

AWM4

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/22/43

Title: 5th Infantry Battalion

September 1918



AWM4-23/22/43

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY



OF

5th INFANTRY BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

month of SEPTEMBER, 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

Danford

Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. Lantier

Major.

WAR DIARY

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE Sheets 62D 1/40,000.	1918 Sept. 1.		Battalion resting at P.14.D. Major H. CARTER temporarily Commanding. Major T. HASTIE M.C. and Lieut. E.A. SCATES proceeded on leave to U.K. Lieuts. T.S. PARKER and C. BOOTH proceeded to G.H.Q. P. & B.T. School and Fourth Army Musketry School respectively. Lieut. F. LANGFORD proceeded to G.H.Q. Rest House, PARIS PLAGE. Lieut. R.A. CUFF proceeded on Transport duty to Australia.	
	2		Battalion resting at P.14.D. While Battalion was resting here demonstration of Model Platoon work, Platoon & Company in attack, and attack on a Strong Point using live ammunition and grenades, were given to officers and other ranks of 1st Aust. Pioneer Bn. Lieut. H.C. MORRISON, previously reported missing, is now reported prisoner of war in German hands. Capt. B.M. O'SULLIVAN, previously reported WOUNDED? NOW REPORTED TO have died of wounds at C.C.S. 23/8/18.	
	3		Battalion resting at P.14.D. Battalion organised into two companies in the event of being called into action. No. 1 Coy. ("A" & "C" Coys.) Capt. F. ANGEL; No. 2 Coy. ("B" & "D" Coys.) Capt. E.G. de T. PERMEZEL. Operation Order No. 240 attached. This was cancelled afterwards by G.O.C., 2nd Aust. Inf. Brigade.	No. 1.
	5		Battalion resting at P.14.D. Lieut. R.G. SAMSON returned from Australian Corps School.	
	7		Battalion resting at P.14.D. Battalion organised into three Coys., each Coy. having three platoons. Fighting strength of Battalion - 12 Offs. 389 O.Rs.	

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20

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE 62D. 62C. 1/40,000.	Sept.			
	8		Battalion proceeded by bus to PERONNE area; embussing at P.11.b.7.0. at 10 a.m. and proceeding to I.20.b.8.0. Shelters were erected at I.8.d.8.8. Operations Orders 41 and 42 and Administrative Instructions attached.	No. 2. No. 3.
	9		Battalion resting at I.8.d.8.8. Lieut. W.T. MEIKLE promoted Temp. Captain (A.I.F. List 382). Lieut. H.P. MOLONY returned from Training Battalion. Nucleus Company proceeded by march route to 1st Aust. Divl. Reinf. Camp at 2.30 p.m. Nominal roll attached.	No. 4.
	10		Battalion resting at I.8.d.8.8. Lieut. F. LANGFORD returned from G.H.Q. Rest Camp. Lieut. W.R. VOLUM returned from G.H.Q. Lewis Gun School. Instructions No. 1 issued in connection with Operation Order No. 41, attached.	No. 5.
	11		Battalion moved by march route to TINCOURT area, leaving I.8.d.8.8. at 7.45 a.m. and arriving at J.28.b. central about 10 a.m. Operation Order No. 43 attached. 1st Aust. Division took over sector from 3rd Aust. Division on night 10/11th September. 2nd Aust. Infantry Brigade in reserve.	No. 6.
	12		Battalion in reserve at J.28.b.0.0. Lieut. J.A. ANDERSON promoted Temp. Captain (A.I.F. List 384).	
	13.		Battalion in reserve at J.28.b.0.0.	
	14		Major H. CARTER and Lieut. J.G. HALL proceeded on Transport Duty to Australia. Capt. E.G. de T. PERMEZEL temp. commanding Battalion. Fighting strength 13 Off. 370 ORs. The undermentioned W.O. and N.C.Os. of the Battalion were appointed 2/Lieutants.- CSM. D. SMITH MC; Sgt. E. FELTON; Sgt. R.M. HOFFMAN MM & Bar; Cpl. J.V. REILLY DCM; L/Cpl G.G. ARTHUR. (A.I.F. List No. 386).	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

20

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE 62D 62C 1/40,000.	Sept.			
	15		On night of 14/15th 2nd Aust. Inf. Brigade relieved 1st Aust. Inf. Bde. in the line. 5th Battalion (Capt. E.G. de T. PERMEZEL T/Cmndg.) relieved 3rd Aust. Inf. Battalion in the Support Left position; "B" Coy. (Lieut. VOLUM) relieved "A" Coy. 3rd Bn.; "C" Coy. (Capt. ANGEL) relieved "C" & "B" Coys. 3rd Bn.; "D" Coy. (Lieut. WALTERS) relieved "D" Coy. 3rd Bn. Disposition sketch attached. Relief was completed by 10 p.m. Operation Order No. 44 attached.	No. 7.
	16		Battalion in support position at J.28.a.3.9. Lieut. G.L. FINLAY M.C. promoted Temp. Captain (A.I.F. List 388).	
	17		Battalion in support position at J.28.a.3.9. Lt.-Col. D.A. LUXTON CMG DSO returned from U.K. leave and resumed command of battalion. Capt. S. RICKETSON DCM, Lieut. N.W. CUZENS and Lieut. W.J. ELLISON returned from U.K. leave and joined Nucleus.	
	18		Battalion in support position at J.28.a.3.9. At 5.20 a.m. the 1st and 3rd Aust. Inf. Bdes. attacked the enemy, 3rd Bde. on the Right and 1st Bde. on Left. 2nd Bde. remained in reserve, but 5th and 6th Battalions were prepared to move forward immediately attack was launched. (Operation Order No. 45 attached). 5 tanks operated on the Divisional sector. All objectives being gained, 2nd Bde. remained in their old position. Capt. F. ANGEL to hospital wounded (gas).	No. 8
	19		Battalion in support position at J.28.a.3.9. Major T. HARRIE M.C. returned from U.K. leave.	
20		Battalion in support position at J.28.a.3.9. Lieut. E.A. SCATES returned from U.K. leave. Casualties amongst O.Rs. while in Support position to date 11 wounded - 7 wounded 4 do. (gas).		

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

20

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE 62D 62C 1/40,000.	Sept. 21		<p>Copy of letter received from Fourth Army attached. Fighting Strength of Battalion 21 Offs. 398 O.Rs. On night of 21/22nd 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved 1st Aust. Inf. Bde. in the Left sub-sector of 1st Aust. Divl. Sector. 5th Bn. relieved one Coy. of 3rd Bn. on the Right and two Coys. of 1st Bn. on the Left. The Battalion was disposed as follows :- "D" Coy. (Lieut. WALTERS) on the Right; "B" Coy. (Capt. PERMEZEL) in the Centre; and "C" Coy. (Lieut. VOLUM) on the Left. Relief was completed by 11 p.m. Operation Order No. 46 attached. On completion of relief Lt.-Col. LUKTON CMG DSO handed over command of the Battalion to Major T. HASTIE M.C. and proceeded on leave to Australia. Nucleus rejoined and new Nucleus composed of all 1914 men with the Battalion was formed. Nominal roll attached. Capt. W.T. MEIKLE and Lieut. M.E. THOMPSON returned from Australian Corps School.</p>	<p>No.9 No.10. No.11.</p>
	22		<p>Battalion in front line. Disposition sketches attached. 24 other ranks proceeded on Transport Duty to Australia.</p>	<p>No.12</p>
	23		<p>Battalion in front line. On the night of 23/24th the Battalion was relieved by 3 platoons of "D" Coy. No. 1 Battalion, 59th American Brigade, and moved back to TINCOURT area - J.28.b.Central, relief being completed by 11 p.m. Operation Order 47 attached. On marching through ROISEL en route to billeting area, about 1.30 a.m. on 24th, a long range shell landed in the roadway, causing casualties to "B" Coy. (Hdtrs.) who were in rear of their Coy. and No. 13 Platoon of "D" Coy.; total casualties being 4 O.Rs. killed; 2 O.Rs. died of wounds; and 1 officer (2/Lieut. FELTON) and 14 O.Rs. wounded. Casualties while in the line - 1 O.R. killed 5 O.Rs. wounded.</p>	<p>No.13</p>
	24		<p>Battalion resting at J.28.b.Central. Capt. S. RICKETSON DCM, Lieut. N.W. CUZENS, and 4 N.C.Os. proceeded for duty with 30th American Division.</p>	
	25		<p>Battalion resting at J.28.b.Central. 2/Lieut. H.A.L. ALLIBON rejoined Bn. from O.T.C.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

29

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABBEVILLE 1/100,000.	Sept.			
	26.		On the 26th September the 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. Group moved by train from the TINCOURT area to the AILLY le HAUT CLOCHER area. Battalion Operation Order No. 48 attached. The battalion entrained at TINCOURT at 4.30 p.m. on the 26th and detrained at LONGPRE les CORPS SAINTS at 4.30 p.m. on the 27th.	No.14
	27.		After detraining the Battalion proceeded by march route to AILLY les HAUT CLOCHER arriving in billets at 6.30 a.m. The day was spent in resting. Lieuts. PARKER AND BOOTH rejoined Battalion from G.H.Q. P. & B.T. School and Fourth Army Musketry School respectively. Lieut. G.L. MAKIN, previously reported wounded, now reported died of wounds.	
	28.		Battalion resting at AILLY les HAUT CLOCHER. Inspection and re-organisation carried out by Company Commanders. 10% leave granted to men to visit ABBEVILLE. Lieut. E.A. SCATES proceeded to London en route for leave to Australia.	
	29.		Battalion resting at AILLY les HAUT CLOCHER. Brigade Church Parade addressed by Bishop LONG. Lieut. R.G. SAMSON proceeded to 1st Training Battalion.	
30.		Battalion resting at AILLY les HAUT CLOCHER. Battalion parade at 9 a.m. Route march to concert hall and address by Bishop LONG on the A.I.F. Educational Scheme. Lieut. F. LANGFORD proceeded to 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. Class of Instruction.	No.15	
			Training Syllabus attached. Divl. and Brigade Intelligence Summaries for period in the line attached. Daily weather chart attached.	No.16 No.17

WAR DIARY

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APPENDIX

OF

5th INFANTRY BATTALION A. I. F.

FOR

month of SEPTEMBER 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
✓ 1	Operation Order No. 40.
✓ 2	do. 41
✓ 3	do.) 42
	Admin. Instns.)
✓ 4	Nominal Roll Nucleus
✓ 5	Instructions No. 1 in connection with B.O.O. 41.
✓ 6	Operation Order No. 43
✓ 7	do. 44
✓ 8	do. 45
✓ 9	Copy of letter received from Fourth Army
✓ 10	Operation Order No. 46
✓ 11	Nominal Roll 1914 Nucleus
✓ 12	Disposition Sketches for 22nd.
✓ 13	Operation Order No. 47
✓ 14	do. 48
✓ 15	Training Syllabus
✓ 16	Divl. & Intell. Summaries.
17	Daily weather chart.

SECRET.

Copy No.....

5th AUST. INFANTRY BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. A.O.

In the event of the Battalion being called into action, a double company organisation will be adopted.

Company Commanders will have the necessary organisation carried out at once and notify Headquarters when complete.

No. 1 Company
to consist of - Capt. F. ANGEL
"A" & "C" Coys. less "C" Coy. signallers.

No. 2 Company
to consist of - Capt. E.G. de T. PERMEZEL
"B" & "D" Coys. less "D" Coy. signallers.

Platoons will be numbered 1 - 8.

"C" & "D" Coy. signallers will be attached to Headquarters signallers.

This new organisation will not come into being until further instructions are received.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) A.O. RIGG, Lieut.
Adjutant.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time.
1	File	-	
2 - 4	War Diary	-	
5	Brigade	Runner	
6	O.O.	"	
7	O.O. "A" Coy.	"	
8	" "B" "	"	
9	" "C" "	"	
10	" "D" "	"	
11	Sig. Off. "	"	
12	Intell. Off.	"	
13	Q.M.	"	
14	T.O.		
15 - 17	Spares.		

5th AUST. INF. BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 41.

APPENDIX 2

7/9/18.

Reference Maps - Sheets FRANCE 62 D 1:40,000.
FRANCE 62 C 1:40,000.

- 1. INFORMATION. The enemy is retiring on the Corps Front and is being pressed by our advanced guards. We have taken DOINGT, LA MESHIL, GRUNTEL and are on the western edge of APHIES.
- 2. INTENTION. The advance will be continued by the Divisions now in the line. On a date to be notified later the 1st Australian Division will pass through the 3rd Australian Division now in the line.

- 3. BOUNDARIES and OBJECTIVES.
 - (a) The boundaries of the 3rd Aust. Division are :-
 - Northern. A line through I.10.cent. - J.9.cent. - J.12 cent. - K.9.cent. - L.7.cent. - and L.11.cent.
 - Southern. A line through O.3.D.cent. - P.4.C.3.4. - Q.4.C.8.9. - Q.5.D.cent. - R.4.cent. - R.6.cent.
 - (b) Objectives will be :-
 - First. P.3.D.7.4. through G. in SARTIGNY. J.34.C.5.2. - J.24.A.5.9. - J.28.C.3.7. - J.21.B.2.5. - J.15.cent. - J.9.A.7.0.
 - Second. Q.2.A.6.1. - K.26.C.1.0. - K.19.B.3.4. - K.19.A.9.6. - K.7.A.2.0.
 - Third. Q.6.C.0.5. - K.36.A.7.3. - K.30.C.0.0. - K.30.C.1.9. - K.30.A.8.9. - K.24.C.8.9. - K.18.D.1.9. - K.12.A.7.8.
 - Fourth. R.4.C.7.2. - L.34.cent. - L.28.B.2.4. - L.22.D.4.7. - L.16.D.7.7. - L.10.B.3.0.
 - (c) It is probable that the Divisional Frontage will swing in an N.E. direction from the line VERMAND - ROISEL and the probable northern boundary of this Division will be K.11.C.1.1. - K.2.cent. F.30.A.0.8.

MOVES.

- 4. 1st Aust. Division will move forward to a position from which it can move to take up the advance.
 - (a) The 2nd A.I. Bde. Group will move by bus from the HAMEL area to the vicinity of CLERY or BUSSU on the 8th instant.
 - (b) Orders for the moves, quartering areas and transport of the Brigade group will be notified later.
 - (c) Debussing arrangements will depend upon the rate of the general advance, but it is probable that this Brigade Group will debus in the BUSSU area.
 - (d) The 1st Aust. Division will thereafter stage forward by march route on Leapfrog system.
 - (e) Transport will move by road, and as several moves may be expected, kits should be reduced to a minimum.
- 5. The 2nd A.I. Brigade Group will be composed as under :-
 - Headquarters 2nd A.I. Bde.
 - 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th Bns.; 2nd ALRM. Bty.
 - 2nd A.M.G. Coy.
 - 21st A.M.G. Coy.
 - 1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion.
 - 2nd Field Coy. A.E.
 - 2nd Aust. Field Amb.

- 6. ACCOMMODATION. Unit Commanders will upon arrival in new areas do their utmost to improve local shelters and sanitation.
- 7. GERMAN RUSES. (a) All troops will be warned constantly of the danger of booby traps, etc. (b) The enemy is leaving delayed-action shells in his ammunition dumps. It is not possible to distinguish these shells from others. Troops will therefore be specially warned to avoid quartering themselves near such dumps.
- 8. The Nucleus Battalion will not be reformed until further orders.
- 9. TRENCH SHELTERS. All Trench Shelters will be returned to the Area Commandant GAILY, before Units move out, receipts being obtained and held by Units.

10. ACKNOWLEDG E.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	Rumper	2	(Sgd) A.O. RING, Lieut.	Runner
3	Brigade	"	4	War Diary	"
7	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	8	O.C. "WB" Coy.	"
9	O.C. "C" "	"	10	O.C. "D" "	"
11	O.M.	"	12	T.O.	"
13	Sig. Officer.	"	14	Intell. Officer.	"
15	10 Spares.				

SECRET.

Copy No. ...

5th AUST. INF. BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 42.

Reference Sheets 62 D 1: 40,000.
620 1: 40,000.

7/9/18.

MOVE.

1. 2nd A.I. Bde. Group will move on the 8th Sept., 1918, from HAMEL area to PERONNE area.

METHOD OF MOVING. (a) 5th Bn., less Transport, will move to P.11.B.7.9. by march route. Bn. will form up on road with head of column at P.14.B.5.0. in the following order :- Hdqtrs., Band; ~~W.A. Coy., W.B. Coy., W.D. Coy.~~ W.A. Coy., Water Details, Police. Head of column will pass starting point (P.14.B.5.0.) at 9 a.m. (b) Bn. will be ready to embus at 10 a.m. at Embussing point (P.11.B.7.8.) and will move by bus to Debussing point (I.20.B.8.0.). 9

DISTANCES.

3. On the march the following distances will be maintained :-
Between Companies - 100 yards.

HALTS.

4. There will be halts of 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour.

TRANSPORT.

5. Will move via MORGOURT, PROYART - CHUIQUES - GAPPY - FRISE - FEULLERES - H.9 - H.10 - CLEARY - FOULLAUCOURT - and will be clear of MORGOURT by 10 a.m. Starting Point for Transport will be cross roads - Q.7.A.3.6. - and head of Transport column will pass this Starting Point at 7.15 a.m. Distances of 150 yards between Units. Each Unit will break up transport into three parts with 30 yards between each group. Horses will be watered between GAPPY and FRISE.

REPORTS.

6. To head of column.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) A. O. RIGG, Lieut. Adj.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	
2 - 4	War Diary	
5	Brigade	Runner
6	O.O.	"
7	O.C. W.A. Coy.	"
8	" W.B. "	"
9	" W.D. "	"
10	" W.D. "	"
11	Q.M.	"
12	T.O.	"
13	Sig. Off.	"
14	Intell. Off.	"
15 - 18	Spares.	

Copy No. ²₁BRIEF.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO ACCOMPANY BATTALION
OPERATION ORDER No. 42. 7/9/18.

- DRESS. (1) (a) Marching order with blanket rolled round pack.
(b) One iron ration, unexpended portion of day's ration, and full waterbottle will be carried by all ranks.
- S.A.A. (2) 120 rounds S.A.A. per man will be carried.
- LEWIS GUNS. (3) Lewis gun limbers will call at Company billets for Lewis guns at 5 p.m. on 7th inst.
- COOKERS. (4) Horses will call for cooks at 6 a.m. on 8th inst. Cookers will proceed with Transport.
- VALISES, REGTL. & COY. RECORD BOXES. (5) Officers' valises, Regtl. and Coy. record boxes will be stacked at Q.M. STORE by 5.30 a.m. on 8th.
- TRENCH SHELTERS. (6) All trench shelters and tents will be stacked near Bn. canteen by 7.15 a.m. on the 8th Sept. Sgt. CUNNINGHAM will give receipts to Units for shelters and tents returned. Tents and shelters will be returned to Area Commandant, GAILLY, by Sgt. CUNNINGHAM and 2 men from H.Q. Pioneers, and receipts in triplicate obtained.
- MEDICAL & MESS STORES. (7) ^{Sgt} Maltese Cart and Officers' Mess Cart will call at Battalion at 5.15 a.m. and must be loaded before 6 a.m. on the 8th inst.
- SIGNALLING GEAR. Limber for signalling gear will call at camp by 7 p.m. (8) on 7th inst.
- ROUTINE. (9) Routine for 8th inst. will be - Reveille 4.15 a.m.; breakfast 4.30 a.m.; sick parade 5 a.m.; dress for parade 8.30; quarter call 8.45; advance 8.55.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) A.C. RIGG, Lieut.
Adj.

AM 29

APPENDIX

Headquarters 5th Battalion A.I.F.
10/9/18.

NOMINAL ROLL OF NUCLEUS COMPANY.

The undermentioned Nucleus will report to Battalion Headquarters today at 2.30 p.m. with full marching order in readiness to proceed to 1st Australian Divisional Reinforcement Camp.-

"A" Company.

(a) Officers and other ranks actually proceeding to Nucleus.
1829 Sgt. Williams J. DCM
1537 Pte. Down L.D.
3689 T/Cpl Anderson W.H.
3861 Pte. Hicks R.
3128 " Hughes E.

(b) At Schools.
Lieut. Booth C.
35 Sgt. MacLeod J.
5359 L/Cpl Dixon L.R.
6866 Pte. Newman A.
6871 " Marston W.J.
2933 L/Cpl Slorach N.H.
1623b Pte. DeFonfs A.

(c) On leave.
~~Major Hastie T. MC~~
1207 Sgt. Allison M.R.
6978 Pte. Curran C.
Lieut. Ellison W.J.

"B" Company.

(a) Offs. & O.Rs. actually proceeding to Nucleus.
3448 Sgt. Mair E.G.
5868a L/Cpl Smith H.

(b) At Schools.
3782 Cpl. Dickson S.
3990 " Moore W.
(4479a L/Cpl Daxford T.R.)
(2071 Pte. Kildes S.T.)
(3885 " Kelly

(c) On leave.
~~3990 Cpl. Moore W.~~
On leave.

"C" Company.

(a) Offs. & O.Rs. actually proceeding to Nucleus.
3409 T/CSM Simpson J.
614 CQMS Bloustein H.M.
312 Sgt. Lewis T.A.
3484 Pte. May W.H.

(b) At schools.
Lieut. Thompson M.E.
6736 Pte. Dandy A.E.
1583 L/Cpl McBoin D.

(c) On leave.
1826 Pte. Williams A.

"D" Company.

(a) Offs. & O.Rs. actually proceeding to Nucleus.
4762a Sgt. Crookell A.F. MC
6708 Pte. Asher L.G.
612c L/Cpl Driden F.
2433 " Pilkington W.L.
6643 " Sims W.A. M.M.

(b) At Schools.
Lieut. Parker T.S.
" Meikle W.
258b Pte. Douglas R.R.
3995 " Kandy L.
908 L/Cpl Moxbray R.A.

(c) On leave.
Capt. Radetson S. DCM
2299B Pte. Coffey J.F.
6988a L/Cpl Bradley J.

Headquarters.

(a) Offs. & O.Rs. actually proceeding to Nucleus.

(b) At Schools.

(c) On leave.

Lieut. Cuzens N.W.
" Scates E.A.
5669 Pte. Clegg P.
4277 " Russell J.
3724 " Browning W.
3334 " Marsh M.G.
3467 " Fairbell R.
5245a Sgt. Watson J.

(Sgt) A.O.RIGG
LIEUT. & ADJUTANT

INSTRUCTIONS No. 1 ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH
BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 41.

APPENDIX

Reference Map Sheet 62 C.

10/9/18.

INFORMATION.

1. The Australian Corps was ordered on September 8th to establish itself along a general line HESSECOURT to VENDILLES and spur running South of VENDILLES, maintaining touch with enemy by means of mounted and dismounted patrols.

There are three lines upon which resistance may be expected :-

1. HARQICOURT, to LE VERQUIER to MAISSEMY to HOLNON line.
2. ~~LE VERQUIER to MAISSEMY to HOLNON line to the old~~
2. The old British line, to VILERETT to PONTREUT to FAYET.
3. The HINDENBERG line.

BOUNDARIES.

2. The Northern boundary of the Divisional sector is amended as follows :- From K.11.A.C.O. forward, the boundary will be a line of the river COLOGNE as far as TEMPLEUX and LE GUERARD which is inclusive of the Division, thence from F. 26.D.5.O. the boundary runs due East along the grid line to F. 20.C.O.O..

The above boundary comes into force forthwith and maps will be amended accordingly.

the sector

RELIEF.

3. The 1st Aust. Division will take over/ from the 3rd
 - (a) Australian Division on the night 10/11th September.
 - (b) The 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. will remain in Reserve.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sd) A/O. RIGG, Lieut. Adjt.

Distribution. - To all recipients of B.O.O. 41.

BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 43.

Reference Sheet 62 C. 1 : 40/000.

MOVE.

1. 2nd A.I/ BCo. will move from present area to TINCOURT area on (a) the 11th inst. by march route. (b) 5th Bn. will move from present area to camp at J.28.A.

STARTING POINT.

2. Head of column will pass Starting point I.9.C.O.4. at 7.45 a.m. and head of column will pass road junction at I.22.D.7.4. at 8.21 a.m.

ROUTE.

3. Starting point -(I.22.D.7.4.) - DOINGT - BUIRE - to J.28.A.

ORDER OF MARCH.

4. Bn. will form up in column of route in the following order on road in I.8.D. with head of column at starting point at 7.40 a.m. - Hdqtrs., Band, "B", "C", "D" Coys., Water details and Police.

DISTANCES.

5. The following distances will be maintained -
 - Between Battalions 300 yards
 - " Coys. 100 yards
 - " Bn. and Transport 100 yards.

HALTS.

6. There will be halts of 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour after 8 a.m.

DRESS.

7. Marching order with blankets rolled, ground sheets folded under supporting straps.

TRANSPORT.

8. Transport, less cookers, will move in rear of Bn.

COOKERS.

9. Coy. cookers, with midday meal in course of preparation, will move in rear of COMPANY. Cookers will be ready to move at 7.15 a.m.

LEWIS GUNS.

10. Lewis guns will be carried on L.G. limbers. A.A. guns will be carried on Coy. cookers, & will be ready for instant use.

VALISES & RECORD BOXES.

11. Officers valises & Regtl. & Coy. record boxes will be stacked on railway line near road at Q.M. Store by 6.30 a.m.

MESS STORES & MEDICAL STORES.

12. Mess cart and Maltese cart must be loaded and ready to move by 7.15 a.m.

ROUTINE.

13. Reveille 5.45 a.m.; breakfast 6; sick parade 6.30; dress for parade 7.15; quarter call 7.30; advance 7.40; thence as usual.

REPORTS.

14. To head of column.

COMPLETION OF MOVE.

15. Coys. will notify Bn. Hdqtrs. when they are settled in new area.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) AOO. RIGG, Lieut. Adjutant.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Time
1	File		
2 - 4	War Diary		
5	Brigade	Runner	9.30
6	C.O.	"	
7	O.C. "A" Coy.	"	
8	" "B" "	"	
9	" "C" "	"	
10	" "D" "	"	
11	Q.L.	"	
12	T.O.	"	
13	Stk. Off.	"	
14	Intell. Off.	"	
15	RSM.	"	
16 - 18	SPARES.		

Reference Sheet 62C. N.E. 1/20,000.

14/9/18.

- RELIEF. 1. (a) 2nd A.I. Bde. will relieve the 1st A.I. Bde. in the line on the night 14/15th inst.
(b) 5th Bn. will relieve 3rd Bn. in the Support Left position.
"B" Coy. 5th Bn. will relieve "A" Coy. 3rd Bn.
"C" " " do. "C" & "D" "
"D" " " do. "D" "
- BOUNDARIES. (a) Boundaries will be adjusted on the night 14/15th as follows :- Northern Divisional Boundary. - East and West grid lines between Square L.1 and L.7. as far East as L.3.C.0.0. thence to F.29.C.8.0., then East and West grid line between Squares F.29 and L.5.
Southern Boundary. - Line drawn from K.36.D.0.0. to L.23.C.0.8. thence to C.20.A.0.5.
(b) Inter-battalion boundary will be a line through K.24. central - L.19.B.0.5. - L.15.D.0.0.
- DEFENCE SCHEMES, MAPS, ETC. (a) Disposition maps and Defence schemes will
3. be taken over by relieving companies.
(b) S.O.S. signals, ammunition, and trench stores will be taken over and receipts given. 2 copies of these receipts will be forwarded to reach Bn. Hdqtrs. by 8 a.m. on the 15th inst
- MOVE. 4. Coys. will assemble opposite their billets in column of route & ready to move at 7.30 p.m. in the following order - Hdqtrs., "B" & "C"; "D" Coys.
- DISTANCES. 5. Following distances will be maintained -
Between Coys. 100 yards - Between platoons 50 yards.
- DRESS. 6. Fighting order.
- ROUTE. 7. Present camp to road J.28.A. - J.28.B. - to TINCOURT - road junction J.24.D.5.5. to HAMELET to K.22.A. & B., to K.23.A.3.7. where guides will meet Coys.
- COMPLETION OF MOVE. Will be notified to Bn. Hdqtrs. by sending by wire the
8. code word EDINBURGH.
- HEADQUARTERS. Battalion Hdqtrs. will be located at K.23.A.3.7.
9. Bde. do. do K.27.A.6.6.
- LEWIS GUNS & BLANKETS. L.G. limbers will report to Coys. at 7.15 p.m. to
10. carry Coy. L.Gs. and blankets. Blankets will be rolled in bundles of 10 and clearly marked.
- RATION DUMP. Will be located at Battalion Hdqtrs.
11.
- S.A.A. 12. Each man will carry 100 rounds extra S.A.A.
- STRETCHERS. Each Coy. will draw 2 stretchers from the RAP; the remaining
13. stretchers from AMC stores will be carried on H.Q. limber.
- SIGNALLING GEAR. One limber will report to Bn. Hdqtrs. at 7.15 p.m. to convey
14. signalling gear, AMC gear, etc., to Bn. Hdqtrs.
- VALISES, PACKS, HATS, BAND INSTRUMENTS. Packs clearly marked will be dumped
15. at QM Store by 6.30 p.m. Hats placed in bags and labelled with name of Coy. will be dumped at same time; Band instruments will be dumped at QM Store by 6.30 p.m.; also Officers valises.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) A.O. RIGG, Lieut. Adjt.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.	Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File		2 - 4	War Diary	
5	Brigade	Runner	6	C.O.	
7.	O.C; "B" Coy.	"	8	"C" Coy.	Runner
9	"D" "	"	10	QM & TO	
11	Sig. Off.	"	12	Intell. Off.	

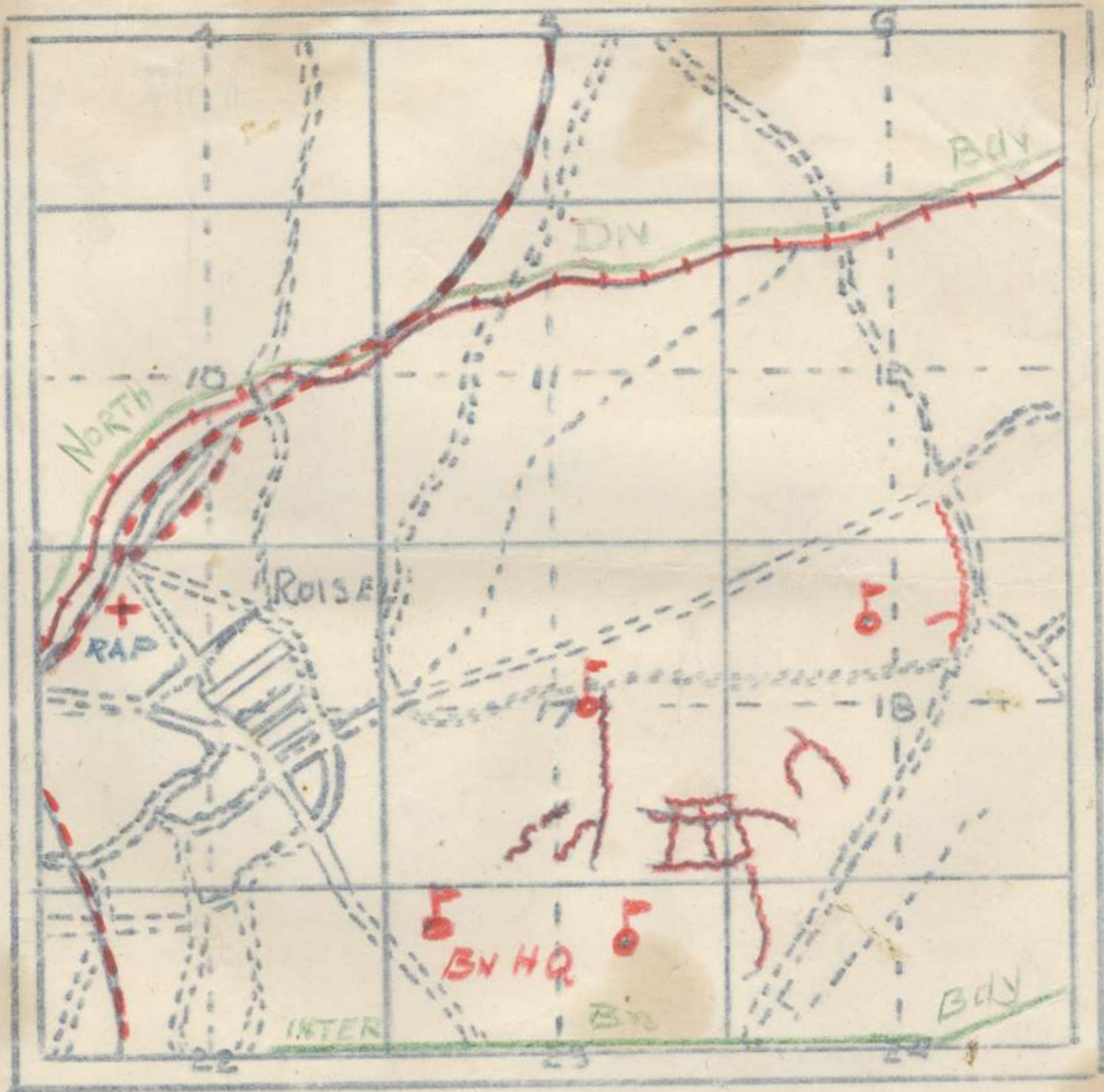
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5th Aust Battalion

G2° N E K

Disposition Map



29

Reference Sheets 62 C. N.E. and 62 B. N.W. 1:20,000. & map as issued.

- (1) (a) The 1st Australian Division will attack the enemy's defensive position in front of the HINDENBURG line in conjunction with the 4th Aust. Division on the Right, and the 74th Division on the Left.
- ↔ (b) Date and Zero hour to be notified later.
- (2) Boundaries and objectives will be ^{as} shown on map as issued.
- (3) (a) The 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde. will attack on the Right; 1st Bde. on the Left
(b) One troop of Light Horse will be attached to each attacking Brigade.
- (4) (a) The 2nd A.I. Bde. will remain in Reserve but the 5th and 6th Bns. will be prepared to move forward immediately the attack is launched.
(b) The 5th Bn. will, if ordered to move, move forward with 2 Coys. (a "C" & "D" Coys.) in the front line; "C" Coy. on the Left; "B" Coy. will move in support. Coys. will move in artillery formation.
(c) All men will be ready to move forward in Battle order as per S.S. 135, with the exception of ground flares.
(d) Blankets will be collected and dumped by Coys. at a Coy. dump and 1 man left in charge.
- (5) (a) Five tanks will operate on the Divisional sector.
(b) Dummy tanks will also be employed.
(c) Tank approaches can be distinguished by a Black line down the centre of the tape.
- (6) Position of Battle Headquarters will be -
- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde. | J.25.C.5.7. |
| 1st do | K.13.D.3.9. |
| 2nd do | K.27.A.6.6. |
- (7) (a) Prisoners of War Cage will be established on the forward slope in K.27.B.
(b) When the situation permits the advanced dressing station will be established at K.k5.C.1.8. The present A.D.S. at J.24.A.5.9. will continue to be manned.
- (8) Watches will be synchronized on the evening of the day prior to ZERO.
- (9) (a) CONTACT AEROPLANES will carry rectangular black panels 2' by 1' on both lower planes about 3' from the fuselage.
(b) Flares will be called for by the aeroplane sounding a succession of "A's" on the Klaxon horn and firing a white Very light.
(c) Infantry in the most advanced positions of the line battalions only, will indicate their position to the contact machines.
(d) Troops in the front line, even after some days subsequent to operations, will be provided with flares and discs, so that positions may be signalled when called for to the ordinary morning and evening contact planes.
- (10) (a) Counter-attack aeroplanes will be constantly in the air from ZERO onwards.
(b) In the case of a counter-attack developing, the plane will fire a WHITE parachute flare in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter-attack, for the information of the infantry.
- (11) Tank Liaison aeroplanes will be marked by a black band on the tail.
- (12) Telephone precautions. Every precaution will be taken to prevent unauthorised telephone conversations either in our present forward area or at a later date when we are occupying positions in close contact with the HINDENBURG line.

P.F.O.

(13) S.O.S. signal on the Army front is a rifle grenade signal RED over RED over RED.

(14) Line of Exploitation. - It is to be clearly understood that the BLUE line is to be attained solely by means of exploitation. The RED line is to be consolidated as a main line of resistance and the main object of exploitation is to secure observation over the valleys running Eastward from the line of squares E.1.7. and 14.

(15) A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T.

((Sgd) A.O. RAGG, Lieut. Adjt.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	
2	War Diary	
5	"B" Coy.	Runner
6	"C" "	"
7	"D" "	"
8	R.M.O.	"

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ABBEYDUN

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Appendix 9

Headquarters, 5th Battalion, A.I.F.
21/9/18. APPENDIX 9 18

The following letter forwarded by 4th Army is forwarded for your information.

Further and more detailed reports are now to hand concerning yesterday's operations. 6th Division on right of 9th Corps was heavily shelled with gas and other natures during assembly and throughout attack, was under a very heavy fire from artillery and M.G.s, notwithstanding this, the troops pushed on and maintained their gains. The 1st Division likewise met with heavy resistance on the right, but the left in touch with Australians pushed on to the outposts of the HINDENBERG LINE.

PONTRU and EATHAUCOURT were captured. 4th and 1st Aust. Divisions attacking side by side once more proved the moral and physical domination of the Australian over the German. In many cases the mere sight of the Australians with the accompanying tanks was sufficient to cause the surrender of many of the enemy without any resistance being offered. In other cases where the fighting ensued it was invariably to the advantage of the Australians. The Australian Corps captured its most distant objective, that is, the most advanced HINDENBERG LINE along almost the whole Australian Corps front, also the villages of LE VERGERIER, VILLRET, HARGICOURT and strong position round COLOGNE FARM, GRAND BRIEL FARM, and ASCENSION FARM. 3rd A.I.Bde. alone captured 800 prisoners (note by 1st Aust. Div.-unwdd. captures are as follows - First Aust. Inf. Bde. 39 officers - 826 O.R.s. 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde. 20 Officers 644 O.R.s). Aust. Corps captures for the 18th estimated at 4000 prisoners 40 guns and immense quantity of M.G.s.

Total casualties do not exceed 1200.

74th, 18th, 12th and 58th Divisions of the 3rd Corps fought with great gallantry and captured strongly fortified villages of TEMPLEUX, LE GUERARD, BASSE BOULOGNE and RONSSOY EPEHY and PEIZIERE respectively, in which heavy fighting took place. The German Alpine Corps resisted with great determination but was outfought by the English. A post of this Corps on the outskirts of EPEHY consisting of 3 Officers and 45 O.R.s fought on till 7.45 p.m. by which hour only 17 survivors remained unwounded. 3rd Corps was very materially assisted in the North by the 21st Division of the 5th Corps. 3rd Corps during the 18th captured 2300 prisoners and 10 guns. Total Prisoners for the 4th Army on the 18th and 19th estimated at 8000."

Lieut-Colonel,
Commanding 5th Battalion, A.I.F.

Reference VILLERET 1/20,000.

APPENDIX

- (1) 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve the 1st Aust. Inf. Bde. in the left sub-sector of the 1st Aust. Divisional sector on night 21st/22nd September.
- (2) 5th Bn. will relieve 1 Coy. of the 3rd Bn. on the Right and 2 Coys. of the 1st Bn. on the Left.
 "D" Coy. will take over from 1 Coy. of 3rd Bn. on Right.
 "B" do do 1st Bn. in Centre.
 "C" do do do on Left.
- (3) (a) Inter-Bn. boundary will be Grid line running E. and W. through G.2. central. 6th Bn. in line Right, 5th Bn. in line Left.
 (b) "D" Coy. 5th Bn. will establish joint post at G.2.A.8.0.
- (4) Advance parties will be sent into all posts at G.2.A.8.0. on 19/20th Sept.
- (5) All maps, plans of work, photos.; S.A.A. and trench stores will be exchanged with outgoing Units and receipts in duplicate sent to Bn. Hqtrs. by first runner.
- (6) Company Commanders' disposition sketches (signed) will be forwarded to reach Battalion Headquarters by first runner on 2nd September.
- (7) Completion of relief will be notified to Battalion Headquarters. by sending by wire the code word "OMEGA".
- (8) Companies will move in the following order - "C"; "B" & "D" Coys.
 "C" Coy. will move at 7 p.m.; "B" Coy. at 7.15; "D" Coy. at 7.30;
 R.A.P. at 7.30.
- (9) Route. - Present location, HESBICOURT - road through L.14. Central; L.10.A.1.2., where Coys. will meet guides (1 per platoon).
- (10) Brigade Headquarters will be at L.10.A.1.2. (HIGSON Quarries).
 Battalion do L.5.B.6.0.
 R.A.P. L.5.B.3.3.
- (11) Liaison. - Close liaison must be maintained with flank units.
- (12) Blankets will be rolled in bundles of 10, clearly marked, and dumped at Bn. and Coy. dumps for removal to Transport lines. COMSS. and Assts. will be responsible for blankets.
- (13) Lewis guns will be carried by limber to Brigade Hqtrs. at L.10.A.1.2. from which place they will be carried by Lewis gunners.
- (14) Dress. - Battle order; extra S.A.A.; 2 bombs per man, iron ration and unconsumed portion of day's rations and waterbottles filled. Greatcoat and groundsheet to be carried.
- (15) Rations will be dumped at Battalion Hqtrs. and Coys. may be required to send ration parties to Headquarters? If required these parties must be reduced to a minimum.
- (16) Mess cart for Hqtrs., 1 limber per Coy. and Maltese cart for R.A.P. will report before 7 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

(Sgd) A.C. RIGG, Lieut. Adjt.

Copy No.	To whom.	Method.
1	File	
2 - 4	War Diary	
5 See.	Brigade	Runner
6	"B" Coy.	"
7	"C" "	"
8	"D" "	"
9	QM & TO.	"
10	Sig. & Intell. Offs.	"

Nominal Roll of Personnel who proceeded to
Australia on Transport Duty
on 22/9/18.

APPENDIX //

753 R.Q.M.S. Wall A.G.
614 C.Q.M.S. Bloustein H.M.
864 T/CQMS. Woolmer C.E.
919 Sgt. Kelly H.
76 " Andrews G.H.
201 " Cunningham M.D.
1168 " Williams S.L. DCM MM
157a " McTigue J.J.
312 " Lewis T.A.
126 Cpl. Hall A.J.
~~988 Sgt. Morrison~~
906 Cpl. Mann P.R.
120 " Atkins E.
111 " Booley G.
525 L/Cpl. Volum J.H.G.
284 " Piper V.W.
661 " Birch W.H.
340 Dvr. Smith A.J.F.
533 Pte. Symonds F.H.
9 Dvr. Clark E.
234 Pte. Schascighini T.
799 " Honey A.L.
221 " White W.D.
991 " Kelly R.A.
1012 " Skipsey E.

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Scale 1 10000

FRANCE

HESBÉCOURT

DISPOSITION MAP

PARTS OF

SHEETS 62^c NE & 62^b NW

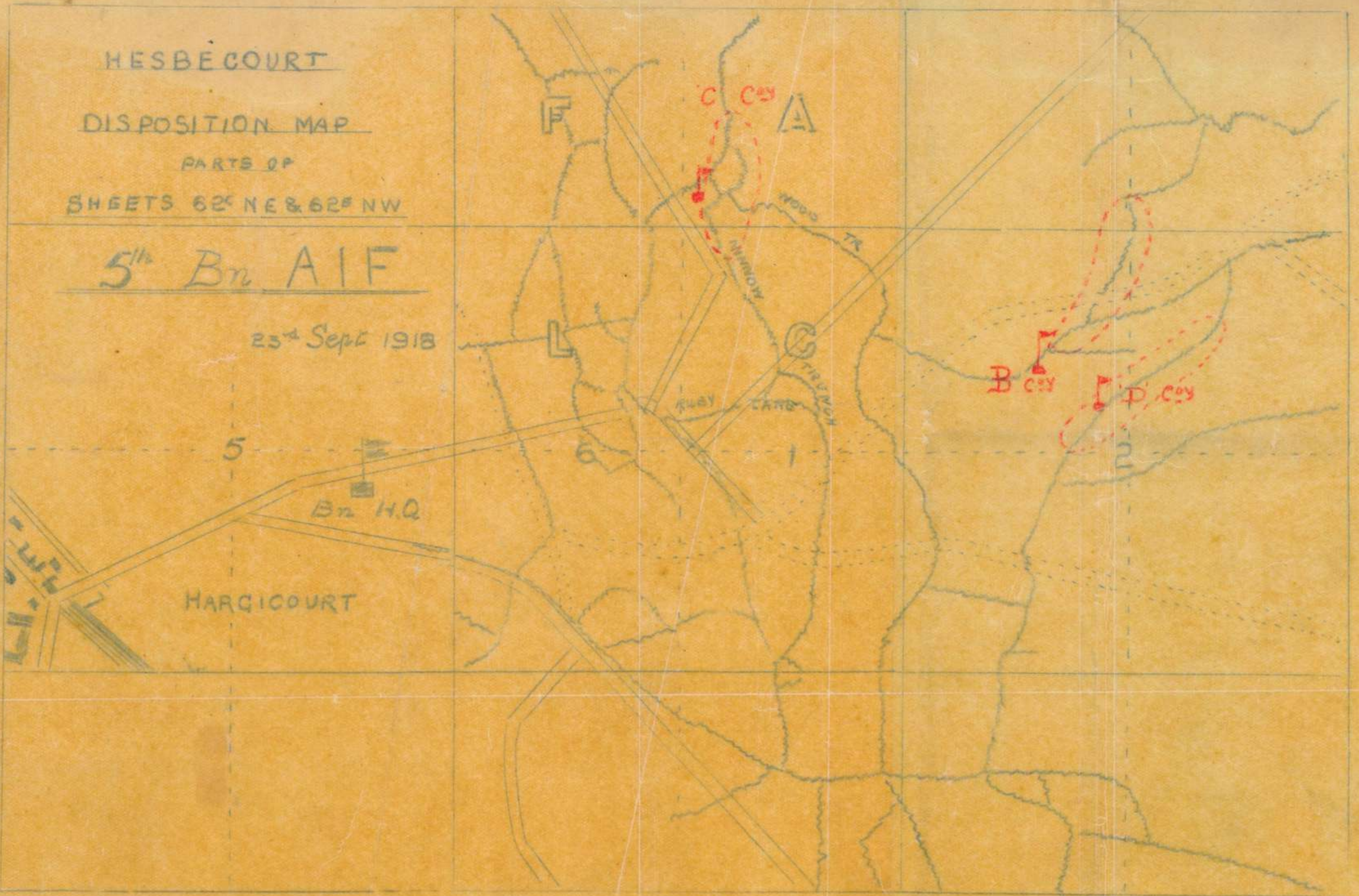
5th Bn AIF

25th Sept 1918

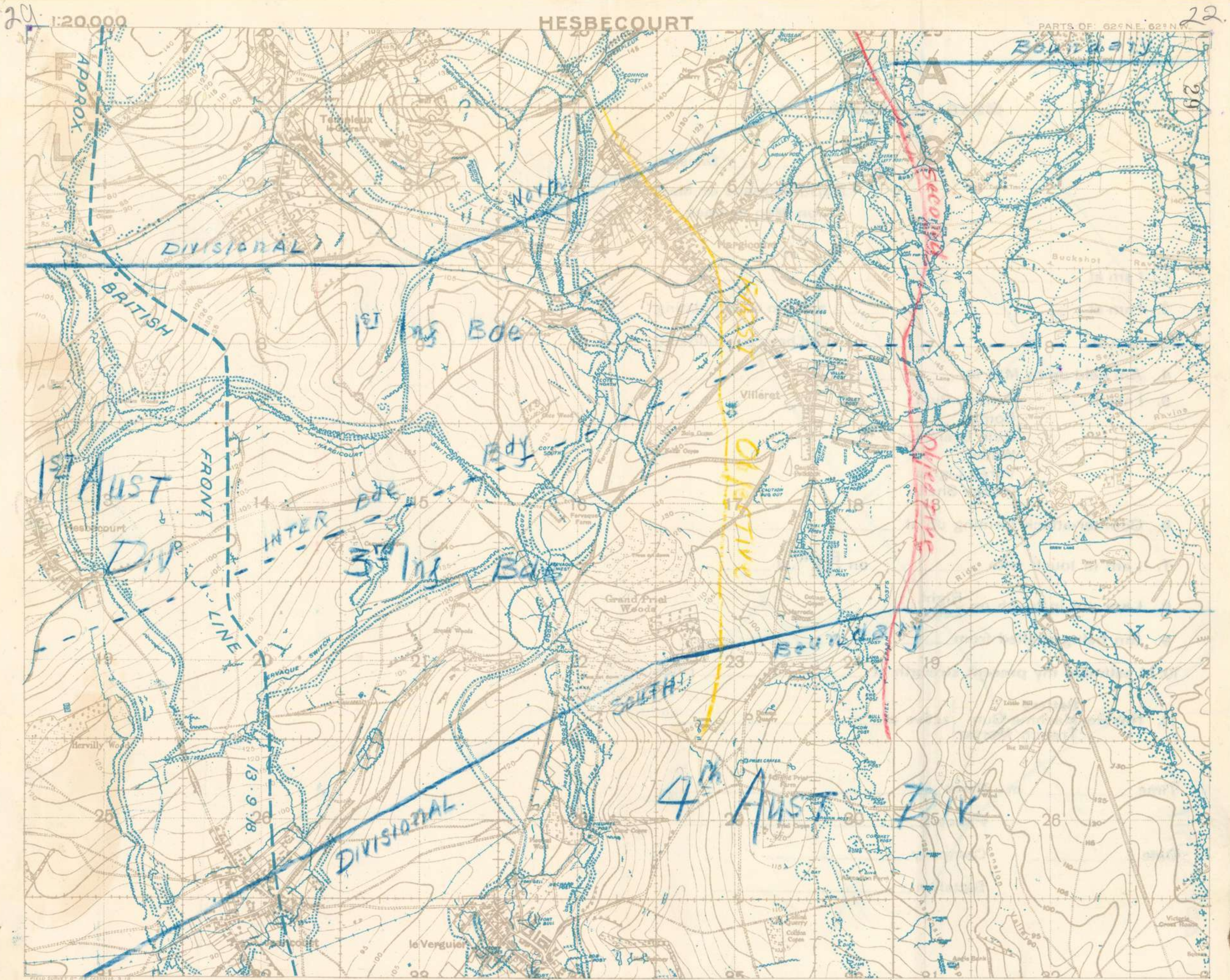
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Bn HQ

HARGICOURT



29



MESSAGE FORM.

Div _____
Map Reference or
on Map at Bac _____

1. I am at _____
2. I am at _____ and am consolidating _____
3. I am at _____ and have consolidated _____
4. Am held up by M.G. at _____
5. I need :
Ammunition
Bombs
Rifle Grenades
Water
Verey Lights
Stokes Shells

6. Counter-attack forming up at _____

7. I am in touch with _____ on Right at _____ on Left

8. I am not in touch on Right. Left.

9. Am being shelled from _____

10. I estimate my present strength at _____

11. Hostile

Battery	} active at _____
Machine Gun	
Trench Mortar	

Time _____ m. Name _____
Platoon _____
Company _____
Battalion _____

APPENDIX 2

Reference Sheet 62 C. 1/40,000.

1. 2nd A.I.Bde. will be relieved in the Left sub-sector of the 1st Aust. Div. Sector on the night 23/24th September by No. 1 Battalion 59th American Brigade.
2. On relief the 2nd A.I.Bde. will move to TINCOURT area.
3. "D" Coy. 5th Bn. will be relieved by No. 2 platoon "D" Coy. No. 1 Bn.
 "B" " " " " " " No. 4 " "
 "C" " " " " " " No. 3 " "
 Coy. of 8th Bn. on our Left centre will be relieved by No. 1 Platoon, "D" Coy. No. 1 Battalion.
- "D" Coy. (American) Headquarters will be established at "B" Coy. (5th Bn. Hdqtrs.) (G.2.A.5.3.)
4. Company Commanders will ensure that relief is covered adequately by patrols.
5. Each Coy. will send 2 Guides to report to B.H.Q. at 7 p.m.
6. All maps, aerial photos.; S.O.S. signals, extra S.A.A. & Bombs will be handed over to incoming Unit and receipts obtained in triplicate, one copy of which will be handed to incoming Unit and 2 copies forwarded to B.H.Q.
7. 1 Officer per Coy.; 1 N.C.O. and 1 man per platoon of 5th Bn. will remain with incoming Unit until the morning of the 25th Sept. when they will rejoin their respective Coys. in the TINCOURT area.
8. Completion of relief will be notified by wiring the code word "ALPHA" and confirming in writing.
9. After relief Coys. will move to X road at K.12.D. central (previous Hdqtrs. of "B" Coy.) by platoons and form up as Coys. From X roads Coys. will move with platoons at 100 yards distance via ROISEL - MARQUAIX - HAMEL - TINCOURT (via main road).
10. Guides will meet Coys. on main road before arrival at TINCOURT.
11. LEWIS GUNS.- 1 Limber per Coy. will be available for Coys. at B.H.Q. to convey Lewis guns. Rear half of limber may be used to convey greatcoats.
12. Maltese cart will report to R.A.P. shortly after dark. 1 limber will report to B.H.Q. at same time to convey mess stores, signalling gear, &c.
13. Horses for mounted officers will be kept at Bde.H.Q? (L.10.A.1.2.) to await the arrival of Officers.
14. Battle Stores will be handed over to Advanced Ordnance Dump, HAMEL - by Q.M.

15. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Copy No.	
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6	
7	
8	
9	

(Sgd) A.O. RIGG, Lieut. & Adjt.
 Method.

To whom.	
File	
War Diary	
"B" Coy.	
"C" "	
"D" "	
R.M.O.	
Bde.H.Q.	

- MOVE. 29 (1) (a) The 2nd A.I. Bde. Group will move from the TINCOURT area to the AILLY-LE-HAUT CLOCHER area on the 25th and 26th September.
 (b) The 5th Bn., less Transport, will move to the new area by rail on the morning of the 26th inst. ~~entraining~~ entraining at TINCOURT ~~and detraining~~ at 12 noon and detraining at LONGPRE LES CORPS SAINTS.

- TRANSPORT. Transport vehicles as under will entrain at LA CHAPELLETTE
 (2) on 25th September :-
 2 cooks per Battalion
 1 Officers Mess cart
 2 water carts
 1 limber

Transport other than that mentioned above will proceed by road on 25th inst. under the command of the Acting Bde. T.O. (Lt. JARDINE 7th Bn.). Order of march will be as follows (5th - 6th - 8th & 7th Bns.; Bde? Hqs., 2nd M.G. Coy.; 21st M.G. Coy.; 2nd Field Coy.; 2nd Field Ambulance. Stages will be night 25/26th inst. CERISY; night 26/27th VAUX-EN-AMIENOIS. Time of passing Starting Point will be 9 a.m. Starting Point will be J.33.A.2.O., Sheet 62 C. NE.

- ORDER OF MARCH. Battalion will form up in column of route on road in
 (3) present camp ~~in~~ at 11 a.m. in the following order.-
 Band, Headquarters, "B" "C" "D" Coys., Guard, Police.
 Dress - Full Marching Order, with ground sheet rolled round blanket.

- DISTANCES. (4) On the march to TINCOURT a minimum distance of 200 yards will be maintained between Companies. On arrival in new area, normal distances will be maintained on the march.

ENTRAINING OFFICERS.

- (5) Brigade Entraining Officer - Capt. E. G. deT. PERMEZEL.
 Battalion Entraining Officer - Lieut. F. LANGFORD.

TRAIN DISCIPLINE.

- (6) No one will be allowed to leave the train without orders from O.C. Train. No fires will be lit in the trucks and no one is allowed to ride on the outside of the trucks.
 On arrival at detraining station, when ordered to do so, troops will fall out and form up in fours facing the entrance. *engine.*

BILLETING OFFICER

- AND PARTY. (7) Lieut. E. W. CHENU and 1 N.C.O. per Coy. will proceed by the first train as billeting party.

- TRENCH SHELTERS. All trench shelters will be stacked at Q.M. Store by
 (8) 9.30 a.m. Sgt. BALDWIL will return these to the Area Commandant at TINCOURT and ~~receive~~ obtain receipts in duplicate.

- VALISES, RECORD BOXES. &c. (9) will be stacked at Q.M. Store by 10 a.m.

- CLEANLINESS CERTIFICATES. (10) Coys. will certify that their billets have been left in a clean and sanitary condition by 11 a.m. Lieut. M. E. THOMPSON will act as Orderly Officer to-day and, accompanied by the M.O., will inspect the camp at 11 a.m.

- ENTRAINING STATES. (11) Companies will furnish entraining states to B.O.R. by 10.30 a.m.

- REPORTS. (12) To head of column.

(Sgd.) A. O. RIGG, Captain,

A
 adjutant; A

Headquarters 5th Battalion A.I.F.
29/9/18.

5th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

Hours of Training - Morning 9 - 12 noon.
Afternoon 2 - 4 pm.

30th September.

Battalion Fall In and Inspection; Address by Bishop LORIG;
Bathing parade; Re-organisation of Coy's, Platoons and
Sections.

1st October.

Battalion Fall In and Inspection, Musketry & Bayonet Fighting
at Range "A". Range is situated in the valley running from
VILMERS towards ALBY to BOUGHON. Assault course is in rear of
the range. Strict march discipline to be maintained on march
to and from rifle range.

2nd October.

Battalion Fall In and Ceremonial; 1/2 hr Physical training;
1 hour Squad and Platoon drill; 1/2 hr Musketry elementary;
1/2 hr Sentry drill and duties of sentry.

3rd October.

Battalion Fall In and Ceremonial;
Musketry and Bayonet Fighting at Range "A".

4th October.

Battalion Fall In and Ceremonial; Musketry and Bayonet
Fighting at Range "A".

5th October.

Battalion Fall In and Ceremonial; 1/2 hr Squad and Platoon drill;
1/2 hr Physical training.; 1/2 hr Sentry drill and duties of
sentries.; 1/2 hr Marching and march discipline.

-:-:-:-

AUSTRALIAN CORPS WEEKLY SUMMARY
OF MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING 18th SEPTEMBER 1918.

All items, unless expressly stated, are taken from the Army Intelligence Summary.

1. GERMAN MAN POWER.

National Auxiliary Service. The following evidence as to the use of men, women and boys for National Auxiliary Service (Nationalist) to replace men combed out for the infantry has been obtained.

(a) A captured letter, written from BERLIN on 7th August, states that the youths of the 1921 class must report for duty with the National Auxiliary Service.

(b) A captured letter from a village in the RHINELAND, dated 7th July, 1918, says that all schoolboys not under 15 years of age, are to go to the SEDAN area to be employed in auxiliary services until the middle of October.

(c) A captured letter, written from SEDAN on 18th August, 1918, shows that the writer is a female assistant (Helferin) in the 54th Electrical Power Detachment.

(d) On the 17th August 1918, several thousands of German women were reported to have arrived in GHEENT during the preceding week, and a total of about 15,000 women were expected shortly to replace men employed in the L. of C. area of the Fourth German Army.

In addition to the women a number of National Auxiliary men were expected.

(e) According to the statements of an Infantry prisoner, formerly in the Signal service, large numbers of the men at BEVERLOO had been combed out from the Signal Service owing to an extensive system of reliefs by female telephonists. These girls are specially trained in Germany and would appear to be employed as far forward as Army H.Q. Prisoner mentions having seen these girls at the H.Q. of the Eighteenth German Army at HALL.

2. CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

The following extracts are from Order of the 122 FUSILIER Regt., 243rd Divn., dated 30-8-18.:-

Telephone Message to General Staff, 11th Corps. -- "General is going to supply wooden models of the most usual types of enemy tanks. These are to be used for instruction of troops with regard to the most vulnerable points of the tanks, and also as targets to be engaged by the artillery and infantry (M.G., Light T., concentrated charges) incident to be submitted by wire.

(sgd.) A. O. K. 2.

2nd Minute. GENERAL STAFF, 11th ARMY CORPS.

Passed to 243rd Divn. for information.

12 models have been indented for by the General Staff. Of these one is intended for every resting Battalion of the Division in the line, and one for every Infantry Regt. of the Attack Divn. The rest will be placed at the disposal of the Machine Gun School and the Artillery Range.

(sgd.) Freiherr von SALTER.

Telephone Message to 243rd Division:- "The Army directs as follows: In order to make the fighting against Tanks more effective the following is ordered:- In the forward battle zone anti-tank groups or specially energetic leaders are to be formed. These will consist of anti-tank guns, anti-tank rifles, and M.W. The various weapons of these groups need not be close together, but they must be able to render mutual support within their group, except in the case of anti-tank rifles which must be in groups of 4 to 6. Groups are to be distributed in depth in the battle zone. The first duty of the field artillery is to keep off the enemy's tanks. To this all other duties give way.

2.

Secret Memo. from WAR MINISTRY, BERLIN, dated 22nd June, 1918.:

"Recently it has been continually stated that the behavior of young Officers towards Sergt.-Major Lieuts. is in some cases open to complaint. The S.M. Lieuts. who are for the most part advanced in age, complain that they are treated with a certain contempt by quite young Officers in their social relations with them in the Officers Mess, and when they greet them in the street etc. - behavior which must wound them in their capacity of Officers with the rank of Lieut.

Isolated shortcomings in the conduct of single S.M. Lieuts. must not be laid to the prejudice of the whole class. Particularly they do not give young officers the right to treat with a certain contempt a large number of distinguished and brave S.M. Lieuts. who behave themselves when off duty in an unexceptional manner, and who enjoy their comrades greatest respect and esteem.

It must be expected that the young Officers will behave politely and respectfully towards the S.M. Lieuts., for the most part much older men, but they will immediately and tactfully resent any tactlessness or coarse blunders, or report them to the proper authorities. It is asked that Officers may be instructed accordingly. (Copies Enclosed)

(Sgd.) von STEIN.

Extract from ARMY ORDER, 2nd Army, dated 25-8-18:-

It is absolutely incomprehensible and inconceivable rumors have been spread about behind the front during the last few days by people who have lost their nerves. People with anxious temperaments saw everywhere squadrons of tanks, masses of cavalry, thick lines of enemy infantry. It is in fact high time that our old battle-experienced soldiers spoke seriously to these cowards and weaklings and told them of the deeds that are done in the front line. Tanks are no bogey to the front line troops who have the artillery close behind them. For instance, a squadron Sergt.-Major with his gun shot four tanks out; a battery shot 14 out; and a single division in one day, shot 40 out. In another place a clever corporal climbed on to a tank and did in the crew with revolver shots, firing through the sight aperture. A Lance Corporal was successful in putting a tank out of action with a hand grenade.

The English cavalry, which has been put in many times, has been shot together and reduced to a minimum by our infantry and artillery. Our riflemen and machine gunners never had better targets.

With regard to the enemy's infantry, stress must again be laid on the fact that in most cases they have only deceived drafts of 18 year old men. Therefore, there are no reasons for any panic. On the contrary, the troops in the front line never considered themselves victors in the way that they have at present.

This Army Order is to be read to all units.

(Sgd.) von der MARWITZ.

Cavalry Genl. and Adj. General.

Extract from Order of the 2nd Guard Division, 27-8-18.:-

According to reports to Army Headquarters the infantry of other divisions in the battle hardly made any use of their rifles. The whole defence has been left to the machine guns and artillery. A large number of cases have also been substantiated in which companies of infantry have passed through the artillery lines and have not observed the request of the artillery to protect them. The strongest measures will be taken by the most energetic means to combat conduct betraying such negligence of duty. By order of the Army, artillery officers are empowered to find out the name of every unit and commander who refuse protection to the artillery, and to report them. Men who come back from the front and are met ~~wxx~~ by the military police without their arms are to be punished by Court Martial.

Leaders are to use every opportunity for the delivery of con-

3.

trolled fire (rifle). Control is to be kept by regiment and battalion commanders. I particularly call to mind in this respect, the special necessity in defensive warfare of having reliable N.C. Cs. behind the front. It must be made absolutely clear to the men at every opportunity that their good rifle keeps the enemy from their necks, and the attacking enemy must be shot down.
(Sgd.) von FRIEDEBURG.

Extract from Order of the 2nd Guard Division, 27-8-18.:-

The second Army will retire with a view to economy of its forces to a rear and more favorable position. The retirement will be made in one movement during the night 27th/28th August.

3. CONTROL OF SIGNAL TRAFFIC.

The following is an extract from an order issued by the IIIrd Bavarian Corps on 7th May 1918 regarding the above:-

"The use of names (in clear) enables the enemy to obtain information regarding reliefs and the arrival of additional troops. We ourselves have been able by this means to obtain the first indication of the enemy's reliefs."

4. DISBANDING OF THE 109th DIVISION.

Prisoners of the 113th Divn. captured on 11th September, in the HAVRINCOURT area, state that they formerly belonged to the 26th Res. Inf. Regt. (109th Divn). They state that the 26th Res. Inf. Regt. was recently disbanded and drafted to the 36th Fusilier and 66th Inf. Regts. of the 113th Div.

A report from another source shows that elements of the 26th Res. Inf. Regt. were also drafted to the 27th Inf. Regt. (113th Divn.) The 26th Res. Inf. Regt. can therefore, be considered to have been broken up and drafted to the three regiments of the 113th Divn.

The 2nd Gren Regt. passed intact from the 109th Div. to the 3rd Res. Divn.

No information has been received as yet regarding the disbanding of the 376 Inf. Regt., the third Regt. of the 109th Divn, but it is probable that this Regiment has also been broken up.

Thus, a regiment having left the 109th Divn. intact, and another having been disbanded, this Division can be considered as broken up. This reduces the total number of German Divisions in the Western theatre to 192 Infantry and 4 dismounted Cavalry Divns, and raises the total number of Infantry battalions disbanded since the beginning of 1918 to 108.

5. EQUIPMENT OF ARMY FIELD ARTILLERY WITH MOTOR TRANSPORT.

A captured order, issued by the Crown Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies to the Second German Army, dated 21-6-18, states that a beginning has been made in the equipment of Army Field Artillery Regiments with motor transport, to facilitate their rapid transference independently of the railways. The 93rd Field Artillery Regiment has already been thus equipped, in combination with the 101st M.T. Echelon. Details of organisation are as follows:-

(a) The regiment consists of 3 Abteilungen, each of three 4-gun batteries, without ammunition wagons or light ammun. columns.

(b) The regiment has on charge 17 motor lorries for personnel and 27 motor lorries for the conveyance of the various supplies and for the transport of ammunition and supplies.

(c) The M.T. Echelon consists of a headquarters and 3 sections. Each section is intended for the conveyance of a field artillery Abteilung, and consists of 35 lorries, plus the necessary motor vehicles for personnel. The echelon is if necessary to be

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used for the conveyance of several regiments in succession.

(d) Should it not be used for this purpose, in accordance with orders from G.H.Q., it is placed at the disposal of the Army to which the Field Artillery Regiment equipment equipped with motor transport has been transferred, and will be used for purposes of ammunition supply. The special equipment of the vehicles must not suffer thereby.

(d). Battery positions should be selected for the regiment in the vicinity of good roads, so as to make the fullest use of the motor transport. Horses and teams must be provided as required for the reconnaissance and occupation of positions."

Further orders show that each Corps in the Second Army was to reconnoitre positions in its sector for one such Field Artillery Regiment, and in the LI Corps, positions for one Abteilung were to be reconnoitred in each divisional sector.

Positions were to be selected with a view to defence.

5. GERMAN REPORT ON BRITISH BATTERY POSITIONS.

The following extract from a report by the 214th Artillery Command (214th Divn) on the British Artillery Positions in front of the SIEGFRIED LINE on the front of the Second German Army shows the success obtained by some of our methods of constructing battery positions:-

"Almost without exception there were no dugouts for personnel at the battery positions. These dugouts were frequently sited to the rear and to the flanks at distances up to 300 yards from the battery position, in banks or trenches. In isolated cases the dugouts were arranged at right angles to the battery. Consequently though the positions showed clearly on air photographs, they were not considered to be battery positions, owing to their being at right angles to the front.

"Some batteries stood out in the open, sometimes even without any cover whatever, either natural or artificial. These guns were painted in various colors. They were invisible in air photographs. The enemy took particular care to suit his battery positions to the ground and the natural surroundings in which they were placed. The battery positions and living accommodation, which were constructed as inconspicuously as possible, were covered with the usual English means of obtaining cover from view (hemp net with colored rags attached to it) which made them extremely invisible from the air. In order to avoid unnecessary tracks, the positions were usually built contiguous to roads and tracks already in use. Ways of approach for vehicles and even footpaths were wired in so as to avoid any broadening of the tracks that would show clearly on air photographs".

6. CAPTURED ORDER.

LI Corps. Abt. Ia. Nr. 629., Corps H.Q., 1st August 1918.

"In order to render more effective the efforts which are being made to explain to the troops the reason for the preservation of secrecy and of camouflage in connection with our signal traffic, commanders have issued detailed written orders to even the smallest units. Several orders of this kind, in which reference is made to the advantage we are gaining from the interception of the enemy's signal traffic, have fallen into the hands of the enemy. The consequences of this are manifest in the striking improvement which has lately taken place in the telephone and wireless discipline of our enemies.

In future such orders must be circulated by word of mouth if their communication in writing cannot be avoided the written orders must afterwards be recalled. Troops are especially forbidden to make copies. Orders must not be circulated in writing.

8.

8. GERMAN AMMUNITION DUMP AT BRAY PREPARED FOR DEMOLITION.

The dump consists of a number of small sheds nearly all filled with trench munitions. In almost all of these were powerful demolition charges. The charges in many cases were not fitted up with fuses and detonators. Some of these charges were packed in their original wooden packing cases, and were easily visible. In other cases trench mortar bombs had been removed from their boxes and the demolition charge inserted. Near one of these a small friction fuse igniter was found. This is fired by means of pulling a wire loop. It is thought that the intention was to fix the fuse igniter with instantaneous fuse into the box in such a manner that the wire would be pulled to fire it by opening the lid.

All boxes, therefore, which showed any signs of having been previously opened should be handled with care, the lid being raised gently to make certain there is no resistance, and a piece of wire passed round under the lid to make sure that no igniter is attached. A number of stacks of explosive - Perdit or Boharit - had been prepared with detonators, instantaneous fuse and brass igniters; the latter has a firing pin with a loop at the end which on being pulled out fires the fuse. These assembled charges were wedged here and there among the ammunition, and should be examined carefully to make sure the loop of the firing pin is not tied to anything so that it will be pulled out when the charge is removed. None of those found, however, were actually tied in this manner, but undoubtedly that was the intention, seeing that instantaneous fuse was used.

In some cases some six slabs of explosives were tied together and a box of Trench Mortar bombs stacked on the top. It was found that into the bottom slabs was fixed a detonator which supported the whole weight of the remaining slabs and the Box of T.M. bombs. This detonator had been cut short and its edges turned over so as to be nearly touching the fulminate filling. If any wire weight was put in the box above the result might have been to fire the detonator. This is a somewhat clumsy method and dangerous to set up.

One mine was found under a box of ammunition resembling a Flash mine. The igniter is fixed down by a clip, and the loop of the igniter firing pin is pointing upwards. This would be tied to the box above and on its removal the pin would be withdrawn and the charge fired. It is therefore advisable to look under any box before removing it.

Several others of these mines were found in a shed prepared and stored ready for use. One tin case filled with Picric powder was found. This was rimed at each end to take a detonator, but no detonator had been fitted.

On the whole it would seem that the dump was evacuated before arrangements could be completed, because although preparations had been made the charges were not properly fitted up.

The general means of ignition seems to be a friction igniter and it is necessary, therefore, to examine carefully all boxes before lifting or moving, or before opening, in order to see that nothing is attached.

9. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. The Royal Air Force Communique No. 23 states: "During the period 2nd to 8th Sept. inclusive, we have claimed officially 101 E.A. brought down and 51 driven down out of control. Eighteen enemy balloons were destroyed. Sixty-six of our machines are missing. Approximately 188 tons of bombs were dropped and 6,954 plates exposed."

10. EXTRACT FROM GENERAL ORDER, dated 9th Sept. 1918.

"Points to be observed in defensive work. The construction of tank obstacles and the field defensive tank defence) and the organization of all anti-tank weapons in depth

APPENDIX 16

6.

(active tank defences) must be put in hand at once with help of augment d labor. Tank obstacles and mine fields are to be constructed in front of main resistance lines at once, beginning with the most dangerous sections, namely...

Most important are - 5th Bav. Inf. Div. Sect. NERVAQUETS.
21st Inf. Div. " VERGNIER.

11. EXTRACT FROM GERMAN ORDER, dated 11th Sept.

"According to medical report for the period 21-8-18 to 31-8-18 no less than 215 men were actually or through carelessness gassed. This shows that the oft-repeated orders with reference to anti-gas measures are not being observed.

It is also suspected that a certain proportion of men are purposely getting themselves gassed in order to avoid service. Men should be warned that in such cases they will be punished in accordance with military regulations. The section of the division which faces the English needs specially rigid gas discipline. Returns must be made by 20-8-18 stating how many gassed men of the period 1st to 21st August have returned to their units.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.Divisional Headquarters,
10th September, 1918.INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

From 3rd Aust. Div. Summary 9/9/18.

Information re 30 Fus. Regt. (P.S)

Prisoner was captured taking coffee to the "Feldwache" consisting of 1 Corporal and 7 men - but lost his way.

Order of Battle. From N. to S. - 30 Fus. R. ... 31 I. R. ... 37 I. R.Strength of 8th Coy. 30 Fus. R. 56 O. R. Coy. received 12 men as reinforcements about 5 weeks ago. The 8th Coy. is stated to be the strongest Coy. in the Ln. 1st Ln. stated to have been broken up at FONTAINE - now only 2 Bns. in the regt.Dispositions. Both 2nd and 3rd Bns. in front line - known nothing of reserve troops in rear.Casualties. Few - except in prisoners.Reliefs. Regt. expects to be relieved shortly - by who. not known.Intentions. No signs of counter-attack, but plenty of preparation for continued withdrawal.Effect of our air operations. The following extract from a somewhat incoherent letter by a German soldier in a labour battalion was written on the 19th August, 1918, during the SOMME fighting, and affords excellent evidence of the effect produced by our bombing:-

"Dear brother,

After travelling for 12 hours and wandering about for 8 days, we are now quartered near PERONNE, and I can tell you that things have gone pretty badly with us.

The English have just taken the offensive, and no sooner had we detrained than a bomb landed on us, and we lost 14 men severely wounded and one man killed. That made us want to bolt. You can just fancy that 200 to 300 men like that attract attention, and those beggars of airmen came as low down as one story and we wanted to wriggle into the ground but it did not answer. You must remember that those beggars have got the same sort of engine as ours, so that we cannot distinguish them. At night the same sort of thing happened, they just hung out a light. So you can just imagine that we thought the world was going under; they have unloaded at least 300 bombs on PERONNE"

Reduction in number of German Divisions. The severe losses suffered by the German Divisions in the heavy fighting on the Western Front in 1918, and the impossibility of keeping them up to strength, have forced the German Higher Command to disband a number of divisions and regiments, and to send the remnants as drafts to other formations.

Since March 1918, 10 divisions have been disbanded and drafted to other formations.

In the case of 5 other divisions, the regiments and battalions which they comprised have gone intact to other formations or have become independent, so that the Staffs can no longer be considered as divisions.

During the early part of 1918, the METZ Garrison Det. is considered to have been reconstituted, which reduces the number of divisions disbanded to 14.

The breaking up of the above divisions has involved the complete disbanding of 102 infantry battalions.

The 242 German Infantry divisions, employed in the various theatres of war at the beginning of 1918 are thus reduced to 228. They are distributed at the present moment as follows:-

Western Front	195
Eastern Front	33.

APPEL 291X
16-3-
From Corps Summary 9/9/18.Extract from ARMY ORDER, 2nd Army, dated 25/8/18.

It is absolutely incomprehensible that inconceivable rumors have been spread about behind the front during the last few days by people who have lost their nerves. People with anxious temperaments saw everywhere squadrons of tanks, masses of cavalry, thick lines of enemy infantry. It is in fact high time that our old battle experienced soldiers spoke seriously to these cowards and weaklings and told them of the deeds that are done in the front line.

Extracts from FOURTH British Army Summary of 9th Sept, 1918.

Our troops advanced to a maximum depth of about 1,000 yards. Opposition has considerably stiffened along the entire front, and the enemy were located in the vicinity of EPEHY, on the high ground between TEMPLEUX-LE-GUERARD and JEANCOURT, the high ground east of VENDHULLLES, as well as in MARTEVILLE and VILLECHOLLES.

Hostile artillery fire increased along the entire front, more especially against the Northern Corps, where guns of heavy calibre were in action.

RESERVES.

The 30th Div. in reserve east of LACON has been resting for a month, and is considered fit for offensive operations. There are now 15 fit divisions in Reserve, of which 5 are between the Sea and the OISE.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS.

The enemy's resistance stiffened considerably yesterday and more machine gun fire was experienced. His artillery fire also increased, and included guns of heavy calibre. No counter-attacks were, however, carried out by him.

There is no reason to suppose that our advance is being checked at present by troops other than rearguards.

The enemy's main line of resistance is still considered to be further East. No further information has been obtained as to the line on which he intended to make a stand.

GENERAL.

The resistance offered by the enemy yesterday increased, a greater volume of machine gun and artillery fire (including heavies) being encountered. The enemy made no counter-attacks.

It is considered that our troops are still opposed by rearguards and that the enemy do not intend to make a stand on their present front line.

J. H. ...
Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

12-9-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 1.

From 1.a.m. 11-9-18. to 6.a.m. 12-9-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. On taking over the line on the night 10/11th. the 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde immediately sent out patrols to ascertain the amount of resistance offered by the enemy.

The enemy offered strong resistance in every instance. At 5.30 a.m. 11th inst. Under cover of a specially arranged artillery barrage, the left Battalion attempted to advance the line by patrols. The high ground in L.8. and a line running approx N and S through L.8. Central was the objective. Considerable opposition was encountered by Machine Guns, but notwithstanding this all platoons reached their objective. A M.G. nest at L.14.A.6.8. was taken. Here 10 of the enemy and 4 M.Gs were captured and 20 - 30 of the enemy killed.

Consolidation was proceeded with under difficulties. Posts at L.8.A.6.3. and L.8.D.1.4. while digging in were subjected to very heavy M.G. fire from TEMPLEUX and to direct 77 cm gunfire from the quarries in L.3.A. and B. and HARGICOURT.

At about 11.a.m. under a heavy barrage, the enemy counter-attacked from the sunken road running N. and S. through L.8.A. forcing patrols of the left company to withdraw. Two or three badly wounded men could not be removed and were taken prisoners by the enemy. The right Company of the left Battalion which had established posts at L.15. and 16. - L.14.D.7.5. and L.20. Central was thus brought under heavy Machine Gun fire from the high ground L.8. The Company was ordered to withdraw and managed to do so after some hard fighting. The enemy shelling being heavy and sustained and onfilade M.G. fire from L.8. being troublesome, the patrols withdrew at about 1.30 p.m. to the original front line position. Meanwhile the right Battalion had sent forward fighting patrols. The trench system in R.2.B. was rushed and occupied. Slight opposition was met with and 15 prisoners and 2 L.M.Gs were captured. Seven enemy dead were counted. After this patrols pushed out into L.32.D. and L.33.C. but did not succeed in gaining touch with the enemy.

A post was established at R.3.A.1.6. The night 11/12th inst was spent in adjusting Divisional and Battalion Boundaries and in consolidation for defence. Our picquet line now runs along the trenches in L.7. L.13. L.19. L.25. L.31.

2. Infantry Arms. Lewis Guns had excellent opportunities to inflict damage. The Right Bn report having seen a large party of enemy marching in fours in vicinity of JEANCOURT. The party was engaged at the right moment and casualties estimated at 100 were caused. Stokes Mortars supported the operations of the right Battalion with excellent results.

3. Artillery. Our artillery was active. A creeping barrage was supplied during the morning of the 10th inst. During the day hostile infantry concentrations were engaged and in several instances broken up. At 7.30 p.m. 4 Brigades searched and swept the areas in front of the front posts. The start line ran L.27.0.4.2. - L.13.D.9.5. - L.1.D.9.6. Searching fire was delivered up to 1,000 yards E. of above line. It was noticeable that no enemy flares were sent up till the fire had almost reached the most Eastern line.

4. Aircraft. Bad weather hindered battle flying. At 4 p.m. a reconnaissance plane at the request of the infantry patrolled the front lines.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. The enemy generally fought well and to the last and in most instances had to be killed. One occasion is reported

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when 6. of the enemy on seeing one of our hands. On jumped out of the trench and our men, they jumped back observing only a small rifle and bomb fire. into the trench and they were very active during the period. ~~Infantry, 10th, lost a fairly heavy barrage of Medium and Light Trench Mortar bombs was placed on our line in L.7. and 13. lasting for 20 minutes.~~

- c. Artillery. Has been active. At 4.30 a.m. a barrage of 10 and 15 cm shells was placed on front line in L.7. and 13. lasting for 20 minutes. During the morning 11th inst, activity was sustained, following localities receiving most attention; - R.2. L.3. K.35.B.&D. - K.36.C. - K.27.D. - K.2. and HERVILLY Wood and vicinity. Between 10 and 11 a.m. a fairly heavy barrage was placed on our forward positions. The Valley in K.20.A.&C. and K.26.A.&C. was searched by 5.9s during the afternoon. The shelling was of 7.7 cm and 10 and 15 cm calibre, H.E. and gas.
- d. Aircraft. At 2.30 p.m. and at 3 p.m. one E.A. was over our line.

2. Enemy Defences.

- a. Enemy does not occupy L.32.C. or L.53.D.
- b. Machine Guns, located at L.14.D.9.0. - L.20.B.4.5. - high ground in L.8.D. and L.15.D. - L.26.B.5.2.
- c. Enemy is known to be definitely holding posts in L.8. Central. L.14. Central. - L.20. and the western outskirts of JEAN COURT.

3. Movement.

A considerable amount of movement was observed during the day in the neighbourhood of GARRETT HORSE and JEAN COURT and trenches in their vicinity. The artillery were notified and shoot carried out which practically stopped the movement in the open.

4. Identifications.

prisoner taken in L.8. or L.14. 5th Coy. 19th. Bav. I.R. 5th. Bav. Div. one unwounded 10th and 11th Coys 21st. Bav. I.R. 5th. Bav. Div. - 3 wounded and 2 wounded prisoners taken in L.14. and L.20. 87th. I.R. 21st. Div. 15 unwounded prisoners taken in R.3.D. Total prisoners 22 unwounded and 2 wounded prisoners.

5. Material.

6 Machine Guns.

Notes.

1. The enemy picquet line seems to run as follows; - High ground in L.8.C. - L.14.D. - L.20.B. - L.26.B. - western outskirts of VERQUIER. Though aerial photographs are not available to confirm this some definite evidence exists as follows; -
 - (a) Patrols have met strenuous resistance along this line.
 - (b) The enemy counter-attacked when the high ground in R.3.C. was taken. It is obvious that the local Commander considered this high ground as important.
 - (c) The enemy was observed reinforcing this line, by means of the trenches in L.15.A.&C. - L.31.A. -
 - (d) Prisoners state that the "main line of resistance" runs through CARPERA COPSE. L.15.C.
 - (e) The position of enemy's flares as noted in A Para 3 Our Artillery - seems to confirm this.
- Careful ground observation and reconnaissance by patrols and a study of aerial photographs when available, should accurately establish position of this picquet line and also the positions of out posts.

2. It will be remembered that the 5th. Bav. Division was opposed to this Division on the 10th August just N. of LIRONS. Two regiments only came into line on the 10th, the other the 21st Bav. I.R. counter-attacked the 3rd A.I. Bde. on the morning of the 11th August. The counter-attack was broken and the 3rd. Brigade resumed its interrupted advance. The 5th. Bav. Div. has been in the line ever since that, though it has sideslipped a considerable distance to the Nor

3. Prisoners state that a further limited withdrawal was to have taken place on the morning of the 11th inst. If this was so it was apparently anticipated and prevented by our patrol activity. A close watch of the enemy activity should be kept in view of the probability of a further limited withdrawal.

[Signature]
 Lieut-Colonel.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division

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SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

12-9-18.

RESULT OF INTERROGATION OF PRISONERS OF
19th. and 21st. BAV. I.R. (5TH. BAV. DIV.)
-----Order of Battle,

North - South. 19th. 21st. and 7th. Bav. Inf. Regts.

The 19th. Bav. I.R. still has its twelve Companies intact averaging 35 - 40 per Coy fighting strength. On the morning of Sept 11th. the outpost line had orders to fall back on the main line of resistance which in turn was to be withdrawn, but prisoners did not know how far. The opinion is prevalent amongst these men that the withdrawal is to continue to the old SIEGFRIED LINE where it is believed a stand will be made. They have had many losses lately from our aircraft. Their morale is low and the feeling against the PRUSSIANs is far from friendly.

The 2nd. Bn was forward, the 3rd in the Main line of resistance and the 1st Bn in reserve.

The 21st. Bav. Inf. Regt has only 9 Coys, the 4th 8th and 12th, having been cut up as reinforcements to the remainder. The remaining Coys are not numbered but known by the name of the Coy Commander. Thus, the old 9th, is now Company BENHARD, the 10th, Coy RAHNER and the 11th, Coy VON LOCHNER.

The 3rd Bn was manning the Main line of resistance, which was reported to run N - S through CARPERA COPSE, in 3 Company Sectors each about 200 yards wide. Each Sector held with about 20 men while the balance of the Coy Strength, in each case about 10 men, were doing outpost duties.

The Support Bn (II) was said to be in a trench system about 2 miles back. But prisoners were in no instance able to give even an approx location on the map. The 6th. Bav. Res. Div, which was stated to be in rest at CAMBRAI, should have relieved the 5th. Bav. Div on the 1st and again on the 8th of September, but nothing had been seen of them so far. There is a draft of about 150 men for the 3rd Bn waiting with the Kitchens about 3 miles behind the reserve line. The 3rd. M.G. Coy is stated to have only 4 Heavy M.Gs left. No other troops have been seen in the vicinity by these men.

The Div. Commander is now Excellency VON KLAUS (rank uncertain) Brig - Commander still Major-General HEIMERAN. Regt Com. 21st. Bav. I.R. Major. HACKER.

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SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

13-9-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 2.

From 6.a.m. 12-9-18. to 6.a.m. 13-9-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. During the night patrols pushed forward and meeting with very little resistance took up forward positions and consolidated. Our front line posts are now established as follows; - L.8.C.3.2. - L.14.A.6.8. - L.14.A.6.2. - L.14.C.6.6. - L.20.A.4.9. - L.20.B.3.2. in trench system running through L.25.B.&D.

2. Infantry Arms. Every opportunity was taken to engage suitable targets. Vickers Guns expended 11,000 rounds in harassing fire. At 6.30.p.m. an enemy wiring party in L.8.C. was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

3. Artillery. Our Artillery fired intermittently throughout the period. 60 pounders were most consistent. 18 pdr shrap was observed bursting at L.15. and 21. 60 pdrs were firing on L.20.D.

4. Aircraft. Reconnaissance machines kept the front line under observation practically the whole day in spite of the inclemency of the weather.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy Infantry were much quieter during the period and it would appear that they have withdrawn their former line of outposts to a rear position. No large enemy parties were observed during the day. At 11.50.p.m. on night 11/12th an enemy party of about 15 attempted to raid our posts in R.3.A. They were observed approaching and were driven off by Lewis Gun and bomb fire. Patrols followed up immediately but were unable to obtain identifications.

b. Infantry Arms. No T.M. fire was experienced and M.Guns were not as active as during the previous period.

c. Artillery. Enemy artillery was fairly active. No concentrations were noticeable, with the exception of shelling of the villages of HERVILLY and ROISEL. The former was shelled at intervals during the night whilst the latter received much attention from guns of all calibre up to 8 inch.

At 6.p.m. Enemy heavily shelled the sunken road running through K.30.C.0.0. Between 7.p.m. and 8.15.p.m. ROISEL was shelled by 10. and 15 cms. A H.V. long range gun shelled E. edge of BUIRE WOOD J.16. during the late afternoon. Generally speaking the shelling was very scattered.

d. Aircraft. At 1.40.p.m. 4 E.A. flew high along the front line. This patrol was repeated at 6.50.p.m. At 7.p.m. one E.A. was over our forward area and was driven off by A.A. fire.

2. Defences. New earth observed along trench at L.15.A.5.2. - L.21.A.2.8. and L.15.C.3.6. Movement and work in progress was also observed at these locations. There appears to be a post at F.27.A.15.63.

3. Movement. Was less than during preceding day and in most cases was individual. Movement observed in BROSSE and PIEUMEL WOODS and their vicinity and in CARPEZA COPSE. Throughout the afternoon much individual movement was seen in F.27.

4. Miscellaneous. (a) Double Red and Single White flares fired by the enemy brought down a light barrage on L.25. and L.31. lasting 5 minutes.

(b) In Yesterdays summary it was reported that one of our patrols surprised an enemy column marching in fours near JEANCOURT on the night 10/11th inst, dispersing the column with L.G. fire at close range. Our advancing patrols on reaching this spot last night found enemy dead and 20 discarded German rifles, showing that the enemy column had suffered heavy casualties.

5. Identifications. of dead killed night 10/11th inst near JEANCOURT 81st.I.R. 21st. DIVISION.

NOTES. The slackening off of enemy M.G. fire, the lack of opposition to our advancing patrols, the nature of the slight individual movement point to the fact that the enemy has withdrawn his outpost line during last night. He has doubtless also withdrawn his picquet line as outlined in yesterday's Summary, to the TEMPLEUX - VERGUIER line of trenches. New work at L.15.A.5.2. - L.21.A.2.8. - L.15.C.3.6. probably indicates enemy outposts digging in.

W. A. C. C. C.
 Lieut-Colonel.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

3rd. Division Summary. - Use of Light Minenwerfer in Raids.
 The following extract is from a captured order of the Sixth German Army dated 19-8-18.

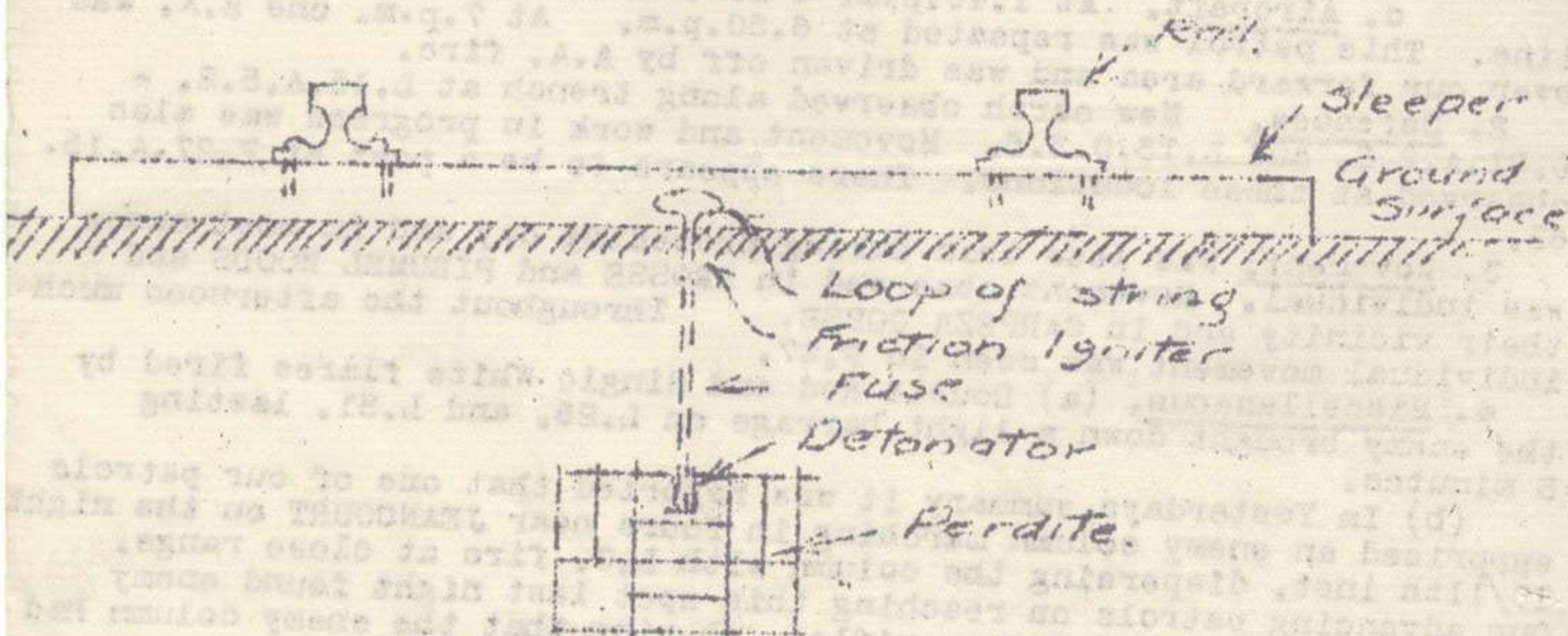
"In a raid on the front of another Army, the British used Light Trench Mortars on flat trajectory carriages with great skill, and, unfortunately, with good results. These were moved from place to place to sweep trenches and to engage the defenders of the outpost zone (machine gun nests), who were distributed in depth.

"The enemy thus employed them as we do in an attack in the open warfare phase of a break through battle - (Zwischenfeldangriff der Durchbruchschlacht).

"The Army recommends a similar use of light Minenwerfer in our own raids.

German Railway Mines. On the 8th instant, on the B.G. railway some of the enemy charges for blowing up the railways were found. These charges are buried two feet under the centre of the track and consist of 10 boxes of perdite, with a detonator and a short length of fuse coming up to ground surface. On the surface end of the fuse there is a friction igniter which has a small loop of string tied to it, and it is fired by pulling the loop of string. The fuse takes 40 seconds to burn. The string is very harmless and might be picked up by any of the infantry on the track, so they should all be warned against touching them. The explosion makes a crater like the crater of an 8" shell and destroys the road bed and blows the rails and sleepers clear of the railway track.

Below is a sketch of this mine.



Army Summary.

Shortage of Raw Material for Ammunition. (from G.H.Q. Summary.)
The following order of the 17th German Army was published in the orders of the 16th Div. on the 29th. Aug., 1918.

"Extensive measures will have to be taken immediately, in order to increase the return of empties. The quantity returned bears no relation to the original material supplied. Artillery Commanders will be held responsible for the return of empties, as the supplies of fresh ammunition depend upon it.

"Particular attention is drawn to the gravity of the situation in regard to raw materials, on which the output of ammunition depends.

"When artillery is re-grouped, all ammunition will be taken with it."

The Enemy's Rear Lines of Defence.

Since the 16th August, photographic reconnaissances have been made of the greater part of the area ST. QUENTIN - CAMBRAI - VALENCIENNES - MAUBEUGE, LE CATEAU. Numerous practice trenches are visible, but no work on defence lines appears to have been undertaken by the enemy in this area. Reports have also been received from other sources that no defence works have been observed in the following localities; - East and South-East of RENAIX, north-east and south-east of TOURNAI, the GRAMMONT - LESSINES - ATH Area, West of ORCHIES, south of THIELT. On the other hand, it is stated that work is proceeding on the fortifications of NAMUR and MAUBEUGE.

CAPTURED ORDER. The following are extracts from an order issued by German G.H.Q. dated 11-8-18, and signed by LUDENDORFF, dealing with the reasons for the defeat of the German Second Army; -

"According to the report of the Officers sent by G.H.Q. into the area of operations of the Second Army, the reasons for the defeat of the Second Army are as follows; -

1. The fact that the troops were surprised by the massed attack of the tanks, and lost their heads when the tanks suddenly appeared behind them, having broken through under the protection of natural and artificial fog.

2. The fact that scarcely any positions or obstacles worth mentioning existed, either in the forward battle zone, or in the village and broken ground further back, to make a methodical resistance possible there.

3. The fact that the available artillery, allotted to the battalions at rest and to the reserve at the disposal of the Higher Command, was wholly insufficient to establish fresh resistance with artillery support against the enemy who had broken through, and against his tanks.

The following conclusions are drawn from these facts; -

1. As I have already ordered in my tel-writer message Ia. 9718, Secret op. of the 8th August, considerably more must be done to obtain information regarding the enemy's intentions by taking prisoners, watching the ground by means of special observation posts, report centres, aerial reconnaissance and listening sets, as, owing to the present situation, we must also expect surprise attacks on other fronts. The closest vigilance is necessary at daybreak and in the early hours of the morning as surprise attacks usually begin at this time, and because a certain lassitude is often prevalent among the men in the morning, after the strain on their nerves and endurance during the night. The supervision of the troops at this time is especially necessary, in view of our late experiences. Sufficient has been said on my part with regard to the organization of infantry and artillery in depth.

2. Far more must be done than has hitherto been the case in the construction of trenches and in the construction of defences against tanks. The dislike of the troops for trench-digging must be

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combated by all means possible. *** **

3. The principle that troops, even if they are enveloped, must, if necessary, defend their battle zone for days, to the last round and to the last man, if they do not receive any further orders, appears to have been forgotten. *** **

Morale. The morale and discipline of the 46th I.R., 119th Div. now in line for the second time since the 8th August, have reached a very low standard. The 3rd Bn. of the 46th I.R., when retiring from the direction of FRANSART early in August, became absolutely disorganised, and, having lost heavily in officers, the majority of the battalion fled to NESLE which they looted.

Prisoners captured belonging to this regiment said they did not care who won the war as long as it ended soon. They agreed that the Army was beginning to lose its discipline; the N.C.Os who were being promoted were too much in sympathy with the men to have much authority, and the Officers themselves were young, untrained and no longer respected as in the past. The drafts which were coming to the regiment were not keen on fighting; twelve men deserted from a recent draft, and on being arrested were brought to the regiment under military escort.

The 46th I.R. were known as the "Lions of CAMBRAI", they were told by their Officers that they would meet with little resistance from the British soldiers in this sector.

German Wireless Press. It is interesting to note that yestordays German Official Wireless reported, that in their counter-attack near GOUZEAUCOURT and EPHY, 3,000 prisoners remained in their hands. A maximum estimate of our losses in prisoners in this action is 300. This exaggeration on the part of the enemy, whose figures have in the past been fairly accurate, shows the great need which is felt by the German command of some encouraging news with which to sustain the morale of the German public.

Following from G.H.Q. 11.p.m. 12th.

On GOUZEAUCOURT HAVRINCOURT front line reported approx as follows. Q.29.C.1.0. - Q.23.Cent. - EAST of TRESCAULT to Q.5.C. - East of HAVRINCOURT to K.22.Cent to K.20.B. - K.15.C. - K.9.A. Prisoners over 1,000. Our line has been advanced slightly east of RAILWAY TRIANGLE (S.W. of LA BASSE) and W of ARMENTIERES where it now passes through PONT DE NIEPPE as follows B.28.B.8.3. - B.23.B.8.5. B.17.A.4.0. Line reached by First American Army reported approx as follows VIEVILLE - THIAUCOURT - LAMARCHE - MONT SEC E.E. and advance of over 4 miles on a front of about 12 miles. On West Flank of ST MIHIEL Salient line is as follows MOREMONT WOOD - HERBEUVILLE - LESARPARGES - E.E. an advance of about 2 miles on a front of about 5 miles. Over 8,000 prisoners taken.

SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

APPENDIX 41
14-9-18. 16INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 3.

From 6.a.m. 13-9-18. to 6.a.m. 14-9-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

(a) During the night our line was slightly advanced to L.20.B.3.8. - L.14.D.2.2. - L.14.A.9.1. - L.14.A.7.7. - L.8.C.3.2. - L.7.D.8.8. - L.8.C.0.5. - Bombing block established at L.20.C.9.7. - FERVAQUES SWITCH.

(b) Patrols. Flares were fired by the enemy from approx L.33.A.4.6. which point patrol tried to reach, but were prevented by very thick wire entanglements. Another patrol discovered trip and barbed wire at L.27.C.4.1. running from JEANCOURT - LE VERGUIER Rd Northwards.

A patrol of 7 other ranks went to a spot about 400 yards East of L.25.D.4.7. where they encountered a party of 6 of the enemy. The enemy was bombed and hurriedly withdrew. Two other enemy patrols of 2 men were encountered further N. but those made off on the approach of our patrol. Patrol moved 400 yards along FERVAQUE SWITCH without seeing any signs of the enemy. CARPEZE COPSE was found to be occupied by the enemy. Other information gained is summarised under Enemy Defences.

(c) Infantry Arms. During the night fire of all arms was limited owing to the depth to which our patrols penetrated.

2. Artillery. From 9.45. to 10.45.a.m. 18 pdrs fired 120 rds into CARPEZA COPSE. At 11.30.a.m. enemy movement was engaged along roads K.16.D.0.0. to junction R.23.A.8.3. and R.23.D.0.7. Shell storms were put down on wood in L.21. and special attention was paid to trenches in L.15.C. and earthworks in K.A.3.B. 4.5" hows fired 100 rds on dugouts and enemy movement in L.3.A.3.B. During the night about 800 rds were expended in harassing fire on roads and approaches and centres of activity.

3. Aircraft. Our planes were very active, particularly so during the afternoon. In every instance when over enemy lines they were heavily engaged by enemy A.A. fire.

At 3.30.p.m. 5 of our planes flew in direction of 3 enemy balloons. The balloons were withdrawn and the planes came under very heavy A.A. fire. Four planes only were seen to return.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry. Though several enemy patrols were encountered during the night, in no instance did they seem to possess an enterprising or combative spirit. Otherwise infantry were quiet during the period.

(b) Infantry Arms. Were not so active during the night. Enemy M.G. at L.14.B.5.9. was forced to abandon its position on account of our fire. M.G. at L.14.B.1.8. fired almost continuously during the night.

(c) Artillery. A slight decrease in artillery fire was noticeable, it is still very scattered. HERVILLY. HERVILLY WOOD and ROSIEL received special attention. Railway in K.35.B., L.25.C., L.31.A., K.30.D., K.36.A., together with the forward positions generally were subjected to intermittent fire. No heavy concentrations occurred. Shelling tables sent to D.A. At least one H.V. gun fired intermittently on to back areas during day and night.

(d) Aircraft. At 6.25.a.m. an E.A. flew over our forward area. At 7.45.a.m. E.A. flew over JEANCOURT and was turned by A.A. fire. At 7.p.m. an E.A. flying over Hattalton on our right fired RED and WHITE flares and a barrage immediately fell on their front. During the early evening bombing machines crossed our area. Two were caught in the beams of searchlights and were brought down outside the Divisional area.

APPENDIX 16

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2. Enemy Defences.

(a) M.Guns. Fire from HILL 140 - M.G. at L.14.B.1.8. is very active at nights. The southern ~~rums~~ of TEMPLEUX contain many active M.Guns.

(b) Occupied Posts: - L.8.C.8.2. - L.8.D.2.3. - L.15.A.5.2. - Eastern edge of CARPEZA COPSE - trenches in L.15.A.&.C. are occupied and have been recently worked on - CARPEZA COPSE is occupied.

(c) Wire. Thick wire exists between our lines and L.33.A.4.6. - French and barbed wire exists at L.27.C.4.1. running from JEANCOURT - LE VERGUIER Road Northwards.

3. Movement. During early morning several men seen moving in vicinity of L.33.C.7.8. Movement in rear of mound in L.3.B. continues. During morning considerable enemy movement was observed on crest of ridge at L.22.A. Five 2 horse G.S. wagons and 4 horse men were observed here. At 1.30.p.m. small parties were observed on ridge in L.21.

4. Miscellaneous. Enemy balloons at grid bearings of 370 690 and 940 were up during periods during afternoon. O.P. K.27.B.1.4. During the night 12/13th L/Cpl GRAHAM MM. 4th Battalion was in charge of a small carrying party to the outpost line. In the darkness he lost his party and strayed into enemy territory. He was surprised and captured by 6 of the enemy who relieved him of his rifle and equipment but did not search him. While being escorted to the rear by this party one of our L.Guns opened fire and the escort threw themselves flat on the ground. L/Cpl GRAHAM seized the opportunity and dashed for our lines. Unfortunately one of our posts took him for an enemy and sustained Lewis Gun fire from several directions was brought to bear upon him, with the result that L/Cpl GRAHAM was forced to keep under cover in No Mans Land for over 2 hours. He made several attempts to get past our posts but in every case was observed and fired upon. Ultimately a No.3. stoppage in a particular L.Gun gave him his opportunity and he was able to regain our lines safely.

5. Prisoners. 4 wounded prisoners in addition to those already enumerated, were captured by the 4th Bn on the 11th inst, making the total for that day 24 other ranks.

The following information has been received from a General Officer who commanded a Brigade in this sector prior to the enemy offensive in March.

1. The Valley running N.N.E. through L.9.A. is a very suitable position for Field Guns.
2. The light railway running from TEMPLEUX to HARGICOURT through L.3.B. and D. and L.10.A. is almost sure to be used as a track by the enemy.
3. Sunken road at approximately L.3.C. central leads into quarries which contain large dugouts.
4. At L.10.A.4.7. a track runs S.S.W. and has tunnelled dugouts on Eastern side.
5. Round trees 150 to 200 yards N.N.E. of COTE WOOD in L.10.C. are a lot of tunnelled dugouts.
6. FERVAQUE FARM in L.16.C. has tunnelled dugouts North and South and overlooks a wide area of our country.
7. The quarries at L.3.A. and B. could give cover to a Brigade of Infantry and were at one time occupied by a Reserve Battalion. They contain large dugouts.

Haughton Capt
for
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

15-9-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, NO. 4.

From 6 a.m. 13-9-18. to 6 a.m. 15-9-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. On completion of relief of 1st Brigade by 2nd Brigade, patrols proceeded as under.
Right Battalion. 2 patrols searched the Battalion front to a depth of 200 yards. The right patrol encountered no enemy, while the left patrol was sniped at from trenches in L.27.A.
Left Battalion. A patrol from L.7.D.6.8. encountered enemy in a post at L.8.C.4. 2 M.Gs fired and bombs were thrown from this post. Our patrol bombed this post but could not silence the M.Gs. They withdrew and were fired on by a M.G. from approx. L.8.C.5.6.

2. Artillery. Our 18-pdrs successfully shelled CARPEZA COPSE in L.15.C. Heavies shelled GRANDPRIEL WOOD during the night but results could not be observed. In addition all calibres carried out considerable harassing fire on enemy back areas. Between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. a 6" How strafed L.22.C. with good results. Men being seen to run in all directions.

3. Aircraft. Throughout the day our planes were active over our and enemy's lines and engaged hostile planes and drove them off several times during the morning. Flying very low over Squares L.13. L.14. 19. 20. 25. 26. without interference by E. A.A. or M.G. fire. N. or S. of this area however they were engaged by both A.A. & M.G. fire.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy infantry appears to be alert but not aggressive.

b. Machine Guns. M.Gs were located at L.8.C.5.4. (2 M.Gs) and (approx) at L.8.C.3.6.

c. Artillery. was more active during the period. The following places received most attention; ROSIEL, BOIS DECROSS, HESBE, COURT, MERVILLY, MONTIGNY, BERNES. were shelled with 4.2. and 5.9s H.E. and Shrapnel from direction LE VERGUEIR and TRAPLEUX. During the night scattered fire over forward areas with 77mm. From 12.50 a.m. to 1.20 a.m. Blue X, Yellow X, and phosphore concentration in 77mm. calibre on K.27. 22. 23. 26. 77mm. and 4.2. H.E. over these areas between 11 p.m. and midnight.

d. Aircraft. Repeated attempts were made by E.A. to cross our lines between 5 a.m. - 1 p.m. but in each case were successfully driven off by our planes.

(P.T.O.)



- 2 -

my Observation balloons at grid bearings of 470. 870. 910. 950, from K.27.B.1.4, were forced to descend by our planes. At 10.30 a.m. an enemy balloon got adrift and disappeared at a great height; two observers were seen to descend in parachutes.

2. Defences. Posts located at L.27.A.8.3. and L.8.C.5.4. Posts located at L.8.C.5.4. (2) and L.8.C.5.6. (approx.).

3. Movement. Hostile movement in L.22. observed at intervals throughout the day was attended to by the artillery with good effect. No abnormal movement elsewhere.

4. Miscellaneous. A white flare sent up from BROOSE WOOD at 4.40 a.m. produced a brisk bombardment of rear areas. At 9.30 a.m. a heavy white smoke screen was seen at 810.G.8. from K.27.B.1.4. appeared to be a dump on fire, no explosion was distinguishable.

Robert Smith

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
1st Australian Division.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 5.

16/9/18.

From 6 a.m., 15/9/18 to 6 a.m., 16/9/18.A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. INFANTRY.

(a) Minor Enterprise. With the object of straightening our line a post was pushed out to L.27.a.2.1. and another to approx. L.20.d.3.6.

(b) Artillery. Throughout the period systematic harassing and destructive fire was maintained, the following being the chief targets engaged - FLAVAQUE FARM, QUARRIES in L.10.a., BROUSSE WOODS. Nos. 1 and 2 GRAND PRIEL WOOD, From L.22.c.8.3. - L.22.a.8.6 - L.17.c.0.0. - Copse at L.8.a.80.52 - trench at L.15.a.6.2. and movement in L.3.b.

(c) Machine Guns. 11,000 rounds were expended by our Vickers guns on trench systems and tracks in L.21.a. and c. Sunken road in L.8.a.8.8. Copse L.8.a. and B, and road junction at L.15.a.7.9.

(d) Trench Mortars. 22 rounds were fired on enemy trench from L.8.c.5.4. to L.8.c.8.3. Our patrols report that the shooting was good.

(e) Patrols. Our patrols report -

(a) An enemy trench from L.8.c.5.4 - L.8.c.8.3. was found strongly held and a vigorous resistance met with. The enemy used bombs, rifles, and M.Gs, our patrols retaliated and believes it inflicted casualties.

(b) M.Gs were active from L.8.a.8.1., L.8.a.9.6. and L.8.c.4.8.

(c) There is an enemy post of 6 to 8 men at L.26.d.9.6.

(d) A working party was seen at L.27.b.8.0.

(e) Old enemy posts and dugouts at L.21.b.2.0. and L.21.b.5.8. were examined and found unoccupied.

(f) No enemy patrols were encountered.

2. Identifications- Nil.

3. Aerial activity:- At 1-45 p.m. one of our planes brought down an enemy balloon in flames.

4. Hostile Artillery:- Activity:- Enemy fire was concentrated mainly on the roads from ROISEL to HERVILLY and TEMPLEUX, N.W. and S.E. outskirts of ROISEL, valley in K.10.a. and cross roads in K.12.a. Pronounced area shoots consisting of 10.5 and 15 cm. fire were put down in K.18.B, and D, and K.17.b and C. during the morning.

From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. 300 rounds of 15 cm. shell fell in K.22 and 23. A considerable quantity of blue cross gas shell was directed on K.23.c, K.29.a, K.9 and 15, K.26.a and MARQUIX.

5. Enemy's Attitude:- Quiet, but alert.

6. Enemy's Defences:-

(a) Boots. Trench L.8.c.5.4 - L.8.c.8.3. - L.26.d.9.6. - L.8.c.9.5.

(b) Wire. On recent aeroplane photos a little wire is shown on eastern side of strong point in L.27.a and L.21.c from L.27.d.2.2. to L.28.a.20.99.

(c) Work. Trenches in L.28.a. are being renovated.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity:- During the day E.A. were quiet but at night many bombing planes crossed our line.

8. Movement:- Throughout the day individual movement was seen in G.14.c.

9. Miscellaneous:- At 8 a.m. one of our planes was forced to land in K.21.d. through slight damage caused by enemy A.A. fire.

R. G. Wethering
Capt

for. Liout-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

18-9-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 7.

From 8 a.m. 17-9-18. to 6 p.m. 18-9-18.

1. OPERATIONS. At 5.20 a.m. on the 18th inst, our troops co-operated in the attack made by this Corps and our line from N to S. now runs A.25.D.0.0. - G.1.B.75.00. - G.1.D.60.50. - G.8.C.5.5. - G.14.A.60.00. - G.20.B.70.00.

2. PRISONERS AND MATERIAL.

The number of prisoners passed through the Divisional Cage up to 6 p.m. is 60 Officers and 1369 which added to 157 wounded who passed through the A.D.S. makes a grand total of - 30 Officers and 1526 O.Rs.

Note. It is not known what number of the wounded are Officers.

3. IDENTIFICATIONS.

1st. Gd. Gren. Regt.	}	2nd. Gd. Div.
2nd. Gd. Gren. Regt.		
4th. Gd. Gren. Regt.		

94. I.R.	}	38. Divn.
95. I.R.		
98. I.R.		

19. Bav. I.R.	}	5th. Bav. Div.
21. Bav. I.R.		
7. Bav. I.R.		

3. R.I.R.	}	1st. Res. I.D.
1. R.I.R.		
59. R.I.R.		

161. I.R. (185. Div.)
 10th. Bav. F.A.R.
 5th. Bav. M.W. Coy.
 22. Foot. A. Battalion.
 1st. Res. F.A.R.
 M.G. Marksman Detachments 37.
 98. Labour Battalion.
 91st. Listening Set Detachment.
 237. F.A.R.

4. ORDER OF BATTLE. N. to S. -

1st. Gd. Gren. Regt.	}	2nd. Gd. Divn.
4th. do		
2nd. do		

96. I.R.	}	38. Divn.
94. I.R.		
95. I.R.		

19. Bav. I.R.	}	5th. Bav. Div.
21. Bav. I.R.		
7. Bav. I.R.		

3. R.I.R.	}	1st. Res. Div.
1. R.I.R.		
59. R.I.R.		

5. ENEMY ARTILLERY. The reply to our initial barrage was feeble mainly consisting of scattered shelling of 15 c.m. Hows and H.V. guns.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX

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- 2 -

6. ENEMY ATTITUDE. In parts a stubborn resistance was encountered by our troops in their advance but all prisoners express their war weariness and are pleased to be captured.

R. G. Wertheim
Capt.

for Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

The 4th. Aust. Division have in todays operation captured (wounded included)
67. Officers. 1629. O.Rs.

The Division on our left report having taken over 600 prisoners up to 6.p.m.

Intelligence Summary No. 2.

from 6 a.m. 15-9-18 to 6 a.m. 16-9-18.

HEADQUARTERS
16th Sept. 1918.

OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

(a) Minor Interprise - Right Battalion. With the object of straightening the line our right post was pushed out to old enemy post at L.27.A.2.1. A post in L.20.C. was also pushed forward to (approx.) L.20.D.3.6. No opposition was encountered in either of these operations.

(b) Patrols - Right Battalion. One officer and nine other ranks left L.26.D.7.7. to examine a small copse at (approx.) L.27.C.2.7. but were attracted by laughing and talking in what was found to be an enemy post of 6 or 8 men at L.26.D.9.6. Another party were observed digging in a little further to the right, and still another party working at about L.27.A.8.0. Patrol returned to point of departure at 12.30 a.m.

A patrol of one officer and nine other ranks examined dugouts and wood at L.21.A.5.8, but could not proceed any further on account of our 18 pds. shells falling in front. Old enemy dugouts and posts were examined at L.21.A.2.0, and L.21.A.5.8. without encountering any of the enemy.

Left Battalion.

A patrol from L.8.C.2.3, encountered an enemy position from L.8.C.5.4. to L.8.C.8.3. The enemy resisted strongly with bombs rifles and M.Gs. Patrol retaliated with bombs and believe they inflicted casualties.

At 11.30 p.m. a patrol from L.14.A.7.2. located enemy posts at L.8.C.7.4. and L.8.C.9.5.

At 11.30 p.m. a patrol from L.7.D.8.9. moved to 150 yards of HEMPEUX and were fired on by M.Gs from L.8.A.8.1., L.8.A.9.6. and L.8.C.4.8.

(c) M.Gs.

11,000 rounds were expended by our vickers guns on trench systems and tracks in L.21.A. and C., sunken road in L.8.A.3.2., copse L.8.A. & B. and road junction at L.15.A.7.9.

Lewis guns engaged enemy movement at L.27.C.2.7. 100 rounds were fired into enemy post at L.8.C.5.4.

(d) Stokes Mortars.

22 rounds were expended on enemy trench from L.8.C.5.4. to L.8.C.8.3. Excellent shooting is reported by our patrols.

(e) Snipers.

Snipers engaged enemy moving at L.15.C.1.6. and L.27.C.2.7.

(f) Aerial.

Our reconnaissance planes patrolled the forward area without opposition, until well over enemy territory. At 1.16 of our planes returned from well over the enemy lines. At 1.45 p.m. our planes brought one enemy balloon down in flames to 95 deg. grid from K.27.A.1.4. At 8 a.m. one of our planes was forced to land in K.21.D. through slight damage caused by A.A. fire.

2. Artillery.

Our artillery generally active. At 6.30 p.m. our 18 pds. shelled road from L.14.D.3.6. to L.14.D.4.9., good shooting but no movement observed. A M.G. target at L.34.A.57.25. was fired on and direct hits observed.

3. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Infantry.

The enemy is very quiet by day and does not fire on movement in our lines. At night he is very alert and shows fight at every opportunity.

(b) Artillery.

Enemy artillery showed a slight decrease which was mostly noticeable with his 77's. Most of his shelling took place on our support and rear areas. The forward system received very little attention. HERVILLY, ROISEL, and vicinity were the places mostly shelled. (shelling map attached Division)

APPENDIX 16

-2-

(c) Aerial.

During the day hostile planes were quiet and seldom crossed our lines, although were often noticed over his rear areas. At 6.40 p.m. one E.A. flew over left section front and dropped one red and one red and white flare.

Numerous bombing machines crossed our lines during the night. At 10 p.m. one hostile bombing plane was brought down in flames. Balloons were observed on following grid co-ordinates from K.27.E. 1.4.: 47 deg. 54¹/₂, 67¹/₂, 75, 90, 95, 106, 108, and 109 deg.

(d) Movement.

Throughout the day individual movement was noticed in G.14.C. At 2.45 p.m. four men observed at G.14.C.6.8. appeared to be laying telephone wires.

(e) Defences.

- i. Posts. Trench L.8.C.5.4. to L.8.C.3.3., L.26.D.9.6., L.8.C.9.5.
- ii. M.G.s L.8.C.5.4. (3 guns), L.8.A.7.4., L.8.C.9.5., L.8.A.8.1., L.8.A.9.6, and L.8.C.4.5. M.G.s all so fire up valley to JEMNCOURT from about L.21.C.7.4.
- iii. T.M.s. Nil.
- iv. Wire. Enemy does not appear to have wired his positions but has taken good advantage of old British wire.
- v. Work. Working party at L.27.E.8.0.

(f) Miscellaneous.

At 5.45 p.m. helio. was observed flashing from around huts in F.27.C. A hostile plane co-operating with a heavy gun firing on right sector. fired several flares of which two reds appeared to signify height on range and a white for O.K.

An enemy gun firing from extreme range dropped shells near L.22.A. (well behind enemy lines) no flares were fired.

(g) Identifications. N I L.

[Handwritten signature]
 LIEUT.
 A/Brigade Major
 2nd Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Appendix 29

Headquarters 5th Bn
30/9/18.

APPENDIX 17

DAILY WEATHER CHART FOR SEPTEMBER, 1918.

1. Morning dull and showery. Afternoon fine and cool. Wind N.W. 10 miles per hour.
2. Day fine and cool. Wind S.W. 8 miles per hour.
3. Day fine and cool. Wind S.W. 6 to 8 miles per hour.
4. Fine and warm. Wind W. 5 miles per hour.
5. Fine and warm. Wind N. 5 miles per hour.
6. Fine and warm. Wind S.W. 5 miles per hour.
7. Fine and warm. Wind S.W. 8 to 10 miles per hour.
8. Fine and cool. Afternoon showery. Wind S. 15 to 20 miles per hour.
9. Dull with light showers. Wind S. 15 miles per hour.
10. Showery all day. Wind S. 15 to 20 miles per hour.
11. Morning showery. Afternoon fine and cool. Wind W. 15 miles per hour.
12. Stormy. Wind W. 15 to 20 miles per hour.
13. Early morning showery. Later fine and cool. Wind N.W. 12 to 15 miles per hour.
14. Fine and cool. Wind S. 8 to 10 miles per hour.
15. Fine and cool. Wind S. 8 miles per hour.
16. Nice fine day. Wind S. 10 miles per hour.
17. Rain in the early morning. Later fine and cool. Wind W. 5 miles per hour.
18. Early morning rain. Later fine and cool. Wind W. 10 miles per hour.
19. Fine and cool. Wind W. 10 miles per hour.
20. Fine and cool. Wind N.W. 12 to 15 miles per hour.
21. Cold, cloudy. Wind S.W. 15 miles per hour.
22. Morning fine and cool. Afternoon showery. Wind S. 15 to 20 miles per hour.
23. Bright day. A few light showers. Wind S.E. 12 to 15 miles per hour.
24. Fine and cool. Wind W. 8 miles per hour.
25. Fine and cool. Wind W. 12 to 15 miles per hour.
26. Fine and cool. Wind W. 10 miles per hour.
27. Fine and cool. Wind S. 10 miles per hour.
28. Showery. Wind S. 12 miles per hour.
29. Nice fine morning. Light showers during afternoon.
30. Heavy rain through the night. Wet day. Wind S.W. 12 to 15 miles per hour.

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