### DIGGERS

## SWIMMING, BATHING PHOTO STUDY – (PART 1)

# KANGAROO TAKES A BATH IN AUSTRALIA



1942: An ANZAC soldier enjoys a rare event in the desert battlefield, a bath. (Photo by Hulton Archive/Getty Images)



ONE MAN STANDS GUARD WHILE OTHERS SWIM AND TAKE A BATH.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL





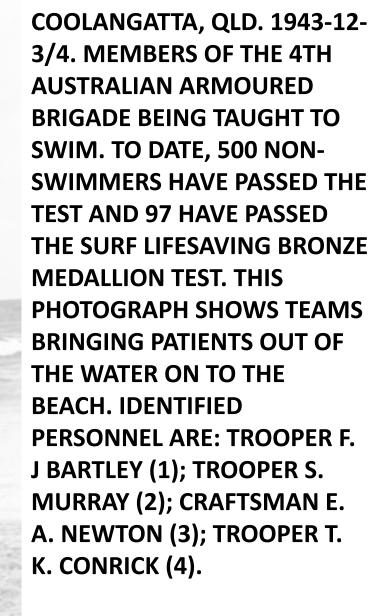
**BERRY SPRINGS, NT.** Australia. 1943-07-**14. HIGH DIVING** TOWER AT THE **SWIMMING POOL OF THE 18TH AUSTRALIAN PERSONNEL STAGING** CAMP.



**BRUNEI, NORTH** WEST BORNEO 1945-11-24. A SMALL WATERFALL AND **DEEP POOL MADE A** DELIGHTFUL **SWIMMING POOL FOR AUSTRALIAN TROOPS IN THE** AREA.



**CENTRAL AUSTRALIA -CONVOY DRIVERS SPEND** THEIR DAY OFF AT THE **SWIMMING POOL - L TO** R G.L. RIDGE, F.D. SPARROW, G.J. CRONIN, LT. J. PITT, J.W. GASSNER, SGT J. KERR, C.J. CARMODY V.E. LENKE, W.M. FOSTER, L.G. **POLLARD. ARMY. ALICE SPRINGS TO BIRDUM.** 1940.





Darwin area, NT. Australia. February 1943. Members of the **RAAF** enjoying a relaxing "off-duty" time in a beachside swimming area.



Darwin area, NT. 1943-05-10. Naked members of the RAAF about to enjoy a swim in a water hole.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

NWA0301



Darwin area, NT. 1943-05-10. Naked members of the RAAF dive in from a river bank to enjoy a swim in a water hole.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

NWA0300





**Darwin NT.** 1942. **Australian** soldiers on coast defence duties enjoy the relaxation of a swim in a cool jungle stream.



**Darwin NT.** 1942. Australian soldiers on coast defence duties relax in a cool stream. Jungle vegetation surrounds the swimming hole.



Darwin, NT. June 1942. A welcome swim in a cool river for Australian troops during a break in training. The soldier on the tree branch (top left) guards the swimmers below from any unwelcome intrusions by crocodiles or other reptiles.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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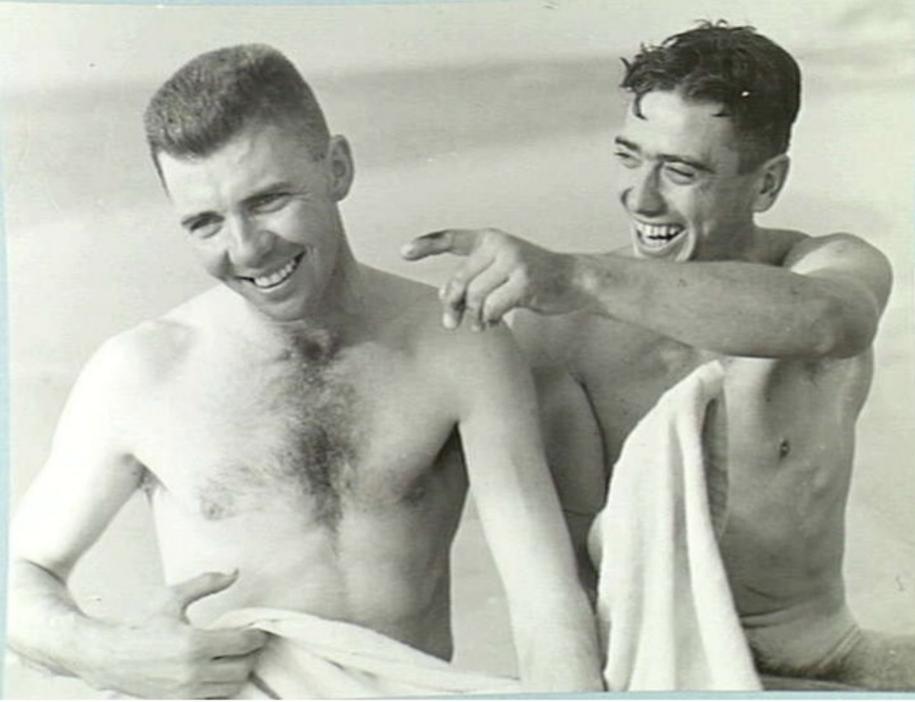
#### DEAD SEA, PALESTINE. C. 1916. A MOTOR LAUNCH, PART OF THE DEAD SEA FLOTILLA, WITH MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY **ENGINEERS SWIMMING BESIDE IT.**



**DONADABU, NEW GUINEA.** 1943-11-09. TROOPS OF THE **7TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNALS SECTION AND BATTERY SIGNALS PLATOONS HOLDING AN IMPROMPTU SWIMMING CARNIVAL IN THE LALOKI RIVER. SHOWN: QX47000** LIEUTENANT L. HATTON, 7TH **AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE, SIGNALS SECTION.** 



**DUMPU VALLEY, NEW GUINEA. 1944-06-**18. VX128013 SERGEANT G. J. BROWNING, **MILITARY HISTORY SECTION, PREPARING** TO TAKE A DIP IN THE RIVER AFTER **DESCENDING SHAGGY RIDGE. A PATROL FROM 11TH DIVISION CARRIER COMPANY IS ACCOMPANYING LIEUTENANT R. B. EWER, OFFICIAL WAR ARTIST, MILITARY HISTORY SECTION, THROUGH THE AREA.** 



ESKELON BEACH. AFTER THE SWIM. GUNNER A.E. LYNCH GUNNER F.E. BOLD. 2ND/1ST FIELD REGIMENT. 1940.



Eskelon Beach, Palestine. Members of 2/1st Battalion relax on the beach.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

EVAPIA RIVER, NEW GUINEA, 1944-03-15. TROOPS OF THE 4TH FIELD REGIMENT REMOVING THE GRIME OF THE HILLS AS THEY BATHE IN THE EVAPIA RIVER NEAR KESAWAI. THE UNIT HAS RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM FORWARD POSITIONS IN THE HILLS BEYOND KESAWAI. IDENTIFIED PERSONNEL ARE: QX30229 SERGEANT A.H. ST. GEORGE (1); N90189 GUNNER I.B. TOUHY (11TH BATTERY) (2); Q152290 GUNNER A.K. PHILLIPS (3); N240248 GUNNER E.A. MARTIN (11TH BATTERY) (4). FINSCHHAFEN AREA, NEW GUINEA, 1943-10-25. TROOPS OF THE 9TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION SWIMMING BELOW THE FALLS ON THE MAPE RIVER NEAR THE TIMBULUM SAW MILL.



Finschhafen, New Guinea. Supplies in boxes and tins being landed at Kedam Beach. An unidentified soldier shoulders a box while in the background some soldiers are swimming.



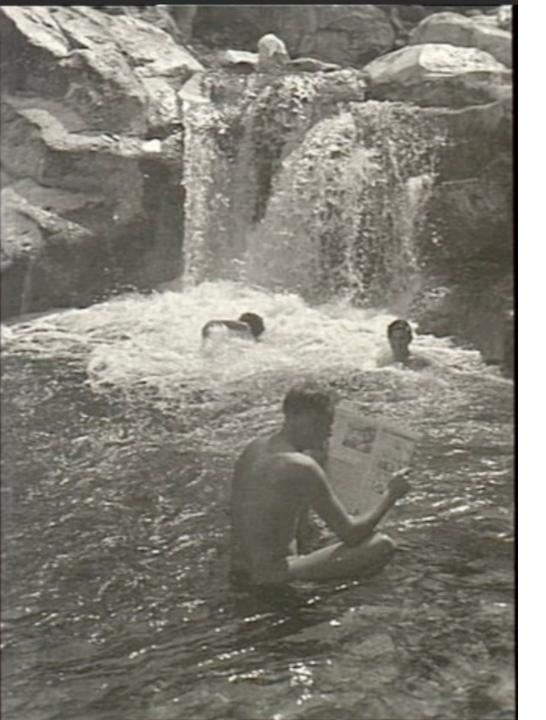


FUKUYAMA, JAPAN. 1947-07-26. **TROOPS FROM 65TH INFANTRY BATTALION RELAX AT A SWIMMING POOL AFTER A** HARD MORNING'S **TRAINING SESSION.** 

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



GAZA - "WE COVER THE WATERFRONT" - PTE. W.J. THORPE, F.A. CLARKE, J.A. MCGREGOR 17TH INF. TRAINING BATTALION, SAY AS THEY WERE SNAPPED WHILE LOOKING AFTER THE INTERESTS OF THEIR MATES ENJOYING A SWIM.



GOODENOUGH ISLAND, PAPUA. C. 1944. FLIGHT SERGEANT G. J. BEECHEY RAAF OF BALLARAT, VIC, KEEPING COOL SITTING NAKED IN A STREAM READING A PAPER.



HANSA BAY, NEW GUINEA. 1944-09-06. **W20037 PRIVATE V.T. MURPHY, B COMPANY, 25TH INFANTRY BATTALION KEEPING SHARK** WATCH ON THE **BOROI BEACH WHILE HIS FELLOW UNIT MEMBERS ENJOY A** SWIM.



HARVEY, WA. 1942-10-09. TROOPS UNDERGOING **TRAINING IN RIVER CROSSING AT 3RD** AUSTRALIAN CORPS TRAINING SCHOOL, STRIPPED AND SWIMMING **OR WADING ACROSS THE RIVER AND PROPELLING IN FRONT OF THEM ALL THEIR GEAR WRAPPED IN** WATERPROOF GROUND SHEETS.

ISTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL







INVERLOCH, VIC 1945-12-05. PATIENTS BESIDE THE SWIMMING POOL AT THE RAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

120066

JERUSALEM. WHILE ON LEAVE **MANY OF THE BOYS AVAIL THEMSELVES OF** THE **OPPORTUNITY** TO USE THE **FACILITIES AT** THE Y.M.C.A. THIS IS THE **SWIMMING** POOL. 1940.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



**NORTH BORNEO** 1945-10-07. MEN OF "D" COMPANY, 2/32ND **BATTALION NEAR AN IMPROVISED DIVING BOARD ON ONE OF JESSELTON'S** WHARFS.

#### GAZA - AFTERNOON TEA IS ALWAYS POPULAR AND AUST. COMFORTS FUND SEE TO IT THAT THE "DIGS" GET AS MUCH AS THEY WANT AFTER A SWIM AT GAZA. THE LADY HELPERS IN GROUP ARE WIVES OF BRITISH RESIDENTS IN GAZA.





### KAJARVITKIN -CONVALESCENT DEPOT. PATIENTS RETURN FROM THEIR SWIM.



KANOMI **BEACH, NEW GUINEA. 1944-**01-04. TROOPS OF THE 9TH DIVISION **ENJOY THE** SWIMMING AND SUN BATHING WHILE AWAITING **ORDERS TO** MOVE FORWARD.



KARAWOP, NEW GUINEA, 1945-09-18. MEMBERS OF 2/6 **CAVALRY COMMANDO REGIMENT PLAYING THE CARD** GAME 500. FOLLOWING THE **JAPANESE SURRENDER MOST OF THEIR SPARE TIME IS SPENT SWIMMING OR PLAYING CARDS.** 



**KATHERINE** RIVER, NT. 1943-10-01 TO 1943-10-08. MEN AND HORSES OF THE NORTH **AUSTRALIAN OBSERVER** UNIT, **ENJOYING A** LUNCHTIME **DIP IN THE RIVER.** 



**KEKRE CREEK**, BOUGAINVILLE 1945-08-30. **MEMBERS OF** 2/4 ARMOURED REGIMENT **WORKSHOP SWIMMING IN** THE CREEK. **PORTABLE** LAUNDRY **OPERATING IN** FOREGROUND.

KELANOA AREA, NEW GUINEA. 1944-01-22. **TROOPS OF THE 2/15TH INFANTRY BATTALION** WASHING THEIR CLOTHES AND SWIMMING IN THE FRESH WATER AT THE MOUTH OF THE SAZOMU **RIVER, AFTER HAVING MARCHED FROM SIO THE PREVIOUS DAY. IDENTIFIED PERSONNEL ARE:-**QX30839 LANCE CORPORAL J.D. DUNN (1); **QX42042 PRIVATE J.R. GULLIFORD (2); QX5802 CORPORAL R.C. NORRIS, MM., (3); QX10533 CORPORAL O.D. LUCAS (4). (IN NEXT PHOTO):** 





**KILIGIA, PAPUA, NEW** GUINEA. 1944-04-03. **TROOPS FROM HEADQUARTERS 5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ON THE 50 YARD BEACH WHICH IS JUST DEEP ENOUGH TO PERMIT BATHERS TO STRETCH OUT. SWIMMERS NEED TO PICK THEIR WAY PAST CORAL TO DEEP** WATER.



**TROBRIAND** ISLANDS, PAPUA. 1944-01-31. BEACH **SCENE AT THE RAAF BATTLE STATION** WHERE THE MEN **FIND THEIR ONLY RESPITE FROM THE GRIME OF BATTLE IN SWIMMING AND BOATING.** 



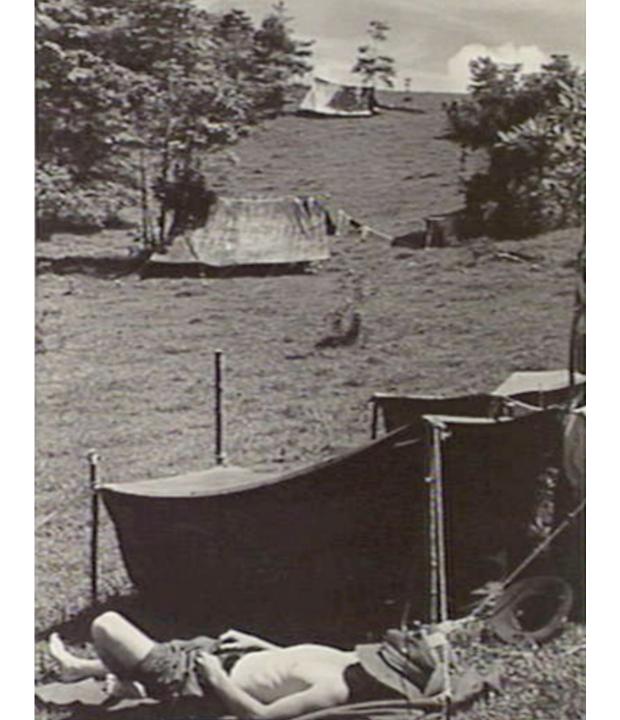
**KIRIWINA**, **TROBRIAND** ISLANDS, PAPUA. 1944-01-31. BEACH **SCENE AT THE RAAF BATTLE STATION** WHERE THE MEN **FIND THEIR ONLY RESPITE FROM THE GRIME OF BATTLE IN SWIMMING AND BOATING.** 

LAKE BARRINE, QLD. 1943-08-**16. PATIENTS** OF THE 2/1ST **AUSTRALIAN CONVALESCENT DEPOT, ON THE JETTY AFTER A SWIM IN THE** LAKE.





LAKE EACHAM, ATHERTON TABLELAND, QLD. 1944-12-27. A HQ 1 CORPS MEMBER **SUNBATHING OUTSIDE HIS MOSQUITO NET IN THE CAMP BIVOUAC AREA.** THE MEN HAD MARCHED 12 **MILES FROM BARRINE TO SPEND A FULL** DAY RESTING **AND SWIMMING** ON THE LAKE.



LAKE EACHAM, **ATHERTON** TABLELAND, QLD. 1944-12. **1 CORPS AREA** TROOPS ALONGSIDE **THE DIVING BOARDS ON CHRISTMAS** DAY. THE LAKE **IS ONE OF THE** TOURIST **RESORTS OF** THE TABLELANDS.







AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P02257.057

Madang, New Guinea, 1945-**08-15.** During their celebrations for Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day, RAAF servicemen from Headquarters, RAAF Northern Command (NORCOM), sit on an upturned boat or dinghy after enjoying a swim in the bay behind them. The men are stark naked except for pieces of foliage of various shapes and sizes that most of them have strategically positioned as fig-leaves. The group includes: Flight Lieutenant (Flt Lt) Gordon Grainger, wearing large figleaf (fifth from left); Flt Lt Toby Clay (sixth from left); 82586 Flying Officer (FO) Allen Robert Griffiths, Administrative and Special **Duties (A&SD) Intelligence** (seventh from left).

MALTA. 1946. **MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN VICTORY CONTINGENT AND SHIPS COMPANY ENJOY A SWIM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN ON** THE WAY FROM MALTA **TO PORT SAID. THE DEPTH OF THE WATER HERE WAS APPROXIMATELY 1000** FATHOMS.





MILNE BAY, PAPUA. C.1944-02. AIRMEN FROM NO. 75 SQUADRON RAAF DIVING INTO MILNE BAY TO COOL OFF WITH A SWIM WHILE THEIR SHIP IS WAITING FOR CONVOY TO LAE. NOTE THE MAN WITH RIFLE IN TOP RIGHT HAND CORNER TO SCARE SHARKS AWAY.



MILNE BAY, PAPUA. C.1944-02. AIRMEN OF NO. 75 SQUADRON RAAF LINING THE SIDE OF THE SHIP TO WATCH SWIMMERS (OUT OF SIGHT) HAVING A RACE ALONGSIDE THE SHIP.



**MOROTAI ISLAND,** HALMAHERA ISLANDS, **NETHERLANDS EAST** INDIES. 1945-04-29. **JACK JARRETT, BILL RAFTERY, IAN CAMPBELL** AND NORM LEYSON **RELAXING IN THE** WATER WITH A CRAFT POWERED BY A 3 1/2 **H.P. JAPANESE ENGINE. OTHER SERVICEMEN ON "STAND-DOWN" PREFER SWIMMING TO THE HEAT AND SWEATING OF FOOTBALL AND CRICKET IN THE TROPICS.** 



**MOUNT GARNET, QLD.** 1943-07-13. NX85007 **PRIVATE G. D. CAMPBELL** (LYING ON ROCK); VX91419 PRIVATE B. **BLAIR (IN WATER) AND** NX104155 CORPORAL J. **GARLAND (CENTRE BACKGROUND) OF THE** 2/12TH AUSTRALIAN **INFANTRY BATTALION, COOL OFF IN WILD RIVER.** 



Near Suda Bay, Crete. 1941-04. A group of naked members of the 6th Division Signals relaxing on rocks after enjoying a swim at camp.

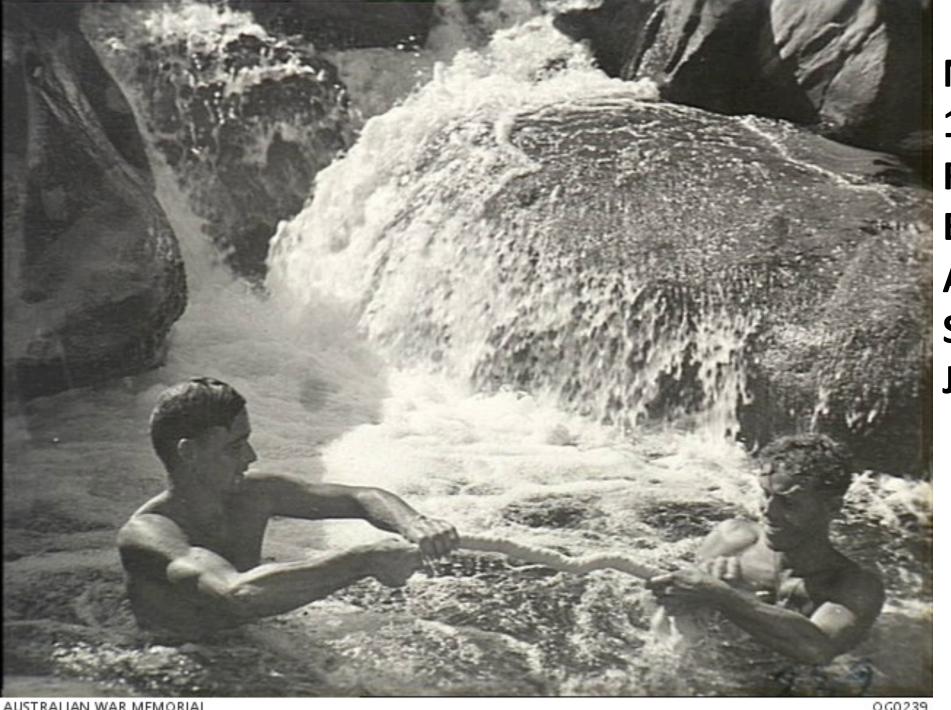
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NEW GUINEA. C. 1943. AIRMAN DIVING FROM A BOAT WHILE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RAAF LOOK ON.



## NEW GUINEA. C. 1943. NAKED RAAF AIRMEN BATHE IN A JUNGLE STREAM.



**NEW GUINEA. C.** 1943-12. TWO **RAAF AIRMEN ENJOY A SWIM IN A MOUNTAIN STREAM IN THE** JUNGLE.



New Guinea. RAAF airmen enjoying a cool dip in an icy stream after returning from a bombing raid.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



NEW GUINEA. 1944-03-10. **VX10828 CAPTAIN J. SMITH (1), OFFICER COMMANDING THE 5TH DIVISION RECEPTION CAMP,** WITH OFFICERS AND MEN OF **THE CAMP WHO ARE HOSING EACH OTHER DOWN AFTER A** BATHE IN THE BAY. THE CAMP, SITUATED IN A COCONUT **PLANTATION, HAS FRESH WATER ONLY A FEW YARDS FROM THE** SEA.





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

SEA0205



**NORTHERN PALESTINE IS NOTED FOR ITS MANY SPRINGS, AND THE EXCELLENCE OF ITS SPRING WATER. THE SPRING WATER IS LED IN CONDUITS TO WATER POINTS, WHICH HAVE BECOME THE FOCAL POINT OF BATHERS AS** WELL AS THE VILLAGE **CATTLE. THIS OVERFLOW IS USED FOR IRRIGATION.** (PHOTOGRAPHER: R. HURLEY).



PAPUA, NEW GUINEA. 1942-09. MEN OF THE 2/31ST AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY **BATTALION HAVING A BATHE IN THE BROWN RIVER**, **BETWEEN NAURO** AND MENARI. IT WAS THEIR FIRST WASH FOR ABOUT 5 DAYS, **DURING THE ADVANCE OF THE 25TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE**, **CHASING THE JAPS ACROSS THE OWEN** STANLEY RANGES, THE BREN GUNNER **ON THE LEFT IS ON** WATCH FOR ANY **STRAY JAPS WHO** MAY STILL BE IN THE AREA.





PAPUA, NEW GUINEA. 1942-08. YOUTHFUL **AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS MANNING A FORWARD POST IN NEW GUINEA HAVE TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN A DESERTED NATIVE VILLAGE. THIS PICTURE SHOWS THEM SETTING OUT FOR A SWIM IN A NEARBY RIVER.** 



**PORT MORESBY**, PAPUA. 1942-07. **RELAXING AFTER A** LONG ROUTE MARCH, **AUSTRALIAN TROOPS ENJOY THE FRESHNESS OF A NEW GUINEA MOUNTAIN** STREAM.



PORT MORESBY, PAPUA, 1942-07-20. HAVING ENJOYED A SWIM AFTER A DAY'S WORK, THESE AUSTRALIAN TROOPS LOOSEN UP WITH A BRISK RUN ALONG THE BEACH.





**AT AN UNDISCLOSED OPERATIONAL** BASE. **AUSTRALIAN TROOPS COOL OFF WHILE MATES MOUNT CROCODILE GUARD**.

