

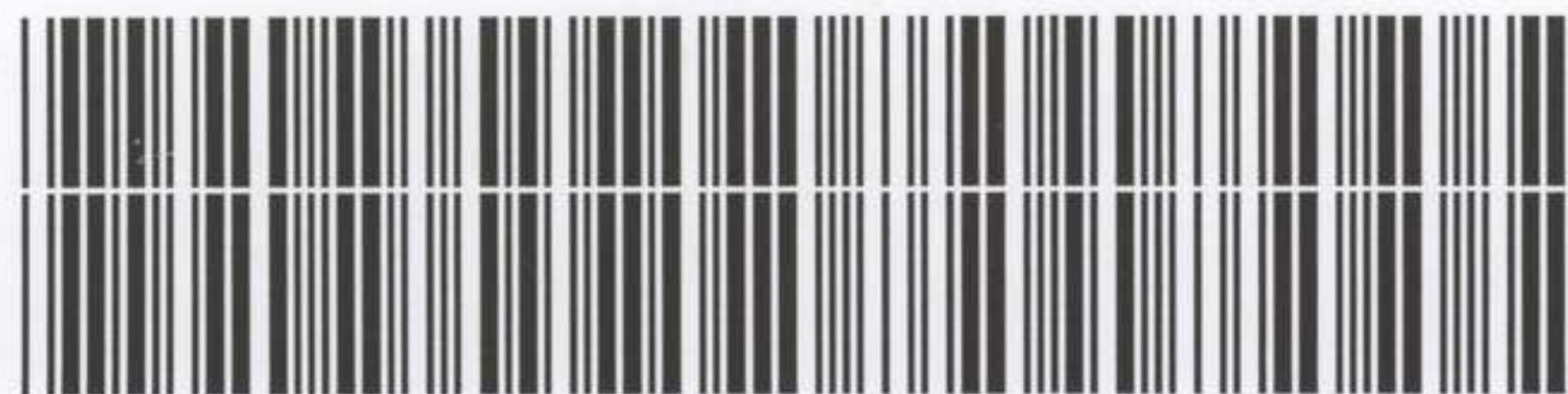
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/35/33

**Title:** 18th Infantry Battalion

April 1918



AWM4-23/35/33





**CONFIDENTIAL.**

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

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

18<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION.

FOR

APRIL 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*Walter Johnson*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Col. J. Murphy*



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

No. 101  
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 for manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MESSINES SECTOR	1/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather Fine and Clear. Battalion to be relieved in line during day and night of 1/2nd April by 10th Worcester Regiment. Advanced Party moved back to take over Camp in KEMMEL AREA.	Appendix 1/A/18.
		5 p.m.	Guides for incoming Unit met Lieut. Semple at Transport Lines at 2 p.m. Guides met incoming Unit at junction of duckboard track and road (Sheet 28.S.W. N.29.6.30.10) and took them to Battalion Headquarters at Lumm Farm where they were met by Company guides and taken to their allotted positions	
		6.15 p.m.	Battalion Order No.17 issued re move by bus to GODE AREA.	Appendix 2/A/18.
		10.12 p.m.	Relief completed. Battalion moved back to RAMILES CAMP in Kemmel Area.	
	2/4/18	7 a.m.	Battalion embussed in accordance with Battalion Order No. 17 for GODE AREA. 1st line Transport moved by road.	
		11 a.m.	Arrived at debussing point (Sheet 27 K.35.d.6.6.) and marched to billets in THIESHOUP Area. Move completed by 1.5 p.m.	
		10.15 p.m.	Battalion and 1st line Transport moved by march route to <del>GODE</del> Station and entrained for St.Roch at 2.5 a.m. Lieut. A.E.Johnson entraining Officer.	
	3/4/18.	2.5 a.m.	Billeting party of Lieut.R.G.Henderson,M.C. and 5 N.C.O.s moved with Battalion.	
ALLONVILLE.		4.10 p.m.	Arrived at St.Roch (detraining point) and moved by march route to ALLONVILLE. Billeting party moved ahead of Battalion by bicycle.	
		8.35 p.m.	Move completed. Brigade becomes reserve Brigade to 3rd Aust. Division.	
	4/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather raining. Battalion carried on with inspection of gas helmets in billets.	
		11.10 a.m.	Orders received to be prepared to move at 1 hours notice.	
		12.10 p.m.	Received orders to move to DAOURS.	
		12.20 p.m.	Advanced party of Lieut.E.B.W.Daniel and 5 N.C.O.s reported to Staff Captain for billeting. Bombs were issued at the rate of two per man. Packs, blankets &c. were dumped and stored under Battalion arrangements. Nucleus to remain in billets and Capt L.M.Cadle to be O.C. Lieut.-Col.G.F.Murphy,D.S.O. to act for Brigadier during absence of G.O.C. who moved forward to make a personal reconnaissance of the Brigade Sector. Major Robertson,M.C. to be Temporary C.O. during the C.O.s absence.	
		1.15 p.m.	Battalion and 1st Line Transport moved to DAOURS.	
		3.10 p.m.	Move completed.	
		4 p.m.	50% of Officers went forward to reconnoitre country South of River. (a) Section of posts dug in 0.14 and 0.20 (Sheet 62d). (b) Relative to forming a defensive flank along South of River from Aubigny to U.30 central. (c) For counter attack against ridge N. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.	
		6 p.m.	Remainder of Officers went forward.	
		8.10 p.m.	Battalion Headquarters 0.13 central. Orders received to move forward and occupy a position in a reserve line in 0.14 and 0.20. 1st Line Transport and Q.M.Store moved to BLANGY TRONVILLE.	

A/092 Wt. W128/9/M1293 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.



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
VILLERS	4/4/18.	9.30 p.m.	Move commenced.	
BRETONNEUX	4/4/18.	12.30 p.m.	Dispositions completed as follows. Battalion Headquarters at Sunken Road O.13.d. (central)	
SECTOR.	5/4/18.		"B" and "A" Companies in strong points in general line of road through O.14.b. - O.14.d and O.20.b thence through O.21.c to Railway culvert at O.27.d.7.8. "D" Coy. in support in S.P. O.20.d - O.26.b. "C" Coy. in reserve O.20.c. Existing series of pot holes posts occupied and improved. Weather Dull and raining.	2 <sup>nd</sup> A/R
Sheet. 62 <sup>d</sup> .		4.15 p.m.	Orders received to move to O.34.d. and occupy a position there in readiness (a) to counter attack through VILLERS BRETONNEUX. (b) Move forward and relieve Battalion of 3rd Aust. Division in line in front of village of Villers Bretonneux.	
		5.30 p.m.	Move commenced.	
		7 p.m.	Battalion in position at O.34.d. C.O. proceeded in advance and met Col. Goddard, C.O. of advanced troops. Relief of front line to take place. C.O. went forward to Battalion Headquarters.	
		8.30 p.m.	Guides met Battalion and moved forward to front line. Relief was not completed until shortly before daylight on morning of 6th inst, owing to intense darkness and owing to some guides losing their way. The front line was a series of pot hole positions for a greater part of the front. Some remnants of the 6th London Regiment were also in the line on taking over. Our dispositions were Battalion Headquarters at O.13.d.25.65 ; "A" Coy. on left from O.20.b.80.10 to O.27.a.80.30. ; "B" Coy. from O.14.b.20.40 to O.20.b.80.90. ; "D" Coy. were in support and occupied a series of posts from O.14.c.55.10 to O.20.c.70.90. "C" Coy. were in reserve at O.20.a.00.00.	
		4 p.m.	Enemy shelled village throughout day. Great aerial activity on both sides.	
		8.10 p.m.	Hun put up S.O.S. signal (two Reds over 2 Greens) and opened a bombardment on line and village. Two Huns wandered into our lines from a carrying party.	
		9.10 p.m.	Bombardment ceased.	
6/4/18.		9 a.m.	Weather - Dull and raining.	
		4 p.m.	Situation normal, Artillery very lively on both sides. Our aeroplanes very active. Hun plane fell in flames in square U.11.	
		8.10 p.m.	Enemy opened up a fairly stiff artillery barrage on squares P.31.b and c. - U.6.b. and U.5 central and further South towards Hangard. At the same time there was a heavy M.G. fire on village and front line particularly in U.6.c. No Infantry action was discerned.	
		8.30 p.m.	A Hun approached our post in U.1.(cent) but on being called upon to halt turned and bolted but was killed in the attempt to escape. (104. R.I.R.) M.G. Coy.	
		9.10 p.m.	Situation became normal.	
		9.30 p.m.	Battalion Order No. 02 re redistribution of front line Companies issued. "C" Coy. Railway line to V.1.a. "B" Coy. V.1.a. to U.6.4.7. "A" Coy. U.6.d.4.7. to U.6.c.1.4. "D" Coy. U.5. (cent) to cross Roads at O.35.c.5.12. Battalion H.Q. at Chateau O.35.b.8.2. (Rue de la Gare. - Villa Yvonne.)	Appendix H. 6/A/18.



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
VILLERS BRETONNEUX SECTOR.	6/4/18.	11 p.m.	Battalion Order No. A10 re minor operation by 19th and 20th Battalions on night of Brigade sector issued.	Appendix 64/A/18.
	7/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather - Dull and rainy.	
		3.30 p.m.	B.M. 269 received. 17th and 18th Battalions will probably be relieved tonight by one Battn. 9th Brigade and one Battn. 58th Div. If relieved Battalion will move to bivouacs in Bois de Gentelles.	
		4.30 p.m.	Enemy shelled village in vicinity of Battalion H.Q. with sneezing Gas.	
		5.45 p.m.	C.O. 9th Q.V.R. arrived to take over dispositions of Battalion in the line.	Appendix 65/A/18.
		7 p.m.	Battalion Order No. 02 re relief by 9th Q.V.R. issued	
		8.10 p.m.	Four Companies Q.V.R. arrived and were guided to Companies.	
			Situation during the day was fairly quiet, good visibility. The village was shelled heavily all day. Advanced parties under Lieut. Sellers and guides under Lieut. A.W. Irvine, M.C. arrived at Bois de Gentelles where the Battalion is to bivouac.	
	8/4/18.	12.10 a.m.	Relief completed. Battalion moved back to Bois de Gentelles. Bivouacked in open, no shelter, very uncomfortable. Total casualties during term of duty in the line were 1 O.R. K.I.A. 23 O.R. wounded, and 8 evacuated sick.	
		9 a.m.	Weather - Dull and rainy. Conference of Battalion C.O.s at Brigade H.Q. Anticipated that Brigade would take part in a minor operation on Hangard Sector.	
		2 p.m.	One officer from each Company went forward to locate boundaries and jumping off tape. Date and time to be notified later.	
			5 Officers and 60 O.R. moved back by motor lorry to Nucleus Battalion at ALLONVILLE and were replaced by an equal number from the Nucleus Battalion.	
			Changes in Officers: Capt. W.J. Graham, M.C. replaced by Lieut. V.J. Frewin, to be T/O.C. "A" Coy.	
			Lieut. H.J. Flockhart replaced by Capt. L.M. Cadle ("B" Coy)	
			Lieut. J.E. Agnew replaced by Lieut. H.H. Thompson.	
			Lieut. R.E. Dryden, D.C.M. replaced by Lieut. R.D. Hunter, M.M.	
			Lieut. F.J. Brown, replaced by Lieut. R.G. Henderson, M.C.	
		3 p.m.	Battalion to move to village of GENTELLES into billets. Advance billeting parties moved to village. Lieut. E.B.W. Daniel billeting officer.	
		3'20 pm.	Move commenced.	
		4'30 pm.	Move completed. No civilians in the town: plenty of straw. Men had first decent sleep for over a week.	



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
GENTELLES AREA	9/4/18.	6'45 a.m.	Hun commenced shelling village with 8" and 5'9s. Battalion moved to open field at T.12.b. and dug in. Casualties caused by shelling: Lieut.R.G.Henderson,M.C. killed, 4 O.R.killed. 26 wounded.	
		9 a.m.	Battalion settled at T.12.b. and was fairly comfortable. Weather: Fine and dull. Coys. carried on with cleaning of arms, clothing, equipment, etc.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Lieut.R.G.Henderson,M.C. killed in action. Situation: Scattered shelling of Battalion Area during the day. Our aeroplanes active.	
		8 p.m.	Message to "stand to" and be prepared to counter-attack on right flank of Brigade sector. Enemy attacking HANGARD. Heavy bombardment by French guns on the right.	
		9'45	Message to "stand down" received.	
		9'50 p.m.	Battalion Order No.18 re an anticipated operation on a date and time to be notified later, issued.	Appendix 10/A/18.
	10/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and dull. 1st.Line Transport and Q.M.Store moves to BOVES. Coys. carried on with cleaning up parades and bolt manipulation.	
		2 p.m.	Move of Transport etc. completed.	
		4 p.m.	Scattered shelling in GENTELLES Area during the day.	
	11/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with bolt drill and inspection of gas appliances, and any defects were remedied. Bombs, S.A.A., sandbags, picks and shovels, were drawn from <del>rear</del> rear dumps to Battalion H.Q. for issue in anticipation of operation.	
		4 p.m.	Scattered shelling on Battalion Area during the day.	
	12/4/18.	8 a.m.	Ammunition,(100 rounds extra per man) 2 bombs per man and 2 sandbags per man were issued in anticipation of operation.	
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and dull. Baths at BOVES allotted to Battalion at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and Noon. "A" Coy. and H.Q.details marched to BOVES for baths.	
		9'45 am.	Order,timed 9 a.m., received from 5th.A.I.Brigade to "stand to" at once. "A" Coy. and H.Q. details were away at the baths. "B" Coy. were about to march off to the baths but were stopped and "stood to".	
		10 a.m.	Battalion less "A" Coy. and H.Q. standing to. C.O. called to Brigade Headquarters.	





or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GENTELLES. AREA	12/4/18.	10'35 am.	The C.O. sent back the following message-"The enemy has taken HANGARD and is advancing on HORGES. If he gets DOMART we counter-attack. Situation well in hand."	
		11'50 am.	Message from C.O. -"Things seem O.K. so far. If dinner is ready let men have it, but keep them in hand. French are holding N.W.corner of HANGARD still. No infantry action on our front. Shelling slackening off. Has "A" Coy.returned yet?" Timed 11'35 a.m.	
		Noon.	Reply to C.O's message -"Ammunition now with Coys. Tools in Coy.dumps. "A" Coy. not yet returned."	
		12'13 pm.	"A" Company returned to camp.	
		12'40 pm.	Message from C.O. -"Think bosche is being badly beaten." Timed 12'35 p.m.	
		1'40 p.m.	Message from C.O. -"Bosche held. Colonel Milne (36th.Battn.) and Adjutant killed. Major McDowell dying. Shelling easing off." Timed 1'30 p.m.	
		3'45 pm.	C.O. informed at Brigade that Battalion was to relieve 36th.Battalion in line to-night.	
		4 p.m.	Orders transmitted to Company Commanders to be prepared to move at 6'30 p.m. and take over dispositions as follows:- Frontline, right to left, "D" Coy., "B" Coy., "C" Coy. and Support, "A" Company(about U.21.a.).	
		4'25 pm.	C.O. with I.O. and Sig.Officer moved to 36th.Battalion H.Q. Coys. carried on with issue of picks, shovels, trench stores etc. and prepared to move forward.	
		6'50 pm.	C.O., I.O. and Sig.Officer returned.	
		8 p.m.	Battalion moved from bivouac positions near GENTELLES to relieve 36th.Battalion in the line and took over dispositions vide Appendix attached. Battalion H.Q. located in Copse at U.14.d.8.3.. Shelter trenches were constructed in Copse which had not previously been occupied.	Appendix 9/A/18.
HANGARD. AREA.	13/4/18.	1'10 am.	Relief completed without incident. Line taken over was a series of pot hole positions running behind HANGARD wood towards HANGARD within boundaries as given in disposition report attached. On our right some troops of the 10th.Essex Regiment were intermingled with French over a line extending through the Copse in U.29.a. to road junction at U.29.b.20.60. and forward of this point along road thence to most easterly house in HANGARD and southwards. The village of HANGARD Having <del>not</del> been <del>recaptured</del> recaptured from the French and Essex by a counter-attack that evening, the line was unsettled and the personnel mixed.	-do-
		4'35 am.	Hun opened a barrage of 77 mm., 4'2s and 5'9s on ridge.	
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and dull.	
		6 p.m.	Very quiet day. Visibility very good. Towards night light rain fell. Only activity during day was artillery firing. During night suspected concentrations in U.23.b.	

but





Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
No. Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.  
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared on manuscript.

OR  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**  
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HANGARD AREA.	13/4/18	8 p.m.	Rain during the night. Bitterly cold.	Appendix 10/A/18
		8'30 p.m.	Readjustment of line vide Battalion Order No.19 took place.	
		Mid-night.	Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.Hunter,M.M.) and 20 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out to investigate country up to HANGARD WOOD, from "C" Company's front. Patrol stayed out for 2½ hours and returned without casualties.	
		14.4.18 1 a.m.	Patrol of one officer (Lieut.Clayton) 20 O.R. and one L.G. went out for 3 hours with same orders as previous patrol. Patrol returned without casualties.	
		3 a.m.	Readjustment of front line Coys. completed.	Appendix 10/A/18.
		8 a.m.	Patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut.Gascoigne-Roy) 20 O.R. and 1 L.G. went out to investigate country towards CEMETERY COPSE with a view to ascertaining strength with which Copse was held. Returned at daylight without casualties. Position appeared to be held with great strength and machine guns were detected on flanks of Copse and in the Copse itself.	
		9 a.m.	Headquarters moved into new dugouts which were made in sunken road at U.21.a.4.7.	
		3 p.m.	Weather: Dull and raining.	
		3'45 p.m.	Proposal was put forward by Brigade to attack CEMETERY COPSE in conjunction with French attack on CEMETERY. C.O. reported unfavourably, suggesting that so small operation would draw upon itself heavy concentration and strong counter-attack.	Appendix 12/A/18.
		5'50 pm.	Brigade Major visited Battalion H.Q. to discuss possibilities of operation.	
		6'15 pm.	C.O. left for Brigade H.Q. and received orders at 5'7 p.m. that Battalion would attack, and capture strong post at U.23.d.2.6. and CEMETERY COPSE. Brigade Major took Temp.Command of Battalion during C.O.'s absence.	
		6'17 pm.	C.O. returned to Battalion H.Q.	
		9'15 p.m.	Orders were issued verbally to O.C. "B" and "A" Coys.	Appendix 13/4/18
			Lieut.V.J.Frewin, O.C. "A" Coy. went to HANGARD to confer with the French.	
			Battalion Order No.05 re an attack on CEMETERY COPSE issued. Receipt of same to be acknowledged by code word "MARTIN"	
			Two officers and 50 O.R. from "A" Coy. to attack CEMETERY COPSE and one officer and 30 O.R. from "B" Coy. to attack cross roads at U.23.d.20.60. Zero hour to be 3 a.m. 15th.inst.	
			Action prior to zero - "B" Company will complete and occupy post commenced last night in the vicinity of U.22.b.70.60. by midnight 14/15th. at which hour the report on progress made will be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters. O.C."B" Coy. will withdraw 12 O.R. from his left post in U.22.b. and construct a post at approx. U.22.b.95.15. and report progress by midnight.	13/4/18
			"B" Company will also establish platoon post, one L.G. under command of an officer in U.23.c.45.85. and report progress by midnight. If, owing to enemy opposition any of these tasks cannot be	

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

act / carried out



# 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
HANGARD AREA.	14/4/18.	9'15 pm.	<p>carried out as ordered, Battalion H2Q. will be informed and the posts will be established in conjunction with operation at Zero hour.</p> <p>Each party will be responsible for its own protection and will patrol between these three new posts.</p> <p>S.A.A. 220 rounds per man will be carried.</p> <p>Carrying party of 1 Officer 40 O.R. will be withdrawn from Supports in U.15.b. and d. and will carry 20000 rounds S.A.A., 20 shovels, 8 picks &amp; 15 tins water to Copse in U.29.a. by midnight.</p> <p>On success signals being fired this party will carry half of these quantities to each of positions, CEMETERY COPSE and Cross roads, and will then be at the disposal of the officer there for patrols, to assist on consolidating etc. Dress for carrying party - Box Respirator, rifle and bayonet, 2 bandoliers.</p> <p>Stokes Mortars and Artillery :- At 3 a.m. CEMETERY COPSE will be bombarded by 6" &amp; 3" stokes from Zero to Zero plus 10. Cross roads U.23.d. will be lightly shelled by artillery till Zero plus 9, intensifying for one minute. At Zero plus 10 Stokes will cease fire and a protective barrage put down by artillery 400 yards East of CEMETERY - CEMETERY COPSE - Cross roads along line U.30.a.80.00., U.30.a.80.80., U.23.b.70.20. with concentrations on BOIS DE HANGARD U.17., LANCER COPSE U.18., Machine gun positions in U.24., re-entrant in V.19.b., Cross roads in V.25.a. Bombardment will last till Zero plus 70, will be resumed at Zero plus 105 for 30 minutes.</p> <p>Action of infantry:- Assaulting party will be formed up -</p> <p>(a) For assault on Copse - 60 yards East of Copse in U.29.a.</p> <p>(b) For assault on Cross roads - 60 yards east of Cross roads in U.23.c.45.60.</p> <p>They will attack in 2 waves, 20 yards between waves. They will be in position at Zero - <sup>45</sup><del>55</del>.</p> <p>The assault will be delivered at Zero plus 10, as soon as artillery barrage comes down. Positions will be consolidated 50 yards in front of Copse and cross roads U.23.d. Care will be taken to "mop up" the Copse and members of carrying party will be used to search the Copse in addition to initial mopping up.</p> <p>10'10pm. "Martin" received from "D" Company.</p> <p>10'15pm. Message from 17th. Battalion, No.174, acknowledging order. -Timed 10 p.m.</p> <p>Lieut.V.J.Frewin returned from French Battalion H.Q.</p> <p>10'35pm. Situation quiet. "Martin" received from "B" Company.</p> <p>10'45pm. "Martin" received from "C" Company.</p> <p>11 p.m. Message received from "B" Company - "Lieut.Jones almost completed strong point- no report from Lieut.Thompson re his strong point.</p>	



## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

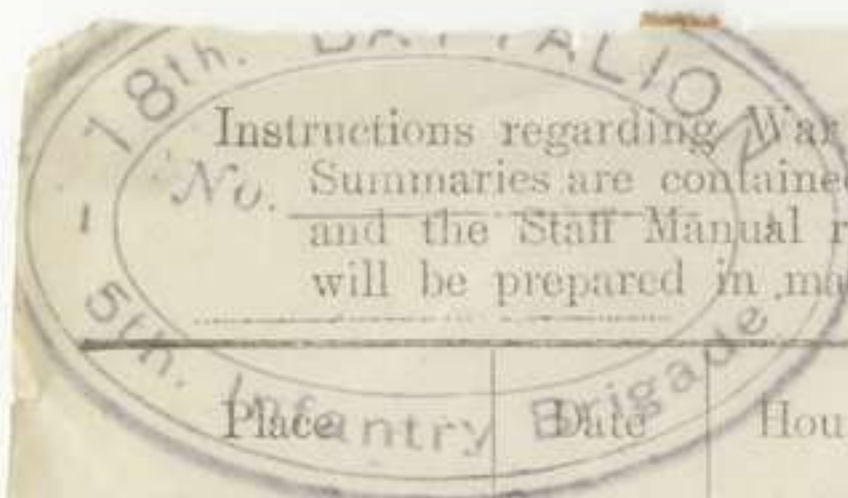
## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(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
HANGARD SECTOR.	14/4/18.			
	15/4/18			
		11'20 pm.	Brigade Order No.161 re Operations, received and acknowledged.	
		12'10am.	"MARTIN" received from 5th.A.I.Brigade.	
		12'44am.	Watches synchronised with Brigade Intelligence Officer.	
		12'55am.	O.C."B" Company reported by phone that all posts were occupied and O.K.	
		1'15am.	Written message from Capt.L.M.Cadle confirming phone message re occupation of posts.	
		1'24am.	Information sent to 5th.Brigade per Brigade Intelligence Officer, re occupation of posts.	
		2'30am.	Capt.G.F.Lowther reported by phone that "Lieut.V.J.Frewin and party passed through his line 30 minutes before. Phone wires down to "B" and "D" Coys."	
		2'49am.	Three bursts machine gun fire whilst three flares were up on "D" Coys. sector.	
		3'0 am.	Our artillery opened up.	
		3'3 am.	Our Trench mortars were heard firing. Lieut.A.W.Irvine, M.C. returned from forward and stated it was very dark and reported he heard that Lieut.H.H.Thompson was O.K. Thinks Lieut.V.J.Frewin was in position O.K. Reports Capt.G.F.Lowther wounded in hand about 1'30 am. but remaining on duty.	
		3'9 am.	Asked Brigade to get Capt.J.N.Doyle forward to take command of "D" Company.	
		3'15am.	Capt.L.M.Cadle reported that "B" party got into position O.K. No reply from enemy as yet.	
		3'18am.	Capt.G.F.Lowther "No reply from enemy. Saw Lieut.V.J.Frewin on his way early".	
		3'30am.	Observer from forward O.P.reports seeing double green flare 8 minutes ago. Doubtful if ours.	
		3'39am.	Lieut.Tindale (Liaison with French) reported by phone "Trench Mortars firing on French, affecting operation" Informed him they were not ours. Has no news from French re CEMETERY.	
		3'44am.	Spoke to G.O.C. explaining so many flares going up that it was very difficult to distinguish our flares.	
		4'0 am.	Phone message from French states "Took CEMETERY and 9 prisoners."	
		4'2 am.	Repeated this message to Brigade H.Q.	
		4'6 am.	Capt.L.M.Cadle reports that Lieut.H.H.Thompson was wounded in the stomach by machine gun fire.	
		4'20am.	Capt.L.M.Cadle moved forward to reconnoitre position.	
		4'25am.	Capt.G.F.Lowther sent to Lieut.J.Maxwell, M.C., D.C.M. to go forward to CEMETERY COPSE.	
		4'26 am.	Battalion reports "French saw our flares - success signals."	
		4'30a.m.	Lieut.H.H.Thompson was brought in severely wounded, in stomach. Condition very low.	
		4'35am.	Now growing light: can see clearly 60 yards.	
		4'38am.	Capt.Cadle reports "Lieut.N.V.McLaren, M.M. wounded in knee and Lt.Thompson's men fighting at Cross roads. Asked Brigade to get artillery on to U.23.central.	





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	Entry	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HANGARD SECTOR.		15/4/18.		<p>4'41am. Reported our men in CEMETERY COPSE.</p> <p>4'42am. Capt.Cadle reports "Sgt.De Saxe reports enemy attacking in force on Cross roads <del>xxxxx</del> U.23.c."</p> <p>4'45am. Ordered Capt.Lowther to send 15 men to "B" Coy.</p> <p>4'46am. Ordered Lieut.Cameron, 20th.Battalion to send 20 men of 20th.Battn. to "D" Company to hold line.</p> <p>4'48am. Brigade informed of action taken re 20th.Battalion.</p> <p>4'50am. Sent a report to French on right, on situation as known.</p> <p>4'56am. Capt.Lowther instructed to send Lieut.G.H.Duncan and 40 men to Cross roads to reinforce.</p> <p>5'0 am. Lieut.A.R.Sheath,M.C. ordered to open Lewis gun and rifle fire along southern edge of wood and gully and to open with Vickers at 5'20 a.m. G.O.C. asked by C.O. to keep artillery going particularly along wood and gully 23.b., also arrange for barrage to last another 15 minutes.</p> <p>5'9 am. An observer wounded with the Cross roads party reports "Boche bolted down sunken road. Lieut.Thompson with party missed a dugout in mopping up. Boche came out of dugout and shot Lieut.Thompson. All boche in the place killed. Boche appears to be rushing reinforcements up sunken road from BOIS DE HANGARD.</p> <p>5'11am. Lieut.Cameron 20th.Battalion reports party moved off to join "D" Company in line. A wounded man reported three hun machine guns in post at Cross roads U.23.d. Thinks hun got one away.</p> <p>5'20am. Capt.Lowther reports men from 20th.Battalion arrived. Has ordered one N.C.O. and 12 men from Lieut.L.Sellers to Capt.Cadle's help, and to Lieut.G.H.Duncan to send 20 men if possible. No sign of prisoners or word from Lieut.Maxwell.</p> <p>5'22am. Lieut.Sheath reports constant Lewis gun and rifle fire kept going as ordered.</p> <p>5'23am. Lieut.-Col.Sadler, C.O. 17th.Battalion rang up and informed us that all objectives were taken, hard fight at Cross roads. Lieut.Thompson and Lieut.McLaren wounded.</p> <p>5'25am. Sent another Lewis gun to "D" Company from Battalion H.Q.</p> <p>5'32am. Asked G.O.C. to keep howitzers on U.23.b.3.8.</p> <p>5'35am. Report from Lieut.Maxwell received states "Lieut.Frewin wounded - under heavy fire in Copse."</p> <p>5'36am. G.O.C. promised whole barrage will be put down again for half an hour.</p> <p>5'39am. Pte.Lunn ("A" Coy) he reports he went right through Copse. Hun was dug-in inside hedge at Copse - some prisoners taken. Lunn picked up 2 hunns and brought them back.</p> <p>5'46am. Lieut.Duncan arrived - reported things bad - left Lieut.Maxwell organising things in sunken road about 50 yards this side of wood in U.29.a. Says that "A" Coy. party got to Copse in U.29.a., went through and got to CEMETERY COPSE. When they got there they were practically surrounded.</p> <p>Sent ammunition towards CEMETERY COPSE. Met a man coming back who said that Lieut.Frewin was wounded in the back, coming back. Lieut.Gascoigne-Roy hit when meeting Lieut.Duncan and was brought back to sunken road.</p>	



ant



# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HANGARD AREA	15/4/18.		<p>5'46am. "A" Company party was completely surrounded by machine guns. Thinks bulk of Lieut. Maxwell's men were with him.</p> <p>5'50am. Private Ferguson reported - said party got objective and about 50 yards in front were surrounded by machine guns. Retired to sunken road about 400 yards in rear, his party was badly cut up in retiring. Thinks a large number of the enemy were killed in the wood.</p> <p>5'55am. Capt. Cadle reports "All say a very large number of hunns opposite. Only part of Lieut. Thompson's platoon got to hun trench. He was and is holding first Cross roads." When Capt. Cadle went forward he found that Lieut. Thompson had not got forward. Ordered him forward at 1'30 a.m. Ordered Lieut. McLaren to go forward to Lieut. Thompson's party. Lieut. Thompson's party was engaged by machine guns from right. Lieut. McLaren's party in moving through also was engaged by this machine gun fire.</p> <p>All Lieut. Thompson's and McLaren's men are back on original line. All that could be found are in except Sgt. Forsyth, R. - about 10 wounded and 5 O.K.</p> <p>All men say that the hun was in very great force and had a great number of machine guns, which fired into the party before they moved.</p> <p>More definite - Lieut. Thompson went out and reconnoitred alone early in the night and located 2 machine guns but thought he could occupy his position. Consulted with Lieut. McLaren and decided to both reconnoitre. When Capt. Cadle arrived, neither was in position.</p> <p>Lieut. Thompson did not keep the correct line but got to the right of his position (first Cross roads). A sunken road exists there, apparently built in and heavily occupied.</p> <p>All complain about barrage.</p> <p>6'3 am. Lieut. W.A. Temple <del>reports a wounded hun at R.A.P.</del> reports a wounded hun at R.A.P.</p> <p>6'5 am. Lieut. A.R. Sheath, M.C. was told to carry on machine gun and rifle fire at intervals.</p> <p>6'10am. Reported to G.O.C. that post at U.22.b.60.75. is still held, also post at U.22.b.95.15.. Cross roads certainly not occupied - Copse situation not known definitely but C.O. thinks that this party is also back.</p> <p>Reported to G.O.C. one wounded hun at R.A.P. - identification being obtained.</p> <p>6'12am. Telephone message from Capt. Lowther - "A sgt. is coming back from "A" Company - says they are still in the wood.</p> <p>6'14am. Identification - 107th. I.R. was in advance of the wood with 48 men. Another prisoner expected.</p> <p>6'15am. G.O.C. informed of identification.</p> <p>6'20am. C.O. at R.A.P. - Got further statement from Lieut. G.H. Duncan, further to that timed 5'46am. - Lieut. Duncan sent ammunition from sunken road towards CEMETERY COPSE. The ammunition party was fired on from the rear and also from the COPSE. Not knowing the situation they dropped</p>	

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

/back





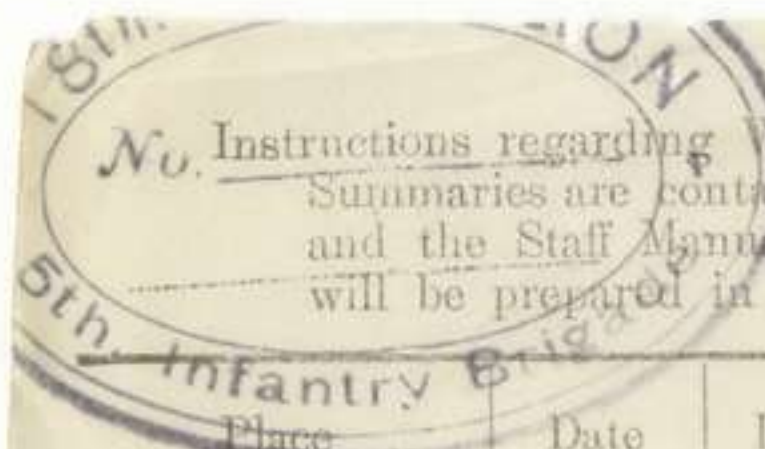
or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HANGARD SECTOR.	15/4/18.	6'20a.m.	<p>back, losing in doing so, to sunken road,. Lieut.Duncan had meanwhile gone out to get in touch with "B" Company's post but found that they had been knocked back. He went back to sunken road and met Lieut.Maxwell trying to find the ammunition party which had previously gone to CEMETERY COPSE.</p> <p>He got all that was left of his party of 40 men together and set out for CEMETERY COPSE. Engaged heavily by machine guns from both flanks on the way out and from CEMETERY COPSE itself. Halted at CEMETERY COPSE. Lieut.Gascoigne-Roy came back to tell me to go forward and dig in on <del>his</del> left. While speaking to me he was hit in the head and leg. From what he saw then, Lieut.Duncan is convinced that the hun at this moment rushed our men in the COPSE. Gave the order to those of my men who were left to drop back to sunken road. Carried Lieut. Roy in to within 100 yards of sunken road. All the way back was fired on by same machine guns on flank.</p>	
		6'45am.	<p>Sgt.C.G.Bishop reports that Lieut.Gascoigne-Roy was brought into Sunken road where French are. Sgt.R.R.Springall passed through the French dressing station -one leg badly shattered. He says that the hun is in strength at hedge this side of COPSE - Lieut.Frewin went through hedge - Sgt.Bishop was sent by him to get four men to patrol and connect up with the French on the right. Walked towards French and was fired on from a hun Strong point.</p> <p>Went back and with Lieut.Frewin and Pte.Lunn went back to look for ammunition. Eventually Pte.Lunn was sent on and Lieut.Frewin &amp; Sgt.C.G.Bishop went back to Copse.</p> <p>Huns had pot-hole dugouts, covered by waterproof sheets. Our people did considerable damage among them.</p>	
		6'55 am.	Five more prisoners arrived, all of 107th.I.R.	
		7'30 am.	<p>Lieut.Maxwell in - did not know much about the left. Says right party got objective but carrying party did not do their job. Lieut.Roy doing splendid work and both he and Lieut. Frewin were doing well. Lieut.Maxwell, Sgt.Owens, Sgt.Omedei, took parties with S.A.A. up and got into Copse. Whilst there 75s were firing on Copse, and both came round between Copse and Cemetery. Lieut.Maxwell went back and met Lieut.Duncan.</p> <p>Sgt.Owens - moved with carrying party to left of where "A" Coy. went through, but machine gun fire was too heavy. Came back and went forward after reorganisation by Lieut. Maxwell and took S.A.A. to the Copse. Accounted for three Boche in the Copse. Very few men there - does not think many men are left there.</p> <p>Lieut.Maxwell saw about 64 huns dead. Says there are a number of our men wounded between our line and CEMETERY COPSE.</p> <p>Position stands - holding no more than originally and have only wounded and Lieut.Frewin in CEMETERY COPSE.</p>	





No. 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

Army Form C. 2118.

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HANGARD SECTOR.	15/4/18.	8'55am.	Capt.Cadle reported 78 dead Boche counted at Cross roads.	16/A/18
		8'57 am.	G.O.C. informed.	
		9'55 am.	Capt.Cadle reports that parties of enemy in 14s are moving into HANGARD WOOD and are apparently concentrating.	
		10'0 am.	Weather: Fine and clear.	
		3'0 pm.	Brigade Order re relief received. Battalion to be relieved in the line by 20th.Battalion. Lt.-Col.A.J.Bennett,C.M.G.,D.S.O.,V.D. arrived to discuss particulars of relief.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Lieut.H.H.Thompson, D.O.W. - Capt.G.F.Lowther wounded. - Lieuts.Gascoigne-Roy and McLaren wounded. Lieut.V.J.Frewin wounded and missing.	
		5 p.m.	Battalion Order No.06 re relief by <sup>20th</sup> Battalion issued.	
		8'30 pm.	20th.Battalion moved through to front line. Lieut.J.Maxwell, M.C.,D.C.M. and patrol of 6 O.R. went out to examine ground near CEMETERY COPSE for men missing during operation, but with <sup>out</sup> success. Patrol recovered two German machine guns.	
		11'40pm.	Relief completed. Battalion on relief moved to bivouacs in T.5.c.and d. previously occupied by 19th.Battalion.	
		16/4/18.		
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Day spent in cleaning and building shelters etc.	
		1 p.m.	Two platoons, one from each of "C" and "D" Coys. to move forward and occupy posts in Support behind 19th.Battalion sector. Lieut.L.Sellers and Lieut.J.A.Holdsworth went forward to reconnoitre position.	
		2 p.m.	Court of Enquiry sat to enquire into men reported "missing" from operation on night of 14/15th.	
		7 p.m.	Battalion "stood to" vide orders received from 5th.A.I.Brigade, for one hour. Two platoons for forward posts moved forward.	
		17/4/18.		
		5 a.m.	Battalion "stood to" for one hour.	
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Parties were supplied for work at Brigade H.Q., also a party to clean up all salvage in Battalion Area.	
		10'30 am.	Court of Enquiry into men reported "missing" continued.	
		7'30pm.	Party of 200 men were supplied for work on a Corps line between GENTELLES and CACHY.	
	18/4/18.			
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with an inspection of Box Respirators and Bolt drill.	

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

*Handwritten signature*





or  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**  
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>GENTELLES AREA.</u>	<u>18/4/18.</u>	2 pm.	Court of Enquiry on missing men determined five killed in action. Nucleus garrisons in U.9. and U.10. to be relieved by 12th.London Regiment to-night.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Nil.	
		8'30pm.	Relief of Nucleus garrisons completed. On relief garrisons moved back and joined Battalion in bivouacs in T.5.c. and d.	
		10'20pm.	Brigade Order No.65 re move to MONTIGNY received. Orders received from 5th.A.I.Brigade that on account of certain moves having entailed the use of Reserve Battalion 9th.A.I.Brigade as garrison for VILLERS-BRETTONEUX - therefore in the event of Battalion at present occupying Reserve line between CACHY and GENTELLES being required for counter-attack, 18th.Battalion would replace this Battalion. The 18th.Battalion to pass to command of G.O.C.5th.A.I.Brigade at 9 a.m. 19/4/18.	
		10'50pm.	Orders issued verbally to representative officers of each Company.	
	<u>19/4/18.</u>	12'30am.	Battalion Order No.20 re move to MONTIGNY issued. (	Appendix 18/A/18.
		5 a.m.	Advance billeting party (Lieut.Daniel) & one N.C.O.per H.Q. and one N.C.O. per Coy.) moved to MONTIGNY, to report to Town Major at 11 a.m.	
		9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear.	
		9'15am.	Battalion and first line transport moved by march route to MONTIGNY,vide Battalion Order No.20.	"
		Noon.	Halted for lunch near LAMOTTE.	
		2 p.m.	Move continued.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Capt.C.G.Walklate,M.C. returned from Australia. Chaplain the Rev.W.N.Higgins, C.F. rejoined from Nucleus Battalion.	
<u>MONTIGNY.</u>		4'50pm.	Move completed. Battalion H.Q. situated in Chateau in MONTIGNY. Coys. in billets.	
		7 p.m.	Brigade Order re move to BAIZIEUX received.	
		10 p.m.	<del>Battalion</del> Orders re move to BAIZIEUX issued <i>verbally to Coy Commanders.</i>	<del>Appendix 18/A/18.</del>
	<u>20/4/18.</u>	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear.	
<u>BAIZIEUX.</u>		12'30pm.	Battalion (less 1st.Line Transport) moved by march route to BAIZIEUX and took over dispositions of 46th.Battalion,A.I.F. in Corps Line <i>vide appendix 20/A/18</i>	
		3'30pm.	Move completed. 1st.Line Transport and Q.M.Store remained at BEHENCOURT.	20/A/18
	<u>21/4/18.</u>	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Companies carried on with cleaning parades, repairing of uniform & boots etc.	

A70921. Wt. W12859/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D.D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

*af*



or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

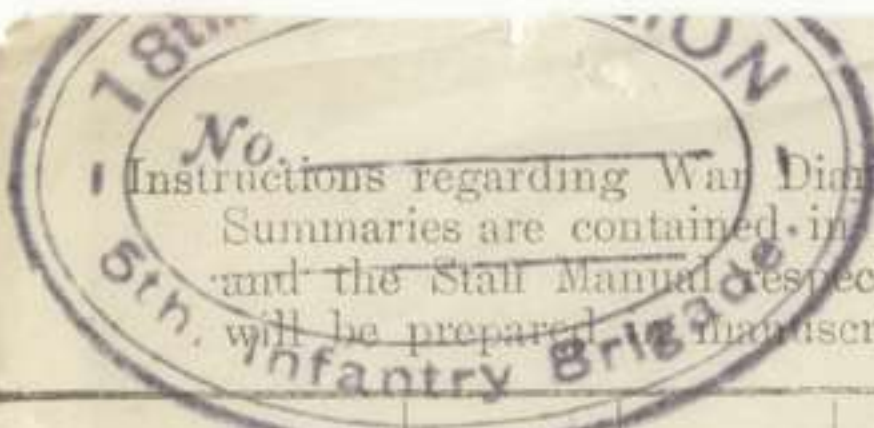
(Erase heading not required.)

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
BAIZIEUX.	21/4/18.	9 a.m.	Band rejoined from Nucleus Battalion.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Nil. Working parties were supplied by Battalion for improving and deepening positions in Corps Line, and building shelters under supervision of 7th. Field Coy. AUST. Engineers.	
	22/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with cleaning parades, repairing of uniform and boots etc.	
	23/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with inspection of Box Respirators, rapid loading and bolt manipulation. Baths at AGNICOURT allotted to the Battalion.	
		11'50 pm.	Brigade Order No.168 re taking over from 38th. Division in the line, received.	
	24/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. in the village carried on with training in rapid loading and bolt manipulation.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Chaplain the Rev. W.N. Higgins proceeded to England on completion of service with A.I.F.	
		4'30pm.	Reference Brigade Order No.168. - Relief of 38th. Division in the line on night of 24th/25th. postponed 24 hours. Brigade to "stand by" - news received that VILLERS-BRETTONEUX had fallen.	
		6'10pm.	Message received from Brigade to be prepared to move at short notice, probably south to VILLERS-BRETTONEUX sector. <i>But Order No 22 issued</i>	
		6'30pm.	C.O. went to Brigade H.Q. at WARLOY.	
		7'50pm.	C.O. returned. Probably no move before morning.	
	25/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. in billets carried on with Lewis gun training, rapid loading and bolt manipulation. Baths at AGNICOURT allotted to the Battalion.	
		12'30pm.	General Birdwood visited the Battalion and went round the sector of the Corps line held by "C" Company.	
		4'20pm.	Corrigendum to Brigade Order No.168 received. Relief postponed for further 24 hours. Battalion will still continue to "stand by".	
		11'35pm.	Amendment to Brigade Order No.168 received. Relief of 38th. Division to take place on night of 26th/27th. April 1918.	

*Appendix*  
*21/4/18*





WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

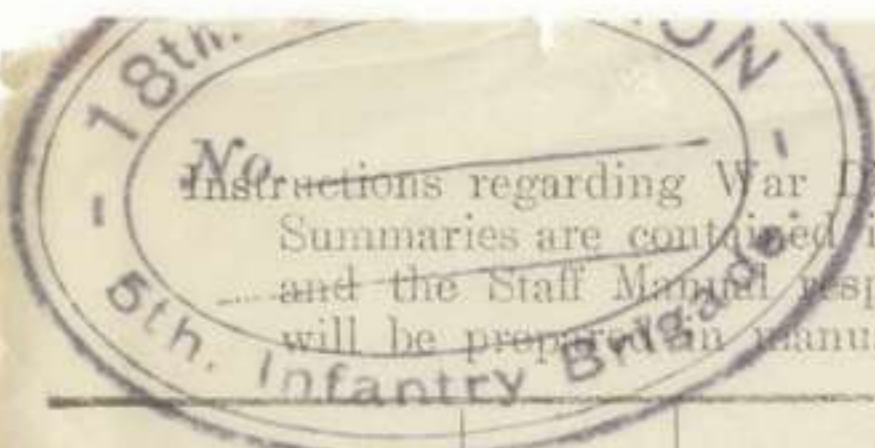
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAIZIEUX.	26/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Coys. carried on with Lewis gun training, elementary Musketry and inspection of Box Respirators.	
		4 p.m.	Changes in Officers: Rejoined from Base. Lieut.E.W.Satchell and 2/Lt.A.A.Walls, M.M. rejoined from Base. 2/Lt.L.A.Smith joined from General Reinforcements (ex O.C.Battn.)	
	27/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and clear. Battalion Order No.21 issued re move of Battalion to WARLOY. (Appendix 22/A/18) Battalion to be in Reserve to 2nd.Australian Division. Advance billeting party; Lieut.E.B.W.Daniel, (Billeting officer) one N.C.O. per Cou. and Battn.H.Q. moved to WARLOY. Battalion prepared to move. All surplus gear, packs etc. moved by 1st.Line Transport to dump store at WARLOY.	22/A/18
WARLOY.		1'45 pm.	Battalion moved to WARLOY by march route vide instruction issued in Battn.Order No.21. Action of Battalion (in Divisional Reserve) vide Appendix 23/A/18.	23/A/18
		3 p.m.	Move completed. Battalion H.Q. located near Church i Battalion in billets in the town near Battalion Headquarters. Billets taken over were in a very unclean and insanitary condition. Parties from each Company were detailed as cleaning parties to have all billets allotted to Battalion cleaned up.	
	28/4/18	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and dull. Coys. carried on with cleaning parade, inspection of Box Respirators, rapid loading and bolt manipulation. Working parties <del>one</del> of 1 N.C.O. and 16 men supplied every four hours for work at Brigade. Battalion to continue to supply parties until job is completed.	
		2'15 pm.	Working party of about 10 Officers and 250 O.R. was supplied to dig Support Line and accommodation trench at approximately (Sheet 57 D. SE) V.21.c. and d.	
		6 p.m.	Party returned to billets. Casualties: 5 O.R. wounded.	
		11 p.m.	Brigade Warning Order re relief of Brigade in the line received. Brigade to move to BEHENCOURT Area on relief. 18th.Battalion to be at BAVELINCOURT. Relief probably take place on 1st/2nd.May.	
	29/4/18.	9 a.m.	Weather: Fine and dull. Working parties of 1 N.C.O. and 16 men still supplied for work at Brigade H.Q.	

af





## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WARLOY.	29/4/18.		<p>2 p.m. Party of 1 N.C.O. and 20 men supplied for work in forward area near Brigade.</p> <p>4 p.m. Changes in Officers: Lieut.A.E.Gartrell rejoined from Supernumerary List (ex Base) 2/Lt.D.Bolger joined from General Reinforcements (ex O.C.Battn)</p> <p>7'30pm. Working party of about 12 Officers and 250 O.R. were supplied to continue digging in new Support line in V.21.c. and d.</p> <p>Mid-night. Party returned to billets. No casualties.</p>	
	30/4/18.		<p>9 a.m. Weather: Fine and dull. Working parties of 1 N.C.O. and 16 men still being supplied for work at Brigade H.Q.</p> <p>5'30pm. Brigade Order re relief of Brigade in line and forward area received.</p> <p>7'30pm. Working party of about 12 Officers and 250 O.R. supplied to continue with digging of new Support line in V.21.c. and d.</p> <p>10'30pm. Orders received re move of 18th.Battalion to BAVELINCOHRT on morning of 1st.May. Battalion to be clear of WARLOY by 12'45/p.m. 1/5/18.</p> <p><i>Salvage collected by Bn for the month amounted to £686</i></p>	





# WAR DIARY

OF

-- 18th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

FOR

A P R I L 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1/A/18.	Battalion Order No.15.
1a/A/18.	Patrol programme.
2/A/18.	Battalion Order No.17.
3/A/18.	Confidential Memo. to Company Commanders.
4/A/18.	Battalion Order No.02.
5/A/18.	Battalion Order No.A.10.
6/A/18.	Battalion Order No.O.12.
7/A/18.	Battalion Order No.18.
8/A/18.	Distribution list of Officers.
9/A/18.	Disposition Report.
10/A/18.	Battalion Order No.19.
11/A/18.	Memo.to 5th.Aust.Inf.Brigade.
12/A/18.	Battalion Order No.05.
13/A/18.	Works progress Report.
14/A/18.	C.O's report on operation.
15/A/18.	Battalion Special Order.
16/A/18.	Battalion Order No.06.
17/A/18.	Continuation of C.O's report.
18/A/18.	Battalion Order No.20.
19/A/18.	An appreciation of Battalion Sector.
19a/A/18.	Letter of appreciation from General CATOR.
20/A/18.	Disposition Map.
21/A/18.	Battalion Order No.22.
22/A/18.	Battalion Order No.21.
23/A/18.	Instructions for Defence Line - "D" Battalion.
24/A/18.	Receipts from War Museum.
25/A/18.	Receipt for German prisoners.
26/A/18.	Salvage List.
27/A/18.	Claim for captured machine guns.
28/A/18.	Quartermaster's Report.
29/A/18.	Medical Officer's Report.
30/A/18.	Battalion state for month of April.



EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.SECRET. 4  
(Copy No.....)Battalion Headquarters,  
31st March, 1918.

1/A/18 appx. 1/A/18

AMENDMENT OF BATTALION ORDER No. 15. (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 Bn.H.Q. before morning of 1st April.
- Reference 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-

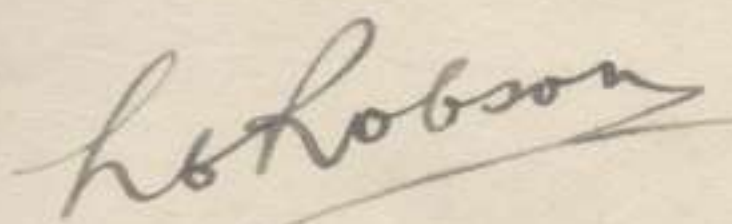
Guides will report to Bn.H.Q. at 6 p.m. on 1st April, and each will have written instructions defining the portion of the area to which he is to guide relieving troops.

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGE.Distribution.

As for Battalion  
Order No.15.



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



APPENDIX

11/11/18

B. Coy

W. J. J. J.



## 18th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

1A/A/18. 1A/A/18. SECRET.

Programme of patrols for night of 1st/2nd. April 1918.

Strength.	Place and time of departure	Place and time of return.	Instructions. PASSWORD "PORTER"
1 Officer 25 O.R. 1 L.G. "B" Coy.	0.29.a.20.16. 8'30 p.m.	0.29.a.20.10. On completion of relief.	Proceed to tree at 0.29.c.80.95. and spread out and cover relief. To keep in touch with No.3 Post regarding relief. Front line company will make certain that incoming people know that a patrol is out. An officer from front company will see last man in at No.3 Post.

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 "RAILWAY"

Distribution.File.

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

*C. W. Lewis*  
 Intelligence Officer 18th. Battn.  
 A.I.F. Lieut.



Bboy

2/12/18

APPENDIX

19/11/18.



Battalion Headquarters,  
1st April 1918.

Reference Map: Sheet 28 1/40,000

1. The 18th. Battalion will embus for CODE AREA to-morrow End. inst. at 8 a.m. at N.33.d.1.5.
2. Dress - Marching Order - with blanket. Platoon Commanders to carry packs etc.  
Each man will carry four sand bags. These will be issued in KRAMMEL Area.
3. Breakfast will be completed and camp cleared by 6'30 a.m.  
Coys. will be paraded ready to move from camp at 7 a.m.
4. Lieut. A.E. Johnson will be Battalion Debussing Officer and will report to Major W.R.C. Robertson, M.C. (Bde. Debussing Officer) at 7 a.m. at debussing point.
5. Transport - Officers gear, Company Lewis guns etc. will be ready for loading on Transport by 6'30 a.m.  
Sufficient dioxies for preparation of mid-day meal will be taken under Company arrangements, on the busses.  
The four H.Q. A.A. Lewis guns will be allotted by L.G.O., one to each Company and will be carried on the busses. One pannier will be carried with each gun.  
Q.M. will arrange direct with O.C. "C" Coy. for loading parties.
6. Marching out states will be handed to Adjutant by 7'15 a.m.
7. On arrival at Debussing point (Sheet 27. N.35.d.6.6.) Coys. will be fallen in, in column of route, and will move as directed by guides.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*L. Robson*  
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.W. Lieut.

Issued at 6'45 p.m. 1/4/18.

Distribution.

- No. 1. File.
2. "A" Company
3. "B" Company
4. "C" Company
5. "D" Company
6. Q.M. & T.O.
7. Sig. Off. & L.G.O.



87  
3/A/15  
EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

WD21  
(CONFIDENTIAL)

appx. 3/A/18  
Battalion Headquarters,  
1st. April 1918.  
-----

Company Commanders.  
-----

The next few weeks are likely to make heavy demands upon us, but I am confident that we can and will meet them. But to do so we need to watch several things very closely.

It has been my policy to leave as much as possible to the initiative of Company Commanders, contenting myself with laying down principles, upon which I wished you to work. In the operations we are about to engage in, a very many matters will necessarily be left to your decision. Use common sense, and, having made your decision, give your orders clearly and with quiet confidence. If possible write them down, choosing your words carefully. Then get someone else to read them over to see that you have clearly expressed yourself.

If you have to give orders verbally, make one of your hearers repeat them when you have finished.

I would like you all to run through with your Platoon Commanders and senior N.C.O's at least, the instructions regarding messages etc., in F.S.R. part 1. If any company has not the copy issued to you about two months back, I will have extracts made for you.

Keep your men clean and as tidy as you possibly can; look after their feet - they will be the better for it. An unshaven, hungry, wet and weary man is a man almost lost.

You already know my wishes regarding musketry exercises (rapid loading etc.) Time spent in this work will repay you tenfold. The set barrages of September 20th. will certainly not be available, and there may be times when we will be forced to depend solely upon Lewis guns and rifles. Here the estimation of ranges, fire direction, fire control, the use of combined sights, and the "golden rule" - aim low, are of vital importance. Much can be done during the few remaining days to "brush up" your unit commanders. There is no need for a parade to do this. I have on practically every day of the last three years worked out some little problem either in attack or defence - sometimes it has simply been an approach of three scouts, sometimes a section, and I know how little trouble it is, and how very valuable it is in forming a quick decision.

The action of your Lewis guns and of the riflemen in the Lewis gun section will, I know, not escape attention.

Down south, there is a serious shortage of Lewis gun magazines and spare parts. Empty drums have been discarded or left at previous positions. Please issue very definite orders on this point.

On the subject of situation reports I cannot do better than quote a circular memo. from Brigade:-

"Situation reports: One of the most important factors in such warfare as we are likely to meet, is the timely rendering of information. Situation reports must be sent in frequently by all Units. Time, Place of despatch, and sender's name and Unit, are of the utmost necessity. Negative information is of value. This must be impressed on all subordinate commanders. Units will have to depend largely on visual signalling and runners as a means of communication. The latter should, therefore, have an increased establishment on all Headquarters."

There are strange reports of German officers dressed in British uniform, spreading confusion by giving orders ~~them~~ to "retire" or "withdraw". There is only one way to deal with such people, but do it promptly. An inscription on a wooden cross "He said 'retire'" will be sufficient explanation.

If you are forced to fall back, and this will be done only after gravest consideration, indicate clearly the section or platoon, and the spot to which you want them to go. No section will go back because they see others doing so. They will act only on the order of the commander actually with them, even if he is only a Lance Corporal.



APPENDIX 3/A/18.

(2)

appx. 3/A/18.

We may have to thin out our line at times, or after a local counter-attack, especially if delivered, as such attacks should be, by local supports, some troops will be moving back. Unless you are careful now, confusion and may-be disaster is bound to occur. Wild reports that Battalions, Divisions or Armies have retired or surrendered, have been spread down south. Men must disregard them and leave their ground only to go forward.

The foot of the ~~H~~un is on the graves of our fallen comrades, and I know my lads too well to fear they will rest content.

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



4/A/18

4/A/18

4/A/18

Order No 02  
Ref Sheet 62 D. 10000

appx. 4

Mr HQ  
6-4-18

1. Redisposition of battalion will be effected at earliest possible moment tonight, when the following lines will be occupied -

Front line -

C Coy - Railway line (exclusive) to road through V.I. area inclusive

B Coy - Road through V.I. area (exclusive) to

U.G. d. 47 (approximately)

A Coy - U.G. d. 47 (approximately) to

U.G. c. 14.

C.O. 19<sup>th</sup> Bn is taking over line to U.G. c. 14.

Note - All ~~front~~ elements of units other than 5<sup>th</sup> A.I. Bde in the

sector will be relieved &

the line will be held by units

of 5<sup>th</sup> A.I. Bde only.

The two platoons of D Coy will also be relieved.

Support - D Coy - U.S. central - line running N.W. to X roads O.36 c 5020

Mr HQ will be at Chateau

O.35.6.8.2

RAP at O 36 c central

Necessary reliefs will be



Arranged mutually appx. 4/A/18.

Completion of move & relief will be reported to Br 142 by code word "MUSKETRY"

Lt Robson Lt Col  
Adjutant 18 Bn

Issued at  
Distribution

1. File
2. A Coy
3. B Coy
4. C Coy
5. D Coy
6. 5<sup>th</sup> A Bde
- 7.



18<sup>th</sup> Battalion

67A/18

Secret

A10

Am 11/2

Shall be 680 000000

Appx. 5/A/18

1. A minor operation will be carried out against enemy positions -  
 U 23, U 17, U 11 on 7<sup>th</sup> April  
 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Bns are supplying the troops. Objective - Eastern portion of BOIS de HANGARD & road running from U 23 d. 0.0. north to U. 6. c. 2.4  
 Southern boundary U 22 b. 6.3. -  
 U. 23. b. 5.3.

North Boundary U 10 d. 6.3. -  
 U. 11. d. 8.2.

19<sup>th</sup> Bn is establishing Platoon Posts at U 11.69.0, U. 12. a. 1.9  
 Under cover of darkness on night 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> April, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Bns will move forward & dig in on line of road U 23 d. 0.0 to U 6. c. 2.4.  
 Barrage will open for 10 minutes & then advance at rate of 50' per minute to line of protective barrage in U. 24 d. 0.0, U. 18 a. 0.0.  
 U 12 b. 2.8

Standing barrage will be on U 12 b. 2.8 U. 2 c. 0.0 from Zero to Zero + 60



5/11/18

appx. 5/11/18

Zero hour will be notified later

18<sup>th</sup> Battalion will stand to at  
Zero minus 30. O.C. A Coy will  
take special measures to watch  
~~the~~ left flank of 19<sup>th</sup> Bn.  
If opportunity offers, ground will  
be seized in V.I.C. U.I.2.d &  
contact gained with 19<sup>th</sup> Bn.

O.C. D Coy will be prepared to  
move two platoons forward for  
this purpose.

220 lbs SAA Stools will be  
carried.

Extra vigilance will be necessary  
as it is extremely probable that  
the enemy will counter attack.

If telephones are not through  
intelligence reports will be sent  
to present D Coy HQ, U.S. central,  
thence to Bn HQ.

Issued at

Distribution

- 1 A Coy
- 2 B Coy
- 3 C Coy
- 4 D Coy
- 5 5<sup>th</sup> A.I. Bn
- 6 File.

Le Robson Hunt  
Adjutant.



6.8/A/18

18th Order no. 012

Secret

Butt 12

7-4-18

by Sheet 62 D 20000

appx. 6/A/18.

1 (a) 18th Battalion will be relieved  
by a battalion of 17th Inf Bde  
tonight

(b) On relief 18th will move  
to bivouacs in Bois de ~~WILLARD~~  
in T 11 & T 17. GENTELLES

2. Advanced party is moving under  
arrangements of An HQ. 1 is being  
detached by An HQ

3. Following will be the method of  
relief

Support Coy - D Coy will send  
guides to Railway Crossing West of  
Station at 0.35. d. 09. Relieving Coy  
will be guided to this point by  
An HQ. Completion of relief will be  
reported by phone.

Left Coy - will be guided to Railway  
Crossing east of Station, at 0.36. c. 5.4  
C Coy will have ~~an officer~~  
~~these~~ guides at this point. They  
will guide whole Coy to Co.  
An officer of C Coy will meet Coy at



appx. 6/A/18

Coy HQ, will guide whole of relieving Coy to left post & will then conduct the relief throughout the Coy sector in the manner of a guard relieving sentry posts.

OC Coy will be on the left flank of his Coy sector when the relief comes there, & will be responsible that touch is made between the ~~two~~ ~~relieving~~ ~~companies~~ ~~between~~ ~~the~~ ~~left~~ ~~&~~ ~~centre~~ ~~coys~~ ~~of~~ ~~relieving~~ ~~Battalion~~ ~~ES~~ the left & centre Coys of relieving Battalion.

Centre Coy - will be guided to Railway bridge O.36 c. 5.4 by Platoon HQ. Guides from A Coy will then meet them & guide them along road through U.6.b, V.1.a. An officer of A Coy will meet them on road, guide them to left post of centre Coy, conduct relief in same manner as for left Coy.

OC A Coy will be responsible that centre & right Coys are connected after relief.

Right Coy - will be guided to O.36 c. 5.4 by Platoon HQ. Guides from B Coy will then meet them & guide them along road through U.6.a, U.6.c. An officer



6/1/18

app't. 6/1/18  
 of B Coy will then meet them &  
 guide whole Coy to right post  
 conducting relief as described  
 above in guard fashion. This  
 officer will ensure that  
 contact is secure between right  
 flank & battalion on right.  
 O.C. A Coy will ensure that  
 contact is secured between  
 right & centre Coys after relief.

O.C. C Coy will report completion  
 of relief by phone.  
 O.C. H & A Coys will report  
 completion of relief to Support  
 Coy HQ where it will be  
 phoned to HQ H2.

4. After relief Coys will move  
 to O. 34. C 4.3 (Road junction)  
 At this point platoons will  
 be collected & marched as  
 complete platoons via CACHY  
 to X roads at T. 12. d. 1.7.,  
 where guides will direct.

5. Lewis Guns will be picked  
 up as follows —  
 A & C Coys at Railway Cross.



O 36 c 5.4.

appt. 6/1/18

B & D Coys at D Coy HQ  
 Limbers will be at these  
 points from 9 pm  
 Two Lewis Gunners per Coy  
 will be detailed to move  
 with limbers  
 All Lewis Gun gear will be  
 brought out

6 Kitchens will await bus at  
 Bois de Gentilles.

Joined at 7.0 pm

Distribution

A Coy

B "

C "

D "

Robson Lieut  
 Capt 18th



6/1/18

8.1.18. 1918  
B D A  
C



EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No. 18.18 (Copy No. 16)

Battalion Headquarters  
9th. April 1918.

Reference Map: Sheet 62D 1/40,000

# 1. INTENTION.

At a time and date to be notified later, the 5th. A.I. Bde. and 175th. Inf. Bde. will attack and advance the present line to the general line:-

The CEMETERY in U.29.b.(exclusive) - U.24.b. - V.13.central - V.1.central - thence along our present front line.

# 2. TASKS.

(a) The attack will consist of two objectives -

1st. Objective - RED Line - U.23.c.8.2. - U.12.d.7.8.

2nd. Objective - BLUE Line - U.30.a.1.8. - U.24.b.6.0. - V.13.central - V.7.d.0.2.

(b) The 18th. Battalion will attack on the left of 5th. A.I. Bde. The 17th. Battalion will attack on our Right and 9th. London Regiment on our Left.

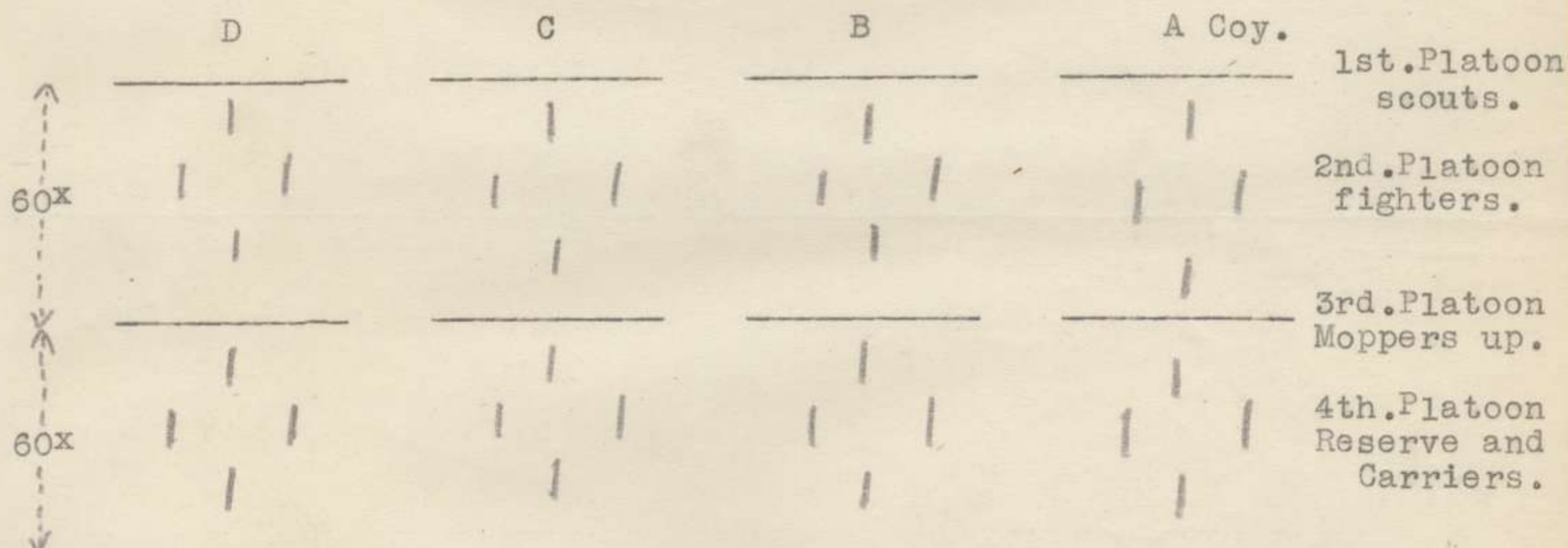
(c) Battalion boundaries will be -

Right - U.11.c.7.3. - V.13.c.6.3.

Left - U.11.b.60.95. - V.7.d.0.2.

# 3. FORMATION.

(a) The attack will be on a four company frontage in the following formation -



(b) The Battalion frontage will be equally divided among the four Companies.

# 4. ASSEMBLY.

(a) The assembly position is the road U.10.a.7.4. - U.4.b.8.0.

(b) One officer and 4 N.C.O's per Coy. will reconnoitre routes and assembly position before 6 p.m. 9th. April.

(c) The Battalion will move from billets in GENTELLES to assembly position by platoons at 100 yards interval, in the following order, "A", "B", "C", "D" Coys. - head of Unit to pass road junction U.7.a.7.0. at Zero minus 5 hours 30 minutes.

Route - Cross road U.8.a.7.6. - Cross road U.8.b.9.8. thence along road through U.9.a., U.9.b., U.10.a.

At Zero minus 4 hours Companies will be drawn up lining road in order from Right to Left "A", "B", "C", "D".

# 5. JUMPING OFF TAPE.

(a) A jumping off tape will be laid by Field Coy. A.E. along line U.11.c.7.3. - U.11.b.60.95. by 2 a.m. on Zero day. Directing tapes 50 yards long will be laid at right angles along inter Battalion boundaries from Jumping Off tape.

(b) One officer and 2 O.R. per Coy. will report at Battn. H.Q. at 4'45 p.m. on day before Zero day, will thence proceed to meet tape laying party to assist in laying tapes and to guide Coys. from assembly position to Jumping Off line. One man per Coy. will be left as Right marker of each Coy. and will a white band round his left forearm. The band will be removed on order of Coy. Commander when Coy. is in position.



appx. 7/A/18.32

(c) At Zero minus 2 hours, Coys. will move from Assembly position to Jumping Off line and will extend on Jumping Off line. They will report by Zero minus 1 hour that they are in position.

(d) A specially selected officer, with compass, will be on the right flank of each Company to keep direction.

#### 6. ACTION OF INFANTRY.

At Zero troops will move forward, following artillery barrage as closely as possible: they will attack and capture RED Line: halt on RED Line for 15 minutes: move forward under cover of barrage and attack and capture the BLUE Line. An officer or N.C.O. detailed beforehand by "A" & "D" Coys. will ensure connection on the BLUE Line with flank units. They will consolidate on the BLUE Line and will make dispositions in depth.

Each Company will dig two strong points on the BLUE Line and one in rear about 50 yards, to cover gap to Coy. on left. In addition ~~xxxx~~ "B" and "C" Coys. will each detail one section to dig strong points at U.18.a.8.8. and U.12.central. These will be made as soon as possible large enough to accommodate a platoon.

Special action will be taken for dealing with possible snipers in wood as follows:-

(a) While halted on the RED Line, five rounds rapid will be fired into wood and tree tops.

(b) 3 Extra Lewis guns are available, will be allotted to third platoons of "B", "C", "D" Coys. and will be manned by H.Q. personnel. They will fire through RED barrage into wood and tree tops.

After capture of wood the extra guns will be allotted to Company supports and will be used for engaging hostile low flying aircraft. Hostile aircraft will, until position is consolidated, be dealt with only by the elements in Support.

#### 7. ACTION OF ARTILLERY.

From Zero to Zero plus 10 the barrage will rest on starting line 50 yards in advance of Jumping Off tape.

From plus 10 to plus 28 barrage will creep to RED protector line at rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes.

From plus 28 to plus 43 barrage will rest on RED protector line. At plus 43 barrage will advance at rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes until BLUE protector line is reached. It will rest there until plus 100.

#### 8. MACHINE GUNS.

Machine guns will fire on selected areas and will fire barrage covering BLUE line until plus 100.

#### 9. DRESS.

Officers and men similarly.- Battle Order. Greatcoats will be carried rolled in W.P. Sheets strapped on rear of belt. 2 iron rations, 2 sandbags, 220 rounds S.A.A. and 2 bombs per man will be carried. Water bottles will be filled before moving to assembly point. Any tools carried will be worn behind equipment.

1st., 2nd. & 3rd. platoons will carry each 6 shovels and 2 picks.

1st. and 2nd. platoons will each carry 3 pairs wire cutters. Officers will carry compass.

Carrying platoons will each carry 25 shovels - 7 picks - 4000 rds. S.A.A. (distributed in bandoliers).

10. S.O.S. Each officer and platoon Sgt. will carry an S.O.S. signal (parachute bursting into 3 reds) on top of haversack.

#### 11. SUCCESS SIGNALS.

Following signals will be used to denote success -

BLUE Line captured - 2 GREEN Very lights.

RED " " - 2 RED " "

Each officer will carry a Very pistol, 2 RED and 2 GREEN Very lights.



appx. 7/A/18 . 33

## 12. CARE OF RIFLE.

Paper will be tied over breech and muzzle of rifle and handle of bayonet as precaution against mud. This will be done by 6 p.m. on day preceding Zero day.

Bayonets will be fixed at Zero hour.

## 13. SIGNALS.

Communication will be by runner until phones are connected. Sig. officer will establish phone communication with Coys. on capture of final objective.

## 14. DUMPS etc.

Tools, extra S.A.A. etc. will be collected from a dump to be established at U.4.d.6.2.

On capture of final objective, carrying parties will dump loads at spots to be selected by Coy. Commanders. They will then be used to carry forward any stores required.

A dump of 40 petrol tins of water will be at U.4.d.6.2.

## 15. LIAISON.

(a) Major W.R.C. Robertson, M.C. will be liaison officer at Headquarters, 9th. London Regiment.

(b) "D" Coy. will detail one platoon to maintain touch with 9th. London Regiment on left flank at U.12.d.6.9. and V.7.d.0.2. This platoon, at the discretion of its own commander, will fill any gap which may occur on flank and will be prepared to establish a defensive flank if necessary.

(c) "A" Coy. will detail one section to maintain touch with 17th. Battalion similarly on right flank.

## 16. REPORTS.

Situation reports will be sent at frequent intervals to Battn. H.Q. giving time of despatch. Disposition reports, giving strength and location of posts etc. will be sent to Battalion H.Q. at earliest possible moment after the attack.

## 17. SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised with Battn. H.Q. by an officer of each Company at 6'30 p.m. on day preceding Zero and at 1'30 a.m. on Zero day.

## 18. MEDICAL. R.A.P. will be at

Stretcher bearers will move with carrying parties.

## 19. PRISONERS OF WAR.

Prisoners of war will be evacuated through Battn. H.Q. A receipt will be obtained and forwarded to Battn. H.Q. for any handed over elsewhere.

20. HEADQUARTERS. Until capture of final objective Battn. H.Q. will be at U.11.a.30.20. On capture of final objective Battn. H.Q. will move to Quarry at V.13.a.2.1.

Coy. H.Q. will be selected in Coy. sectors.

## 21. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Issued at p.m. 9/4/18.

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

Lieut.

## Distribution.

No. 1. "A" Coy.	No. 11. Sig. Off. & I.O.
2. "B" Coy.	12. Q.M. & T.O.
3. "C" Coy.	13. Major W.R.C. Robertson, M.C.
4. "D" Coy.	14. Liaison Officer, 17th. Bn.
5. 9th. London Regt.	15. Adjutant
6. 17th. Battn.	16. War Diary
7. 20th. Battn.	17. "
8. 19th. Battn.	18. "
9. 5th. A.I. Bde.	19. File.
10. C.O.	
11. "	

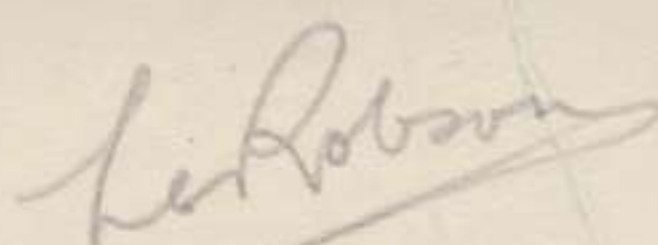


7/11/18

appx. 7/11/18.

ADDENDUM to 18th.Aust.Inf.Battalion Order No.18.PRISONERS OF WAR.

Prisoners of war will be evacuated through Battalion H.Q.  
A receipts will be obtained and forwarded to Battn.H.Q. for  
any handed over elsewhere.



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



EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

35

Apr. 8/18

8/18

Battalion Headquarters,  
11th April 1918.

Headquarters,  
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Following is distribution of officers for forthcoming operation:-

With Battalion Headquarters - Lt.-Col. G.F. Murphy, "D.S.O." (C.O.)  
Lieut. L.C. Robson, (Adj't.)  
Lieut. A.W. Irvine, "M.C." (I.O.)  
Lieut. W.A. Temple, (Sig. Off.)  
Capt. C.G. Templeman, (R.M.O.)

"A" Company - Lieut. V.J. Frewin, (O.C.)  
Lieut. G.H. Duncan,  
Lieut. G.B. Woodruff,  
Lieut. R.H. Gascoigne-Roy,

"B" Company - Capt. L.M. Cadle, (O.C.)  
Lieut. W.F. Jones,  
Lieut. H.H. Thompson,  
Lieut. N.V. McLaren, "M.M."

"C" Company - Lieut. A.R. Sheath, "M.C." (O.C.)  
Lieut. G.J.G. Clayton,  
Lieut. J.A. Holdsworth,  
Lieut. R.D. Hunter, "M.M."

"D" Company - Capt. G.F. Lowther, (O.C.)  
Lieut. A.G.A. Walters,  
Lieut. L. Sellers,  
Lieut. J. Maxwell, "M.C." "D.C.M."

Liaison Officers with flank units -

Major E.R.C. Robertson, "M.C."  
Lieut. E.B.W. Daniel,

At Transport Lines -

Capt. E.J. McNabb, "M.C." (T.O.)  
Capt. S. Beddie, "M.C." (Q.M.)  
Capt. J.N. Doyle,  
Capt. J.B. Lane,  
Lieut. A.E. Johnson, (Asst. Adj't.)  
Lieut. J. Harris,

At Nucleus Battalion - Chap. the Rev. W.N. Higgins,

"A" Company - Capt. W.J. Graham, "M.C."  
Lieut. F.H. Semple,  
Lieut. C.H. Burt,  
Lieut. G. Wilkinson,

"B" Company - Lieut. H.J. Flockart,  
Lieut. J.E. Agnew,  
Lieut. C.J. Brossois,  
Lieut. J.C. Harrison,  
Lieut. S.M. Clark.

"C" Company - Lieut. A.J.B. Mackenzie,  
Lieut. R.E. Dryden, "D.C.M."  
Lieut. C.G. Butler.



APPENDIX

8/11/18

(2)

At Nucleus Battalion -

"D" Company - Lieut.C.M.Fairclough,  
Lieut.F.J.Brown.

Detached -

Lieut.S.J.Murray,  
Lieut.H.G.Wiseman,

(2nd.Pioneer Battalion)  
(Sick, not yet Seconded)

*Geo. D. Murphy*

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



9/11/18 appx. 9/11/18  
(Sheet 62D.)

37

DISPOSITIONS.

Battalion Headquarters: U.14.d.90.40. and Copse. - 4 Off. 24 O.R.

R.A.P. & remainder of Battn.H.Q. - U.21.a.35.50. - 1 Off. (R.M.O.)  
44 O.R.  
4 L.Guns.

"A" Company-Support.

Company H.Q. - U.21.a.45.20. - 1 Officer 11 O.R.  
No.1 Platoon - From U.21.c.40.90.)  
to U.21.a.45.15.) 1 Off. 28 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.2 Platoon - From U.21.a.50.20.)  
to U.21.a.central) 23 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.3 Platoon - From U.15.a.90.30.)  
to U.15.a.75.10.) 1 Off. 25 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.4 Platoon - (1 Officer, 26 O.R. & 1 L.G.)  
Posts at - U.15.d.60.60. - 6 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
U.15.d.60.80. - 11 O.R.  
U.15.d.80.95. - 1 Off. 9 O.R.

"D" Company. - Line Right.

Company H.Q. - U.22.c.70.05. - 1 Off., 20 O.R.  
Company Right Boundary - U.23.c.40.00.  
" Left " - U.22.d.55.75.  
Posts from Right to Left -  
Nos.13 & 14 Platoons - From U.23.c.40.00.)  
to U.22.d.70.10.) 1 Off. 59 O.R., 2 LG  
Nos.15 & 16 Platoons - From U.22.d.70.10.)  
to U.22.d.55.75.) 2 Off. 56 O.R. 2 LG

"B" Company - Line Centre.

Company H.Q. - U.22.c.90.80. 1 Off. 16 O.R.  
No.6 Platoon - U.22.d.50.75.)  
to U.22.b.50.01.) 1 Off. 30 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.8 Platoon - U.22.a.10.20.)  
to U.22.c.10.70.) 1 Off. 24 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.7 Platoon - U.22.a.90.70.)  
to U.22.a.90.40.) 1 Off. 21 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
No.5 Platoon - U.22.b.30.90.)  
to U.22.d.50.80.) 25 O.R. & 1 L.G.

"C" Company - Line Left.

Company H.Q. - U.22.b.10.90. ) 1 Off. 18 O.R.  
Company Right flank -  
U.22.b.30.90.  
" Left " U.16.b.90.60.  
In posts as follows:- Line from U.22.b.30.90. to U.16.d.70.30.  
is divided into five posts containing in all, 1 Off. 30 O.R. 1 L.G.  
Line from U.16.d.70.30. to U.17.c.15.65. is divided into five posts  
totalling 1 Off. 27 O.R. & 1 L.G.  
From U.17.c.15.65. to U.17.a.00.25. - 26 O.R. 1 L.G. - in  
four posts.  
From U.17.a.00.25. to U.16.d.90.60. - 1 Off. 22 O.R. 1 L.G.-  
in three posts.

One Company of 34th.Battalion in Support, in U.21.c.80.40.

Dumps:- 20000 rounds S.A.A. )  
~~40000 rounds S.A.A.~~ ) At Battalion H.Q.  
40 tins water. )  
75000 rounds S.A.A. )  
25 cases bombs ) At U.21.a.20.30.  
30000 rounds S.A.A. )  
100 tins water )  
about 100 picks ) At U.16.c.60.50.  
100 shovels )

13/4/18.

(Signed) A.W.IRVINE, Lieut.  
I.O. 18th.Battalion.



19/A/18

SECRET.

38

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.19.

(Copy No. 7...)

Battalion Headquarters  
13th. April 1918.

Reference Sheet 62 D. S.W. 1/20000

appt. 10/A/18.

1. The following dispositions will be made on night 13/14th.inst.
  - (a) "B" Coy. will establish between their right and left posts a post of at least 1 N.C.O. & 12 men from No.6 Platoon on or in advance of road in the vicinity of U.23.a.3.5., so as to command ~~valley~~ running west through U.23.a.
  - (b) "B" Coy. will relieve left platoon of "D" Coy. in posts in U.23.c. with one of their support platoons.
  - (c) "D" Coy. will relieve such portions of ESSEX troops as are in occupation of present front line from "D" Coy's right flank to road (inclusive) at U.29.b.30.60. - (This includes the posts which are on the road.
  - (d) "B" Coy. will, with remaining support platoon (including L.G.) reconnoitre forward to, and if possible establish a post at, Cross roads U.23.d.25.55.
2. (a) Details of Para.1(b) will be arranged mutually between O's C. "B" and "D" Coys.  
(b) Relief of ESSEX troops (Para.1(c)) will be commenced by 8'30 p.m.
3. Tools will be carried and not handed over.
4. Redispositions will be completed by midnight 13th/14th.inst.
5. Completion of move will be notified to Battalion H.Q. by wire using code words "respectively :-  
(a) ARTHUR (b) BASIL (c) CUTHBERT (d) DARCY.
6. Redisposition reports will be forwarded to Battn.H.Q. as soon as possible and not later than 6 a.m. 14th.inst.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

Issued at 4 p.m. 13/4/18 by runner.

*A. L. Johnson*  
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F. Lieut.

Distribution.

- No.1. "A" Coy.
2. "B" Coy.
3. "C" Coy.
4. "D" Coy.
5. 5th.A.I.Bde.
6. File.
- 7/9. War Diary.



appx. 11/A/18

Headquarters  
5th A Bde

Ref your 9/38 of 12/4/18

I do not think that any attempt to hold CEMETERY Copse will be successful unless the cemetery is also occupied. If the cemetery is attacked & captured, I see little difficulty with the cove.

The only trouble from my point of view is the readjustment of the line which is ~~to~~ taking place the same night and the extreme probability that a Stokes mortar bombardment unaccompanied by an Artillery demonstration elsewhere will lead to a concentration of artillery & MG fire.

The method of holding the Copse by flanking posts in the event of capture seems the only feasible one.

Is there any objection to CEMETERY Copse being attacked?



APPENDIX

11/A/18

Appx. 11/A/18

at an earlier zero tomorrow night  
where the readjustment of the line  
between ourselves & the French has  
been completed & has had time  
to settle down.

There is every indication  
that the Bois de HANGARD - U17  
is strongly held particularly with  
MGs. Last night the MG fire  
from Northern end was very heavy.

18th Bn  
13.4.18  
C.7

Geo. D. Murphy  
Lt Col  
CO 18th Bn AIF



APPENDIX 11/A/18.

appx. 11/A/18.

15.4.18

13.4.18

Keadys  
5th Air Bde

Refy on 13M 353

On completion of relief shortly after 1 am this morning, I went round the line & particularly reconnoitred southern portion with a view to approach on CEMETERY COPSE

At 3 am this morning, judging by position from which flames were fired, flash from MG, & the Bache actually seen, CEMETERY Copse is definitely in possession of the enemy.

This morning I saw the CO of 10th ESSEX twice. He gave me as his nearest point to the Cemetery the last house on the eastern side of HANGARD.

I then saw the Colonel Commanding the French on the right & asked him whether he was in possession of



appx. 11/A/18.

of the Cemetery. On being informed that he was not. I asked him whether he intended to make any attempt. He replied that he was not yet in possession of sufficient men to attempt anything.

What the Liaison Office at Bde probably means is that they command it & hold it under fire.

I have just referred the matter again to the French. They say definitely that they do not occupy the Cemetery.

On my return from DOMART this morning I gave instructions for a platoon of 25 or 30 Lewis Gun to be sent to reconnoitre Cemetery Copse. If not occupied by the enemy to seize it.

Until however the French occupy the Cemetery the army position taken up in the Copse will be extremely difficult to hold.

Recognising this, I have ordered a platoon to attempt construction of a S.P. at X Roads. U. 23.c. 4.6

If this is successful, I propose tomorrow night to extend the line on either side X or swing



appt. 11/A/18

the general line followed through  
these X Roads to present line 60\*  
east of Copse in U29a, with a  
corresponding swing in U22.b.

The details of the relief as  
per Bde Order No 160 were arranged.  
Starting time 8.30pm

Geo. B. Mearns  
Lt Col  
C.O. 18th Bn A.I.F.

C.S.



APPENDIX

11/A/18.

H. G. S.

S. H. S. Bde.

11/A/18

H. G. S. 18th Bn

14-14-18

appx. 11/A/18.

Ref. your letter proposing the proposed approach of the 17th Bn from the north does not appear to present much difficulty. The ravine to the south side of the wood is the main obstacle.

I consider it would take a force of 600 men to do the job.

- (a) because our observation leads us to believe that the wood is strongly held.
- (b) since the operation is a limited one it gives the enemy a chance for heavy counter attack & concentration of artillery.

The success of the operation depends on CEMETERY COPSE being occupied by us.

G. F. MURPHY

Lt. Col  
Commanding 18th Bn

C8.

H. G. S.



APPENDIX 11/A/18

Sent		Service.		Date.	
At.....m.		11/A/18		From.....	
To.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		By.....	
TO { 18 <sup>th</sup> Bn.		appd. 11/A/18			
Sender's Number.		Day of Month.		In reply to Number.	
* Bm399		14 <sup>th</sup>		AAA	
<p>1. You will attack &amp; capture the port at U23D 2.6 &amp; Cemetery Copse</p> <p>2. At 3 am 15<sup>th</sup> inst. 6" and 3" Stokes mortars will bombard the Cemetery Copse from HANGARD until 3.10 am At the same time The port at U23D 2.6 will be lightly shelled until 3.9 am at 3.9 am shelling of port will become intense for 1 minute.</p> <p>3. <sup>when it will be clear</sup> At 3.10 am. An intense Artillery barrage will be put down on from U30A80. - U30A8.8. - U23B72. - also HANGARD COPSE. LANCER COPSE U18B &amp; D. - My. Fin position in 24 Cent. Valley in U30 Cent. Cross roads U25A &amp; Valley in 19D will be subjected to an intense bombardment for 1 hour from 4.45 am for 30 minutes. Signals 2 white for Port. 2 Green for Copses. 7 P.M.</p>					
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.					
Censor.		(Z) R. Smith B.E.			
Signature of Addresser or person authorised to telegraph in his name.					
* This line should be erased if not required.					
(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17, H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)					



12/A/18

appx. 12/A/18 46  
SECRET.  
(Copy No. 9.)

Battalion Headquarters  
24th April 1918.  
-----

Reference Map: Sheet 62 D. SW 1/20000  
" 62 D. SE 1/20000

1. An attack will be carried out upon enemy positions -
  - (a) CEMETERY U.29.b.80.00
  - (b) CEMETERY COPSE U.29.b.80.70.
  - (c) Cross roads U.23.d.20.60.
  - (a) The attack on the CEMETERY will be carried out by the French.
  - (b) CEMETERY COPSE will be attacked by 2 Officers, 50 O.R. to be detailed by "A" Company.
  - (c) Cross roads U.23.d.20.60. will be attacked by 1 Off. 30 O.R. detailed by O.C. "B" Company.
2. Zero hour will be 3 a.m. 15th.inst.
3. Action prior to Zero:- "B" Coy. will complete and occupy post commenced last night in vicinity of U.22.b.70.60. by midnight 14/15th. at which hour report on progress made will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. O.C."B" Coy. will withdraw 12 O.R. from his left post in U.22.b. and construct a post at approx. U.22.b.95.15. and report progress by midnight. "B" Coy. will also establish platoon post, one Lewis gun under command of an officer in U.2.3.c.45.85. and report progress by midnight. If, owing to enemy opposition any of these tasks cannot be carried out as ordered, Battn.H.Q. will be informed and the posts will be established in conjunction with operation at Zero hour.  
Each party will be responsible for its own protection and will patrol between these three new posts.  
S.A.A., 220 rounds per man will be carried.
4. Carrying party of 1 Off. 40 O.R. will be withdrawn from Supports in U.25.b. and d. and will carry 20000 rounds S.A.A., 20 shovels, 8 picks, and 15 tins water to Copse in U.29.a. by midnight.  
On success signals being fired this party will carry half of these quantities to each of positions CEMETERY COPSE and Cross roads and will be then at the disposal of the officer there for patrolling, to assist in consolidating etc.  
Dress for carrying parties - Box Respirator, rifle and bayonet., and two bandoliers.
5. Stokes Mortars and Artillery:- At 3 a.m. CEMETERY COPSE will be bombarded by 6" and 3" Stokes from Zero to Zero plus 10. Cross roads U.23.d. will be lightly shelled by artillery till Zero plus 9, intensifying for one minute.  
At Zero plus 10 Stokes will cease fire and a protective barrage put down by artillery 400 yards east of CEMETERY - CEMETERY COPSE - Cross Roads, along line U.30.a.80.00, U.30.a.80.80., U.23.b.70.20., with concentrations on BOIS DE HANGARD, U.17., thence to COPSE, U.18., M.G. positions in U.24., re-entrant in V.19.b., Cross roads V.25.a.  
Bombardment will last till Zero plus 70, and will be resumed at Zero plus 105 for 30 minutes.
6. Action of infantry:- Assaulting party will be formed up -
  - (a) for assault on COPSE, 60 yards east of COPSE in U.29.a.
  - (b) for assault on Cross roads, 60 yards east of Cross roads U.23.c.45.60.
 They will attack in 2 waves, 20 yards between waves. They will be in position by Zero minus 45.  
The assault will be delivered at Zero plus 10 as soon as artillery barrage comes down.  
Positions will be consolidated 50 yards in front of COPSE and Cross roads U.23.d. Care will be taken to mop up the COPSE and members of carrying party will be used to search the Copse in addition to initial mopping up.
7. Success Signals. CEMETERY COPSE - 2 GREEN flares.  
Cross roads. - 2 WHITE flares.

/9. Flank



appx. 12/11/18 47

8. Flank patrol will be sent
  - (a) to connect with French at CEMETERY - French password "NANTES"
 O.C. "D" Coy. on seeing success signals will move forward 15 men, with officer and Lewis gun and dig-in post U.23.d.60.30. and ensure by flank patrols to Cross roads and COPSE that he is on correct line.
9. "D" Coy. will patrol ground in front of Jumping Off lines until troops are in position. "C" Coy. (Left Coy.) will vigorously engage with rifle and Lewis gun fire, any enemy machine guns or movement in BOIS DE HANGARD and will be particularly vigilant at daylight to deal with enemy snipers on ground or in trees.
10. Sig. Officer will arrange for runners in co-operation with Company Commanders concerned.
11. Reports in addition to those already ordered (a) that troops are in position to assault, using the word GREEN or WHITE for COPSE or Cross Road party respectively.  
(b) After assault reports will be sent to "B" or "D" Coy. H.Q. and thence to Battalion H.Q.
12. Prisoners will be evacuated through our own lines to Battalion H.Q. Minimum escort will be sent.
13. R.A.P. is at U.21.a.20.25. If additional stretcher bearers are needed, carrying party will be employed, and runners sent to Battn. H.Q. giving estimated number of cases.
14. Watches will be synchronised by an officer from Battn. H.Q.
15. Australian password - DIGGER.
16. One H.Q. Lewis gun section will "stand by" at "B" Coy. H.Q. available use of "D" or "A" Coy.
17. ACKNOWLEDGE by code word "MARTIN"

Issued at 9'15 p.m. 14/4/18  
 Order issued verbally to  
 "A" and "B" Coys. 6'15 p.m.

*Al Johnson*  
 Adjutant, 18th. Battalion, A.I.F. Lieut.

#### Distribution.

- No. 1. "A" Company
2. "B" Company
3. "C" Company
4. "D" Company
5. French-Flank Bn. (Right)
6. 17th. Battalion.
7. 5th. A.I. Brigade.
8. File.
- 9/11. War Diary.



18th Bn.

13/4/18

appx. 13/4/18

### Digging Progress Report.

No. 7 Platoon (Lt. Jones) has dug in waist deep & will have completed by Zero hour.

He reports that his slowness is due to the hard nature of the ground.

No. 5 Platoon.

Cpl. Jones & 12 opr. (1 L.G.) is in position at approx. U22 b 95.15 & each man has a small pothole, which he is enlarging.

H.Q. L.G. & 3 opr. is with the remainder of No. 5 Platoon, in the old position.

Lt. Thompson 1 L.G. & No. 8 Platoon took up their position at approx. U23 c 45.85 without opposition.

Each man has dug a pothole, which he is enlarging.

L. M. Cadle Capt.  
DC "B" Coy.

14.4.18.

18th Bn.

appx. 13/4/18.

Re Lt. Jones & No 7 Platoon at U22 b 807

The Crossroads at U23 d 25.55 is an Enemy Strong Point.

Lt. Jones on reconnoitering encountered fire from an enemy M.G. at approx. U23. a 35.40 & therefore dug in as above.

He hopes to be able to finish his position during this morning's mist, but, should he fail to do so, he will withdraw to his old position today, recommence work at night & remain in his new position hence forward.

L. M. Cadle Capt.  
DC "B" Coy.

14.4.18.

APPENDIX 13/4/18



14/A/18  
 14/A/18  
 49  
 EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

Battalion Headquarters  
 15th. April 1918.  
 -----

Headquarters,  
 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.  
 -----

I submit the following report on operation carried out by this Battalion at 3 a.m. this morning against enemy positions in CEMETERY COPSE and Cross roads in U.23.d. The conclusions I have formed are subject to modification as a possible result of further enquiries, but in the main, I think they are correct.

Preliminary orders were received at 5'7 p.m. from G.O.C. - I returned to Battalion H.Q. and issued my instructions to Company Commanders, "A" and "B" Coys. who were detailing the troops. All preliminary arrangements had been completed early in the day. The Company Commanders left me at 6'17 p.m. - Lieut. Frewin, "A" Coy., proceeding to HANGUARD to discuss final arrangements with the French. Written orders, confirming my verbal instructions, were issued to all concerned at 9 p.m.

On the night of 13th/14th. a post had been partially completed at U.22.b.70.65. I instructed O.C. "B" Coy. to push on this work and occupy it prior to Zero hour. He was also to construct a post at U.29.b.95.15. and occupy it prior to zero. Both these tasks were completed as ordered, despite the darkness and the hard nature of the soil.

A third post was ordered to be constructed at approx. U.23.c.45.85 to be occupied by one officer and Platoon with Lewis gun prior to Zero, if possible. If the enemy prevented the construction of the post, the locality was to be taken at Zero hour, but I impressed on the O.C. "B" Coy. that the post was essential and should be completed by Zero unless enemy opposition was met with. The O.C. "B" Coy. detailed Lieut. Thompson for this work and I am satisfied that the instructions were clearly given to this officer.

At 12'55 a.m. (15th. inst.) Capt. Cadle reported that the three posts had been occupied, confirming this telephone message in writing at 1'15 a.m. He had seen the officer (Lieut. Jones) at U.22.b.70.65. and N.C.O. at U.29.b.95.15. and was on his way to see Lieut. Thompson when he met a runner from this officer who reported that he "was out and O.K." On this authority Capt. Cadle sent the report to Battn. H.Q.

At 1'30 a.m. Capt. Cadle met Lieut. Thompson near the Cross roads in U.22.d.50.65. when Lieut. Thompson informed him that he had been forward, and had decided to wait until Zero hour before attempting to construct the post. He could give no reason for his delay in carrying out the orders. Capt. Cadle ordered him forward at once and returned to his Company H.Q. to report the matter. The wires were cut and he could not get through for some time. The post was not constructed. Lieut. Thompson waited until Zero hour, and I am strongly of the opinion that the failure on the part of this officer was in the end mainly responsible for the men in the Copse being overrun. Lieut. Thompson certainly made a brave fight against heavy odds and paid the penalty with his life, but he did not carry out my orders.

The parties were in position at Zero - 45 as ordered, and the dump ordered had been established at Copse in U.29.a.

The Stokes mortars opened up at 3 a.m. and their fire was well directed. When the Copse was entered later, numbers of dead bosche were seen and one light machine gun at N.W. corner of Copse was blown out.

The artillery barrage came down at Zero plus 10 and though reports are varying, the officers say it was placed as arranged, and was good.

The party of 2 Officers and 50 O.R. got to the Copse, passing through a hedge about 150 yards on our side of the Copse. Behind this hedge the hun was dug in, but did not put up much of a fight. A second line was encountered near the edge of the Copse and a fairly stiff resistance was offered. Our men got through to the far side and were there reorganised by Lieuts. Frewin and Gascoigne-Roy and began to dig in under machine gun fire. A patrol was sent towards the Cemetery to gain touch with the French but encountered the enemy about 50 yards

/south of



appx. 14/A/18

South of CEMETERY COPSE and had to retire.

A carrying party, under orders sent back by Lieut. Frewin carried S.A.A. 9000, &c and some shovels to the Copse.

The success signal was reported about 3'22 a.m. from the Copse, but so many different coloured flares were being fired by the enemy that it was impossible to distinguish our own.

At 4'20 a.m. Capt. Cadle reported that Lieut. Thompson had been wounded and that heavy fighting was in progress at the Cross roads U.23.a. and U.23.b. He moved forward to reconnoitre. At 4'25 a.m. Lieut. Maxwell who was standing by in rear of the Copse in U.29.a. was ordered forward to Copse where he found Lieut. Frewin wounded. Lieut. Frewin has not been seen since. Lieut. Gascoigne-Roy who was of the party, was severely wounded in the Copse and later was evacuated through the French.

At 4'42 a.m. Sgt. De Saxe reported that he was being strongly counter attacked at cross roads in U.23.d. The enemy had been encountered in large numbers at both cross roads in U.23.c. and d. and had previously been driven in the direction of the BOIS de HANGARD but had reorganised in gully in U.23.b. and advanced again. Heavy casualties were inflicted upon him but our men were driven in and the huns swung down from cross roads at U.23.d. and attacked our men in the Copse. Had the post at U.23.c. (cross roads) been established, this attack would have possibly been broken. As it was an attack came from the direction of U.30.a.50.50. and the garrison practically surrounded.

By 7 a.m. the troops were back on their own line with the exception of the posts at U.22.b.70.65 and U.29.b.95.15. which are still held.

In the attack on the cross roads Lieut. Thompson's party got to the south of the road and entered a sunken road about 15 yards east of a row of poplars. (approx. U.23.c.40.35.) and found it heavily manned: three machine guns were seen there. Later, three stretcher bearers counted 78 enemy dead around cross roads in U.23.c.

Our casualties definitely ascertained at 7 p.m. to-day are -

<u>Officers:-</u>	1	Died of Wounds.	<u>O.R.:-</u>	7	Killed in action.
	1	Wounded & Missing.		38	Wounded.
	3	Wounded.		33	Unaccounted for.

probably some in front line.

Battn.H.Q.  
8 p.m.

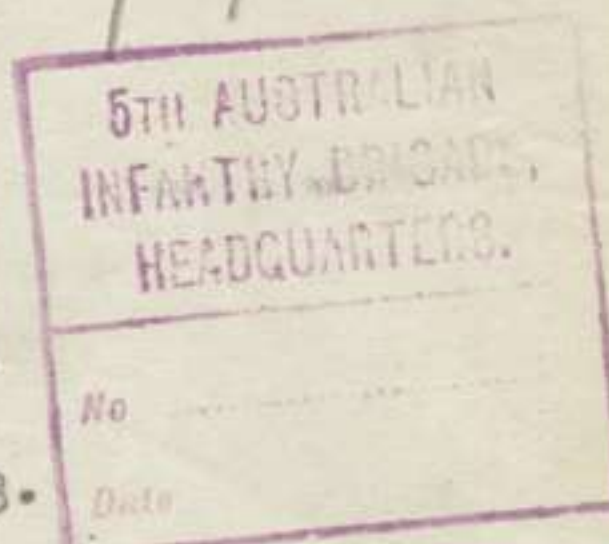
*Geo. D. Murphy*  
Lieut.-Colonel  
Commanding 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.





15/A/18

appx. 15/A/18



Headquarters,  
58th(London) Division.

April 15th, 1918.

Dear Smith,

Will you please convey to all ranks of the 18th Battn. Australian I.F., who took part in this morning's operations N. of HANGARD village, my deepest appreciation and admiration of their gallant effort. Though deploring their heavy casualties, it is most satisfactory to feel that the losses inflicted on the enemy are more than treble our own.

I am sending a letter to the G.O.C., 2nd Division Australian I.F., informing him of the gallant work carried out this morning by this Battalion.

If you have any recommendations for immediate reward will you please let me have them.

yours very sincerely,

Major General.  
Commanding 58th(London) Division.



apt Cutback  
of 2 answers

2-16



12/11/21



appt. 15/4/18.  
EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters,  
17th. April 1918.

S P E C I A L     O R D E R,

By,

LIEUT.-COLONEL G.F.MURPHY, D.S.O.

COMMANDING 18th.BATTALION, A.I.F.

The following letter has been received by the  
C.O. through G.O.C. 5th.Aust.Inf.Bde. -

"Will you please convey to all ranks of the 18th.  
"Battalion, Australian I.F., who took part in this  
"morning's operations N.of HANGUARD village, my  
"deepest appreciation and admiration of their  
"gallant effort. Though deploring their heavy  
"casualties, it is most satisfactory to feel that  
"the losses inflicted on the enemy are more than  
"treble our own.

I am sending a letter to the G.O.C. 2nd.  
"Division, Australian I.F., informing him of the  
"gallant work carried out this morning by this  
"Battalion.

Yours very sincerely,

15/4/18.

A.B.E.CATOR,  
Major General  
Commanding 58th.(London) Division.

Previously a message was received from General  
Cator to the effect that he greatly regretted that  
"after so gallant a fight, our troops should have ~~been~~  
been compelled by overwhelming odds to withdraw."

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



16/A/18  
S E C R E T

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No. 06.

(Copy No. ....)

appt. 16/A/18  
Battalion Headquarters  
15/4/18.  
-----

Reference Map: Sheet 62 D. 1/40000

1. (a) The 18th. Battalion will be relieved by 20th. Battalion to-night, 15th/16th. April as follows:-

"D" Coy. 18th. Bn.	by "B" Coy. 20th. Bn.
"B" " "	by "A" " "
"C" " "	by "C" & "D" Coy. 20th. Bn. (working as one) (composite Coy.)

"A" Coy. 18th. Bn. will be withdrawn under orders from Battn. H.Q.

(b) On relief 18th. Battalion will move to bivouacs in T.5.c. and d.

2. Guides from Battalion H.Q. will guide 20th. Battalion Coys. to the Headquarters of the Coys. they are to relieve. Coys. will arrange post guides (one per post) to be at Coy. H.Q. from 8'45 p.m. onwards.

3. Advance parties have been arranged by Battn. H.Q. to arrange billeting. Guides will meet outgoing Coys. at cross roads T.12.d.1.9.

4. Lewis guns, tools, petrol tins etc. will be brought out on relief to limbers at following points -

"C" Coy. - U.16.d.00.00.

H.Q., "A" Coy., "B" Coy., "D" Coy. at Cross roads U.21.a.50.95.

5. On relief platoons will move as formed bodies after passing west of road through U.27.a., U.21.a., U.15.b.

6. Ammunition, S.O.S. Signals and flares will be handed over.

7. Completion of relief will be notified to Battn. H.Q. by wiring name of Company Commander.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE by code word "ENVER"

Issued at 5 p.m. 15/4/18 by runner.

H. *W. E. Johnson* Lieut.  
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F.Distribution.

- No. 1. "A" Coy.  
 2. "B" "  
 3. "C" "  
 4. "D" "  
 5. Sig. Officer.  
 6. File.  
 7/9. War Diary.



17/A/18  
 appx. 17/A/18  
 Battalion Headquarters,  
 16th April, 1918.

Headquarters,  
 5th A. I. Brigade.

In continuation of my report of operation of 15th inst.

The party at Cross Road in U.23.c. held out under Sgt. De Saxe until daybreak. Most of the enemy were asleep when our men entered the sunken road, and their shelters were bombed and the enemy fell back towards BOIS DE HANGARD. At about 4.15 a.m. a strong force moved down from the direction of the white house. One officer with a very commanding voice was heard giving orders. Our men, originally 1 officer (O.C.) and 20 O.R. held out here until daylight when the N.C.O. in charge found he was being surrounded by increasing odds, withdrew his men in good order, bringing in his wounded. It was in this spot that 78 dead Huns were counted. It is certain that the enemy's casualties here were particularly heavy since no count could be made of dead in the road itself. The N.C.O. is of the opinion that he could have hung on had the post been dug in. As it was he had to depend on the road for cover from machine gun fire and could not command any approaches overland.

The party for Cross Road in U.23.d. came under heavy machine gun fire at some 25 yards range. The rifle section of 8 men lost 5 killed and 1 wounded and of the party - of total strength 1 Officer 30 O.R. - the Officer was wounded and there were 22 other casualties. One rifleman was out all day and part of the night of the 15th shamming dead. He was within 15 yards of the Hun post, and states that at daylight he counted 50 Huns come up the sunken Road into the post. Our party appears to have been discovered owing to a flare falling into their midst. From that on the enemy fired flares along the ground in their direction, and subjected them to grazing fire from 5 light machine guns. The Lewis Gun Section were knocked out except one man. The enemy managed to get a gun well down on our left flank, and enfilade fire from it inflicted most of the casualties.

The position of the party at the copse is still obscure. Two officers and 50 O.R. attacked here in two waves and were followed by the carrying party. They appear to have met two lines of the enemy - the first line about 200 yards on our side of Cemetery Copse and the second about 70 yards in advance of copse. The carrying party found a number of Huns shamming dead behind a hedge with two machine guns. These Huns were mopped up. The troops passed through the Copse and began to dig in beyond as ordered. Lieut. Gascoigne-Roy was severely wounded about 4.45 a.m. and brought in later on. Lieut. Frewin took some of the carrying party to assist him. The Copse is not in view from our lines, but he appears to have hung on until about 6.25 a.m. when the Hun was heard shouting and charging. Lieut. Frewin had been wounded severely early in the morning but refused to leave his post. A party tried to get forward but were driven back by heavy machine gun fire from the left flank. The Hun appears to have enveloped the Copse at about 6.20 a.m.

Of the 2 Officers and 50 O.R. the 2 Officers were wounded - one missing - , and with the carrying party of 40 and reinforcing party of approximately 35 our casualties here were,-

3 O.R. Killed.  
 22 O.R. Wounded.  
 29 O.R. Missing.

A board is still sitting and it is certain that 8 were killed. I do not think that many were captured but that most of the missing were killed by machine gun fire, fighting to the last.

The board has not finished taking evidence yet.

A patrol on the night of the 16th inst found the Hun strongly dug in about 200 yards in advance of copse.

Two guns were brought in. Lieut. Walters saw five in action near the Copse during the morning. N.C.O.s with the carrying party saw six light machine guns and two Lewis Guns knocked out apparently by



(2)

*appx. 17/A/18*

the Stokes Mortar bombardment. This was confirmed by Lieut. Maxwell, M.C., D.C.M.

Our force engaged was,-

- ③ Lieut. Thompson and 20 O.R.
- ③ Lieut. McLaren, M.M. and 30 O.R.
- ③ Lieut. Frewin )
- ③ Lieut. Gascoigne-Roy ) and 50 O.R.
- Lieut. Duncan and 40 O.R. as carrying party.

In addition 35 O.R. under an officer were used for counter attack.

Our casualties were,-

Officers ③ . One D.O.W. 3 Wounded (one missing).

(In addition Capt. Lowther was wounded whilst organizing the right party.)

Other Ranks. Three K.I.A. One D.O.W. 35 Wounded.

and 31 Missing. ( Of these 8 are now known to be K.I.A.)

The enemy losses were undoubtedly heavier for large numbers of dead were seen.

*Geo J Murphy*

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



18/A/18

SECRET. 56

(Copy No. 7..)

## EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No. 20.

Battalion Headquarters,  
18th. April 1918.

Reference Map: Sheet 62 D 1/40,000

*appendix 18/A/18.*

1. The 18th. Battn. will march to MONTIGNY to-morrow 19th. inst.
2. An advance party consisting of Lieut. Daniel and 1 N.C.O. per Coy. will leave present camp at 5 a.m. moving in accordance with instructions already issued.
3. Routine for 19th. inst. -
 

Reveille	-	7 a.m.
Breakfast		7'30 a.m.
Sick Parade,		8 a.m.

All shelters to be cleared and cleaned by 8'45 a.m.  
Men to be fallen in in sections, ready to move at 9'15 a.m.  
Move will take place under orders from Battn. H.Q.
4. Dress - Battle Order. Greatcoat rolled and carried on rear of belt.
5. Lewis guns, Sig. gear etc. will be ready for loading near kitchens by 8'45 a.m. Kitchens will be ready to move by 8'45 a.m.
6. Movement as far as DAOURS will be by platoons at 50 yards distance. After this point Battn. H.Q. will direct any alteration considered advisable. Kitchens will move in rear of Coys. Halts will be for 5 min at 25 mins. and 55 mins. past each hour. Lunch ~~and~~ halt at 12 noon. Strict march discipline will be enforced and straggling will not be ~~int~~ tolerated.
7. Guides from advance party will meet Battn. at cross roads BEHENCOURT C.19.a.1.9.
8. Marching out states and marching in states will be handed to Adjnt. at 9 a.m. and half an hour after arrival respectively.
9. Watches will be synchronised with Sig. Officer at 9 a.m. by an officer from each Company.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 12'10 a.m. 19/4/18.

*Le Hobson*

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

Distribution.

- No. 1. "A" Coy.
2. "B" Coy.
3. "C" Coy.
4. "D" Coy.
5. Q.M. & T.O.
6. Sig. Officer.
7. War Diary



appx: 19/A/18.  
Battalion Headquarters  
19th April 1918.

Headquarters,  
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

I forward herewith an appreciation of the Right Battalion Sector in squares U.16. 17. 23 and 29.a. and b. on Sheet 62 D.  
The appreciation is based on -

- (a) My own observation,
- (b) Reports from Company officers and Observers,
- (c) Reports from those who took part in operations against enemy positions in U.23.c. and d. and U.29.b.

The principal features are :-

- (1) The BOIS de HANGARD in square U.17.
- (2) The re-entrants in U.23.a. and b. and the valley along grid line between squares U.23. and 24.

The BOIS de HANGARD is fairly open timber with brushwood of average height from 4 to 5 ft. and is not dense. A terrace of some 4 ft. high runs from U.22.b.40.80. for 106 yards along the South edge of wood. The wood is not so far as we could ascertain wired.

The enemy holds the wood mainly by machine gun fire. Movement and concentration of troops have been reported in Copse U.23.a.40.80. and U.23.b.20.80. For this area see aeroplane photo 35 AE. B.816 and for enemy's works in U.23.a. see photo 52 AE. A.317 which will well repay study.

The ground in U.17.a. consists of ploughed fields, under close observation by the enemy from the wood.

The re-entrant in U.23.a. is best commanded from post in vicinity of U.23.b.40.80. - The ground dips away rapidly from U.23.a.90.40. and the ground between this point and U.24.a.80.00. is not visible from anywhere except from post at U.29.b.25.60. and even from ~~near~~ this spot numerous hedges mask the view. It is from this ground in U.23.b. and d. and U.24.a. and c. that his main counter attack was delivered. The ground along the grid line between squares U.23. and 24 cannot be effectively dealt with by 18 pdrs.; howitzers are very necessary. The ground in U.22.d. has for its highest point the cross roads in U.22.d.50.65. sloping away more rapidly to the North, a fairly gradual slope towards HANGARD with road through 23.c. and d. running along the ridge. Our posts here are back on the CACHY-HANGARD Road and the field of fire is here about 250 yards. The cross roads in U.23.c.45.60. are not visible but the road running south from this spot is marked by a line of poplar trees. From the cross roads this road running North and South is sunken and when our men entered it was heavily manned, five machine guns were in action in the Poplars and a trench mortar behind a turnip heap in about U.23.c.60.60. The enemy retired towards U.23.central, reorganised, and counter attacked from there.

The ground in front of our posts in U.29.a. and b. rises slightly for 200 yards, and then falls away towards CEMETERY COPSE and the tops of the trees there can be seen. Very little of the ground is under observation between U.29.d.central to road in U.24.d.20.00 to Copse about U.24.d.00.70. along which line a fair amount of movement is seen, and it is thought that a large quarry or depression exists in Copse at U.24.central. Fairly large parties of the enemy have been seen there.

I would like again to emphasise the importance of thoroughly searching all the ground along the grid line between squares 23 and 24 with howitzers and if possible by heavy machine gun fire from the direction of HANGARD.

The enemy has observation over right sector as far as road running through U.22.d. 23.c. and d. from his position on hill south of HANGARD in C.10.b. (Sheet 66 E). On our positions in U.22.b. and d. from U.24.b. and on the left of our sector from the BOIS de HANGARD.

/Our experience



(2)

appx. 19/A/18.

Our experience was that he did practically no patrolling but sent individual men out some 150 to 200 yards to fire Very lights.

He held his forward posts in strength with the garrison dug in along hedges. The garrison was protected from shrapnel by deep, narrow pot holes. His machine guns were very active at night and numerous with a predominance of light guns. The many hedges etc. make "mopping up" a very difficult matter. His infantry will not wait for a charge: his counter attacks are delivered only after thorough searching with machine guns.

Between 4'30 a.m. and 5 p.m. he puts down a barrage along line of road VILLERS BRETONNEUX-HANGARD, particularly in squares 22.b. and d. (to cross roads). He concentrates his fire on U.22.b.20.90. road from U.22.b.00.90. to U.22.d.55.80., Copse at U.22.c.50.00. and U.29.a.50.90.

On the morning of the 15th. inst. he put a barrage down along line U.23.a.00.50., U.23.c.00.50. to Copse U.29.a.80.90. and searched area back to U.22.a.80.00. to U.28.a.95.95., twice up and down. The barrage was mainly 4'2 s. The searching was done mainly by 77s and gas shells.

#### Enemy machine guns -

In poplars along road south of cross roads  
in ~~Woods~~ U.23.c.45.65.  
U.17.c.70.20.  
U.17.c.20.80.  
U.23.a.20.90.  
U.23.a.20.60.  
U.23.a.25.50.  
U.23.a.40.80.  
Upper storey of WHITE HOUSE in  
BOIS de HANGARD.

#### Aeroplane photos worth careful study:-

35 AE. B.850.  
35 AE. B.816.  
52 AE. A.326.  
52 AE. A.313.  
52 AE. A.314.  
52 AE. A.315.  
52 AE. A.316.  
52 AE. A.317.

*Geo. J. Murphy*

Lt.-Col.  
Commanding 18th. Battalion A.I.F.



19<sup>A</sup>/A/18.19<sup>A</sup>/A/18appx. 19<sup>A</sup>/A/18 . COPY.Headquarters,  
58th.Division,  
April 19th.1918.  
-----

Dear Smythe,

The 5th.Australian Brigade are leaving us to-day. I want to tell how very much we appreciate having them. All the fighting and work they did here was splendid; one and all from their Brigadier General Smith downwards were all out to help and we found them all ~~good~~ first class to work with. I am afraid they had a none too good a time in this bad weather, but they were all wonderfully cheery and willing. I have never had the good luck to be with the Australians this war, but I think I can safely say they are quite one of the best fighting units I have come across.

Will you please convey to Brigadier General Smith and the 5th. Australian Brigade our very deep appreciation of their services whilst they were with us.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) A.B.E.CATOR,  
Major General,  
Commanding 58th.Division, B.E.F.

-----

Headquarters,  
18th.Battalion,  
26/4/18.

"A" "B" "C" "D" Coys.  
Sig.Officer.

-----

Above copy of letter from G.O.C. 58th.Division is to be read on parade to-day.

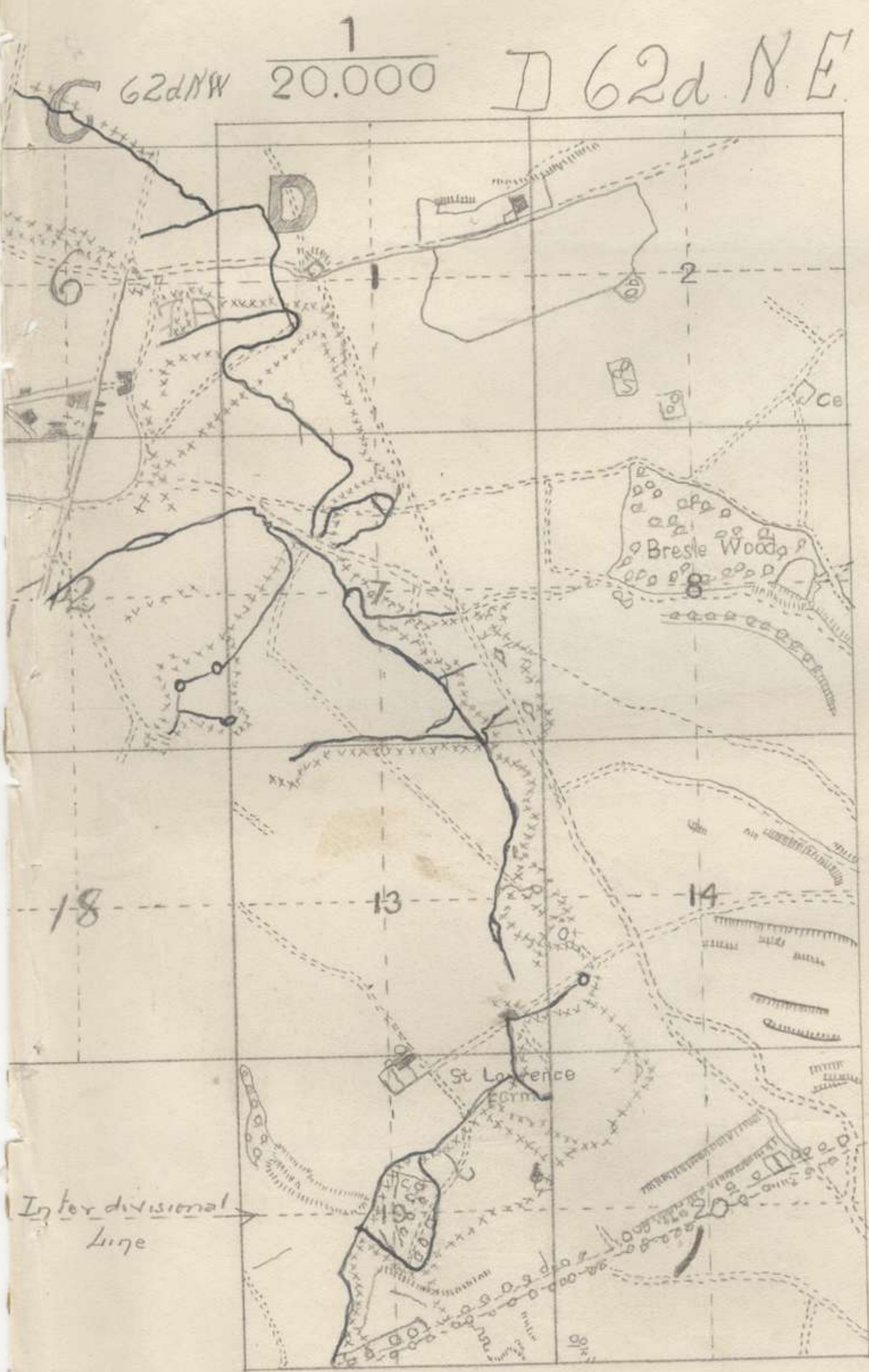
*A. J. Johnson* Lieut.  
Adjutant 18th.Battalion, A.I.F.



APPENDIX 20/A/18

20/A/18.

AMIENS 62d. 1:20,000.



Magnetic North  
Grid North

Date: 23/4/18.

BALIZIEUX. —  
RIBEMONT. LINE.



appendix 20/A/18

## EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

+++++

Battalion Headquarters,  
20th April, 1918.INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEFENCE.

The following Orders will be promulgated to all ranks at once.-

1. No man will leave the area within 800 yards of his billet or bivouac without a pass from Battalion H.Q.

2. All Officers and at least 2 N.C.O's per Platoon will tonight reconnoitre the positions to be occupied by their companies including routes to them from present billets.

3. "B" and "C" Companies will at once select "Alarm Posts" and will notify their location to Battalion H.Q. by 8 p.m. tonight.

In the event of an Alarm -

(a) All troops will assemble on their "Alarm Posts" in battle order. "A" and "D" companies will stand to at their

bivouacs.

(b) On receipt of Order from Battalion H.Q. "Occupy Reserve Line" Companies will move at once to the portion of Reserve Line allotted to them. Exact company boundaries will be notified tonight.

(c) Companies may expect not more than 40 minutes in which to get into position from the time orders to move are received.

4. Provide for enemy shelling in Baizieux -

(a) "B" and "C" companies will at once select positions to which to move and will notify Batta. H.Q. of their location. Positions selected will be located approximately as follows,-

"B" Company C.12.b.  
"C" " " C.12.d.(b) Should it be necessary to evacuate billets, men will move, under control, and will take their ~~Mk~~ rifles, equipment and Lewis guns.

5. All men will be warned against using any water from wells or water points in Baizieux. Water from watercarts only will be used.

Lieut.  
Adjutant, 18th Battalion, A.I.F.Distribution."A" Company.  
"B" Company.  
"C" Company.  
"D" Company.  
Sig. Officer.  
File.  
War Diary.



To Johnson  
(for war diary)

1st of March.  
2nd of March.  
3rd of March.  
4th of March.  
5th of March.  
6th of March.  
7th of March.  
8th of March.  
9th of March.  
10th of March.

Adjutant, 1st Battalion, 1st Division.  
*Johnson*

need.  
B. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
C. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
D. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
E. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
F. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
G. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
H. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
I. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
J. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
K. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
L. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
M. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
N. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
O. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
P. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
Q. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
R. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
S. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
T. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
U. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
V. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
W. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
X. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
Y. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.  
Z. All men will be returned to the front as soon as possible.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BATTALION

20/4/18  
20/4/18  
20/4/18



21/A/18

62

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

(S E C R E T)

Copy No.....

BATTALION ORDER No. 22 (22)

by

LIEUT.-COL. G. F. MURPHY, D.S.O.

Battalion Headquarters,  
24th April, 1918.

appendix 21/A/18

1. The Brigade will probably be required to move South.
2. (a) Unless further orders are given the probable point of concentration for the Battalion will be Cross Roads, C.28.d.9.O. whence the Battalion will embus.  
(b) On receipt of the Order "Move" Companies will march by the most direct route to this point.
3. Points of assembly for Coys. will be selected by Coy. Commanders forthwith and notified to all concerned.
4. Lieut Johnson will be Battalion embussing Officer. On receipt of the Order "Move" 1 N.C.O. per Company will report to him at the point mentioned in para.2 (a).
5. Men will move with full water bottles, 220 rounds S.A.A. per man. Lewis Guns will be carried to the concentration point.
6. Companies will make their own arrangements for runners to their outlying posts.  
A copy of Orders issued by Company <sup>Commanders</sup> ~~Orders~~ will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. by midnight tonight.
7. As far as anticipated there will be no move before tomorrow.
8. A C K N O W L E D G E.

acknowledge.

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

Distribution.

1. File.
2. "A" Coy.
3. "B" Coy.
4. "C" Coy.
5. "D" Coy.
6. Sig. Officer.
7. Q.M. and T.O.



22/A/18

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.21.

(21)

(Copy No 9.)

Battalion Headquarters  
26th April 1918.

Reference Maps: Sheet 62 D. 1/40,000  
Sheet 57 D 1/40,000

appendix 22/A/18

1. (a) The 18th. Battalion will march to-morrow 27th. inst. to ~~bivouacs in~~ <sup>WARLOY</sup> V.21.c. and d. according to table attached.

(b) Transport section has moved to WARLOY.

2. Advance parties consisting of Lieut. J. Harris and one N.C.O. per Coy. will proceed to new area this afternoon, 26th. inst.

3. Packs will be dumped near Coy. H.Q. at points to which rations are ~~delivered~~ delivered by ~~noon~~ <sup>noon</sup> to ~~night~~ <sup>night</sup>. Q.M. will arrange to collect and store them in WARLOY. Blankets and shaving gear will be retained.

4. Dress on march - Battle Order. Blankets will be carried bandolier fashion Greatcoats rolled in rear of belt. 220 rounds S.A.A. to be carried. Officers will carry packs, revolvers, etc.

5. (a) Officers gear, Lewis guns, and other gear for Transport will be dumped at points to which transport delivers rations; by 8 a.m. 27th. inst.

(b) All picks and shovels in possession of Coys. will be dumped at same points, as above, ready for removal by transport by 7'30 a.m. 27th. inst.

(c) All trench shelters in Coy. area will be collected and dumped at same points as above, by 8 a.m. 27th. inst.

Q.M. will arrange with Transport Officer for them to be delivered to Town Major, BAIZIEUX, will obtain receipt and forward it to Battn. H.Q.

(d) Kitchens will be ready to move at 8 a.m. 27th. inst.

(e) Each Company will detail its own loading parties and a guard of one O.R. to accompany each vehicle containing stores belonging to the Coy.

6. Marching Out and Marching In states will be handed to the Adjutant by 9 a.m. and half an hour after arrival respectively.

7. Alarm posts and latrines will be pointed out to Coys. before dismissal to quarters.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Distribution*  
2 A Coy  
3 B Coy  
4 C Coy  
5 D Coy  
6 Qm + J.O. 10  
7 Sig of. + J.O.  
8 Nch Diary  
9 :  
10 :

*Robson*  
Lieut.  
Adjutant 18th. Battalion, A.I.F. 2

MARCH TABLE.

Date	Coy.	Starting Point	To pass S.P.	Route.
27th.	Bn. H.Q.	Sheet 62 D	9 a.m.	Most direct route to
April		C.6.d.5.9. Cross		S.P. thence via cross
1918		roads.		roads: Sheet 57D -
	"B"	"	9'5 a.m.	U.30.a.8.7. - road
	"C"	"	9'13 a.m.	through V.25.a., V.19.d
	"A"	"	9'21 a.m.	V.20.c. and d. to
	"D"	"	9'29 a.m.	V.21.c. and d. to
				WARLOY

March will be by sections at 50 yards interval.

Guard and prisoners will move direct to No.38 Main Street, WARLOY, passing S.P. in rear of Battalion Headquarters.



Distribution.

No. 1. File

2. "A" Company

3. "B" Company

4. "C" Company

5. "D" Company

6. O.M. & T.O.

7. Sig. Off. & I.O.

8. War Diary

9. " " "

10. " " "

Reference Maps: Sheet 82 D. 1/40,000

Sheet 87 D. 1/40,000

1. (a) The 18th Battalion will march to-morrow

1. (b) Transport section has moved to WARLEY.

2. Advance parties consisting of Lieut. J. Harris and one N.C.O. per Coy.

3. Packs will be dumped near Coy. H.Q. at points to which rations are delivered

4. Press on march - Battle Order. Blankets will be carried handkerchiefs

5. Officers gear, Lewis guns, and other gear for Transport will be dumped

6. All picks and shovels in possession of Coy. will be dumped at same

7. All trench shelters in Coy. area will be collected and dumped at

8. M.M. will arrange with Transport Officer for them to be delivered

9. Town Major, MAIZIUX, will obtain receipts and forward it to Lieut. H.Q.

10. Kitchens will be ready to move at 8 a.m. 27th inst.

11. Each Company will detail its own loading parties and a guard of

one O.R. to accompany each vehicle containing stores belonging to the Coy.

12. Marching Out and Marching In states will be handed to the Adjutant by

13. 2 a.m. and half an hour after arrival respectively.

14. Alarm posts and latrines will be pointed out to Coy. before

15. Dismissal to quarters.

16. A.C.K.N.O.V.I.E.D.G.E.

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

18. Lieut.

19. MARCH TABLE

20. Date : Coy. : Starting Point : To pass 2 p.m. : Route.

21. 27th : Bn. H.Q. : Sheet 82 D. : 8 a.m. : Most direct route to

22. 28th : : : 9 a.m. : S.P. chance via cross

23. 29th : : : 9 a.m. : roads: Sheet 87D -

30. 30th : : : 9 a.m. : U. 20.2.8.7. - road

31. 31st : : : 9 a.m. : through V. 22.2.8.7. - road

32. 1st : : : 9 a.m. : V. 21.2.8.7. and 4. 12

33. 2nd : : : 9 a.m. : WARLEY

34. 3rd : : : 9 a.m. :

35. 4th : : : 9 a.m. :

36. 5th : : : 9 a.m. :

37. 6th : : : 9 a.m. :

38. 7th : : : 9 a.m. :

39. 8th : : : 9 a.m. :

40. 9th : : : 9 a.m. :

41. 10th : : : 9 a.m. :

42. 11th : : : 9 a.m. :

43. 12th : : : 9 a.m. :

44. 13th : : : 9 a.m. :

45. 14th : : : 9 a.m. :

46. 15th : : : 9 a.m. :

47. 16th : : : 9 a.m. :

48. 17th : : : 9 a.m. :

49. 18th : : : 9 a.m. :

50. 19th : : : 9 a.m. :

51. 20th : : : 9 a.m. :

52. 21st : : : 9 a.m. :

53. 22nd : : : 9 a.m. :

54. 23rd : : : 9 a.m. :

55. 24th : : : 9 a.m. :

56. 25th : : : 9 a.m. :

57. 26th : : : 9 a.m. :

58. 27th : : : 9 a.m. :

59. 28th : : : 9 a.m. :

60. 29th : : : 9 a.m. :

61. 30th : : : 9 a.m. :

62. 31st : : : 9 a.m. :

63. 1st : : : 9 a.m. :

64. 2nd : : : 9 a.m. :

65. 3rd : : : 9 a.m. :

66. 4th : : : 9 a.m. :

67. 5th : : : 9 a.m. :

68. 6th : : : 9 a.m. :

69. 7th : : : 9 a.m. :

70. 8th : : : 9 a.m. :

71. 9th : : : 9 a.m. :

72. 10th : : : 9 a.m. :

73. 11th : : : 9 a.m. :

74. 12th : : : 9 a.m. :

75. 13th : : : 9 a.m. :



Battalion Headquarters  
 27th. April 1918.  
 -----

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE  
"D" BATTALION, 5th.A.I.BDE.

- A. 1. The disposition of the Division is described in 5th.A.I.Bde. Instructions for the Defensive No.1.(issued to Coys. on 26th.inst.)  
 The 18th.Battalion is now "D" Battalion of 5th.A.I.Brigade and is in Divisional Reserve. It is to be ready to move to reinforce or counter-attack at one hours notice in any part of the forward Div. Area.
2. Reconnaissance will be carried out at once. On 28th.inst. at least three officers per Company will reconnoitre routes forward in 5th.A.I. Bde. area as far forward of the Hd.Qrs. of the Battalions in the line as visibility will permit and including routes forward.
3. (a) Alarm posts have already been selected.  
 (b) The "Alarm" will be notified on the bugle.  
 (c) In the event of "Alarm"  
 (i) Coys. will at once assemble on Alarm posts in Battle Order. 220 rounds S.A.A. will be carried - these will be held in Coy. dumps meanwhile, and will be issued immediately on the "Alarm"  
 (ii) An officer ~~and a N.C.O.~~ per Company and a N.C.O. of the Guard will report to Battn.H.Q. for orders.  
 (iii) The band have been allotted as billet guards and will take their allotted posts within half an hour of the "alarm."
4. No officer, N.C.O. or man will proceed more than 800 yards from his billet without authority - in the case of N.C.O's and men, a written pass from Battn.H.Q.
5. Lieut.A.R.Sheath, M.C. is detailed for liaison duties. He will reconnoitre the Support (17th.) Battalion area to-morrow. In the event of a move he will report to Battalion H.Q. for instructions.
- B. In the event of the enemy shelling any billet, all equipment and rifles will be removed by the owners before the billet is vacated.
- C. All men will be warned before Noon 28th.inst. for duty in the front line. The function of the Battalion in its present disposition will be clearly explained and the necessity emphasised for all ranks to be in instant readiness for action. They will on no account be allowed to think that because they are at present in billets there is no immediate need for readiness.

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

Distribution.

"A" Company  
 "B" Company  
 "C" Company  
 "D" Company  
 Sig.Officer (for H.Q.details)  
 War Diary (2)



## EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

(S E C R E T.)

Battalion Headquarters,  
26th April, 1918.INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE. No. 1.  
DISPOSITIONS OF TROOPS.

appx. 23/A/18.

1. The Div. Sector is divided into 3 Bde. Sub-Sectors each held by one Infantry Brigade.

The troops in this Bde. Sub-sector will be disposed as follows,-

"A" and "B" Battalions in the line: at least one company in each Battalion to be <sup>held</sup> ready for immediate counter-attack.

"C" Battalion in Bde. reserve. Four platoons finding a Nucleus Garrison for the LAVIEVILLE - MILLENCOURT system, one each in the vicinity of V.13 b.3.5., V.24.d.9.5., V.24.d.6.8., and V.24.b.9.7. The remainder of the Battalion held ready for immediate counter-attack.

"D" Battalion in Div. reserve in and behind the BRESLE - HENENCOURT system; two platoons finding a nucleus garrison for this system, the remainder of the Battalion ready for deliberate counter-attack on orders from D.H.Q. In this Bde. sector there will be no trench system, at present, for "D" Battn. to occupy. The whole battalion will therefore be in readiness for counter-attack.

2. ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK. The main principle to be borne in mind is that we must maintain our hold on all our positions.

Should the enemy succeed in effecting a lodgment in any portion of our front line, an immediate counter-attack will be undertaken by Battalion or Brigade reserves with the object of driving him out. Plans for such counter-attack will be thought out beforehand and made known to all reserves.

Should the immediate counter-attacks fail to eject the enemy, a deliberate counter-attack with artillery preparation will be carried out under orders from D.H.Q.

3. ACTION OF 5th A. I. BDE. PORTION OF DIV. RESERVES.

(a) "D" Battalion will be prepared to reinforce or counter-attack in any portion of the forward Div. area.

Southern Boundary. E. and W. line through D.19.Central to E.19.Cent.  
Northern Boundary. E. and W. line through V.13.c.0.0. to W.15.d.6.0.

(b) 5th Aust. Nucleus Battn. will assemble in position to be selected by Battalion Commander near present billets and will send a mounted orderly to report to D.H.Q. It will be prepared to occupy any system of the Second Zone defences on Left Bde. Sub-sector.

(c) Necessary reconnaissances will be carried out forthwith.

Forwarded for information and necessary action.

*Le Robson*

Lieut.

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

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

*Saw*



## AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

F 183

Received from (Name) C. O. (Unit) 18<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F.

for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of UNIT SELF :—

No.	Article.
1092	German Double Loop-hole Plate.

I. Q. 1st ANZAC.

cs.—10/17.—7051.

E. M. Burnard P. to.  
1/c Collecting Depôt, Australian War Museum.

## AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

F 182

**Received** from (Name) Cpl. L. V. Machinich (Unit) 10 1st 9.2.11

for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of  $\frac{\text{UNIT}}{\text{SELF}}$  :—

No.	Article.	No.	Article.
		1091	Piece of Lewis M. Gun which was hit by a piece of Bomb from Enemy Aeroplane

H.Q. 1st ANZAC,

—10/17.—7051.

E. Burnett. Pl.  
I/c Collecting Depôt, Australian War Museums.



87

APPENDIX 24/A/18.

6

24/A/18

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

F 195

Received from (Name) 18<sup>th</sup> Batt. A.I.F. (Unit)

for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of UNIT SELF:-

No.	Article.	No.	Article.
		1158	German Periscope

H.Q. 1st ANZAC, 1.4.18 191

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

20 Bks.—10/17.—7051.

24/A/18

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

F 180

Received from (Name) Lt. Col. Murphy (Unit) 18<sup>th</sup> Batt. A.I.F.

for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of UNIT SELF:-

No.	Article.	No.	Article.
		1089	Piece of German 11 inch H.E. shell from the Church at Nieppe

H.Q. 1st ANZAC, 1/4/18 191

E. M. Burnard Pte I/c Collecting Depot, Australian War Museums.

20 Bks.—10/17.—7051.



25/11/18

Received  
from 18th

2 person  
107 RIR  
brought by  
provisional

13 person  
104<sup>th</sup> 107 RIR  
brought by  
Eccles

Collier's Cafe  
all  
Mellum

15.4.18



+ 6 OR  
101<sup>st</sup> AIR

APPENDIX 25/1/18



26/A/18.

Salvage returned by 18<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> during  
April 1918

782	18 P <sup>th</sup>	Shell Cases	@ 6/-	£ 312	10
143	4 <sup>th</sup>	"	6/-	42	10
300	"	June Jins	3/-	3	10
24	"	Rifles S. I. M. E.	80/-	96	
10	"	Shell Carriers (Pack Horse)	10/-	5	
5	Days	Equipment	60/-	24	
5	"	S. A. A.	40/-	10	
1	"	sell Copper & Brass metal	1/6	4	4
7	"	Motor Lorry Tyres 2 Cwt	150/-	15	
23	Cwt	Woolens	60/-	69	
23	"	Great Coats	5/-	5	10
80	"	Boots	1/-	4	
32	"	Horse Rugs serviceable	5/-	8	
16	"	Blankets	2/6	2	
22	"	S. S. Vests	5/-	5	10
213	"	Web Packs	4/-	42	12
4	"	Waterproof Sheets	10/-	2	
5	"	F. S. Boots serviceable	10/-	2	10
22	"	Cardigan jackets	5/-	5	10
				£ 658	10
additional list amounting to				27	10
				£ 686	0



27/A/18

CLAIM FOR CAPTURED MACHINE GUNS, TRENCH MORTARS and STORES.  
(Other than Guns, Howitzers and Carriages)

.....Corps No.....

.....Army No.....

Description of stores.	Registered No. (if any)	Markings on stores (if any)	By whom claimed.	Particulars of despatch to Base			Remarks.	Reference of return first reporting capture.
				Railhead.	Date.	Truck No.		
German Machine: Gun (Heavy)	9074		18th.	VIGNACOURT.	25/4/18	G.X. 6445		Return report- ing capture forwarded to 5th.A.I.Bde. 19/4/18.
German Machine gun (Light)	3695		Battalion:	"	"	"		
			---					
-do-	8821		Australian Imperial: Force.	"	"	"		

Headquarters .....Corps.

Date.....

Headquarters, Fourth Army,

Date.....

Forwarded and recommended.

.....  
Commanding .....Corps.

To:-  
D.O.S., G.H.Q.

Forwarded and recommended.

Date.....

.....  
Commanding Fourth Army.

27/4/18  
C. J. Murphy  
J. J. J.

appx. 27/4/18.



18th Bn 28/A/18  
 Quarter Masters Report for Month  
 of APRIL 1918

2nd April Transport & Kitchens moved by road from KEMMEL to THIEUSHOUE. Rations were delivered to latter place by ASC Supply Wagons & to Coys by 12th Line Transport. Supply Wagons moved by train with unit & rations were delivered at ALLENVILLE for 5th. Transport & Ordnance moved on 4th to DROURS & the same evening to BLANCY TRONVILLE. Rations were taken forward to Support line and following night to dumps near VILLERS BRETONNEUX. 2 Kitchens taking hot food forward & returning to Transport lines after delivery to ration parties.

6th 2 Kitchens remained at VILLERS BRETONNEUX to make hot food.

7th All Kitchens moved to Bn at BOIS DE GENTELLES and on 8th to GENTELLES. Rations being delivered to Coys by Transport.

10th Transport & Store moved to BOVES

11th ASC Supply Dumps moved to BOVES & continued delivering by 2nd line transport

12th Kitchen returned to Transport lines on Bn moving forward.

13th Kitchens & rations were sent to Coy Dumps & Kitchens returned to Transport after delivering hot food.

14th Kitchen for A & B Coy & Hd Qrs to line Hot food & tea packed in Stream was sent to C & D Coys. Kitchens reporting back as before.

15th Kitchens moved to near GENTELLES when Bn was relieved & remained with Coys. Comforts consisting of Cocoa milk, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Biscuits & Socks were received from Comfort Fund & distributed.

19th Transport & Store moved from BOVES to MONTIGNY. Rations being drawn from BEAUCOURT.

20th Transport & Store moved to BEHENCOURT & delivered rations to Bn 2 Coys & 1st & 2nd at BAIZZEUX & 2 Coys in Support lines. Kitchens remained with Coys.

23rd Transport & Store moved to WARLOY rations were delivered as from 20th and

24th Bn moved to WARLOY & rations were delivered to Coys at Billots.

Ordnance: Lewis Guns were drawn completing to 20 & ANTI AIRCRAFT to 4. Refilling points were at BOVES & BEAUCOURT. <sup>New Pattern Grenade Corps were issued (22)</sup>

Bootmakers & Sailors were kept very busy when Bn was out of line. Boots required much repairing after wet period in line 100 new pairs being issued after relief at GENTELLES.

Armoury got overhauled Lewis Guns & Revolvers



29/A/18.  
 Health Notes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>y</sup>  
 from 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Early in the month (3<sup>rd</sup>) the men suffered considerably from the condition brought about by cold wet on their feet. At the end of the first 24 hours in the line many showed signs of incipient trench feet & the number affected increased greatly during the following 24 hours. No men however were evacuated the more severe of the cases being sent back to the transport lines for a spell of treatment & shortly regained the effective strength.

At the end of the first spell in the line this month the men showed signs of physical exhaustion from wet cold want of sleep. The latter & nerve strain had a marked effect on morale but after a few days rest in bivouacs in fine sunny weather there was great improvement & the men soon became very fit again.

During the next spell in the line the weather was dry so there were no cases of bad feet. One company was slightly affected by mustard gas but it was of no import the cases being simply those of mild conjunctivitis & laryngitis.

There have been a few cases of venereal disease contracted in villages passed through on first arrival on the Somme district from the north.

Diarrhoea has been practically unknown during the month.



29/A/18.

The general health, hygiene & sanitary conditions of the troops has been very good the only disease which is causing any trouble being that of slight scabies which is being treated within in the battalion part of the treatment being bathing & disinfection of blankets.

30.4.18.

M. Templeman Capt  
R.M. 18<sup>th</sup> Batt<sup>le</sup>



30/11/18.

30/11/18

EIGHTEENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

EFFECTIVE STRENGTH as at <u>1st. April 1918.</u>	Off. O.R. 42. 955.	Off. O.R. 42. 955.
<u>Arrivals</u> for Month of April.	7. 68. 49.1023.	
<u>Departures</u> for Month of April	8. 231. 41. 792.	
EFFECTIVE STRENGTH as at <u>1st. May 1918.</u>		41. 792.

18th. Battalion H.Q.  
"In the Field"  
1/5/18.



30/A/18

8/12

## ARRIVALS.

## DEPARTURES

## ARRIVALS.

## DEPARTURES.

from		Reinf.	Hosp.	Detail.	Supy.	TOTAL:	K.I.A.	Wounded.	D.O.W.	Gassed	Sick.	Inj.	Missing.	S.O.S.	TOTAL.
Date.		Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.
April, 1st.		1.		1.		2.					1.	1.		1.	4.
" 2nd.		1.		1.		2.		3.			2.				5.
" 3rd.						-:									-
" 4th.			1.			1:					1.	1.			2.
" 5th.						-:					1.	1.			2.
" 6th.			1.			1:	1.	3.			4.				8.
" 7th.				7.		7:		13.	1.		6.	3.			23.
" 8th.						-:		7.							7.
" 9th.			1.			1:	1.	4.	25.	2.	9.				40.
" 10th.						-:					4.				4.
" 11th.	1.	1.		1.		3:		1.			1.				2.
" 12th.		4.				4:		3.			2.		1.		6.
" 13th.		2.				2:		2.			1.				3.
" 14th.						-:	1.	1.		3.	3.	1.	1.		10.
" 15th.						-:	1.	10.	3.	41.	1.	2.	30.	5.	84.
" 16th.			3.			3:				1.	2.				3.
" 17th.			1.			1:					1.				1.
" 18th.				1.		1:				1.	1.				2.
" 19th.	1.	1.		18.		1.	19:								-
" 20th.						-:					2.				2.
" 21st.						-:					2.			1.	3.
" 22nd.						-:						1.			1.
" 23rd.						-:					1.			2.	3.
" 24th.						-:					2.			1.	2.
" 25th.						-:					3.				3.
" 26th.	1.	2.	1.	17	3.	4.	20:				2.				2.
" 27th.	1.			1.		2.	-:				1.			1.	2.
" 28th.			1.			1:		4.			1.				5.
" 29th.						-:		1.							1.
" 30th.						-:					1.				1.
		3.5.	17.	45.	4.	1.	7.	68.	2.	16.	3.	104.	1.	6.	5.
											54.	8.	31.	2.	7.
															8.
															231.

APPENDIX

30/A/18.