

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/22/34

**Title:** 5th Infantry Battalion

December 1917



AWM4-23/22/34

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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.

FIFTH INF B<sup>N</sup> A. I. F. (Phrase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1917	DEC	1	B <sup>N</sup> in training at DESVRES.	
		6	2 LIEUT. HENDERSON, C.F.A. + 1 other rank to Corps BOMBING SCHOOL, 1 other rank to Corps LEWIS GUN School. 2 LIEUT. A.J. ROBINSON to 4 <sup>th</sup> Army MUSKETRY School.	
		7	2 <sup>nd</sup> A.I. Bd. Recreational Training Competitions. 5 <sup>th</sup> B <sup>N</sup> secured 1 <sup>st</sup> place. EVENTS were. Coy Road race, Bayonet fighting, Individual Bayonet fighting, Collective Musketry, Lewis Gun, Transport, Hand and Rifle Grenade Sections, bay. Drill, Signalling Competition.	
		10 <sup>th</sup>	Sgt. LAYPARD to Corps School for duty as LEWIS GUN instructor.	
		11 <sup>th</sup>	B <sup>N</sup> moved from DESVRES to LEDINGHEM	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 54.
		12 <sup>th</sup>	B <sup>N</sup> moved from LEDINGHEM to ELNES	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 55
		13 <sup>th</sup>	B <sup>N</sup> moved from ELNES to WIZERNES and entrained for KEMMEL	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 56.
		14 <sup>th</sup>	B <sup>N</sup> moved to the relief of the 59 <sup>th</sup> B <sup>N</sup> A. I. F. and DISPOSITIONS were FRONT LINE Coy. (A. Coy) Coy H Qms. at KILO FARM. Sheet 28 S.W. (WYTSCHAETE) O 28 B 6. 1. LOCAL RESERVE. ONE PLATOON IN OXFORD TRENCH. O 28 D. 1. - PICQUET LINE. THREE PLATOONS. N <sup>o</sup> 1. PICQUET O 29 C. 1. N <sup>o</sup> 2 PICQUET O 29 A. 1. SENTRY GROUPS O 29 C 5. 3., O 29 C 5. 7., O 29 A 6. 4., O 29 A 6. 6. SUPPORT LINE Coy. (C <sup>o</sup> Coy) Coy H Qms at HOWE FARM O 27 D 2. 9. THREE PLATOONS IN ORANGE TRENCH, ONE PLATOON at WOODS CABIN O 28 C. 6. 1. N <sup>o</sup> 1 RESERVE Coy. (B <sup>o</sup> Coy) Coy H Qms with TWO PLATOONS at CABIN HILL O 27 C 90. 00. ONE PLATOON at ORME TRENCH O 27 D. ONE PLATOON in FILL BOX O 27 C. 8. 1. N <sup>o</sup> 2 RESERVE Coy (D <sup>o</sup> Coy) Coy H Qms with TWO PLATOONS at O 26 B 3. 1. ONE PLATOON at LUMY FARM, ONE PLATOON in FILL BOX near LUMY FARM. B <sup>N</sup> H Qms at LUMY FARM O 26 D 10. 70. SIGNAL STATION at DERRY HOUSE O 27 A 35. 60. OBSERVATION POSTS at DERRY HOUSE and at O 27 D 90. 75. AMMUNITION DUMPS at LUMY Fm. KILO Fm. CABIN HILL, HOWE Fm. RELIEF was completed without casualties.	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 57
		17 <sup>th</sup>	A soldier of the 8 <sup>th</sup> KOYR. 102 I.R. walked into our line at 06.20 am. and was taken prisoner.	

APPENDIX

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917 DEC	18	INTER-COMPANY RELIEFS. CAPT. H BURKE and 1 other rank returned from 2 <sup>nd</sup> ARMY INF SCHOOL. CAPT. HASTIE 40. rejoined from ENGLAND.	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 58
		21	LIEUT. N. MADDEX rejoined from Hospital. 2 LIEUTS. GILLIES and LAVERICK joined up from reinforcements.	
		22	INTER COMPANY RELIEFS. on night 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	RELIEF ORDER 2
		23 <sup>rd</sup>	1 other rank to CORPS GAS School. LIEUT. W. J. ELLISON and 4 other ranks to DIV. SIGNALLING CLASS.	
		24	Strong Posts completed at O. 28C 8.9. and O. 28A 8.3, and were garrisoned by ONE PLATOON from the Support Line Coy.	
		26	INTER COMPANY RELIEFS on night 26 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> . 1 other rank to G.H.Q. Small Arms School LEWIS Gun Branch.	RELIEF ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 3
		27 <sup>th</sup>	1 other rank to MUSKETRY Course HAYLING ISLAND.	
		28	Strong Post completed at O. 28A 6.8. SUPPORT Coy moved from ORANGE TRENCH and put 4 platoons into the S. Posts at O. 28C 6.0, O. 28C 8.9. O. 28A 8.3. and O. 28A 6.8 N <sup>o</sup> 1 Reserve Coy moved into ORANGE TRENCH	
		29	LIEUT. H G MACKAY and 4 N.C.Os to 2 <sup>nd</sup> TRAINING B <sup>n</sup> ENG. 2 LIEUT. SECOHEN to 2 <sup>nd</sup> ARMY MUSKETRY School. LIEUT. P. J. OFARRELL and 1 N.C.O. to 2 <sup>nd</sup> ARMY INF SCHOOL.	
		30	LIEUT. N. W COZENS to 2 <sup>nd</sup> ARMY Scouting, observation and Sniping School. 1 other rank to Corps GAS School. 1 other rank to School at N <sup>o</sup> 23 Veterinary Hospital.	
			B <sup>n</sup> relieved by the 4 <sup>th</sup> B <sup>n</sup> A.I.F. B <sup>n</sup> HQs and details moved to O. 25B 15.45. A Coy to O. 19D 9.8. B Coy to O. 20. A. 2.3. C and D Coys to SCOTT Fy. O. 25. A.	ORDER N <sup>o</sup> 58
		31 <sup>st</sup>	Lt COL. D. A. LUXTON DSO, LIEUTS. J. A. ANDERSON and R. A. CURR mentioned in Sir Douglas Haigs despatches of the 7 <sup>th</sup> of NOV. MAJOR. H CARTER rejoined from Senior Officers School ENGLAND	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C. 2118/14.

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. <sup>3</sup>

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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FRANCE FIFTH INF B<sup>N</sup> A.I.F

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1917 DEC SUMMARY				
	DEC 1-10		B <sup>N</sup> in training at DESVRES.	
	11-13		B <sup>N</sup> on the move to KEMMEL AREA	
	14-30		B <sup>N</sup> in the line.	
	31		B <sup>N</sup> in reserve.	
<u>WEEKLY STRENGTHS</u>				
	WEEK ENDING 7 <sup>th</sup> DEC		34	OFFICERS 686 OTHER RANKS
	14 <sup>th</sup> "		36	687 " "
	21 <sup>st</sup> "		36	673 " "
	28 <sup>th</sup> "		42	665 " "

APPENDIX

attached to  
message

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118 14.

SECRET.

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BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 54 BY  
LIEUT. COLONEL D. W. LUTTON D.S.O. COMMANDING.

Reference Map C-I-13 1 : 100000.

MOVE.

1. The Battalion will move from DESVRES tomorrow, 11th inst., to LINDINCHEL area.

ROUTE.

2. D-V DESVRES - L. COURTEAU - BELQUES - LINDINCHEL.

STARTING POINT.

3. Railway crossing 500 yards south of "D" in DESVRES. Head of Battalion column will pass starting point at 0900.

Battalion will form up in Square at 0830. One marker per Coy. to report to R.S.C. on Square at 0830. Battalion will then move off to Brigade Starting point.

ORDER OF MARCH.

4. Hdqtrs. Sigs., Intell., Hdqtrs., "D", "G", "B", "A" Coys., Pioneers, M.C. and Police.

DISTANCES.

5. 100 yards between Coys. 500 yards between Battalions.

HOURS.

6. Of 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour and of 1 hour at 1130.

DRESS.

7. Full marching order with one blanket as per Bn. Standing Orders, water bottles full and unexpended portion of day's rations.

TRANSPORT.

8. Transport will move independently less 4 cookers, one water cart and 8 M.C. supply wagons which vehicles will move with personnel. Cookers will move in rear of Coys.

Transport Officer will arrange that the maltose cart calls at M.C. before 0800 to collect M.C. equipment. The mess cart will not accompany personnel and Coys. will make their own arrangements. Starting point of transport will be railway crossing 400 yards south of the second R in LES PIERRETTES. Head of column will pass starting point at 0830. The transport will be brigaded and will move in the following order:- 3rd Bn., 5th Bn., 7th Bn., etc.

BLANKETS.

9. The second blanket will be rolled in bundles of 10 and dumped at the Q.M. Store by 0645.

VALISES.

10. Officers' valises will be taken to Q.M. store by 0715.

BAND EQUIPMENT.

11. Packs of both brass and bugle bands will be dumped at Q.M. store by 0645.

O.C. "B" Coy. will see that this order is carried out.

MESS STORES.

12. Mess stores will be made available at each Coy. mess by 0700.

REAR PARTY.

13. Orderly Officer, Lieut. BUCHERV. I.S.M., Interpreter and one other rank will remain behind to settle claims and obtain certificates of cleanliness from Area Commandant. Bicycles may be drawn from Signallers. Lieut. BUCHERV. I.S.M. will obtain certificates in triplicate as to cleanliness of billets from Area Commandant.

Brigade

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Battalion Operation Order No. 54 (continued).

ROUTINE.

14. Routine for tomorrow will be - Reveille 0600, breakfast 0630, sick parade 0700, "dress" 0800, "quarter" call 0815.

GUARD.

15. The present Battalion guard with prisoners will march in rear of column. The police Cpl. will supervise.

REPORTS, ETC.

15. Certificates as to cleanliness of billets will be handed to Adjutant by 0820. Marching Out States to be at Regtl. Office by 0800. Other reports to head of column.

SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised with Battalion Headquarters.

17. by at 0730.

18. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adj.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	"
2	War Diary	"
3	Brigade	Runner
4	O.C. near Coy.	"
5	" " " "	"
6	" " " "	"
7	" " " "	"
8	Q.M.	"
9	P.O.	"
10	Si. Sec.	"
11	Intell. Off.	"

SECRET.

Headquarters 5th Battalion A.I.F.  
10/12/17.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS IN REFERENCE TO MOVE  
OF BATTALION FROM DESVRES.

- (1) Lewis Gun Officer will arrange to have all Lewis guns carefully oiled and cleaned in order that they will not become rusty on the move. Guns will be collected by Company limbers this afternoon at 1600 from Company Headquarters. Lewis Gun Officer will report when above is complete.
- (2) In order that valises may be as light as possible Officers will arrange to dump any surplus gear (in the case of mounted officers - packs) by 1600 this afternoon.
- (3) Company record boxes will be dumped at Q.L. Store by 1600 this afternoon. Any stationery, etc., required will be carried in haversacks.
- (4) Signalling Officer and Intelligence Officer will have all signalling and intelligence gear deposited at Q.L. Store by 1600 today.
- (5) Regimental Office boxes will be deposited at Q.L. Store by 1600.
- (6) Bootmaker's, Tailor's and Pioneers' gear to be returned by 1600.
- (7) S.A. will be re-issued to men by 1600 tonight.
- (8) Steel helmets will be collected from Pioneers by 2100 tonight.
- (9) Lewis gun magazines will be filled and ready by 1600. Surplus S.A. will be dumped at Q.L. Store by the same time.
- (10) It is possible that Company Commanders will not have the use of their horses for the move.

(Sgd) G.L. FINE-Y,  
Lieut. & Adj.

APPENDIX

SECRET.

Copy No.  
Headquarters 5th Battalion A.I.,  
11/12/17.

BATTALION OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 55

BY MILITARY COLONEL D. LUTHER D.S.O. COL. ADI.G.

Reference Maps C.L.I. 1 : 100000  
H. LEBROUCH 1 : 10000

MOV.

1. The Battalion will move from LEDINGHEM to ELLES tomorrow, 14th inst.

ROUTE.

2. VAUDRINGHEM - CANTHEISERLE - ELLES.

STARTING POINT.

3. "B" Coy. Headquarters. Coys. will be formed up in column on route facing N.E. by 0820. Column will move at 0830.

ORDER OF MARCH.

4. Bands, Adjts. Sigs., Intell., Headquarters, "A", "B", "C", "D" Coys., Pioneers, Police.

DISPATCHES.

5. 6. 7. for 14th inst.

MESS  
KIT

BLANKETS.

8. To be dumped at "C" Coy. Headquarters by 0730. O.C.  
9. "C" Coy. to arrange for a dumping place. Each  
10. Coy. will detail blanket guard of 3 men to load and proceed with blankets.

VEGETABLES  
BREAD FRONES.

ROUTE.

11. Reveille 0600; breakfast 0630; sick parade 0700.

CEREMONIAL MESS &  
HYGIENE.

12. Usual cleanliness certificates and marching out states by 0300. Other reports to head of column.

13. UNKNOWN.

(Sd.) G.L. DICKINSON  
Lieut. Colonel.

Copy No.	Method.	To whom.
1	File	-
2	Diary	-
3	Brigade	Runner
4	O.C. "B" Coy.	"
5	" "C" "	"
6	" "D" "	"
7	" "E" "	"
8	3rd Off.	"
9	Int. Off.	"
10	Q.M.	"
11	P.O.	"



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Headquarters, 5th Battalion, A.I.F.  
12/13/17.

Copy No. 2

SECRET.

BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 56.  
by Lieut-Col. D. A. LINTON, D.S.O., Commanding.

Reference Map - HAZEBROUCK 5a: 1 : 100,000.

- MOVE 1. The Battalion will move from ELNES to WIZERNES by Route March tomorrow, 13th inst., entraining there on "A" train for DE KAWASAK, where personnel will detrain and march to KEMMEL area.  
First line transport will entrain in "O" train and detrain at BAILLEUL WEST, moving thence to KEMMEL area.
- ROUTE. 2. ELNES, LUMBRES, WIZERNES.
- STARTING POINT. 3. Junction of roads in which "A" "B" and "C" Coys are billeted and main ELNES-LUMBRES Road.  
Companies will be in position by 0235. Column will move at 0245.
- ORDER OF MARCH. 4. Bands, Signallers, Intelligence, Headquarters, "B" "A" "D" "C" Coys  
Pioneers, M.O., POLICE.
- DIST. NOES. 5. To WIZERNES as per F.S. Regs. From D. KEMMEL - 100 yards between Companies.
- ROUTINE. 6. Reveille 0100, Breakfast 0130.
- TRANSPORT. 7. Cookers &c. will move in rear of Column, and will entrain on the third train, which leaves at 1100. Capt. E.G. PERRELL will be in charge of this train ("O" train).
- QUARTERS. 8. V LIESSES and B.M.P. O.S. will be dumped at Q.M. Store by 0130.
- LOADING PARTY. 9. Each Company will detail 3 men to report to Q.M. at WIZERNES at 0615 tomorrow. This party will work under Q.M.'s instructions. Transport Loading Party. S/Lt. COMEN and party of 30 men will act as loading party for 1st Dehelen transport, and will report to entraining officer at WIZERNES at 0600. They will travel by "O" train and will act as unloading party at BAILLEUL WEST and then rejoin their Battalion. C.O. "O" Coy. will detail this party.
- CLEANLINESS. 10. Certificates as to cleanliness of billets will be handed to Adjutant by 0430.
- SYNCHRONIZATION. 11. Watches will be synchronised at Battalion Headquarters at 2000 tonight.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G. H. FLINBY, Lieut. & Adj.

Copy No.	To whom	Method.
1	File	-
2	War Diary	-
3	Brigade	Runner
4	C.O. "A" Coy	"
5	"B"	"
6	"C"	"
7	"D"	"
8	Sig. Offr.	"
9	Intell.	(
10	Q.M.	"
11	T.O.	"

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BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 57 BY  
LIEUT. WOODROW L. D., COMMANDING.

Reference Map / 10000.

RELIEF.

1. The 5th Bn. will relieve the 59th Bn. on right of Brigade sector on the night of 14/15th.

MOVE.

2. Bn. will move from present camp at 1500.

DISPOSITIONS;

3. "A" Coy. 5th Bn. will relieve "C" Coy. 59th Bn.  
"O" Coy. 5th Bn. will relieve "D" Coy. 59th Bn.  
"B" Coy. 5th Bn. will relieve "A" Coy. 59th Bn.  
"D" Coy. 5th Bn. will relieve "B" Coy. 59th Bn.  
"D" Coy. 5th Bn. will supply 1 L.G. to "A" Coy. 5th Bn.  
Companies will detail their men as per dispositions received from advanced officers.

DISPOSITIONS.ORDER OF MARCH.

4. H.Q. Sigs., Intell., "A", "O", "B", "D" Coys.

DISTANCES.

5. 150 yards between Coys.

LEWIS GUNS.

6. L.G. limbers will follow Coys. and guns and ammunition will be collected from limbers at LAIR POST CORNER - O.19.c.5.6.

GUIDES.

7. 59th Bn. guides will be met at LAIR POST CORNER.

COOKS.

8. "A", "O" and "B" Coy. cooks will move with "B" Coy. to kitchen near "B" Coy. Headqtrs. 6 dixies per Coy. less 1 dixie from "A" Coy. for Sigs. & Intell. will be ~~carried~~ accompany "D" Coy.

DISPOSITION SCHEDULES. To reach Bn. Headqtrs. by 1200, 15th inst.

TRENCH STORES. 10. To be taken over and receipts forwarded to Bn. Headqtrs. by 1600 on 14th inst.

GUM BOOTS.

11. "A" Coy. will be guided to ULSTER HOUSE where boots will be changed and gum boots worn.  
"D" Coy. 59th Bn. will stay in position until "A" Coy. 5th Bn. have passed through.

A.M.C.

12. Will move with "B" Coy.

DRESS.

13. "B", "O" & "D" Coys. - Marching order with 1 blanket.  
"A" Coy. - Fighting order.  
Other details - Marching order with blanket.

Q. RATIONS.

14.

PACKS.

14. Q.M. will arrange to have "A" Coy. packs brought to Bn. Headqtrs. on the night of the 17th./18th. "A" Coy. will dump packs at Q.M. store by 1400 today.

RATIONS.

15. Rations will be brought up tonight to DUFFY HOUSE. Instructions re carrying parties will be issued later.

COMPLETION OF RELIEF. To be notified Bn. Headqtrs. in code.

16.

17. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgt.) G. L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adj.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	-	7	O.C. "D" Coy.	Runner
2	War Diary	-	8	Sig. Off.	"
3	Brigade	Runner	9	Intell. Off.	"
4	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	10	Q.M.	"
5	O.C. "B" Coy.	"	11	T.O.	"
6	O.C. "O" Coy.	"	12	R.M.O.	"

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ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

Reference Map WYTSCHAERE 1 : 10000.

1. DUMPS - RATIONS.

No. 1 Dump.-- Junction of GUN ROAD and DORSET TRENCH (O.27.b.1.7.).  
No. 2 Dump.-- " " BAY and ANTRIM RD. (O.26.b.95.25).  
Sgt. PHILLIPS will take charge of No. 1 Dump.  
R.S.M. will take charge of No. 2 Dump.

2. DISTRIBUTION OF RATIONS:

Dry Rations.-- Rations for Line and Support Coys. will be dumped at No. 1 Dump.

Rations for DERRY HOUSE, ULSTER HOUSE, BN. HDQTRS., No. 1 RESERVE COY., & No. 2 RESERVE COY. will be dumped at No. 2 Dump.

Wet Rations.-- Meat, tea, etc., will be taken to ULSTER HOUSE for LINE, SUPPORT, No. 1 RESERVE and No. 2 RESERVE COYS. Lieut. DWYER will supervise the issue of No. 2 RESERVE COY. and BN. Hdqtrs. wet rations, and will arrange that rations for all other Coys. (including Details at DERRY HOUSE) are taken to kitchen.

3. DELIVERY OF MEALS COOKED IN KITCHEN.

Limber which brings Wet rations to ULSTER HOUSE will be loaded with evening meal for Line and Support Coys. and will take it to No. 1 Dump where parties will be available each night at 1930. It will then return to ULSTER HOUSE, tie up for the night, and take morning meal to No. 1 Dump. Parties for morning meal to be available at 0415 at Dump. This party must not be late. Limber will then return to lines.

4. The following DETAILS will be attached to Coys. as under:-

Front Line Coy.	Nil.		
Support Coy.	Nil.	Offs.	O.R.
No. 1 Reserve Coy.	A.M.C.	1	4
	Cooks		6
		Total	10
No. 2 Reserve Coy.	Nil.		
Detached.--			
	DERRY HOUSE		
	Intell.		7
	Sigs.		8
	Gas H.C.O. & Buglers		3
	Total		18
	ULSTER HOUSE		
	Buglers		6
	Coy. H.C.Os.		4
	Lieut. DWYER	1	
	Total	1	10
	BN. HDQTRS.		
	Sigs.		13
	L.C. & Bomb. Sgt.		2
	Sgt. Phillips		1
	R.S.M.		1
	Orderly Room		2
	2nd Field Coy. Eng.		1
	Total		20

These Details will remain stationary throughout the tour and will be attached to Coys. in rotation as relieved.

5. WATER.

50 tins per night will be brought up. 20 tins (10 for Line and 10 for Support) will be dumped at No. 1 Dump each night. 30 tins will be dumped at ULSTER HOUSE and will be used by Reserve Coys. (Up to 10 per Coy.) In the case of the Reserve Coys. a full tin of water will be issued only on the receipt of an empty one. Empty tins from Front line and Support will be returned by ration parties.

6. RATION PARTIES.

Each of the 3 rear Coys. will send ration party of 1 H.C.O. and

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and 15 to their respective dumps to collect dry rations and water. Support Coy. will supply the fatigue party for the Line Coy. at the same time.

### 7. WET RATIONS.

No. 2 Reserve Coy. will cook for itself.

No. 1 Reserve Coy. will direct from kitchen. (1 N.C.O. & 12).

Support Coy. will send party of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men to collect their own wet rations from No. 1 dump and party of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men for Line Coy. These parties will report at No. 1 Dump and meet Limber at ~~2000~~ <sup>1700</sup> and 0415 each night. The 0415 party must not be late.

### 8. HANDING OVER.

O.C. 2nd Reserve Coy. will send party of 1 N.C.O. & 15 men to report to Lt. DWYER at 1700 and 0400 each day. The above arrangements will be carried on with by each Coy. as they reach Support, 1st and 2nd Reserve Coy. positions.

### 9. RELIEFS.

On the night of Coy. reliefs Support and 1st Reserve Coy. will have meals before moving forward. 2nd Reserve Coy. will have meal on reaching 1st Reserve Coy. Line Coy. will have meal on returning to 2nd Reserve Position, the cooks of the present 2nd Reserve Coy. cooking the meal.

### 10. COOKS.

Cooks will not move with their Coys. but will stay where they are at present.

### 11. FOOD CONTAINERS.

Food containers will be returned each night to ULSTER HOUSE by ration parties.

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY, Lieut.  
Adj. 5th Bn. A.I.F.

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APPENDIX

11

217 BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 58  
BY LIEUT.-COLONEL D. A. LUKTON D.S.O. COMMANDING.

Reference Map WYTSCHAETE 1 : 10000.

1. RELIEF.

- The following inter-company reliefs will take place on the night of 18/19th inst.-  
"C" Coy. to relieve "A" Coy.  
"B" " to occupy support position.  
"D" " " " 1st Reserve position.  
"A" Coy. when relieved in front line to occupy 2nd Reserve position.  
Other Details to remain stationary.

TIMES.

- "C" Coy. (Support Coy.) will move from present position not later than 1845.  
"B" Coy. (1st Reserve Coy.) will move from present position not later than 1835.  
The platoon which is to take over No. 1 S.P. at present held by "C" Coy. will report to O.C., No. 1 S.P. not later than 1830.  
"D" Coy. (2nd Reserve Coy.) will move from present position not later than 1800.

ADVANCE PARTIES.

- Advance Parties composed of at least the number shown below will move at following times:-  
"C" Coy. 2 Off. & 6 N.C.Os. (Nos. 1 L.G.) night of 17/18 inst.  
"B" Coy. 2 Off. & 4 N.C.Os.) at 0700 18th inst.  
"D" " 1 Off. & 2 N.C.Os.)  
"A" " 1 Off. & 4 N.C.Os. night of 17/18th inst.

GUIDES.

- Details as to guides will be arranged direct between Os. C., Coys.

DISPOSITIONS.

- Os. C., Coys. will arrange to take over the same dispositions as those of the Coys. relieved.

LEWIS GUNS.

- "A" Coy. will hand over to "C" Coy. 2 L.G's. at present held by them as extra to establishment. With the exception of 4 magazines per gun all L.G. ammunition will remain in its present position. The 4 magazines per gun will be carried with the Coy.

RATIONS.

- Dry Rations on night of 18/19th will be dumped as under :-  
No. 1 Dump "B" & "C" Coys.  
" 2 " "A" & "D" "  
With the exception of "A" Coy., dry rations will be issued before moving.  
Wet Rations.- "B", "C" & "D" Coys. Wet rations will be taken to Kitchen from ULSTER HOUSE.  
Hot Food.- "B" & "C" Coys. will have a hot meal before relieving.  
"D" Coy. will arrange for Fatigue party to collect hot meal from kitchen after taking up 1st Reserve position, and will see that cooks in 2nd Reserve position make arrangements to have a hot meal ready for "A" Coy. when that Coy. reaches 2nd Reserve position.  
Ration Parties.-  
The usual dry ration parties will be required with the exception that of party for "A" Coy.  
"D" Coy. (2nd Reserve position) will collect "A" Coy's. wet and dry rations from No. 2 dump and take them to Headqtrs. of 2nd Reserve position.  
"A" Coy. will be responsible to supply the 0400 hot meal party of 1 N.C.O. & 15 as per Admini-  
strative Instructions.  
"B" Coy. will supply the front line 0430 fatigue.

18/19th inst

- TRENCH STORES. 8. Advanced Officers will take over all stores and dumps, and receipts will be forwarded to Bn. Hdqtrs. by 2100 on 18th.
- MAPS. 9. Maps showing the Battalion dispositions must not be taken past the Support Coy. Hdqtrs. Unmarked maps are to be used by the Front line Coy. 18
- GUM BOOTS. 10. "C" Coy. will arrange to draw gum boots from drying room on 18th inst. Men will be sent down in small parties via BOB STREET commencing at 0800. An N.C.O. from "C" Coy. will report to Lieut. DWYER at this time and will sign for number drawn. Ankle boots will remain at drying room tied together. "A" Coy. will return gum boots to drying room after being relieved, obtaining receipts for number returned. Lieut. DWYER will forward these receipts to Bn. Hdqtrs. by 0900 19th inst.
- PACKS. 11. "A" Coy. packs will be dumped at Hdqtrs. of 2nd Reserve position ("D" Coy.) tonight 17/18th inst., at about 1700. "D" Coy. will supply a guard on this dump until taken over by "A" Coy's. Advance parties. "C" Coy. will dump packs at No. 1 Dump under guard by 1730. Limber will then collect them and take them to drying room where Sock N.C.O. will take charge and guard. Dress for Front line:- Fighting order, waterproof sheet and greatcoat. Others.- Marching Order and blanket.
- SALVAGE. 12. "A" Coy. will bring salvage and dump it at No. 1 ration dump.
- INSTRUCTIONS. 13. Care is to be taken that "A" and "B" Coys. receive full explanations as to ration parties and their routes and times. "D" Coy. will be advised by "B" Coy. as to method of collecting hot food from kitchen. All Coys. to carry out instructions laid down in Admin. Instructions of 15th inst. after completion of relief.
- COMPLETION OF RELIEF. 14. Will be wired to Bn. Hdqtrs. using the word "CUP".
- RECONNAISSANCE. 15. On taking over new positions Coy. Commanders will ensure that they are thoroughly conversant with their part in the defence scheme, and will take steps to reconnoitre if necessary, their Assembly positions to be taken up in event of attack.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY, Lieut.  
Adj. 5th Battalion A.I.F.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time.
1 )			
2 )	War Diary		
3 )	File		
4	Senior Major	Runner	
5	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	
6 ✓	O.C. "B" Coy.	"	
7	O.C. "C" Coy.	"	
8 ✓	O.C. "D" Coy.	"	
9	Q.M. & T.O.	"	
10 ✓	Sig. Off.	"	
11	Lieut. DWYER	"	
12	Bac.	"	

21<sup>st</sup> War DiaryRELIEF ORDER No. 2 BYLIEUT. COLONEL D. A. LUKTON D.S.O. COMMANDING.

14

RELIEF.

- The following inter-company reliefs will take place on night of 22/23rd inst.-
  - "B" Coy. to relieve "C" Coy.
  - "D" Coy. to occupy Support position.
  - "A" Coy. to occupy 1st Reserve position.
  - "C" Coy. to occupy 2nd Reserve position.
 Other Details to remain stationary.

TIMES. )  
 ADVANCE PARTIES. )  
 GUIDES. )  
 DISPOSITIONS. )  
 LEWIS GUNS. )  
 RATIONS. )  
 TRENCH STORES. )  
 MAPS. )  
 DRESS. )

- Instructions concerning the marginally noted details will correspond to instructions for these details in the order for relief on night of 18/19th inst.

GUM BOOTS.

- Support Company ("B" Coy.) will draw gum boots from Drying Store before moving, each man taking one pair. These will not be worn but will be carried to the Front line and a dump established at Company Headqtrs. for use if required. Unless weather is wet and trenches become waterlogged gum boots must not be worn.

PACKS.

- As for 18/19th inst. "C" Coy. will draw packs on return at ULSTER HOUSE, and will return gum boots to Drying Room and obtain receipts. Lieut. DWYER will arrange.

RECONNAISSANCE.

- Careful reconnaissance is to be made by all Company Officers on taking over new positions, of positions to be occupied in case of attack.

DETAILS.

- Details not arranged for will be arranged direct between Os. C., Companies.

COMPLETION OF RELIEF.

- Completion of relief will be wired to Headqtrs. immediately by use of word "Shield".

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G. L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adjt.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time.
1 )			
2 )	War Diary	-	
3	File		
4	Senior Major	Runner	
5	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	
6	" "B" "	"	
7	" "C" "	"	
8	" "D" "	"	
9	Q.M. & T.O.	"	
10	Sig. Off.	"	
11	Lieut. DWYER	"	

-Lieut. RELIEF ORDER No. 3 BY

15

LIEUT. COL. D.A. LUKTON D.S.O. COMMANDING.RELIEF.

1. The following inter-company reliefs will take place on night of 26/27th inst.-  
 "D" Coy. will relieve "B" Coy.  
 "A" Coy. will occupy Support position.  
 "C" Coy. will occupy 1st Reserve position.  
 "b" Coy. will occupy 2nd Reserve position.  
 Other Details will remain stationary.

TIMES.

2. The same times for relieving will be observed with the exception of "D" Coy. who will not move from their present position until ordered by Headqtrs. by code.

DISPOSITIONS.ADVANCE PARTIES.GUIDES.LEWIS GUNS.TRENCH STORES.MAPS.DRESS.

- 3.) As for relief of 22/23rd inst., with the exception  
 4.) of Nos. 2 and 3 Strong Posts, relief of which will  
 5.) be arranged between O.C., "A" and "D" Coys.  
 6.)  
 7.)  
 8.)  
 9.)

GUM BOOTS.

10. Gum boots at present held by "B" Coy. will be brought out by them and dumped at ULSTER HOUSE. "A" Coy. will draw up to one pair per man and take them forward using them if necessary.

PACKS.

11. "D" Coy. will dump packs as usual. T.O. will arrange to collect these packs on night of 27/28th inst. from Lieut. DWYER and take them back to KEMMEL. "D" Coy. will supply 1 N.C.O. or man to act as guard over them.

RATIONS.

12. As usual with the exception of rations for S.P. The responsibility for the delivery of these will rest with O.C., Support Coy.

RECONNAISSANCE.

13. As for other reliefs.

DETAILS.

14. Details not arranged for will be arranged direct between O.C., Coys.

COMPLETION OF RELIEF.

15. Completion of relief will be wired to Headqtrs. immediately by use of word "MEDAL".

ACKNOWLEDGE.(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adjt.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time.
1 )	War Diary	-	
2 )			
3	File	-	
4	Senior Major	Runner	
5	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	
6	" "B" "	"	
7	" "C" "	"	
8	" "D" "	"	
9	Q.M. & T.O.	"	
10	Sig. Off.	"	
11	Lieut. DWYER.	"	



217

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS No. 3.

16

R A T I O N S.

1. With altered dispositions new arrangements are necessary.
2. The following procedure will be adopted with Wet rations.
3. Meals of the Front line Coy. and attached platoon will be carried to DORSET ST. by limber.  
Ration party of 1 N.C.O. and 15 men will be supplied by 1st Reserve Coy. (who occupy ORANGE TRENCH.) to carry forward.  
Meals of Support Coy. will be dumped at DORSET STREET.  
O.C., Support Coy. will be responsible to collect the containers there and distribute them.
4. Meals of 1st and 2nd Reserve Coys. will be drawn direct from cook house by a ration party from those companies..
5. Times of meals will be -
 

<u>Night.</u>	Front line and Support Coys.	1745.
	1st Reserve Company.	1645.
<u>Morning.</u>	Front line and Support Coys.	0430.
	1st Reserve Coy.	0600.
6. Hot Food Containers.--  
It is essential that hot food containers be returned promptly.  
In the evening 1st Reserve Coy. will return food containers immediately by the party that draws the meal.  
Support Coy. will return their containers to No. 1 Dump by 2000.  
In the morning 1st Reserve Coy. will return food containers immediately.  
2nd Reserve Coy. ("B" Coy.) will supply the usual fatigue morning and evening for the transport of Wet rations.
7. Dry Rations.--  
All rations with the exception of the 2nd Reserve Coy. will be dumped at No. 1 Dump. 2nd Reserve Coy. rations will be dumped at No. 2 Dump. Ration parties will be arranged accordingly, the Support Coy. collecting its own rations.

These instructions will take effect on the morning of 29th  
inst. at 0400. *29th inst. at 0400*

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adjt.

217

BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 58<sup>A</sup> BY  
LIEUT. COLONEL D.A. LURTON D.S.O. COMMANDING.

17

Reference Map. WYTSCHAETE 1 : 10,000.

RELIEF.

1. The 5th Bn. will be relieved by the 4th Bn. on night of 29/31st inst.

The following will be the Inter-Company reliefs :-

4th Bn.	will relieve	5th Bn.
		"A" Coy.
		"B" " "
		"C" " "
		"D" " "

GUIDES.

(incoming unit)

2. Each Company will send 1 guide per platoon, to report to Bn. Hqtrs. before 1600 on 30th inst.

NEW LOCATION.

3. Upon relief, Companies will move to dugouts as under :-

"A" Coy.	0.19.d.9.9.
"B" " "	0.20.e.3.7.
"C" " "	0.25.a. vicinity SCOTT FM.
"D" " "	
Intell., Sigs.,	
Pioneers, Hqtrs. & A.M.C.)	

ADVANCE PARTIES.

4. Advanced parties from 4th Bn. will report tonight, 29/30th inst. The party for the Front line will take part in any patrols tonight. Advanced parties of 1 Officer and 4 N.C.Os. from each of "A", "B" & "C" Coys. 5th Bn., will report to Bn. Hqtrs. at 0900 on morning of 30th inst. These Officers will take over all work in hand and inform their Coy. Commanders. Sig. Officer will detail 4 runners to proceed with 2/Lt. Simpson to allot accommodation for "D" Coy. and Hqtrs., and guide "D" Coy. to their dugouts on relief.

GUIDES.

(outgoing unit)

5. The above mentioned Officers and N.C.Os. of "A", "B" & "C" Coys. will meet Coys. at locations appointed by the Officers who have already reconnoitred the new positions today. Guides for "D" Coy. will meet "D" Coy. platoons at Hq. 2 Ration Dump (near WESKER HOUSE.)

FRENCH STORES.

6. French Stores will be carefully checked and hand to incoming unit. Prisms stores will not be hand but will be sent to Bn. Hqtrs. by 1200 on 30th. Receipts will be sent to Bn. Hqtrs. by 1200 or S.O.S. rockets are to be carefully accounted for.

MAPS.

7. Maps, etc., are to be handed over with the exact of 1 per Coy.

WORK.

8. Work on hand will be handed over.

LEWIS GUNS.

9. L.Gs. and magazines will be carried to new positions by Coys. "B" Coy. will arrange to collect one gun and ammunition from "C" Coy. "D" Coy. will be responsible for the two extra guns and will hand over one gun to "C" Coy. in new area. Coy. Commanders will ensure that all magazines are carried out.

COMPLETION OFRELIEF.

10. Will be wired to Bn. Hqtrs. by word 'BRIGHTLY' and reports sent to new Hqtrs. when Coys. are settled.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adjt.

APPENDIX

217

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time.
1	File		
2)	War Diary		
3)			
4	Brigade	Runner	
5	Snr. Major	"	
6	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	
7	O.C. "B" Coy.	"	
8	O.C. "C" Coy.	"	
9	O.C. "D" Coy.	"	
10	Sig. & Intell. Offs.	"	
11	O.C. & T.O.	"	
12	Lieut. DWYER.	"	

By...

DR...

Sig...

(Intell. Offs.)

...

...

...

(Intell. Offs.)

...

...

...

...

...

217

## ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS No. 4

(to be read in conjunction with Battalion Op. Order No. 58).

RATIONS.

1. DRY RATIONS. for the 31st will be issued at new locations. T.O. will arrange to reconnoitre new routes in order that rations may be delivered.
- WET RATIONS. Breakfast on 30th inst. will be last hot meal in Forward area in "A", "B" & "D" Coys. Q.M. will arrange that cooks of "C" and "D" Coys. are in position in new locations, and that a hot meal is ready for men on arrival.
- Q.C. "B" Coy. will arrange to give "D" Coy. a hot meal before relief.
- A hot meal will be prepared for "A" "B" Coy. at new location by company cooks.
- Coy. Q.M.Ss. should accompany rations.

COOKING UTENSILS.

2. "B" Coy. will carry 6 dixies to new location for cooking.
- "A" Coy. will send their cooks to new location tomorrow morning. 6 dixies will be taken. Other urns and dixies will be taken back by limber on morning of the 30th. All cooks, with the exception of "A" and "B" Coy. cooks, will move back at the same time.

GUM BOOTS.

3. Line Coy. will hand over gum boots at present in Front line.

HOT FOOD CONTAINERS.

4. All hot food containers, with the exception of those at the Front line; will be sent to cook house by 1200 on 30th inst. Lieut. Dwyer will arrange to guard and hand over to incoming unit.

WATER TINS.

5. Will be collected and handed over.

OFFICERS' VALISES.

6. T.O. will arrange to transport the valises of Headquarters, "C" and "D" Coys. to new location at SCOTT FM; and will place guard on them until collected.
- Valises of "A" and "B" Coys. will be sent up on the night of 31/1st if practicable.

SIGNALLING GEAR & OFFICE BOXES.

7. T.O. will arrange to have a limber available on road in rear of present Headquarters for signalling gear and office boxes, etc.

DELIVERY OF RATIONS.

8. Q.M. will arrange to deliver rations on the 1st prox. by day if possible.

BANDS, etc.

9. Details at IRISH HOUSE will move under instructions from Q.M.
- Buglers at present in Forward area will move with "C" Coy.

PACKS.

10. Packs of "D" Coy. will be carried by limber to SCOTT FM on night of 30/31st inst. T.O. to arrange.

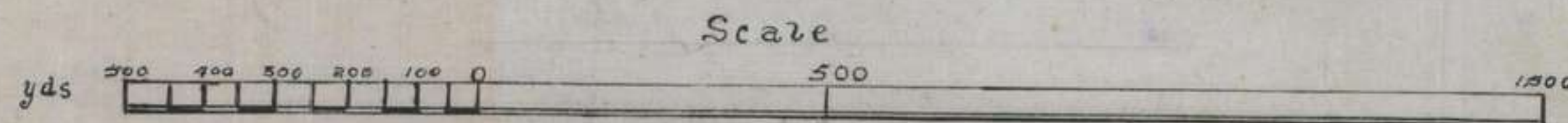
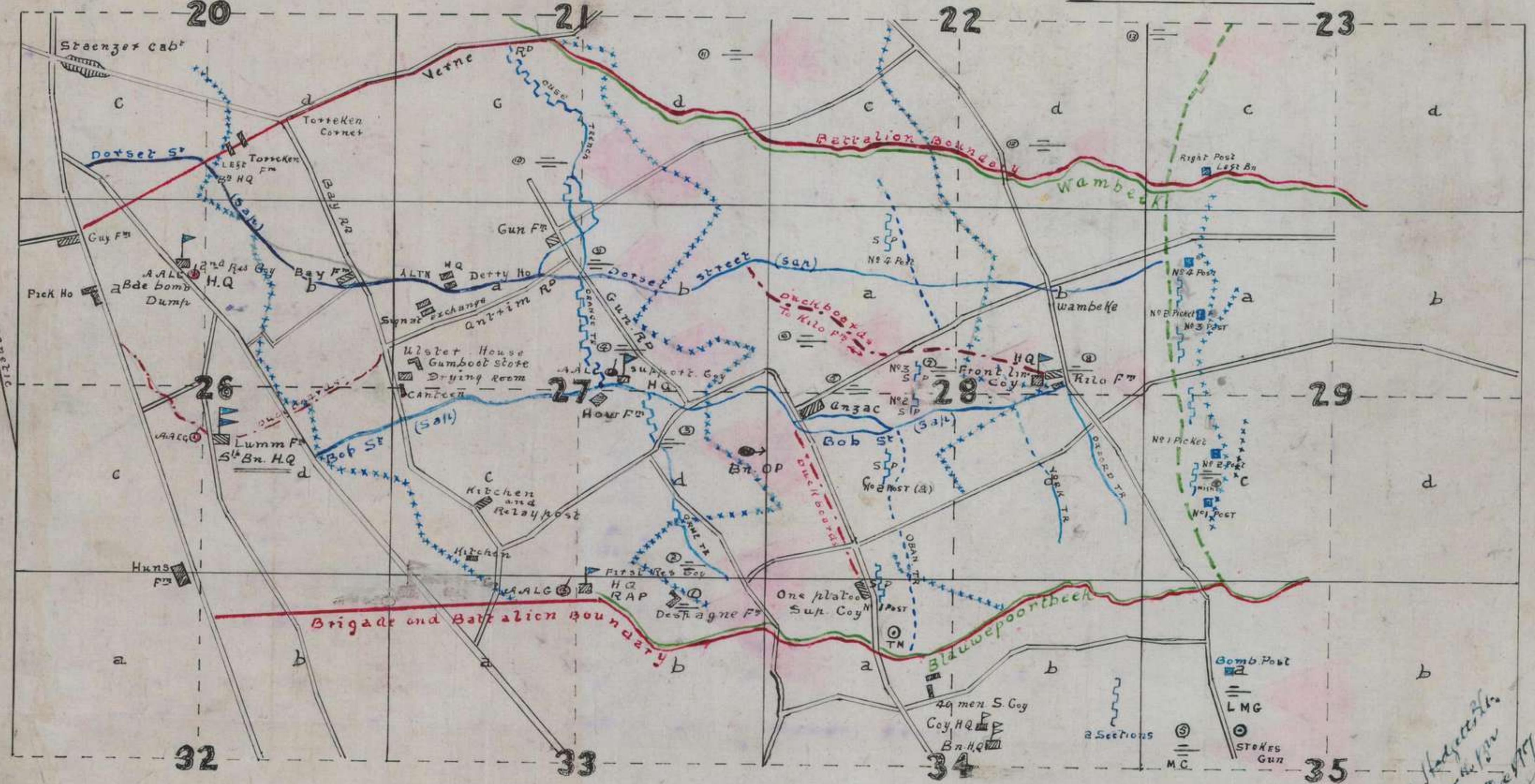
## ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) G.L. FINLAY,  
Lieut. & Adj.

WYTSC HAETE

Sheet 28 SW

Scale 1:10,000



*P.O. Hagedorn  
 1.0.5  
 18.12.1947*