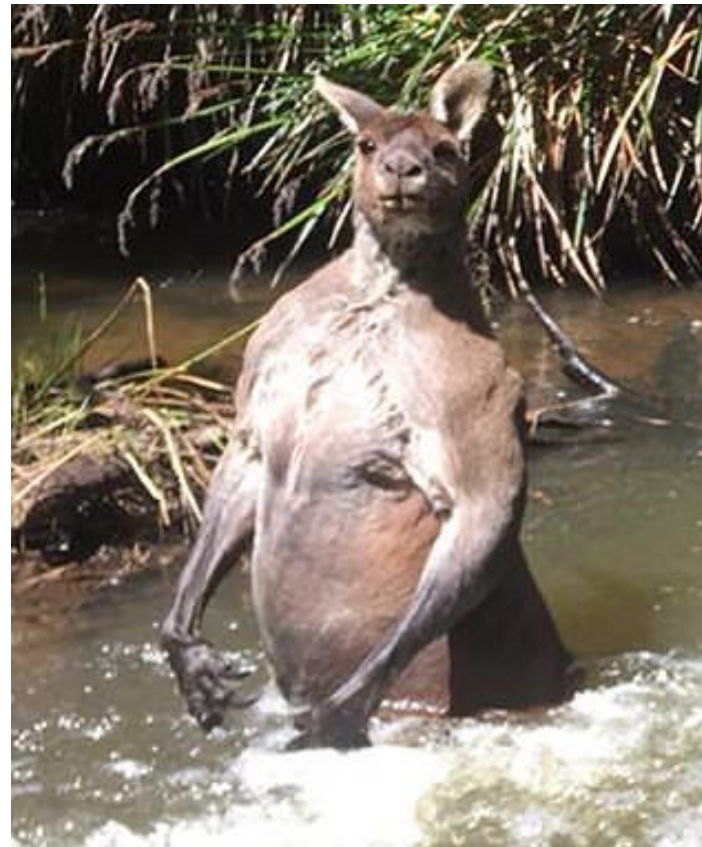


# DIGGERS

## SWIMMING, BATHING

### PHOTO STUDY – WW2 (PART 2)

**KANGAROO  
TAKES A BATH IN  
AUSTRALIA**





**WASHING CLOTHES IN RIVER**





**Diggers bathing and washing their clothes in a body of water.**







**SHOWER  
TOPSIDE  
ON A SUB**











**RED SEA -  
IN THE  
MEN'S  
SWIMMING  
POOL ON  
BOARD U.1.  
ARMY. ON  
BOARD  
SHIP.**



REMPI, NEW GUINEA. 1944-05-09. MEMBERS OF "A" COMPANY, 35TH INFANTRY BATTALION DUSTING WITH "TALC POWDER" AFTER AN ENJOYABLE SWIM IN A STREAM NEAR REMPI. THE TALCUM POWDER IS BEING USED TO PREVENT CHAFING OF THE SKIN. PERSON SHOWN ARE:- NX135927 LANCE-CORPORAL J. REYNOLDS (1); NX120430 CORPORAL W. S. PEARN (2); NX120659 PRIVATE A. R. BRYAN (3); N257384 PRIVATE L.E. SIMPSON (4); NX120795 CORPORAL W.H. CAIRNS (5); NX131588 PRIVATE H.G. BURNS ( ).







**ROCKY CREEK, QLD.  
1943-08-16. STAFF OF  
THE 2/2ND AUSTRALIAN  
GENERAL HOSPITAL,  
RELAX IN THE UNIT  
SWIMMING POOL.  
SFX11710 SISTER M. M.  
HONNER CAN BE SEEN  
CLIMBING LADDER OUT  
OF POOL.**



**SEYMOUR - MEN OF  
THE 2/2 PIONEERS  
COOL OFF IN THE  
GOULBURN RIVER  
DURING A HALT IN THE  
ROUTE MARCH.**





**Soldiers, most of them stark naked, dive from lifeboats or landing boats into the waters of the Mediterranean for a swim in Mudros Harbour. The boats are tethered to the side of a troopship (left). 1915.**





**Soputa, Papua.  
December 1942. A  
very welcome  
cool off and wash  
in a river for  
troops of the 7th  
Australian  
Division who were  
engaged in the  
fighting for Buna.**



**“MATESHIP” IS REVEALED AT THE  
ENGULT RIVER, NEW GUINEA, 1945-  
08-11. TROOPS OF 2/7 INFANTRY  
BATTALION BATHING IN THE FAST  
FLOWING RIVER, AS THEY HELP  
EACH OTHER. IDENTIFIED  
PERSONNEL ARE:- PRIVATE S.V.  
SHAW (1); PRIVATE P. MALOY (2);  
LANCE-CORPORAL A. TREU (3);  
PRIVATE R.A. CARROLL (4).**





**SOWI RIVER, NEW GUINEA. 1943-  
12-29. AUSTRALIAN TROOPS  
REMOVING THE SWEAT AND  
GRIME OF THE JUNGLE MARCH IN  
A SHALLOW MOUNTAIN STREAM.**





**SWIMMING,  
DIVING AND  
WATER POLO  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
HELD AT AN  
OPERATIONAL  
BASE IN NORTHERN  
AUSTRALIA WERE A  
WELCOME BREAK  
IN THE ROUTINE  
OF ARMY LIFE. THIS  
PICTURE SHOWS  
ONE OF THE  
DIVING EVENT.**





**"SWIMMING TO HIS  
RESCUE" (BRITISH AIR  
MINISTRY PHOTO  
PPG352)  
(PARACHUTIST IN  
WATER WITH A BOAT  
GOING TO HIS RESCUE)**



**TARAKAN ISLAND. 20 JUNE 1945. MEMBERS OF C COMPANY, 2/23 INFANTRY BATTALION ARRIVING AT THE TOWN SWIMMING POOL FOR THEIR ONE HOUR SWIM. IT TOOK THEM 2 1/2 HOURS TO COME FROM FORWARD POSITIONS; AND THEY WILL RETURN TO DUTY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SWIM. THE POOL WAS REPAIRED BY MEMBERS OF 2 FIELD COMPANY AND ITS USE ROSTERED AMONG UNITS ON THE ISLAND. (SEEN IN THIS, AND THE NEXT 4 PHOTOS):**







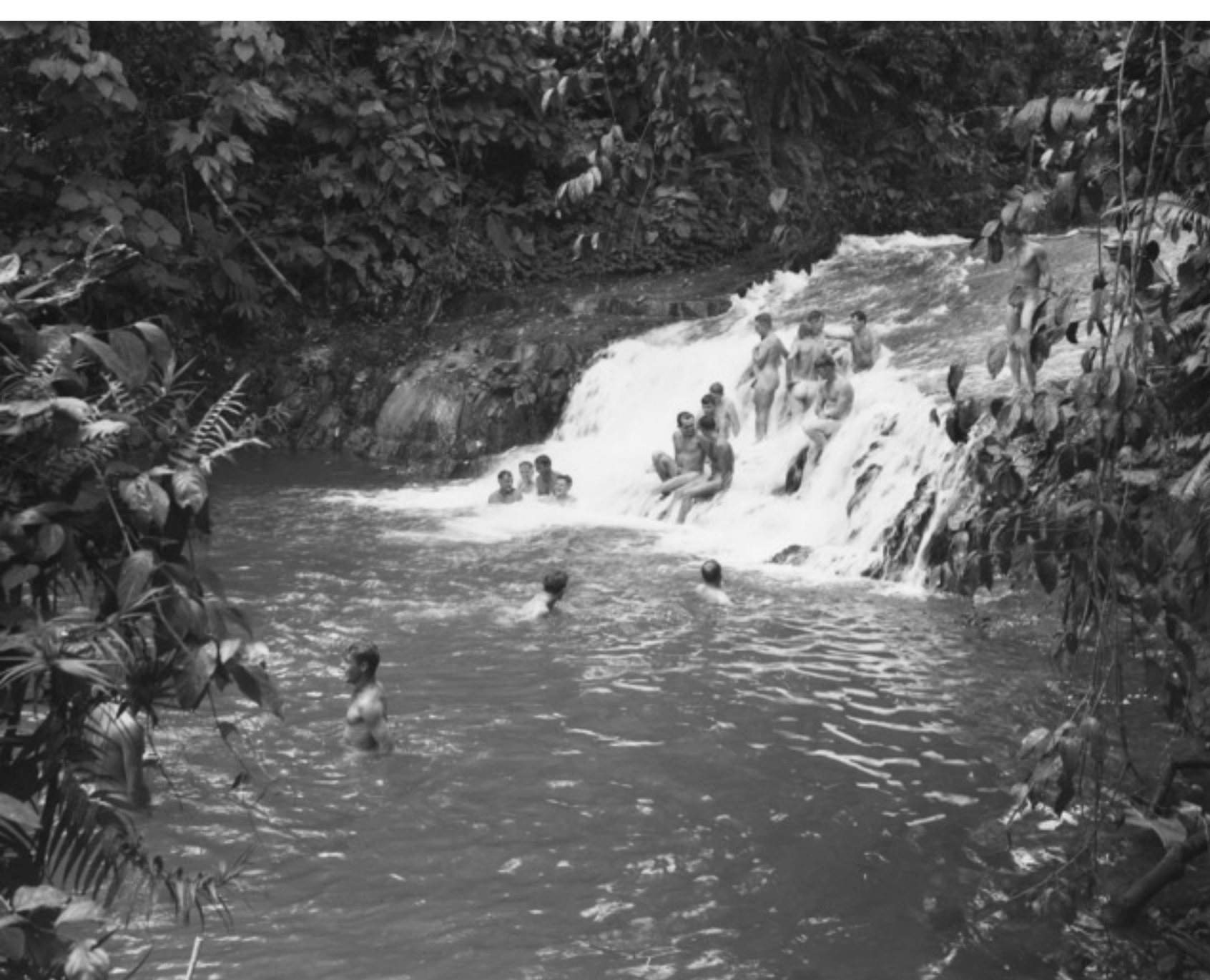
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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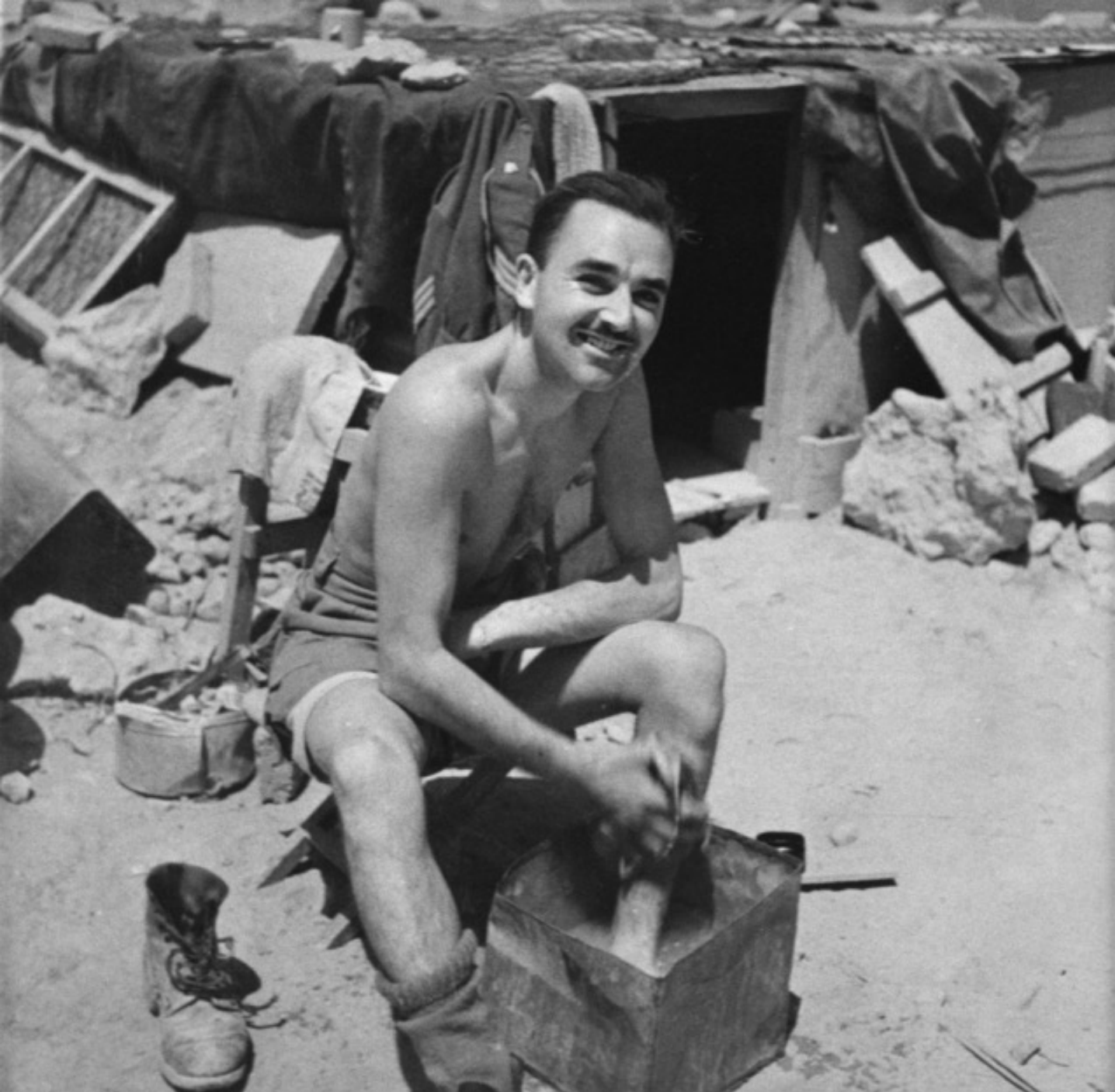






**THE SOLOMON ISLANDS,  
1945-02-26. AUSTRALIAN  
AND NEW ZEALAND  
SERVICEMEN TAKING IT  
EASY IN RIVER RAPIDS  
AND POOL. (RNZAF  
OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH.)**





**TOBRUK, LIBYA. 1941. BATH DAY,  
TOBRUK. GREAT ECONOMY WAS  
NECESSARY WITH WATER DURING THE  
SIEGE, BUT MEN COULD, IN MOST  
INSTANCES, BATHE IN THE SEA.**

**TRIPOLI, SYRIA. 1942-05-15.  
AQUATIC EXERCISES AT THE  
SPECIAL PHYSICAL TRAINING  
SCHOOL FOR THOSE ABOUT TO  
BECOME COMMANDOS.**

**SWIMMERS LEAVING THE SEA  
AFTER AN EXERCISE IN WHICH  
THEIR KIT AND EQUIPMENT IS  
FLOATED AHEAD OF THEM. THIS  
PART OF THE COURSE FITS THE  
STUDENTS FOR COASTAL LANDS  
OR THE FORDING OF WIDE AND  
DEEP RIVERS. HERE THEY ARE  
SEEN LANDING ON A  
SUBMERGED ROCKY LEDGE.**





**TRIPOLI, SYRIA. 1941-07. THE FORESHORE, WHERE SOME OF THE LOCAL INHABITANTS SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME FISHING AND SWIMMING, IS ALSO USED BY THE DIGGERS.**



**TRIPOLI, SYRIA.  
1942-06. VIEW OF  
BEACH AT TRIPOLI  
WITH TROOPS  
BATHING. PARTIES  
OF TROOPS FROM  
ALL UNITS VISITED  
THE BEACH EVERY  
DAY. THE SMALL  
HEAPS IN THE  
FOREGROUND ARE  
THE CLOTHES OF  
THE BATHERS.**





**TROOPS OF THE 5TH AUSTRALIAN FARM COMPANY ENJOY A SWIM IN THE BARRON RIVER AFTER A HARD DAY'S WORK. THEY ARE: VX51105 PRIVATE (PTE) W. J. MELOURY (1); W12250 PTE A. T. FORTH (2); N165903 PTE A. J. CRISPIN (3); WX18225 CORPORAL (CPL) H. W. NEWTON (4); NX37936 PTE W. MOORE (5); VX72334 PTE S. WOOLCOMB (6); NX27023 LANCE CORPORAL C. J. JACKSON (7); QX10837 CPL R. O. SHIELDS (8); NX33279 SERGEANT A. H. SKEPPER (9).**



**TWEED HEADS, NSW.  
1943-12-05.  
PERSONNEL OF THE 4TH  
AUSTRALIAN  
ARMOURED BRIGADE  
LINED UP FOR THEIR  
SWIMMING LESSONS  
ON THE BANKS OF THE  
TWEED RIVER.** IDENTIFIED  
PERSONNEL ARE: CORPORAL W.  
A. FUREY (1); CORPORAL A. A.  
TOWN (2); SERGEANT R. N.  
NICHOLSON (3); TROOPER  
FISHER (4); TROOPER W. F.  
GEHAN (5); CRAFTSMAN  
MURPHY (6); CORPORAL  
TUNBRIDGE (8).





**SWIMMING  
LESSONS.**



# SWIMMING LESSONS.







**COOLANGATTA, QLD. 1943-12-3/4. MEMBERS OF THE 4TH AUSTRALIAN ARMoured BRIGADE BEING TAUGHT TO SWIM. TO DATE, 500 NON-SWIMMERS HAVE PASSED THE TEST AND 97 HAVE PASSED THE SURF LIFESAVING BRONZE MEDALLION TEST. THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS TEAMS BRINGING PATIENTS OUT OF THE WATER ON TO THE BEACH. IDENTIFIED PERSONNEL ARE: TROOPER F. J BARTLEY (1); TROOPER S. MURRAY (2); CRAFTSMAN E. A. NEWTON (3); TROOPER T. K. CONRICK (4).**

**TWEED HEADS,  
NSW. Australia.  
1943-12-05.  
MEMBERS OF THE  
4TH AUSTRALIAN  
ARMOURED  
BRIGADE  
RECEIVING  
SWIMMING  
LESSONS.  
IDENTIFIED  
PERSONNEL ARE:  
TROOPER  
MACDONALD (1);  
TROOPER W. F.  
GEHAN (2);  
CORPORAL A. A.  
TOWN (3);  
CORPORAL W. A.  
FUREY (5);  
SERGEANT R. N.  
NICHOLSON (7);  
SERGEANT C. H.  
KING (9); SERGEANT  
FISHER (11).**







**WESTERN DESERT,  
EGYPT. 1942-07-  
28. AUSTRALIAN  
SOLDIERS  
SWIMMING IN  
THEIR HOME-  
MADE BATHE AT  
A LAGOON NEAR  
EL ALAMEIN.  
NOTE THE TIN  
CANOE IN  
FOREGROUND.**



**WHITSUNDAY PASSAGE, QUEENSLAND. 1945-11-07. THE CREW OF HMAS ROCKHAMPTON SPEND A MORNING OFF FROM THEIR SHIP ON AN ISLAND IN WHITSUNDAY PASSAGE. LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER DWYER, CAPTAIN OF HMAS ROCKHAMPTON WADING OUT FROM THE BEACH TO DEEPER WATER FOR A SWIM.**



**Zuara, Libya. c. March 1943. Men from the Desert Harassers No. 450 (Kittyhawk) Squadron RAAF, enjoying a relaxing dive into the sea from a partly submerged ship, a swim and sunbake.**





**The Barrage near the Suez Canal. Members of the 1st Australian Light Horse Regiment wait on shore for horses to be led across the canal. The horses were tied to a rope and swam for exercise and to ascertain which horses could swim. One of a series of images relating to the service of Lieutenant Fred Harold Tomlins, 1st Australian light Horse Regiment. Signaller Tomlins embarked on 20 October 1914 from Sydney, NSW, aboard HMAT Star of Victoria (A16). In May 1916 Tomlins was promoted to Signalling Sergeant, then Lieutenant (Lt) in October 1917. Lt Tomlins returned to Australia in November 1918 on 1914 Leave (granted to servicemen and women who had enlisted in 1914 and were eligible for early return to Australia).**



# Learning to swim with horses crossing water.

