

History of Intelligence Activities in Queensland from September 1939 to September 1945

PART VII INTELLIGENCE IN L OF C SUB AREAS

In the early stages for administrative purposes the Command was divided into two Sub-Areas, vis, No 1 Line of Communication Sub-Area, which was responsible for the area North of Rockhampton, and No. 2 Line of Communication Sub-Area, which was responsible for the area South of that city. Subsequently, No. 17 Line of Communication Sub-Area was formed and was responsible for the Cape York Peninsula Area as far South as Cardwell. At the outset, although the War Establishment of the two first named Sub-Areas provided for the appointment of a GSO 2 (Int), no action was taken to fill the appointments, it being considered that the Intelligence Officer at Townsville could perform any Intelligence duties required by the Sub-Area Commander, and that General Staff (Intelligence) at Headquarters could make similar arrangements in respect to No. 2 Line of Communication Sub-Area. Early in 1943, owing to the arrival of a large number of units in South Queensland, and of the Allied Forces, it was decided to fill the appointment of GSO 3 (Int) as No. 2 Line of Communication Sub-Area. This officer advised the Commander on all Intelligence matters and he maintained close liaison with General Staff (Intelligence). When required, the services of Field Security personnel were made available to assist him in his duties. When the bulk of the troops had been moved North the appointment was abolished, and a GSO 3 (Int) was appointed to No. 1 Line of Communication Sub-Area. Up till the time of the latter appointment, the Intelligence Officer at Townsville performed any Intelligence duties required by the Commander of No. 1 Line of Communication Sub-Area, and the Intelligence Officer at Cairns performed a similar function for the Commander of No. 17 Line of Communication Sub-Area throughout the period of its existence. It is believed that only in exceptional circumstances should an Intelligence Officer be required on a Line of Communication Sub-Area.