

5 NZ INF BDE MOVEMENT ORDER NO 16

(9) 823 PPT  
Original

CO. 110

11 Mar 45

Reference Map: 1:500,000 - Sheets LISID.

TOZEUR - GAMES

1. 5 NZ INF BDE and att sq arms will move on 12 Mar 45 to Assembly Area vicinity E 2900 staging in area A 1048 for an evening meal. ✓
2. Move will be carried out in coln in BN Gps in accordance with Movement Table att as Appx 'A'. On arrival at Assembly Area the Bde Gp will form Decent Formation facing SOUTH 24 NZ BN leading, 28 NZ (H.Q.R.) BN on right, 23 NZ BN on left at 100 yds interval and distance between vehs. Bde HQ will indicate front and rear of Bde Gp area. ✓
3. Traffic Control
  - (a) Det 2 NZ DIV PRO COY will be at HEDENHILL. ✓
  - (b) Units will ensure that NO vehs move from unit areas on to the roads until the last veh of the preceding unit has passed.
  - (c) The leading veh in each BN or equivalent Gp is responsible for maintaining the coln held down. ✓
  - (d) Units will in every case liaise with the unit immediately ahead and following to maintain a continuous coln. ✓
  - (e) At halts all vehs will move clear of the rd. ✓
4. Move from Staging to Assembly Area
  - (a) Bde Gp moves from Staging Area at 1800 hrs 12 Mar 45. Start Point A 0847. ✓
  - (b) 24 NZ BN will liaise with det 2 NZ DIV PRO COY at Start Point and commence move from area so that leading veh will pass Start Point at 1800 hrs.
5. Grouping of 2 NZ DIV and att sq arms at Assembly Area
  - (a) KDG (leading)
  - (b) 2 NZ DIV CAV REGT
  - (c) 8 AHD BDE GP
  - (d) NZL GP
  - (e) 6 NZ INF BDE GP ✓
  - (f) HQ 2 NZ DIV
  - (g) 2 NZ DIV REG GP
  - (h) 5 NZ INF BDE GP
  - (j) ADM GP
  - (k) NZASC GP
6. Decoying and Concealment
  - (a) Before leaving present area, all "fern-leaf" and NZEF signs will be obliterated by either reversing "pass plates" or covering signs with oil and sand. All NZ titles and badges will be removed from uniforms and caps.
  - (b) Every effort will be made to secure concealment in the assembly area. Movement during daylight will be reduced to the absolute minimum. Where movement is necessary speed will be such that no dust is raised. ✓
  - (c) No fires will be lit or lights displayed between the hours of 1800 and 0630.
  - (d) All vehicles will face NORTH in assembly area. ✓

7. Tracked Vehicles

- (a) All tracked vehicles will be moved to area B 8580 and be ready for loading on to transporters by 1400 hrs 15 Mar. Each unit will appoint an officer to take charge of its tracked vehicles. S JMD DDB G is to appoint a Regtl Comd to coord transporter convoy.
- (b) Loaded transporters will disperse vicinity of K 6495 and remain concealed in that vicinity during daylight on 17 Mar. At 1800 hrs 17 Mar transporters will be unloaded and tracked vehicles will move to unit areas.

8. Supplies and POL

- (a) Replenishment, Rations and Water: Normal up to and incl 12 Mar. Replenishment vchs will move from replenishment area on 12 Mar under comd XMc Sup O.
- (b) POL: On 11 Mar units will draw sufficient POL to commence move 12 Mar with all vchs topped up and reserves maintained. At Staging Area top up from 2nd line dump.
- (c) Reserves: Rations and Water - 6 days plus unconsumed portion. POL - minimum 300 miles at 4 mpg.
- (d) Water: Commencing 12 Mar ration will be limited to half gill. At Staging Area water pt will be available for topping up but NOT for reserves.
- (e) Tracked Vchs: Units will ensure that 6 days rations and water are supplied to all personnel moving with transporters.

9. Medical

- (a) ADS moves at rear of BCo Gp in coln and in desert formation.
- (b) 5 IDS remains open at present location until 1200 hrs 14 Mar and will then move and join BCo Gp.
- (c) 4 ME ID ADS will open IDS area B 9441 on 12 Mar.

10. Pro

BEM will light and mark with diamond signs route from staging area to assembly area. Rear of assembly area will be marked with 4 green lights at right angles to Div axis.

Tps at SP STAGING AREA, BEN GARDENS and FOUR TALLBOURNS

11. AA Protection

- (a) During move to staging area all units may engage enemy aircraft with Lt AA weapons.
- (b) After reaching assembly area units will not fire on enemy aircraft unless they are directly attacked.

12. Rec

As many vchs as possible will be towed to destination.

CMIE will arrange for Rec Sec to patrol route during moves.

13. Intercom

Wireless silence will be strictly observed until further orders.

-3-

14. Time

Synchronize through Sigs at 1900 hrs 11 Mar 43. ✓

ACK

*E. H. Schindler* Capt.  
S C 5 NZ Inf Bde.

Time of Signature 0936 hrs.

Issued by LO s and Sigs.

DISTRIBUTION	COPY NO and BOX
24 NZ BN	1
25 NZ BN	2
28 NZ (IMORI) BN	3
5 NZ FD REGT	4
32 NZ L TK BTY	5
42 NZ LR AA BTY	6
7 NZ FD COY	7
4 NZ HC COY	8
4 NZ RES MT COY	9
1 COY 5 NZ FD REGT	10
5 NZ INF BDE WORKSHOPS SEC	11
'K' SEC 2 NZ DIV SIGS	12
COMM	13
B H	14
S C	15
BDE T O	16
BDE SUP O	17
CMF	18
FILE	19
WAR DIARY	20 - 21
SPARES	22 - 23

SECRETCopy No. 3.....APPENDIX 'A'

to

5 NZ INF BDE MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 16

1. Route : Rd Junc E 8681 - Rd Junc (Q) J 6407 - A 2046 - E 9041 - E 7531 - K 6196
2. Speed and Density: Day 15 m.i.h. 20 v.t.m.  
Night 7 " 40 "  
Vehs will close in to night formation on commencing move from Staging Area.
3. Halts : For ten mins. Ten mins to the hr every even hr, commencing 0950 hrs. NO halt for lunch.
4. Lights : The route will be lit from Staging Area to Assembly Area and NO vehicle lights will be used.
5. Start Line : (a) Div : Rd Junc E 8681  
(b) Bde : Junc Rd MEDENINE - BEN GARDAME.
6. Order of March :

Unit	Time Past Bde S L.		Remarks
	Head	Tail	
21 NZ Bn Gp	0730	0800	Leading veh to cross Div S L at 0800 hrs
23 NZ Bn Gp	0800	0830	Joins Bde coln at Bde S L.
HQ 5 NZ Inf Bde (less Wkshop Sec) HQ 42 NZ Lt AA Bty HQ 4 NZ MG Coy HQ 32 NZ A Tk Bty	0830	0850	Gp moves in order as shown. In desert formation 4 NZ MG Coy and 32 NZ A Tk Bty move behind 42 NZ Lt AA Bty in that order.
5 NZ Fd Regt	0850	0925	
28 NZ (Maori) Bn Gp	0925	0955	
7 NZ Fd Coy	0955	1003	In desert formation moves in three colns behind HQ 32 NZ A Tk Bty
A Coy 5 NZ Fd Amb	1003	1008	In desert formation moves in three colns behind Bde HQ and along axis of adv.
5 NZ Inf Bde Wkshop Sec	1008	1012	

(Apr-4) Original

ARMY COMDERS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO TROOPS OF THE EIGHTH ARMY AFTER THE  
AFTER THE UNSUCCESSFUL ENEMY ATTACK ON 6 MARCH 43.

" I congratulate all Officers and men on the first class show put up  
against ROMMEL'S attack.

I congratulate particularly the Infantry and the Artillery.

The Infantry unprotected by wire or mine-field " SAW OFF " the attack  
of 3 Panzer Divisions, by means of their own weapons and 6 pounder guns  
splendidly supported throughout by the Artillery and by the Armour  
when ever it was necessary.

ROMMEL absolutely " BOUGHT IT " and will think twice before he attacks  
the EIGHTH ARMY again.

Well done indeed.

B. L. Montgomery,

General, G.O.C.- in-C., Eighth Army.

Tunisia,  
7 Mar. 43.

**EIGHTH ARMY****Personal Message from the  
Army Commander****TO BE READ OUT TO ALL TROOPS**

1. The enemy is now advancing to attack us. This is because he is caught like a rat in a trap and he is hitting out in every direction trying to gain time to stave off the day of final defeat in North Africa.

2. This is the very opportunity we want. Not only are we well equipped with everything we need, but in addition the soldiers of the Eighth Army have a fighting spirit and a morale which is right on the top line.

3. We will stand and fight the enemy in our present positions.

There must be **NO WITHDRAWAL** anywhere, and of course, **NO SURRENDER.**

The enemy has never yet succeeded in any attack against a co-ordinated defensive layout, and he will not do so now.

We have plenty of tanks, and provided the defended localities hold firm then we will smash the enemy attack and cause him such casualties that it will cripple him; we will in fact give him a very "bloody nose."

4. **IT WILL THEN BE OUR TURN TO ATTACK HIM.**

And having been crippled himself, he will be unable to stand up to our attack and we will smash right through him.

5. This attack of the enemy therefore really helps US, and is one more step forward towards the end of the war in North Africa.

I did not expect for one moment that the enemy would attack us; it seemed absurd.

But he has done it, and we must show our gratitude in no uncertain way.

6. Let us show him what the famous Eighth Army can do.

7. Good luck to each one of you, and good hunting.

**B. L. Montgomery.**

Tunisia.

General, G.O.C.-in-C., Eighth Army.

## REFERENCE

Archives New Zealand = Te Rua Mahara a te Kāwanatanga  
28 (Maori) Battalion War Diary, WAI 1 1666 DA 68/1/39, p.32