the association between given later effects and irradiation".

In the interest of those "Servicemen" who worked at the Maralinga and Monte Bello test sites and the "General Public" of Australia together with the number of our children and grandchildren with cancer in their bones, leukaemia in their blood, or with poison in their lungs might seem statistically small to some, in comparison with natural health hazards, but this is not a natural health hazard and it is not a statistical issue. The loss of even one human life, or the malfunction of even one baby who may be born long after we are gone should be of concern to us all. Our children and grandchildren are not merely statistics towards which we can be indifferent.

In the meantime our members will continue with the exhumation of the bones of nomadic Aborigines, for strontium-90 readings, east of the Emu Field site. Other members are carrying out an investigation on liver metastasis in livestock (horses) in the fallout regions of the Kimberlys. Also the rye-grass disease in South Australia and Western Australia - all in regions of the atomic clouds passage from Maralinga and Monte Bello - has been documented for the Royal Commission. The Association has carried a survey on the radioactive sludge from the RAAF Amberley decontamination centre which was bomb dumped at the outer side of the Barrier Reef off the Central Queensland coast. The 44-gallon drums are now leaking radioactivity into the area's major tourist and fishing grounds. Large sponges, many of them over one metre high and believed by some to be mutants, have attached themselves to the drums. It appears that livestock are dying from similar cancers to the first deceased atomic servicemen. The following report is from the "Hansard-Queensland Parliament Number 5, 1971-Page 708"

"The disease and sickness in cattle of all ages from a very definite and rapid pattern of spread from Queensland through N.S.W. and penetrated a small area of Victoria".

The incidence was classed as a type of ephemeral fever.

The Royal Commission could examine the un-answered question;
Did the sand-miners separate the nuclear fallout from the mineral sands?"

Yours sincerely,

NATIONAL SECRETARY & INFORMATION OFFICER
MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS' ASSOCIATION

Statutory Declaration.

QUEENSLAND }
TO WIT }

I, [REDACTED],
of 23 EIDSVOLD ST., KEPERRA, in the State of Queensland,
formerly of 7 INDEP. FIELD SQUADRON, do solemnly and sincerely declare
Maralinga Detachment, ROYAL AUST. ENGINEERS

that during the period - April/May 1956 - whilst travelling by road
transport from 43 MILE CAMP, (43 miles north of the East/West railway line) Maralinga
Range, to Watson railway siding, on stopping at approximately half the distance, 20 miles,
to collect edible nuts from a group of quandong trees the grisly remains of an aboriginal
family was discovered under the trees. The commanding officer, [REDACTED], of
7 INDEP. FIELD SQUADRON, was informed of the finding of the deceased aborigines. Due to
failing light the commanding officer waited until the following morning to journey to the
area with 20 or more Army sappers and a small group of RAAF ground-crew personnel. The
following names were involved in the investigation: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
I, also was included in the group.

The commanding officer stated that the aborigines died from a lack of
food. It is my belief that the aborigines travelled within the Emu Field plutonium con-
taminated region to the north and were making their way to the mission station south of
the East/West railway line.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing
the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the
Oaths Act 1867-1974

Taken and Declared before me, [REDACTED]
this 2nd day of May 1956, [REDACTED]

RECEIVED

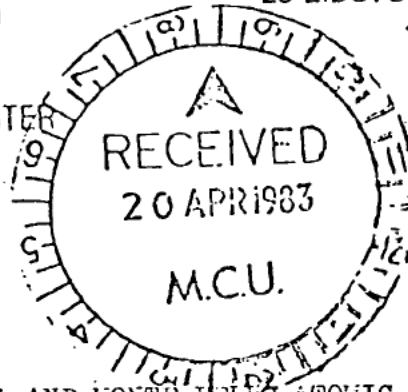
PHONE : 07 355 9308

19 APR 83 15 55

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN.
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA 4054

PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA
PARLIAMENT HOUSE,
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

OFFICE OF
THE PRIME MINISTER
CANTONMENT



15 APR 1983

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

RE : MARALINGA AND MONTE BELLO ATOMIC TESTS

The Executive Committee of the Maralinga and Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association respectfully request a Royal Commission into the Australian atomic tests conducted at Maralinga and Monte Bello. There is evidence of scandalous neglect by the scientific and military authorities responsible for the safety of servicemen, civilian employees of various departments of government and the general public of Australia. Also, there is proof of the planned radiation poisoning and extermination of an entire nomadic aboriginal tribe in the vicinity of the Maralinga testing areas.

The deception and covering-up of the travel path taken by the atomic cloud was made known to the Fraser Federal Government in the 1970s after the RAAF bomber monitoring crews had produced their log books. The Fraser Government Ministers were alarmingly surprised to discover that large sections of the Darling Downs, Brisbane Valley, Kingaroy, (Yes JOH territory) Manango, Namour and Gympie regions had been coated with deadly atomic fallout from Maralinga.

Thousands of kilograms of radioactive materials are now dispersed through our environment. Non-biodegradable, and some potent virtually forever, their effects on the "Nation" and on human beings will be grave, many Australians have and will begin to develop and die of cancer, leukaemia and bone diseases from the atomic tests. Our association's records show that Maralinga and Monte Bello ex-servicemen have a fifty per cent death rate from cancer. The areas on the Darling Downs are recording a death rate of over twenty-five per cent. One house at Dalby, which the RAAF monitoring crew listed as in the travel path of the atomic cloud, the entire family are deceased from cancer.

We also have the support of the Aust. Nuclear Veterans' Association Inc. South Australia and the Aust. Nuclear Veterans' Association, New South Wales in our request for a Royal Commission into the atomic tests. The Vice-President of the Queensland ALP, [REDACTED] has given his assistance to our campaign for an open juristical commission. The [REDACTED] Report on the "Radiological Safety and Future Land Use at Maralinga" was a misleading document after [REDACTED] presented it to Parliament.

The Maralinga and Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association will forward to you in the following weeks a complete dossier on Maralinga and Monte Bello. The findings in the dossier will keep the Liberal/National Parties in opposition for many years. The people in Western Queensland would not be happy if they knew that their regions received the plutonium fallout from Maralinga.

Please advise us if there is any other information you desire.

Yours sincerely,

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN.
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPERRA

[REDACTED]
NATIONAL SECRETARY & INFORMATION OFFICER

RECEIVED
- 4 OCT 1984

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO
ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMENS ASSN
23 EIDSVOLD ST. KEPEWA 4002

PHONE : 07 355 9308 (NIGHT ONLY)

1 OCT 1984

SECRETARY,
ROYAL COMMISSION INTO BRITISH NUCLEAR
TESTS IN AUST.,
G.P.O. BOX 4044,
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2001.

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: EXHUMATION OF SOLDIER'S GRAVE AT MONTE BELLO

I have been directed by the Executive Committee of our Association to forward the following report to the Royal Commission ;

"Approximately twelve months after the atomic test code-named Hurricane at Monte Bello, the H.M.A.S. JUNEE sailed from Fremantle, Western Aust., with two civilian funeral directors from Perth on board the ship. After arriving at Monte Bello, the funeral directors and a naval working party of several members of the H.M.A.S. JUNEE'S crew exhumed a lead coffin containing the remains of a Australian or British Soldier from the radiation contaminated Monte Bello Islands. The lead coffin was placed in a large wooden box and stowed for the journey to Onslow in the tiller flat on the ship. The lead coffin was placed in a grave at the Onslow cemetery with the utmost of secrecy."

We also desire to bring to the notice of the Royal Commission the suicide of the Commanding Officer of the H.M.A.S. KARANGI, [REDACTED] D.S.O. AND BAR, RAN, RTD. The H.M.A.S. KARANGI was involved at the tests and the period following the completion of all the atomic testing at Monte Bello.

If there are any further details you require for the Royal Commission, I should be pleased to give them.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

NATIONAL SECRETARY & INFORMATION OFFICER

ALSO

VICE-PRESIDENT

AUST. NUCLEAR VETERANS' FEDERATION.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, [REDACTED] of 23 Eidsvold Street, Koorra, in the State of Queensland, and formally "Foundation Member", "Assistant Secretary", "Information OFFICER" and "Acting Secretary" (over 12 Months) of the Atomic Veterans Association/Australian Nuclear Veterans Association - Queensland, do solemnly and sincerely declare that during the formation of the "NUCLEAR VETERANS' ASSOCIATION" in 1930, [REDACTED] and myself, referred to the Association as the Atomic Veterans Association.

The Executive Committee of the Atomic Veterans Association requested permission from the President of the Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association, [REDACTED] to be allowed to use that name. The President of the Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association, [REDACTED] informed the President of the Atomic Veterans Association in Qld, [REDACTED] that the Queensland group could use the name, Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association if they abided by the rules of the A.N.V.A. It was also made extremely clear by the Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association that no permission would be given to use the special nucleus symbol of the A.N.V.A.

During the end of the year 1932, the two Maralinga Executive Committee Members, [REDACTED] and myself, discovered that most of the "Committee Members" of the Queensland Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association were never involved in the Maralinga and Monte Bello atomic tests and indeed were anti-bomb, anti-uranium, peace weirdos. [REDACTED] and myself immediately resigned from this Australian Democrats' controlled association.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867-1974.

[REDACTED]

16 th August 1984.

TO THE SECRETARY,
ROYAL COMMISSION INTO BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTS IN AUST.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND ACTION PLEASE.
[REDACTED]

Oaths Act 1867-1974

Statutory Declaration.

QUEENSLAND }
TO WIT }

I, 

of 11 Pershing St., Grovely, in the State of Queensland,
and formerly of 7 Indep. Field Squadron, R.A.E. Maralinga do solemnly and sincerely declare

that during February 1956 I reclaimed food rations from the 1953
former Emu atomic testing site. The food was transported by other
members of 7 Indep. Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers,
to the temporary Maralinga forward area construction site at
Camp 43 Mile. To the best of my knowledge the food was added to
the kitchen ration stock.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing
the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the
Oaths Act 1867-1974

Taken and Declared before me, at Brisbane
this First day of October



ATOMIC WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT

Building [REDACTED]

Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR
Telephone Tadley 4111 (STD 073 56 4111)
Telex 848104/5MEDICAL IN CONFIDENCE

Ext: 6111

Our Ref: SFS/D/2

Your Ref:

Date: 9 February 1982

Department of Defence
Box 2465 GPO
Brisbane
QLD 4001
Australia

(Attention [REDACTED] Acting Regional Secretary)

Sir,

[REDACTED]
Please refer to your 81/TRQ/14 of 12 January 1982.

The name of [REDACTED] does not appear in the information available in the UK and currently accessible to AWRE staff concerning those who may have been present at Maralinga in the period 1 February 1956 to 13 November 1956, nor does that name appear in information covering other periods associated with UK activities at Maralinga.

Information on recordable radiation exposures to people present at Maralinga is available in UK and should also be found in the records held by their employers at the appropriate time - ie in this case the Australian Army. The fact that [REDACTED] name does not appear means that:

- (a) he was not present at Maralinga itself; or
- (b) he was present, but did not enter any area where there was a possibility of radiation exposures above the normal background levels to which all people are exposed and therefore was not issued with a special film badge as required for such an entry; or
- (c) he was present but did not enter an area where there was a possibility of such a radiation exposure and any film badge issued to him did not indicate an exposure above the lowest exposure recordable for the operation concerned, ie an exposure not in excess of 200 μSv (20 millirem) which is a small fraction of, and smaller than the variations and uncertainties in, the annual effective dose equivalent which each person receives, from the normal background radiation always present, in every year of life; ie approximately 2000 μSv (200 millirem) in each year in UK. The information available in UK does not indicate that Spr Toon was issued with any film badges at Maralinga.

In summary, from the information available to us in UK, it is concluded that [REDACTED] did not receive a radiation dose above the negligible recordable level, ie less than or equal to 200 μSv or 20 millirem during any service he may have had at Maralinga, and specifically that [REDACTED] did not receive a radiation exposure of "5 rads" (50 000 μSv) at Maralinga.

PTO

Blood examinations were carried out for all Australian citizens serving at Maralinga during Operation Buffalo. These examinations were made at the request of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia. An extract from a general report by the Senior Medical Officer at Operational Buffalo is attached. No records of such examinations are held by AWRE nor would this be expected, as the examinations were made for the appropriate Australian Medical Authorities.

The Australian Medical Authority dealing with the Maralinga hospital was DGMS/AMF in Melbourne with whom the SMO had close contacts at the time.

The SMO general report refers in its final sentence to a list of certain persons exposed to measurable levels of radiation; [REDACTED] name is not among those listed.

I hope that this letter gives you the information you need although, for the most part, it contains only negative comments.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Superintendent Facilities Safety

cc: Hd DSc3
Foreign and Commonwealth Office London (via DSc3)
British High Commission, Canberra [REDACTED] via DSc3

Medical Examinations of Australian Personnel

It was requested by the Australian Government three weeks before the first shot was due to be fired that all Australian personnel on the Range must be medically examined, including a Chest X-ray and a full blood examination. This had to be done before the first shot was fired.

With the co-operation of the doctors belonging to the Scientific Groups and the Indoctrinee Forces, 450 - 500 personnel were medically examined as requested and, with the help of an R.A.A.F. laboratory team plus an Australian Army Radiological team which were flown up to Maralinga, everybody concerned had an X-ray of chest and a full blood examination in the Hospital. Both these teams did excellent jobs and were very helpful to us.

Radiation Safety

Forty-six persons were given medical permission to be exposed to the higher integrated dose of 10r during the four shots; only one person was refused in view of his blood count. The majority of these personnel were R.A.F. crew of the Canberra. I enclose a list of all personnel exposed, with the doses received.

January, 1957

Certified copy of the relevant part of the text of the SMO's report.

9/2/82

TO SHOW IT MAY CONCERN

I, [REDACTED] of 11 Forshing Street, Grovely, in the State of Queensland, do solemnly and sincerely declare that on the 1 February, 1956 I was ordered by the Officer Commanding, [REDACTED] of 1 Troop, 7 Indep. Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers, to proceed with other members of the Unit, including [REDACTED] from Camp 43 Maralinga to the radioactive Emu Field area.

The duties at the Emu Field site involved the reclamation of stores, tinned food, vehicles, buildings and equipment. All of the work in the radiation contaminated region was performed without protective clothing and the personnel were not given radiation film badges.

During the period of the four nuclear explosions at Maralinga from 27 September, 1956 to 22 October, 1956 I entered and performed duties at the radiation contaminated ground zero areas with other members of the Unit, including [REDACTED]

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867 - 1974.

[REDACTED]

19 th JUNE, 1983

MARALINGA & MONTE BELLO ATOMIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

23 ELISVOLD STREET,

KEPERRA, QLD. 4054

27 th APRIL, 1982.

[REDACTED]
H.S.C. HEALTH MINISTER,

PARLIAMENT HOUSE,

SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000.

Dear [REDACTED]

The Executive Committee of the Maralinga & Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association has requested me to contact you regarding the radiation readings at Byron Bay. We desire to bring to your notice the movement of the atomic mushroom cloud from the Maralinga explosion, code-named One Tree, on the 27 Sept. 1956.

The large mushroom cloud moved directly from Maralinga to Inverell, Casino, Lismore and Byron Bay. The following is part of the report from the monitoring RAAF tracking aircraft;

"After the explosion a secondary cloud formed between 16,500 and 25,000 feet, and this, together with the main cloud, moved almost due east from Maralinga. The main cloud crossed the coast between Coffs Harbour and Byron Bay. The secondary cloud crossed the coast between Brisbane and Byron Bay. On the afternoon of 29 September 1956 heavy radiation washout occurred due from the heavy rain in the Inverell, Brisbane, Casino, Lismore and Byron Bay areas".

(This report was printed in the 1958 Australian Journal of Science - page 63.)

The association has un-officially observed and monitored the regions in the travel paths of the atomic mushroom clouds from Maralinga and Monte Bello across the Australian continent. Our monitoring has shown that there was no appreciable decay of the plutonium observed in the heavy rain washout areas, although it may become partly covered by soil and sand drift. The experience at Maralinga and Monte Bello suggests that the plutonium will be made less accessible by fixation and downward migration. The plutonium-239 used at Maralinga contained some plutonium-241 which decays primarily to americium-241 (an alpha emitter, half-life ~~43~~ years), leading to a gradual increase in the activity of the latter nuclide.

It has taken more than 25 years and the full story of Maralinga is not yet out. But the portion that is known is horrible and profoundly alarming. Those supposedly innocuous atomic tests have blighted the lives and destroyed the health of Australian adults and children, and their children. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude on your action in considering changes to legislation covering the removal and use of human tissue for experimental purposes following the confirmation that bones were removed from the bodies of dead children as part of a program conducted at Maralinga.

Please advise me if there is any other information you desire.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
ACT. NATIONAL SECRETARY & INFORMATION OFFICER.

P.S. The contents of this letter can be made public.

C/MAIL

Nuclear ¹⁹⁸⁰ radiation claim

GOVERNMENT authorities would admit one day that Australians were "in the thick of it" during nuclear tests of the 1940s and 1950s, Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association official Mr Pat Creevey said yesterday.

"They said no Australians had been within 12 km of Maralinga but we got them to admit they were within 7 km," he said.

"Scientists said no Australians were exposed to radiation, only the English. Every time we keep at them, we get closer and closer to the day they will admit Australians were in the thick of it."

Mr Creevey said the association learned recently that an Australian named Tuck had piloted a Canberra jet bomber through an atomic cloud above Australian testing zones.

"We are anxious now to contact anyone who will verify his case. We want to hear from Australians who washed down the jets after those flights. Tuck died within two years of that flight."

The association had information on 360 out of 2000 participants in the nuclear tests, and it was clear that in the states where the association was active — Queensland and South Australia — most contacts with veterans had been made.

Death certificates of 74 out of 89 deceased veterans associated with the Maralinga tests indicated they were in a high risk group for death by cancer.

Death and disease strike the servicemen who took

By ROSS PEAKE

RAAF engine fitter Col Bird had a secret and deadly task in October, 1952.

Whenever a Lincoln bomber landed at the Broome airstrip, in far north-western Australia, Col placed a ladder under the wings and clambered up.

The propellers were still spinning as he unbolted two dust collectors and handed them to a British scientist. He thought it strange at the time that the bloke wore what looked like a diving suit — white overalls, hood, gloves and boots. Col was dressed for the summer heat in shorts and boots, sometimes a shirt.

Now the mystery has become far too clear — Col Bird is dying of throat cancer.

The Lincolns had flown through the radioactive mushrooms over the Monte Bello Islands, during the British atomic tests. He maintained those aircraft and made the 10-hour trip back to the eastern States in one that was so "hot" it was broken up and buried at Amberley.

Several years after that, when Col returned to Australia from a tour of duty in Singapore, a foul-smelling green slime began to ooze from his left ear. That was diagnosed as tropical or coral ear.

When he was discharged from the RAAF 15 years ago, with a 10 per cent pension, he took an office job, but found the smell from the cotton wool swabs in his ear offended his workmates. So he cleaned toilets for Telecom, but was sacked after taking fits.

A year ago a large growth on the right side of his head was diagnosed as a malignant tumor. An operation in May to remove it was followed by five weeks of intensive cobalt treatment to eradicate the vestiges.

The result was that the radiation cooked his tongue. Part of the root had to be removed, along with some throat muscles. He could not produce saliva, activate his throat muscles to swallow, or talk.

He has learnt to speak again, but is wasting away. Last week he weighed 50kg, 25kg less than a year ago.

The most solid food he can eat is scrambled eggs that takes 15 minutes. He lives on milk and vitamin tablets.

Col's 56th birthday is in May, what does he think of the atomic testing now?

"I think the British thought we were expendable. They took all the precautions and told us nothing. It's a harsh thing to say, but I think they were thinking that we could do the dirty work."

It was not until then that the bitterness showed in his voice and on his face. "I can't help but think it — I get a bit angry about it."

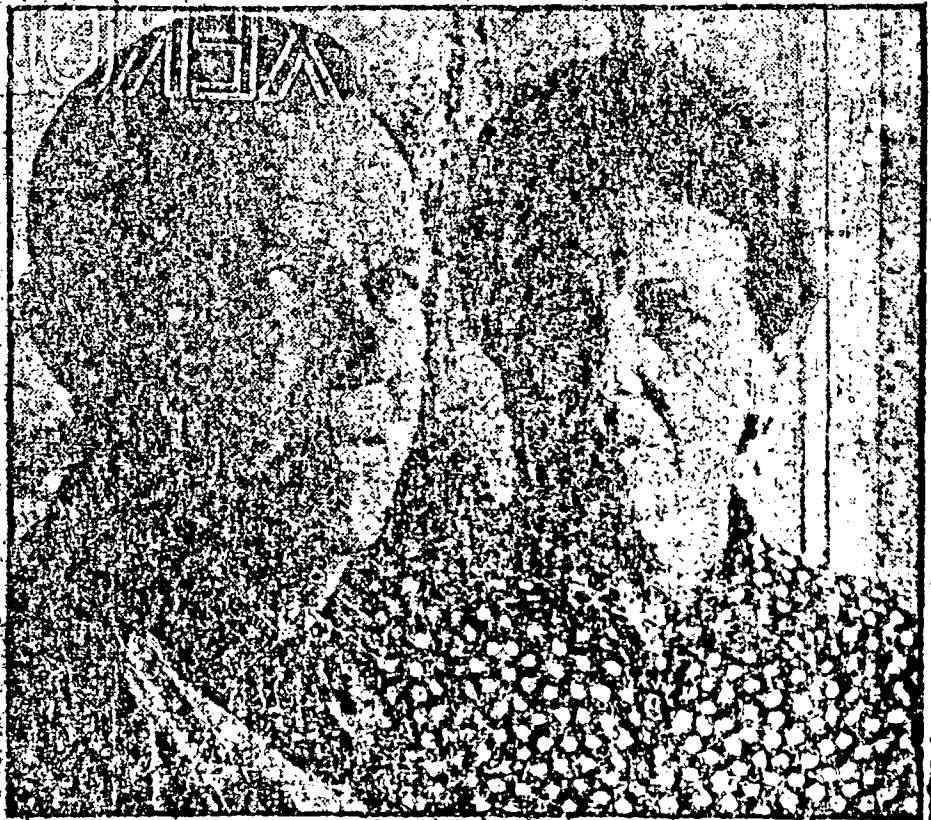
Col now believes he has the cancer under control, but has monthly checks.

He is mostly cheery, but hungry, all the time, he says.

In suburban Brisbane, rain was falling. It was a gloomy, depressing day outside, but Col rarely ventures into his yard anymore. His wife, Ella, said his morale had sunk noticeably in the past month. Now he mostly watches television. "The cricket has been keeping me alive," he said. "Yes, I like cricket."

When Ella left the house for a few minutes, Col produced a packet of

The tragedy of Col Bird



COL Bird and his wife Ella ... "the British thought we were expendable."

delivering a load of sand on the northern outskirts of Brisbane. On a radio interview, he heard Senator Carrick say he had been assured by the British authorities that all Australian personnel had been properly decontaminated.

"I was really crapped off with that and fired off a letter telling Senator Carrick he was speaking arrogant nonsense," Mr Peck told The Australian.

He should know. One week before Christmas, 1952, he had severe radiation poisoning and was given one month to live.

Mr Peck is national president of the Australian Veterans Association, which is fighting for a survey of inquiry on which to base compensation claims for the affected veterans and their widows.

The Government has acknowledged the effects of radiation in only one compensation case so far. But the ANVA is massing what it believes is overwhelming evidence of people affected by exposure to radiation.

In 1952 Mr Peck and another RAAF officer were posted to Perth, near Perth, to act as observers during the testing at Monte Bello Islands, about 200km west of Port Hedland.

After the blast their task was to go on to the islands to gather radioactive debris and plot "isotope contours", showing the strength of the radioactivity.

islands they thought was safe, set up a marquee and decontaminated each day with sea water and Tepol.

After six weeks of the work, Mr Peck became seriously ill — acute diarrhoea, haemorrhaging, bleeding gums, radioactive urine and faeces. A doctor on HMAS Tracker, converted into a laboratory and health ship, made the traumatic prognosis.

"The doctor told me it would probably be a fatal dose, but that before leukaemia got me something dreadful, like an incipient ulcer, would speed up and kill me. I accepted that I would be dead within a month. That seemed fair and reasonable."

Mr Peck returned to spend Christmas with his wife at Schofields base near Sydney where blood tests indicated a red corpuscle count was low. By the time of his 56th birthday in 1958 he had returned to Perth.

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT MARALINGA AND EMU DURING THE BRITISH
NUCLEAR TESTS IN 1956

The photographs shown hereunder No's 1 - 29 were taken by a serviceman, using a concealed camera, who was on duty at the abovementioned test sites. The photographs have only recently been made available to the Maralinga and Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association.

INDEX

1. Armoured vehicle damaged during explosions at One Tree on 27 September, 1956 and Marcoo on 11 October, 1956. The vehicle was within 4 miles of ground zero.
2. British Army Bedford truck which suffered damage at One Tree and Marcoo from explosions.
3. as above
4. British Army truck used in the tests and later reclaimed. The driver is not wearing any protective clothing.
5. British Austin A90 Champ Jeep used in the explosion at Emu and later reclaimed and brought to Maralinga. The driver is not wearing protective clothing.
6. Tanks used in explosion at One Tree and Marcoo. The tank is marked with the radioactive symbol, however, the occupant is not wearing any protective clothing.
7. as above
8. Damaged tanks being loaded onto a train for return to Puckapunyal.
9. Maralinga Village plutonium mixing sheds.
10. One Tree Tower prior to the explosion.
11. as above
12. Water treatment plant at Camp 43 Mile. The water was drawn from underground bores and was not tested for contamination.
13. Two army engineers at Watson Railway Station with a radioactive tank in the background.
14. A 7 Independent Field Squadron engineer at Ooldea Railway Station some 7 miles from Watson Railway Station. The photograph indicates that service personnel travelled the area in an unrestricted fashion.
15. Members of 7 Independent Field Squadron in the contaminated zone following the test at Emu. They are not wearing any protective clothing.
16. Members 7 Independent Field Squadron with vehicles that had been driven around the test site at Emu and were later returned to Casula, New South Wales.
17. as above
18. Members of 7 Independent Field Squadron and R.A.A.F.

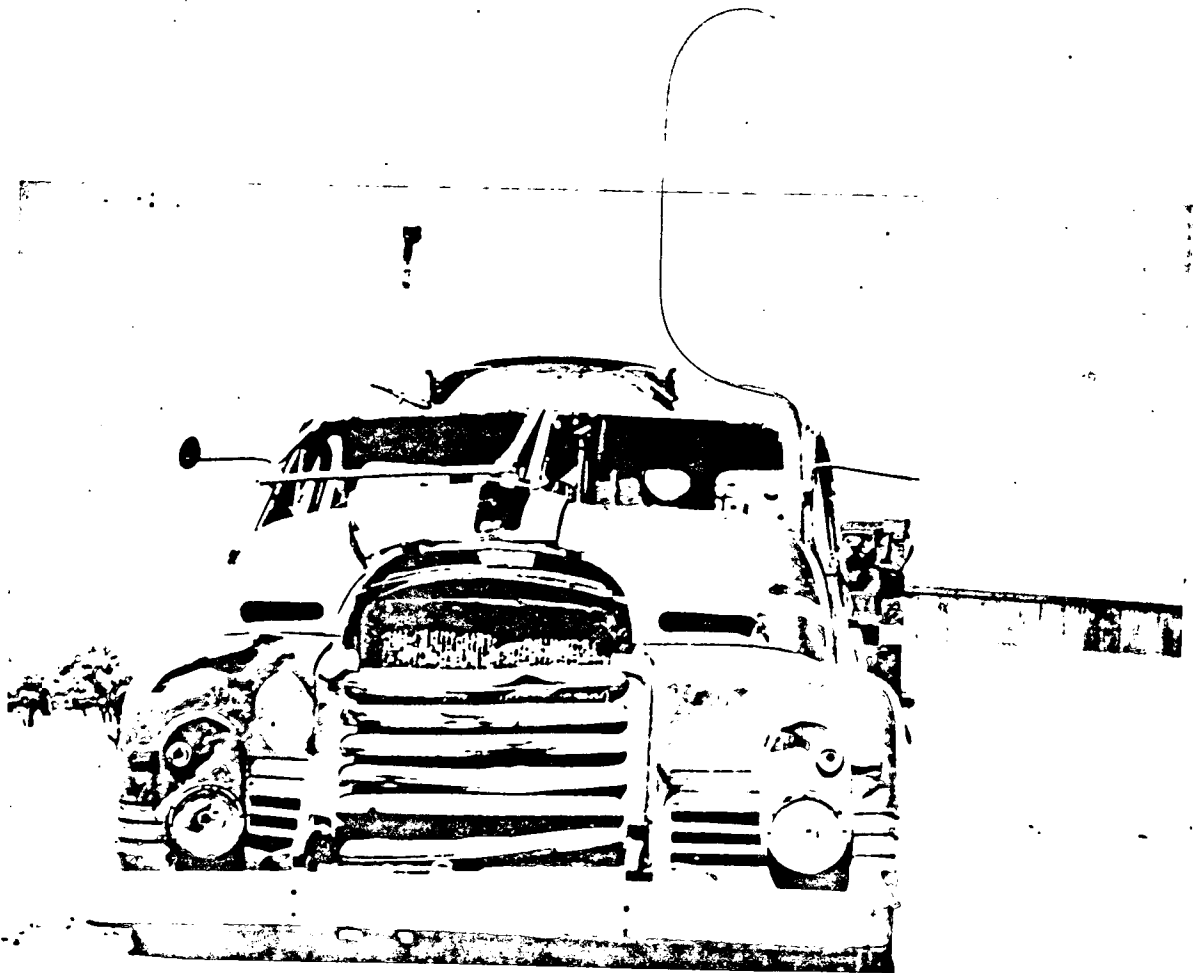
ground crew at Watson Railway Station. Their duties included the loading of vehicles that were involved in the tests..

19. Members 7 Independent Field Squadron at Maralinga.
20. Members 7 Independent Field Squadron with jeeps involved in tests at Emu.
21. Members 7 Independent Field Squadron at Emu. The area was heavily contaminated.
22. as in 19
23. Army engineer with sick eagle.
24. A 7 Independent Field Squadron jeep and truck, reclaimed from Emu, at Watson Railway Station.
25. Members 7 Independent Field Squadron and R.A.A.F. ground crew at Emu.
26. Members army, airforce and Commonwealth civilian employees at the Maralinga Canteen in 1956. The canteen was situated 25 miles from the test site.
27. as above
28. The tea and sugar train at Watson Railway Station.
29. The Transcontinental Express coming into Watson Railway Station. The train dropped mail for servicemen.

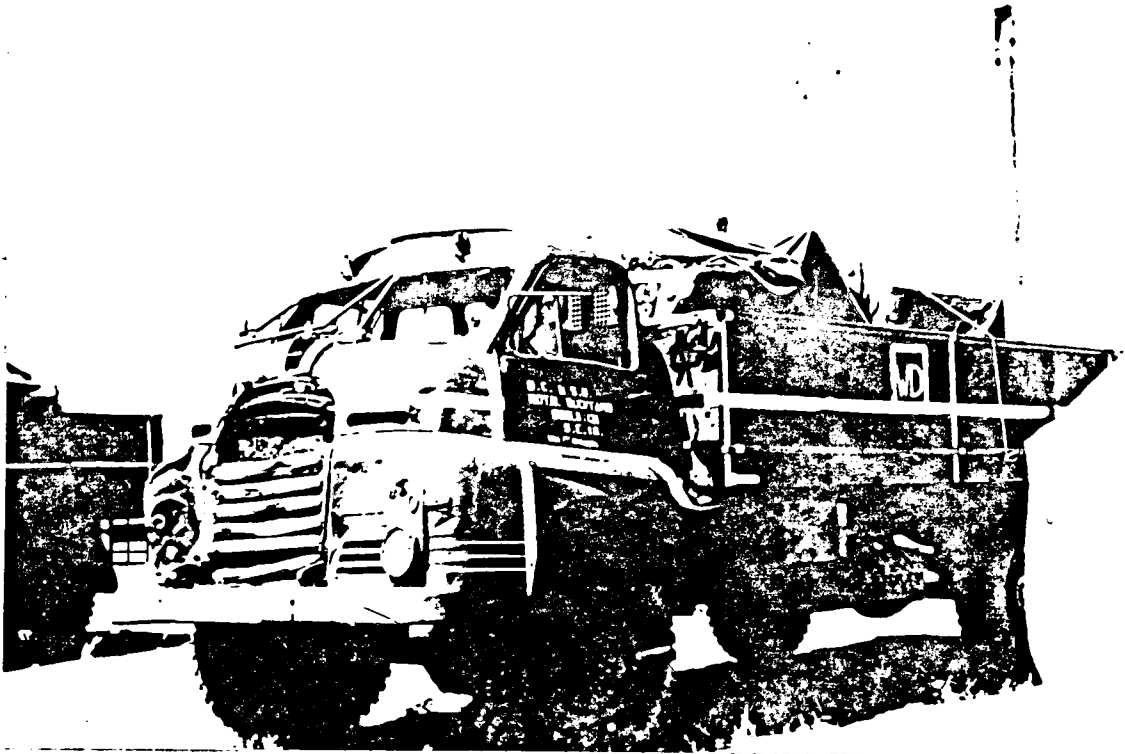
①



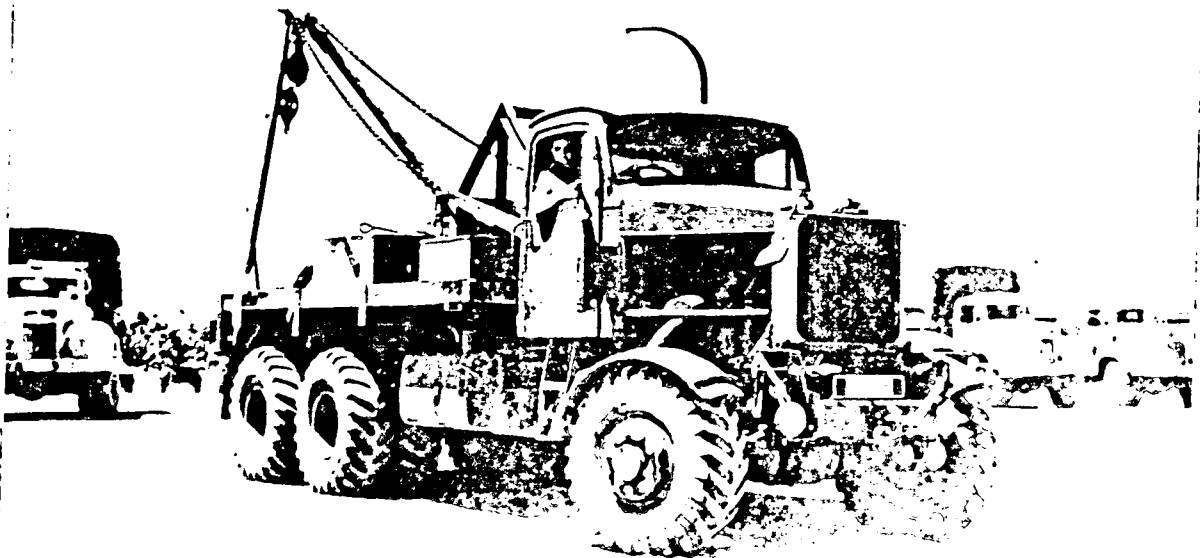
②



3



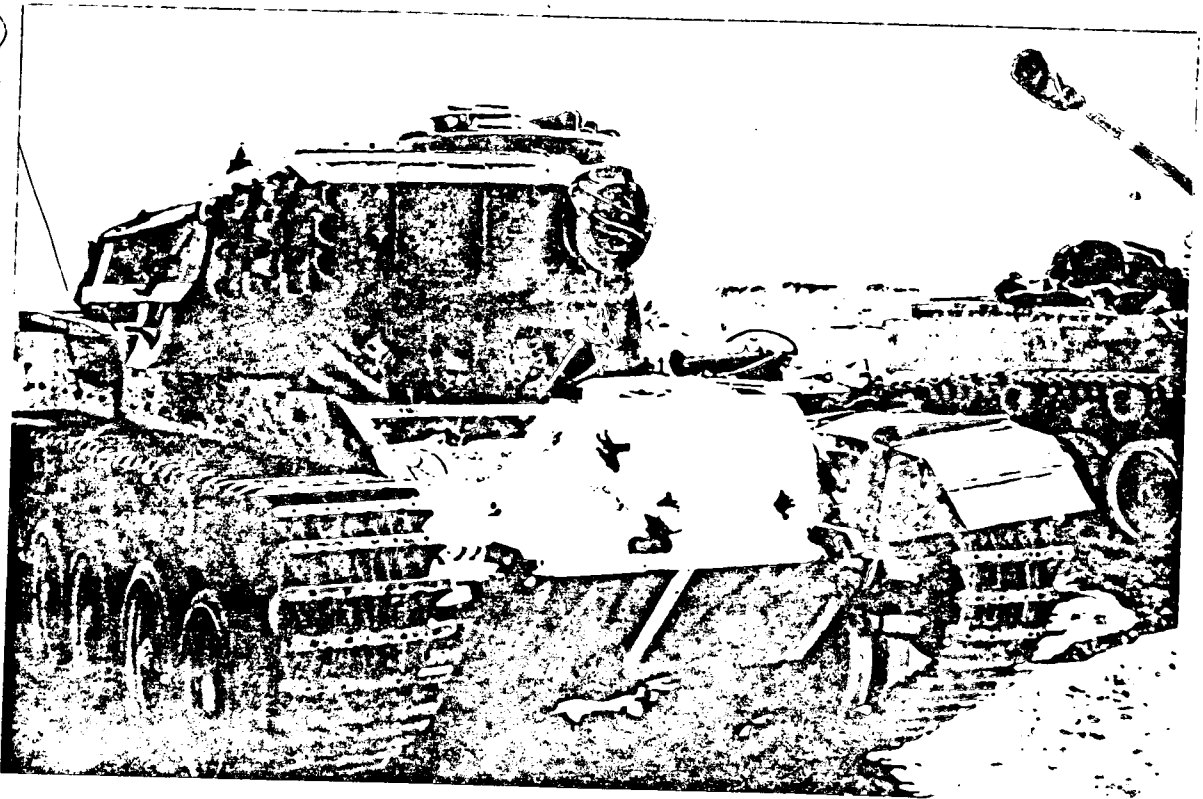
4



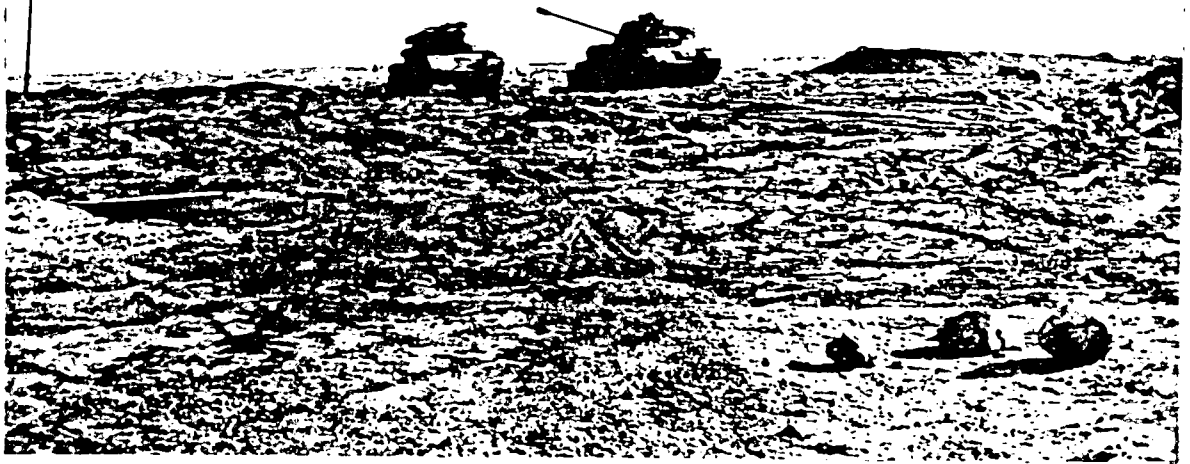
5



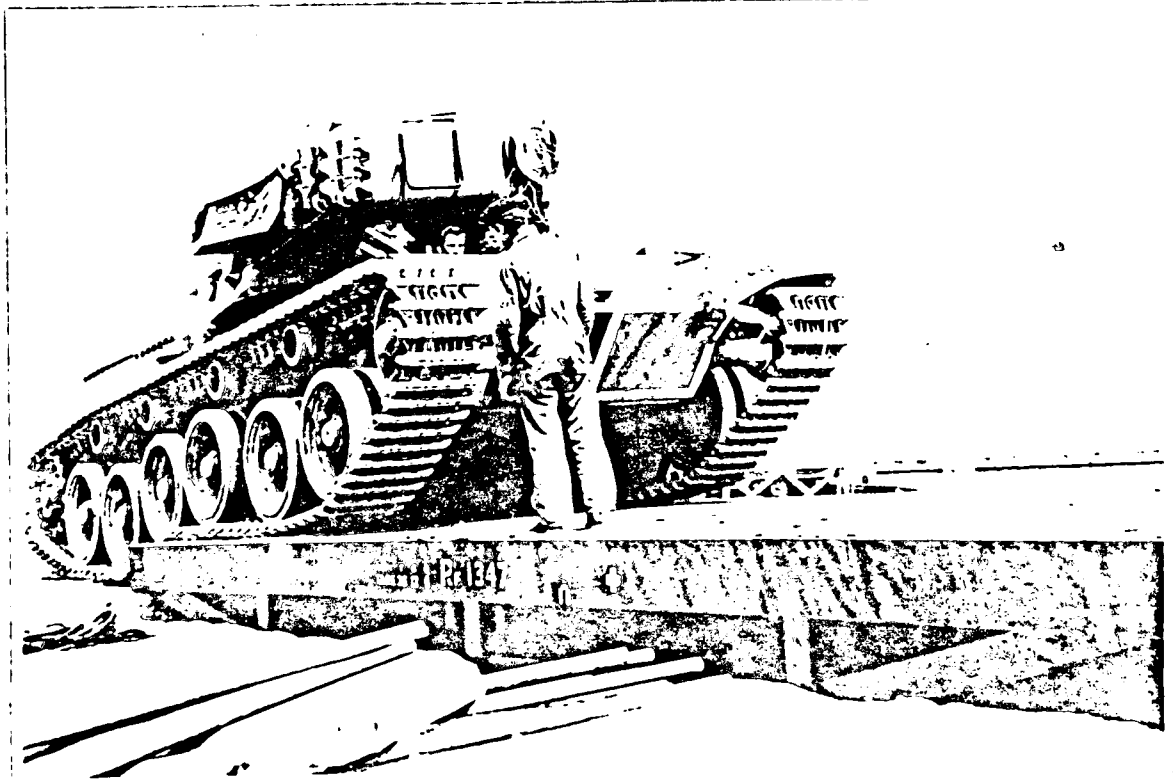
6



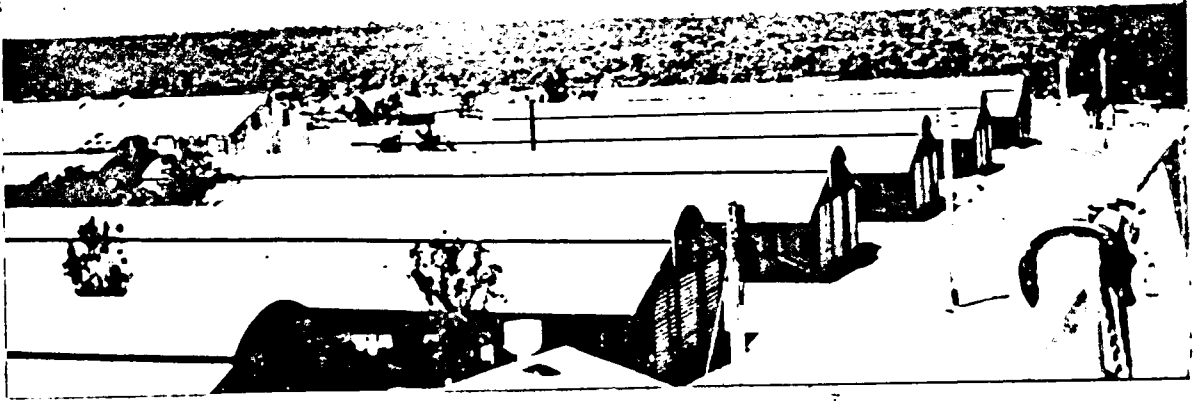
7



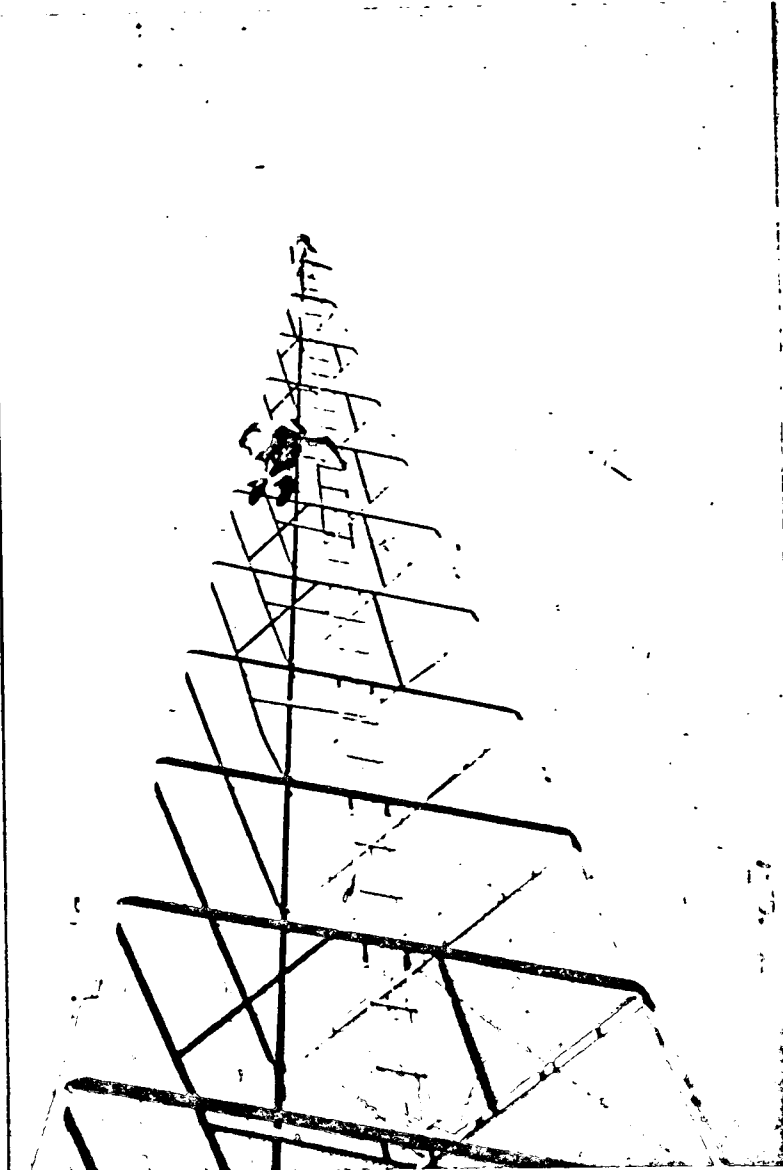
8



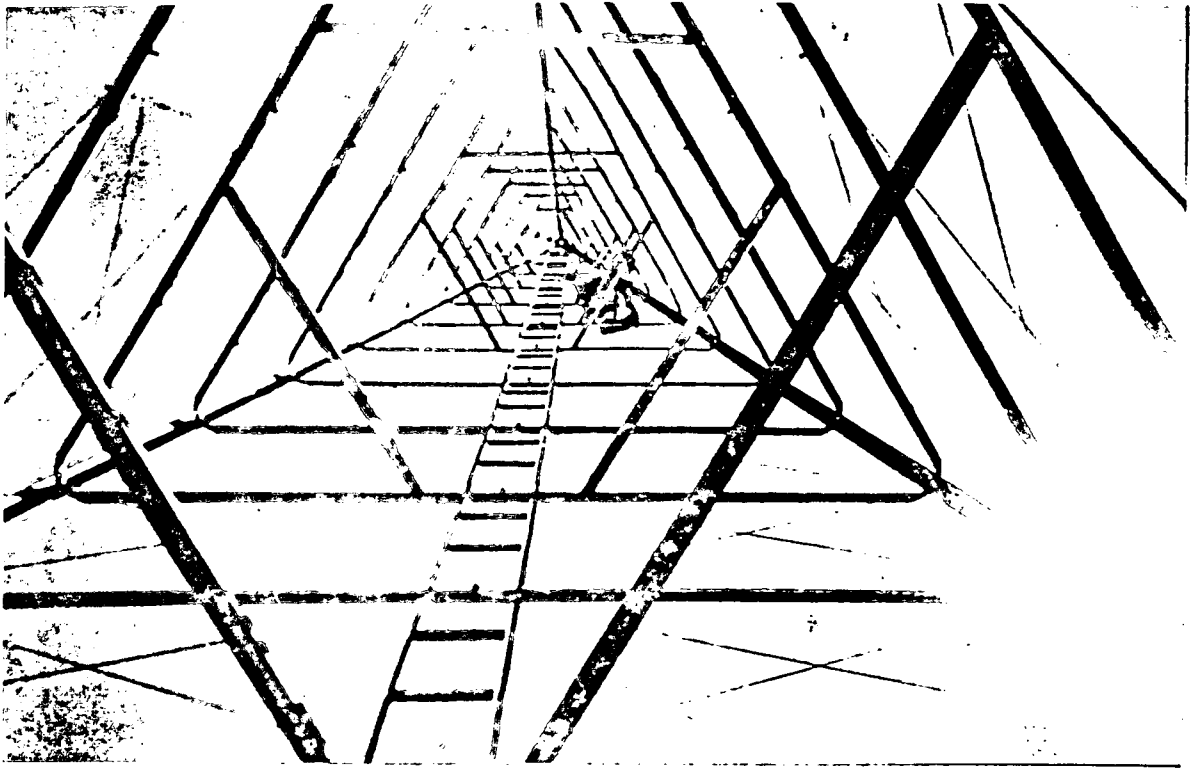
9



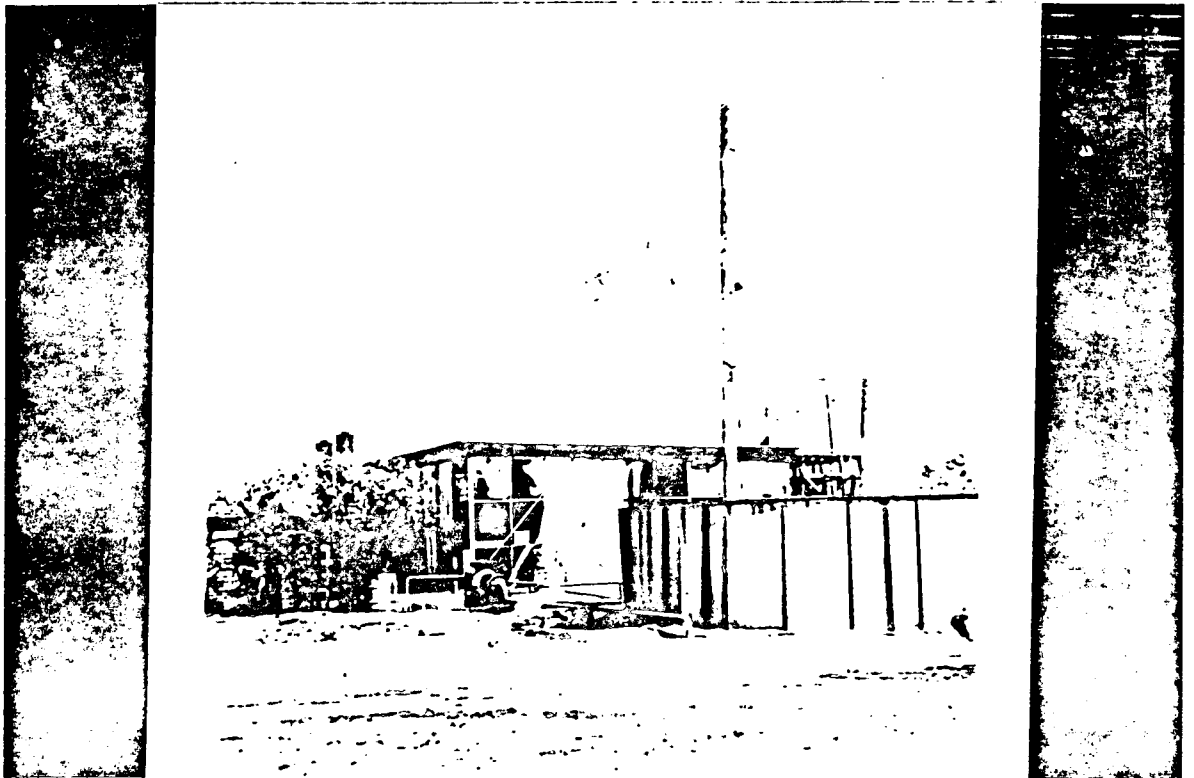
10



11



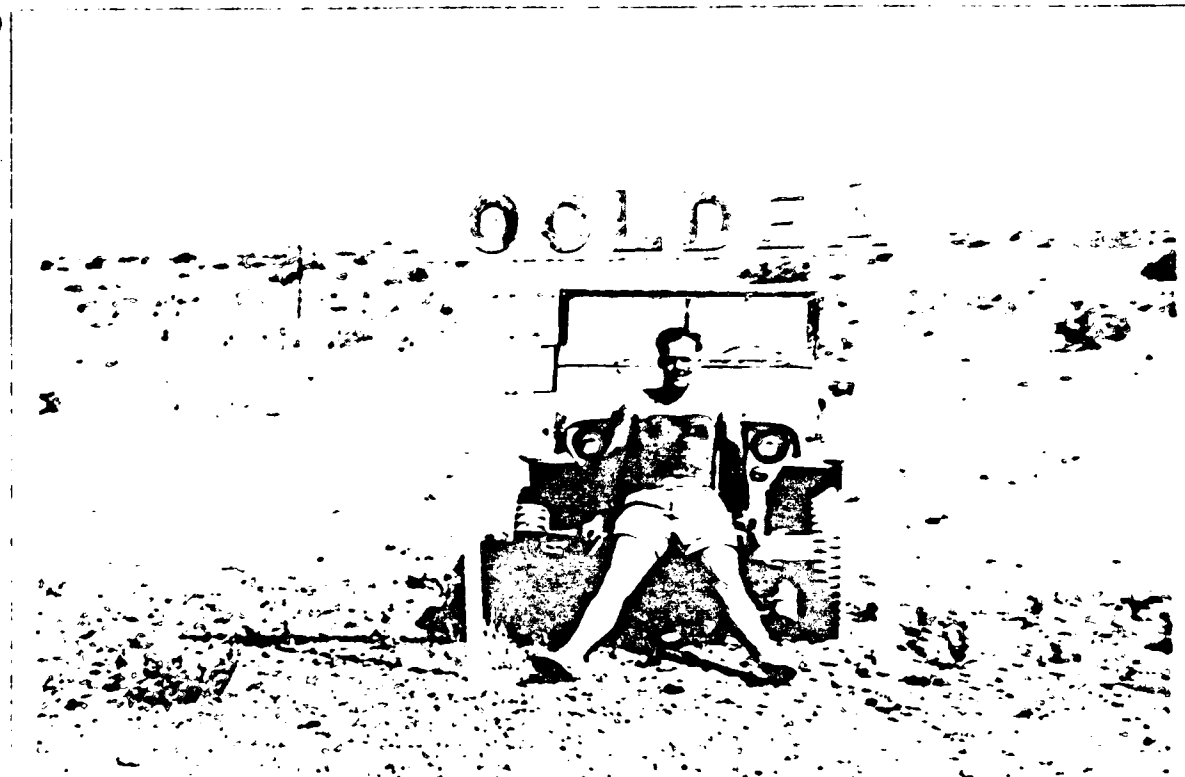
12



113



114



KAMI
BASR
AM BARRAKA

MAF
ATOM
23 EID

