

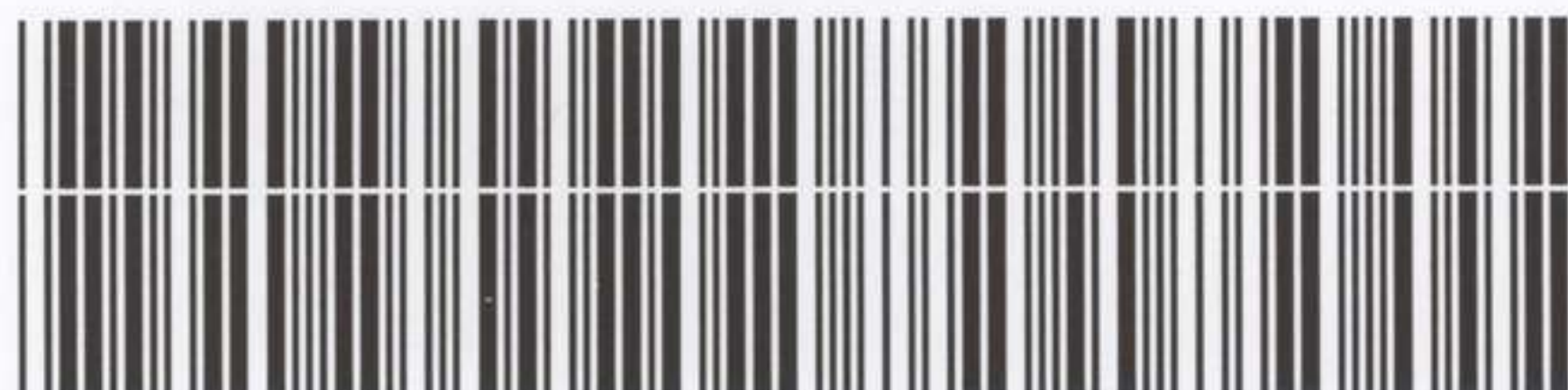
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/35/32

Title: 18th Infantry Battalion

March 1918



AWM4-23/35/32

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

18th BATTALION

FOR

MARCH 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

Frank Johnson
hms.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Geo. J. Munton
G. J. Munton

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 87

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------------|---------|----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| LUMBRES AREA. | 1/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Raining. Brigade sports postponed owing to wet weather. | |
| | | | Coys. carried on with cleaning of equipment, gas drill and Lewis gun training in billets. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut. J.E. Agnew evacuated sick from 2nd. Army Infantry School. | |
| | 2/3/18 | | Lieut. C.B. Greaves proceeded to 5th. Training Battalion, ENGLAND. | |
| | | 8'30 | Brigade Order re move forward on 4th. inst. received. | |
| | | p.m. | | |
| | | 8 a.m. | Transport moved forward by route march under Brigade arrangements. | |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Raining. Coys. carried on with Gas training etc. in billets, also preparing for move forward. | |
| | | 2 p.m. | Final of Brigade Football Competition played, 18th. Bn. versus 17th. Battn. resulting in a draw. scores, 3 all. - Brigade shield won by this Battalion. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Major R.M. Sadler, M.C. to Temporary Command of 20th. Battalion. | |
| | | | Capt. W.J. Graham, M.C. proceeded to "A" course at L.G. School, LE TOUQUET. | |
| | | 8'30 | Battalion Order re move to forward area on 4th. instant, issued. (appendix 1/M/18) | 1/M/18. |
| KORTEPYP AREA | 3/3/18. | | Brigade Order re anticipated relief of 44th. Battalion in the line received. | |
| | | p.m. | | |
| | | 11 p.m. | Orders for advanced parties to move forward received. Party to move at 7 a.m. 3rd. inst. by motor lorry. | |
| | | | | |
| | 4/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Raining. Coys. carried on with preparations for move forward. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut. G. Wilkinson rejoined from 2nd. Aust. Div. Sig. School. | |
| | | 7'30pm. | Battalion Order re anticipated relief of 44th. Battalion on night of 5th/6th. March issued (appendix 2/M/18) | |
| | 5/3/18. | 5 a.m. | Battalion moved by march route to LUMBRES Station and entrained at 8 a.m. vide B.O. No. 8 for STEENWERCK (appendix 2/M/18) | |
| | | 11'15 | Arrived at STEENWERCK. Route marched to hutted camp at CANTEEN CORNER taking over from a.m. 42nd. Battalion. | |
| | | 12 noon. | Move completed. Brigade becomes Reserve Brigade to 3rd. Australian Division. Transport arrived and took over Horse lines at CANTEEN CORNER. | |
| | 5/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine with heavy fog. | |
| | | | Packs and second blankets, surplus gear etc. dumped; to be stored in Pack store. | |

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| PLOEGSTEERT | | | | |
| AREA. 2150 | 5/3/18. | | | |
| | | 4'30 pm. | Battalion moved to CANNAUGHT SIDING and entrained for INGERSOLL SIDING and thence marched to line. Lieut. J. Harris and one platoon of "C" Company proceeded to LE BIZET to form part of an engineer's working party. Q.M. Store, Transport Lines, and Details moved to camp at BRUNE GAYE. The following dispositions were taken over from 44th. Battalion on left of Right Brigade sector. "A" Company, Line Right. - "D" Company, Line Left. - "C" Company, Support Right, "B" Company, Reserve Left. | |
| | | 9'5 p.m. | Relief completed. Boundaries:- Brigade boundary: C.16.b.65.30. along river to C.21.a.9.5. to C.19.b.1.2., along river to B.18.d.15.70. - B.18.a.8.4. - B.17.b.5.4. - B.17.c.1.0. - B.16.a.5.0. - B.21.a.7.5. - B.13.b.2.5.. Battalion boundaries: U.29.c.3.3. to U.28.c.18.90. Strength of Battalion in the line was 32 Officers and 637 O.R. The front line was found to be in a good condition but saps and C.T's were blown about and in a very bad state of repair. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 5 hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 3/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 3/M/18 |
| | 6/3/18. | 1 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 Lewis gun went out for 3 hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 4/M/18) | -do- 4/M/18 |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Working parties were supplied as follows:- 1 Officer and 20 O.R. to carry 100 long pickets and 50 coils barbed wire to UNA HOUSE. (appendice 1 1 " " 40 O.R. for wiring on Right Company sector. (5/M/18) 5/M/18 2 " " 20 O.R. for maintenance of parapet of front line.) Machine guns were inactive during 24 hours. Trench Mortars fairly active and Aircraft was active on both sides. | |
| | | 7 p.m. | Patrol of 2 Officers (Lieuts. J. Maxwell, D.C.M. and A.W. Irvine, M.C.) and 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 7/M/18) | Patrol report 7/M/18 attached. |
| | | 11 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 4 hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and to engage any enemy patrols seen. | |

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2110.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------|---------|-----------|--|---|
| PLOEGSTEERT AREA. | 6/3/18. | | | |
| | | 11 p.m. | On patrol nearing a point near U.29.b.20.90. they were challenged in German (WIL GEHT DA) Bombs were thrown by both sides and a few shots were exchanged. The enemy then made back but could not be pursued owing to thickness of wire. We had no casualties. (Patrol report, appendice 8/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 8/M/18 |
| | 7/3/18. | 2 | | |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut.J.E.Agnev reported back to 2nd.Army Infantry School from hospital. Our artillery was very active during previous 24 hours, also aircraft. Enemy M.G's and Trench mortars inactive. | |
| | | 5'30 p.m. | Working parties were supplied as follows:- 1 Officer & 15 O.R. for cleaning and duckboarding at KATHERINE POST. 1 N.C.O. & 10 O.R. for wiring in front of KATHERINE POST. 1 Officer & 37 O.R. for clearing and deepening head of C.T. left near front line. 1 " & 20 O.R. for wiring in front of No.26 Post. 1 " & 35 O.R. for carrying wire, pickets, etc. from LE GHEER Dump to front line. 1 " & 10 O.R. for wiring in front of Right Company Sector. |) Appendice 9/M/18. |
| | | 7 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.Brown) 20 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, Appendice 11/M/18.) Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to approximately U.29.b.50.60. and established standing patrol to wait for enemy patrols. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, Appendice 12/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 11/M/18 -do- 12/M/18 |
| | 8/3/18 | | | |
| | | 2.a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 2½ hours to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. An enemy patrol was engaged at about U.29.b.50.70... A short smart engagement then took place, three of the enemy being killed and one wounded. They then made back to their lines. The wounded man was taken prisoner and escorted to our lines. He was a member of the 177th.R.I.R.. He stated that his company's strength was 280 O.R.. Our patrol suffered no casualties. (Patrol report, Appendice 13/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 13/M/18 |
| | | 8 a.m. | Working parties were supplied for work forward as follows:- 1 N.C.O. & 15 O.R. for cleaning and opening up end of UMPIRE AVENUE near Right Coy.H.Q. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for cleaning and repairing XXXXXXXXXX UMPIRE AVENUE forward of O.G.1. 1 N.C.O. & 10 O.R. for excavating positions for shelters near Y.M.C.A. 1 Officer 25 O.R. for opening and clearing UNA LANE between O.G.1 and UNA SUPPORT. 1 N.C.O. & 6 O.R. for opening up sap running from front line to IDA POST. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for work on left C.T. near left Company H.Q. 1 Officer 30 O.R. for deepening front line on Right Company sector. |) Appendice 14/M/18. 14/M/18 |

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| PLOEGSTEERT. AREA. | 10/3/18. | 12 midnight. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to approximately U.29.b.45.48. to establish a standing patrol and wait for enemy patrols. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 23/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 23/M/18 |
| | | 3 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 2½ hours to examine PONT ROUGE and scene of previous patrol encounter, and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 24/M/18) | -do- 24/M/18 |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Major R.M. Sadler, M.C. returned from 20th. Battalion as from 8/3/18. and proceeded on leave to U.K. | |
| | | 7 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 26/M/18.) | -do- 26/M/18 |
| | 11/3/18. | 12 midnight. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to establish a standing patrol at U.28.b.45.48. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 27/M/18) | -do- 27/M/18 |
| | | 3 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 2½ hours to search ground from boundary to MOAT FARM (inclusive). No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 28/M/18) | -do- 28/M/18 |
| | | 7'30 a.m. | Parties were supplied for work forward as follows:- 1 Officer 25 O.R. for clearing WARNAVE AVENUE. 1 N.C.O. 10 O.R. for draining UNA AVENUE. 1 Officer 30 O.R. for clearing front line on Right Company sector. 2 Officers 50 O.R. for clearing UMPIRE AVENUE. 1 Officer 25 O.R. for carrying R.E. material from LE GHEER dump to O.G.1. 1 N.C.O. 5 O.R. for cutting drain behind R.A.P. | Appendice 29/M/18. |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Artillery, T.M.'s very active on both sides during previous 24 hours. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and if possible country in vicinity of U.24.c.10.40. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 31/M/18) | Patrol report attached. 31/M/18 |
| | 12/3/18. | 2 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 4 hours with same object as previous patrol. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 32/M/18.) | -do- 32/M/18 |

A7092. Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

Wef

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------|----------|----------------------------|--|--|
| PLOEGSTEERT AREA. | 12/3/18. | 7 ¹ 30 a.m. | Parties were supplied for work forward as follows:- 2 Officers 50 O.R. for carrying revetting material and revetting UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH. 1 N.C.O. and 10 O.R. for clearing AYR STREET and opening drain from LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM) to WARNAVE RIVER. 1 N.C.O. 20 O.R. for opening and draining UMPIRE AVENUE to O.G.1. 1 Officer 25 O.R. for alterations near No.16 Post (front line) 1 Officer 25 O.R. for opening and draining WARNAVE LANE. 1 Officer 25 O.R. to build Lewis gun position near No.16 Post. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for opening and cleaning WARNAVE AVENUE between O.G.1 and UNA SUPPORT. 2 Officers 50 O.R. for opening and clearing UMPIRE AVENUE and RA.P and UMPIRE ROW. 1 N.C.O. 5 O.R. for clearing UMPIRE AVENUE near M.G.position. 1 N.C.O. 5 O.R. for digging drain in rear of R.A.P. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for revetting UMPIRE AVENUE at junction with CONVENT LANE. | Appendice 33/M/18. |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Capt. W.J. Graham, M.C. returned from Lewis Gun School, LE TOUQUET. Artillery, T.M's were very active on both sides during previous 24 hours. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to examine country from MOAT FARM to N.boundary, getting as near as possible to river bank. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 35/M/18) | Patrol report 35/M/18 attached. 36-M-18 |
| | 13/3/18. | 10 ¹ 30 p.m. | Battalion Order No.10 re relief by 19th. Battalion on 14th. inst. issued. (appendice 36/M/18) | |
| | | 12 midnight. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and country east of MOAT FARM. They came in contact with enemy post at about U.29.b.70.55.. A number of bombs were thrown by both parties. It is thought that the enemy sustained casualties. Our patrol returned without casualties. (Patrol report, appendice 37/M/18) | -do- |
| | | 3 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3 hours to examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 38/M/18) | -do- 38/M/18 |
| | | 7 ¹ 30am | Working parties were supplied same as previous morning. | |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Artillery, T.M's and aircraft active on both sides during previous 24 hours. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to endeavour to locate suspected enemy bridges at U.24.c.60.25. - U.24.c.65.10. - U.30.a.70.60. and get in touch with enemy patrols. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report, appendice 40/M/18) | -do- 40/M/18 |

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------------|--------------------|------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Ploegsteert Area | 13.3.18 (Contd) | 11'15 p.m. | Patrol of 1 offer. (Lt. Clayton), 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours with same instructions as previous patrols. No contact with enemy. Casualties Nil. (Patrol Report Appendix 41/M/18) | Appendix 41/M/18. |
| | 14/3/18. | 2'45 am. | Patrol of 1 Officer (lieut. Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 3½ hours to search PONT ROUGE and attempt to surprise party encountered last night, at about U.29.b.65.65. No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Patrol report Appendix 42/M/18) | Appendix 42/M/18. |
| | | 7'30 a.m. | Parties were supplied for work forward as follows:- 1 Officer 25 O.R. for repairing damage done to trenches on Right sector. 1 Officer 30 O.R. for constructing L.G. mine position near No.16 Post. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for wiring and thickening existing wire to left of No.27 Post. 1 Officer 20 O.R. for clearing and opening UMPIRE AVENUE forward of O.G.1 1 Officer 30 O.R. for deepening and revetting UMPIRE AVENUE near R.A.P. | Appendix 43/M/18. |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and dull. | |
| | | 10'30 a.m. | Advance party moved back to take over camps and dispositions vacated by "D" Battn. (19th. Bn) in support (vide Battn. Order No.10) | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut. R.E. Dryden, D.C.M. rejoined Battn. from 5th. Training Battn. England. Lieut. W.J.S. O'Grady evacuated to hospital. | |
| | | | Artillery T.M.'s active during previous 24 hours. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out for 2 hours to MOAT FARM and PONT ROUGE and to cover relief. | 47/M/R |
| | | | Battalion relieved in the line by 19th. Battalion (vide Battn. Order No.10) | |
| | | 10'10 p.m. | Relief completed. Battalion on relief moved back and took over dispositions of SUPPORT BATTN. Battalion H.Q., "B" and "D" Coys. at INGERSOLL CAMP. "A" Coy. at NIEPPE. "C" Coy. at LE ROSSIGNOL CAMP. | |
| INGERSOLL CAMP. | 15/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with refitting parades and inspection of Gas helmets. PAPOT Baths allotted to Battalion. | |
| | | 7 p.m. | Brigade Order re move forward of one company to LANCASHIRE FARM as immediate counter attack Company, received. | |
| | 16/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with training (vide syllabus, Appendix 48/M/18) Battalion Order No.14 re move forward of "A" Coy. as immediate counter attack company issued. (Appendix, 49/M/18) | Appendix 48/M/18 49/M/18. |

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| INGERSOLL CAMP. | 16/3/18. | 6 p.m. | "A" Company moved forward (vide Battn. Order No. 14) as counter attack company, to LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM, thence into position in UMPIRE RESERVE | H9/M/18 |
| | | 7'45 p.m. | Move completed. Action of counter attack company:- Each night at dusk, Coy. will move forward to UMPIRE RESERVE and will remain there until "stand down" the following morning. After "stand down" they will move back to LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM. This company to be under the command of "B" Battalion. | |
| | 17/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 11 a.m. | Church Parades. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut. H. G. Wiseman returned from School. Major W. R. C. Robertson, M. C. proceeded to Gas School, OXELAIRE. | |
| | 18/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. Training carried on by Coys. (vide syllabus) | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut. J. E. Agnew rejoined from 2nd. Army Infantry School. | |
| | | 6 p.m. | "D" Company moved forward to relieve "A" Company as counter attack company, (vide Bn. Order 14) | H9/M/18 |
| | | 8 p.m. | Relief completed. "C" Company moved from LE ROSSIGNOL CAMP and took over billets vacated by "D" Company. "A" Company on relief took over billets vacated by "C" Company. | |
| | 19/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Raining. Coys. carried on with training as per syllabus for week. Allotment of PAPOT Baths to Battalion. | |
| | | 2 p.m. | Battalion Order No. 11 re anticipated raid on centre of hostile patrol activity near PONT ROUGE, formerly known as UNCOMFORTABLE CRESCENT, issued. Date and time to be notified later. (Appendix 60/M/18) | 60/M/18 |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Capt. C. Checchi, (R.M.O.) proceeded to 7th. Field Ambulance. Capt. R. G. Burnard (Temp. R.M.O.) attached from 7th. Field Ambulance. Battalion Order No. 12 re anticipated relief by 7th. A.I. Brigade on night of 21/22nd. March issued. | |
| | 20/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and dull. Training continued vide syllabus. No. 9 Platoon (Raiding platoon) prepared for proposed raid. Discs (identification) body shields, bombs, etc. being issued. | |

W. 112839/11293. 750,004, 627. D.P.D. & C. Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

ref

∞

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------------|----------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| INGERSOLL CAMP | 20/3/18. | | <p>9 a.m. Raid (vide Battalion Order No.11) to take place on night of 20/21st.March. Time to be notified later.</p> <p>4 p.m. Changes in Officers: Major W.R.C.Robertson,M.C. returned from Gas School. Lieut.J.A.Holdsworth and Lieut.F.H.Semple returned from Musketry School.</p> <p>7'45 p.m. Raiding platoon moved forward to rendezvous at LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM,. For purposes of raid, Battn.H.Q. moved to left Coy.H.Q. of "B" Battalion. O.C.Attack - Capt.J.B.Lane. O.C.Assault - Lieut.G.J.G.Clayton. Zero hour to be 3'45 a.m. Action of parties prior to zero and after - Prior to zero - Party will rendezvous at LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM at zero - 3 hours. O.C.Attack will be in position by zero - 60 minutes. - Scouts will reconnoitre the area between our own line, approach to KATHERINE POST, hedge to U.23.d.55.30., post left covering party, lay a knotted tape from Post U.23. 6 to left covering party, a white tape from KATHERINE POST to U.23.d.10.15. and then report situation to O.C.attack by zero - 60. Assaulting party will be in position on jumping off line, hedge in U.23.d. from U.23.d.10.15. to U.23.d.40.25. by zero - 30. Action from zero.- Artillery - At zero hour the artillery will put down a "box" barrage on limits shewn. At zero plus 2 fire will lift from line U.29.b.10.85. in accordance with artillery programme and creep at rate of 50 yards per minute until zero plus 9 when it will remain stationary on the final barrage line. Fire will cease at zero plus 17. Action of infantry - The left covering party will from the moment it is posted, watch closely the approaches to our lines from MOAT FARM. It will not move forward unless compelled to do so in order to protect assaulting troops from attack in the direction of MOAT FARM. The garrison of KATHERINE POST will be responsible of the defence of the right flank within the limits of its fire. At zero the assaulting party will move forward in line of sections in file at 50 yards interval, the centre directing, close up to the barrage and will thereafter conform to it. The flanking parties will carry tapes forward as far as possible. The centre party will follow the line of UNCOMFORTABLE CRESCENT. The right party will examine the ruins of PONT ROUGE. The left party will follow close down to barrage. Wounded and prisoners will be evacuated through KATHERINE POST. Troops will be withdrawn from the scene of raid by zero plus 12 and will re-enter by KATHERINE POST as soon as conditions admit. O.C.assault will withdraw covering party.</p> | |
| | 21/3/18. | 2'32 | am. Reported "scouts in, all clear". | |

A7092 Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------------|----------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| INGERSOLL CAMP | 21/3/18. | 2'45 am. | Party in position. | Appendix 51/M/18. |
| | | 3'45 am. | Party moved under cover of artillery, M.G's and T.M's barrage in lines of sections at 50 yards interval and conformed to barrage thereafter to UNCOMFORTABLE CRESCENT. | |
| | | 4'40 am. | Party returned via KATHERINE POST, No contact with enemy. Casualties: Nil. (Report, appendix 51/M/18) Party then moved back to ROMARIN CAMP via LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM. | |
| ROMARIN CAMP. | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. Lieut.J.Harris and party returned from attachment to 5th.Field Company Engineers. Battalion moved to ROMARIN CAMP and took over dispositions of 28th.Battalion. "D" Company relieved as counter attack company and moved back to ROMARIN CAMP. The Corps line garrisons were taken over vide Table "A" (Appendix 52/M/18) | Appendix. 52/M/18 |
| | | 9'50 pm. | Relief completed. Brigade now becomes Reserve Brigade to 2nd.Aust.Division. | |
| | 22/3/18. | 6'15 am. | Parties supplied in accordance with Battalion Memo. and Tables "A","B" and "C" (Appendix 53/M/18) | 53/M/18 |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. not on works etc. carried on with training, including Gas drill and elementary Musketry, taling in Bolt drill. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Capt.E.J.McNabb,M.C. proceeded to Corps Transport School, ABBEVILLE. Capt.R.G.Burnard, relieving R.MLO. returned to 7th.Field Ambulance. Capt.C.G.Templeman attached from 7th.Field Ambulance, to be R.M.O. | |
| | 23/3/18. | 6'40 am. | Parties supplied for work, 2nd.Zone Defence System as for 22nd.inst.(vide appendix 53/M/18) | 53/M/18. |
| | | 9 a.m. | Coys. carried on with training in Gas drill and rapid bolt manipulation. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Capt.J.N.Doyle and Lieut.H.J.Flockart proceeded to 2nd.Army Musketry School, LUMBRES. | |
| | | 6 p.m. | Battalion warned to be ready to move at a time to be notified later, to relieve 8th.Aust.Inf. Brigade in the Line on MESSINES sector. Nucleus garrison relieved by 28th.Battalion, A.I.F. also working parties for 2nd.Zone Defence System | |
| | 24/3/18. | 1 a.m. | All reliefs completed. Posts moving back to ROMARIN CAMP on completion. | |
| | | 2 a.m. | Brigade Order re relief of 8th.A.I.Bde. in line, by 5th.A.I.Bde. received. Officers from Battn.H.Q. and Coys. moved forward by motor lorry to reconnoitre sector to be taken over. | |
| | | 5 a.m. | C.O. went forward to H.Q. 31st.Battalion (Battn.to be relieved by this unit) to look over sector etc. | |

750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| ROMARIN CAMP. | 24/3/18. | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine and clear. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieut.A.R.Sheath,M.C. proceeded to Corps Gas School and Lieut.H.G.Wiseman evacuated (injury to ankle ligaments) | |
| | | | During night 23/24th. a party of 4 Officers and 100 men worked forward of HYDE PARK CORNER carrying gas projectors and material forward to MESSINES Sector. | |
| | 25/3/18. | 11 p.m. | Battalion Order No.13 issued, providing for relief of 31st.Battalion by 18th.Battalion,A.I.F. | Ap.54/M/18. |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather: Fine in morning: Overcast in afternoon, clearing at about 4'30 p.m. | |
| | | | Move of transport to KEMMEL began. | |
| | | 10 a.m. | Orders were received that nucleus personnel (in accordance with S.S.135) were to be withdrawn from the line on 26th.inst. It was decided to at once separate this personnel and to send them to KEMMEL until location of camp was determined by Brigade. Strength of this personnel was 15 Officers and 148 O.R. | |
| | | 3'15 pm. | Battalion Parade held prior to moving off. C.O. explained military situation to Battalion, pointing out the need for extreme vigilance to prevent the enemy securing any inkling of the withdrawal of the 5th.Division from the line. The need for every member of the Battalion to practice rapid loading and bolt manipulation was also impressed on them. | |
| | | 3'30 pm. | Battalion marched from ROMARIN CAMP to relieve 31st.Battalion in left Battalion sector of 8th.Brigade line. Transport and Q.M.Store moved to KEMMEL. Nucleus personnel left the column at NEUVE EGLISE and marched to temporary billets at KEMMEL for the night 25/26th.inst. Major W.R.C.Robertson,M.C. was in charge of nucleus personnel. | Appendix 54/M/18. |
| | | | Strength of Battalion marching to line - 21 Officers 692 O.R. | |
| | | | Strength of Nucleus personnel - 13 " 148 " | |
| | | | Strength of Transport and Q.M.Store - 6 " 91 " | |
| | | | Quiet relief effected, outgoing unit 31st.Battalion Australian Infantry. - Weather dull during relief. | |
| FRONT LINE FORWARD OF WYTSCHAETE | | 10 p.m. | Relief complete. (Reference Map - WYTSCHAETE 1/10000) Battalion boundaries - North - WAMBEEK River South - BLAUVEPOORTBEEK River | Appendix 55/M/18. |
| | | 10 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.F.J.Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. ("D" Coy) left No.3 picquet to patrol Battalion front, returning at 1 a.m. | Appendix 56/M/18. |
| | 26/3/18. | 2 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.G.J.G.Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. ("C" Coy) left No.3 picquet to patrol Battalion front, returning at 5'30 a.m. Encountered enemy in No Mans Land and accounted for probably three dead. Our Casualties: 1 O.R.wounded. | Appendix 57/M/18. |

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------|---|---|
| FORWARD LINE EAST OF WYTSCHAETE | 26/3/18 | 2 am. | Scarcely any activity of Artillery, T.M's etc. during night. Night, fine and clear. After midnight the moon was very bright. <u>General Notes:-</u> Outpost line and Support line cannot be reached in daylight. Movement is possible to 1st. and 2nd. Reserve Companies. Ration arrangements (vide Admin. Memo.) are satisfactory. Hot meals are sent to Outpost and Support Coys. at 8 p.m. and 3 a.m. - Ammunition stores are adequate and in good condition. Y.M.C.A. stall provides hot drink for 300 men nightly. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Lieuts. A.R. Sheath, M.C. and H.J. Flockart and Capt. J.N. Doyle returned to duty - their respective schools cancelled. | |
| | | 6 p.m. | A quiet day. Artillery etc. very quiet. Visibility: good. Weather: Fine and clear. Our aeroplanes very active in scouting work during the day. | |
| | | 10 p.m. | Lively bombardment opened on North and South of this sector. No activity opposite our front. | |
| | | 10'30 pm. | S.O.S. Signal put up about 2 Battalions sectors to the north. No reply from our artillery. | |
| | | 10'30 pm. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. J. Maxwell, D.C.M.) and 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. left No. 2 Picquet and moved across ditch to about O.29.a.6.2. While in position at this point enemy parties attacked the patrol (as described in report) One wounded prisoner was captured and brought in. Our casualties: 1 O.R. (No. 122. Cpl. A.L. McLaren) was killed. His body was brought in and subsequently buried at about O.29.d.05.05. The prisoner was brought, badly wounded, to Battalion Headquarters. He was in a very low condition and died about half an hour after being brought in. Information from prisoner showed that enemy parties were 2 Officers and 40 O.R. strong. Apparently Lieut. Clayton's patrol on previous night killed about 12 (vide appendix 59/M/18) Front line posts afterwards reported that rifle and machine gun fire during the patrol encounter was very heavy. | Appendix 58/M/18 (Summary of information. (59/M/18. |
| | | | Lieut. Maxwell appears to have acted with great dash and judgment. He speaks highly of the behaviour of No. 4071. Sgt. P.J. Boyce, Ptes. Kitchener, Wild, and Roberts. | |
| | | 10'45 pm. | Artillery bombardment died down. | |
| | | 11 p.m. | Battalion Order No. 15 issued in anticipation of relief. | |
| | 27/3/18 | 12'15 am. | Lieut. G.J.G. Clayton and patrol of 25 O.R. and 1 L.G. left No. 3 Picquet, returning via No. 1 Picquet at 3'30 a.m. Patrol endeavoured to search the ground of the previous patrol's encounter but failed to find any enemy dead. | Appendix 60/M/18. |
| | | 4'15 a.m. | Enemy again started a brisk bombardment on our left about 1000 to 2000 yards north of this sector. S.O.S. was sent up at 4'15 a.m. on our left. | Appendix 61/M/18. |

A7092. Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D.D. & L.L. Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

uef

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 |
|--|----------|------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| FORWARD LINE EAST OF WYTSCHAETE. | 27/3/18. | | | |
| | | 4'45 am. | A party of 15 enemy approached our forward listening post at O.29.c.25.70. and O.29.a.20.05. Enemy threw bombs, upon which our listening post withdrew to the Picquet line under fire of enemy machine guns. Enemy made several attempts to get through our wire but was beaten off but rifle and M.G.fire from the post. By the light of a flare fired by us the enemy was seen retiring. A small patrol was immediately sent out from the post to search the ground and returned with a German rifle, a box of M.G.ammunition and some stick bombs. No further trace of the enemy could be found. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes in Officers: Major R.M.Sadler M.C.returned from leave to U.K. joining Battalion in the line at night. | |
| | | 9 p.m. | A quiet day. Visibility, poor. A review of condition of sector and outline works policy compiled. | Appendix 62/M/18 |
| | | 10'30 p.m. | Our Stokes Mortars opened a Gas Bombardment south of our sector (about U.11a, U.5.d.,U.6.c. and U.6.d.) Enemy opened on our front line with light Minenwerfer and artillery for about half an hour. One O.R. killed during bombardment. | |
| | | 9 p.m. | Fine and Clear. Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.F.J.Brown) 30 O.R. and 2 L.G. left No 2 Picquet, returning at 11'30 p.m. No enemy patrols seen. Instructions received on 27th.inst. that nucleus personnel of Brigade was being formed into a nucleus Battalion under command of Major W.R.C.Robertson, M.C. for use in case of emergency, or for work of an urgent nature. This battalion is located at T.5.central. Band, Canteen personnel, etc. are being practised in musketry etc.,. Brigade Order received re Gas bombardment off enemy on left, proposed to be carried out when conditions are favourable. Battalion memo. issued. All schools cancelled and personnel returning to units. Wire received that Corps Commander has remitted sentences of all men in F.P.Compound. "A" Company relieved "C" Company in Outpost line. Relief without incident. | Appendix 63/M/18. |
| | | midnight. | Relief complete. | |
| | 28/3/18. | 1'30 am. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.R.H.Gascoigne-Roy) 30 O.R. and 2 L.G. left No.2 Post, returning at 5 a.m. A quiet night. Instructions received that all surplus gear is to be dumped at MERRIS by midnight 28th., so as to reduce demands on transport in the event of a move from this area being necessary. | Appendix 65/M/18 |
| | | 6 a.m. | Day is cloudy and strong wind is blowing from S.W. | |

A7092 Wt. W12839/M1293 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

wee

13

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Forward Line E of WYTSCHAETE. | 28/3/18 | 8 a.m. | C.O. engaged for the day as President of a Court of Enquiry at 5th Brigade Headquarters. | |
| | | 9 a.m. | Dull and Threatening. | |
| | | Noon | Major R.M.Sadler, M.C. proceeded on instructions from 5th Aust. Inf Brigade to Temporary Command of 17th Battalion A.I.F. Capt J.B.Lane to command during absence of C.O. | |
| | | 3 p.m. | Situation quiet - Practically no activity. Wind S.W. about 6 miles per hour. Gas Stunt (Appendix /M/18) postponed for a further 24 hours. | Appendix /M/18. |
| | | 4 p.m. | Changes of Officers. Lieut. R.G.Henderson M.C. returned from Instructional duty at Aust. Corps School. Proceeded to Details Camp. Lieut. C.J.Brossois returned from Xth Corps School. Advice received that Lieut J. Maxwell D.C.M. had been awarded the Military Cross for work during Patrol encounter on 8/3/18. | |
| | | 8 p.m. | C.O. returned to Command and Capt. J.B.Lane returned to "C" Coy. | |
| | | 8'30 p.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut R.H.Gascoigne-Roy, 28 O.R. and 2 L.G.s went out from No.3 Piquet for 3 hours to patrol Battalion Front. | Appendix 66/M/18. |
| | | 9 p.m. | "B" Coy. relieved "D" Coy. in support. Relief without incident. | |
| | | 11'30 p.m. | Relief Complete. Patrol reported in. Outpost Coy. report that the front is abnormally quiet. Suggest some activity may be pending. Immediate flank Battalions being communicated with confirmed the abnormal quietness. Further away conditions are normal. Our artillery notified. | |
| | | Mid-night. | Our Artillery opened harrassing fire on enemy front. | |
| | 29/3/18 | 1'30 a.m. | Patrol of 1 Officer? (Lieut.N.V.McLaren M.M.) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G.s left No.2 Piquet, returning at 5 a.m. through No. 3 Piquet. No contact with enemy. Casualties Nil. | Appendix 67/M/18. |
| | | 3'30 a.m. | Situation quiet. No activity. | |
| | | 9 a.m. | Weather Dull. A quiet day. Wind about 10 miles per hour from W.S.W. | |
| | | 10 a.m. | C.O. proceeded to Bde. H.Q. to continue Court of Enquiry. Capt. J.B.Lane at Battn. H.Q. for immediate command of Battalion. | |
| | | 3'30 p.m. | Situation: Very quiet. Tentative suggestion for raid on area 0.29 central forwarded to 5th.A.I.Bde. (copies in appendix) | 68/M/18 |
| | | 6 p.m. | A quiet day - light rain falling, weather overcast. | |
| | | 8'30 pm. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.R.H.Gascoigne-Roy) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G's left No.3 Picquet, returning at 11'45 p.m. (Patrol report attached) | Appendix 69/M/18 |
| | | | Salvage collected during the period from 5/3/18 to 21/3/18 in PLOEGSTEERT Area by this unit is valued roughly at £ 3800. | |
| | | | Salvage during week 21/3/18 to 29/3/18 - £300. | |

over

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| FORWARD LINE S.E. WYTSCHAETE. | 30/3/18. | 1130 am. | Patrol of 2 Officers (Lieuts. A.W. Irvine M.C. and N.V. McLaren, M.M.) left from O.29.c.20.60. returning at 4'30 a.m. Strength of Battalion as follows - as at 6 p.m. 29/3/18 - Total Strength - 46 Officers 1061 O.R. Detached - 4 " 132 " Fighting strength - 42 " 929 " 73 Coils of wire were put out on Reserve Line in U.27.d. - A very good belt of wire now exists in this square. | Appendix 70/M/18 |
| | | 12'30 pm. | Enemy shelled vicinity of kitchens at meal time. A quite day. Dull and raining - Wind S.W. to W.S.W. - Visibility poor. | |
| | | 4'30 p.m. | Brigade advised that raid suggested (vide appendix 68/M/18) would not be possible. | |
| | | 6 p.m. | Inter company relief Order issued. | Appendix 71/M/18. |
| | | 6'30 p.m. | Warning order received that Battalion was to be relieved by 10th. Battn. Royal Warwicks Regt. on night of 1st/2nd. April 1918. | |
| | | 8'30 pm. | Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. F.J. Brown) 28 O.R. and 2 L.Gs went out from O.29.c.20.80., returning at 11'30 p.m. through O.29.a.20.10. | Appendix 72/M/18 |
| | | 9'30 p.m. | Inter Company relief commenced - Quiet relief, but made very difficult owing to darkness and wet. Relief complete. | |
| | 31/3/18. | 1 a.m. | Gas stunt on our right in O.35., O.36., and south of these points (vide appendix /M/18) Enemy put up many flares and opened at about 1'10 a.m. with artillery on front line south of our sector. Our artillery co-operated with shrapnel on the gassed areas. Otherwise a quiet night. | |
| | | 3 p.m. | The day was cloudy with rain at intervals. | |
| | | 4 p.m. | Brigade Order No.151 received, providing for relief and moves after relief. Advance parties of 10th. Royal Warwicks arrived. | |
| | | 8'30 p.m. | Patrol of three officers (Lieut. N.V. McLaren, M.M. and two officers of 10th. Royal Warwicks) 28 O.R. and 2 L.Gs went out from No.5 Picquet, returning at 11'30 p.m. via No.2 Picquet. | Appendix /M/18. |

af

18,000-12/17-872

WAR DIARY

OF

18TH BATTALION

FOR

MARCH 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

| No. | Subject. |
|----------|-------------------|
| 1/M/18. | BO No. 8. |
| 2/M/18. | BO No. 9. |
| 29/M/18. | Patrol Programme. |
| 3/M/18. | Patrol Report. |
| 4/M/18. | " " |
| 5/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 6/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 7/M/18. | " report. |
| 8/M/18. | " " |
| 9/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 10/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 11/M/18. | " report. |
| 12/M/18. | " " |
| 13/M/18. | " " |
| 14/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 15/M/18. | " " |
| 16/M/18. | Patrol |
| 17/M/18. | " report. |
| 19/M/18. | " " |
| 20/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 21/M/18. | Patrol |
| 22/M/18. | " report. |
| 23/M/18. | " " |
| 24/M/18. | " " |
| 25/M/18. | programme |
| 26/M/18. | report. |
| 27/M/18. | " " |
| 28/M/18. | " " |
| 29/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 30/M/18. | Patrol |
| 31/M/18. | " report |
| 32/M/18. | " " |
| 33/M/18. | Works programme. |
| 34/M/18. | Patrol |
| 35/M/18. | " report |

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 36/M/18. | Pw. Order No. 10. |
| 37/M/18. | Patrol report. |
| 38/M/18. | " |
| 39/M/18. | Secret memo. |
| 399/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 40/M/18. | report. |
| 41/M/18. | " |
| 42/M/18. | " |
| 43/M/18. | works programme. |
| 44/M/18. | Salvage return. |
| 45/M/18. | Secret memo. |
| 46/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 47/M/18. | report. |
| 48/M/18. | " |
| 49/M/18. | Pw Order No 14. |
| 50/M/18. | " " " 11. |
| 509/M/18. | Recommendations for awards. |
| 51/M/18. | Brigade Int. Summary. |
| 52/M/18. | Pw Order No. 12. |
| 53/M/18. | works programme. |
| 54/M/18. | Pw Order No 13. |
| 55/M/18. | Disposition report. |
| 56/M/18. | Patrol report. |
| 57/M/18. | " |
| 58/M/18. | " |
| 59/M/18. | Appendix |
| 60/M/18. | Pw Order No. 15. |
| 61/M/18. | Patrol report. |
| 62/M/18. | Report of sector turn over. |
| 63/M/18. | Patrol report. |
| 64/M/18. | Gas projector attack. |
| 65/M/18. | Patrol report. |
| 66/M/18. | " programme. |
| 67/M/18. | " report. |
| 68/M/18. | proposal for raid. |
| 69/M/18. | Patrol programme |
| 70/M/18. | " report. |
| 71/M/18. | Pw Order No. 16. |
| 72/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 73/M/18. | " |
| 74/M/18. | Amendment to Pw Order No. 15. |
| 75/M/18. | Patrol programme. |
| 76/M/18. | Quis report. |

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.8.

(Copy No.4.)

Battalion Headquarters,
2nd March 1918.

Reference Map: HAZEBROUCK 5A 1/100,000

1. The 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade will move to KORTEPYP Area between 2nd. and 4th. March 1918.
2. (a) 18th. Battalion Transport Section less vehicles as in sub-para. (b) will move by road, leaving present area at 8'30 a.m. 2nd. inst., arriving at KORTEPYP area on 4th. inst.
(b) 4 cooks, 1 water cart, maltese cart, messcart and bicycles will move on 4th. inst. clearing present billets by 5'20 a.m. and marching to IZERNES and entrain; detraining at BAILLEUL, thence march to KORTEPYP area.
(c) 18th. Battalion less personnel and transport as in sub-paras. (a) and (b) and parties as in paras. 3 and 4, will move on 4th. inst. in accordance with table attached.
3. Billeting Party: - Lieut. E.B.W. Daniel and one N.C.O. per Coy. will report to Brigade H.Q. at 7'30 a.m. 3rd. inst. with 3 days rations. They will proceed to the new area by motor lorry.
4. A Trench Party will proceed in advance by motor lorry on 4th. inst.. Particulars as to strength etc. will be notified later.
5. Dress: - Marching Order (except party as in para. 4). One blanket will be carried on the man.
Platoon Commanders will carry packs, field glasses, revolvers, and steel helmets.
Trench Party will proceed in fighting order, one blanket will be carried. Packs and hats will be disposed of under instructions to be issued later.
6. Baggage: - will be carried to the personnel train in motor lorries. Blankets to the number of one per man will be tightly rolled in bundles of ten and labelled with wooden tabs.
Officers gear will be carried up to a weight of 50 lbs. per officer. Officers' blankets will not be rolled in valises, but will be rolled in bundles of 10 as above.
All above gear and any for transport on 4th. inst. will be ready for loading not later than 4'30 a.m. 4th. inst.
7. Routine for 4th. inst. will be as follows: -
Reveille - 3'30 a.m.
Breakfast - 4'15 a.m.
(Kitchens to be ready to move at 5 a.m.)
Thence as in March Table.
8. Lewis Guns and magazines will be carried on the personnel train and will be ready for loading at 6 p.m. 3rd. inst.
9. Entrainment - Capt. J.N. Doyle will be Battalion Entraining Officer and will report to Major L.G. Fussell, M.C. (Brigade Entraining Officer) at 6'30 a.m. 4th. inst. at LUMBRES Station.
10. On the march to LUMBRES Station, an interval of 100 yards will be maintained between Coys. - March from STEENBERCK Station to CANTERN CORNER will be by platoons at 100 yards interval.
11. Parties will be detailed as follows: -
(a) 1 L.G. N.C.O. per Coy. will accompany Lewis Guns.
(b) 1 N.C.O. and 6 O.R. per Coy. will stand by baggage at each Coy. H.Q. from 4'30 a.m., as loading party.
(c) 1 Officer and 20 O.R. from "A" Coy. will reach LUMBRES Station by 5 a.m. to act as unloading party and to guard any baggage which it may be necessary to deposit pending departure of train. This party will also be the loading party for the train.

/(d)

(2)

(d) 1 Officer and 20 O.R. from "D" Coy. will report to Q.M. at STEINWERCK Station as unloading party for baggage by train.

12. All Area Stores (latrine seats, hessian etc.) will be returned to the following billets by noon 3rd.inst.

"A" Coy. & Battn.H.Q. - SENNINGHEM - Billet No.51.
"B", "C", "D" Coys. - AFFRINGUES - Billet No. 3.

13. Particular attention will be paid to the cleanliness of billets on vacation. Certificate will be forwarded to the Adjutant by 7'30 a.m. 4th.inst. to the effect that billets and their vicinity have been left in a clean and sanitary condition.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Lo Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th.Pattalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

No.1. File.

2. "A" Company.
3. "B" Company.
4. "C" Company. ✓
5. "D" Company.
6. Sig.Officer.
7. Q.M.

T A B L E. (To accompany 18th En. Order No. 8.)

| Date | Company | Starting Point | Pass S.P. : No.1. | Starting : Point No.2. | Pass S.P. : No.2. | Enter : Station Yard | Depart : LUMBRES | Arrive : STEENWERCK. | Destination. |
|--------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 4/3/18 | H.Q. | Transport billet. | 5'35 a.m. | D.11.d.5.8. | 6'35 a.m. | 6'50 a.m. | 8'2 a.m. | 10'50 a.m. | CANTRE CORNER. |
| " | "A" Coy. | " | 5'36 a.m. | " | 6'36 a.m. | " | " | " | " |
| " | "B" Coy. | Cross roads D.15.e.6.6. | 5'53 a.m. | " | 6'38 a.m. | " | " | " | " |
| " | "C" Coy. | " | 5'55 a.m. | " | 6'40 a.m. | " | " | " | " |
| " | "D" Coy. | " | 5'57 a.m. | " | 6'42 a.m. | " | " | " | " |

APPENDIX 1

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.
-----Battalion Headquarters,
2nd. March 1918.
-----"A", "B", "C", "D" Coys.
-----Reference 18th. Battn. Order No. 8. para. 12.AREA STORES.

Latrine seats will be left standing and their location pointed out to billet wardens.

All other stores will be collected in billets mentioned. Billet wardens will be at the receiving billets at each village from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 3rd. inst.

O'S C. "D" and "A" Coys. will each detail an officer to supervise the collection of all area stores in AFFRINGUES and SMYINGHAM respectively. These officers will obtain receipts in duplicate and forward both copies to Battn. H.Q. by 4 p.m. 3/3/18.

L. S. Robson
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F. Lieut.

2/3/18

APPENDIX 2 T.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.9. (Copy No.....)

Battalion Headquarters,
3rd. March 1918.Reference Maps:- Sheet 28. 1/40,000
Sheet 36. 1/40,000

1. (a) The 5th.A.I.Bde. will take over the camps occupied by the 10th. A.I.Bde. on 4th. March and become Reserve Brigade to 3rd. AUST. Division.

(b) The 18th. Battalion will take over the camp occupied by a Battn. of the 10th. A.I.Bde. at CANTEEN CORNER, moving in accordance with 18th. Battalion Order No.8.

2. (a) The 5th.A.I.Bde. will relieve the 11th.A.I.Bde. in right Bde. sector of 3rd. Div. front on 5th. March and night of 5th/6th. March 1918.

(b) The 18th. Battalion will relieve the 44th. Battalion in the left sub-sector of Bde. front on night of 5th/6th. March 1918 in accordance with table attached.

3. An advance party proceeded to the sector to be taken over, by motor lorry this morning.

A further advance party of 1 Officer and 3 N.C.O's per Coy. and Coy. H.Q. personnel (at discretion of Company Commanders) will move forward on afternoon of 4th. March, leaving CANTEEN CORNER at 5 p.m.

4. "C" Company will detail one platoon, complete with cook etc. to form part of an Engineers Works Coy. This platoon will be billeted at LE BIZET and will rendezvous at ROSSIGNOL Camp at 2 p.m. 5th. inst. Rations will be taken to the night of 6th. inst.

5. Dress - Men will take to the line, greatcoats, W.P. Sheets and one blanket.

Hats will be packed in packs, and the second blankets will be rolled in bundles of ten (10) for storage. Packs, blankets, and officer's gear will be stacked at Q.M. Store by 11 a.m. 5th. inst.

Instructions re gum boots will be issued later.

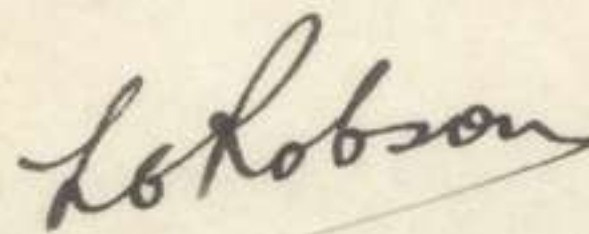
6. Trench stores, aeroplane photos, maps, etc. will be taken over and receipts given. Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. by 9 a.m. 6th. inst.

"B" Coy. will arrange to take over reserve ration dumps at LE GHEER and LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM. These will be checked by an officer and receipts given and forwarded as above. A Guard of 2 O.R. will be posted by left Support Company over each dump.

7. Completion of relief will be notified to Battn. H.Q. by code wire.

8. Disposition reports will be forwarded to Battn. H.Q. as soon as possible and not later than 10 a.m. 6th. inst.

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



Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

No.1. File.

2. "A" Company.
3. "B" Company.
4. "C" Company.
5. "D" Company.
6. Sig. Officer.
7. Q.M. & T.O.
8. 44th. Battalion.
- 9/10. War Diary,

RELIEF TABLE

(To accompany 18th. Battn. Order No. 9.)

| Date | Unit | From | To | To relieve | To leave CANTEEN CORNER | Route | Remarks. |
|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| 5th. March | On e platoon "C" Coy. | CANTEEN CORNER | LE BIZET | Part of 11th. Bde. Works Coy. | 1'15 p.m. | Most direct | Meet remainder of Coy. at ROSSIGNOL Camp. |
| 5/6th. March | H.Q. | -do- | Sheet 28 U.27.b.8.2. | H.Q. 44th. Battn. | To be notified later. | Via ROMARIN | No troops to move forward of line LE BIZET - PLOEGSTEERT before 6 p.m. |
| -do- | "A" Coy. | -do- | Line | Right Coy. 44th. Battn. | -do- | -do- | |
| -do- | "D" Coy. | -do- | Line | Left Coy. 44th. Battn. | -do- | -do- | |
| -do- | "C" Coy. | -do- | Support | Right Coy. 44th. Battn. | -do- | -do- | |
| -do- | "B" Coy. | -do- | -do- | Left Coy. 44th. Battn. | -do- | -do- | |
| 5th. March. | Q.M. Store & Transport. | -do- | BRUNE GAYE. | Transport. | - - | - - | |

March east of NIEPPE - ROMARIN will be by platoons at 100 yards distance.
East of Cross roads PLOEGSTEERT by sections at 50 yards distance.

APPENDIX

12

APPENDIX

2

2 A/M/12

18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Programme of patrols for night of 5th/6th. March 1918.

Password "SCRNAPPER"

| No. | Strength | Place and time of departure. | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|-----|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1. | 1 Officer 20 "A" Coy. 1 L.O.C. 5 men "C" Coy. | U. 29.8.2.9. 1 p.m. | U. 23.8.7.3. 1 a.m. | Patrol to PONT NOUVEAU and MOUL TARA and engage any patrols enemy patrols seen |
| 2. | 1 officer 20 "B" Coy. 1 L.O.C. 5 men "E" Coy. | U. 23.8.95.65. 1 a.m. | U. 29.8.5.7. 4 a.m. | Same as No. 1. |

All posts will be acquainted with this programme as soon as possible.
 On no account will this programme be taken forward of company headquarters.
 Patrol leader will report to Bn. H.Q. on return.
 When patrol returns, company will wire word "~~Boiled~~" Boiled.
 Front line Coys. will arrange to have their immediate front patrolled
 from one hour before daybreak.

Distribution.
 File "A" Coy.
 5th. Bde. "B" Coy.
 Left Bn. "C" Coy.
 Right Bn. "D" Coy.

Edward Irvine - Lieut.
 Intelligence Officer, 18th. Bn.

PATROL REPORT.

APPENDIX 3

Reference Map: DEULEMONT 1/10000
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.T.
 Place of going out: U.29.c.2.9.
 Time of going out: 10 p.m.
 Purpose of going out: Patrol to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen.
 Place of return: U.23.c.7.3.
 Time of return: 1 a.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

I went out from U.29.c.2.9. to PLANTATION FARM thence along to corner of hedge at U.29.a.30.15. and thence along^{to} road at U.29.a.60.40. I then struck across to CUSTOM HOUSE where I left the main patrol and took three scouts and examined all the houses in vicinity of U.29.b.5.4.

The concertina wire which ran through this point has been removed. No trace could be found of the enemy in the buildings. I then took the patrol across and examined MOAT FARM and then returned via U.23.c.7.3. Traffic could be heard in DEULEMONT.

The ground is fairly dry with the exception of about U.29.a.8.3. and U.29.b.5.7. There was no M.G. fire and no flares on Battalion front during patrol.

Sgd J Maxwell

Li

6/1/14

H/M/R
APPENDIX 4PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: DEULMONT 1/10000
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.
 Place of going out: U.23.c.95.65.
 Time of going out: 1 a.m.
 Purpose of going out: Patrol to FORT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen.
 Place of return: U.29.a.5.7.
 Time of return: 4 a.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

I went out from U.23.c.95.65. to about U.23.d.65.90., thence down to sleeper track at about U.23.d.90.55. and waited for about two hours. No sign of the enemy was seen. Sounds of working parties across the river and traffic in DEULMONT was heard. A machine gun was firing from vicinity of DOLLS HOUSE and heavy T.M. were firing from the vicinity of VICANT FARM on to Sugar Refinery.

I returned via MOAT FARM (which showed no signs of occupation) and U.29.a.5.7.

- 1/2/18

Sgd H. J. Brown Lt

18th. BATTALION. A.I.F.

WORKS PROGRAMME.

5/M/18

6th. March 1918.

| Coy. | Strength | Task No. | Time. | Task | Remarks. |
|------|-----------------------|----------|--|---|--|
| "C" | 1 Officer 20 O.R. | 1. | As early as visibility will allow. | To carry 100 pickets from LE GREYER Dump (approx) 80 coils barbed wire from UNA ALLEY near UNA HOUSE to front line. | For use by party wiring on gaps in front line. |
| "C" | 1 Officer 40 O.R. | 2. | -do- | To wire gaps cut in front line wire on right Coy. sector. | This task must be completed before morning. |
| "B" | 2 Officers 90 O.R. | 3. | -do- | To build up and repair parapet on left Coy. sector, digging borrow pit where necessary. | Borrow pit not to be dug too close to parapet. |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the task to be done and will see that the necessary tools are available.

Battn. H.Q.
8/3/18.

Lt. Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

5
27

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

6/11/18

A

Programme of patrols for night of 6th/7th. March 1918.

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|-----|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | | | | (Password - "SALMON") |
| 1. | 1 Officer) 20 O.R.) "A" Coy.) 1 Lewis Gun) 5 men,) "C" Coy.) | U.29.c.2.9. 7 p.m. 13 A | U.23.c.7.3. 10'30 p.m. | Patrol to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. |
| 2. | 1 Officer) 20 O.R.) "D" Coy.) 1 Lewis gun) 5 men) "B" Coy.) | U.23.c.95.65. 11 p.m. | U.29.a.5.7. 3 a.m. | Patrol to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM, and engage any enemy patrols seen. <i>Endeavour to recover balloon dropped by EA near MOAT Fm.</i> |

Distribution. : Front line Coys. will arrange to have their immediate front patrolled from
File. : one hour before daybreak.
 "A" Company. : All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as
 "B" Company. : possible afterwards.
 "C" Company. : ON NO ACCOUNT WILL THIS PROGRAMME BE TAKEN FORWARD OF COMPANY HEADQUARTERS.
 "D" Company. : Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.
 5th.A.I.Brigade. : When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "TINNED"
 Right Battalion. :
 Left Battalion. :

Andrew
 Intelligence Officer, 18th. Battalion
 A.I.F.
 Lieut.

APPENDIX

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: DEUILMONT 1/10000

Personnel of Patrol: 2 Officers (Lieuts. Irvine and Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.

Place of going out: U.23.d.1.7.

Time of going out: 6.45. p.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen.

Place of Return: U.29.a.25.15.

Time of return: 10.30 p.m.

Casualties: NIL.

Information gained: We went out from U.23.d.1.7. at 6.45. p.m. through U.23.d.9.4. to about U.24.c.05.35 where we left our main patrol. Taking three scouts I crawled forward to within a few yards of the river bank. Enemy working parties were out in fairly large numbers judging by the sounds, and talking could be heard on the opposite bank. Returning to patrol we crossed ditch at U.24.c.02.35 and entered and searched MOAT FARM. While there a M.G. from vicinity of DOLLS HOUSE fired into the farm. Then took patrol around side of farm and across to houses in PONT ROUGE at about U.29.b.25.65. Patrol was left there and we then went forward reexamined houses to about U.29.b.50.35. We were fired on several times by M.G. from direction of URAL HOUSE. No enemy was seen or heard this side of river. We returned through PLANTATION FARM and U.29.a.25.15 at 10.30 p.m. Numerous flares were put up on our section of front.

Andrew Irvine
Lieut.
18th Battalion A.I.F.

7/3/18

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: DEULEMONT 1/10000.

Personnel of Patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. 1 L.G.

Place of going out: U.23.c.2.9.

Time of going out: 11 p.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. Endeavour to recover balloon dropped by E.A. near MOAT FARM.

Place of return: 22 Post.

Time of return: 3 a.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained: I left trench at U.23.c.2.9. and proceeded to U.23.c.9.5. thoroughly searching all the intervening ground. Ground eastward from line of trees U.23.c.70.80 to river is in a very marshy and boggy condition and it is almost impassable in many places. A reconnoitring patrol of five visited MOAT FARM and thoroughly ~~examined~~ searched the ruins and the ground about the Moat. No trace of the enemy was seen but sounds were heard of iron or wire rattling at or about U.29.b.central. The whole patrol then moved along hedge from U.23.c.70.50. turning south and crossing old road at U.23.c.30.20. Sounds of material being shifted were heard near old dump at U.29.b.20.90. On proceeding to investigate the patrol was challenged in German (Wil geht da) and a man was seen to stand up. The patrol immediately opened fire with rifles and bombs the enemy also replying with rifle and bombs. On attempting to proceed we ran into numerous old knife rests of barb wire and were unable to find a track through owing to the darkness and a slight fog. The enemy was heard moving in PONT ROUGE and also on right about U.29.b.1.8. I remained in the vicinity for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour but no trace of the enemy could be seen. I am of the opinion that the enemy was salvaging material from PONT ROUGE and that we struck the covering party. We suffered no casualties. Returned at 22 post.

Lieut. J. J. Brown
Lieut.
18th Battalion A.I.F.

7/3/18.

WORKS PROGRAMME

4/M/18

18th Bn A.I.F. 7th March 18

| Task No | Co. | Strength | Time | Tasks | Remarks |
|---------|-----|---------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | C | 10ff 15.0 R. | As early as visibility will permit | cleaning out, revetting & duckboarding and digging sumphole at KATHERINE POST | This party will provide its own covering party will go out to task & return through No 22 post |
| 1a | C | 1 NC 10 OR. | do | wiring & thickening existing wire in front of KATHERINE POST | |
| 2. | C | 10ff. 37.0 R. | do | cleaning & deepening left C.T near junction with front line. | |
| 3. | B | 10ff. 20 OR. | do | wiring & thickening existing wire in front of No 26 post to hedge on right. | |
| 4. | B | 10ff 35 OR. | do | carrying RE material, barbed wire screw pickets from LE CHEER DUMP to left corp front line. | |
| 5. | B | 10ff. 10 OR. | do | wiring & thickening existing wire in gaps made in Right Corp front line wire. | |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the tasks to be done & will see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Le Robson
Adjutant 18th Bn. Lieut.

APPENDIX

9

31

1000

11/11/11

WORKS PROGRESS

Abou

| | | | | | |
|---|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | C | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R |
| 2 | C | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R |
| 3 | C | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R |
| 4 | B | 100 20 0 R | 100 20 0 R | 100 20 0 R | 100 20 0 R |
| 5 | B | 100 30 0 R | 100 30 0 R | 100 30 0 R | 100 30 0 R |
| 6 | B | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R | 100 10 0 R |

1000 11/11/11

1000 11/11/11

10/M/18

18th A.I. Battalion
Programme of Patrols for night of 7/8th March 1918.

Password TROUT

| No. | Strength | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return | Instructions |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 1 off 20 O.R. D. Coy. 1 L.C. + 5 O.R. from B. Coy. | V. 29 a. 40.50. 7 p.m. | V. 23. d. 10. 70. 10.30 p.m. | Examine PONT ROUGE thoroughly thence to MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. |
| 2. | 1 off 25 O.R. & 1 L.C. from B. Coy. | V. 29 a. 50. 75 11 p.m. | V. 29. a. 30. 20. 2 a.m. | Go to approx. V. 29. 6.50.60 and establish standing patrol and wait for enemy patrol. |
| 3. | 1 off 20 O.R. A. Coy. 1 L.C. + 5 O.R. from C. Coy. | V. 29. a. 30. 20. 2 a.m. | V. 23 C. 80. 40 4.30 a.m. | Go to PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and report on dump at V. 29. 6. 20.90 and engage any ^{enemy} patrols. |

Front line Coy. will arrange to have their immediate front patrolled from
one hour before daybreak.

all posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon
as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Coy. H.Q.

Patrol leader will report to Bn. H.Q. on completion.

When patrol returns Coy will wire word 'FRIED'

Distribution:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| File | Right Bn. |
| A Coy | Left Bn. |
| B | 5th A. L. T. M. B. |
| C | 5th A. M. C. Coy |
| D | |
| 5th A. I. B. Coy | |

Approved *[Signature]*

APPENDIX 1032

18th Bn AIF

11/M/18 APPENDIX

Patrol Report

8-3-18.

Strength 1 off (Lieut Brown) 250R inc 1 Lewis Gun.

Left U.29.a. S.G. at 7.0 pm

Returned through U.23.c. 8050 at 10.30 pm.

Object - To visit PONT ROUGE & MONT FARM & engage any enemy patrols seen.

Information etc. - Thoroughly examined all ground in U.23.d. by proceeding NE to about U23 d 8070.- crossed sleepered track to MONT FARM, entering the latter from the north east. Examined all the ruins of the Farm. There was no sign of the presence of the enemy during tonight. Left MONT FM by the western side, moving to old trench at U29.b. 5080. There were a number of fresh empty cartridge cases lying near the top of the trench, over a length of 40 yards, probably left from patrol encounter reported last night. Then visited site of old pillbox at U23 d 3.2 & found it demolished since last night. (I saw an explosion in this vicinity at 5 am this morning) Thence proceeded to road junction U29 b. 3.6 & along road to point of return.

No sign or sound of the enemy was seen or heard. No T.M or MG activity during the patrol.

Lieut Brown. Lieut
18th Bn AIF.

Patrol report

7/8 Oct

Strength. 1 off (Lt. Thompson) 25 men 1 L 9

Time & place of departure. 11 pm U 29 a 5075-

Time & place of return. 2 ~~pm~~ am U 29 a 3020.

Object. Establish standing patrol at U 29 b 5060.

Information gained.

I went out & established a standing patrol at U 29 b 5060 & waited until 1.45 am. There was no sign of enemy movement at all & absolute quietness in vicinity of Pont Rouge bridge. No M. 9 fire in places during patrol.

Sgt. A. Thompson Lt

Patrol Report

13/M/18

APPENDIX

5/3/18

13 35

Personnel. 1 off (Lt. Bennett) 8250 B: 1 L.G.
Time & place of departure. 2 am. ~~0700~~ 0700. 0700 0700
Time & place of return. 5:30 am. 0700 8040.

Information. I went out to join bank at about 0700 0700. I then along to cross roads at 0700 2070. Then along to 0700 3040. As it was getting fairly light I had just sent main patrol back I had 1st man with me. I then planned a party of the enemy moving along about 0700 5070. They apparently saw us & got into position nearby. I sent word to main patrol to come back & with three points crawled forward to within bombing range. The three points to which he replied & then our whole patrol opened up with rifles, bombs & L.G.

Our ammunition & bombs ran out as we changed their position. The L.G. emptying its magazines as the party retired. There were two dead in the trench & two wounded one slightly. ~~The~~ One of them wouldn't come along so had to be disposed of. There appeared to be about 20 men in the patrol & I am of the opinion that many others were wounded.

It was quite daylight by this but we were not quiet till on our way back with the prisoner.

Lt. Bennett

18/12

(1)

Dr. Erich Müller,
 Langhelde i./fa.
 b./Lebnitz
 Sachs-Schwarz

*Salter from Saxon 177 Reg. captured
 in battle of Chancellorsville
 1862. He was a soldier
 used in line of
 identity.*

18/3n

n 36

Mar 18

—

8/9th March 1918.

WORKS PROGRAMME

14/M/18

18 Battalion 1915

| Coy. | Task No. | Strength | Time. | Task | Remarks |
|------|----------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| B | 1 | 1 NCO 15 OR. | 8 AM. | Clearing & opening up end of UMPIRE AVENUE near turn off to Right Coy. HQ. | This party requires gun boots - A frames to be put in where required. |
| B | 1A | 1 Officer 20 OR. | 8 AM. | Clearing & opening UMPIRE AVENUE forward from O.G.I. | This party requires gun boots - A frames to be put in and duckboards fixed. |
| B | 2 | 1 NCO. 10 OR. | 8 AM. | Excavating position for shelter, near Y.M.C.A. | |
| C | 3 | 1 Officer 25 OR. | 8 AM. | Clearing & opening UNA LANE between O.G.I. and junction with UNA SUPPORT. | |
| C | 4 | 1 NCO. 6 OR. | 8 AM. | Opening up safe running from FRONT LINE to IDA POST. | |
| B | 5 | 1 Officer 20 OR. | As soon as visibility will permit. | Working on left C.T. near front line. | |
| C | 6 | 1 Officer 30 OR. | - - - | Deepening front line on right coy. sector. | |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the task to be done and
will see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Batt. H.Q.
8/3/18.

L. Hobson
Adjutant 18 Bn

APPENDIX 14

WORKS PROGRAMME

15/M/18

8th March 1918.

18th Battalion RIF.

83

| Coy | Task No. | Strength. | Time | Task | Remarks |
|-----|----------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| "B" | 1 | 1 N.C.O. 12 men. | As early as visibility will permit. | Repairing and clearing damage in LINA SUPPORT and UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH. | This party will also carry left Coy's rations |
| B | 2 | 1 officer 3 N.C.Os. 27 men. | -- | To erect double apron fence in front of holes cut in right Coy. sector and fill in gaps. | |
| B | 3 | 1 officer 23 OR. | -- | A framing and revetting left C.T. near junction with front line. | |
| C | 4 | 2 officers 50 OR. | -- | Deepening and widening front line on Right Coy's sector for A frames and revetment. | 12 of this party will be detailed to carry Right Coy's rations. |
| C | 5 | 1 N.C.O. 12 men | -- | To complete task on KATHERINE POST. | |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the task to be done
and will see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Done H.Q.
8/3/18.

LeRobson
Adjutant 18th RIF.

APPENDIX 1538

Alloy

| Ref | Field | Station | Time |
|-----|-------|---------|------|
|-----|-------|---------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|-------|-------|
| 10 | 1 | 12.00 | 10.00 |
|----|---|-------|-------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|-------|
| 11 | 2 | 1.00 | 11.00 |
|----|---|------|-------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|-------|
| 12 | 3 | 2.00 | 12.00 |
|----|---|------|-------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 13 | 4 | 3.00 | 1.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 14 | 5 | 4.00 | 2.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 15 | 6 | 5.00 | 3.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 16 | 7 | 6.00 | 4.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 17 | 8 | 7.00 | 5.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

| | | | |
|----|---|------|------|
| 18 | 9 | 8.00 | 6.00 |
|----|---|------|------|

18th Aust Inf Bn 16/MT
Programme of Patrols for night 8/9th March 1918

PASSWORD - "WHITING"

| No | Strength | Place and time of departure | Place & time of return | Instructions |
|----|--|--|---|---|
| 1. | 1 Off. - 20 OR H. Coy. 1 L.G. & 5 OR "C" Coy. | U23 d 1080 U29 a 20 7 PM. | U29 a 20 U29 a 20.20 10.30 PM. | Examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. |
| 2. | 1 Off. - 25 OR and 1 L.G. B. Coy. | U.29 a. 50.75. 11 PM. | U.29 a. 30.20. 2 A.M. | Go to approx U.29 b. 50.60. and establish standing patrol, and wait for enemy patrol. |
| 3. | 1 Off. 20 OR D. Coy. L.G. & 5 OR B. Coy. | U.29 a. 40.50. 2 AM. | U.23 d. 10.70. 4.30 AM. | Examine PONT ROUGE thoroughly, thence to MOAT FARM and engage any enemy patrols seen. |

Front line boys will arrange to have their immediate front patrolled from one hour before daybreak.
 all posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.
 ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Coy. HQ.
 Patrol leader will report to Bdr. H.Q. on completion.
 When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "FRESH"

Distribution
 5 AM G. Co. to U29 b 6035 from 7 pm to 7.2 pm. 5th ALTM B and
 A Coy 5th ALTM B 1st Patrol leader will check time with. Awdernie. Lieut.
 B " Right Bn Right Coy H.Q. at 6.5 pm. Intelligence Officer 18 Bn
 C " Left Bn.
 D " 5 Bde.

APPENDIX 16

Libby

APR 1918

38

Patrol Report

18th Bn

8.3.18

Strength 1 OH (Lieut Maxwell OCM)

25 OR (inc 1 Lewis Gun)

Left KATHARINE 6.45 pm

Returned IDA Post 10 pm

Purpose - as defined in 18th Bn Op. Memo No 4 & patrol programme.

Information - Following result was observed from the operation planned in a.m. No 4 - Stokes mortars opened at 7.0 pm, patrol observing from about U.29.6 0.8. Immediately these mortars opened, the Boche put about 6 x 77's out in the vicinity of U 29.6 5075 & then opened on the Stokes position with 77's. Only about 10 rounds were fired by the Stokes mortar. Thenceforward, at intervals of 10 to 20 minutes, the enemy put bursts of 3 77's, & occasional bursts of M W's into the area between the buildings at PORT ROUGE & the sap at 29.6 5.8. Patrol proceeded along hedge running W N W from 29.6 2.8. to MOAT FARM. I did not think it justifiable to take patrol into trench at 29.6 5.8. There ~~is~~ is nothing fresh to report about MOAT FM. Patrol returned along same hedge, thence to PLANTATION Fm & along river bank returning via IDA Post.

Everything was ~~very~~ quiet except for occasional scattered shells in N M. L.

J. B. Maxwell. Lieut
18th Bn A.I.F.

Patrol Report.18th Batt.Night 8th 9th 3. 18.

Strength. 1 Officer. (Lieut J. C. Harrison.)
25 O.R. (inc. 1 Lewis Gun.)

Left at 11 P.M.

Returned at 2 A.M.

Purpose. As defined in 18th Batt. Operations No. 4
patrol programme.

Proceeded to a point about U29. B. to 50. & established
a standing patrol on Shell hole, no signs of
enemy patrol during my stay out there.

Several bursts of machine gun fire passed over
head in direction of Katherine Post, also ground
behind M.O.A.T. FARM was shelled with Pineapple
bombs & Minnieverfers from direction of DOLLS
HOUSE.

This fire was opened during our Artillery demonstration
at midnight.

John Harrison Lt.
18th Batt.

9th/10th. March 1918.

WORKS PROGRAMME

21/3/18

18th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

87

| Coy. | Task No. | Strength. | Time | Task. | Remarks. |
|------|----------|-----------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| "A" | 1 | 1 Officer. 30 O.R. | <i>As soon as</i> Visibility <i>permits</i> at night. | Carrying R.E. material from LE CHIEF Dump, deepening and clearing front line for same - Right Coy. sector. | |
| "A" | 2 | 1 Officer. 25 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Clearing and widening WARNAVE LANE from O.G.1 to junction with UNA SUPPORT. | |
| "A" | 3 | 1 N.C.O. 10 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Draining UNA AVENUE forward of Right Company cookers. | This party will require Gum boots. |
| "D" | 4 | 1 Officer. 30 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Draining and clearing UMPIRE AVENUE forward of O.G.1 to UMPIRE ROW. | -do- |
| "D" | 5 | 1 Officer. 25 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Draining and clearing UMPIRE AVENUE near O.G.1. | -do- |
| "D" | 6 | 1 N.C.O. 10 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Draining and clearing drain behind R.A.P. | -do- |

Officers will make themselves familiar with ~~these~~ task to be done and
will see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Battn. H.Q.
9/3/18.

L. Lobson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

20
42

18th Aust. Inf. Bn. 21/11

Programme of Patrols for night 9/10 March 1948.

| No. | Strength | Place & time of departure | Place & time of return | Instructions | PASSWORD |
|-----|---|--|--------------------------------|--|----------|
| 1. | 1 Off. 25 OR. 1 LG. from D Coy | U. 23. 6. 25. 60. 7 PM. | U. 29. a. 60. 80. 10.30 PM. | Thoroughly search country from N. boundary to MOAT FARM (inclusive). | HERRING |
| 2. | 1 Off. 20 OR. B Coy. 1 LG. & 5 men D Coy. | U. 29. a. 50. 60. (midnight (summer time). | U. 23. c. 80. 40. 3 AM. | Establish standing patrol at about U. 29. 6. 45. 48. | --- |
| 3. | 1 Off. 20 OR. C Coy. 1 LG. & 5 men. A Coy. | U. 29. a. 30. 30. 3 AM. | U. 23. d. 20. 80. 5.30 AM. | Examine PONT ROUGE and scene of patrol encounter and MOAT FARM. | --- |

Patrol leaders will bear in mind the alteration from winter to summer time.
Front line Coy. will have their immediate front patrolled from one hour before daybreak.
All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.
ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Coy. HQ.
Patrol leader will report to Bn. HQ. on completion.
When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "SALT".

Distribution
File 5 Bde.
A Coy 5 Amb Co.
B 5 AL Sub B.
C Right Bn.
D Left Bn.

Ar Luning Lieut.
J.O. 18th Battalion.

APPENDIX

21

Alby

5
4
4
6
6
7
30

APPENDIX

43

Patrol Report 22/11/18 1 P.M.

high 9.10 11.3.0

Strength: 1 Officer (Lt. G. J. Brown) 25 O.K. & 1 L.G.

Left at: 8 P.M.

Returned at: 11.30 p.m.

Purpose: Search country from N Boundary to MOAT FARM inclusive

Information: I went out from U.23. b. 30.25. and proceeded towards MOAT FARM examining the farm closely. I then retraced my steps back to U.23. b. central. Here I left the main patrol & moved with two men to west river bank at about U.23. b. 70.40. We waited here for half an hour. While here something was dropped in the river from the opposite bank making a loud splash, followed by a similar splash about 50 (fifty) yards further south. Owing to the number of planes going up & ~~down~~ M.G. fire I could not obtain a close view of the river to ascertain cause of the splash. I then rejoined main Patrol & proceeded back to MOAT FARM thence to about U.23. d. 51. No sign of the enemy was seen. All U.23. d. was straffed with M.G. & T.M. fire while I was out. I then returned through to 26 Post

G. J. Brown

Patrol Report. 23/M/18 18th Batt.

Height 9^h 10^m 3.18

Strength: 1 officer (kind Thompson) 25 Mk 9 1 LG.

Left at: midnight U. 23. C. 8.3

Returned at: 3 am U. 23. d. 2090

Purpose: to establish standing patrol in vicinity of V. 9 to 70^h 50

Information: I went straight to the position of standing patrol. We passed the scene of the patrol encounter a couple of nights previously but not trace of enemy dead bodies found. There was no sign of enemy movement whatsoever. Enemy kept putting M.V.s in vicinity of M.O.A.T. Fort. I returned through V. 9 to 7590 into the farm. There is a brown sandstone track across the moat at this point. M.O.A.T. Fort showed no signs of occupation. No M. 9 fire places or gun found during patrol.

H. Thompson Lt
18th Batt

24/M/18

Patrol report

10/3/18

Personnel 1 off 25 OR & 2 LG.
 Date & place of departure 3 am U29 a 3030
 Date & place of return 5:30 am U29 a 2080.
Instructions Examine PORT ROUGE & area
 of patrol encounter.

I went out to about U29 a 8.3, thence
 across to U29 b 0590. From there
 I made eastward, searched all the
 country up to about U29 B 65.
 All of the old tracks in vicinity
 were searched, but no trace of
 patrol encounter could be found.
 We returned via Plantation Four
 PAPER HO. No trace of enemy
 could be found, no m & f, no
 during patrol.
 No traffic could be heard in TOR.
 DEULE MONT.

10/3/18

10/3/18
 J. L. Clark
 18/12
 J.

PROGRAMME OF PATROLS *25/M/R*
for night 10/11th. March 1918.

18th. BATTALION.

PASSWORD - "GARFISH"

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure. | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 1 Off.-20 O.R. "C" Coy. 1 L.G.-5 men. "A" Coy. | U.29.a.30.30. 7 p.m. | U.23.d.20.80. 10'30 p.m. | Examine PONT ROUGE and scene of patrol encounter and MOAT FARM. |
| 2. | 1 Off- 25 O.R. 1 L.G.- 5 men. "D" Coy. | U.29.a.50.60. midnight. | U.23.c.80.40. 3 a.m. | Establish standing patrol at about U.29.b.45.48. |
| 3. | 1 Off- 20 O.R. "B" Coy. 1 L.G.- 5 men. "D" Coy. | U.23.b.25.60. 3 a.m. | U.29.a.60.80. 5'30 a.m. | Thoroughly search country from N.boundary to MOAT FARM (inclusive). |

Front line Coys. will have their immediate front patrolled from one hour before daybreak.

All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT WILL THIS PROGRAMME BE TAKEN FORWARD OF COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.

When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "~~ENRICH~~"
"BONY"

Distribution.

File. 5th.A.I.Bde.
"A" Coy. 5th.A.L.T.M.B.
"B" Coy. 5th.A.M.G.Co.
"C" Coy. Right Battn.
"D" Coy. Left Battn.

L. Robinson
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th. Battn.

Sheet 25 Patrol Report 26/M/18.
15/11-3-19.

Strength. 1 officer (Lieut Clayton) 250R
1 Lewis Gun.

Left from U.29 a. 3050 at 8 pm. 19/3/18.
Returned 26 post at 11.40 am.

Intention - To search scene of
patrol encounter, thence investigate
MOAT Farm.

Information. Proceeded to PLANTATION
Fm. thence followed along edge of
river to U.29 a. 8.2. Followed
along hedge to 29 a. 7.5. Thence
along trench to 29. b. 3.7. 8 via
road to 29. d. 6.5. Main patrol was
halted at 29. d. 6.5. a reconnoitring
patrol was sent forward through
PONT ROUGE.

Sounds of talking were heard
across the river, & mechanical
sounds at intervals. A trench
mortar was firing from about
29 d 9.6. in the direction of IDA Post.

Patrol next proceeded to
MOAT Farm across moat at
23. b. 7.2. Returned thence via to 26
Post.

The tour was very quiet

C. J. Clayton R.

27/M/18

APPENDIX

27

10/11/18

Sheet 28

Patrol Report.

Strength

1 officer 25 O.R. & L.G.

Time & place of
departure

Midnight: U 29 a. 50 80.

Time & place of
return

3 am. 11/3/18 U 23 a 50 80.

Description

To form a standing patrol at
about U 29 b 40 80.

Information

Left by 10:11 Pat & proceeded
in a south easterly direction to
point U 29 a 90 80.

A reconnoitering patrol was then sent
out to investigate buildings at U 29 b 70 80.
No sign of the enemy was seen or heard.
Main patrol then moved forward into
position at U 29 b 40 80. & stopped there
till 2.45 am.

Owing to the heavy fog it was impossible
to see anything.

The patrol came in by way of Goat Farm.
& 10th post.

Owing to fog it was extremely difficult to
keep in touch & to keep direction.
Enemy M.C. fired a few bursts, mostly from
Dolls House.

T.M. is quiet; only 5 rounds being fired.

Sgt Brown.

Altitude. 1 off 25 ORR + L 9.

Time: place of departure. 3 am U 23th 2090

" " return. 5.30 am U 23c 7030

Instructions. Examine country from Nth boundary to MONT Fm inclusive.

I took patrol in & searched well country to the north of MONT Fm.

Being to the dense fog it was very difficult to move about as I could only see a very few yards.

Sounds of marching could be heard across river. It appeared to be close to river at about U 24c 6050.

I examined MONT Fm & found no trace of the enemy.

There was no M 9 for a while. Several hunts were fired but they went well back.

H Thompson Lt
18th Bn

WORKS PROGRAMME.

29/3/18

18TH. BATTALION.

82

10/11th. March 1918.

| Coy. | Task No. | Strength. | Time. | Task | Remarks. |
|------|----------|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| "A" | 1 | 1 Officer 25 O.R. | 7:00 a.m. | Opening and clearing WARNAVE AVENUE AVENUE between O.G.1 and junction with UNA SUPPORT. | |
| "A" | 2 | 1 N.C.O. 10 O.R. | 7:30 a.m. | Draining UNA AVENUE forward of Right Coy. cookers. | This party will require gum boots. |
| "A" | 3 | 1 Officer 30 O.R. | As early as visibility will permit. | Opening and clearing front line on Right Coy. sector. | |
| "D" | 4 | 2 Officers 50 O.R. | 7:30 a.m. | Opening and clearing UMPIRE AVENUE between O.G.1 and UMPIRE ROW. | This party will require gum boots. |
| "D" | 5 | 1 Officer 25 O.R. | 7:30 a.m. | Carrying R.E. material from LE CHEER Dump to O.G.1. | In works report state quantity carried. |
| "D" | 6 | 1 N.C.O. 5 O.R. | 7:30 a.m. | Cutting drain behind R.A.P. | This party will require gum boots. |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the task to be done and will see that the necessary tools are available.

Battn. H.Q.
10/3/18.

L. Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion.

29
51

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30/M/18

Programme of patrols for night of 11th/12th. March 1918.

PASSWORD - "LOBSTER"

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "B" Coy. 1 L.G. & 5 men "D" Coy. | U.23.c.90.20. 8 p.m. | U.23.d.15.95. 11'30 p.m. | Examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and if possible the country in the vicinity of U.24.c.40.10. |
| 2. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "C" Coy. 1 L.G. 5 men "A" Coy. | U.29.a.40.20. 2 a.m. | U.23.d.10.70. daylight | Same as No.1. |

Front line Coys. will have their immediate front patrolled from one hour before daybreak.

All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters

Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.

When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "SALAD"

Distribution.

File 5th.A.I.Bde.
"A" Coy. 5th.A.L.T.M.B.
"B" Coy. 5th.A.M.G.Co.
"C" Coy. Right Battn.
"D" Coy. Left Battn.

Le Robson
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer, 18th. Battn

31/M/18

Patrol Report 17/3/18

Lieut Thompson 250R 1 LG
 Left 8.30 pm from U 23 c 8050
 Returned 11.20 pm U 23 d 1590

Went out to Post Range &
 examined all old buildings
 which were unoccupied.
 Then proceeded to Moat Inn
 thence along Southern side
 of Moat towards Dolls Ho.
 Left main patrol at approx
 U 30 a 3090. I went forward
 with 2 scouts to within a
 few yds of river at abt U 30 a 6080
 Then proceeded North along
 River bank for about 150 yds
 no enemy movement seen
 but working parties heard
 in direction of Benlemon.
 Retraced steps to about
 U 30 a 6065 joined main
 patrol & moved back
 through Moat Inn. M.G.s
 & T.M. very quiet

(Sgt) H H Thompson
 H

32.
~~50~~/11/18

Patrol Report

18th
12-3-18.

Strength 1 off 25 OR 1 LG
Left at 2 am from U 29 b 30.20
Returned at 5.30 am at U 23. c 7040

Followed river from PLANTATION
Farm about 150 yds. thence
to CUSTOM Ho. & PONT ROUGE
moved round NE from PONT
Rouge about 75 yds from river
to the Triangle.

Movement was heard on
enemy side of river in U30 a
& opposite Dolls House. Iron
rails were heard thrown about.

From DOLL'S house went straight back to MOAT Farm. About half way between these points a wire was met with from 2ft to 2ft 6" from the ground. This was not there last night, as patrol could not possibly have passed it last night without discovery.

line was cut in 6 places.

(Specimen herewith) and followed to eastern corner of MONT FARM. Here it was tied to a branch of the hedge nothing was connected to the end of the wire.

Moat Dam examined
but no signs of movement
were found.

" moved thence direct to
point of return.

A Taz was observed
firing from U 29 at 9.560.
No M G fire was met
but M G's were heard
hitting the girders of POINT ROUGE
bridge.

R. B. Ruxton Lt.

Rd Weston Lk.

WORKS PROGRAMME.

33/M/18

18TH. Battalion, A.I.F.

11/12th. March 1918.

| Coy. | Task No. | Strength | Time | Task | Remarks |
|------|----------|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| "D" | 1. | 2 Officers 50 O.R. | As early as visibility will permit. | Carrying revetting material and revetting UMPIRE DRIVE near Front Line. | |
| "D" | 2. | 1 N.C.O. 10 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Clearing AYR STREET and opening drain from LANCASHIRE FARM to WARNAVE RIVER. | |
| "D" | 3. | 1 N.C.O. 20 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Opening and draining UMPIRE AVENUE to O.G.I. |) This party will) require gum boots. |
| "A" | 4. | 1 Officer 25 O.R. | As early as possible. | Completing alteration in front line near No.16 Post. | |
| "A" | 5. | 1 Officer 25 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Opening and draining WARNAVE LANE. | |

Officers will make themselves acquainted with the task to be done and will see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Battn. H.Q.
11/3/18..

L. Robinson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

34/M/10

18th. Battalion.

Programme of Patrols for night 12th/13th. March 1918.

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure. | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| PASSWORD - "OYSTER" | | | | |
| 1. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "B" Coy. 1 L.G. 5 men "D" Coy. | U.23.c.20.40. 8 p.m. | U.23.b.20.50. 11 p.m. | Examine country from MOAT FARM to Northern boundary, getting as near as possible to river bank. |
| 2. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "C" Coy. 1 L.G. 5 men "A" Coy. | U.29.a.40.50. midnight. | U.23.c.60.10. 3 a.m. | Examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and country east of MOAT FARM. |
| 3. | 1 Off. 25 O.R. 1 L.G. from "A" Coy. | IDA POST 3 a.m. | U.29.a.50.70. daylight. | Examine PONT ROUGE and MOAT FARM and intervening country. |

Front line Coys. will have their immediate front patrolled from one hour hour before daybreak.

All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters. Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.

When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "SOUP"

Geo. Lunn Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th. Bn.

Distribution.

File.

"A" Company

"B" Company

"C" Company

"D" Company

5th. A.I. Brigade.

5th. A.L.F.M. Bty.

5th. A.M.G. Co.

Right Batt. lion.

Left Battalion.

Alboy

Patrol Report

35/M/18

APPENDIX

33 58

18th Bn

12-3-18

Strength - 1 off 25 OR, 1 Lewis Gun.

Left U. 23 c. 8040 at 8.35 pm

Returned U. 23 d. 1070 at 10.30 pm.

Casualties nil.

Information -

Proceeded along old tram line (running from Catharine post to MOAT Fm), to MOAT Fm.

No sign of enemy in MOAT Fm. Next went along Cordonroy Road (from U 23 d 8050 to U. 24 c 2575). Left main patrol at

U 24 c 1070 & went forward to river bank with two scouts. Followed river bank in North Easterly direction for about 200'

& rejoined main patrol. From the bank a great deal of work was heard - hammering of iron & steel - in the vicinity of DOWNS House.

Retraced steps to U 23 d 8055 & went north along hedge to U 23 b 4040

The ground enclosed between the Cordonroy Road, & hedge is wet & sloppy. Returned at point ~~at~~ above.

Two T.M.s & 2 M.G.s were firing at about 10 pm from ~~about~~ vicinity of WICART Fm ~~at~~ towards 6th Bde front.

No T.M.s, M.G.s or flares were active on left of Bn front.

No sign of enemy patrols were seen

H. Thompson Lieut
18th Bn AIF.

APPENDIX

36 SECRET.

(Copy No 3...)

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.10

Battalion Headquarters
12th. March 1918.
-----Reference Maps:- Sheet 28 1/40,000
Sheet 36 1/40,000.

36/m/e

1. (a) The 18th. Battalion will be relieved by 19th. Battalion on 14th. inst. and night of 14/15th. inst.

(b) On relief, the 18th. Battalion will move according to table attached.

2. Advanced parties of 1 N.C.O. per Coy, and 1 signaller (Battn.H.Q.) will report to Lieut.A.E.Johnson as in table attached.

Coy.cooks with dixies will proceed to the new area as soon as the evening meal is finished.

3. Trench stores, maps, photos, etc. will be handed over and receipts obtained. Reserve Ration Dumps will be checked and handed over by "D" Coy. and receipts obtained.

Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Battn.H.Q. by 10 a.m on 15th. instant.

4. Gum Boots - As many as can be dispensed with will be sent to KEEPERS HUT on night of 13/14th. March and receipts obtained from C.Q.M.S.Meade. The remainder will be carried out and returned to Q.M.Store by noon 15th. inst.

5. Lewis guns and gear for Transport will be dumped at KEEPERS HUT, each Company detailing its own guard.

Transport Officer will arrange for necessary transport to be at KEEPERS HUT at 8'30 p.m. for "D" and "A" Coys. and at 9'30 p.m. for "B" and "C" Coys.

6. Completion of relief will be notified to Battn.H.Q. by wiring the name of the C.S.M. of the company.

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

Issued at 9 p.m. 12/3/18 by runner.

Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

No.1. File

2/34 War Diary

4. "A" Coy.

5. "B" Coy.

6. "C" Coy.

7. "D" Coy.

8. Q.M. & T.O.

9. Lieut. C.M. Fairclough.

10. 19th. Battalion.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION. *36/10/18*
-----Battalion Headquarters,
13th. March 1918.

AMENDMENT TO 18th. AUST. INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No. 10.

"C" Company on relief will move to LE ROSSIGNOL CAMP, not
as previously stated to Billets in NIEPPE.

Le Robinson
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, Lieut.
A.I.F.

Distribution
To all recipients
of 18th. A.I. Bn. Order No. 10.

36/M/1F

T A B L E (To accompany 18th.Bn.Order No.10)

| Date | Coy: | To be relieved: | by | Guides for incoming companies. | Move on relief to | Advanced parties | Guides for outgoing Coys. | Route |
|---|------|-----------------|----------|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 14th/15th.March 1918. | "B" | "B" Coy. | 19th.Bn. | One each for Posts 29 and 30 at Left Coy.H.Q. from 7'30 p.m. | INGERSOLL: CAMP. | | | |
| | "C" | "A" Coy. | 19th.Bn. | Two guides for UMPIRE RESERVE at KEEPERS HUT from 7'30 p.m. | Billets NIEPPE | | | |
| | "A" | "C" Coy. | 19th.Bn. | | Billets NIEPPE | | | |
| | "D" | "D" Coy. | 19th.Bn. | | INGERSOLL: CAMP. | | | |
| | H.Q. | H.Q. | 19th.Bn. | | INGERSOLL: CAMP | | | |
| To report to Lieut.A.E.Johnson at Battn.H.Q. at 10'30 a.m. 14th.Inst. | | | | | | | | |
| To be at Cross Roads ROMARIN from 8'30 p.m. | | | | | | | | |
| PLOEGSTEERT - ROMARIN thence as guides direct. | | | | | | | | |

Personnel. 1 off 250R: 1 L.G.

Time & place. Last night 1 U29a 5050

Time & place of return. 3 am U29c 7040

Camaraderie. Nil.

I went out from U29c 7040 to U29a 7030

& thence to U29b 7090 & examined all the buildings in PONTROUGE & thence to about U29b 7000

From there I could see the PONTROUGE bridge. It is a iron structure & bridge, with a darkboard track at the northern side. I left main

patrol at about U29b 7065 & went forward with five scouts to about U29b 7055. Just before we arrived at this point I struck a mine similar to that reported last night.

We also struck two rows of mine (ordinance white) or stakes about 2ft high pulled very tightly. We did get about 15 yds through this mine when about 15 stick bombs landed in the middle of us from about 100 yds range.

We replied with four bombs & fired grenades. One of the enemy was heard to scream & there seemed to be some commotion in the bush where he was. I regained main patrol & did not think it advisable to keep it forward as the mine was very thick & we would have been cut to pieces as he was still in position altho there were seen to go back.

We struck mine at about U29b 7590 & followed hedge to about U29b 8560. Scouts went forward to within sight of mine. No bridges were seen. We returned & searched 270AT. From 7 in via U29c 7040.

Working parties could be heard close to mine all along.

12/3/18

G. H. C. T. O. R.

18/12.

Patrol report

Personnel. 1 off (LT Maxwell.) 1 V5013 + L.G.

Time & place of departure. IDA. POST 3 am

Time & place of return. U29 5070 6 am.

Before proceeding on patrol I saw leader of No 2 patrol & got information about an enemy post.

I went out at IDA. POST & went along through Plantations Fm to cross roads at U29 to 2065 & thence across to MOAT Fm. I followed hedge down to about U29 to 8560. Enemy appeared to be carrying something across hedge at POINT ROUGE & a good deal of movement was heard about U29 to 5040. We moved across to about U30 to 4098. Our artillery was firing close to river bank & we could not approach closer. Enemy could be heard working & moving iron in vicinity of Dolls. Ho. & all along river bank. There was no M.G. fire or flames during patrol.

I returned through MOAT Fm & KATHERINE POST.

Maxwell Lieut.

13/3/18

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters,
13th March 1918.

"A", "B", "C", "D" Coys.

As a result of air reconnaissance on 12th inst. bridges are suspected at -

U.24.c.60.25.

U.24.c.65.10.

U.30.a.70.60.

A patrol which endeavoured to reach U.29.b.75.40. last night encountered wire strands, about 2 ft. high on stakes at U.29.b.85.55. Bombs were exchanged a few yards further on.

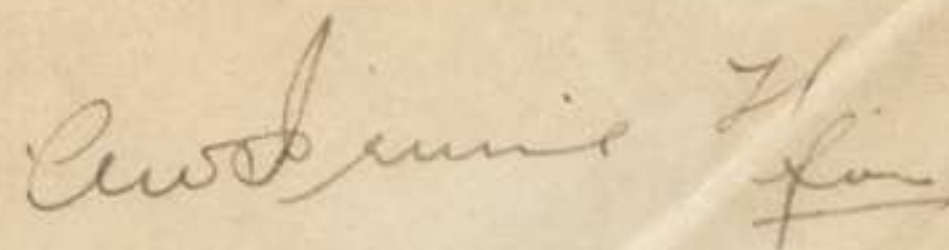
It is essential that the enemy's intentions in this sector be definitely ascertained. A definite report on the bridges, how constructed, and how guarded is desired, but a prisoner from the enemy party working or patrolling there, is probably the only source from which we may hope to gain useful information. The patrol programme for night of 13/14th March has been drawn up with that object.

The first patrol will examine North side of Moat for a crossing towards DOLLS HOUSE. Failing a crossing about U.24.c.15.45., patrol leader will post a Lewis gun crew at the corner of ditch and Moat U.23.d.90.30., cross ditch by fallen log, and having searched farm, search for hun's track on South side of Moat. The patrol leader will try to locate bridge and enemy covering party (if any) at DOLLS HOUSE.

The second patrol will be brought up by a small party sent back from No.1 patrol and will be in position to continue the reconnaissance before the first patrol returns to our lines. The action of this second patrol will depend largely on what has already been discovered. The corner of ditches at U.24.c.35.18. will be examined and then an attempt made to reach bridge at U.30.a.70.60.

The third patrol will be met at KATHERINE POST and will then try to surprise party encountered last night.

The three patrol officers will meet at Battalion H.Q. at 3 p.m. to-day to discuss plans.


Lt.-Col.,
A.I.F.
Commanding 18th Battalion,Copy to
5th A.I. Brigade.

39^A/M/18

18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Programme of patrols for night of 13/14th. March 1918.

| o.: | Strength. | Place and time : of departure. | Place and time : of return. | Instructions. |
|-----|--|---|--------------------------------|--|
| | | | | PASSWORD "60 70" |
| 1. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "B" Coy. 1 L.G. 5 men "D" Coy. | U.23.d.20.80. 8 p.m. | U.23.d.05.70. 11'30 p.m. | Endeavour to locate suspected enemy bridges at U.24.c.60.25.- U.24.c.65.10. - U.30.a.70.60. and get in touch with enemy patrols. |
| 2. | 1 Off. 20 O.R. "C" Coy. 1 L.G. 5 men "A" Coy. | U.23.d.05.70. 11'15 p.m. | KATHERINE POST 2'45 a.m. | Same as No.1. |
| 3. | 1 Off. 25 O.R. 1 L.G. from "A" Coy. | KATHERINE POST-U.29.a.85.60. 2'45 a.m. | Daylight. | Search PONT ROUGE and attempt to surprise party encountered last night at about U.29.b.65.65. |

Front line Coys. will have their immediate front patrolled from one hour before daybreak.

All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters
Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion
When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "FIGHT"

Distribution

File

"A" Company

"B" Company

"C" Company

"D" Company

5th A.I. Brigade

5th A.L.T.M. Bty.

5th A.M.G. Co.

Right Battalion

Left Battalion

Autumn
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th. Battn.

HO/M/IE

Patrol Report 10th PM AIF

night 13th 14th March

Strength: 1 off. (Lt Thompson) 20 OR, 1 LG

Time & place of departure: 8 pm V. 23. d. 2. 8

" " " return 11.30 pm V. 23. d. 05. 70

Information: I went out to MOAT FARM which showed no signs of occupation. Thence along northern side of road to river bank at V. 24. c. 25. 50. Retraced steps back to MOAT FARM & examined the road along farm. I then moved down to about V. 24. d. 40. 10. where I met second patrol. No signs of any movement could be seen at head. Patrol then returned

H Thompson signed
19th/3/14

H.I./M/18

Partial report

1872

14/11/18

Strength 1 off (Lt. R. Clayton) 250 R. 11 L. 9.
 Date & place of departure. 0270 0590 115h 3pm
 Date return KATHERINE POST 245am

Obliged

Enclosed to be made completed every
 bridge & got in touch with post.

I took partial view to corner of mountain 0296750
 & thence along ledge to about 02454010.
 The country from this point to 245 3540
 is mainly & absolutely impassable.
 The ledge starts from 02454010 to summit
 is impassable. We returned our steps & then
 followed in the ledge to about 03002080.
 The country is mainly of 03002070 is all
 mainly & impassable. We returned & followed
 ledge down to 02967500 along to 02967050.
 The height was there when we were fully
 150 yards away. We returned through
 KATHERINE POST. Owing to darkness
 progress was very slow. There were no
 sounds of enemy parties heard & no enemy
 movement.

G. Clayton. R
 18 Batt.

Patrol report

H 2/11/18

14/3/18

Strength 1 off (Lt M. Maxwell) 25 ORs & L 9
 Time & place of departure 2.45 am KATHERINE POST
 Time & place of return 6.15 V 29 a 8560.
 Object To search PONT ROUGE & attempt
 to surprise party encountered last night
 about V 29 a 6560.

I think patrol to bridge about V 29 a 2090
 & there proceeds MOAT Fm. My flight search
 saw that of the enemy at about V 29 a 6580 who
 immediately made off. Directed MOAT Fm.
 & found it unoccupied. We then followed
 bridge down to about V 29 a 9050. From there
 I could hear movement across river but no
 working parties. On 9 was transferred
 from DOLL'S HO all the time from MOAT Fm to
 this point. We waited for about
 45 minutes & returned through old track at
 V 29 a 2070 & road junction at V 29 a 2070 &
 KATHERINE POST leaving a company patrol
 of 6 men at about V 29 a 6535 for an
 hour longer.

J. M. Maxwell Lieut
 18/12

43/M/18

87

WORKS PROGRAMME.

18th. Battalion.

13/14th. March 1918.

| Coy. | Task No. | Strength. | Time | Task | Remarks. |
|------|----------|----------------------|---|---|--|
| "A" | 1 | 1 Officer 25 O.R. | As early as visibility will permit. | Repairing damage done to trench in Right Company sector. | |
| "A" | 2 | 1 Officer 30 O.R. | | Constructing alternative position for Lewis gun near No.16 Post. | |
| "D" | 3 | 1 Officer 20 O.R. | As early as visibility will permit. | Wiring and thickening existing wire to left of No.17 Post. | |
| "D" | 4 | 1 Officer 20 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Clearing and Opening UMPIRE AVENUE forward of O.G.1. | These parties require gum boots. |
| "D" | 5 | 1 Officer 30 O.R. | 7'30 a.m. | Deepening and revetting UMPIRE AVENUE near R.A.P. and O.G.1. | |

Officers will make themselves familiar with the task to be done and will
see that the necessary tools and material are available.

Battn.H.Q.
13/3/18.

L. J. Jeff
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, Lieut.
A. J. F.

APPENDIX

469

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

66

(Unit) 18th Batt. A. 97

Go West

14.3.18 191

E. L. Bailey Cpl
I/c Collecting Depot, Australian War Museum.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

LT. A. W. Irving (Unit) 18th Batt A. I. 27

(Unit) 18th Batt AAF

Handwritten text on a lined page, possibly a ledger or notebook. The text is written vertically in Chinese characters, appearing to be a list or record. The characters are somewhat faded and difficult to read precisely, but seem to include names and possibly dates or times.

14.3.18 191

E. L. Bailey Cpl
I/c Collecting Depôt, Australian War Museum.

HH/M/18

Battalion Headquarters,
14th March 1918.

Headquarters,
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Summary of works carried out by 18th Battalion
during period 5/3/18 to 13/3/18.

FRONT LINE.

Wiring :-

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Left Company sector, | 85 Coils |
| Right " | 141 " |
| TOTAL | 226 Coils. |

Of this total about 80 coils were employed in making new apron fences, the balance being used for thickening existing wire, repairing gaps and placing in shell holes.

Parapet :-

100 yards built up, improving cover from view and thickening All this work was done on left Company sector.

Katherine Post :-

This was cleared out, revetted and duckboarded ready for occupation.

No. 16 Post :-

Block built in drain commanding trench. Alternative position prepared for Lewis gun. Island traverses, parapet and parapets of old trench levelled off, thus improving field of fire and generally improving post.

Ida Post :-

C.T. leading to post widened in places to improve communication.

General Improvement :-

This includes deepening and cleaning under duckboards, 50 yards. Repairing damage done by shell fire, and improvement of posts and shelters.

UMPIRE DRIVE.

Completing task of revetting and deepening. This trench was deepened about 2 Ft., "A" frames and revetted for about 100 yards from junction of front line.

COMMUNICATION TRENCHES.

UMPIRE AVENUE and WARRAVE LANE. These being old trenches were in a very bad state of repair and required a great deal of work to open them up to clear them so as to improve communication.

GENERAL.

^{additional.}
Three latrines were set up in area, positions shown on attached map.

Excavation made in CONVENT LANE near Y.M.C.A. This is to be used when completed as a storeroom for Y.M.C.A.

Drain. Dug to drain water from CONVENT LANE near R.A.P. and shell holes in rear - 50 yards.

Repairs. Practically all trenches in Battalion area have been damaged by shell fire and have been repaired. (See attached map)

Dugouts. A number of gas-proof doors had fallen into a state of disrepair and were repaired.

Carrying parties were provided for carrying wiring and R.E. material for own use. Carrying parties were also provided for Engineers.

87

APPENDIX

44⁷²

(2)

SALVAGE.

During this period approximately £ 2000. worth of material has been salved in area.

Geo. J. Murphy.
Lieut.-Colonel.
Commanding 18th. Battalion A.I.F.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

Headquarters,
5th.Aust.Inf.Bde.

Battalion Headquarters,
14th.March 1918.

Reference your 10/8.

Neither locality is on this sector's front so I am not able to speak from a detailed knowledge of the positions.

I am fairly certain however that the hun has small posts established along the river bank, and that he patrols between them. There is certainly a post of 5 or 6 men about U.29.c.50.10. Coughing has been heard there throughout the night and a small patrol moving very carefully about. PAPER HOUSE was fired on.

The enemy occupying the post at U.29.c.50.10. gives indication of being somewhat careless at times.

I think PAPER HOUSE would be a good place to attempt a crossing from. The approach to within a few yards of the river bank is well hidden. I recommend using duckboard rafts on petrol tins (8 to each board). The man could then lie flat on the board and paddle across with less noise than a swimmer. If the night was not too bright a few men would have a very reasonable chance of getting across undetected, and sandbagging the post before they gave the alarm. The presence of large numbers of ducks on the river is a factor which needs to be considered. Practically every time a patrol approaches the river bank the ducks rise with much noise. They simply circle round over head until the patrol leaves. I think it would be necessary to launch a raft or boat under cover of the noise of machine guns or field guns. The river is remarkable for its echoes and the slightest sound seems magnified three-fold.

For the main party, I prefer a swinging bridge of wide duckboards. The passage of the men could be regulated - 1 or 2 casualties in a platoon in mid-stream may throw the lot into confusion. Besides, a bridge of any sort would solve the problem of getting prisoners across. The sections could also be much more easily transported and hidden until required.

The main objection to the use of a swinging bridge is likely to come from the artillery. That the artillery would at one period or another put down a box barrage, I accept as a foregone conclusion. If the swinging bridge is to be used for return, it means that with a 200 yards depth of "box" at the absolute minimum 4 batteries of 18 pounders, apart from 4'5 howitzers will be needed for even a thin to medium barrage. With guns co-operating from flank sectors, it leaves heaviers and 4'5s for diversions. Trench Mortars for barrage work are out of the question, and the machine guns employed for a protective barrage to a raiding party are best when superimposed. If the bridge is thrown across near WHITE FARM or PAPER HOUSE and the bridge is to be used for the return, the barrage would be about 1000 yards by about 200 in depth. To allow of a smaller "box" barrage the bridge would need to be abandoned, and the men would then either have to swim back or else pontoons would have to be launched near the LAUNDRY after the raiders reached their objective. This second alternative is too liable to failure. - the ground opposite the laundry is not at all suitable.

Observers at DIRUEZ FARM are very constant and can be seen at almost any hour of the day. It is however about 500 yards back from the river and easily dealt with by artillery.

With the artillery available CELIA AVENUE and the VATS seem to promise better chances of success. The Battalion on the right could lend great assistance with M.G.fire along CELIA LANE and CELIA ROAD. Trench Mortars could be employed well in the rear.

The risk of detection by the garrison would probably be greater since the position is such as to make them more vigilant.

I do not like the pontoons: a bridge could probably be swung from back about 50 yards south of ditch in C.10.d.

Practice in crossing the river could be obtained near ERQUINGHEM in daylight, men using goggles, and then later at night.

(2)

For a raid on either the LAUNDRY or the VATS I recommend a strength of 2 Officers and 250 O.R. for the party crossing the river. Details cannot well be determined until -

- (a) the point to be raided is definitely fixed
- (b) amount of assistance available from artillery, machine guns and trench mortars is known.

Can the C.O. Right Battalion say definitely whether any of the hun machine guns sweep the river as distinct from the river banks?

Apart from a raid on an extensive scale, I do not think there is any scope for a minor operation on this front.

Geo. E. Murphy.

Lieut.-Colonel.,
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

H6/M/18

18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Programme of Patrols for night of 14th/15th. March 1918.

| Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return. | Instructions. |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | | | <u>PASSWORD - "TIGER"</u> |
| 1 Off. 20 O.R. "B" Coy. | U.23.d.20.80. 8 p.m. | U.23.d.05.70. 10 p.m. | Go to MOAT FARM and PONT ROUGE and cover relief. |
| 1 L.G. 5 men "D" Coy. | | | |

All posts will be acquainted with this programme by nightfall or as soon as possible afterwards.

ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters

Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.

When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word BOX"

C. W. Lewis Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th. Battn.

Distribution.

File. 5th. A.I. Bde.
"A" Coy. 5th. A.L.T.M. Bty.
"B" Coy. 5th. A.M.C. Co.
"C" Coy. Right Battalion.
"D" Coy. Left Battalion.

47/M/18

APPENDIX

47 76

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: DEULEMONT 1/10 000
 Personnel of Patrol: 1 Officer (Lt. Thompson) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.
 Place of going out: U.23.d.05.70.
 Time of going out: 8 p.m.
 Purpose of going out: To investigate MOAT FARM and PONT ROUGE and cover relief.
 Place of return: ~~U.23.d.~~ U.23.c.90.20.
 Time of return: ~~8.30 p.m.~~ 10.30 p.m.
 Casualties: Nil.

Information gained:

We went out and entered MOAT FARM by old log across Moat at U.23.d.90.30. I examined the Moat thoroughly and found no signs of enemy occupation. I crossed the Moat ~~again~~ again by old road at U.23.d.90.28. and followed it along the southern side of moat to river bank at U.24.c.23.48.

The moat ends at a road which runs along the river bank. The road is about 8 ft. wide and in fairly good repair. Country in and about U.24.c.35.30. is very marshy and impassable. I am of the opinion that the only way to get to DOLLS HOUSE would be to follow the river bank.

I returned by the road on the southern side of the Moat through U.23.d.90.30. and then followed track round to corner of moat at U.29.b.75.90. Thence struck across to CUSTOM HOUSE and examined old houses in vicinity. I then returned along road via KATHERINE POST.

There were no signs of enemy movement and no flares or M.G.'s fired during patrol.

14th. March 1918.

Lt. J. Thompson

18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Lieut.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.14

Battalion Headquarters,
16th. March 1918.

Reference Maps:- Sheet 28. 1/40,000
Sheet 36. 1/40,000

Company "A" .4
Company "B" .5
Company "C" .6
Company "D" .7

1. (a) The 18th. Battalion as "D" Battalion is to provide a Company for immediate counter attack under orders of C.O. "B" Battalion.
(b) "A" Company is detailed accordingly and will move forward on night of 16/17th inst.
(c) "A" Company will be relieved on night of 18/19th inst. by "D" Coy. and on relief will move to INGERSOLL CAMP.
2. Advanced parties of "A" and "D" Coys. will move forward before 2 p.m. on 16th. and 18th. inst. respectively.
3. Action of counter attack company:-
Each night at dusk the company detailed as above will move to UMPIRE RESERVE and will remain there until "Stand down" the following morning. At "Stand down" they will move back to LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM.
On night of 16/17th inst. "A" Coy. will move to UMPIRE RESERVE direct and on night of 18/19th inst. "D" Coy. will relieve "A" Coy. in UMPIRE RESERVE.
Baggage will be carried according to para.5.
"Stand down" will be upon the order of C.O. "B" Battalion.
Two runners will be detailed to stand by at H.Q. "B" Battalion from "Stand to" at night until "Stand down" the following morning.
Coys. ~~moving~~ moving forward will come under orders of C.O. "B" Bn. from the time they pass the Cross roads at PLOEGSTEERT.
4. (a) Move of "A" Coy. will be completed by 8'30 p.m. 16th. inst.
(b) Inter company relief (vide para.1(c)) will be completed by 8'30 p.m. on 18th. inst.
5. All gear for storage will be ready at Coy. billets by 2 p.m. on day of move.
One blanket per man, mess gear etc., will be ready for loading at Coy. billets by 3.40 p.m. on day of move.
Transport officer will arrange :-
(a) to move gear for storage to Q.M. Store.
(b) to move gear for line to KEEPERS HUT.
Coys. moving forward will detail 1 N.C.O. and 12 men to accompany transport forward and move blankets etc. from KEEPERS HUT to LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM.
Lewis guns will be carried by a separate limber which will move with the company as far as KEEPERS HUT. Thence they will be carried with the Company.
6. Two pioneers will be attached to "A" and "D" Coys. during their period of attachment to "B" Battalion.
7. O.C. "A" Coy. will arrange with C.O. "B" Battalion for the supply of ammunition requirements. Other details not provided for in this order will be arranged mutually with C.O. "B" Battalion, and by Coy. Commanders concerned.
8. Any trench stores not retained by "B" Battn. will be taken over by "A" Coy. and handed over on each relief. Guards on ration dumps will not be relieved. Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Battn. H.Q. by 10th. am. 17th. and 19th. inst.
9. O'S C. "A" and "D" Coys. will notify completion of move and relief by wiring code word "BATHURST" to "B" and "D" Battns.
10. Disposition reports will be forwarded to "B" and "D" Battns. as soon as possible after completion of move and relief.
11. A C K N O W L E D G E.

L. Robson
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F. Lieut.

Distribution.

No. 1. File

2. War Diary

3. "A" Company

4. "B" Company

5. "C" Company

6. "D" Company

7. "A" Company

8. "B" Company

9. "C" Company

10. "D" Company

11. 5th I.A. Brigade

12. Officer

Sheet 28. 1/40,000

Sheet 36. 1/40,000

Reference Maps:-

1. (a) The 18th Battalion as "D" Battalion is to provide a company for immediate counter attack under orders of C.O. "B" Battalion.
 (b) "A" Company is detailed accordingly and will move on night of 16/17th inst.
 (c) "A" Company will be relieved on night of 16/17th inst. and on relief will move to INGERSOIL CAMP.

2. Advanced parties of "A" and "D" Coys. will move forward before 2 p.m. on 18th inst. respectively.

3. Action of counter attack company:-
 Each night at dusk the company detailed as above will move to UMPIRE RESERVE and will remain there until "stand down" the following morning. At "stand down" they will move back to LANCAIRE SUPPORT FARM. On night of 16/17th inst. "A" Coy. will move to UMPIRE RESERVE direct and on night of 18/19th inst. "D" Coy. will relieve "A" Coy. in UMPIRE RESERVE.

Package will be carried according to para. 5.
 "Stand down" will be upon the order of C.O. "B" Battalion.
 Two runners will be detailed to stand by at H.Q. "B" Battalion from "stand to" at night until "stand down" the following morning.
 Coys. moving forward will come under orders of C.O. "B" Bn. from the time they pass the Cross roads at PLOEGSTERT.

4. (a) Move of "A" Coy. will be completed by 8.30 p.m. 18th inst.
 (b) Inter company relief (vide para. 1(c)) will be completed by 8.30 p.m. on 18th inst.

5. All gear for storage will be ready at Coy. billets by 2 p.m. on day of move.
 One blanket per man, mess gear etc., will be ready for loading at Coy. billets by 2.30 p.m. on day of move.
 Transport officer will arrange:-
 (a) to move gear for storage to Q.M. Store.
 (b) to move gear for line to KEEPER'S HUT.
 Coys. moving forward will detail 1 N.C.O. and 12 men to accompany transport forward and move blankets etc. from KEEPER'S HUT to LANCAIRE SUPPORT FARM.
 Lewis guns will be carried by a separate limber which will move with the company as far as KEEPER'S HUT. Thence they will be carried with the company.

6. Two pioneers will be attached to "A" and "D" Coys. during their period of attachment to "B" Battalion.

7. O.C. "A" Coy. will arrange with C.O. "B" Battalion for the supply of ammunition requirements. Other details not provided for in this order will be arranged mutually with C.O. "B" Battalion, and by Coy. Commanders concerned.

8. Any trench stores not retained by "B" Bn. will be taken over by "A" Coy. and handed over on each relief. Guards on ration dumps will not be relieved. Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Bn. H.Q. by 10th am. 17th and 18th inst.

9. O.C. "A" and "D" Coys. will notify completion of move and relief by wiring code word "BATHURST" to "B" and "D" Bnns.

10. Disposition reports will be forwarded to "B" and "D" Bnns. as soon as possible after completion of move and relief.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE

Lieut.
 Adjutant 18th Battalion, A.I.W.

Battalion Headquarter,
 19th. March 1918.

Reference Map: DEULEMONT 1/10,000
 Aeroplane photo: 3Ba 321.

1. At a time and date to be fixed later, a raid will be made on a centre of hostile patrol activity near PONT ROUGE, formerly known as UNCOMFORTABLE CRESCENT. (Ploegsteert Ed.4B)
2. The raid will be made under cover of artillery, machine gun and trench mortar fire.
3. O.C."C" Company will detail the troops in accordance with these orders.
4. The area to be raided is shown shaded on attached map. The boundaries are :-
 PONT ROUGE Road
 U.29.b.15.70.
 U.29.b.70.90.
 U.29.b.90.40. (at river) thence to road at Bridge.

5. Strength and composition of party:-

The attacking force will be divided into -

O.C.Attack and Headquarters.
 Covering party.
 Assaulting party.

O.C.Attack - Capt.J.B.Lane, (O.C."C" Coy)
 1 Interpreter and telephone operator.
 3 Runners.
 who will be at KATHERINE POST.

Covering party - Garrison of KATHERINE POST
 (under arrangements of C.O.19th.Battn.)

Right Party - 19th Battalion
Left Party - 1 N.C.O. (No.1 of Lewis gun)
 1 Man (No.2 of Lewis Gun)
 3 Riflemen.

Assaulting party - will be divided into Right, Centre and Left parties.

Right party - 1 N.C.O. and 10 O.R.
 Centre party - 1 Officer (O.C.Assault)
 1 N.C.O.
 11 men.
 2 Stretcher bearers.
 Left Party - 1 N.C.O. and 4 men.

6. Action of parties:-

Prior to zero - Party will rendezvous at LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM at zero - 3 hours.
 O.C.Attack will be in position by zero - 60 mins.

Scouts will reconnoitre the area between our own line, approach to KATHERINE POST, hedge to U.23.d.55.30. post left covering party, lay a knotted tape from post U.23. 6 to left covering party, a white tape from KATHERINE POST to U.23.d.10.15. and then report situation to O.C.Attack by zero - 60.

Assaulting party will be in position on jumping off line, hedge in U.23.d. from U.23.d.10.15. to U.23.d.40.25. by zero - 30.

Artillery -

At zero plus 2 fire will lift from line U.29.b.10.85. in accordance with artillery programme and creep at rate of 50 yards per minute till zero plus 9 when it will remain stationary on the final barrage line.

Fire will cease at zero plus 17.

O.C.Assault will withdraw covering party.

10. Code words -

Zero - 30

"Scouts in, all clear"

Zero - 30

"Party in position"

"Our casualties"

(3)

11. Password - Password for the Brigade sector will be the password used.

12. Signalling arrangements -

Under Brigade arrangements, a direct line will be run from KATHERINE POST to G.H.100 where C.O. 18th.Bn. will be, and a further direct line to G.I.3 through G.L.65. Visual signalling (Lucas lamps) will be ready in case of emergency.

13. Watches - Battalion Sig.Officer will arrange per Bde.Sig.Officer to synchronise watches with artillery and raiding parties.

14. Medical - The R.M.O. 18th.Battalion will be at G.H.100 from zero - 60.

15. Trench mortars - Heavy trench mortars will engage trench mortar and machine gun positions at -

URAL HOUSE
DOLLS HOUSE.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Lo Robson

Lieut.

Adjutant 18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

No.1/2. 5th.A.I.Brigade.

3. C.O.

4. Capt.J.B.Lane.

5. Lieut.G.J.G.Clayton.

6/8. War Diary.

9. Sig.Officer.

10/14.Spare.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters
17th. March 1918.

Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

Herewith draft orders for operation near PONT ROUGE.
Please acknowledge.

C. E. M. Lt.-Col.,
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters,
17th. March 1918.Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

In connection with the minor operation by the Battalion, the following positions are submitted for attention:-

UVULA TRENCH U.24.a. from T to H in TRENCH (Special attention
URAL HOUSE
GILLS HOUSE.
U.29.d.90.60. near junction of
UNCUEL and UNCOVER Trench.
TRIANGLE FARM
UNKNOWN FARM

I would recommend a shoot on UVULA TRENCH prior to zero day.

Charles J. Murphy Lt.-Col.
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

File.

C.O.

5th. Bde. (2)

War Diary (3)

S E C R E T.EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.
-----Battalion Headquarters,
19/3/18.
---Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
-----Reference 18th. A.I. Battalion Order No. 11.
and in accordance with your No. 10/2 of even date.
-----I certify that this unit is in possession of fifty (50) discs,
identity, marked:-

| | | |
|-------|----|-------|
| D | | D |
| 36001 | to | 36050 |
| E | | E |

Gen. G. M. Murphy Lt.-Col.,
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

TRACE to accompany 2nd A.D.A.
Order No 82 of 19.3.18.

U

24

Jumping off
Line

13th. Bty (2)

14th Bty.
(6)
0 to +17

0 to +2
0 to +4

+7 to +8
+7 to +8

13th Bty. (2)

13th Bty (2)
(0 to +8)

30

Phase. 1.
(Zero to Plus 8)
18pdrs: 0 to +2

13th Bty.
(a) 2 guns: 0 to +2
creep to
by lifts of 50yds
per minute.
(b) 2 guns: 0 to +8
(c) do: do:

14th Bty: 0 to +8
15th Bty: 0 to +4
creep to
by lifts of 50yds
per minute.

4.5" Hows.

104th Bty.
105th Bty.

6" T.M's

Ref. Map: - Bas-Warneton 1/10,000.
Edition I.C. (corrected to 14.3.18.)

6" Hows.

Approved:

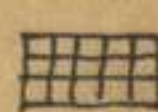
Col. James Major
B.M. 2nd ADA

TRACE to accompany 2nd Aust D.A. Order 82.
of 19:3:18.

U

24

PHASE II
(Plus 8 to Plus 17)

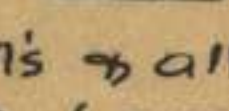
Raided Area. 

18 Pdrs.

13th Bty

14th Bty

15th Bty



Targets for T.M's & all
other Nature of guns,
etc. are as shown on
Trace for Phase I.

30

Ref. Map:

BAS. WARNETON (1/10,000).

Edition 1C (Corrected to 14:3:18).

Approved:

Calloway

SM. WADA

C O P Y.S E C R E T.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

Order No. 82.Headquarters,
 19th March, 1918.

Reference Map-

BAG WANNETON
Edition 10, 1/10,000

1. On a date and at an hour to be notified later, the 13th Battalion will carry out a raid on a centre of hostile patrol activity near PONT ROUGE (U.S9.b.)

2. 2nd Aust. Div. Artillery will co-operate in accordance with attached traces which show the action for Phases I and II. Heavy artillery are also co-operating as shown on the traces, and are doing counter-battery work.

3. All fire will cease at zero plus 17 minutes unless specially requested by Infantry.

4. (a) Ammunition for 13-pdrs :- 50% A; 50% A.X.

(b) Rates of fire -

| | Per Gun per Minute | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Zero to plus 8 | Plus 8 to plus 17 |
| 13 pdrs. | 5 | 2 |
| 4.5 Hows. | 2 | 1 |
| 6" T.M's | 2 | 1 |

5. Arrangements for synchronization of watches will be notified later.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(signed) J. MURRAY, Lieut,
for Major, Brigade Major, 2nd Aust.
Div. Artillery.

Issued at 8 p.m.
to

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Right Group | 1-3 |
| Left Group | 4-10 |
| D.T.H.O. | 11-13 |
| 2nd Aust. Div. | 14 |
| 5th A.I. Bdo. | 15 |
| 6th A.I. Bdo. | 16 * |
| R.A. Aust. Corps | 17 |
| H.A. | 18 |
| C.B.S.O. | 19 (through Corps H.A.) |
| 38th D.A. | 20 * |
| 5th Aust. D.A. | 21 * |
| Sigs, 2nd Aust DA | 22 * |
| S.C.R.A. 2nd Aust D.A. | 23 * |
| File | 24 |
| War Diary | 25-27 |

* No trace attached.

SECRET

10/10

5th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,
20th March, 1918.18th Battalion
19th Battalion

Please note that 2nd Aust. M. G. Battalion Order No. 2
forwarded to you under cover of Bde. No. 10/10, 19th March, is
to be amended as follows :-

Para 2. For position of gun No. 21 read -

✓ "U.22.d.90.85."

Please acknowledge.

R. Bowden
Captain,
Actg. Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Copies to War Diary (3)

G.O.C.

B.M.

S.C.

File

C O P Y.

2nd AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION

APPENDIX
SECRET

Headquarters,
19th March, 1918.

Ref. Maps. Sheet 28 - 1/40,000
Sheet 36 - 1/40,000

1. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will carry out a raid on the enemy lines on a date and time to be fixed.
2. Machine Guns of 5th and 6th Aust.M.G.Coys. will co-operate by carrying out tasks as under :- (See Map "A" Attached).

| Company | Task | Remarks |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 5th Aust.M.G.Coy. | To enfilade Barrage line U 24 c 25 15 to U 30 a 75 85 | 4 Guns (D Batty) in vicinity of U 22 a 70 05 |
| | Barrage bridge over River LYS at U 30 a 80 90 | 2 Guns (No. 27 in vicinity of U 23 a 02 50 and No. 29 in vicinity of U 16 d 55 12). |
| | 1 Gun firing on U 29 d 80 65. | Gun No. 19 at 0 3 d 75 85 |
| | 1 Gun firing on U 29 d 90 95 | Gun No. 20 at 0 3 b 64 14. |
| | 1 Gun Firing on U 29 d 90 80 (Total traverse of 3 deg.) | Gun No. 21 at U 29 d 90 65 |
| 6th Aust.M.G.Coy. | To onfilade barrage line U 23 d 85 45 to U 24 c 25 15 | 4 Guns (E Batty) at U 16 a 20 20. |
| | Enfilade barrage U 29 a 92 55 to U 29 b 25 20 | 2 Guns in immediate vicinity of U 16 c 55 55 |
| | Fire on area round U 24 a 36 72 roughly bounded by UVULA trench on W. and S. and tram-line on N. and E. | 2 Guns (No. 43 and 44 in vicinity of U 9 d 90 02). |

3. Rate of Fire: 75 rounds per minute from 0 to plus 5 minutes, 100 rds per minute from plus 5 to plus 10 min. 250 rds per minute from plus 10 to plus 20 minutes.

The positions given for the guns are approximate only and may be varied by Company Commanders so long as the task is carefully carried out; any change to be notified to Bn. Hdqrs. All guns must be prepared to switch on to their normal S.O.S. lines at any time.

4. Company Commanders of 5th and 6th Companies will be responsible for supply of ammunition and all other stores, including water, oil, etc., required. Ammunition to be supplied on basis of 4,000 rds per gun employed.

5. ZERO day and hour will be notified later.

6. All arrangements to be completed by 8 a.m. on morning of 20th inst. and report to be made to Bn. Hdqrs.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE. (5th and 6th Aust.M.G.Coys. by wire).

(signed) C. ROSS FIELD, Lieut,
for C.O. 2nd Aust. M.G.Battalion.

Issued at 8 pm

Distribution

| Copy No. | 1/2 | 5th | A.I.Bde. | FOR INFORMATION |
|----------|-----|----------------|----------|--------------------|
| 3 | | 5th A.M.G.Coy. | 5 | 2nd Aust. Div. |
| 4 | | 6th A.M.G.Coy. | 6 | 6th Aust. Inf.Bde. |
| | | | 7 | 22nd Aust.M.G.Coy. |
| | | | 8/10 | War Diary |
| | | | 11/12 | File |
| | | | 13/15 | Spares. |

APPENDIX

APPENDIX "A".

3" STOKES MORTAR INSTRUCTIONS.
 18th. Battalion Raid on PONT ROUGE.

2 Guns 3th. A.L.T.M.Bty. will fire 130 rounds per gun on
 barrage line: -

U.23.d.95.15. to U.23.d.85.45.

Guns in position:-

1 at U.23.e.72.65. and 1 at U.23.e.83.60.

Guns will start at Z E R O when Artillery opens and fire at
 a steady rate ceasing at Z E R O plus 15 minutes.

APPENDIX "B".

Communication for Raid on PONT ROUGE is as follows:-

Cables trench from KATHERINE POST to G.H.100, thence to
 G.I.3 direct.

G.X.5 to G.H.100.

At G.L.65 a line from G.H.100 will be kept plugged through
 to G.I.3; if line fails between G.H.100 and G.L.65 two other
 lines existing can be used. Should these fail G.H.100 can get
 through G.L.77 to G.L.65 and to G.I.3.

Should all lines fail visual can be worked from unused
 Pill Box near G.X.5 to G.H.100 thence G.H.100 to G.L.65.

A runner post will be established between KATHERINE POST
 and PILL BOX.

18th. Battalion will make all above arrangements.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.
-----S E C R E T.Battalion Headquarters,
20th. March 1918.
-----Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
-----Correction to Nominal roll under Bde. Ref. No. 10/10.

- (1) Delete -No. 5913. Pte. BARLOGE, P. - Disc No. 36025 and
substitute No. 5292. Pte. ARCHIBALD, R. - Issued with
Disc No. 36016.
- (2) Delete -No. 3163. Cpl. McKENZIE, L.O. - Disc No. 36038 and
substitute No. 805. L/Sgt. ARNOLD, R.F. - Issued with
Disc No. 36025.

Geo. E. Murphy Lt.-Col.
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

NOMINAL ROLL

10/10

HEADQUARTERS PARTY

| No. | Rank | Name | Disc | Task | Weapons |
|------|------|---------------|--------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| 2950 | Pte | KELLEY W.J.T. | D E 36030 | Ramrod | Rifle & Bayonet. 2 Bombs. |
| 4537 | " | TAYLOR S. | 36031 | " | Rifle & Bayonet, 2 Bombs. |
| 6602 | " | PRINZ C.A. | 36040 | Signaller | Rifle & Bayonet |
| 2875 | " | MISDALE E. | 36041 | " | Rifle & Bayonet |
| | Capt | LANE J.B. | 36042 | | Revolver & 2 Bombs. |

RIGHT PARTY

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|---------------|-------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2055 | Sgt | HDBRELL G.I. | 36002 | | |
| 4300 | Pte | MOLBOD A. | 36020 | 1st Bayonet | Rifle & B'not. 5 Bombs. |
| 6644 | " | THOMPSON C. | 36017 | 2nd " | Rifle & Bayonet 3 Bombs. |
| 2308 | " | WILSON W.H. | 36036 | 1st Bomber | 6 Bombs & Revolver |
| 4301 | " | BUTLER P. | 36034 | 1st Carrier | 8 " " |
| 2204 | " | THOMPSON J.S. | 36010 | 2nd Bomber | 6 " " |
| 4774 | " | WILSON R.R. | 36015 | 2nd Carrier | 8 " " |
| 4706 | " | MALONEY D. | 36006 | 1st Rif.Bmr | Rifle & Bayonet 6 Rifle Bombs. |
| 3541 | " | ASHFORD T. | 36013 | 1st Carrier | Rifle & Bayonet 6 Rifle Bombs. |
| 4263 | " | O'CONNOR L. | 36022 | Spare Man | Rifle & Bayonet 6 Rifle Bombs. |
| 6142 | L/O | ROE A.W. | 36003 | Deputy Leader | Rifle & Bayonet 6 Rifle Bombs. |

LEFT PARTY

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|----------------|-------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 3453 | Cpl | DURKE J.A. | 36005 | Leader | 6 Bombs & Revolver |
| 4491 | Pte | McAULIFFE A.B. | 36024 | 1st Bayonet | Rifle Bayonet 3 Bombs |
| 6175 | " | MITCHELL F. | 36005 | 2nd " | Rifle & Bayonet 3 Bombs |
| 5857 | " | SCOTLAND R.O. | 36004 | 1st Bomber | 6 Bombs & Revolver |
| 6034 | " | BLACKBURN W.J. | 36012 | 2nd " | 8 " " |

CENTRE PARTY.

| | | | | | |
|------|--------|-----------------|-------|--------------|--------------------------|
| | Lieut. | CLAYTON G.J.G. | 36032 | O.C. Assault | Revolver & 6 bombs |
| 888 | Sgt | HARRISON A. | 36035 | Depy. Leader | Revolver & 6 bombs |
| 2280 | L/O | CLIFFORD A.B. | 36000 | 1st Bayonet | Rifle, Bay't, 5 Bombs |
| 5439 | Pte | ROWLEY A. | 36013 | 2nd " | " " " |
| 3654 | " | COOK R. | 36033 | 1st Bomber | 6 Bombs & Revolver |
| 3502 | " | GEARVES J. | 36011 | 1st Carrier | 8 " " |
| 6696 | " | SMITH W.H. | 36014 | 2nd Bomber | 6 " " |
| 4592 | " | SHEAHAN E. | 36019 | 2nd Carrier | 8 " " |
| 2123 | " | COULSHARDT W.B. | 36021 | 1st R.Bomber | 6 R.Bombs, Rifle, Bay't. |
| 953 | " | OSTRELLING R.H. | 36007 | 1st "Carrier | 6 " " " |
| 116 | " | HOWELL V.J. | 36039 | Scout | Rifle, Bay't, 3 Bombs |
| 4427 | " | GARTHELL V.R. | 36001 | 2nd R.Bomber | " " " |
| 1922 | Cpl | BAUMERS T.F. | 36023 | Spare Men | " " " |

STRETCHER BEARERS

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|--------------|-------|-------|------------|
| 5509 | Pte | COLLIS R.E. | 36023 | S. B. | Stretchers |
| 5308 | " | COLLIS G. W. | 36023 | " | " |

LEFT COVERING PARTY.

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|---------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 5472 | Pte | STEWART C.N. | 36026 | No.1 L.Gun | L.G., 1 Mag, 2 Bombs. |
| 6276 | " | BROWN A.M. | 36027 | No.2 L.Gun | Mag. 4 Bombs, Revol. |
| 5318 | " | CROWELL J.H. | 36037 | No.3 & Scout | 6 Bombs, Rifle, Bayonet |
| 5913 | " | BARTOGHE P. | 36025 | No.4 | " " " |
| 3133 | Cpl | McKENZIE L.O. | 36038 | Leader | 6 Bombs, Revolver. |

5912 Archibald R 36016
805 L/Sgt ARNOLD R.F 36025

50th A/M/18

18th Aust. Inf. Batten.

APPENDIX

93

50th
Had O.
8/3/18.

I desire to bring the following under notice for excellent work, coolness and devotion on patrol near PONT ROUGE on morning of 8th inst.

About 4.45 am our patrol of 1 officer and 25 O.R. were returning to our lines. The main body had moved off, when the covering party of officer and three scouts

N^o 4557 Pte. VICKERS

2416 " MARSHALL, WILLIAM

2435 " MADDEN

noticed a party of about 20 Germans about 60 yards off. The officer immediately went after his main patrol and organised them for assault. The three scouts remained on watch. They observed the them entering an old sap. They immediately crawled towards this sap and as soon as they were within bombing range engaged them to prevent their withdrawal and allow our men to surround them. The enemy replied with bombs and rifles, but the attack was pressed so hotly that the hostile patrol broke and were then engaged by the Lewis Gun and other members of the patrol. A small party under N^o 2333 Sgt. Bishop, Charles George made a slight detour and rushed the trench from the right. Sgt. Bishop shot one German dead and another was seized. Both Germans had their rifles in their hands.

I am of the opinion that the prompt action of the three scouts held the hostile patrol and enabled our men to inflict casualties - three definitely killed and one prisoner, wounded and brought in. This prisoner volunteered the information that his patrol strength was 25.

I recommend N^o 2233 Sgt BISHOP, CHARLES GEORGE
~~N^o 4557 Mr VICKERS~~ (who
 led the scouts)

N^o 2416 Mr MARSHALL, WILLIAM and

N^o 2435 Mr MADDEN

for immediate award and also recommend that
 the patrol leader, Lieut. Joseph MAXWELL, D.C.M.
 be brought under notice for commendation
 for his very fine leadership

Geo Murphy
 Lt. Col
 Commanding 18th Bn. A.I.F.

{ 29/3/18 note —
 Sgt and 3 men each awarded M.M.
 Lt Maxwell awarded Mil. Cross.
 Geo Murphy }
 Geo Murphy

5/1/18

SECRET.

95

ANNEXE TO 5th AUST. INF. BDE. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 16.

Report on Raid carried out by 18th Battalion, A.I.F. on centre of enemy activity at PONT ROUGE, at 3.45 a.m. on the 21st March, 1918.

PRIOR TO ZERO. At Zero - 60 mins. the code word "HOBBS", meaning "Scouts in", all clear" was received at Bde H.Q.

At Zero - 50 mins. the word "Bruce", meaning "Party in position", reached Bde. H.Q.

BARRAGE. Some guns opened at Zero - 1 min. and the barrage opened scrappily at first, pointing to bad synchronisation of watches.

The creeping barrage was considered rather thin, otherwise it formed a good line.

All Artillery and Trench Mortars worked according to orders without a hitch, as did also the machine Guns.

COMMUNICATION. Telephone lines held throughout. No recourse to runners or visual signalling was necessary.

ENEMY ACTION. At Zero - 2 mins. 2 rounds of L.T.M. were fired to the right of the raiding party, and 2 Machine Guns from DOLL'S HOUSE swept the front of KATHERINE POST; otherwise all was quiet in NO MANS LAND.

On out barrage opening up, all enemy M.G.s and T.M.s ceased firing and were not heard again.

Enemy retaliation was very slight. A few shells (4.2 and 77mm) fell along the WARNAVE near the right Coy. H.Q. of Left Bn.

WEATHER CONDITIONS. A slight ground mist made it impossible for flares to be of value, and favoured the forming-up at the jumping-off point. Visibility was fairly good up to about 40 yards. The going was slippery but the troops were able to keep up to the barrage without difficulty.

GROUND COVERED. The ditch running from U.29.b.30.40. to U.29.b.80.60. is filled with running water and is about 10' wide. The place has been roughly prepared for defence, and scattered along the length of the defence are planks which were used as bridges.

Pill Box at U.29.b.60.43 is dry and shows signs of recent occupation for a radius of 50 yards. Footprints made since the rain in the morning were visible. About 30 yards from the bank of the river 2 belts of wire - French and barbed- are constructed covering the bridges. No gaps could be discovered and eventually three men cut their way through and reached the river. Search was made inside the wire, but no enemy found. Five rifle shots were fired at this point by the enemy from the other side of the river. This would be about Zero plus 33 mins.

The iron bridge is badly damaged. The wooden bridge could not be found, although a thorough search was made, and it had either been blown up or it is a swinging bridge and has been pulled in. Careful search was made throughout the area and the party returned at Zero plus 35 without casualties.

The wire along the river was not damaged and there were very few shell holes between the wire and the river, and it is thought that the real wall of the barrage was too far from the river, thus enabling the garrison to escape.

BODY SHIELDS. The general opinion of the men is that there was too much restriction on the chest, and after wearing them for three-quarters of an hour, the shoulders felt cramped. On a shorter trench to trench attack or on a bombing post it is considered that they would be of great value, but the advance last night was too long for the use of body shields, and they tired the men considerably, although personally I am of the opinion that the protection afforded outweighs the inconvenience caused by the shield.

(OVER)

Battalion Headquarters,
19th. March 1918.

Reference Maps: Sheet 28. 1/40,000
36. 1/40,000

1. (a) The 5th.A.I.Bde. will be relieved by 7th.A.I.Bde. on March 21st. and night of 21/22nd. March 1918, and on relief will become reserve Bde. to 2nd. Australian Division.
(b) 18th. Battalion will be relieved by 28th. Battn. as Left Support Bn. and will take over the Corps Line Garrisons at present supplied by 28th. Bn. Moves will be in accordance with appended table.
Particulars of Corps Line Garrisons are contained in appendix to Order.
2. (a) At least 2 Officers from each Coy. will reconnoitre both the positions in the Corps Line and in ROMARIN Camp before night of 20/21st. March under Coy. arrangements.
(b) The following advanced parties will proceed to new positions at times stated:-
To ROMARIN CAMP: Lieut. A.E. Johnson and 1 N.C.O. per Coy. and Battn. H.Q. before 9 a.m. 21st. inst.
To Corps Line: One officer and at least 1 N.C.O. per Coy. (in the case of "B" Coy. 4 N.C.O.'s) before 3 p.m. 21st. instant.
3. Dress: Men moving to ROMARIN CAMP from INGERSOLL CAMP will carry marching order and both blankets.
Nucleus garrisons will carry marching order and one blanket (except "D" Coy) and will wear steel helmets.
4. Baggage: Officers gear for ROMARIN CAMP will be ready for loading near Battn. Orderly Room at 9'30 a.m. 21st. inst.
Nucleus garrisons, one blanket per man and Lewis guns will be dumped alongside Battn. Orderly Room by 3 p.m. 21st. inst. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 10 and labelled.
Packs and blankets of "D" Coy. nucleus garrisons will be taken by transport to DELENELLE FARM by 7'30 p.m. 21st. inst.
Baggage of No. 12 Platoon is being moved under orders of Bde. T.O.
5. Trench stores will be handed over and taken over as follows:-
(a) At LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM by "D" Coy. to an advanced Officer of 28th. Battalion.
(b) In Corps Line by advanced parties from garrisons of 28th. Battn. Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Battn. H.Q. by 10 a.m. 22nd. inst.
6. Completion of move will be notified by nucleus garrisons to a senior officer of the Battalion at GRAND REBEQUE FARM by the shortest possible means and will be reported by him to Battn. H.Q. by wire in code.
7. Battalion H.Q. will close at INGERSOLL CAMP at 10'45 a.m. 21st. inst. and will reopen at ROMARIN CAMP at the same time.
8. Disposition reports accompanied by sketch will be forwarded by Coy. Commanders to Battn. H.Q. before noon 22nd. inst.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by runner at 2.55 p.m. 19/3/18.

L. Hobson
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, Lieut. A.I.F.

Distribution.

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| No. 1. File | No. 8. Q.M. & T.O. |
| 2/3. War Diary. | 9. I.O. |
| 4. "A" Company. | 10. Sig. Officer |
| 5. "B" Company. | 11. 5th. A.I. Bde. |
| 6. "C" Company. | 12. 28th. Battalion. |
| 7. "D" Company. | 13. 19th. Battalion. |

5-2/M/12

82

T A B L E "A" (To accompany 18th.A.I.Battalion Order No.12)

| Date | No. | Unit | Move from | Move on relief to | Starting Point | To pass S.P. At | Route | Remarks. |
|-------------------------|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| 21st. March 1918. | 1 | No.12 Platoon | LE BIZET | INGERSOLL | - | - | Most direct | Clear LE BIZET by 6 a.m. |
| | 2 | "D" Coy. | UMPIRE RESERVE | do | - | - | do | To leave immediately after "stand down", stage at INGERSOLL, thence as in No.3 |
| | 3 | "D" Coy. continuing No2 | INGERSOLL | ROMARIN | Western entrance to camp | 10'35 a.m. | do | Less nucleus garrison. |
| | 4 | Battn. H.Q. | do | do | do | 10'40 a.m. | do | No.9 Platoon will move under special orders. |
| | 5 | "C" Coy. | do | do | do | 10'45 a.m. | do | |
| | 6 | "A" Coy. | do | do | do | 10'50 a.m. | do | |
| Night of 21/22nd. March | 7 | Nucleus garrn. "D" Coy. | LANCASHIRE SUPPORT FARM | Corps Line Group 2 | - | - | Vis PLOEGSTEERT Cross roads to DELENELLE FARM | Move at dusk. Meet guides at DELENELLE FARM. |
| | 8 | -do- "C" Coy. | INGERSOLL | -do- Group3. | Western exit INGERSOLL CAMP | 6'15 p.m. | Via ROSSIGNOL Cross roads at C.17.d.6.4. CHAPELLE ROMPUE | Meet guides at Comforts Fund Stall, CHAPELLE ROMPUE. |
| | 9 | -do- "A" Coy. | do | -do- Group 1 | do | 6'20 p.m. | do | do |
| | 10 | "B" Coy | do | Corps Line Southern sec. | do | 6'25 p.m. | do | do. |

APPENDIX

5-2 98

Nucleus garrisons to be supplied in Corps Line and Switch Line.
Garrison of each Post is 1 N.C.O., 1 Rifleman, 1 Bomber, 2 Lewis
gunners, 1 Lewis Gun.

No. 1 Group.- to be supplied by "A" Coy.- consists of 3 posts -
No. 1 Post - C.15.c.80.90.
2 Post - C.15.a.50.50.
3 Post - C.8.b.70.20.

Group H.Q. & 1 Platoon - C.14.d.9.9. LA FLERCQUE FARM.
Garrison 2 Officers - 43 O.R.

No. 2 Group. - "D" Coy. - consists of 4 Posts.-
No. 4 Post - C.8.b.60.30.
5 Post - C.2.d.30.20.
6 Post - C.2.d.15.90.
7 Post - C.2.central.
Group H.Q. C.1.d.40.20. DELENELLE FARM.
2 Officers 25 O.R.

No. 3 Group.- "C" Coy. - consists of 3 posts -
No.8 Post - U.26.c.70.50.
9.Post - U.27.c.70.40.
10.Post - U.27.c.05.50.
Group H.Q. - U.27.c.70.40. - RED HOUSE
1 Officer 21 O.R.

Switch Line Garrison. - "B" Coy. -

2 Platoons at LYS FARM supplying nucleus garrison of 2 post
just outside the farm.

1 Platoon at Farm C.14.c.55.05. supplying nucleus garrison
of a post 100 yards in rear of the farm.

1 Platoon in Brickfields, C.19.b.70.70. supplying nucleus
garrison of WISDOM POST, C.19.b.75.50.

Coy.H.Q? to be selected probably in brickfield.

Major W.R.C.Robertson, M.C. will be in command of the above
garrisons and will be located at the Line H.Q. GRAND REBEQUE FARM.

Total garrison of GRAND REBEQUE FARM,
2 Officers 14 O.R.

APPENDIX

53

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

53/M/18

Battalion Headquarters,
21st. March 1918."A", "B", "C", "D" Coys.
Q.M. - Works Officer.

The attached tables shew duties to be supplied by this unit while the Brigade is in Reserve, and train service transporting parties to their work.

The work in the 2nd. Zone Defence System has been divided into Battalion sectors, No. 1 sector being allotted to 18th. Battalion. The work of Nos. 1 and 2 sectors is under supervision of Capt. J. L. Wright, M.C. 17th. Battalion and under direction of 7th. ~~Field~~ Field Coy. Engineers. Parties supplied for this work are shewn in Table "A".

Table "B" gives particulars of permanent guards and parties to be supplied independently of work in Defence System.

Table "C" gives times and particulars of trains.

Q.M. will arrange provision of gum boots and tools.

Work will be taken over on dates shewn on tables concerned.

Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

2 Copies to
War Diary.

82

T A B L E "A"

| No. | : Coy. | : Strength | : Nature of work | : Tools etc. | : Location | : Sappers |
|----------------|----------|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | : : Off. | : O.R. | | | | |
| A 4 | "A" | 1. 15. | Building No.3 Pillbox | 8 Shovels. | C.13.d.8.8. | Spr.Smith. |
| A 12. | "A" | 1. 60. | Whizz bang Post. | 60 " | C. 2.d.7.5. | " Tippet. |
| A 11. | "C" | 1. 30. | Improving NICHOLSON AVENUE | 40 Shovels.) 20 Gumboots) | C. 2.d.4.1. | Spr.Tammain. |
| A.13. | "C" | 10. (1 Sgt) | Work at dump. | 10 Shovels. | - | " Groundwater. |
| A.15. | "C" | 5. (1 NCO) | No.1 Pill box. | 5 " | - | " Begbie. |
| A.2. | "D" | 15. (1 Sgt) | Flank Post, Digging and revetting. | 10 Shovels. | C.13.d.1.3. | Spr.Rock |
| A.8.) A.9.) | "D" | 20. (1 Sgt) | Digging and revetting. | 20 " | C.14.b.2.8. | " Mondie. |
| A.10. | "D" | 1. 35. | REBEQUE Post. | 35 " | C.8.c.8.2. | " Cain. |
| A.14. | "D" | 1. 25. | Salvaging and repairing materials. | 10 " | - | " Pearce. |

Above parties will start work on 22/3/18. They will be checked by Lieut.E.B.W.Daniel who will accompany them on first day. Officer or N.C.O. in charge of party will ascertain by 21st.inst., full particulars of personnel of his party and all details shown on above table.

Parties will fall in, separated as above, at 7 a.m. 21st.inst. and will entrain as in Table "C". On arrival of train they will report to Lieut.GILL at CHAPELLE ROMPUE Dump, C.13.a.2.9. and will pack up sappers.

Mid-day meal to be carried in all cases.

APPENDIX 53 101

T A B L E "B"

| No. | Coy. | Strength. | Location and Nature of duty | To take over : on date | Remarks. |
|-----|------|--------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| | | : Off. N.C.O. Men. | | | |
| 1. | "B" | 1. 6. | DON DON Dump, Sheet 28 -B.5.c.2.7. to Div. Bomb Officer. | 21/3/18 11 a.m. | L.R.504 to "B" Coy. |
| 2. | "B" | 4. 24. | O.X.D.Ammunition Dump - S.30.d.7.0., Sheet 28, Guard duties. | 21/3/18 11 a.m. | -do- rationed and billeted by O.X.D. |
| 5. | "B" | 1. 3. | Div.Fuel Dump, Sheet 28 - T.25.d.5.4., Guard duties. | 21/3/18 11 a.m. | -do- rationed and billeted by Div.Train. |
| 6. | "B" | 1. 6. | Div.Bomb School, EMU CAMP, Sheet 28, T.9.c.9.3.. | 21/3/18 11 a.m. | -do- -do- |
| 7. | "C" | 1. 5. 60. | Report daily to S.S.O.HYDE PARK CORNER - Wood cutting. | 23/3/18 (vide) (Table "C") | Carry mid-day meal ¹ / ₂ Attention is drawn to traffic regulations re HYDE PARK CORNER, issued to Coys. on 20/3/18. |

T A B L E "C"

Train arrangements.

| To carry | : Departs | : From | : To | : Return Train |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| All personnel as in Table "A" | 7'40 a.m. | ROMARIN | DONCHESTER SIDING | 3'30 p.m. x |
| Party No. 7 in Table "B" | 9'30 a.m. | CONNAUGHT SIDING | HYDE PARK CORNER | 5'30 p.m. |

Parties to be ready to entrain at Siding, 15 minutes before departure of train.

x Parties to entrain in numerical order of the number of their jobs as in Table "A". Lieut.E.B.W.Daniel will supervise entrainment on 22nd.inst.

APPENDIX

Battalion Headquarters,
24th March, 1918.

Reference Map.- Sheet 28 1/40,000.

1. (A) The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve the 8th Aust. Inf Bde. in the MESSINES Sector of the front on nights of 24/25 and 25/26 March, 1918.
(b) The 18th Battalion will relieve the 31st Battalion in the left battalion sub-sector on night of 25/26 March according to table attached.

2. Advanced Parties will proceed to the Line on 24th March.

3. Dress during march will be battle order (steel helmets worn) one blanket carried. Rations to the night of the 25th inst will be carried on the man.

Hats will be packed in packs. Blankets (one per man) will be rolled in bundles of 10, labelled and tightly rolled as usual.

4. Packs, blankets, and Officers' gear will be ready for loading by 9 a.m. at the following places.

(a) From Coy. lines.- Alongside PLOEGSTEERT ROAD in separate Coy. dumps.

(b) From Officers' lines.- Alongside ROMARIN - NEUVE EGLISE ROAD in separate Coy. dumps.

(c) From Details Huts.- Opposite to (b) dumps.

Lewis Guns will be ready for loading at (a) and (c) points as above at 2 p.m.

Parties will be detailed as follows.-

(a) 1 N.C.O. and 3 men per Coy. to stand by baggage and load.

(b) 2 O.R. per Coy. to accompany Lewis Guns throughout.

5. The Camp will be clear of salvage, all huts cleared and men free of huts by noon 25th inst. Rifles will be piled on Coy. parade grounds, and mid-day meal will be issued outside huts.

6. Lieut A.W. Irvine M.C. will arrange to hand over ROMARIN CAMP and obtain receipts from either the representative of Area Commandant or incoming Unit.

7. In relief, Trench Stores, Maps etc. will be taken over and two copies of all receipts forwarded to Btn.H.Q. by 10 a.m. on 26th inst.

8. Watches will be synchronised with Sig. Officer at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 25th inst.

9. Completion of relief will be notified to Btn. H.Q. in code wire.

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

Lo Robson

Lieut.
Adjutant, 18th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued at // p.m. by runner.

Distribution.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. File | 6. Q.M. & T/Sgt. |
| 2. "A" Coy. | 7. Sig. Officer. |
| 3. "B" Coy. | 8. 5th A.I. Bde. |
| 4. "C" Coy. | 9. 31st Btn. |
| 5. "D" Coy. | 10/11. War Diary. |

T A B L E (To accompany 18th Battalion Order No.13)

| Date | Pass S.P. at | To Move to | To meet guides at | Route. | Remarks. |
|-----------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 25th Mar. | "A" Coy. Batn: H.Q. 3'30 p.m. | C.26.d.1.7 | On double duck-board Track. | Leinster Road to Neuve Eglise Wulverghem T.5.d.0.7. (X Roads) - N.36.b.3.8. (X Roads)-thence by double duckboard track through O.25.c., d. - O.26.c., d. | Not to enter Neuve Eglise before 4'45 p.m. |
| | "B" Coy. 3'32 p.m. | Line | " | " | " WULVERGHEM 6'15 p.m. |
| | "D" Coy. 3'34 p.m. | Support | " | " | Halts at 25 and 55 mins. past each hour for 5 mins. |
| | "A" Coy. 3'36 p.m. | 1st Reserve | " | " | Halt at about T.5.c. for evening meal. |
| | "B" Coy. 3'38 p.m. | 2nd Reserve | " | " | |

Starting Point - Point where railway crosses ROMARIN - NEUVE EGLISE ROAD from Romarin Camp.

March to be by Platoons at 50 yards interval throughout.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters,
24th. March 1918.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM.

(In conjunction with 18th.A.I.Bn.Order No.13)

1. Ammunition Supply:- Main Dumps -

| | | | |
|-----------|---|------------|--------------|
| Brigade | - | PICK HOUSE | 0.26.a.6.5. |
| Battalion | - | HOWV FARM | 0.27.d.10.90 |
| | | LUMM FARM | |

2. R.E.Material:- Dumps at

0.31.c.1.4.
0.20.c.2.2.

3. Supplies:-

Rations will be delivered nightly to dump at Cross roads,
0.26.b.95.25.. Thence they will be carried as follows:-

- (a) For front line Company - by first reserve company.
(b) For support and reserve Coys. - Under Coy's own arrangements.

Y.M.C.A. (vide para.6) supplies hot food in containers twice nightly for front line posts. First Reserve Coy. supplies parties to carry this.

4. Water:- To supply front line Coy. and close Support Coys., a tank is situated at ANZAC FARM, 0.28.a.2.0. This is refilled nightly by water cart. First reserve Coy. will carry water to front line posts.

For Reserve Coys. there is a deep well at 0.26.a.9.4. and a stream at 0.27.c.3.7., both fit for drinking. There is also a water point at 0.19.a.7.2.

5. Q.M.Store and Transport lines will be at KEMMEL about N.21.b.00.20.

6. There is a Y.M.C.A.Coffee Stall at ULSTER HOUSE 0.27.a.2.5.

7. R.A.P. will be at CABIN HILL, 0.33.b.1.9.

8. Gum Boots are available in a drying shed near the Y.M.C.A. but will only be used by patrols, until further orders. Applications for issue will be made to Battn.H.Q.

9. Socks:- Instructions regarding supply of clean socks will be issued later. It is probable that arrangements will be made for washing, drying, and exchanging at Drying Shed.

10. Salvage:- All salvaged material, paper, and empty tins will be sent to ration dump.- 0.26.b.95.25. by ration parties and will be cleared thence by returning ration limbers. It is expected that salvage work will continue to be pursued energetically at every opportunity.

11. Returns:- Will be required as follows:- times given being times to reach Battalion H.Q.

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| 3 a.m. | 3 p.m. | Situation wires. |
| 3'30 a.m. | 3'30 p.m. | Casualty wires (for preceding 12 hours ending (3 a.m. and 3 p.m.)) |
| 5 a.m. | | Works report. |
| " | | Intelligence report. |
| 9 a.m. | | Ammunition return. - Return for 27th.inst. will shew complete distribution of all ammunition under company control. |
| " | | Salvage Return. |
| 12 noon. | | Daily Parade State. |

Companies will report when rations are distributed.

Distribution.
As for 18th.A.I.Bn.
Order No.13.

LoRobson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

55/M/18

| Year | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1990 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |

S.O.S. RELAY POSTS:-

KILO FARM -
 SUPPORT ~~XXXX~~ COMPANY H.Q.
 1st. RESERVE COMPANY H.Q.
 Rear O.P.
 Battalion H.Q.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT LEWIS GUN POSITIONS:-

LUM FARM (2)
 O.27.b.10.70.
 O.27.b.20.10.

AMMUNITION DUMPS at all Posts and Company H.Q.

Battalion Amm. Dump at HOW FARM and Battalion H.Q.
 Brigade Dump at PICK HOUSE - O.27.a.40.50.

R.E. Dump at O.20.c.20.30.

26

.....
Antoine L.
 Lo 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map Sheet: WYSCHAETE 1/10000 Ed 7 B.
 Personnel of Patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.
 Place of going out: No. 3 Picquet 0.29.a.20.10.
 Time of going out: 10 p.m.
 Purpose of going out: To reconnoitre NO Man's Land in 0.29.a.
 Place of Return: No. 3 Picquet.
 Time of return: 1 p.m.
 Casualties: Nil.

Information gained: I proceeded south east to about 0.29.c.50.80 with 4 scouts leaving L.G. at 0.29.a.60.30. and remainder of patrol about 50 yards South of L.G. Ground covered in approaching these points is very waterlogged, but solid enough to give a good foothold. From 0.29.c.50.80 I returned to Lewis Gun crossed the road and moved North East, leaving the L.G. in the same place as before. The road is open and gives no cover. It is badly knocked about. On the southern side of the road ~~about~~ about 0.29.a.50.25 there are four dugouts containing dumps of 5.9 shells, including at least some gas shells, one of the latter is leaking. I moved roughly along direction of trench (marked in blue). Trench is full of water. Examined two pillboxes at 0.29.a.50.30. - both are unoccupied. From 0.29.a.56.45 sounds of talking and music were heard from 0.29.b.10.70. Judging by the noises I think there is a strong post there. I could only find one good crossing over trench at about 0.29.a.60.40. Crossing at this point I moved northwards keeping about 50 yards from the trench to about 0.29.a.65.50 then returned to L.G. and re-entered No. 3 Picquet.

The general condition of the ground is as follows - waterlogged but firm - grassy except for shell holes etc - devoid of natural cover, brushwood trees etc. T.M's and M.G's were very active during patrol, the former in vicinity of 0.29.a.50.40. T.M's appeared to be firing from vicinity of 0.29.b.80.80 (L.T.M.) and from rough direction of 0.30.d.5.0. (H.T.M.)

Lt. L. J. Brown
Lieut
 18th Battalion A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B
Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Clayton) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.
Place of going out: No.3 Post.
Time of going out: 2'30 a.m.
Purpose of going out: To patrol No Mans Land thoroughly.

Place of return: No.1 Post.
Time of return: 5'10 a.m.
Casualties: Wounded 1 O.R.

Information gained: The patrol left our lines at No.3 Post, O.29.a.30.00.. A party of 10 O.R. and L.G. were detailed to proceed along road in an easterly direction and take up a position about O.29.a.70.34. as the enemy had been located about 200 yards in front, working, the previous night. I, with the remainder of the patrol worked along our wire towards No.1 Post. From there we worked out to O.29.c.70.60. and thence to O.29.c.70.85. At this point my scouts reported movement at O.29.b.10.30. We then closed in towards our L.G. party. While we were still about 70 yards from our L.G. party, a party of 30 strong of the enemy advanced on both sides of the road and orders to attack were apparently given when they were about 45 yards distant from the gun. At this stage our L.G. opened fire, the enemy threw several bombs, some of which failed to explode, and opened with his machine gun. My party connected up with the L.G. party and advanced towards the enemy who fled along each side of the road and re-entered his position at O.29.b.10.65. During the engagement several of the enemy called "Hands up" in a loud voice, this being heard from our front line and was evidently intended to deceive our party. Unfortunately Pte. W.H. Wilson was severely wounded by machine gun fire. Three of the enemy were seen to fall but though the ground was thoroughly searched we were unable to find them. They were got in under cover of machine gun fire as one of the enemy was seen to stoop and carry one along. Our Lewis gun fired two magazines and several men fired their rifles.

Our wire between Nos.1 and 3 Posts is in two belts is quite good and constitutes a formidable obstacle. No Mans Land is very shell torn, especially near our own wire, but 100 yards out it is in a much better condition for patrolling.

Enemy light Minenwerfer was firing from O.29.b.62.90.

The night was very bright and visibility good.

Lt J. J. Clayton
.....Lieut.
18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B

Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.Maxwell) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.

Place of going out: No.3 Post

Time of going out: 10'30 p.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.

Place of return: No.3 Post.

Time of return: 12'30 a.m.

Casualties: K.I.A. 1 O.R.

Information gained: Patrol went out to O.29.a.55.15. striking road at this point and moved east close to the road. I heard some noises ahead from about O.29.a.65.25. and moved forward alone for about 100 yards leaving patrol extended in front of ditch at O.29.a.65.15. I heard movements from the direction of the enemy ~~xxxx~~ wire. I rejoined patrol and waited the approach of the enemy. Almost at once a party was seen approaching our position from about O.29.a.90.40. I judged the strength of this party to be 20 - 30. They had evidently seen our patrol first. A second party then appeared on our left at about O.29.c.75.90 and at once opened with bombs: they were then about 30 yards away. They rushed our party. We at once charged. The northern party did not wait but at once turned tail. Owing to the thickness of the wire our party could not reach them. As we were extricating ourselves a third party opened from the south with a machine gun, rifle fire and bombs. The centre party which had been first seen meanwhile maintained a heavy fire and the northern party reformed and opened up. I reformed my party in a hollow square facing outwards, opened a rapid fire with rifles and Lewis guns and then advanced outwards in bursts towards the three parties. The firing continued for about 10 minutes when my L.G.ammunition began to give out. I got some more by calling to the front line - had four magazines left when this arrived. During this period there were three M.G.'s firing from the enemy patrols, one from each flank and one from the centre party. In addition a M.G.from S.P. at O.29.b.1.7. This was brought into action only on a signal (3 blasts of a whistle) from the S.P. Immediately on this signal, all the enemy would drop and the M.G. open.

Cpl.McLaren, who had been the first to see the northern party was hit in the head alongside me and killed immediately. Our patrol continued to advance, the centre and left parties under the command of Sgt.Boyce until we were close to the hun, when he retired.

We found one wounded German and actually saw four dead. Papers and shoulder straps etc. were removed from the dead. Sgt.Boyce's party brought in the prisoner.

I cannot say definitely the total strength of the party, but from the volume of the rifle fire I think that the centre party was 20 to 30 strong and each flank party at least 10 strong.

27/3/18.

Lieut. J. Maxwell
..... Lieut.
18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.15.

(Copy No....)

Battalion Headquarters,
26th. March 1918.

Reference Map: Sheet 28. 1/40,000
WYTSCHAETE 28 SW2 1/10,000 Ed.7B

1. When orders are received that the battalion is to be relieved, all concerned will be notified by the following message -
"DRAYTON" (followed by a number indicating date of relief ^{plus 100})

The orders hereunder will be carried out on the date indicated.

2. Advanced parties of 4 N.C.O's per Coy. will report to Battn.H.Q. as soon as practicable after 3 p.m.. Lieut.E.B.W.Daniel will be at the junction of PILL ROAD ~~junction~~ with the double duckboard at 7 p.m. to meet and take charge of advanced parties.

3. Guides will be detailed as follows, to report at Battn.H.Q. -
(a) By Outpost and Support Coys. - one per post and Coy.H.Q. - as soon as visibility permits.
(b) By reserve Coys. - One per platoon and Coy.H.Q. at 7 p.m.

Sig.Officer will detail one guide to meet incoming unit, to be at junction of PILLROAD and double duckboard track - N.30.a.6.3. - from 6'30 p.m.

4. Dress of men moving from the line will be Battle Order - one blanket to be carried.

5. Transport will be detailed as follows :-
(i) To be at ULSTER DUMP (O.27.a.0.3.) at 8 p.m. (unless otherwise ordered)
(a) One limber for Cooks gear etc.
(b) Mess Cart
(ii) Three limbers for Lewis guns to be at ^{ULSTER DUMP} N.30.a.6.3. at 8'30 p.m.
As soon as all Lewis guns are loaded these limbers will move with the Battalion. ^{join and}

6. In relief, all trench stores etc. will be handed over and receipts obtained. Two copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Battn.H.Q. by 10 a.m. on day following relief.

7. Completion of relief will be notified to Battn.H.Q. by wiring the name of Coy.S.M.

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

Issued at p.m.26/3/18.

Le Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th.Battalion. A.I.F.

Distribution.

- No.1/2. War Diary
3. "A" Company
4. "B" Company
5. "C" Company
6. "D" Company
7. Q.M.& T.O.
8. Sig.Officer.
9. Major W.R.C.Robertson,M.C.
10. 5th.A.I.Bde.
11. 5th.A.I.Bde.(for relieving Bde.)
12. File.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WTSCHAETE 1/10,000. Ed. 7B.

Personnel of Patrol: 1 officer (Lieut. Clayton) ¹⁹~~22~~ O.R. and 1 L.G.

Place of going out: No. 2 Post.

Time of going out: 12'15 a.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.

Place of return: No. 3 Post.

Time of return: 3'45 a.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained: Patrol went out in two parties - 9 O.R. 1 L.G. went out from 0.29.a.30.10. and took up a position at 0.29.a.75.30. to cover our left flank. The 2nd. party went out from 0.29.c.30.65. and searched the ground to 0.29.c.75.50., thence to 0.29.b.75.00. At this point, this party connected with the L.G. ~~party~~ party. We did not find any enemy dead on this ground. It was very quiet in No Mans Land during the time the patrol was out, but the enemy kept a machine gun playing on the scene of the encounter for over an hour, firing short bursts every few minutes. Lieut. Maxwell's Lewis gun ~~was~~ fired from the same position as we did last night, at 0.29.a.75.35.

27/3/18.

..... Lieut.
18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Battalion Headquarters,
27th March 1918.

Headquarters,
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Reference your 4/84 of 26/3/18.

REPORT ON SECTOR TAKEN OVER FROM 8th A.I. BRIGADE.

The defences consist of -

Picquet Line
Support Line
Reserve Line

(1) The picquet line consists of five posts which for the main part are breastwork. The wire in front is a comparatively good obstacle with the exception of Post No. 5 where wire is nearly 100 yards in advance. The work of wiring in front of this post was put in hand and is being pushed on.

(2) The Support Line is a series of detached posts which are camouflaged by day. Both Support and Picquet Lines are on the forward slope and under direct observation and it is questionable whether the provision of lateral communication by digging saps, would compensate for the disadvantage of providing an excellent target for the enemy.

The Picquet Line is strong enough to deal with hostile raids. The Support Line would need to be relied upon to break up any stronger attack.

The wire in front of the Support Line is only a single concertina belt and needs a lot of strengthening.

(3) The Reserve Line is a connected trench throughout and in good condition and extends across the Battalion sector with the exception of 50 yards from the right boundary. Here the trench is dug but needs draining, duckboarding and revetting. This work has already been put in hand.

The wire in front of the Reserve Line is very light, forward communications are mainly overland and it is not possible to visit Support or Picquet Lines in daylight. Communications by telephone to Coys., to left Battalion or to Batteries is very bad. The lines are apparently overloaded. The linesmen have been kept busy for two days in trying to bring about a better condition of things. Arrangements for visual signalling in case of emergency have been made.

Machine guns are poorly sited and a detailed scheme of M.G. defence of Brigade sector seems to be badly needed. The C.O. 2nd. A.M.G. Battalion has this matter in hand.

The accommodation seems to be sufficient. The doors of many of the mens' dugouts have been provided with blankets. These act only as light screens. The dug-outs are not gas-proof; the majority of the pill-boxes are.

The provision of a R.A.P. is a matter requiring attention. The occupation by the right Battalion of pill-boxes used previously as Coy.H.Q. for 2nd Reserve Company has led to the R.A.P. being used now also as a Coy.H.Q.. Although suitable as a Coy.H.Q. it is not altogether suitable as a R.A.P.

Works Policy - Completion of wiring in front of Picquet line,
(nearly completed)
Wiring of Support and Reserve Lines,
Draining, revetting and duckboarding right of Reserve
Line to Battn. boundary.
Gas proofing of dug-outs,
Provision of R.A.P.

All the foregoing works have already been put in hand.

2 Copies to War Diary

John G. H. [Signature]

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYSCHAETE 1/10000 Ed. 7B.

Personnel of Patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Brown) 25 O.R. and 1 L.G.

Place of going out: No. 3 Post.

Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.

Place of Return: No. 3 Post.

Time of Return: 11'30 p.m.

Casualties: 1 O.R. wounded.

Information gained: Moved from No. 1 Picquet and went in a South easterly direction to about O.29.c.6.4. Took up a position in front of our wire from about O.29.c.6.4. to O.29.c.6.8. and waited till about 10'30 p.m. I went with scouts and examined ground for about 100 yards in front of position. At 10'30 p.m. gas projector attack started on the right. I noticed two Huns moving close to two trees in O.29.d. central. As soon as projector attack began rattles and goings sounded in enemy trenches. A great many double red flares were sent up and repeated back in his lines. Enemy opened with whizzbangs and 4'2's and light M.F.'s into the front line and No Mans Land. One man was wounded slightly in the knee. After the bombardment died down patrol moved north to about O.29.a.70.30. x close to road and came in by No. 3. Post. No enemy were seen in No Mans Land.

Lt. H. J. Brown
Lieut.
 18th Battalion A. I. F.

Copy No. 1...

Reference Map: Sheet 28 SW 1/20,000

1. Levins projectors are being emplaced on this Brigade front as follows:-

- (a) 200 projectors to shoot on vicinity of KIWI FARM - 0.36.c.
- (b) 200 projectors to shoot on DATUM HOUSE - 0.36.a.
- (c) 500 projectors to shoot on vicinity of KINGSCLERE - U.6.b.

2. The date and hour for these discharges will be notified later by the following in B.A.B.Code :-

"MOTOR CAR" - followed by date and time (corrector being added (to all groups)

The following code in clear will then be used -

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| "SALVAGED" | will mean | "Confirmed" |
| "WHEEL OFF" | " | "Postponed" |
| "WRECKED" | " | "Cancelled" |

3. A stringent gas alert will be maintained in the Battalion Area as soon as Gas Bombs are taken forward.

4. (a) The units on our right will be clearing troops from a portion of their area as follows:-

From Zero - 5 to Zero plus 30 minutes - Whole of 0.35.b. and portion of 0.35.c. and 0.34.d. south of the line 0.35.central, - 0.34.d.7.2.

(b) All troops east of the line 0.29.central - 0.29.c.5.0. - 0.35.a.00.00. - 0.34.d.50.00. will wear Box Respirators from Zero - 5 minutes to Zero plus 15 minutes.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE. by code word "MAGNETO"

Lo Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant 18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution.

- 1/2. War Diary
- 3. "A" Company
- 4. "B" Company
- 5. "C" Company
- 6. "D" Company
- 7. Sig. Officer.

64/M/18

S E C R E T.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters,
28th March, 1918.

With reference to my memo on operation referred to as
"MOTOR CAR".

1. In conjunction with this operation, three mortars of the 5th A.L.T.M.B. will fire 160 incendiary shells on enemy trenches in U.6.c.
2. The operation will take place at earliest suitable time after tonight. The present position is that, unless further orders are issued, Zero time will be 10'40 p.m. on 29th inst.
3. The code phrase "MOTOR CAR WRECKED" will mean that the operation is postponed until the same hour one day later, unless further instructions are sent.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE by code word "AXLE".

Le Robson
Lieut.
Adjutant, 18th Battn. A.I.F.

Copies to 1/2 War Diary.

3. "A" Coy.
4. "B" Coy.
5. "C" Coy.
6. "D" Coy.
7. Sdg. Officer.

PATROL REPORT

Reference Map: YSCARTE 1/10000 Ed. 7B.

Personnel of Patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Gascoigne-Roy) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G.'s

Place of going out: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~. 0.29c.10.40.

Time of going out: 1'30 a.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.

Place of Return: 0.29.a.20.05.

Time of Return: 5 a.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained: We went out to about 0.29.a. 80.15 and thence down ~~to~~ to 0.29.b.90.45. There was no sign of enemy movement whatever. The country over which we passed is marshy but easily passable. We moved northwards and searched country again to about 0.29.a.70.50. There were several bursts of M.G. fire at the patrol but no enemy movement was seen at all.

Gascoigne-Roy Lt

PROVINCE

mail

rig

He left - up to the top

APPENDIX

66118
~~67~~EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

S E C R E T

Programme of patrols for night of 28/29th. March 1918.

66/M/18
67

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return | Instructions. PASSWORD "RUM" |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. | 1 Off. 28 O.R. 2 L.G. "A" Coy. | No. 3 Post 8'30 p.m. | No. 2 Post 11'30 p.m. | Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road. |
| 2 | 1 Off. 28 O.R. 2 L.G. "B" Coy. | No. 2 Post 1'30 a.m. | No. 3 Post 5 a.m. | Same as No. 1. |

All posts will be acquainted with this programme as soon as possible.
ON NO ACCOUNT Will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters
Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.
When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "JAR"

Distribution.

"A" Coy. 5th. A. I. Bde.
"B" Coy. 5th. A. M. G. Co.
"C" Coy. Right Battn.
"D" Coy. Left Battn
File. War Diary.

L. Hobson
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th. Battn.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHALTE 1/10,000 Ed.7B.
Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. Gascoigne-Roy) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G.
Place of going out: No.3 Picquet
Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.
Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.
Place of return: No.2 Picquet.
Time of return: 11'30 p.m.
Casualties: Nil.
Information gained:-

The patrol went out through No.3 Picquet Post and proceeded to ditch at 0.29.c.8.5. thence going to 0.29.a.4.5. crossing road at 0.29.a.30.1. The patrol then returned to 0.29.c.75.95. recrossing road at 0.29.a.7.2. From there the patrol proceeded to 0.29.c.5.5. and returned through No.2 Picquet Post.

During the whole time the patrol was out no trace of the enemy was seen but occasional short bursts of machine gun fire along the road were heard coming from the direction of 0.29.b.1.2.

29/3/18.

Al Gascoigne-Roy Lt
.....
18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed 7B.

Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.F.J.Brown) 28 O.R. 2 L.G's

Place of going out: O.29.c.20.80.

Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.

Purpose of going out: To proceed with right flank on ditch towards enemy wire and reconnoitre the country.

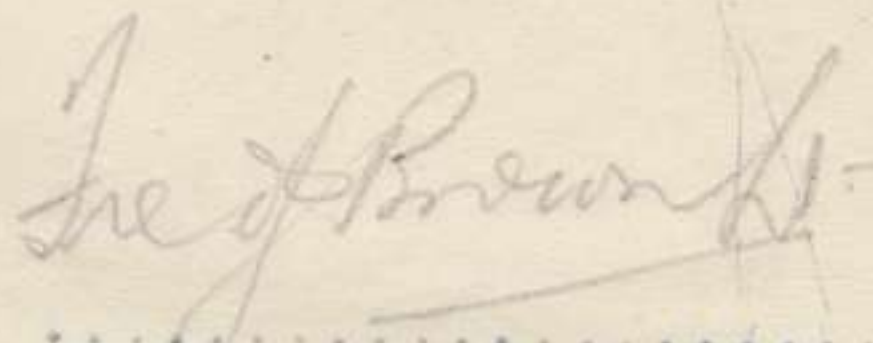
Place of return: O.29.a.20.10.

Time of return: 11'30 p.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained: The patrol left our line between Nos.2 and 3 Picquet posts and proceeded in an easterly direction to O.29.c.70.80. The patrol then moved in a Northerly direction to O.29.a.80.20. just below the road. Owing to the intense darkness it was impossible to find any gaps in the German wire. The intervening ground was carefully searched and no trace of the enemy could be discovered. The ground was very wet and slippery with the result that movement was both noisy and difficult. In consequence of the above no patrol lined out between O.29.a.80.20. and O.29.c.80.90. With the exception of intermittent bursts of Machine gun fire no enemy activity was observed.

31/3/18



.....
18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B.
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.N.V.McLaren) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G's
 Place of going out: No.2 Post.
 Time of going out: 1'30 a.m.
 Purpose of going out: Search No Mans Land and engage any enemy patrols seen.
 Place of return: No.3 Post.
 Time of return: 4'30 a.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

I went out with my right flank on ditch to about O.29.c.80.95. I took scouts forward to the gap in enemy wire reported last night. The three enemy posts could be seen. I went back and brought forward a L.G. to about 30 yards to the left of the gap. On attempting to fire we had a stoppage. The sentries heard us adjusting the gun and eight of the enemy were standing in a group. The muzzle of the gun was put into the enemy wire and we fired a complete magazine into the group. Five of the enemy were seen to fall and the other three jumped down into the Post. Groans and talking were heard and two men were seen to pull two of the enemy into the post. A machine gun opened up almost immediately but it was directed mainly to the road at about O.29.a.85.25.

The moon broke out through the clouds and now and then some had to withdraw after waiting 45 minutes to see if the enemy would come out after us.

We returned via O.29.a.80.20. and GRASS FARM.

31/3/18.

Sgt. N.V. McLaren
 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

67/M/18

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B

Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. McLaren) 24 O.R. and 2 L.G's

Place of going out: No.2 Post

Time of going out: 1'30 a.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular ~~mm~~ attention to road.

Place of return: No.3 Post

Time of return: 5 a.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained:

I advanced from Post No.2 in arrow head formation with my left group of scouts advancing parallel to road running from No.3 Post through O.29.a.and b. This group of scouts came under hostile machine gun fire and a white flare was fired from about O.29.a.8.3. After halting for a while nothing further was heard from this point. Continuing, my point guard advanced as far as O.29.d.40.80. when another flare was fired about 50 yards in advance of them. After careful observation enemy movements were observed, moving as though from post to post from O.29.d.70.85. There were three distinct groups about 70 yards from each other. They were clearly observed by all on my patrol, moving in groups of one and two's patrolling from post to post.

On three occasions they fired flares in our direction and the post evidently observed our movements, owing to the visibility ~~was~~ a keen watch on our movements was at all times kept by these groups.

I started to return at 4'15 a.m., changed my direction crossing the road and kept the road about 30 yards on my left, searching pill-boxes and any places useful to the enemy but nothing was observed. I returned through Group No.3 at 5 a.m.

Lieut. W. McLaren
Lieut.
 18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

68/M/18

SECRET.EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.
-----Battalion Headquarters
29th. March 1918.
-----Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

I am preparing a proposal for a raid and hope to submit it to you on the 30th. inst.

I am having the approaches to 29. Central, the probable objective, carefully reconnoitred to-night.

In the event of the raid coming off, I intend asking for smoke, in order to deceive the enemy into believing that he is being bombarded with gas. In order to assist in this, can a mixture of smoke and gas, say 50 rounds - (40% smoke, 60% gas) - be put over on the night of 30/31st. My proposal is to put 10 rounds of smoke over first, then the gas, and remainder of smoke, so that when only smoke is ~~used~~ used he will have been educated into believing that gas is following, and will take no risks.

The portion of the enemy's line I would like dealt with in this way extends from 50 yards N. of cross roads O.29.b.95.35. to O.29.d.20.85.

Geo. J. Murphy
Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

871

APPENDIX

124
69
70

18th.BATTALION, A.I.F.

SECRET.

Programme of patrols for night of 29/30th.March 1918.

68/M/18
69
70

| o. | Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return | Instructions. |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | | | | PASSWORD "GIN" |
| 1. | 1 Off.28 O.R. 2 L.G."A" Coy. | No.3 Post 8'30 p.m. | No. 2 Post. 11'30 p.m. | Patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road. |
| 2. | 1 Off.28 O.R. 2 L.G."B" Coy. | No.2 Post 1'30 a.m. | No.3 Post. 5 a.m. | <u>Same as No.1.</u> |

All posts will be acquainted with this programme as soon as possible.
ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters.
Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.
When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "DRY"

Distribution.

File.
War Diary
"A" Company
"B" Company
"C" Company
"D" Company
5th.A.I.Brigade.
5th.A.M.G.Co.
Right Battalion.
Left Battalion.

Lo Robson
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer 18th.Battalion.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: YTSCHAEDE 1/10000 Ed.7B

Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.R.H.Gascoigne-Roy)
30 O.R. and 2 L.G.

Place of going out: No.3 Post.

Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.

Purpose of going out: To patrol Battalion front, paying particular attention to road.

Place of return: No.2 Post.

Time of return: 11'30 p.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained:

The patrol went out at 8'30 p.m. from No.3 Post to 0.29.a.60.40. where it waited for an hour. Thence the patrol moved to 0.29.c.80.80. When crossing the road at 0.29.a.70.25. a burst of machine gun fire was fired at patrol from about 0.29.a.90.20. On moving towards that position nothing was seen of the enemy. The patrol then proceeded to 0.29.c.80.70. and returned through No.2 Post.

No enemy movement was observed and no trace of the enemy was seen during the time the patrol was out.

30/3/18.

Sgt R. Gascoigne Roy
.....
18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B

Personnel of patrol: 2 Officers (Lieuts.A.W.Irvone,M.C.& N.V.McLaren,MM
30 O.R. and 2 L.G.

Place of going out: 0.29.c.20.60.

Time of going out: 1'30 a.m.

Purpose of going out: Patrol Battalion front, paying particular
attention to road and approaches to 0.29.central.

Place of return: 0.29.a.20.30.

Time of return: 4'30 a.m.

Casualties: Nil.

Information gained:

I took patrol out from 0.29.c.20.60. and proceeded with the right flank on ditch to about 0.29.c.80.95. I left the main patrol there with Lieut.McLaren and took two scouts forward to enemy wire at 0.29.a.95.10. We located three enemy posts at approximately 0.29.b.10.10., 0.29.b.15.15. and 0.29.b.15.20. Sentries were seen on duty and about every four minutes a man would pass from one post to the other. At 3 a.m. 6 men came overland to post at 0.29.b.10.10. There is a gap in the enemy wire about 10 feet wide at 0.29.a.95.15. One scout and myself got through this gap and were immediately fired on by machine gun from about 40 yards range. The machine gun fired from just in rear of the post. The moon came out very brightly and we had to withdraw. I then took patrol across road at 0.29.a.80.20. to about 0.29.a.80.50. We were fired on several times by the same machine gun. We returned through old pill-boxes near GRASS FARM.

A dug-out with 5'9 shells in is situated on road at about 0.29.a.60.25.

About 10 men were seen in the posts mentioned.

30/3/18.

Awolun Lieut.
18th.Battalion, A.I.F.

71/M/18

S E C R E T
(Copy No. 5.)

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No. 16.

Battalion Headquarters
30th. March 1918.Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000
Sheet 28 SW2

1. (a) "B" Coy. will relieve "A" Coy. in Outpost Line to-night 30/31st. March 1918.
(b) On relief "A" Coy. will occupy the Support Line.
2. The following will be the arrangements for ration carrying:-
(a) Prior to relief - "C" Coy. will carry
(i) Dry rations to "B" Coy. ✓
~~(ii) Evening hot meal to "B" Coy.~~
(iii) Evening hot meal to "A" Coy.
(b) After relief -
(i) "C" Coy. will carry morning hot meal to "B" Coy.
(ii) "A" Coy. will carry their own morning hot meal and dry rations
3. Other details of relief will be according to usual arrangements.
4. Details of relief not provided for in this order will be arranged mutually between O's C. Coys. concerned.
5. Completion of relief will be wired to Battn. H.Q. by code word "CADLE"
6. A C K N O W L E D G E by Code word "MACNABB"

L. Robson

Issued at 6'30 p.m. 30/3/18.

Lieut.
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.Distribution.

- 1 "A" 2 "B" 3 "C" 4 "D" Coys.
- 5/6 War Diary (2), 7 Q.M.
- 8 File.

18th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

S E C R E T.

72/73/M/18

Programme of patrols for night of 30/31st. March 1918.

| No. | Strength. | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return | Instructions. PASSWORD "STOUT" |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 | 1 Off. 25 O.R. 2 L.G. "D" Coy. | 0.29.c.20.80. 8'30 p.m. | 0.29.a.20.10. 11'30 p.m. | Proceed with right flank on ditch towards enemy wire and reconnoitre country over which raid will take place. |
| 2. | 1 Off. 3 O.R. from H.Q. | 0.29.c.20.80. Midnight | 0.29.a.20.10. 1'30 a.m. | Reconnoitre ground preparatory to laying tapes for raid. |
| 3 | 1 Off. 25 O.R. 1 L.G. "B" Coy. 1 L.G. 3 O.R. from "C" Coy. | 0.29.a.20.10. 1'30 a.m. | 0.29.c.20.80. 4'30 a.m. | Search No Mans Land and engage any enemy patrols seen. |

All posts will be acquainted with this programme as soon as possible.
 ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters.
 Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.
 When patrol returns Coy. will wire word "PORTER"

Distribution.

File. 5th. A.I. Bde.
 "A" Coy. 2nd. A.M.G. Battn.
 "B" Coy. Right Battn.
 "C" Coy. Left Battn.
 "D" Coy. War Diary.

Ans. Lunn Lieut.
 Intelligence Officer 18th. Battalion.

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.74/M/18
S E C R E T.
(Copy No.....)Battalion Headquarters,
31st March, 1918.IN FURTHERANCE and AMENDMENT OF BATTALION ORDER No. 15.

- Reference Para 1. Relief will take place on night 1st/2nd April, 1918, Relieving Unit will be 10th Worcesters.
- Reference Para. 2. Advanced parties of 2 N.C.O.s per Coy. will report to Btn.H.Q. before morning of 1st April.
- Para. 3. All guides will be supplied by the two Reserve Coys. as follows.-
 For Outpost Coy. - by "C" Coy. -One per post and One for Coy. H.Q.
 For Support Coy. - by "D" Coy. -do- -do-
 For 1st Reserve Coy. - by "D" Coy. -One per Platoon & Coy.H.Q.
 For 2nd -do- -by "C" Coy. -do- -do-
 Guides will report to Battn. H.Q. at 6 p.m. on 1st April, and each will have written instructions defining the portion of the area to which he is to guide relieving troops.

Advanced parties of relieving Unit will arrive on 31st inst.

Further particulars as to destination after relief, etc. will be notified later.

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

As for Battalion
Order No.15.

L. Hobson
Lieut.
Adjutant, 18th Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

75
7675/76/14/18
S E C R E T.18th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

Programme of patrols for night of 31st./1st. April 1918

| No. | Strength | Place and time of departure | Place and time of return. | Instructions. PASSWORD "ALE" |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 1 Off. 25 O.R. 1 L.G. "B" Coy. 1 L.G. 3 O.R. "D" Coy. | No. 5 Picquet 8'30 p.m. | No. 2 Picquet. 11'30 p.m. | Search No Mans Land thoroughly and engage any enemy patrols seen. |
| 2. | 1 Off. 28 O.R. 2 L.G. "C" Coy. | No. 1 Picquet. 12'30 a.m. | No. 3 Picquet. 4 a.m. | Investigate country from Southern boundary to road in O.29.a. |

"B" Company will push out covering patrols until daylight.

"C" Company's patrol officer will report to Battn. H.Q. at 5'30 p.m. for further instructions.

All Posts will be acquainted with this programme as soon as possible.
ON NO ACCOUNT will this programme be taken forward of Company Headquarters
Patrol leader will report to Battalion Headquarters on completion.
When patrol returns, Coy. will wire word "PALE"

Distribution.

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| File. | 5th. A.I. Bde. |
| "A" Coy. | 5th. A.M.G. Co. |
| "B" Coy. | Right Battn. |
| "C" Coy. | Left Battn. |
| "D" Coy. | War Diary. |

Lieut.
Intelligence Officer, 18th. Battn.

18th Apr AIF 7th MI 18

Quartermasters Report for March 1918

Rations were drawn from NIELLES and distributed from SENNINGEM by 1st line transport from 1st to 2nd March and delivered to B.C. & D Coy at AFRINGUE & A Coy Hdqrs at SENNINGEM.

Transport less Kitchen, Water Cart, Mess & Mail Cart moved by road on 2nd March to RENESCURE 3rd to STAZELLE and to CANTEEN CORNER, drawing Rations at RENESCURE & STAZELLE for Road personnel & Horses. Battalion moved on 4th by train from LUNDRES to STEENWERCK stores are being moved from SENNINGEM & AFRINGUES by motor Lorry & from STEENWERCK STATION to CANTEEN CORNER by lorries. Rations for 5th March for whole unit were distributed ^{mainly by} to fatigue parties at CANTEEN CORNER. Rations for 6th March were distributed & excepting Cooks stuff were carried by men onto the train which conveyed them to the line. 1st line transport carried balance of Rations & less from CANTEEN CORNER to KEEPER'S HUT. Transport & Bull Stone move on the same day to COURCELETTE CAMP. Rations for line were sent ^{nightly} to KEEPER'S HUT & collected from there by fatigue parties. Cooking was done by 2 Cooks per Coy & Detail Cooks in Support Trenches & carried to the line & Support Coy. Lorry Cooks were also used for advanced posts.

Hot Coconut Milk was provided by YMCA nightly for front line & fatigue parties. This material was carried by 1st line transport to KEEPER'S HUT for YMCA & 2 Cooks assisted in preparation of Hot Drinks.

The Battalion was relieved on 14th and moved A Coy to KEEPER'S HUT. B Coy to ROSSIGNOL & C Coy & B, D & Hqrs to INGERSOLL. Rations were delivered by 1st line transport to these camps.

16th March A Coy moved to GRANCHIRE Support FARM and were relieved by D Coy on 18th. Rations being delivered nightly to KEEPER'S HUT & handled by Fatigue. 2 Cooks per Coy did cooking at Coy.

2nd D Coy was relieved and portions of A, C & D Coys & all of B Coy took up over Garrison in Corps line. Cooking was done near Garrison for 2 or 3 posts excepting B Coy which cooked for platoons. Rations & water were sent for C Coy to KEEPER'S HUT. D Coy Rations to DELENELLE FARM. A Coy & Garrison Headquarters at GRAND RABEQUE FARM & B Coy at LAFLANQUE FARM for 2 platoons & LABIET CONVENT for the balance of Company.

2nd March all Garrison were relieved & camped at RONHARIN CAMP where rations were delivered similarly to those for Hqrs & balance of Coys which were in this camp whilst Garrison were being held.

25th March Battalion less nucleus personnel

moved from ROMARIN CAMP to use
Nucleus Personnel, Transport & Ordnance
moved to KEMMEL. Transport moved
Lewis Guns & Cooks Gear from ROMARIN
to ULSTER DUMP. Kitchens supplied tea
on road between NEUVE EGLISE & WULVERHAM
& then reported to KEMMEL. Stores &
Packs were taken by 2nd line Transport
to KEMMEL. Rations were drawn at
LINDENHOEK by 1st line transport taken
to KEMMEL & then to line at ULSTER
DUMP. Water Cart took water to tanks
at ANZAC FARM. Rations for Nucleus
Personnel, Transport & Stores were
taken over by fatigue parties at
KEMMEL.

Nucleus Personnel moved to camp near
WULVERHAM taking Kitchens with them
& were rationed from KEMMEL. Transport
taking rations each afternoon.
Rations for line were taken nightly to
ULSTER DUMP & 1 water cart nightly to
ANZAC FARM.

ORDNANCE - 2 Extra Lewis Guns for Anti-
Aircraft were drawn.

50 Body Shields & Dress were drawn for
Special Raiding party.

Additional Muzzle protectors were also
drawn & attached to Rifles by Armourer
Sergeant.

87
24th March. Winter Clothing, Blankets,
Sheep Skin Vests, Leather Jerkins, Galones
Fingerless & Woollen, Sheepskin lined Coats
& Boots & S. were returned to Ordnance
at DE SEULE.

29th March. Surplus Stores, Officers Kits
& c were sent to Divisional Dump at
NEERABIS. Patrol ABDEY B. Coy remaining
in charge of same.

30th March. Tool Echelon was increased
by additional 100 Shovels to be carried
on limbers. 4 Sandbags per man and
2 Grenades per man were also drawn
& held at Transport Lane.

Weekly drawings of Oils, Bootmakers
Repair Material, Boots & Clothing wear & c
SALVAGE. During the month a large
quantity of Salvage was collected in
forward area & returned to Brigade
Dumps.

BOOT REPAIRS. Three Bootmakers were kept
busy during the month and especially
during period Battalion was out of the line.

TAILORS. Two tailors were employed
constantly in repairs & sewing on of
Regimental Colours.

BARBER. One Barber was constantly
employed.

ARMOURER, SERGEANT, was employed in
effecting minor repairs to Rifles & c.

and in putting Muzzle Protection on
Rifles also in taking off Butt Catchers
from Lewis Guns & replacing by others
with Milled Catchers.

31st March 1918.

S. Reddel Capt
O.M.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed 7B.
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut. F.J. Brown) 28 O.R. 2 L.C.'s
 Place of going out: O.29.c.20.80.
 Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.
 Purpose of going out: To proceed with right flank on ditch towards enemy wire and reconnoitre the country.
 Place of return: O.29.a.20.10.
 Time of return: 11'30 p.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

The patrol left our line between Nos. 2 and 3 Picquet posts and proceeded in an easterly direction to O.29.c.70.80. The patrol then moved in a Northerly direction to O.29.a.80.20. just below the road. Owing to the intense darkness it was impossible to find any gaps in the German wire. The intervening ground was carefully searched and no trace of the enemy could be discovered. The ground was very wet and slippery with the result that movement was both noisy and difficult. In consequence of the above no patrol lined out between O.29.a.80.20. and O.29.c.80.90. With the exception of intermittent bursts of Machine gun fire no enemy activity was observed.

31/3/18

Lt J. Brown
 18th Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10,000 Ed.7B.
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.N.V.McLaren) 28 O.R. and 2 L.G's
 Place of going out: No.2 Post.
 Time of going out: 1'30 a.m.
 Purpose of going out: Search No Mans Land and engage any enemy patrols seen.
 Place of return: No.3 Post.
 Time of return: 4'30 a.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

I went out with my right flank on ditch to about O.29.c.80.95. I took scouts forward to the gap in enemy wire reported last night. The three enemy posts could be seen. I went back and brought forward a L.G. to about 30 yards to the left of the gap. On attempting to fire we had a stoppage. The sentries heard us adjusting the gun and eight of the enemy were standing in a group. The muzzle of the gun was put into the enemy wire and we fired a complete magazine into the group. Five of the enemy were seen to fall and the other three jumped down into the Post. Groans and talking were heard and two men were seen to pull two of the enemy into the post. A machine gun opened up almost immediately but it was directed mainly to the road at about O.29.a.85.25.

The moon broke out through the clouds and now and then some had to withdraw after waiting 45 minutes to see if the enemy would come out after us.

We returned via O.29.a.80.20. and GRASS FARM.

31/3/18.

Sgt H.T. McLaren
 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

PATROL REPORT.

Reference Map: WYTSCHAETE 1/10000 Ed.7B
 Personnel of patrol: 1 Officer (Lieut.R.H.Gascoigne-Roy)
 30 O.R. and 2 L.G.
 Place of going out: No.3 Post.
 Time of going out: 8'30 p.m.
 Purpose of going out: To patrol Battalion front, paying particular
 attention to road.
 Place of return: No.2 Post.
 Time of return: 11'30 p.m.
 Casualties: Nil.
 Information gained:

The patrol went out at 8'30 p.m. from No.3 Post
 to 0.29.a.60.40. where it waited for an hour.

Thence the patrol moved to 0.29.c.80.80. When
 crossing the road at 0.29.a.70.25. a burst of
 machine gun fire was fired at patrol from about
 0.29.a.90.20. On moving towards that position
 nothing was seen of the enemy. The patrol then
 proceeded to 0.29.c.80.70. and returned through
 No.2 Post.

No enemy movement was observed and no trace
 of the enemy was seen during the time the patrol
 was out.

Lt. R. Gascoigne-Roy
 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.

30/3/18.

20/3/78

1968

Handwritten signature

the day

of the enemy was seen during the time the

on the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day the enemy was seen during the time

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day

the day