



Vincent Verdun Connolly (Mervyn Vincent Martin)
VX11573

215

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES

A.A. Form A200. MF

ATTESTATION FORM

FOR SPECIAL FORCES RAISED FOR SERVICE IN AUSTRALIA OR ABROAD.

Army No. VX 11573 Ro 23529/19/6353 (Verdun Vincent)
 Surname MARTIN (CONNOLLY) Other Names Verdun Vincent
 Unit 15th Coy
 Enlisted for service at _____ (Place)
 _____ (State) _____ (Date)

A

Questions to be put to persons called out or presenting themselves for voluntary enlistment.

1. What is your name? ... I. Surname MARTIN Verdun Vincent
 (BLOCK LETTERS)
 Other names Verdun Vincent
 2. Where were you born? ... 2. In or near the town of Orange
 in the state or country of N.S.W.
 3. Are you a natural born or a naturalized British Subject? If the latter, papers are to be produced. ... 3. Yes
 4. What is your age and date of birth? ... 4. Age 22
 Date of Birth 5/2/38
 5. What is your trade or occupation? ... 5. Farm Labourer
 6. Are you married, single or widower? ... 6. Single
 7. Have you previously served on active service? If so, where and in what capacity? ... No
148th Coy, 4th Battalion NSW 72702
 8. Who is your actual next of kin? (Order of relationship—wife, eldest son, eldest daughter, father, mother, eldest brother, eldest sister, eldest half-brother, eldest half-sister) ... 8. Name Deris MARTIN
And V Connolly in the UK) Arms 8/4/54
Pushville P.O. NSW.
 Address 148 Piper Street
Belhurst
 Relationship Mother
 9. What is your permanent address? ... 9. c/o Bradvale Post Office
via Skipton.
 10. What is your religious denomination? (This question need not be answered if the man has a conscientious objection to doing so) ... 10. R.C.
(Verdun Vincent Connolly)

I, Verdun Vincent Connolly do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true and that I am willing to serve in the Australian Military Forces within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

Witnessed by [Signature] (Signature of Attesting or Witnessing Officer) [Signature] (Signature)

* The person will be notified that should he give false answers to any of these questions he will be liable to heavy penalties under the Defence Act.

NAME CONNOLLY V V 12 No VX 11573

Address _____

1	1939/45 STAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	AFRICA STAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	" with 1st Clasp	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	" with 8th Clasp	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	ATLANTIC STAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	AC EUROPE STAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	ITALY STAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	FRANCE and G STAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	PACIFIC STAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	BURMA STAR	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	DEFENCE MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	WAR MEDAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	A S M	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		<input type="checkbox"/>

Recorder _____
 Checker _____
 AWARDS WITHHELD
 Serials: _____
 REASON: 4/23/65
4/23/65
601
10c
def
 AUTHORITY: _____
 Packer _____
 Despatcher _____

TO WHOM DESPATCHED _____

Regd Parcel No 6930 DATE 19 APR 1960

Serials _____ Sig _____

DATE _____

AHQ Press—511/53—7/53—5m





A.F. 2140-1 (Adapted)
Army No. VXL1573

SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM

Rank: *Pvt.* Christian Name: *Vernon* Surname: *CONNOLLY*

Unit: *2/5 Bn.*

Address: *Melbourne*

Date of Enlistment: *27/2/40.*

Date of Birth: *5.2.18.*

Place of Birth: *Orange N.S.W.*

Trade or Occupation: *Farm Laborer.*

Religion: *R.C.*

Marital Condition: *Single.*

Next of Kin: *Doris Martin, 145 Piper Street, Bathurst, N.S. Wales.*

Address of Next of Kin: *145 Piper Street, Bathurst, N.S. Wales.*

Relationship: *Mother.*

Medical Classification: *Class I.*

Identification—Colour of Hair: *Brown* Eyes: *Blue.*

Distinctive Marks: *Several raised moles on front of back of neck, in row inside R foot, small scar on nose.*

REPORT		Date	From whom received	Particulars of report	Date of Casualty	Place of Casualty	Authority	Signature of Officer
		5.3.40	O.C. 2/5 Bn	Taken on Strength 2/5 Bn	27.2.40	Phonopur	R.O. 26/21/40	
4.4.40	2/5 Bn			Embarked V. Melbourne	14.4.40	Phonopur		
10.5.40				Disembarked V. Melbourne	17.5.40	Phonopur		
29.5.40				A.W.L. from 2600 hrs to 29/5/40	29.5.40	Phonopur		
9.12.40				AWL from 1900 hrs to 21.12.40	21.12.40	Phonopur		
9.4.41				Embarked for Greece	23/4/41	Phonopur		
26.5.41				Embarked for Greece	23/4/41	Phonopur		
27.7.41	1 Pz Bn			Embarked for Greece	27.7.41	Phonopur		
3.8.41				Embarked for Greece	1.8.41	Phonopur		
5.8.41	7 a/s Bn			Marched in of 7 a/s Bn	7.8.41	Phonopur		
26.8.41				Marched out to 2/5 Bn	26.8.41	Phonopur		
30.8.41	2/5 Bn			Taken on strength	27.8.41	Phonopur		

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Unit: *2/5 Bn.* Date and Time: *1 Feb. 40. To 30 Feb. 40.*

Date	Time	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Applicable Orders, etc.
2 Feb. 40		Major H. S. O'Sullivan to be Captain from 14 Oct. 39 to 2/4/40.	
4 Feb. 40		Md. Church parade.	
11 Feb. 40		Md. Church parade.	
12 Feb. 40		2 O/S's to N. A. S. V. Course	
13 Feb. 40		Official Photos of M. O'Sullivan	
14 Feb. 40		Capt. J. P. O'Sullivan taken on strength	
		Draft B O/S's arrived.	
		M. marched to regular rifle range for exercise and instruction.	
14 Feb. 40		M. returned to Phonopur.	
17 Feb. 40		14 O/S's discharged.	
19 Feb. 40		Md. Church parade.	
19 Feb. 40		M. vaccinated	
21 Feb. 40		12 O/S's discharged.	
22 Feb. 40		12 O/S's discharged.	
25 Feb. 40		Md. Church parade.	
26 Feb. 40		Draft B O/S's arrived. 1st. reinforcements.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Unit: *2/5 Bn.* Date and Time: *1st. April 40 To 30th April 40*

Date	Time	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Applicable Orders, etc.
1 April 40		M. goes out to field firing range to carry out firing practice only to find that another Bn. had also been allotted the range and had arrived first. So we are the April fools.	
4 April 40		Preparation is now having a pace.	
7 April 40		Md. Church parade.	
7/8 April 40		Very little training as whole camp is packing up preparatory to leaving there in a general air of excitement although actual leaving date is still obscure.	
20 April 40		Accounts less rides for review handed over to Transport Section. End most. Imperial Forces to be referred to in future as I.I.F.	
11 April 40		Review of 17th Aust. Inf. Bde. by Corps. Commander Lieut. Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey. The day was fine and Phonopur showed its true colors in the clouds of dust that lay across the parade ground like the face of the sun.	
		The C.O. (Lt. Col. T. P. Cook), Adjutant (Capt. J. V. Speed) and camp staff leave Phonopur to join 2nd Div. V.I.	
17/18 April 40		Final preparations and arrangements made. All packing completed and M. ready to move at a minute notice.	
18 April 40		Despatch 0500 hrs. final check up made and troops led by 2/5 Bn. first convoy consisting of 2/5 Bn. 2/5 Corps and M.I.C. leave for Seabor station at about 0600 hrs. to catch train leaving 21 0518 hrs. second convoy consisting of 2/5 Bn. and 2/5 Bn. leave 1 hour later. All troops safely aboard L.M.S.V.L. (ENTRICK) by 1100 hrs. and settling down on their knees Deane. Ship finally casts off at 1200 hrs. and proceeds to anchorage off Brisbane.	

APR 1941

A.F. Form C218A

WAR DIARY

ORDER UNDER SECRET COVER

UNIT 2/5 Bn

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS <small>(Include landing details and information given to Casualty Services as they received)</small>	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'S REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH <small>(On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)</small>
AMIRIA	8	1800 hrs. Mr. Cooper received of the labours received on collect clearance from C.S.O. on conclusion of Area.		
	9	1800 hrs. Bombardment orders. 0300 hrs. Reveille. 2300 hrs. Mr. Moore out and entrance for PORT ALIASHARA 0900 Bombardment on M.S.T. CAMERONIA for Iraq This ship took approx. 3,000 troops aboard and conditions on board although cramped were good & food was plentiful. State of equipment was good. 1800 hrs. Anchored in harbor. 2300 hrs. Boat Sails from harbor.		
PT. SGA	10			
	11	At Sea during voyage boat stations were carried out frequently & eventually fairly successful result was achieved. C.O. established on H.S.O. Liaison class under capt. Bufford M.C.		
GRECH	12	1630 Arrived at PORT PIREUS, disembarked by small boat & transferred for DAFANE camp a few miles W of ATHENS. The camp was pretty, situated in wooded slopes many homes in the area made the men welcome as visitors and companions.		

Signature _____

Army Form 8 1941

UNIT: 2/5 Bn INFANTRY REGIMENT

DAILY ORDERS PART II No. 22

DATE: Friday 1941

Sheet No. 1 of 1

STATION: DORIS

No.	Personal Particulars, Rank and Name	Particulars of Casualty Etc. and Date
DISBURSATION (Contd.)		
The following personnel embarked in Middle East for service in Greece at Seattle		
1151	VC 11501 Cpl BERRY	2/21
1152	VC 11502 Pte BASKETT	2/21
1153	VC 11503 Pte BAKER	2/21
1154	VC 11571 Pte BORGES	2/21
1155	VC 11572 Pte BARTON	2/21
1156	VC 11573 Pte BERRY	2/21
1157	VC 11599 Pte BENTON	2/21
1158	VC 11607 Pte BAKER	2/21
1159	VC 11609 Pte BARRAGE	2/21
1160	VC 11621 Pte BERRY	2/21
1161	VC 11622 Pte BENTON	2/21
1162	VC 11606 Pte BENTON	2/21
1163	VC 11607 Pte BENTON	2/21
1164	VC 11608 Pte BENTON	2/21
1165	VC 11609 Pte BENTON	2/21
1166	VC 11604 Pte BENTON	2/21
1167	VC 11607 Pte BENTON	2/21
1168	VC 11603 Pte BENTON	2/21
1169	VC 11603 Pte BENTON	2/21
1170	VC 11606 Pte BENTON	2/21
1171	VC 11606 Pte BENTON	2/21
1172	VC 11607 L/Cpl BENTON	2/21
1173	VC 11611 Pte BENTON	2/21
1174	VC 11612 Pte BENTON	2/21
1175	VC 11613 Pte BENTON	2/21

Other U.C. Records: 2nd Edition



5

mediate
1005

SECRET OR OTHERWISE BY THE AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
IN LONDON

On 9 Mar 41, 8 Aust Div received warning orders that it would proceed to BRITAIN as part of DUCTUS PACOP.

The wave of 8 Aust Div to BRITAIN was under control HQ Middle East and was organized into three groups, with each group subdivided into flights. The groups were:-

16 Bde Gp. - consisting of HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde, 2/1 Bn, 2/2 Bn, 2/3 Bn, 2/4 Bn, 2/1 Pz Coy, 2/1 Pz Amb, Camp Coy AASC.

This group embarked at ALEXANDRIA 10 Mar 41.

19 Pz Gp. - consisting of HQ 19 Aust Div, HQ 19 Aust Inf Bde, 2/4 Bn, 2/5 Bn, 2/6 Pz Regt, 2/3 Pz Regt, 2/1 1 Tr Regt, 2/2 Pz Coy, 2/2 Pz Amb, Camp Coy AASC.

This group embarked at ALEXANDRIA 1 Apr 41.

17 Bde Gp. - consisting of HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde, 2/5 Bn, 2/6 Bn, 2/7 Bn, 2/11 Bn, 2/1 Pz Regt (less one Bty), 2/1 Pz Coy, 2/3 Pz Coy, Camp Coy AASC.

This group embarked at ALEXANDRIA 8-9 Apr 41.

Saturday April 5th

Up at dawn and informed of move. I was picked up with other carrier gunners to go as relief driver and luck happened - Pulled out about 12 o'clock and on road in opposite direction of Athens. Struck sea and merged into the most beautiful scenic country one saw in paintings. - Little white housed villages and farms in valleys bordered by snow capped mountains. As we passed through villages women and children of remarkable beauty filled our truck cabin with flowers and the smiles - wow. Kisses galore thrown at us. Moon up and shining on snow on mountain tops. Grew cold slept warm.

(R.H. Smith NX2040)



S/C INF BR

BUCKOR

APR 41

OPERATIONS

MOVE TO ORDER	Bn embarked HMT "CASSIOPIA" at ALEXANDRIA 9 Apr. Disembarked FIRAKUS and moved to BAFNUS - 12 Apr 41.
14 APR	unit moved fwd and took up position at junction of SHAMIA and CORFU roads to cover withdrawal of other units.
16 APR	enemy reported within 30 miles. Unit withdraws to reserve post at KALANAKA, with one Coy to DOMAKOS pass.
17 APR	Bn withdraws further 6 miles and prepares to fight rearguard.
18-19 APR	withdrawal continues through SINTON to LAHIA Pass.
21-24 APR	Bn relieved by 2/11. 21-22 Apr, moves back to BRAILOS Pass. All gear other than battle equipment destroyed under orders. Positions of flank guard to retreating Hq Forces, taken 5 miles S of LAUREA - 24 Apr.
25 APR	Unit, less 2 Coy, withdraws through ARSOS to SALANATA, where 2 Coy rejoined it.
26 APR	Bn less portion of 2 Coy embarked on "CITY OF LONDON".
27 APR	Disembarked ALEXANDRIA and moved to IKINE MARYUT - to PALESTINE 30 Apr.
EQUIPMENT LOSSES	all transport abandoned together with personal gear, but most rifles, Brens, and A/Tk guns saved.
CASUALTIES	16 killed, 48 wounded, 100 missing.
EFFECT OF BOMBING	on morale, out of all proportion to damage done.

*Immediate
Loss*

APR MONTH
41 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM 2012A

WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/c Bn

For material required, see F.A.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 27

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS <small>Results involving details and information given to Casualty Returns are NOT required</small>	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'S REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH <small>(On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)</small>
EVADIA	25	which he did at MALE. It was found later that had the action not been taken 2/5th would not have been evacuated. 2200 hrs Left area after quiet afternoon, 30 min for 31st truck.		
	26	Traveled all night along a winding & hilly road, that was perhaps more rugged than any yet found & arrived at KALAMATI (221-379) at 0900 hrs. Inspected and took compass with 1600 hrs when they marched 9 miles to camp. There were no rain clouds & occasional planes over but no rain. Conference at 0300 hrs. but no orders for evacuation. Instructions were that no transport would be available except by special order. Special order was sent at 2100 hrs but the message did not reach T.O. who was advised later by outside agency. Top personnel reached quay before last destroyer left but not in time to board it.		
	27	0300 hrs marched to pier and boarded HMS DEFENDER which transported personnel to transport ship CITY OF LINCOLN. Anchored a few miles out. Port of B. Co. was not able to board transport & consequently their position taken to CRETE.		

A.I.F. FORM 2012A (REV. 11-41)

Signature






Tuesday May 20th

The hun, this morning, turned the blitz on but tried to sidetrack us. At 0700 hrs, he commenced a raid on the harbour half a mile away. Then the real bombardment started, mainly in the direction of CANEA and MALEME. We were wondering what on earth was happening. Huge clouds of dust were rising from beyond the wireless mast at CANEA. Out of the dust came a number of huge gliders and landed in the vicinity of CANEA. Then we could see hundreds of parachutes opening just under a squadron of big planes that looked like bombers. The Jerries had come at last.

(AWM52 5/13/1/11)



Army Form 8 3118

UNIT 207th AIRBORNE PARACHUTE

DAILY ORDERS PART II No. 43

Station 207th DATE 31st May 1941

STATION 207th

Sol. No.	Regimental Particulars, Rank and Name	Particulars of Comrades, Etc. and Date
DISCHARGES (Contd.)		
The Following Personnel Discharged in the Middle East having returned from Greece during the month of May 1941.		
1343	Vt 31071 Pte THOMSON ✓	2.7.41
1344	Vt 31071 Pte HAYES ✓	2.7.41
1345	Vt 31150 Pte TROTT ✓	2.7.41
1346	Vt 31150 Pte THOMAS ✓	2.7.41
1347	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1348	Vt 31100 Pte HANLEY ✓	2.7.41
1349	Vt 31143 Pte WILSON ✓	2.7.41
1350	Vt 31100 Pte WILSON ✓	2.7.41
1351	Vt 31100 Pte WILSON ✓	2.7.41
1352	Vt 31140 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1353	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1354	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1355	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1356	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1357	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1358	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1359	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1360	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1361	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1362	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1363	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1364	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1365	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1366	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1367	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1368	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1369	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1370	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1371	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1372	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1373	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1374	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1375	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1376	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1377	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1378	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1379	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1380	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1381	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1382	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1383	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1384	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1385	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1386	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1387	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1388	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1389	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1390	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1391	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1392	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1393	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1394	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1395	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1396	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1397	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1398	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1399	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41
1400	Vt 31100 Pte WATSON ✓	2.7.41

Office U.C. Records, 1st Edition



Saturday 31st May.

Several air raids during the day. HMAS PERTH was hit but proceeded under its own steam. Arrived in Alex at daybreak, Nominal rolls made out, forms filled in and men received tea, fruit, biscuits, cigarettes and although extremely tired, they are happy enough to be out of the range of the bloody Stukas. Entrained for AMIRIYA where a good meal and comforts issue was waiting.

(AWM52 5/13/1/11)



PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

CABLEGRAM.

1.1889E
 110/34 x 20
 SENT 20th September, 1941.
 10.25 p.m.
 RECEIVED 20th September, 1941.

DECEIVED FROM-
 The Secretary of State
 for Dominion Affairs,
 LONDON, E.C.

Circular P.311. U R O B E T.

The following are figures for total battle casualties in the Middle East for the period 30th November, 1940, to 20th August, 1941, the theatres covered being the Western Desert, Abyssinia, Greece, Crete, Syria and Cyprus:-

Killed, Wounded, Missing, Prisoners of War (included). TOTAL.

U.K. Officers	204	458	663	221	1822
Other ranks	1,749	4,024	10034	3,666	29,473
Aust. Officers	91	200	236	50	577
Other ranks	1,275	2,868	4,928	1,000	11,071
N.Z. Officers	20	116	128	511	309
Other ranks	260	1,249	2,264	1,203	5,184
S. African Officers	311	5	511	511	1538
Other ranks	169	295	12	511	1087
Indian Officers	29	105	49	511	181
Other ranks	781	2,249	1,291	98	4,419
TOTALS:					
Officers	363	864	1,070	577	4,662
Other Ranks	4,207	14,000	37,399	6,002	59,568
GRAND TOTAL:	4,570	14,864	38,469	6,579	64,230

Copy sent to - War Cabinet
 Defence

24. 9. 41

Vx 11573

Cpl Clerk
Cpl A/Sgt

Rte. *M. V. Martin* *V. V. CONNOLLY*

REPORT		Record of all casualties regarding promotions (acting, temporary, local or substantive), appointments, transfers, postings, attachments, etc., forfeiture of pay, wounds, accidents, admission to and discharge from Hospital, Casualty Clearing Stations, etc. Date of disembarkation and embarkation from a theatre of war (including furlough, etc.)	Date of Casualty	Place of Casualty	Authority W.3011, B.2069, or other Document	Signature of Officer Certifying Correctness of Entries	
Date	From whom received						
21.10.41	3/5 dm.	appointed by Cpl.	70/4098	18.10.41	W/E.	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
8.2.42	-	graded Group III Clerk	13/1117	30-1-42	"	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
21.3.42	-	Embarked I.P.E.	1/224	10.3.42	"		
24.3.42	-	Disembarked by sea		24.3.42	Colombo	W5169	<i>W.A.</i>
6.4.42	-	Reverted to Rte at own request	3/1721	4.4.42	"	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
2.7.42	✓	Relinquished Group III Clerk		30.6.42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
2.7.42	✓	Promoted A/Sgt.	17/2270	1-7-42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
15.7.42	✓	Reverted to Rte	15/2719	8.7.42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
15.7.42	✓	Graded Group III Clerk	15/2723	9.7.42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
11.7.42	✓	Embarked in by sea		11.7.42	✓	W5169	<i>W.A.</i>
14.8.42	✓	Disembarked in Melbourne	<i>W.A.</i>	14.8.42	✓		
3.11.42	✓	Promoted Cpl.	8/1983	9.10.42	Australia	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
3.11.42	✓	Promoted A/Sgt.	8/1983	10.10.42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
17.10.42	✓	EMBARKED AT BRISBANE DISEMBARKED IN N. GUINEA	13/3157	8.10.42	✓	W5169	<i>W.A.</i>
17.11.42	✓	Next of Kin: Change of Name:	14/3503	24.10.42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
20.12.42	✓	By Statutory declaration assumed his true name of VERDUN VINCIENT CONNOLLY	19/1351	7-10-42	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>
2.2.43	G.P.R. N.I.W.	Attached Detached to S.P.G. N.S.W. L of C Area.	7/43	13-1-43	✓	W3012	<i>W.A.</i>
12.2.43	N.P.A.A.D	Embarked Townsville Disembarked Pt Moresby	R.O. 9/43	25.1.43	✓	A226	<i>W.A.</i>
12.2.43	W.A.	Next of Kin: Change of MRS. ROSETTA CONNOLLY WIFE R.O. 9/43	15/2593	2.1.43	✓	W3011	<i>W.A.</i>

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS SPACE.

B2

CHARGE SHEET.

The Accused **V111573** Sgt Verdun Vincent CONNOLLY of the 2/5 A.I.B. attached to the Leave and Transit Depot, SYDNEY is charged with having, while being a member of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia on War Service, committing the following offence:-

- 1.
- A.A. 15 (1)

WHEN ON ACTIVE SERVICE
ABSENTING HIMSELF WITHOUT LEAVE

in that he

at the Leave and Transit Depot, SYDNEY, absented himself without leave from 0700 hrs 23 Nov 43 until surrendering himself at 0800 hrs 4 Jan 44.

[Signature]
.....MAJ
(C.M. DAINTREE.)
C.O. LEAVE & TRANSIT DEPOT

RAS Showgrounds,
SYDNEY

Leave and Transit Depot,
NSW L OF C AREA.

23 JAN 1944

To be tried by District Court Martial

*Asking
10 March 44*

[Signature]
Colonel
(L.E VAIL)
General List

[Signature]
Major

THE ACCUSED, VX 11573 Sgt CONNOLLY Verdun Vincent, 2/5 AIB att LTD Sydney, being duly sworn, is examined by the Defending Officer:

I am a NSW man, but happened to join up in a Victorian unit.

I am 25 years old, married, with a wife and one child, and I came into the army in Feb 40. I went to the Middle East the same year, and came back to Australia about Aug 42. After that, I had 12 months' service in New Guinea.

I came down to LTD about Oct last year, and was given leave expiring on 25 Nov 43. My people are farming people at Perthville, outside Bathurst, and while I was up there, I found my relations and the people round about in considerable difficulties about getting the crop in because they couldn't get manpower; and I stayed for those few weeks to give a hand. As soon as they got straightened up, I came back and surrendered. That is the whole reason for overstaying my leave.

In my whole period in the AIF, I have only got one small absence, in 40. Otherwise I have a perfectly clean record.

Cross-examined by Prosecutor:

Q. Did you attempt to obtain leave of any sort? A. No.

Q. Why not? A. Before I left the unit, they said it was no good applying to the unit for any further leave, because we were now under the control of NSW L of C. On a previous leave, I sent a wire asking for extension of leave, and they said I had to apply through my unit. Well, I was between the devil and the deep blue sea, and didn't carry on with it, and had to leave it go.

Q. You didn't write anybody about it? A. No. I let it go then.

Q. Well, was it necessary for you to be away as long as that? A. Yes. The crops had to be got in. It takes a while to cart the crops in.

Q. When was the harvesting finished? A. I came back in early Jan, when it was finished.

Q. Where did you say this property was? A. Perthville, seven miles from Bathurst.

Q. Well, was it essential for you to be there? Wasn't it possible to get anybody else? A. They were all stuck; couldn't get the manpower at all.

Q. Who is in the family besides you? A. I am the only son in my family; and on the wife's side, there are only women.

Q. Whose property did you say it is? A. Turnbury & Redden has one property and Rawlinson the other.

Q. Who owns the property? A. Rawlinson owns one and Turnbury & Redden are in shares with the other.

Q. Have you any family interest in the property? A. An interest in Rawlinson's, through my wife.

Q. But not directly? A. Well, it will benefit me by my wife getting the money from it.

Q. And what about the other? A. They are all working sort of in conjunction round there; the quicker they get it is the better for them.

Q. Well, what is your interest in the other property? A. Not much of interest to me, but a big interest to Turnbury & Redden.

Q. Well, how are you concerned about their's? A. Well, I could carry on with one crop while they are doing others. It is stuff for the army - peas - and had to be got in quick when out.

Q. You surrendered yourself on 4 Jan? A. Yes.

Q. Have you been at LTD ever since? A. Yes.

Q. Performing duties? A. Yes.

Q. Under open arrest? A. Yes.

Defending Officer declines to re-examine.

RP 83(B) is not complied with, the Court being of the opinion it is unnecessary, and the witness not desiring it.

oOo

CASE FOR THE DEFENCE.

COURT IS CLOSED FOR CONSIDERATION OF FINDING.

F

The Court is closed for the consideration of the sentence.

Sentence*

Insert number
rank, name,
regiment or corps,
or other descrip-
tion.

*Reduction to
Ranks
and
Fined £10.*

The Court sentence the accused, VX 11573 Sgt Conolly,
Verdun Vincent 2/5 A. 9. B. att LTD Sydney
to be reduced to the ranks and
to be fined the sum of Ten pounds.

TIME ACCUSED WAS IN ARREST

The Court has taken into consideration in
awarding the punishment set out that the
accused has been 65 days in open arrest
and no days in close arrest.

SIGNED at Paddington
this 10th day of March 1944

Cashie MStw
PRESIDENT

CONFIRMED
this 22 day of March 1944

Vail Colonel
(L. E. VAIL)

PROMULGATION

Promulgated and extracts taken at LTD Sydney
this 29 day of Mar. 1944

D. Sanderson Capt.
D. SANDERSON
Adjt Leave & Transit Depot
NSW L of C Area

DO NOT OPEN
This envelope contains material with the
date range 1943-1944
Access to this material is not available
under the Archives Act 1983.
Item No. VX-11573