

subject: Weapons etc.

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28 NZ(Maori) Bn,
Field,
25 Nov.42

A - B - C - D - HQ Coys - Bn HQ (2)

1. Attached herewith as APPX "A" is report by Armourer-Sjt on state of Brens, LMG within Bn.
2. The period 1330 - 1530 hrs 26 Nov.42 will be devoted by all Coys, excepting C and D Coys to the following:-
 - (a) Thorough kit inspection (to include web equipment). Deficiencies to be reported to QM. All surplus clothing, effects of wounded etc., to be returned to QM.
 - (b) Organised and supervised checking and cleaning of all arms. Special attention to be paid to Bren accessories as set out in Armourer's report Deficiencies to QM.
3. In the case of C and D Coys:-
 - (a) Routine laid down in para 2 to be carried out after return from showers to 1200 hrs.
 - (b) Football matches to be played in afternoon.
4. Bn HQ to observe para 3 (a).
5. Coy Cmdrs to submit confidential return to C.O. by 1600 hrs 26 Nov.42 showing following holdings:-
 - (a) Bren guns, magazines, spare parts.
 - (b) Thompson Sub MG, magazines.
 - (c) 2" Mortars.
 - (d) A Tk rifle and magazines.
 - (e) Enemy weapons under types showing amount of amm held.

Ch. Deane
Lt-Col.
Commanding Officer.
28 NZ(Maori) Bn.

Subject: Report of Armourer Serjeant on
State of Bren LMGs.

APPX "A"

I wish to bring before your notice the unsatisfactory condition of these arms in the Bn. During an inspection just concluded I find that attention to cleaning has been neglected and barrels, gas cylinders, bipod sleeves etc., are badly rusted and in a few cases barrels were starting to corrode.

There were frequent cases of incorrect lubricants being ^{afford} used and I wish to point out that this malpractice can seriously ^{the} affect the functioning of these arms. Grease RD 1179 or Grease "C" (Graphited) is the correct lubricant whilst Oil M80 is used for general preservation when the weapon is not prepared for action.

Extraction-ways in barrels were damaged in numerous cases and this points to the fact that leather or rubber washers have not been used on cleaning rods as laid down in NZ DIV Orders.

CARBINES SUB MG (THOMPSON)

The greatest majority of these arms have been well maintained, although a few isolated cases were noticed of neglect of cleaning. In some guns the "Rocker" was assembled incorrectly that is, with ~~XXXX~~ its boss inwards, instead of outwards, with the result that no change of fire control was permissible.

COMPONENTS AND ACCESSORIES

Indications are that guns are deficient of several items and attached is a list, showing the number of components and accessories to be carried with each gun.

(Sgd) C Weddell S/Sjt.
Armourer.

COMPONENTS AND ACCESSORIES

<u>Bren LMG .303</u>		Containing:-		
Magazines, Bren	30 rounds	25	Gauze pieces	2
Boxes Carrier Mag Bren		2	Stay extractor	1
Holdall, Bren LMG		1	Spring stay extractor	1
Containing:-			Pin firing	1
Barrel Bren		1	Spring firing pin	1
Rods cleaning MG .303		1	Plug clearing	1
Rod cleaning cylinder gas		1	Grease RD 1179. Grease "C" 2 oz.	
Mop	"	1	(Graphited)	
Brush wire	"	1		
Wallet (containing:-			<u>Carbine SUB MG (Thompson)</u>	
Combination tool		1	Magazines, box type	10
Bottles, Oil		1	Tools assembly recoil	
Pullthrough, double		1	spring	1
Tins spare parts		1	Breech cleaning brush	1
			Cans oil	1
			Pullthrough	1

Archives New Zealand = Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Ref: 28 NZ (Maori) Battalion Diary, WAI 1 1665 DA
68/1/35-36, pp 13-14