

War Diary
MGR

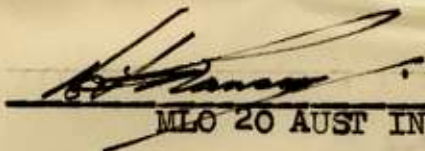
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SUBJECT: REPORT ON LANDING OF 2/13 AUST INF BN AT LUTONG
20 JUN 45

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

1. The following amendments were made to the force prior to sailing:-
 - (a) Shipping - One additional LCM 6 was made available.
 - (b) Landing Craft:- 2 x LVT4 were not available. This reduction was made good by the addition of 2 x DUKW.
 - (c) Vehicles:- 2/118 Aust Bde Wksp added 1 x Diamond T Wrecker and 1 x Jeep Recovery.
 - (d) Personnel - 15 Bty 2/8 Aust Fd Regt embarked only 207 personnel. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn embarked 276 personnel.
2. Embarkation was carried out as planned and loading was completed on time.
3. Weather - There was a small ground swell with a surf of approx 4 feet.
4. Beach Conditions - These were as anticipated, i.e. gradient of one in two hundred and fifty, firm sandy bottom.
5. Preliminary Bombardment:- No air bombardment was carried out. Naval bombardment by destroyers and support craft was carried out according to plan.
6. Landing -
 - (a) This was executed in accordance with original plan. Assault waves one, two and three landed in LVT4 and wave four in DUKW. Balance of personnel embarked in LST, except reserves, were landed in LCVPs. Wave one landed on time. Waves two, three and four all landed ahead of time. Some confusion occurred on the beach when first wave of LVT4 stopped on beach instead of proceeding inland for 300 yards as planned. This was quickly adjusted. There was no opposition by the enemy.
 - (b) All LCTs and LCMs were beached by 1200 hrs and discharge of vehicles proceeded despite the surf. Only three vehicles failed to reach the beach under their own power. These vehicles were towed in.
 - (c) LSM 54 - carrying vehicles - beached at 1900 hrs and waited for low tide at 210200I before discharging vehicles.
 - (d) LSM 265 & 133 were beached at 1130 and 1240 hrs respectively. These ships grounded approximately 200 yards from beach. Unloading of stores - using DUKWs - commenced immediately and continued throughout the night. All stores were unloaded by 1200 hrs on 21 Jun 45.

7. Reserves - Two coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn were NOT required and were NOT disembarked.
8. Return of LVT4 and DUKW - 15 x LVT4 were embarked in LST 573, 15 x LVT4 in LST 562 and 12 DUKW in LST 667 and returned to LABUAN.
9. 131 released PWs - Indian Army - including a number of stretcher cases - were embarked in LST 667 and returned to LABUAN.


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MLO 20 AUST INF BDE