

Field *file*

BY

19 Nov. 42

Major C.E. Bennett, Commanding 28 NZ (Maori) Bn.

- 1. Dress: Correct dress will be worn at all times. This consists of:-
 - (a) Cap FS., Battle dress (blouse fully buttoned up) gaiters.
 - (b) During parade hrs balaclavas will not be worn.
 Coys will take disciplinary action against offenders.

- 2. Extract from 2 NZ Div. RO No. 146 dated 16 Nov. 42.
Captured Alcoholic Drinks:

A death occurred recently from the drinking of captured enemy alcohol. In Jan. last many deaths occurred in BENGHASI from consuming comparatively small amounts, due to rapid poisoning effect on the heart. All ranks are warned against the consumption of captured alcoholic drinks.

- 3. Extract from 2 NZ Div. RO No. 147 dated 16 Nov. 42.

Special Order.

The following messages have been received by GOC 2 NZ Div. They are to be made known to All Ranks:-

- 1. From His Excellency the Governor General:-
"Congratulations to all in NZ Div. on yet another magnificent achievement best wishes to all.
Newell Governor General."
- 2. From the Right Hon. the Prime Minister:-
"We are delighted to hear of the success of the NZ Div. and ~~XXXX~~ on behalf of the Government and people of NZ I should be glad if you would accept and convey to all ranks warmest congratulations and every good wish. The operations have been closely followed here from day to day and we are proud to know that the NZ Div. has once again proved its qualities and has maintained its world-wide reputation as a fighting force second to none."
- 3. From the General Officer Commanding NZ Defence Forces:-
"The news from Egypt has thrilled NZ and part played by NZ Forces and their efficiency and gallantry are an inspiration to the NZ Forces at home and in the Pacific. NZ Army sends its warmest congratulations to the NZ Div. and British Formations under command. My personal congratulations to yourself and troops."
- 4. From Comd 30 CORPS:-
"After twelve days of bitter fighting we have achieved our object of breaching the enemy's defences and so have made possible the passage of our armoured formations towards the enemy's rear. I have received a special message from Comd 10 CORPS, expressing his great appreciation of our achievements in this respect.
"During this period we have inflicted severe losses on the enemy both in men and in material; losses which when they become known may well prove crippling."
"I desire to express to all ranks my gratitude for their untiring energy and devotion to duty during this critical period, and my deep admiration for the fighting spirit which has enabled us to overcome the elaborate system of defences with which the enemy had surrounded himself.
"It was a hard fight.
"It was won through the bravery and absolute determination of every man to do his duty.
"Well done - all."

R C Jelinger Lieut.
Adjutant.
28 NZ (Maori) Bn.

Archives New Zealand = Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Ref: 28 NZ (Maori) Battalion Diary, WAI 1 1665 DA
68/1/35-36, p.41