

**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/22/24

**Title:** 5th Infantry Battalion

February 1917



AWM4-23/22/24



WAR DIARY

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			VOLUME XII	
1917				
Febry	1		1. O.R. to Gas School MILLENCOURT. 2. O.R. to Signalling foura Divisional School	
"			1. O.R. returned from Bayonet Fighting course Divisional School. 4. O.R. wounded	
"	2		Lieut R. G. SAMSON and 1. O.R. returned from Lewis Gun School LETOQUET	
"	3		1. O.R. to Lewis Gun School LETOQUET	
"	4		1. O.R. wounded. 1. O.R. to Earth Induction Buzzet course, 1. O.R. from 4 <sup>th</sup> Army Mining School	
"	5		1. O.R. from Gas School MILLENCOURT	
"	6		1. O.R. wounded	
"	7		D <sup>th</sup> Coy relieved at MEAULTE and moved to FRICOURT FARM 8 O.R. reinforcements reported for duty. 2/Lt C. D. CHAPMAN evacuated <sup>sick</sup> <del>wounded</del> from 1 <sup>st</sup> Divisional School	
"	8		1. O.R. returned from Earth Induction Buzzet course	
"	9		2/Lieut L. T. PEARCE evacuated sick.	
"			D <sup>th</sup> Coy moved from FRICOURT FARM to Site 2 Camp BAZENTIN	
"	10		2. O.R. returned from Lewis Gun School LETOQUET <del>Earth Induction Buzzet course</del> 3. O.R. to Lewis Gun course, 1. O.R. to Stokes Mortar Course 1 <sup>st</sup> Anzac School.	
			by O.R. reinforcements reported for duty	
			D <sup>th</sup> Coy	



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529

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Erased heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1917 Feb	10		Battalion carried out a raid on BAYONET TRENCH with 4 officers + 103 O.R. (officers Lieut H.M. GRIFFYTHS (O/C RAID) 2/Lieuts F. LANGFORD, H.C. MORRISON, W.M. TAYLOR) Sector of trench assaulted M 18 D 60.05 to M 18 D 85.15 (map France 57° 5' N. 1/10000) Raiding party held up by enemy wire and only 1 party under 2/L LANGFORD succeeded in entering enemy trenches. Our casualties 2 officers (2/L MORRISON & 2/L LANGFORD (remained on duty) wounded, O.R. 8 killed, 40 wounded, 3 missing. Capt H. CARLILE (AA MC attached) also wounded.	Operations Order No 5
	11		Capt H. CARTER & 1 O.R. returned from 4 <sup>th</sup> Army School. 1 O.R. from Stokes mortar force, 2 O.R. from Lewis Gun School 1 <sup>st</sup> Angas forgo School Battalion (less 1 Coy detached) relieved 6 <sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F., 2 Coys (A+B) in front line 1 Coy (D) in close supports at Factory corner FLERS WEST. relief completed at 2115.	Operation Order No 6
	12		Capt J.C. MAYO (AA MC attached) reported for duty vice Capt H. CARLILE evacuated wounded.	
	14		1 O.R. reinforcement reported for duty. 1 O.R. returned from Musketry course CAMIERS. 'D' Coy relieved 'B' Coy in front line 'B' Coy moving to close supports.	Operation Order No 7
	15		2 O.R. Killed 4 O.R. wounded 2/L PEARCE L.T. returned from "sick"	
	16		1 O.R. wounded. 'B' Coy relieved 'A' Coy in front line, 'A' Coy moving to close supports.	



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 27. (Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1917				
Feb.	17		2/Lieut H.C. MORRISON reported for duty from "wounded"	
	19		Battalion relieved in front line by 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F. and moved back to Support 2 Coy, B Coy and details to FLERS LINE, A & D Coys to HIGH WOOD EAST Camp. Relief operation complete by 2300.	operation. Order No 8
	21		3 officers reinforcements (2/Lieuts D.J. WALTERS, C.C. TEASDALE, R.B. CLANVILLE) & 3 P.R. reported for duty	
	22		2 O.R. wounded C Coy (detached) relieved by 13 <sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F. at MEAULTE and moved to HIGH WOOD EAST camp. B Coy relieved by A Coy in FLERS LINE, B Coy moving to HIGH WOOD EAST CAMP	
	23		1 O.R. wounded 1 O.R. to Earth Induction Buzzer Course. Capt M. LILLIE evacuated	
	24		1 O.R. to Stokes mortar Course 13 Amagac Corps School.	
	25		A & C Coys relieved 2 Coys of 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F. in YARRA BANK B & D Coys moved from High Wood East Camp to Support Trenches FLERS LINE	
	26		B Coy relieved 1 Coy 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn in BAYONET Trenches, A Coy relieved 1 Coy 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn in advanced posts in RYE & BARLEY Trenches. C Coy less 2 platoons, & D Coy	end



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

529

5 Batta A.I.P. (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
1917 Febry	26 (cont)		moved forward to BAYONET TRENCH. 2 platoons 'D' Coy remained at FLERS LINE													
			1. OR. from Stokes Mortar Course, 2 OR. from Lewis Gun Course, 1st Amzal School													
	27		1. OR. from Earth Induction Buzzer Course a strong patrol from 'A' Coy pushed forward & occupied 'TICK' Trenches & consolidated													
			1 OR. wounded													
	28		2 OR. wounded 1 Off: (2 LICUT W. M. TAYLOR) to Lewis Gun School LeTOQUET 1 officer (Capt H. H. O'LOUGHLIN, seconded for duty training as Staff Captain on 2 <sup>nd</sup> A.I. Bde (Hqrs) Killed.													
<p>Effective Strengths</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Feb 2</td> <td>38 officers</td> <td>930 OR.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>38</td> <td>928</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>36</td> <td>963</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>40</td> <td>969</td> </tr> </table>					Feb 2	38 officers	930 OR.	9	38	928	16	36	963	23	40	969
Feb 2	38 officers	930 OR.														
9	38	928														
16	36	963														
23	40	969														
<p>Williams Lieut actg a dph. 5th Bn A.I.P.</p>																



I. B. d. A. T.

Headquarters 5th Battalion, A.I.F.

## OPERATION ORDER NO 5.

9/2/47.

Lieutenant Colonel JOHN WALSTON, Commanding.

REFERENCE MAP. { 1:50,000 57 d S W 1/1 000

and attached sketch marked "A".

RAID.

A raid will be carried out on the enemy trenches between M. 18 d 60. 05. to M 18 d 85. 15 on a date and at a time to be notified later. The 1st Aust. Div. Artillery, No 2 A L.T. B. Coy., and No 4 M.G. Coy., will co-operate in preliminary barrage and the covering fire.

OBJECTS OF RAID. The object of the raid will be to kill and wound enemy garrison, secure prisoners and secure information as to the enemy line.

STRENGTH OF PARTY. O.C. Raid, Lieut. W.M. GRIFFITHS, Three subalterns, 2/Lieuts. H.C. MORRISON, P. LANGFORD, and L. TILPARGE, and 103 other ranks. Composition of party is shown on attached sketch marked "B" which illustration shows their position when formed up for the assault, and shows the strength of the party together with their several designations. Their duties are shown in para marked "The Assault".

DRESS AND EQUIPMENT OF PARTY. All ranks to <sup>be</sup> clothed in improvised white smocks, and to carry box respirators which will be dumped at Yarra Bank, with over-coats, prior to the assault. Bayonet men to be armed with rifle, bayonet fixed, 10 rounds in magazine (cut off closed) no other equipment to be carried.

Flank Bombers - bomb satchel with 18 Mills Grenades and knob-kerris.

Group Bombers - bomb satchel with 10 Mills Grenades and knob-kerris.

O.C. Raid will by personal inspection ensure that no member of the party carries identity disc, pay book, letters, papers, or marks on clothing, which might give any information to the enemy.

PRELIMINARY MEASURES. A special party of 30 other ranks under 2/Lieut TAYLOR will work nightly on improvement of Communication and jumping off trenches (2/Lieut TAYLOR to hold himself in readiness to replace any officer who may become a casualty before the raid) O.C. Raid will ensure that the following are drawn from Battalion Headquarters on the morning of the raid:- Mills Grenades, white smocks, rifle wire cutters, (one per bayonet man) hand wire cutters (three per group) electric torches (one per officer and group commander) 400 yards black and 400 yards white tape, knob-kerris (one per bomber) and sand bags for evidence men to bring back identifications etc. Signalling Officer to reconnoitre, and arrange for operators three telephones and sufficient wire to link up system as shown in sketch "A"

A trial barrage has been arranged for (time to be notified later) O.C. Raid to arrange with Artillery Liaison Officer to observe same from the forward line and to immediately report same to Battalion Headquarters. This barrage is also intended to demolish enemy wire. O.C. Raid to arrange for tapes, either black or white, according to the condition of the earth, to be laid as direction lines. Intelligence Officer, with specially detailed patrol to furnish report daily as to condition of NO MAN'S LAND, enemy wire, and enemy position, up to the night of the raid. O.C. Raid in conjunction with Intelligence Officer to supervise the laying of tapes. This to be completed 2 hours before zero. Special forward Intelligence Section to be used for this purpose.

ASSEMBLY FOR THE ASSAULT. Party complete will fall in at present quarters in HIGH WOOD West Camp at a time to be notified later, and will move in groups of ten with an interval of 100 yards between groups via duckboard walk to FACTORY CORNER thence through FACTORY AVENUE (which will be cleared for the purpose) to YARRA BANK. They will carry great-coats "en bannerolle" and will don same on arrival at YARRA BANK.



- 2 -

Forty five minutes before zero hour they will move to jumping off trench, groups and detachments moving left in front, i.e. left flank bombers followed by No 6 Group so as to facilitate the formation on leaving trench, the utmost silence being observed, overcoats being dumped at YARRA BANK.

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7. THE ASSAULT. At Zero hour when our barrage (of five minutes duration opens, the party will immediately leave jumping off trench and move forward as close to barrage consistent with safety lying down if necessary, adopting the formation as laid down in sketch "B" It must be impressed on all ranks that their safety depends on keeping as close to our artillery barrage as possible. A Vickers gun will be posted under Brigade arrangements on each flank to effect covering fire. If the enemy advanced post be encountered, the no rest group will deal with it, the remainder of the party pressing on. If three or more strong enemy advanced posts be encountered O.C. Raid may consider ~~XXXX~~ he has reached the objective. On arrival in enemy trench (if <sup>normal</sup> conditions exist) flank bomber will protect flanks. Bayonet men and bombers will engage the enemy, handing prisoners to detailed men of groups as shown on sketch "B". These guardsmen will, if possible, not enter the trench, whilst identification men will proceed to collect evidence. Detailed "parapet bombers" will not enter trench but will move along parapet, for say 25 yards. O.C. Battalion will be in A position at YARRA BANK and in telephonic communication with Intelligence Officer who will be stationed at post 15, the latter being in touch by wire with covering party in NO MAN'S LAND. Artillery F.O.C. to be with O.C. Battalion.

8. THE RETURN. Time from when barrage lifts until party leaves enemy trench to be 10 minutes. The signal for return to be a "G" sounded by buglers on command of O.C. Raid, or if not sounded on time then the other bugler with covering party to sound. This will be repeated by bugler with O.C. covering party. Prisoners captured early to be temporarily handed over to garrison of our advanced posts. Party to return direct to jumping off trench, but in event of enemy barrage being on same, to return to YARRA BANK by shortest route. Party to remain in YARRA BANK until enemy barrage has lifted. They will then be told off in two detachments, one to remain to rest in dugouts in YARRA BANK, and the other to convey prisoners to Brigade Headquarters in North Road, where resting accommodation will be provided for them.

9. GENERAL. All Officers and N.C.O.'s to carry watches. These will be synchronised at hours to be set out during the day previous to the Raid.

Plan of Artillery barrage to be issued later.

Password and code words for the following will be issued on day prior to assault :-

For Artillery. (a) Leaving enemy trench.

(b) Return to jumping off trench.

For O.C.

(a) All ready in jumping off trench.

(b) All formed up in NO MAN'S LAND.

10. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. The following Medical arrangements will be made :- Four stretcher-bearers with two stretchers ~~to be~~ to be with Covering Party in NO MAN'S LAND. R.M.C. with A.A.M.C. attached (as dressers) to be at YARRA BANK. Arrangements will be made for garrison Battalion to evacuate casualties.

11. REPORTS. O.C. Raid together with all evidence men to report immediately raid is completed, to O.C. in YARRA BANK.



4. INFORMATION RE ENEMY POSITION.

From reports of patrols, who have been greatly hampered by the bright moonlight and the snow the right portion of the section to be assailed appears to be held by a series of posts. Patrols report that they have seen men moving over the open from point to point by night, which seems to bear out this statement. As regards the left sector of this portion of the enemy line, a patrol pushed out on night of 6/7th, from No 16 post, managed to get within 30 yards of the enemy position. They could hear sounds of enemy wiring, picking, and voices, but owing to the nature of the country could not detect strength of enemy wire. This seems to confirm the position of supposed enemy strong point as shown on sketch.

on the morning of the 8th a patrol to be arranged for by S/Lieut. E.E. THOMPSON, will be pushed forward before dawn from No 16 post to the point reached by the latter patrol. They will remain there for at least two or three hours and obtain all the information as to the strength of enemy wire and will then by a sudden rush (which will not be expected by the enemy) return to No 16 post.

Patrols report that NO MAN'S LAND is fairly easy going and is pitted with shell craters.

(Signed) E.A. WILLIAMS.  
Lieutenant.  
Acting Adjutant.

<u>Copy. No.</u>	<u>To whom.</u>	<u>Method.</u>
No 1.	C.O.	
No 2.	War Diary.	
No 3.	2nd Inf. Bde.	Summary
No 4.	C.O. Raid.	"
No 5.	S/Lt. MORRISON. H.C.	"
No 6.	S/Lt. LANGFORD. F.	"
No 7.	S/Lt. TAYLOR. W.H.	"



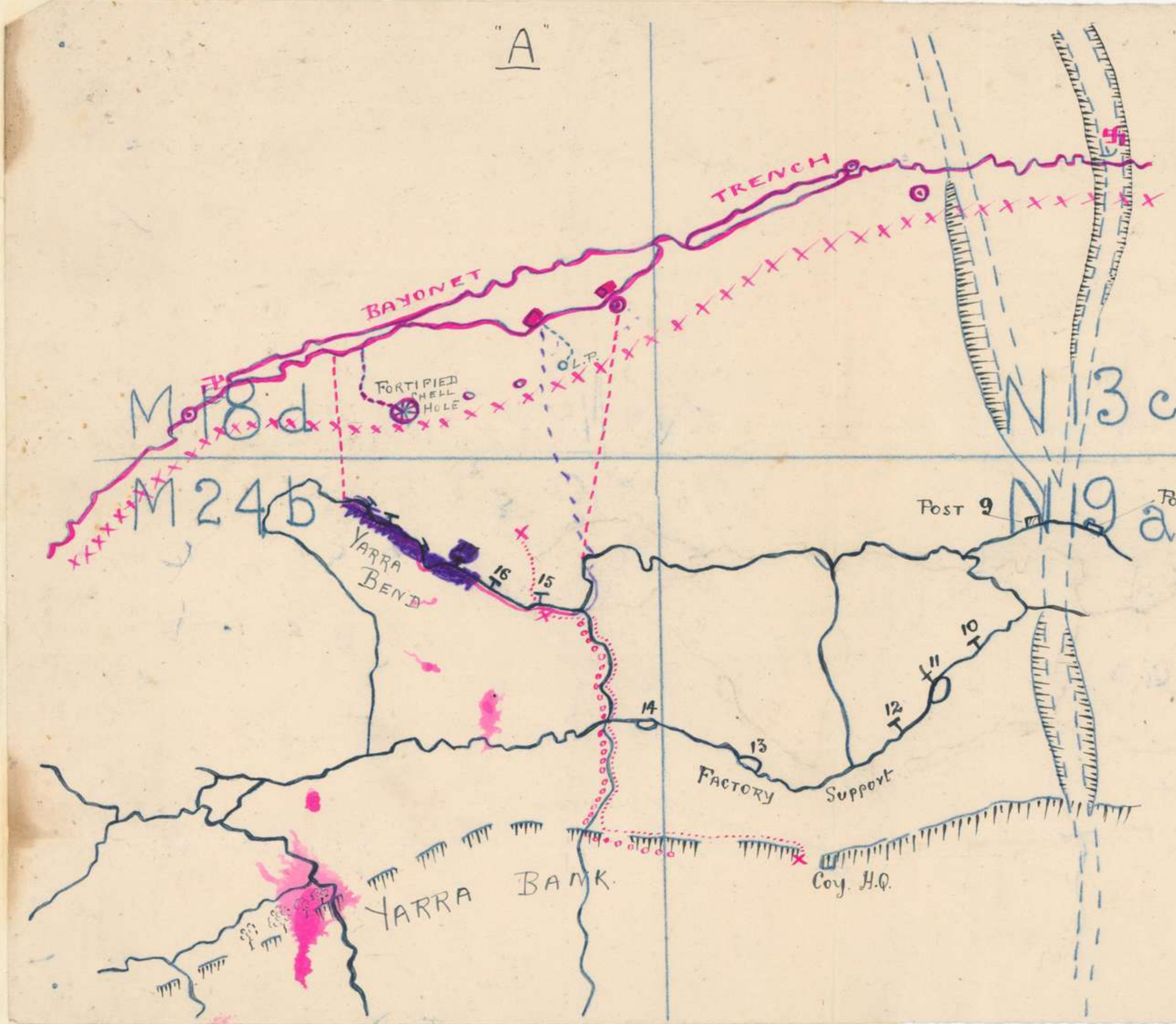
"A"

REFERENCE MAP - 57c S.W  
Edition 5A.  
Scale 4/10000

M.G. ○  
T.M. ☩  
Dugout ■

Scale of sketch - 1 : 2500.

Enemy trench to be assaulted: - - - - -  
Jumping off trench: - - - - -  
Route to jumping off trench: - - - - -  
Telephones: - - - - - X  
Telephone wires: - - - - -

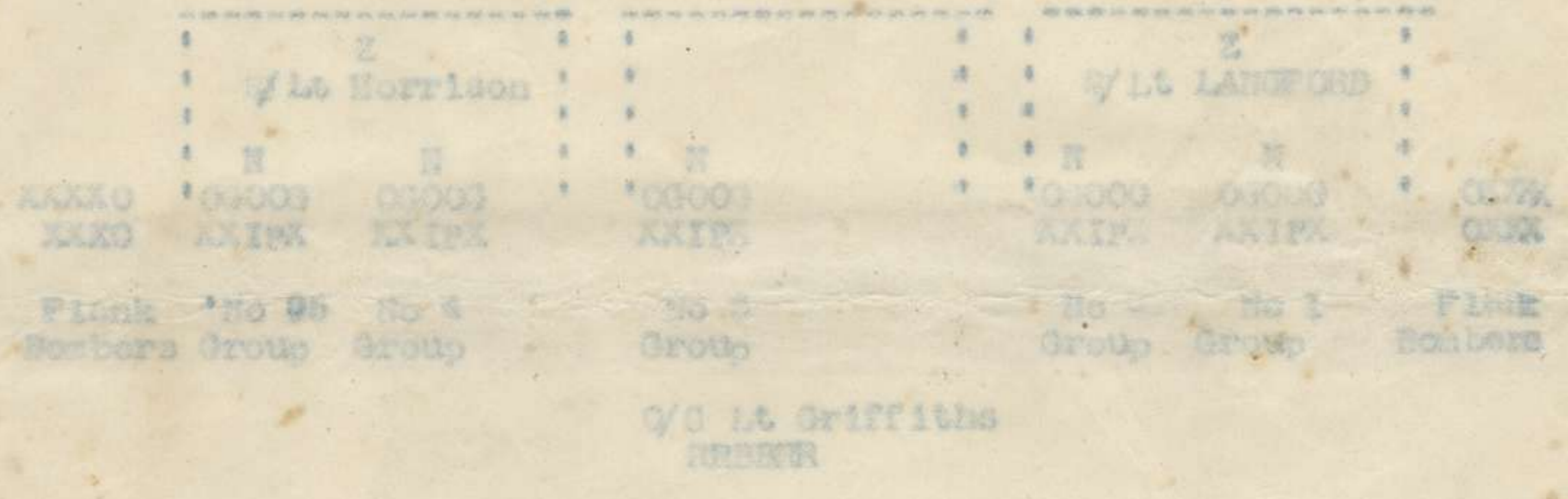




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DIAGRAM SHOWING FORMATION OF RAIDING PARTY  
ILLUSTRATING DEPOSITIONS IN THE ASSAULT.

Left Sector                      Centre Sector                      Right Sector



O O O O O O O O O O Covering party to remain  
Z                      in No 1 as 'Land.  
W/Lt Pierce (with one bugler and  
   telephone)

SS/SS    C    SS/SS

C    Connecting Files

C

Vickers                      Jumping Off Trench                      Vickers  
Gun                      -----                      Gun.

(This is for illustrative purposes only)

SIGNS.

- O. G.    -    O. G. Raiding Party.
- Z                      -    Subaltern (Sector Commander)
- H                      -    N. C. O. (Group Commander)
- O                      -    Bayonet Man
- G                      -    "    "    (Prisoners Guard)
- X                      -    Bomber
- P                      -    Parapet Marker.
- I                      -    Identification Men.
- R                      -    Runner.
- B                      -    Bugler.
- C                      -    Covering Party and Connecting Files.
- S. B.    -    Stretcher Bearer.



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War Diary

SECRET OPERATION ORDER NO 8.  
BY LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN WALSTAB. COMMANDING.

Reference Map ALBERT (Combined Sheet) GUEDECOURT. 1/10,000. S.W.

RELIEF. I. 5th Battalion will relieve 6th Battalion on night of 11/12 inst, and will move as follows:-

On 10th inst. "D" Coy will move to site 2. leaving FRIGOURT at 1700.

2/Lieut E.A.HAY with 71 Reinfts., will leave FRIGOURT at same date and time and move to HIGH WOOD West Camp.

Detached Coy at MEAULTE to remain until relieved by Corps arrangements.

On night of 11/12th inst 5th Battalion, less detached Coy. at MEAULTE and Reinfts. (who will remain at HIGH WOOD West Camp) will relieve 6th Battalion in Line.

2. DRESS.

Full Marching Order less pack and extra blanket which will be dumped at HIGH WOOD West Camp under a guard provided by 2/Lieut HAY, from Reinforcements.

3. ORDER OF COLUMN.

Senior Major will arrange that relief falls in at 1600 and is told off and moves as detailed hereunder :-

- Relief for Lewis Gun Posts.
- " " Bomb Post & Reserve Bombers.
- " " Front Line - No 1 post... 1. Off. 7. O.R.
- 2a " " 1 " 6 "
- 2 " " 1 " 6 "
- 3 " " 1 " 6 "
- 4 " " 1 " 6 "
- 5 " " 1 " 6 "
- 6 " " 1 " 6 "
- 7 " " 1 " 6 "
- 8 " " 1 " 6 "
- Balance of Right Coy. ("A" Coy.)
- Relief for Front Line - No 9 Post... I " 6 "
- 10 " " I " 6 "
- 11 " " I " 6 "
- 12 " " I " 6 "
- 13 " " I " 6 "
- 14 " " I " 6 "
- 15 " " I " 6 "
- 16 " " I " 6 "

Balance of Left Coy. ("B" Coy.)

Support Coy. ("D" Coy.)

H.Q. Sigs. Intelligence, A.A.M.C. and Details, where balance of Coy. is concerned, will move in parties not stronger than 40, with an interval of 50 yards between parties. Relief for Advanced Posts will keep an interval of 15 yards.

4. ROUTE.

Duck-board walk, High Wood, Cough Drop, and Factory Corner.

C.O. 6th Battalion has arranged for Guides to meet relief at FACTORY CORNER. Particular care to be exercised that Officer or N.C.O. i/c of groups and parties is cognisant of their designation.

MINING platoon and party working on New Bde Hdqrs will not be relieved and working parties till midnight on the night of relief will be supplied by out-going Units, and thereafter by incoming Units.

ADVANCED Parties. The following advanced parties will move at hours specified hereunder, and will obtain all necessary information for incoming Unit.

Intelligence Officer. Already in forward area.

I Off. per Coy. leaving at 0900 on 11th inst.

I N.C.O. or man per post leaving at 0300 on 11th.

Signalling Officer has already visited Line.

Lewis Gun Sgt., & Bombing Sgt., each with two men at 0300 on 11th inst.

I N.C.O. per working party will move with column, and will immediately get in touch with working party concerned and will report to Battalion Headquarters.

All ranks of advanced parties to carry the unconsumed portion of d'y's ration.

5. TRENCH



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5. TRENCH STORES

Advanced party-Officers will take over stores of their respective Units immediately on arrival and will forward signed copies to Battalion Headquarters, where the Adjutant (who will leave present Camp at 0800 on 11th inst) will total same. Copy of receipts will be forwarded to Bde Hdqrs. with first despatch on the day after relief.

All maps, Airphotos, Plans and particulars of work in hand or proposed, Defence Schemes, and plans for projected operations will be handed over and signed for.

6. RATIONS

Those for Front Line Coys., will be forwarded, bagged and labeled, in approved manner by Q.M. via Light Railway to FACTORY CORNER, on night of 11th inst.

Coy. Commanders will arrange that Coy. C.Q.M.S's and I.C.R. per Coy. are ready to take over at this point at 1830. Asst. Q.M.S's to report to Q.M. on morning of relief and remain with him.

All Coy. Cooks to accompany Battalion to forward area. Coy. Commanders will ensure that dixies are man-handled with the column.

On Battalion moving into forward area, all Cookers will be withdrawn to Transport Lines, with the exception of "A" Coy. Cooker, which will be handed over to 2/Lieut. HAY for his detachment of Reinforcements, and for which a receipt will be obtained.

7. TRANSPORT. Senior Major to arrange that Lewis Gun hand carts are returned to Transport Lines on morning of 11th inst.8. REAR PARTY. 2/Lieut HAY will ensure that the Camp is left in a thoroughly Sanitary condition, using his Reinforcement platoon for this purpose.9. FATIGUES. Attached schedule shows fatigues in Front Line Area which will commence work on night of 11/12th inst.10. BAND. Buglers and Drummers to report to Q.M. for loading and unloading trucks.

(Signed) E.A. WILLIAMS.

Lieutenant.

Acting Adjutant.

Copy No 1.	War Diary.
" " 2.	Handed to C.O.
" " 3.	Handed to "A" Coy.
" " 4.	" " "B" Coy.
" " 5.	" " "C" Coy.
" " 6.	" " "D" Coy.



SECRET.

529

OPERATION ORDER No 7.  
By LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN WALSTAB. COMMANDING.REFERENCE MAP. FRANCE. 57. O. S.W. I/10000.

1. RELIEF. Owing to the fact that "C" Coy. detached at MEAULTE, is not rejoining the Battalion during ~~its~~ tour of duty in the ~~forward area~~ the following will be the method of relief :-  
On the night of the 14/15th inst Support Coy (D Coy) will relieve Left Coy (B Coy)  
On the night of 16/17th inst "B" Coy will relieve "A" Coy.  
This will result in the following table :-
- |          |          |  |
|----------|----------|--|
| LEFT )   | "B" Coy. | 3 days in Front Line, relieved by "D" Coy  |
| SECTOR)  | "D" Coy. | 5 days in Front Line (Completed)           |
| RIGHT )  | "A" Coy. | 5 days in Front Line, relieved by "B" Coy. |
| SECTOR.) | "B" Coy. | 3 days in Front Line (Completed)           |
- Duration of tour in Front Line Trenches :-  
"A" Coy..... 5 days.  
"B" Coy..... 6 days.  
"D" Coy..... 6 days.
2. WORKS. Reliefs must be so conducted by Coy. Commanders that they do not interfere with fatigues and works in hand as per Battalion programme of work.
3. ATTACHMENTS In order to equalise the number of officers in Coys. Lieut A.V. CARTER, M.C. and 2/Lieut. J.W. MAUNSELL ("C" Coy.) will be temporarily attached to "D" Coy.  
Reinforcement detachments of 21 O.R. will be distributed and do fatigues as heretofore, with the Right and Left Front Line Companies, irrespective of what Coys. they are. In addition, on night of 14/15th inst, 21 O.R. Reinforcements will be attached to Left Coy. O.C. Left Coy to arrange for accommodation of same in dug outs in YARRA BANK.
4. REPORTS. On reliefs being completed, same to be reported by Code to Battalion Headquarters.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A D D E N D A.

This Operation Order to be perused by Coy. Commanders and not to be taken further forward than Battalion Headquarters.

(Signed) E.A. WILLIAMS.  
Lieutenant.  
Acting Adjutant.

<u>Copy. No.</u>	<u>To whom.</u>	<u>Method.</u>
No 1.	C.O.	-
" 2.	War Diary.	-
" 3.	"A" Coy.	Runner.
" 4.	"B" "	"
" 5.	"C" "	"
" 6.	"D" "	"



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OPERATION ORDER NO. 8.  
By LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN WALSTAB. COMMANDING.

Reference Map. GUEUDECOURT. 57.c.S.W. I/10,000.

1. RELIEF. The 7th Battalion will relieve the 5th Battalion in the line on the night of 19/20th inst.  
The 5th Battalion on relief will move as detailed hereunder:-  
To trenches occupied by Support Battalion -  
Headquarters and all Details.  
"B" Coy including 20 Reinforcements attached and 20 unallotted Reinforcements.  
Headquarters Signallers.  
Battalion Bombers.  
Headquarters Lewis Gunners.  
All Coy. Lewis Gunners.  
Intelligence Platoon.  
To High Wood East Camp -  
"A" Coy including 20 Reinforcements attached.  
"D" Coy including 20 Reinforcements attached.
2. MOVE. On relief being completed Coy. and Specialist Unit Commanders will move their Commands with an interval of 50 yards between platoons or relative units to their new quarters.
3. ADVANCE PARTIES. 2/Lieut R.A.CUFF with two Headquarters Runners will proceed to Support Battalion Headquarters at 1000 on 19th inst. and will act as guides to incoming troops. 2/Lieut A.T.PEARCE with two of detached reinforcements will proceed to High Wood East Camp and act similarly.
4. COMMAND. For the purposes of Administration Major. D.A.LUXTON. D.S.O. will assume command of all units at High Wood East Camp.
5. TRENCH STORES. Coy. and Specialist Unit Commanders will hand over to incoming Unit all Trench Stores. Receipts for same to be made out in duplicate and one to be forwarded to Battn Hdqrs by 1400 on 19th inst. and one handed to incoming Unit. These to be signed by Officers of each Battalion. The Adjutant to be responsible for the handing over of Hdqrs Trench Stores.
6. REPORTS. On relief being completed all Coys. and units will report same to Battn. Hdqrs. Factory Avenue.

(Signed) E.A.WILLIAMS.  
Lieutenant.  
Acting Adjutant.

<u>No of Copy.</u>	<u>To whom.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	<u>Method.</u>
1.	War Diary.	1200	
2.	"A" Coy.	"	By Runner.
3.	"B" "	"	"
4.	"D" "	"	"
5.	Lewis Machine Gun Officer.	"	"
6.	H.Q. and Coy. Lewis Gunners.	"	"
7.	Bombing Sergeant.	"	"
8.	O.C. Units at High Wood East.	"	"



For War <sup>Copy No 1</sup> Secret Operation order No. 9  
 Dismissed Lieut Col John Walstab commanding.  
 26/2/17

Reference Map GUEVDECOURT 57 C  
 S.W. 1 10,000.

① Relief The following relief will be carried out on the night 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> inst. - 5<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> will relieve 7<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>n</sup> in left subsector.

Dress fighting order with overcoat & W.P. sheet rolled on back in supporting straps  
 W.B.'s filled 24 hours rations & 1 ration  
 Batt<sup>n</sup> boundaries M18 D 75 <sup>through</sup> N2 D 58  
 & from N13 D 60 through N3 C 45.

② Method of Relief - 1<sup>st</sup> Phase.

At dusk on night of relief. B Boy plus half of D Boy (remaining half to remain at ~~Factory corner~~) together with all specialists & Head Quarters details under the Senior Major will move forward stake up

the following <sup>②</sup> dispositions.

B Boy will take over that portion of Bayonet TRENCH held by B Boy 7<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> moving via Factory CORNER, YARRA Bank. COMMUNICATION TRENCH through old No 8 post.

D Boy will take over that portion of Bayonet Trench held by D Boy of 7<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> moving as above.

H.Q.'s Lewis Gunners moving as above to BAYONET TRENCH near advanced Batt<sup>n</sup> Hqrs.

H.Q.'s Bombers divided into two teams one to report on arrival till FACTORY CORNER to O.C. A Boy & the other on arrival at YARRA BANK to O.C. B Boy. H.Q.'s Hqs + Runners & Hqs staff to B<sup>n</sup> Hqs together with Pioneers etc.

Intelligence platoon is already allotted to boys. Hqs section to remain with B<sup>n</sup> Hqs

Advanced Dressing Station will be established at B<sup>n</sup> Hqs



③

Position of B<sup>n</sup> Hqrs. B<sup>n</sup> Hqrs will be at Right Deep Dugout YARRA BANK N 19 a 46. Senior Major will establish an Advanced B<sup>n</sup> Hqrs in deep dugout in BAYONET TRENCH. at present occupied by B Boy of 7<sup>th</sup> as a Boy Hqrs.

2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of Relief At a time to be notified later on the evening 26/27 met A Boy plus one Hqrs Bombing Squad. will take over the ground at present held by C Boy of the 7<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup>. Two platoons relieving the advanced posts in BARLEY TRENCH. & two platoons plus Boy Hqrs in crater & dugouts near LOUSENHOF FARM.

B Boy will take over the area at present held by A Boy 7<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup>. but will take up the following new positions Two platoons in LIME TRENCH, N 13 a 50. 15 Two platoons & Boy Hqrs

④

in BAYONET TRENCH from & including SUNKEN ROAD. N 13 d 63. their left flank resting on B Boy. Route of these boys will be notified later on receipt of reports from advanced parties.

Telephone communication

- Batt<sup>n</sup> Sig. Officer will arrange for lines to link up as follows.
- (a) From FACTORY CORNER to B<sup>n</sup> Hqrs. (already in position)
  - (b) From Batt<sup>n</sup> Hqrs to D Boy Hqrs BAYONET TRENCH (already in position)
  - (c) From Batt<sup>n</sup> Hqrs to advanced B<sup>n</sup> Hqrs (already in position)
  - (d) From Adv<sup>d</sup> Hqrs (Batt<sup>n</sup>) to A Boy Hqrs near LOUSENHOF FARM (already in position)
  - (e) From A Boy Hqrs to advanced posts in BARLEY TRENCH (this line to be run out when relics of advanced posts in BARLEY TRENCH go forward)



(5)

(f) From B<sup>n</sup> Hqs YARBA BANK to  
B<sup>n</sup> Hqs on Right & Left FLANKS.  
(These lines will be laid as soon as  
possible.)

If boy operations are not sufficient  
these will be supplemented by men from  
Hqs Sigs

SAA Supplies & Tools - 24 hrs rations.  
Iron rations will be drawn at FACTORY  
CORNER en route. Senior Nayer to  
arrange that all tools & water utensils  
are brought forward when his column  
moves. In addition he will also  
bring forward the 50 boxes of Mills  
Grenades drawn from CLARKES DUMP  
this morning in boxes. All above <sup>less</sup> <sub>tools</sub>  
will be dumped at B<sup>n</sup> Hqs in  
YARBA BANK. OC & boy to salvage  
all tools & water utensils in his  
area & dump them at same place  
Asc Bys will carry forward 2 bombs per man

Factory Corner

drawing same ~~from~~ dump ~~in~~ ~~Yarba~~ BANK  
so as to establish forward dumps  
Advanced Parties 1 officer per  
boy & 1 NCO per platoon & Specialist  
officers will reconnoitre prior to  
their unit moving in & make them  
relieve familiar with the ground in their  
sector so that no chances may be  
given away.

Movement Platoons & similar units  
will move with an interval of 50  
yards between them.

Reports. Completion of relief will  
be reported by code word RABBIT  
to 7<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> Hqs at FACTORY CORNER  
by Wire

W. E. Thompson  
2nd Lieut  
& Ant Adjt 5<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> ATZ