

Subject :- MOVE TO NEW DIV AREA--- 5 - 6 October 1941.

5 October 41.

1230 hrs. The Bn enbussed at Bivouac Area and in R.M.T. proceeded in column of route formation in the following order to Bde S.P. two miles away.:- A - B - H.Q. & Bn HQ - D - C Coys ~~resp~~ respectively, with B. Echelon in rear.

1400 hrs : Having joined the Bde and attached troops the convoy in desert formation headed straight out into the desert ~~on~~ on a compass bearing true of 290 degrees. Space between vehicles from front rear and side 200 yards, and with a protective screen of Bren Carriers on the outer perimeters the Bde resembled an ocean going convoy. This formation remained unbroken until a defile along a barrel track forced the convoy to close in to 20 yards distance between vehicles and the ten or so lanes of ~~tp~~ were reduced to fit into the narrow floor of the valley.

The going had been good despite the flinty surface of rock, and in places the soft sand. Desert formation was once more ~~resumed~~ resumed when the valley was negotiated, and later in the afternoon the Bde shook out into their respective Bivouac Areas.

The Bn halted at 1930 hrs and just at "last light" close formation was completed the Bn facing more or less WEST with Bren Carriers on the outer aspects of the formation.

Distance travelled this afternoon was approx 25 miles.

6 October 41.

0515 hrs Reveille in the open desert after sleeping on the stony desert floor.

By 0600 hrs the Bn was ready to move, just after "first light"

0645 With the Bde reformed into desert formation the convoy continued its march on a line of 286 degrees true bearing.

A little later this course was altered as we gradually swung ~~west~~ west to the NORTH and with the FUCA Landing ground far over to our right in the distance a halt was called for lunch.

After lunch in column of route formation the convoy completed its move to the New Div Area, having linked up with the Matruh Road at about the 63 Km Peg.

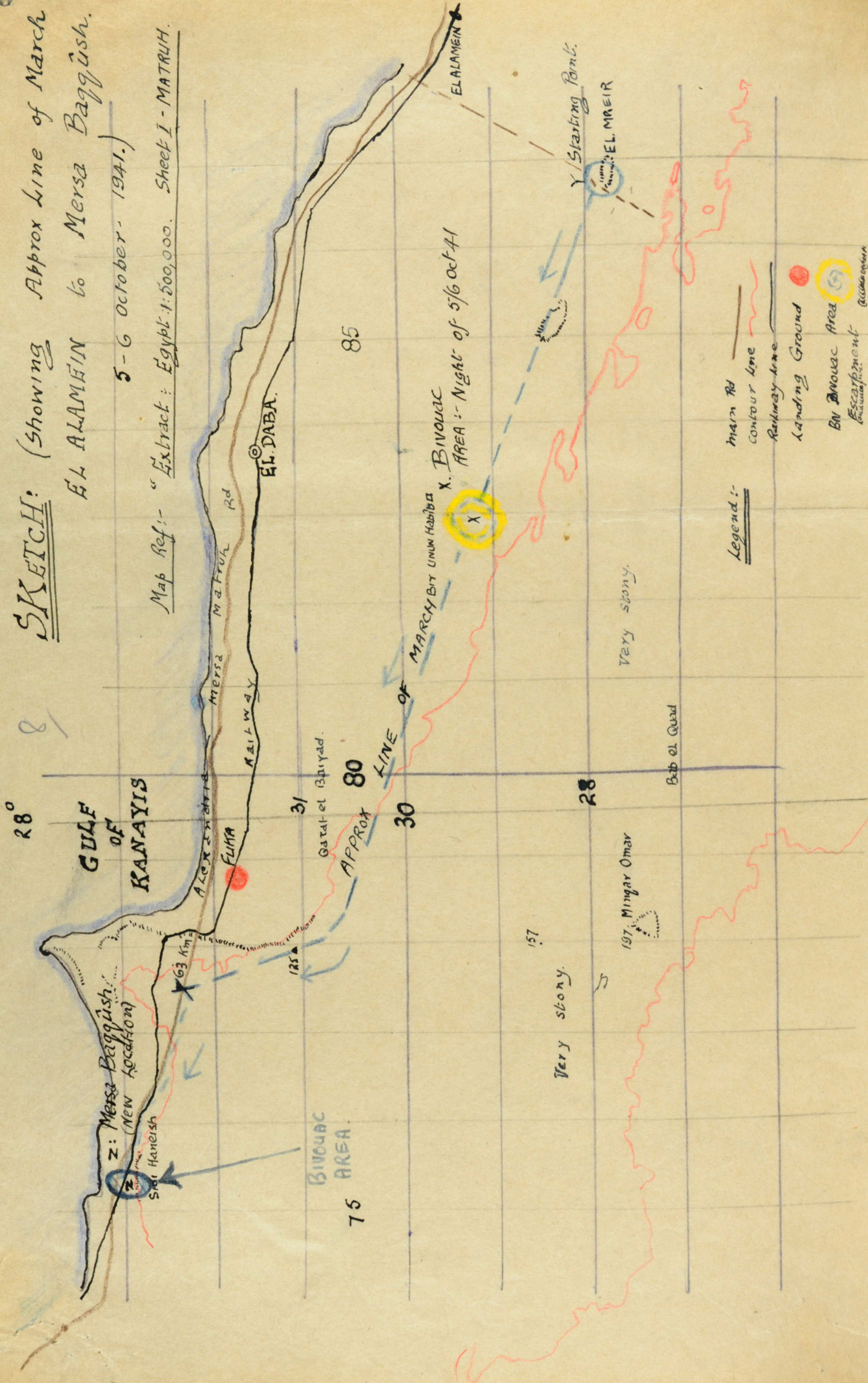
In the early afternoon the Bn reached its Bivouac Area this side and very nearly on the Baqqush Airdrome at the 50 Km peg.

SKETCH: (showing Approx line of March

EL ALAMEIN to Mersa Baggûsh.  
(Showing Approx Line of March

5-6 October - 1941.

Map Ref:- " Extract: Egypt: 1:500,000. Sheet I - MATRUH.



Archives New Zealand = Archives New Zealand = Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Ref: 28 NZ (Māori) Battalion Diary, WAll 1 1664 DA 68/1/22, pp. 58-59.