

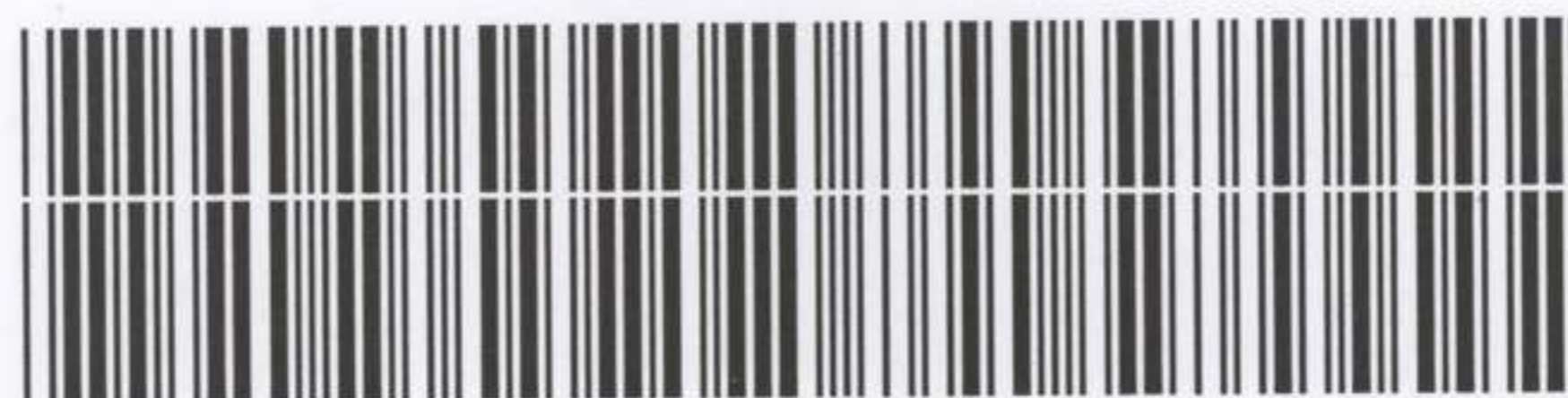
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/57/14

**Title:** 40th Infantry Battalion

May 1917



AWM4-23/57/14

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
26/4/17	A' TIERES	Relieved H 3 BN as BN in	
		W/way Support (B BN) in	
		PLOGSTREET WOOD.	
30/4/17	P STREET	Heavy enemy bombardment and acid on 39 <sup>th</sup> BN T.G. Teams H 0 BN also did work. Lt Col LAWLER + NO 314 EVANS. H. mention.	
5/5/17	}	}	
6/5/17	}	} Enemy bombarded rear positions and dugouts, also wounding parties -	
		Pvt. CASBOURNE killed.	
6/5/17		Relieved 39 <sup>th</sup> BN as A BN in	
		front line positions. A	

D.398/9.14.—C.11056.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		A' Bn in PLOEGSTEERT-ST.	
		YVES Section	
7 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> May	PLOEGSTEERT	garrisoning front line; enemy activity active during whole period, situation otherwise normal.	
14-15 May	"	Relieved 38 <sup>th</sup> Bn at OOSTHOVE FM-becoming D' Battalion.	
15 to 31 May	}	at OOSTHOVE FM providing working parties in preparation for Magnus Opus.	

A

D.398/9.14.-C.11056.

A.C.C.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade,  
15th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -

20 men per Battalion will be detailed from  
the Surplus to Establishment for extra Stretcher Bearers during Offensive  
Operations.

These should be detailed at once for training  
under the Medical Officers of Battalions.

SC/565/34.

*Handwritten:*  
17/5/17

*Handwritten signature:* Geo. H. Crocker  
Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

For construction as S.B. - D.C.

944. Taylor a/w  
903 Patman J  
5782 Viney C.T.  
2638 Reaky TP  
5794 Wootton G.C.

J. Wootton  
C.P.

P.D.G.

18.5.07

To Adj

40th Bn

The following are names  
of men detailed as Reserve  
Stretchers Bearers.

736 Stacey T. A.

2599 Kelly A. J.

560 Howell C. B.

2176 Sullivan C. J.

5744 Mason J. S.

Recd in Melbourne R

for C B

C bar

19-5-17

12  
6  
Adpt. 40th.

H/w names of 5 men for  
S.B's.

No. 1863 He Hecherington  
" 2104 " Jacobs W.G.  
" 2568 " Fisher Z.B.D.  
" 2119 " Manks E.  
" 2167 " Beble A.

Ceas. W. P. Capt  
o/c. "B" Co.

19/5/17

2  
J.J.C.

7  
Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
20th May 1917.

C.Os Units.

The following copy of 2nd Army memo I.G.173 of 18th instant is forwarded for your information. Please record any such low reconnaissances mentioned therein in your Intelligence Summary.

"With reference to the recent cases in this Army where enemy aeroplanes fly over our trenches in the early morning they are doubtless carrying out the recent policy laid down by the German Command as a step to be taken when an attack is considered probable. The object is to discover if and when our trenches are full of troops so that annihilating fire may be directed to them.

"In consequence of this, it is important to know what areas these low reconnaissances are now taking place so as to ascertain the enemy's appreciation of our operations, and to also note any extension of these areas which may occur from time to time.

"On some occasions in the recent fighting the enemy has made use of captured British machines for this purpose, even in one instance calling for flares as for a contact patrol."

BM/443/49

JJC  
Cof Comm

10<sup>th</sup>

10th AUST. INF. BRIGADE

Geo Lambert  
Captain  
A/Brigade Major

30/5/17



J.J.C.

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade  
20th May 1917.

C.Os Battns.

The following copy of memo from 3rd Australian Division is forwarded for your information and necessary action.

"From the notes of Lieut-Colonel BRAKE BROCKMAN, 16th Battn, 4th Aus. Inf. Bde., it appears that men often forget to construct a proper Bombing Stop in a captured trench; the result being that they cannot compete on equal terms with the Bosch. The Bosch generally has the upper hand as regards the number of bombs available, and he further strengthens his position by having a machine gun ready to fire along the trench in case any men get out with a view to rushing forward. To stop this it is well to build a sandbag block in the trench itself, with one or two Lewis Guns firing through it; three feet behind this block to build 2 sandbag traverses, and from any material available to put on overhead cover which will prevent exploding bombs from damaging the occupants. The distance between the sandbag block and the traverses behind need only be 3 feet, so that our bombers can easily throw over the whole contrivance. Having Lewis guns in the block, if the trench is fairly straight, keeps the enemy at a distance. In addition, a Lewis Gun should be available further back to fire down either side of the trench. The drawing below represents the suggestion. Men who have lost trenches through not doing as suggested, have often stated subsequently that they forgot they had any sandbags with them."

BM/917/547

*J.C. Coomes*

*Jan Hamilton*

Captain  
A/Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

*3099/17*

J.J.C.

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
20th May 1917.

C.Os Units.  
Signalling Officer.

MAGNUM OPUS

The following copy of 2nd ANZAC letter No. S.G.278 of 18/5/17 is forwarded for your information and necessary action.-

"Messages sent by the Power Buzzer will be sent in code before Zero Hour. After Zero Hour messages may be sent by Power Buzzer either in clear or in code at the discretion of the officer sending the message"

*Ja. Mandel*  
Captain  
A/Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

BM/941/

*23*  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

~~*[Handwritten signature]*~~  
*Coy Commr*

112

J.J.C.

SECRET

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
20th May 1917.

10

C.Os Units.

The following copy of Divisional Letter is forwarded for your information and necessary action.-

"1. The identification of enemy troops opposite is becoming increasingly important, and at present the reporting from lower Units of identifications secured is not satisfactory.

"2. The Divisional Intelligence Officer is responsible in the Division for this work, and is in all cases at disposal for it, but a certain amount of this work necessarily falls upon Intelligence Officers of lower formations. This should be impressed upon Battalion Intelligence Officers.

"3. Where an enemy body is secured alive or dead the means of identification are at the hand of the first Officer who sees the body, or before whom the live prisoner is brought. These means of identification are -(1) Identity disc, (2) Shoulder straps and other badges, (3) papers on the person. The best identification is the IDENTITY DISC carried on the man's body for that very purpose. The German identity disc is perforated across the centre to allow of the breaking off of the lower half of the disc. Each half of the disc has identically the same information on it. The top part should not be normally removed from the man's body, alive or dead.

"4. It should be strictly impressed on all ranks that weapons, badges, buttons, papers &c., found on the prisoner are not the property of the Captors as "Souvenirs", but must be sent in to Divisional ~~Intelligence~~ Intelligence by the earliest possible means.

"5. The prisoners or identification relics, papers, &c., will be sent back to Brigade with all possible despatch.

"6. Where units send back prisoners under escort, or identification relics, to Brigade, the times at which these are despatched should in all cases be stated."

*Jan Maudslayi*

Captain  
A/Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

BH/473/48

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Cor [unclear]*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
30/5/17

112

Headquarters  
40th. Battalion. A.I.F.  
21st. May 1917.

10th. Infantry Brigade,

Reference your B.C./917/545 of 20/5/17, the  
following particulars are submitted :-

(a) Names of 20 Officers to go into the Attack.-

Headquarters;-

- Lieut.-Col. J.E.C. Lord - Commanding Officer.
- Lieut. F.C. Green - Adjutant.
- „ C.H. Cane - Bombing Officer.
- „ B.J. Jackson - Signalling Officer.

"A" Company.

- Capt. J.D.W. Chisholm -
- Lieut. L.W. Barnett.
- „ N.R.T. Meagher.
- „ C.W. Marshall.

"B" Company.

- Capt. C. McVilly.
- Lieut. W.L. Garrard.
- „ R.H. Smith.
- 2/Lieut. R.C. Walters.

"C" Company.

- Lieut. C. Baldwin.
- „ T.T. Hoskins.
- „ H.J. Dell.
- „ W.T. Crosby.

"D" Company.

- Capt. L.F. Giblin.
- Lieut. A.A.W. Downie.
- „ W.A. Moon.
- „ R.J.D. Loane.

TOTAL.- 20 OFFICERS.

*By Bde order the 2nd comd  
of the 40th Bn. went over to the C.O.  
ade. capt  
1.0*

(b). Names and location of all Officers on the strength in excess of "a".

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location.</u>
Major. J.P. Clark	With the Unit.
„ L.H. Payne.	School at Aldershot.
Capt. W.C.G. Ruddock	On Leave.
„ H.J. Dumaresq.	On Leave.
„ J.H. Gard	With 57th. Division B.E.F.
Lieut. C.W. Rock	O/C Musketry School.
„ S.H. Smith	Brigade Gas Officer
„ R.E.D. Groom	With the Unit.
„ R. Penny.	Lewis Gun Officer (With the Unit).
„ W. Mikkelson	Hospital-Sick.
„ J.D. Oliver	Light Trench Mortar Battery.
„ S.I. Suter	With the Unit.
„ H.L. Foster	„ „ „
„ E. Boyes.	„ „ „
„ H. Mills.	„ „ „
„ J.J. Gatenby.	In Hospital-Wounded.
„ M.H.O. Whitaker	„ „ - „

NOTE:- This does not include R.M.O., T.O., or Q.M.

*cf 20/5/17*

(c). Numbers of N.C.O's and men (show separately) on your strength in excess of the number to go into the attack, showing present location if NOT with unit.-

<u>To remain behind;</u>	<u>N.C.O's</u>	<u>Men</u>
At present with Unit	12.	86.
At Schools.	5.	5.
<u>Total.</u>	<u>17.</u>	<u>91.</u>

-2-

Detached list (not going into  
attack with Unit).-

	<u>N.C.O's</u>	<u>Men.</u>
School Instruction	2.	-
Army Purchase Board	-	5.
L.T.M. Battery	-	3.
A.S.C.	-	5.
Div. Sig. Coy.	-	1.
10th. Machine Gun Coy.	-	11.
Brigade Headquarters	-	2.

Total

2.

27.

Major.

for C.O. 40th. Battalion. A.I.F.

40th  
Kms

TENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters,  
23rd May 1917.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNUM OPUS No.1

REFERENCE MAPS.- Sheet 28 S.W. and Sheet 36 N.W.

A. BILLETING

1. Billeting prior to Zero day is shown on Map "A", which may be seen at Brigade Headquarters by representatives of units.  
Prior to Zero day Brigade Headquarters will be.- BRUNE GAYE (B.10.a.4.4.)
2. Units will submit as early as possible to Brigade Headquarters details of billeting in their groups.
3. A "P.B." man will be placed in each Camp by the Area Officer as a Barrack Warden. He will act as a guide to in-coming units.

B. TRANSPORT LINES

1. Transport of the Brigade will be collected in the area shown on Map "B", a copy of which can be inspected by representatives of units, at Bde H.Q.

Note:- Only such transport as is required for work will be permitted to leave these standings during operations.

C. SUPPLIES

1. SUPPLY RAILHEAD. STEENWERCK.
2. REFILLING POINT Sheet 36 N.W., B.15.d.5.3.

The Divisional Train will arrange to have the Supply Re-filling Point marked, as follows:-

Div: Re-filling Point Supplies
-----------------------------------

and spaces allotted to Brigade Groups labelled

.....Brigade Group
--------------------

3. METHOD OF SUPPLY. Supplies will be drawn from Railhead by the Divisional Train transport and dumped at the Re-filling Point.

Supplies, with the exception of those for Artillery, will be taken over by Units at the Re-filling Point, and conveyed by 1st line transport to Train bases of SEAFORTH LINE, Sheet 28 S.W.U.19.b.3.4. and PROWSE-BOYD LINE, Sheet 28 S.W.U.19.Central.

Thence by Trench Tramways mule drawn to train heads and man carried to Units.

Artillery supplies will be delivered to the point on road nearest to each Battery position by Divisional Train Transport.

"C" SUPPLIES

- 4. ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF SUPPLY. In the event of the road from PLOEGSTEERT to HYDE PARK CORNER being impassable for wheeled traffic, supplies will be taken by Divisional Train Transport to a re-filling point on the road B.12.b.0.9. to B.12.b.4.5. thence by pack animal to tram bases. Organisation of pack transport is dealt with separately.
- 5. SUPPLY CIRCUITS. for Horse Transport are shown in Appendix (1).
- 6. (1) The following rations will be held in the Divisional Area.
  - (a) Iron rations on the man
  - (b) Current day's rations.
  - (c) 8,200 preserved and iron rations at present held on the Divisional front.
  - (d) Two day's preserved meat and biscuit per Division at 12,000 per Division per day.
  - (e) 500 tins solidified alcohol to be drawn from Corps Troops Supply Column.
- (2) Those under (d) and (e) will not be drawn until about 10 days before ZERO.
- (3) The object of permitting these rations to be dumped is to obviate the necessity of sending up rations during the bombardment, when enemy may put down a barrage.

7. DISTRIBUTION OF RATIONS IN DUMPS. Rations will be dumped as follows:-

5 days supply for troops in area forward of PLOEGSTEERT.

5 days supply at battery positions.-

<u>Subsidiary Line</u>	
1 Battalion	4,500
<u>Catacombs</u>	
1 Battalion	4,500
M.G. Positions	1,600
Medical Posts	750
Various Dumps	750
<u>Artillery</u>	
Battery Positions	7,500
Heavy and Medium Trench Mortar Batteries	750
	20,350

MEDICAL  
ARRANGE-  
MENTS1. LOCATIONS(c) Divisional Collecting Stations for walking cases.

(1) Touquet Berthe	U.26.a.15.35
(2) Hyde Park Corner	U.19.b.5.9.

(d) Corps Main Dressing Station

Pont d' Achelles.	B.8.b.3.5.
-------------------	------------

(e) Divisional Rest Station

L'Estrade	A.24.c.8.6.
-----------	-------------

2. EVACUATION OF WOUNDED:

BATTALIONS are responsible for clearing the casualties back to the Regimental Aid Posts. Field Ambulance stretcher-bearers are not to be used for this work.

FIELD AMBULANCES are responsible for the evacuation of wounded from R.A.P.'s to the rear.

3. CLEARANCE OF CASES:

All stretcher cases will be evacuated to Charing Cross A.D.S.

Walking Cases from Dead Horse Corner and Prowse Point R.A.P.'s to Touquet Berthe Collecting Post, and those from Annscroft Avenue and The Only Way R.A.P.'s to Hyde Park Corner Collecting Post.

Exact paths to be followed will be indicated by A.D.M.S. in Divisional Orders to Medical Officers.

4. GENERAL CLEARANCE OF ADVANCED DRESSING STATIONS AND COLLECTING STATIONS.

From Charing Cross Advanced Dressing Station.

Along PLOEGSTEERT-LE ROMARIN Road to PONT d'ACHELLES  
Hyde Park Corner and Touquet Berthe Collecting Stations

Cases will be carried by empty transport returning to Pont d'Achelles Main Dressing Station: and by Corps 60 c.m.line to de Seulle - to Main Dressing Station Pont d'Achelles.

5. PERSONNEL:

The A.D.M.S. will allot personnel as required. Extra stretcher bearers at the rate of 80 per Infantry Brigade will be placed under the orders of the A.D.M.S.

6. RAILWAY TRUCKS:

The O.C.Traffic will arrange to have as many trucks as possible at R.A.P.'s at Zero hour.

7. SIGN-BOARDS

A.D.M.S. will arrange with the C.R.E. for Direction Posts to various Medical Posts.



**TRENCH TRAMWAYS**

1. Maintenance. The maintenance of Trench Tramways will be carried out by the Divisional Tramways Officer, Lieut. J. R. LINDON, 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion.
2. Traffic. Traffic on Trench Tramways will be under the control of the C.O. Divisional Train, who will appoint:-
  - (a) an O.C. Traffic, who will be responsible for the allotment of trucks, and the working of Traffic Time-Table.
  - (b) an Officer on each of the PROWSE-BOYD and SEAFORTH Lines.

Names of Officers will be submitted to Divisional Headquarters forthwith.

3. Officers responsible for stores will apply to O.C. Traffic for allotment of trucks as required.
4. Trucks will be mule drawn. Mules and personnel to lead them will be supplied by:-
 

9th Brigade	for	PROWSE-BOYD LINE.
10th Brigade	for	SEAFORTH LINE.

and be under the control of O.C. Traffic.

5. Order of precedence for stores.
  - (1) Ammunition
  - (2) R.E. Stores.
  - (3) Supplies.
6. Tramways will be run on two distinct routes.
  - (1) SEAFORTH LINE and back to CANPAC
  - (2) PROWSE-BOYD LINE and back to CANPAC.

Returning trucks should either carry wounded or be loaded with salvage.

7. The Officer of a Dump, or of a Unit for whom stores are being conveyed will be responsible for the proper labelling of stores to ensure that they reach their correct destination.

The O.C. Traffic is responsible for delivery of stores at their destination.

**MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

1. LOCATIONS

(a) Regimental Aid Posts.

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| (1). Rifle House       | U.20.d.9.8.  |
| (2). Dead Horse Corner | U.21.a.2.8.  |
| (3). Prowse Point      | U.14.d.85.70 |
| (4). Anscroft Avenue   | U.14.d.20.95 |
| (5). The Only Way      | U.14.a.65.85 |

(b) Advanced Dressing Station (for stretcher cases)

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| (1). Charing Cross | U.19.d.1.5. |
|--------------------|-------------|

E. MEDICAL  
ARRANGE-  
MENTS8. HOT FOOD AND DRINKS

A hot food and drink dug-out will be established at each of the following posts.

PROWSE POINT R.A.P.    TOUQUET BERTHE Collecting Post  
ANNSCROFT AVENUE R.A.P.    HYDE PARK CORNER    "    "  
RIFLE HOUSE R.A.P.

The personnel will be supplied by the Divisional Canteens and will act under the orders of the A.D.M.S. Supplies will be furnished by the Div. Canteen, Y.M.C.A. and Australian Comforts Fund.

F. CONCENTRA-  
TION CAMP.

9. Reinforcements and all surplus personnel not taken into the fight, or employed in the forward area, will be quartered at the Corps Concentration Camp, which will be situated at MORBECQUE, two miles from HAZEBROUCK, and will be under the Administration of Colonel E. A. KETTLEWELL:

DIVISIONAL SECTION OF CONCENTRATION CAMP.-

Commandant    ...    ...    Colonel E. A. KETTLEWELL  
Adjutant and  
Quartermaster ..    ...    Major    W. P. BRADE

(a) Accommodation

(1) Officers: Officers must provide their own Mess Kit. No billets are available. All Officers will be accommodated in shelters, or in tents, - 5 to a Bell tent, or 2 to one shelter.

(2) Other Ranks: Tents or shelters. - 14 to a Bell tent, or 6 to one shelter.

(b) Medical Arrangements: The following medical personnel will be detailed by the A.D.M.S.-

1 Medical Officer  
1 Non-commissioned-Officer  
4 men.

(c) Water. The 11th Brigade will supply 2 Water-carts complete with teams and personnel.

(d) SUPPLY. Rations will be supplied by Second Army Troops Supply Column, by lorry.

(e) Discipline. Each Brigade will nominate a Commanding Officer for its own section of the Camp, which will include affiliated Units. He will have the powers of an O.C. Company.

(f) Provost Arrangements. Each Infantry Brigade will detail 4 of their Regimental Police, including an N.C.O., to act as a Provost Staff under the Orders of the Camp Adjutant.

(g) Marching In States. Marching In States will be submitted to the O.C. Camp by Units, a duplicate being furnished to the Officer i/c each Party.

(h) Surplus personnel proceeding to MORBECQUE will entrain at SPENWERCK.

F. CONCENTRATION CAMP

- (i) Reinforcements arriving from Base will detrain at HAZEBROUCK or EBLINGHEM, and will be met at the Station under arrangement to be made by the Commandant Corps School.

SURPLUS PERSONNEL TO BE EMPLOYED IN FORWARD AREA.

The following Infantry Personnel, surplus to establishment allowed under S.S. 135.XXX., will be retained for employment in the forward area :-

1. <u>MACHINE GUN COYS.</u>		
Extra carriers Brigade Machine Coys.		
3 Coys. each 3 N.C.Os and 32 men		105
207th Machine Gun Coy.		
1 N.C.O. and 8 men from 9th Inf. Bde		
1 N.C.O. " 8 " " 10th "		
1 N.C.O. " 16 " " 11th "		35
2. <u>FIELD COMPANIES.</u>		
100 other ranks for each Field Company		300
3. <u>EXTRA STRETCHER BEARERS</u>		
80 per Infantry Brigade		240
4. <u>BURIAL PARTIES</u>		
To be drawn from Surplus of 10th & 11th Bdes.		132
5. <u>TRAFFIC CONTROL.</u>		
Each Brigade 17 men		51
6. <u>PACK TRANSPORT</u>		
Personnel (extra) each Brigade 30 men		90
		<u>953</u>

G. PROCEDURE RE PRISONERS OF WAR DURING OPERATIONS.

1. PRISONERS OF WAR COLLECTING STATIONS

- 1. Touquet Berthe .. .. . U. 26. a. 2. 2.
- 2. Hyde Park Corner .. .. . U. 19. b. 0. 7.
- 3. Divisional Cage, Rabot. .. .. . B. 7. d. 9. 4.

A.P.M's Headquarters during operations -- Touquet Berthe. Telephone will be installed.

2. DISPOSAL:

Units are responsible for delivering prisoners to A.P.M's representative at collecting stations. Escorts for prisoners will be supplied by the Reserve Brigade on requisition from the A.P.M. Prisoners will be taken over regularly by A.P.M. of Corps at the Divisional Cage. Prisoners should be despatched with as little delay as possible.

3. ARMS AND EQUIPMENT.

Arms and equipment will be removed from prisoners as soon as possible after capture. All arms and equipment captured from the enemy are the property of the Government, and should be handed into the nearest Ordnance Depot for transmission to the Base.

4. DOCUMENTS

Prisoners should be given no opportunity to destroy or throw away documents in their possession at the time of capture. In the case of Officer prisoners, all their papers and correspondence will be placed in sandbags as soon as possible after capture. This bag will be sent to the Divisional Cage with the prisoner.

G. PROCEDURE  
RE PRISONERS  
OF WAR DURING  
OPERATIONS

4. DOCUMENTS

In the case of other ranks' prisoners, they will retain their personal effects which will be dealt with at the Divisional Cage.

Documents will be collected from dug-outs and dead, if possible, and will be placed in sandbags.

Labels indicating the approximate locality in which the documents were found will be attached. These sandbags will be forwarded to the Divisional Cage with the least possible delay.

5. WOUNDED PRISONERS OF WAR.

Wounded prisoners of war will be treated in every way similarly to our own wounded. All wounded will be searched at Field Ambulance and all papers, documents and maps forwarded to Divisional Cage as soon as possible.

6. IDENTITY DISCS.

Identity Discs will never be taken from the living. All identity discs taken from the dead will be dealt with in the same way as documents taken from the dead, (paragraph 4).

7. PERSONAL EFFECTS

Prisoners are allowed to retain their personal effects and decorations. No personal clothing or personal property will be removed from prisoners without orders from a Staff Officer or A.P.M.

8. INTERROGATION:

Any interrogation of or conversation with prisoners by Officers or other ranks not belonging to the Intelligence, is forbidden.

9. OFFICER PRISONERS.

Officer prisoners will be kept apart from the rank and file.

10. BATCHES OF PRISONERS.

The most convenient number to handle in one batch is 100 to 150. The escort should consist of about 15%. Such parties should, if possible, be in charge of an Officer. It has been found that the habit of utilising the services of a prisoner Officer or N.C.O., to give the necessary orders is a help towards mobility.

11. RECEIPTS.

Escorts should always take receipts for the numbers of prisoners, and documents, if any, handed over. The receipts should be in general terms, e.g. - "52 prisoners of war and three bags of documents".

12. REGISTER:

The Officer in charge of Divisional Cage will keep a register of the numbers, ranks and units of prisoners passing through his hands.

13. ROUTES:

Prisoners of war will proceed from collecting stations to Divisional Cage as follows :-

Hyde Park Corner to Touquet Berthe, thence by Oosthove Farm - Nicppe - Pont d'Abelles - to Rabot.

G. PROCEDURE 14. DEATH OF PRISONERS

RE PRISON-  
ERS OF WAR  
DURING  
OPERATIONS

In cases of death of German combatant prisoners of war through other than natural causes, a full report will be rendered to the Divisional Headquarters accompanied by such documentary evidence as may exist.

H. ENEMY GUNS

*Orders*

A great deal of difficulty was caused in recent operations by men taking away sights and small stores of captured guns as mementoes, the consequence being that when it was required to use these guns some of them could not be fired.

Prior to the advance C.Os of Units will issue instructions that no sights or small stores of any enemy guns which may be captured are to be interfered with or taken by troops.

Arrangements are being considered as to how captured guns will be manned.

I. BRIDGES.

The Artillery Bridges in Army R.E.Parks will only carry 18-pdr.guns and 4.5" Howitzers - but not heavier guns or howitzers.

Infantry Bridges in Army R.E.Parks will carry Infantry in single file only.

J. ENEMY RECONNAISSANCE BY AEROPLANES

The following extract from an enemy document captured by the French during their recent offensive is published for your information, and in order that where possible you will be prepared to take action to defeat this enemy procedure.-

"2. Trench Reconnaissance by Aeroplanes.

After an intense bombardment of several days, the enemy will probably only bring up his assault troops into the trenches on the night preceding the attack. It is very important to discover the exact moment when this takes place, in order to carry out an effective annihilating bombardment. Each day during the artillery preparation, even when the weather is unfavourable, each Corps must send out an aeroplane at daybreak. This aeroplane, flying at a low altitude, will be responsible for ascertaining whether troops are assembling in the enemy's trenches. The result of the reconnaissance will be communicated to the other Corps and a report sent direct to the Army. This procedure has proved of great service in other Armies."

*Major J. C. Connelly*

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

*J. C. Connelly*  
*23/5/17*

A P P E N D I X 1.

SUPPLY CIRCUITS HORSE TRANSPORT.

DIVISION	TRANSPORT LINES	RAILHEAD	OUT ROUTE TO RAILHEAD	RETURN ROUTE TO R. P.	REMARKS
"C" Area	B.15 B.23.27.28 29.	STEENWERCK	B.15.d.4.3.- B.21.c.0.9.- B.14.c.8.3.- B.19.a.2.1. A.18.d.1.3.  Steenwerck-Steenwerck Station  <u>OUR ROUTE TO TROOPS</u>  Transport Lines via B.23.a.8.4.-Chapelle Rompue-Mortelette Chapelle-Ploegsteert to tram bases	Steenwerck Station -B.1.Central- B.15.b.5.6.-R.P.   <u>RETURN ROUTE                      TO TRANSPORT                      LINES.</u> Ploegsteert Diversion T.30.d.9.4.- LE ROMARIN- B.10.d.9.6. NIEPPE to Transport Lines.	

666

J.J.00

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade  
24th May 1917.

C.Os Units.

NOTES ON AIRROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

42 B 988  
42 B 978  
42 B 987

Dugouts of occupied houses at.-

U.4.a.48.33  
U.4.c.68.98 )  
70.90 )  
72.86 ) UNDULATING TRENCH  
74.82 )  
76.76 )  
86.50 )  
U.4.b.13.42  
14.20  
U.4.d.60.72

Traffic Centres at

U.4.b.15.68  
U.5.a.38.53

New trench has been marked and begun from about U.4.d.00.22 to about U.4.d.50.68. Wire is also being erected on the S.E. side of this trench. Former scheme for running trench immediately to the South of this has evidently been abandoned. Traffic appears to be very heavy along MASSINES-WARNETON Road in this area especially the foot traffic off the road.

42 B 958

Dumps at - U.12.a.80.82 and U.12.b.40.45. The ruins at U.6.c.45.54 are apparently also used as a dump. These three dumps around which there is much traffic are probably used for the supply of material for working parties along the new trench which is being dug just to the West.

42 B 1007

Wire still remains to be cut on the South side of THE BEAK in U.8.b. SCHNITZEL FARM and UINA AVENUE have been fairly well knocked about; also the tramline. There does not appear to have been much damage done to UINA SWITCH, but several direct hits have been obtained on dugouts. LA DOUVE FARM have been knocked about, also the dump at the termination of the tramway. Two T.M. positions to the South East of the farm at about U.9.a.38.10 still appear to exist. GREY FARM has been considerably damaged, also the Northern portion of ULSTER RESERVE. The other part of ULSTER RESERVE however has not been much damaged. Machine Gun emplacement at U.9.d.70.45 still exists. ULRICA SUPPORT in U.9.c. appears to be still in good order, with several dugouts. Two T.M.'s at U.9.c. still show. AVENUE FARM has been much knocked about.

This photo shows enemy front line very well, and will be useful in connection with proposed minor operations. Enemy wire has been damaged, but there are still a number of patches. The middle portion of ULRICA SAP has been damaged.

42 B 1015

The Support Line between ASH AVENUE and ULTIMO AVENUE has been severely damaged. T.M. positions at U.15.b.14.85 and U.15.b.70.50 seen

42 B 1015

to have been knocked in, but T.M. at about U.15.b.30.40 still exists. ULTIMO AVENUE has been much knocked about in the vicinity of U.16.a.50.10. The Northern of the two ULTIMO AVENUES has been severely damaged - direct hits can be seen in trench. The large dugout - apparently concrete - at U.16.a.70.30 appears to have been damaged and uncovered. Iron bars or rails are visible. It will be noticed that a buried cable leads to this dugout from ULTIMO AVENUE. This suggests a Company Headquarters. Strong dugout appears at U.10.c.96.43, ASH AVENUE. Suspected dugout at U.10.c.90.74 appears to be a gun emplacement. A short tramline leads to it from the LA POTTERIE FARM line.

*Allyale*

Lieut.  
for G.O.C. 10th Australian Inf. Brigade.

EM/419/136

*JPB  
24/5/12*

*Allyale  
30/5/17*



E. CASUALTIES.

3.

A Court of Enquiry (cont'd)

The finding of the Court is as follows:-

- (1) That none of the evidence forthcoming tends to show that the person to whom it refers is now alive, or is a Prisoner of War in Germany.
- (2) That, in view of the lapse of time since the ----- operations, it is improbable that any Officers or other ranks other than those whose names have already appeared in official lists, will now be found to be prisoners of war in Germany.
- (3) That, where no evidence is forthcoming, the nature of the operations was such as to render it probable that the persons about whom nothing is known were killed in action.
- (4) That, although men might have been seen wounded within our own lines, the distances and the difficulties of getting back to a dressing station were so great, and the shell fire so heavy, that unless official notification of their evacuation has been received, it is extremely unlikely that those men ever reached a place of safety.
- (5) That the Officers and other ranks whose names appear on the list now following may be presumed to have been **KILLED IN ACTION** on the dates shown.

(Signed)----- (Rank) PRESIDENT  
 (Signed)----- " Member  
 (Signed)----- " Member

Date..... Place.....

Here follows list :-.....No. Rank. Name. Date of Casualty.

*McIntosh*

Major.  
 Brigade Major.  
 10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX "A"

A BRIGADE TROOP (12 Sections)

112

(Known as 9th, 10th, and 11th Brigade Troops).-

	Off	O.R.	Pack	Riding	Pack Saddles	Saddle Attachments	Remarks
Commandg Officer (Brigade Transport) Officer)	1	-	-	1	-	-	(a) Includes 18 spare drivers (b) Includes 18 spare animals
Group Officers; (Battalion Transport) Officers)	3	-	-	3	-	-	(c) 44 on charge of each Brigade, remainder supplied by Division.
N. C. O's. (Section Leaders)	-	12	-	-	-	-	(d) Supplied by Division.
Drivers.	-	90(a)	-	-	-	-	
Animals	-	-	162(b)	-	-	-	
Equipment	-	-	-	-	96 (c)	48 (d)	
	4	102	162	4	96	48	

The whole of above personnel and animals will be supplied from each Infantry  
Brigade (including Machine Gun Company) for its own Troop.

TOTAL FOR DIVISION

17.      422      650      17      384      192,

25

APPENDIX "B"

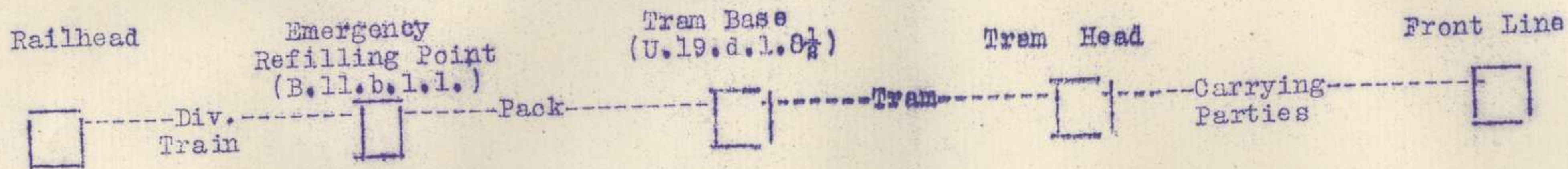
TRANSPORT OF RATIONS

NORMAL SYSTEM



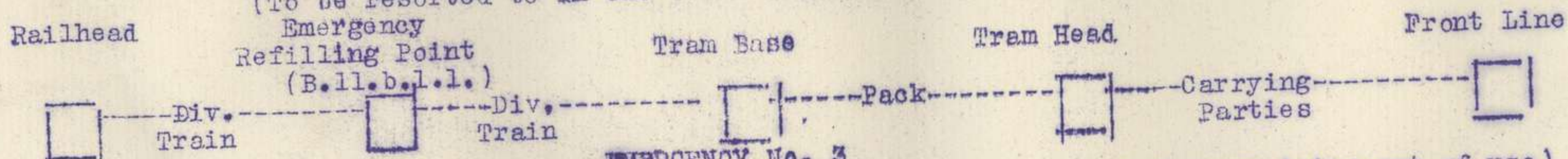
EMERGENCY No. 1

(To be resorted to in the event of the road to Tram Base being impassable)



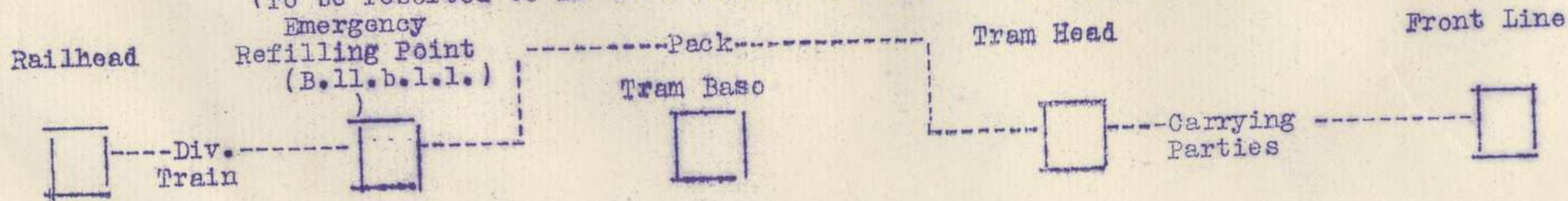
EMERGENCY No. 2

(To be resorted to in the event of Tramway only being out of use)



EMERGENCY No. 3

(To be resorted to in the event of both Road and Trench Tramway being out of use)



112

26

APPENDIX

RECORD OF BURIALS

112

Serial No. of Grave	No.	Rank	Name and Initial	Unit	Date of Death	Map Location of Grave	Any further information indicating Position of Grave.

22

*40th Battalion*S E C R E TTENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters.  
25th May 1917.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNUM OPUS No.2.REFERENCE MAPS:- Sheet 28 S.W. and Sheet 36 N.W.A. TRAFFIC CONTROL

1. Special care must be taken by all ranks to prevent a block on the road. On no account is double-banking to be allowed, i.e., one vehicle attempting to pass another one going in the same direction.
2. Whenever possible empty waggons will move off the road.
3. Horses going to water or exercise will proceed across country and will not use the roads. Crops will be avoided as far as possible.
4. The drivers of all transport using the roads must be in possession of a pass signed by the A.P.M.

B. POLICE DUTIES

1. The A.P.M.'s Headquarters will be at TOUQUET BERTHE, U.26.c.7.25
2. Battle Straggler Posts :-
 

TOUQUET BERTHE	U.26.c.7.25
CAMPAC	U.19.b.1.1.
MESSINES ROAD	U.13.d.0.7
3. The A.P.M. will arrange for the policing of:-
  - (a) PLOEGSTEERT WOOD in rear of the Subsidiary Line.
  - (b) Back Area.
4. Duties of Battle Straggler Posts are as follows:-
  - (a) Collect all stragglers (armed and (unarmed) seen moving to the rear through the line of posts. Stragglers will be re-armed with rifles and ammunition taken from the wounded, or from the nearest advanced dressing station. Stragglers will be re-formed under cover, or at the Divisional Collecting Station, and sent forward as circumstances permit.
  - (b) Every man on battle straggler post duty should know the position of the posts on his right and left, the nearest dressing station, field ambulance, and collecting stations for stragglers and for prisoners of war, and the nearest way to them. He should know where the A.P.M. is to be found.

ect 2.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR M.O.No.2

25/5/17

POLICE  
DUTIES.

- (c) All wounded men, and those who appear to be suffering from gas-poisoning, will be taken to the nearest advanced dressing station, or to the Divisional Collecting station, unless they can produce a printed medical tally, shewing the nature of the wound, or disability, in which case they are to be allowed to proceed.
- (d) Examine all individual N.C.Os and men passing to and from the trenches both by day and night, and ascertain their business. Sacks and bundles carried by men coming from the trenches are to be examined and if found to contain plunder the men are to be arrested, and either handcuffed or placed in close confinement. Men in possession of revolvers or field glasses which look like the property of officers are to be detained pending investigation.
- (e) Ascertain the names and Units of all Officers passing the post at night.
- (f) Prevent all civilians from passing the line of posts towards the front. Arrest all civilians seen coming from the direction of the front, and hand them over to the French Gendarmes. If their behaviour excites suspicion they are to be searched. All papers etc. found on them are to be tied into a packet and handed over to the Gendarmes or Military Police. No passes are to be accepted from civilians under any circumstances.
- (g) Arrest all civilians found wandering about in the vicinity of of the line of posts between 8 p.m. and 5 a. m.
- (h) Officers and men in French uniform are not to be allowed to pass the line unless in possession of a pass.
- (i) Control the traffic at the post, seeing that cross roads are kept clear for reinforcing troops, and that loaded ammunition carts or lorries, supply vehicles or ambulances are given a clear passage.
- The intervals between the posts are to be patrolled at uncertain times both by day and by night.
- The first stragglers that come in should be retained to assist battle posts, if it appears that large numbers of stragglers will have to be dealt with.

ORGANIZATION  
OF DIVISION-  
AL PACK TRANS-  
PORT.1. COMMAND.

Captain R.W. DEWSON, 3rd Australian Divisional Train will be in charge of all Pack Transport of the Division. He will be known as Divisional Pack Transport Officer, and will be established at R.E. DUMP, LES TROIS TILLEULS.

Pack Transport will be resorted to only when the use of vehicles becomes impossible. It will be formed from the resources of the present Transport Personnel and animals.

C. ORGANIZATION OF DIVISIONAL PACK TRANSPORT.

2. ORGANIZATION

Pack Transport will be organized into four (4) Troops:-

- (a) One for each Brigade Group - called a Brigade Troop.  
 (b) One for Divisional work - called the Divisional Troop.

Organization of Brigade Troop is shown in Appendix "A"

Each troop will consist of 12 Sections each in charge of a N.C.O. These 12 Sections will be divided into 3 Groups of 4 sections, each Group being in charge of a "Group" Officer.

ORGANIZATION OF ONE SECTION (Each Troop consists of 12 Sections)

	Off.	O.R.	Pack	Riding	Pack Saddles	Saddle Attachments.
N.C.O. (x) -		1	-	-	-	-
Drivers. -		6	-	-	-	-
Animals. -		-	12	-	-	-
Equipment. -		-	-	-	8	4.
	7	7	12	-	8	4.

(x) - Section Leader.

3. REQUISITIONS

Any requisition for transport of Ammunition, R.E. Stores, rations and water for any one Brigade Group, will be submitted to the Staff Captain, who will forward it to the Divisional Pack Transport Officer.

All requisitions must clearly state the nature of stores to be carried, and will NOT ask for a specific number of animals.

The following is a specimen of requisition to be submitted.

"Divisional Pack Transport Officer.-

Pack Transport required to convey 2,000 sandbags (approximate weight .....lbs) from R.E. dump at.....to (Map location) at (time) tonight. Guide will report to... for animals at (time)

Signature and Rank (Plainly written)

.....Unit.....Brigade Group  
 (State whether RIGHT or LEFT)

4. RESPONSIBILITY: The Unit for which stores are being carried will be responsible for :-

- (1). (a) Furnishing adequate loading party, guide and unloading party.  
 (b) The proper labelling of stores to ensure them reaching the party for whom intended.

C. ORGANIZATION OF DIVISIONAL PACK TRANSPORT

4. RESPONSIBILITY:

The guide should be a responsible N.C.O., who will see that the stores are handed over to the correct party. In the case of rations the Company Q.M.S., or his assistant, should act.

- (2) The Pack Transport Troop will be responsible (a) for the safe loading of stores. (b) that the stores reach their destination.

5. SALVAGE

Every animal returning from the front line should bring back salvaged stores. These will be collected as laid down in Salvage Scheme.

6. GENERAL:

The N.C.O.i/c each section will have a nominal roll of personnel of his section in his possession at all times: a copy of this will be held by O/c Brigade Troop.

On return of a section from front line the N.C.O.i/c will at once report to his Group Officer.

Every man proceeding with a convoy will carry his rifle slung, and 50 rounds of ammunition.

For system of transport of rations under various contingencies, see Chart - Appendix "A".

D. BURIAL OF THE DEAD

1. THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD INVOLVES :-

- (a) Burial of the dead of our own Forces, of our Allies, and of the enemy. (b) Collection and disposal of their effects. (c) Registration of graves.

2. A special Burial Party will be detailed from the surplus personnel of the 9th and 10th Brigades.

3. DUTIES OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF BURIAL PARTIES:

(a) To systematically search the area allotted to them for dead.

(b) To collect the dead as opportunities offer, in suitable localities, as little exposed to artillery fire as possible. The suitability of a site demands, among other things, on its being at least 100 metres distance from any groups of houses, whether standing or in ruins, and not near a well or water supply

(c) To collect identity discs and personal effects in ration or other suitable bags, label or mark them, and hand to the Headquarters of the Unit concerned, or to the Divisional Burial Officer. Green identity discs will be buried with the body.

(d) Bodies of Officers and Men of our own Forces, of our Allies, and of the enemy, will be collected separately and interred in separate trenches.

(e) To mark the graves in such a manner as to ensure identification.

Each group of graves will be marked with a metal disc on an iron standard.



D. BURIAL OF THE DEAD3. DUTIES OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF BURIAL PARTIES

(e)

The discs will bear the Divisional sign and be numbered serially from 1 upwards.

Where more than one row of bodies are interred in a trench, a separate serial number will be given to each row, and the ends of the trench distinctly marked.

(f)

To furnish a return of all burials of Officers and other ranks for transmission to Divisional Burial Officer.

(g)

Burials at different places must be given on separate Returns.

(h)

In addition to Map Reference, a full description of the place, its proximity to houses, roads, kilometre stones, cross-roads etc., must be given if possible.

(i)

Returns will be furnished on form "Record of Burials" as per Appendix "C".

4.

During the periods of heavy fighting, the disposal of the dead and marking of graves becomes a difficult problem. Burials have to be carried out at night or during a lull in the fighting, and it frequently happens that a Unit is withdrawn without being able to bury any of those killed in action, in which case the in-going Unit will undertake the work of burying the dead.

5.

These instructions refer only to offensive operations and burials carried out by burial parties, and are in no way intended to interfere with the instructions issued to Chaplains for the carrying out of Regimental Burials in ordinary Trench Warfare, and the regular procedure of rendering Burial Returns on A.F.W.3314.

6.

Lieutenant W. J. GORDON, 36th Battalion, A.I.F. is appointed Corps Burial Officer and will have his Office at Corps Headquarters.

7.

Lieutenant A. H. HYETT, 38th Battalion, is appointed Divisional Burial Officer and will have his Headquarters at CANPAC DUMP. He will be assisted by Chaplain the Rev. G. P. CUTTRISS, 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion. Arrangements will be made for the dumping of the necessary discs, blankets, stretchers, sand-bags, tools &c., at CANPAC DUMP.

E. CASUALTIES

1. Instructions re reporting casualties are contained in S.Q.100/8, of 7th April, issued by 3rd Aus. Div.

E. CASUALTIERS

2. Personnel reported Missing, or Wounded and Missing, during Offensive operations.

Units will be informed by Anzac Section, 3rd Echelon, of all negative information on hand, viz:-

- (a) Advice that the man does not appear on an official Prisoners of War List, that there is no record of his admission to Hospital subsequent to the date of his being reported missing, no record of a later payment, no record of any information at Administrative Headquarters.
- (b) of any statement which may have been received, and which may have a bearing on the case.

3.

A Court of Enquiry:

Courts of Enquiry will be held as directed by Divisional Headquarters.

It is essential that these Courts should be dealt with upon the same lines, and that uniform Findings should be made.

In order to assist in this the following sample copy of a Court of Enquiry is issued for guidance. -

Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry assembled at ----- on the ----- day of ----- 1917 by order of -----, Commanding ----- Battalion, A.I.F., for the purpose of :-

Enquiring into the circumstances and recording an opinion as to the fate of Officers and other ranks whose names appear on the attached list, and who are reported as "Missing in Action" during the period ----- to -----.

President.

Members.

The Court, having assembled, pursuant to order, proceed to take evidence in the following manner :-

All members of the battalion who took part in the operations in ----- and ----- were paraded, the names on the attached list were then read out, and the statements which now follow taken down by the Court.

The Court then proceeded to consider the circumstances of the operations in question.

On each occasion an attack was made on a strong enemy position, the attack was unsuccessful and it was necessary to fall back on the original line.

The sholl fire, on both occasions was exceedingly heavy, and in neither case was it possible for burial parties to go out and recover the bodies of the killed, and stretcher parties were only able to bring in a small proportion of the wounded.

The records of the battalion were then examined and it was found that ----- Officer and ----- other ranks who were originally reported as Missing were now officially "reported prisoners of War" in Germany.

The President of the Court stated that in ----- he had himself visited the scene of the two battles, and had been unable to find any remains of members of the ----- Battalion, and the Court, therefore, decided that it was useless to visit the battlefield.

A.C.C.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
25th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. M. Bty.

Re Identification of Prisoners.

Apart from special operations of our own, about which arrangements are made beforehand, the procedure in the event of capture of a prisoner or prisoners, wounded or unwounded, by patrols at night, from enemy raiding parties, or other means, will be :-

1. Battalions will report to Brigade Headquarters by telegram or telephone the following details in a preliminary message. -

- (a) Number of prisoners.
- (b) When captured.
- (c) Where captured.
- (d) Regiments to which prisoners belong, and whether NORMAL or NEW.
- (e) Wounded or unwounded.

The procedure will be the same in securing identification from dead bodies.

2. An example of this preliminary message is :-

"One prisoner captured 1 a.m. NO MAN'S LAND, U.15.b.  
"5 Bav. J.R. NORMAL, unwounded".

3. This message is required for despatch to Army. A subsequent message will be telegraphed by Battalion, giving fuller details of the operation and stating time of despatch of -

- (a) Prisoners to Brigade Headquarters, or hospital, accordingly as they are unwounded or wounded.
- (b) Papers and other effects, and lower half of identification disc to Brigade Headquarters.

The above will be the normal procedure with chance prisoners at night.

*J. W. Schuler*

Lieut.  
A/Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

SC/922/5.

10th Australian

*J.P.B.*  
*25/5/17*

SECRET

TENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

WORTHINGTON  
MORNINGTON

Brigade Headquarters,  
26th May 1917.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNUM OPUS No.3

REFERENCE :- 1/10,000 Map, BLOEGSTEERT Sheet.

1. Front of Attack and Tasks

The front of the 3rd Australian Division extends from ST. YVES up to LA PETITE DOUVE FARM exclusive. Boundary lines and consolidation lines ("Black" and "Green") are shown on the sunprint marked "A" issued to units.

The 10th Australian Infantry Brigade will be responsible for LA DOUVE RIVER throughout the operations including the period subsequent to the proposed withdrawal of its Right Battalion

The intention is to reach the green line of consolidation on the first day and to capture as many as possible of the enemy's guns.

2. Strong Points

SCHNITZEL FARM locality will be converted into a strong point.

Battalion Commanders of "G" and "H" Battalions will submit their proposals with regard to other suitable sites for strong points in the enemy's territory.

3. Allotment of Artillery

Artillery has been allotted to the Third Australian Division as follows:-

18 pdrs.	-	120
4.5" Hows		30
2" T.Ms.		24
Heavy T.Ms.		6

4. Clearing of dug-outs

It has been found that 'P' bombs burn dugouts and render them incapable of being used by us; that 'P.S' bombs (Vomiting) and 'S.K.' bombs (lachrymatory) have such a lingering effect that they also render the dugouts unsuitable for use. 'C.G' or lethal bombs render dugouts uninhabitable for 4 to 6 hours and the most recent reports point to the advisability of using only Mills Grenades in small dugouts or Stokes shells in larger ones, if it is desired to use the dugouts ourselves later.

5. Wire Cutting

Wire cutting is already in progress. Battn. Commanders will submit their proposals with regard to the removal of our own wire in order to allow our troops to issue. The clearing of obstacles between assembly and front line trenches must not be overlooked.

Battn Commanders will arrange that the progress of the wire cutting shall be witnessed by their representatives, and frequent examinations of the hostile wire will be carried out.

*Meagher*

P.O. for M.O. No. 3.

~~6. Liaison~~  
6. Liaison.

Details of Liaison Officers will be as follows:-

Liaison Officer with  
9th Aust. Inf. Brigade:- Lieut-Col. R. O. HENDERSON

Liaison Officer with  
New Zealand Bde. on our Left:- Major. E. K. KNIGHT.

C.Os of 37th and 38th Battalions will make arrangements to send a Liaison Officer to the New Zealand Battalions operating on their left.

C.O. of the 39th Battalion will arrange to send a Liaison Officer to the Battalion of the 9th Aust. Inf. Brigade operating on ~~its~~ right. (F) *Battn*

7. Maps.

The following maps will be carried by all Officers -  
1/5,000 showing enemy line.  
1/10,000 do.  
1/20,000 do.  
Sun print 1/10,000 or 1/20,000 specially prepared at D.H.Q. to show approach routes, if it is found the three maps issued by Corps do not include the area.

8. Trench Mortars and Vickers Guns.

"G" and "H" Battalions will each have at their disposal 2 Vickers Guns and 2 Stokes Mortars, and will make necessary arrangements for the carrying of at least 100 rounds per Stokes Mortar with the assaulting troops.

9. Use of Gas and Smoke.

If weather conditions are suitable, gas and smoke will be released from the defensive front to the South of our assaulting troops.

10. Arm bands and 135. destination patches.

Arm bands will be worn as laid down in S.S. Destination patches will be worn as follows:-

37th Battn - *1 1/2 Coys of 40th Battn* Nil.

38th Battn

10 platoons going to "Black Line" and UNGODLY TRENCH .....YELLOW

6 Platoons going to ULCER RESERVE .....PINK

39th Battn

4 Platoons going up ULRICA LANE towards GREY FARM .....PINK

3 Platoons going to ULRICA SUPPORT and just beyond LA DOUVE FARM .....WHITE

5 remaining platoons (including 3 platoons going to ULRICA TRENCH .....BLACK

P. Ia of MaOs No. 3

10. Arm Bands and destination Patches.

40th Battn

4 Platoons going to ULNA SUPPORT and ULNA SWITCH.....WHITE

Remainder going to THE BEAK .....BLACK.

11. Fighting Equipment and Carrying Parties.

later. Detailed instructions will be issued

12. Consumption of Water.

Strict orders will be given that no water is to be drunk from the men's water-bottles during the approach march.

13. Replacement of Ordnance Stores.

<sup>quick</sup> The replacement of lost or damaged Ordnance is of great importance, especially in the case of Lewis and Vickers Guns. Battalions will at once report any such loss or damage by signal message to the Staff Captain.

14. Reports.

Reports will be made at stated periods during the progress of the fighting, in addition to any special reports. This will ensure negative information being received, and will serve to remind all concerned that reports are necessary.

*Mentomelly*

*[Handwritten scribble]*

Major:  
Brigade Major:  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade .

*Penny 26*

Headquarters  
10th Aust Inf Bde.  
26.5.17

MAGNUM OPUS.

C.O. 40th Bn.

A patrol (one off + 8 men) from N.Z. on night 24/25th May examined enemy wire from DOUVE RIVER to MESSINES Road. They report NO MANS LAND to be damaged, and the enemy's wire practically all demolished.

Another patrol of 1 off + 7 men examined E.F.L. + wire from DOUVE RIVER to LA PETITE DOUVE FARM. They report that there is practically nothing left of enemy wire. His trenches have suffered badly from our bombardment. Both F&S. lines seemed to be occupied. Enemy appeared to be very "jumpy".

For your information

CCG. 3

W. Hale Lieut.  
for GOC 10th A.I.B.

J.P.B. 26/5/17 J.P.B. 26/5/17

J.J.C.

SECRET

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade  
26th May 1917.

C.Os Battalions. The following copy of memo from 3rd Aus. Division is forwarded for your information and necessary action:-

"When reporting hostile shelling the most useful information from our Artillery point of view is as follows:-

(1) Point being shelled. Exact co-ordinates are not necessary but an approximate Map location must be used, and not names or code letters; For instance, if T.6 is reported as being shelled it will read as meaning T.6 map square, and Not T.6 C.P. or T.6 gun position.

(2) An approximation of the distance of the hostile guns - and from where this is taken. On a salient such as this, fire may, and does, come from N.E., E., or S.E. and any indication is of assistance if only as negative information.

(3) Calibre of guns used. The natural tendency is to place them too large, 8" Hows. have often been reported recently, there are none known on the present Corps Front; weather has been favourable for Sound Ranging, and if they had been used, they would certainly have been located."

*Algate*

Lieut.  
for C.O.C. 10th Aust. Infantry Brigade

BM/473/50

*J.P.B.*  
27.5.17

*OK*  
*30/5/17*



J. J. C.

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
26th May 1917.

C. Os Battalions.

In connection with forward inter-communication, the Brigade Forward Party will be in accordance with S.S. 148 "Forward Inter-communication in Battle" page 11.

The Signal Officer will be 2nd Lieut. B. J. JACKSON of 40th Battalion.

The 37th, 38th and 39th Battns will each nominate an Intelligence Officer, the names of such Officers to reach this office before 10 a. m. tomorrow, 27th instert.

Lieuts C. H. PETERS M.C. and F. R. B. MARTIN of the 38th Battalion and Lieut. P. L. NELSON of the 39th Battn, will be required for special duties at Brigade Headquarters, so will not be available for nomination in accordance with above instructions.

*Montgomery*

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

BH/941/30

*JJC*

*26/5/17*

*26/5/17*

J.J.C.

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
26th May 1917.

C.Os Battalions.

The following copy of letter No.G.111/-/ 83 of 25th instant from 2nd ANZAC Corps is forwarded for action please:-

"The Corps Commander wishes to receive daily, from now onwards :-

(a) Report on the progress of wire cutting on each Divisional front, so far as it can be observed.

The report to be from the Infantry Commander's point of view and should be separate from the Artillery wire cutting reports.

The first report will give the general condition of wire, as on morning of 26th May. Further daily reports will indicate progress, and special remarks will be added.

(b) Reports of patrols in NO MAN'S LAND and patrols to the enemy trenches.

This report should state number and composition of patrols sent out night before.

Copies of patrol leaders reports should be ~~or send~~ manuscript carbon copies of reports will suffice, They will be returned ~~more~~ convenient, original reports may be sent in. ~~These reports should reach Corps Headquarters~~ within 24 hours if required.

before 3 p.m. daily.

(Sgd) C.W.GWYNN,  
B.G.,G.S.  
2nd ANZAC Corps".

With regard to (a) Battalion in front line will appoint an Officer who will report on and observe wire-cutting on the Brigade offensive front. The name of this Officer will be communicated to Brigade Headquarters.

A report should be forwarded by 3 p.m. tomorrow, 27th instant, on the condition of enemy wire along Brigade front. From the 28th inclusive this officer will submit daily by 9 a. m. a report indicating the progress made in wire cutting. A rough sketch might be submitted on scale 1/10,000

It is suggested that this Officer get in touch immediately with the D.T.M.O. or his representative, with whom he should confer daily.

With regard to (b) "Patrol operations". Battalions will submit in duplicate by 9 a.m. daily reports on the work of patrols. Pro formas herewith to be used.

BM/473/51

*C. Gale*  
Lieut.  
for G.O.C. 10th Australian Inf. Brigade.

*JPB*  
27.5.17

*30/5/17*

A.C.C.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. M. Bty.

Surplus Kits of Officers and N.C.O.'s in  
"MAGNUM OPUS".

Units will reconnoitre their Billeting Areas in the Area of Concentration and select a suitable building for the purpose of storing surplus kits and packs during the Offensive, the location of such building will be notified to this Office by the 29th instant.

Steps should be taken to reduce Officers and mens ~~packs~~ kits to an absolute minimum prior to entering the Concentration Area.

All packs should be clearly marked inside the flap with the Regimental Number, Rank, Name, Company and Unit of the owner and in addition equipment labels (Army Form W. 3337) which should now be in the possession of quartermasters, should be attached to obviate any delay in sorting the packs when required.

Prior to leaving the Area of Concentration for the positions of Assembly, a Guard should be left on the above-mentioned stores.

*Geo. H. Browne*

SC/673/96.

Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade. Captain.

*30/5/17*

A.C.G.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th " do "  
39th " do "  
40th " do "

A large percentage of losses of telescopic rifles during actual attacks in the SOMME fighting, lead to a considerable diminution of efficiency of snipers subsequently, as it is impossible to replace large numbers of these telescopic rifles without considerable delay.

It has therefore been decided that these rifles should be withdrawn from Battalions and held with surplus baggage etc referred to in my HQ/673/96 of even date.  
Will you please arrange accordingly.

*Geo. H. Browne*

Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade. Captain.

HQ/471/40.

*gdb*

*gdb*  
*30/5/17*

A.C.C.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

To, C. O. 37th Battalion A. I. F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. M. Bty.

In view of the fact that numerous other A. I. F. Units will shortly be living in the vicinity of Units of this Division, the Divisional Commander is desirous of your taking all possible steps to ensure that all men of this Division wear their regimental colour patches, and also wear their hats in the manner and with the badge in the position authorised for this Division. He is also concerned lest any slackness in Units of other Divisions, in matters of dress and appearance, deportment or saluting, should be the cause of any Officer of this Division relaxing strictness in these respects.

*Geo. H. Browne*

Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

SC/226/55.

*J.P.B.*  
*29.5.17*

A.S.C.

CASUALTIES.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th " do "  
39th " do "  
40th " do "  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. M. Bty.

Reporting of Casualties - "Missing, believed prisoner  
of War".  
-----

Units reporting casualties "Missing, believed  
prisoner of War", when forwarding such reports to the Base, submit with  
the report of the casualty the evidence upon which such report is based  
in the same manner as in the case of casualties reported "Missing,  
believed killed" (vide G.R.O. 1750).

2. Every care should be exercised before  
classifying a casualty as "Missing, believed prisoner of war", and  
such report should not be made unless conclusive evidence is available.

SG/943/96.

*et*  
*30/5/17*

*Geo. H. Browne*  
Staff Captain.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Adjutant 40<sup>th</sup>

Two Dumps have been chosen by me  
one on left Seaforth Farm between it and  
front line. Second in front line about  
30 yds right of Messines Road.

They are good strong dugouts and proof  
against small shells.

At present I am in communication with  
Brigade Bombing Officer as regards the

Supplies

27/5/17

C. C. Lane  
Lt

Grenades Not yet distributed from Brigade

Picks/Shovels  
Q.M. Store + surplus not issued  
from Brigade

P.A.A all above establishment not yet  
issued from Brigade.

Lights not yet issued

Rations Q.M. knows nothing as regards  
issue

R.E. stores not yet issued from Brigade

J.J.C.

SECRET

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

C.Os 37th Battalion  
38th Battalion  
39th Battalion  
40th Battalion.

1. Please forward a sketch on a large scale, 1/2,500, showing the exact position to be occupied by each platoon (or  $\frac{1}{2}$  platoon) if they are divided) at Zero Hour on Z day. A platoon block should be shown roughly to scale allowing the amount of room you consider will be required attached to "H" Battalion will be determined and shown by C.O. 37th Battalion.

2. Working back from the Assembly position, show on the sketch the small avenues and trenches which you use to get the platoons into their positions. It must be remembered that a Battalion of the 11th Brigade is to withdraw through THE ONLY WAY. The "Green" Route will be used by 5 Platoons of the 40th Battalion and the whole of the 39th Battalion; the "Brown" Route by the rest of the Brigade.

3. Show separately in one long line, not necessarily on the sketch, the order in which your whole column will move along the main road before sub-dividing.

4. The above sketch and report, with any details you desire to add, should reach this office not later than 7-30 p.m. today.

*L. Ramsay McNeill*

Brigadier-General  
Commanding 10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

BM/941/33

*HPB 27.5.17*

*20/5/17*



MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121. (In pads of 100.)

Prefix..... Code..... m Words. Charge. No. of Message.....

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at ..... m.

Sent ..... Service. Date.....

At ..... m. From.....

To..... By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO {  
37th, 38th, 39th, 40th Battns

Sender's Number 105th Day of Month 10th In reply to Number  
\* A A A

B.I. 254 23th

Corporal ACKERMANN, of the 5th Batta res. Bav. Regiment, 3rd Battalion, captured early this morning in the support line ULSTER SUPPORT U.15.a. states that 4th Bav. Div. was to be relieved last night by the 3rd Bav. Div. and 4th Bav. Div. was going to RUSSIA. 3rd Bav. Div. was in reserve and was recently relieved opposite HOURLINES by Prussians. He gives order of Battle N. to South as 5th Bav. R.I.R., 5th Bav. I.R., 9th Bav. I.R., which were to be relieved respectively by 17th Bav. I.R., 18th Bav. I.R. and 23rd Bav. I.R. On the Right of the 4th Bav Div are the SAXON 40 40th Div.

The N. boundary of the Battalion is the River DOUVE at the front line and runs up to the Trench Junction at U.4.a.5.2., the S. Boundary of the Battalion is where Road crosses ULSTER TRENCH in U.15.b. and thence along ASH AVENUE. The S. Boundary of the 2nd Battalion in the line is about opposite LE PICQUET HOUSE. The 3rd Battalion in the line holds down to the LYS. Each Bgt has 2 companies in the front line, 2 in the sup. Line and 2 in the 2nd line

From.....  
Place.....  
Time.....

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor..... Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required. (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 8:8.)

A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message.....

Prefix..... Code..... m Words. Charge.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.
This message is on a/c of: Recd. at ..... m.
Sent Date.....
At.....m. Service.
To..... From.....
By..... (Signature of "Frankine Officer.") By.....

TO

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A

\*

STATE.

which runs through WAMINGTON and the remainder
resting. The prisoner states that an attack
was some time ago expected to take place today
because it was WHITE MONDAY. He states that
Battalions holding the northern part of the
Divisional sector have been squeezed up towards
the right, leaving the biggest Battalion
sector towards the south as enemy are confident
no attack will be made on that part. Prisoner
states that enemy is confident of flank of
attack being on two sides of the DOUVE. His
officers apparently have great faith in
PETITE DOUVE presenting a difficult obstacle
and say that in any case we shall not get
past MISSINES. Prisoner has evidently
been told some boastful stories of quantity
of artillery behind MISSINES. He says
his Company Officers told him that there were
120 batteries behind there which had only
fired one gun. Prisoner himself when
last in QUENOT says two batteries of 81 c.m.
Howitzers there.

From
Place G.I.S.
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

Censor.

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name

\* This line should be erased if not required.

(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V. Ld. (E. 818.)

BC/51

• 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade

Reference your SC/673/96 -  
Selection of place for dumping tanks  
and surplus kits -

The place chosen by this Unit is at T 30C -

Bullet No. 6512

J. Clark

Major for C.O. 40<sup>th</sup> Bn

20/5/17

A.C.C.

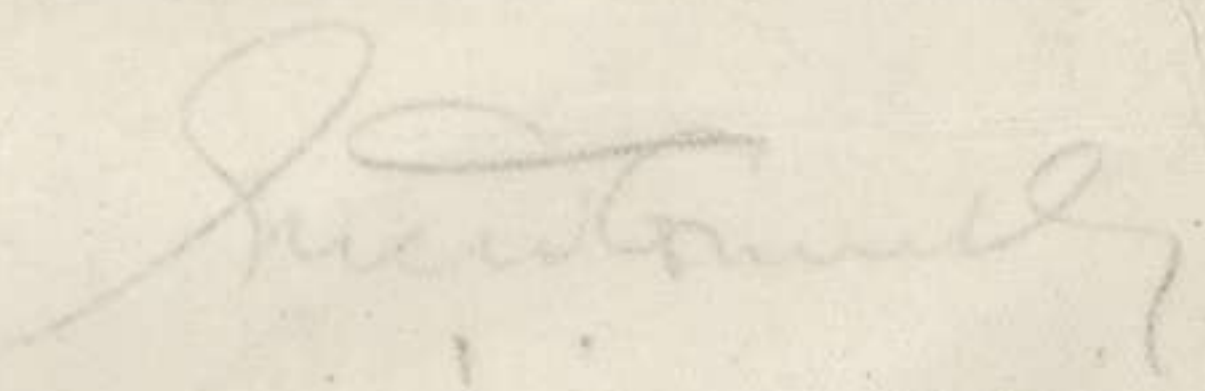
SECRET

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
28th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. Bty.

"MAGNUM OPUS"

Will you please take steps immediately to have everything in readiness to send surplus personnel to the Concentration Camp. Great care must be taken that all extra personnel required in accordance with Preliminary Instructions for Magnum Opus and S.S. 135 is detailed and kept back as once your surplus leaves for MOSCOW, it will be impossible to get any of them back again prior to "Z" day.



Major.  
Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

HE/941/38.

*Ek*  
*30/5/17*

SECRETTENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,  
29th May 1917.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNUM OPUS No. 4.

A. TRANSMISSION 1.  
OF INFORMATION

The paramount importance of a continuous stream of accurate information, both positive and negative, from front to rear, has already been repeatedly emphasised. Nevertheless, all Commanders must take further measures to ensure that all their subordinates fully understand their duties and responsibilities in this respect.

2. Insist on clear language and clear and large, legible writing, with plain legible signatures without flourishes. Use HB pencils, not too hard to scratch the paper, not too soft to smudge with perspiration. Forbid the use of indelible pencils.

3. Whenever possible the clock time of the events reported in the message must be given in the body of the message itself, thus:-

" 'A' Battalion captured enemy support line at ten past four a. m."

" All going well at twenty five to five "a.m."

" No sign of counter attack up to six o'clock p.m."

" Heavy enemy barrage on my left opened at seventeen past six p.m."

" No reports received from my centre company up to eight o'clock since twenty past seven p.m. All then going well".

" Enemy Infantry estimated at three Companies moving west along HUNS WALK passing UNCANNY TRENCH at ten to nine p.m."

4. Runners must carry messages in the right hand breast pocket. If any one sees a dead or badly wounded runner, they should search in this pocket for the message and take steps that it may reach the person to whom it is addressed. After removing the message, the Runner's badge should be removed to avoid others wasting their time in searching for a message that has already been sent on. In sending on the message, the finder should add an endorsement stating time message was found and rough locality. E.g.- "Taken from dead runner in NO MAN'S LAND opposite ANTONS FARM at 12 noon"  
....."Signature"  
....."Date"

B. AMMUNITION  
SUPPLY.

RAILHEAD: DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

1. Method of Supply. All ammunition will be conveyed by Corps 60 c.m. railway to stations. Corps Park, if railways are operating, will be responsible for loading the trucks and labelling them for the various railway stations for which they are demanded.

P. I. for M.O. No.4

**B. AMMUNITION SUPPLY.**

**RAILHEAD: DUKE OF CONNAUGHT**

**(1) Method of Supply.**

The Railway operating Companies are responsible for delivering the trucks to the correct stations.

The "Y" Corps Park Staff, although primarily appointed to deal with ammunition, will also undertake the despatch of other stores on 60 c.m. railways.

**(2) The order of priority of goods to be carried on 60 c. m. railways will be:-**

- (a) Heavy Ammunition
- (b) Field Artillery Ammunition and trench Munitions.
- (c) Road Metal (to be varied with (a) and (b) according to necessity).
- (d) R.L. Stores.

**(3) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM: In the event of a break-down in the Railway Service, which will be notified by Divisional Headquarters to all concerned, the following system of supply will come into force.**

S.A.A., Grenades, etc.-to CANPAC DUMP U.19.d.2.9.

In the event of PLOEGSTREK-HYDE PARK CORNER not being passable for wheeled transport the D.A.C. will deliver to a re-filling point at B.11.a.8.8. from whence it will be carried by Pack Transport via Pack Routes to CANPAC DUMP or further as required.

The system of accounting and indenting for ammunition in these circumstances will be identical with the rail system.

**(4) The Corps Park will hand over a way-bill for ammunition loaded for each station to the guard of the train. This way-bill will be in a sealed envelope addressed to the Officer i/c Station. The Officer i/c of the Station will sign and return the way-bill to the guard, who will hand it over to the Corps Park Officer at Railhead.**

**(5) Ammunition expenditure will be reported to Brigade Headquarters as ordered.**

**(6) DUMPS: IN DIVISIONAL AREA.**

- (a) S.A.A. Grenades etc.

Divisional Dump, CANPAC, U.19.d.2.9.

Advanced Divisional Dump on Prowse Boyd Line, U.20.b.3.7.

-3-

P.I. for M.O. No. 4B. AMMUNITION SUPPLY6. DUMPS IN DIVISIONAL AREA.Brigade Dumps.

Left Brigade (1) U.14.b.40.54.  
 Left Brigade (2) U. 8.d.15.10.

(b) Trench Mortar Ammunition

Divisional Dump U.19.b.4.2.

Sector Dumps U.14.d.4.4.  
 U.14.d.2.7.

Battery Dumps. U.14.b.5.4.  
 U.14.a.8.9.

7. AMOUNT TO BE HELD IN DUMPS.

3" Stokes 450 rounds per gun - to be replenished daily.

S.A.A., Grenades, Fireworks, etc.

Exact amounts will be notified when authority has been received.

8. PERSONNEL AT DIVISIONAL DUMPS:

Main Divisional Dump, CANPAC  
 Betonating Party - 1 N.C.O. and 10 men - to be detailed by 10th Infantry Brigade.

Advanced Divisional Dump

1 N.C.O., 3 men - from 10th Infantry Brigade.

C. SUBSTITUTES FOR COMMANDERS.

1. Every Commander throughout the Division actually selected to command his Unit during the forthcoming operations down to Commanders of Batteries, Field Companies, and Infantry Companies with forthwith nominate, to his immediate superior, an officer of his command eligible to carry on as his substitute in case he himself becomes a casualty. After approval of such nomination by his superior Commander concerned, he will take all steps necessary to inform such substitute, to fully acquaint him with all his orders and dispositions, and to take him entirely into his confidence regarding all matters affecting the operations and the command of the Unit concerned.

D. CARRYING OF UNNECESSARY ARTICLES

Care must be taken that men do not overload themselves and carry articles which are unnecessary, and additional to those laid down for the attack. - Similarly they must not carry important papers which will be of use to the enemy in case they fall into their hands.

E. CHARGING MAGAZINES AND FIXING BAYONETS

The question of charging magazines and the possibility of rifles going off must be gone into, as also the question of when and where to fix bayonets.

P.I. for M.O. No.4

F.

In final plans C.Os will be careful to state the numbers allotted for "mopping up".

G. ANTI AIRCRAFT

Following on paragraph "J" of P.I.M.O. No.1, the following instructions are issued.-

Up to "Z" day 100 picked riflemen of the 11th Brigade and 8 Lewis Guns to be furnished by that Brigade, supplemented by Lewis Guns from the Pioneer Battalion will be responsible for preventing the enemy from adopting the method of reconnaissance detailed in the abovementioned paragraph.

On the morning of "Z" day during the actual assembly, "H" Battalion of this Brigade will furnish a similar quota, i.e. 8 guns and 100 picked shots.

Strict orders will be given that no troops other than the above will fire on hostile planes under any circumstances, as indiscriminate collective action by the assembling troops would immediately disclose to the enemy their presence in the trenches.

*Augustine*

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Every commander throughout the...  
operations and the command of the unit concerned.

One must be taken that not to...  
to the enemy in any way fall into their hands.

The question of clearing vegetation...  
where to fix posts.

RECEIVED  
10 AUGUST 1918

RECEIVED  
10 AUGUST 1918



S e c r e t

TENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters  
29th May 1917.

ADDENDUM TO PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR M.O.No.4

In reference to Paragraph "E" CHARGING OF MAGAZINES  
AND FIXING OF BAYONETS, add.--

"It has been already decided that Bayonets will be  
painted and that rifle slings will be attached to  
piling swivels.  
This should be done without further delay."

*W. J. Tommell*

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

*[Handwritten signature]*

## APPENDIX.

Wire. Where it is marked by single line of knife-cut (or x) the wire is fair but would cause considerable delay in getting through. It is generally thin wire, concentric, light knife cuts and tangle wire in among tree stumps and branches. This wire could be easily cleared away at places required and would not be noticeable to the enemy owing to undergrowth and grass in N.M.L.

There are scout tracks through wire in places but these would not be suitable unless enlarged and wire cleared away.

Jumping Off trenches are roughly as shown in the sketch and are nearing completion.

B.H.Q. dug out is not nearly complete.

20/1/17

A. H. L.

Secret

J.J.C.

Headquarters,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
31st May 1917.

C.Os Units.

SUPPLY OF MAPS.1/10,000 Standard Sheets

Standard size sheets of trench maps required are now on order and should be ready for issue very shortly. These sheets will have the enemy's trenches corrected to April 1st. They will be folded and linen mounted. The issue will be on the normal scale and will be sufficient to go down to all Officers in the front line including platoon commanders.

The sheets which will be issued for this purpose will be.--

ZILLEBEKE	GHELUVELT
WYTSCHAETE	WERVICQ
PLOEGSTEERT	COMINES (Brigade area).

1/20,000 Sheets.

You have already been issued with your allotment of 1/20,000 Maps 28 S.W. The other sheet 1/20,000 28 S.E. for use with the former sheet in connection with the Magnum Opus is now being sent to you. It will be necessary for Company Commanders to see that all Company Officers have these two sheets pasted together and the unnecessary part of it on our side of the line cut off. As much of the map as possible which shows the enemy country beyond line of consolidation should be carried by all Officers.

1/5,000

Special sheets of this scale photographed up from the 1/10,000 Sheet and designed for use in this offensive have been received and copies will be issued on demand. They are of standard size and ~~identical~~ identical in all respects with the 1/10,000, the object being to put in the hands of front line troops a large scale map to which they can add new information as obtained. These sheets are folded but not mounted on linen.

The sheet referred to is of the DOUVE area but does not include the Northern portion of the Brigade objective.

Copies of the sheet covering the MESSINES area have been requisitioned for and will be issued on receipt. Units should submit by wire their requirements,

- (1) For sheet of the DOUVE Area
- (2) For sheet of the MESSINES Area

These maps are corrected up to April 1st. Several new trenches have been constructed by the enemy and the sheets now being issued should be corrected from aeroplane photographs and maps of same subject at present in possession of units.



Lieut.

for G.O.C. 10th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

BM/419/145

J.P.B.  
31.5.17

SECRET

Copy No

40TH. BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 1 (PRELIMINARY)

April May 1917. ---

REFERENCE MAP PLOEGSTEERT 1/10,000 SHEET 28.S.W. 4.

1. INFORMATION. The 3rd. Division will attack enemy lines. Zero day and hour to be notified later.
2. DISPOSITION OF BRIGADES. The disposition will be two Brigades in two lines with two Battalions in each line.
3. DISPOSITION OF BATTALIONS. The Battalions will be lettered from Right to Left, the first line Battalions being A.B.C.D., the second line Battalions being E.F.G.H. On the completion of the operation Battalions will occupy relative positions shown thus :-
- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| H | G | F | E |
| D | C | B | A |
- The probable dispositions will be as follows:-
- |    |            |                |              |          |           |    |
|----|------------|----------------|--------------|----------|-----------|----|
| A. | Battalion, | 9th. Inf. Bde. | 33rd. Battn. | (Lt.-Col | Morshead  | ). |
| B. | ,,         | 9th. ,,        | 35th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Goddard   | ). |
| C. | ,,         | 10th. ,,       | 39th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Henderson | ). |
| D. | ,,         | 10th. ,,       | 40th. m,     | ( ,,     | Lord      | ). |
| E. | ,,         | 9th. ,,        | 36th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Milne     | ). |
| F. | ,,         | 9th. ,,        | 35th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Martin    | ). |
| G. | ,,         | 10th. ,,       | 38th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Davies    | ). |
| H. | ,,         | 10th. ,,       | 37th. ,,     | ( ,,     | Smith     | ). |
4. RESERVES. The 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade furnished the Divisional Reserve.
5. MACHINE GUN COMPANIES. Machine Gun Companies will be under the Command of the Divisional Commander until after the capture of all objectives and at a clock time to be named, when one Machine Gun Company will pass under the orders of each front line Brigade.
6. LIGHT TRENCH MORTARS. One Battery will be held in reserve, one battery will remain at the disposal of each attacking Brigade.
7. POSITIONS OF HEAD QUARTERS. The position of D. Battalion Headquarters will be (U.8.c.35.40.) Headquarters of other Units as per Appendix "A".
8. PLAN OF OPERATIONS. Zero hour will be DAWN. At Zero plus 10, Barrage will lift off enemy's front line. At Zero, plus 15, enemy's second line must be captured. Barrage will hold for about 10 minutes about the line G.H.J. to allow E.F.G.H. Battalions to pass through. There will then be a second bound for the capture of the line ULNA Reserve, ULSTER Reserve which must be completed by Zero plus 38. The barrage will hold for 5 minutes on the line L.M.N. and will then creep forward, finally coming to rest on the line UNCANNY Trenches, where it will be maintained indefinitely.
9. TASKS AND OBJECTIVES. The tasks and objectives of D. Battalion will be: 9 To seize and make good the crossing of the DOUVE and to capture all the country between it, the Divisional Left Boundary, and the line H.J. In order to rapidly overcome the opposition to the crossing of the DOUVE by the seizure of the enemy trench extending between the ULNA BREAK and the point where ULRICA TRENCH crosses the DOUVE, "C" Coy. and No. 8. Platoon ("B" Coy.) will be launched to the attack from a point of forward.

*amended**an imaginary line from the DOUVE to ULNA AV 100 yards east of the eastern end of ULVA SWITCH.*

16

the west  
 the bridge  
 platoons of  
 13 Coy  
 4 platoons  
 a push  
 along  
 F.F.L.  
 the  
 direction  
 objectives  
 close to  
 them

assembly (~~to be notified~~) within our lines just NORTH of the RIVER DOUVE. This Company will be distributed 4 Platoons in depth on a frontage of 100 yards. Of this Company ("C" Coy.) the first Platoon will make for and seize ULNA Support Trench. The second Platoon will make for and seize the front line between LA PETITE DOUVE FARM and the BEAK. The third Platoon will deal with the portion of the enemy front linerunning Eastwards from the BEAK to FORK TRENCH and will link up with the Platoon of "B" Company which will have crossed the RIVER DOUVE. The special task of this Platoon and of one Platoon of "A" Coy. which will have entered simultaneously the enemy front line at the Junction ULRICA TRENCH and the RIVER DOUVE and which will work in a Westerly direction along and behind ULRICA TRENCH in the stretch between the DOUVE and ULNA BEAK, is to facilitate for "A" and "B" Companies the crossing of the DOUVE by overcoming enemy opposition at the earliest possible moment. "A" and "B" Companies to make a frontal attack on the line of the DOUVE placing at not less than 5 points bridging material carried out under cover of darkness some hours before Zero, to the bank of the River, crossing the River by such Bridges and advancing to the line H.J. to complete the capture of its objective. "D" Coy. will assemble at a point to be notified and remain at the disposal of the Brigadier. The attention of Company Commanders is directed that dispositions will necessarily be complicated owing to the convergence of two lines of attack and the complex location of the objective trench system. This difficulty can only be met by a careful allocation of objectives, to the various Platoons within Company sectors and a full knowledge of and co-operation with the tasks and frontages allotted to the troops on immediate flanks. ULNA SWITCH will be destructively bombarded prior to Zero. All that part of ULNA AVENUE which lies East of the line H.J. will remain under heavy Artillery Barrage until Zero plus 25 minutes. Troops must not move East of a line running through V in LA PETITE DOUVE FARM and N in ULNA SWITCH until H. Battalion has passed through, they will then follow the last wave of H. Battn. to the line H.J. and dig in thereon. D. Battalion is responsible for the defence of this line against counter-attack in the event of our front line being driven in. Contact with C. Battalion on the South will be established on the DOUVE near the N.E. Corner of the Moat, and the Right Battalion of the H.E. Division at approximately J. the point having not yet been definitely decided upon.

(less 4 platoons)

DISTRIBUTION "A" and "B" Companies will be assembled in our lines between & COMPANY SEAFORTH FARM and PLOEGSTERT - MESSINES ROAD, RIVER DOUVE FRONTAGES. "C" Company. - U.S.a. 49.29. (DOUVE.R. exclusive) to U.S.a. 49.49. (100 yards approximately).

OBJECTIVES. The objectives of Companies etc. will be :-

- "C" COY.
- 1. No. 9. Platoon will make for and seize ULNA Support from Brigade Left Boundary to and inclusive of ULNA AVENUE. (This Platoon will be followed by No. 8. Platoon "B" Coy. which will make for and seize Support trench between ULNA AVENUE & ULNA SWITCH and attack ULNA SWITCH in reverse).
- 2. No. 10 Platoon will capture the enemy front line from Brigade Left Boundary to ULNA BEAK (Moppers Up for No. 10 Platoon will follow 15 paces behind No. 9 Platoon) and will clear and make good ULNA AVENUE from the BEAK to ULNA SUPPORT also Support Trench from ULNA AVENUE to enemy front line East of and parallel with PLOEGSTERT-MESSINES ROAD. This Platoon will then re-organise and support No. 9. platoon.
- 3. No. 11 Platoon will seize enemy front line East of the BEAK to and exclusive of FORKED TRENCH and cover the crossing

forward

of "A" and "B" Coys. with the DOUVE. No. 12. Platoon will move along the left bank of the DOUVE furnishing parties at the 6 crossing points to assist "A" and "B" Coys. in bridging the River then acting as Battalion Reserve.

4. "C" Coy, will make good the line H.J. to and inclusive of ULNA AVENUE and dig in.

*Enemy Pl. from ULNA BEAK  
Support Trench to and in rear  
of the Eastern fork of Forked Trench  
and will make good  
Forked Trench*

12. "B" Company. -

1. Nos. 7, 6 and 5 Platoons will be deployed in one wave of two lines with four paces interval, 50 paces distance between lines, with Moppers Up 15 paces in rear.

2. No. 7 Platoon will place a bridge over the RIVER DOUVE at a point "G" and will seize and make good the Western fork of the FORKED TRENCH from enemy front line to its junction with ULNA SUPPORT.

3. No. 6 Platoon will place a bridge over the RIVER DOUVE at a point "F" and will seize and make good enemy front line between the forks of the FORKED TRENCH, and also capture the Eastern fork of these trenches.

4. No. 5 Platoon will place a bridge over the RIVER DOUVE at a point "E" and capture the enemy front line from the Eastern fork of FORKED TRENCH to tram line, from tram line to ULNA AVENUE, then to support No. 8 Platoon.

5. No. 8 Platoon (from North of DOUVE) to make for and capture support trench from the ULNA AVENUE to ULNA SWITCH and support "A" Coy. in their attack on ULNA SWITCH.

6. "B" Coy. will make good and consolidate the line H.J. from and exclusive of ULNA AVENUE to point where 25 metre contour cuts the line H.J.

*SWITCH  
ULNA SUPPORT  
ULNA SWITCH  
SWITCH*

*ULNA  
Support  
Trench  
ULNA  
AVENUE*

13. "A" COMPANY. -

1. Nos. 3 and 2 Platoons deployed in one wave of two lines with 4 paces interval and 50 paces distance between lines with Moppers Up 15 paces in rear.

2. No. 1 Platoon following the first wave of 39th Battalion will enter the enemy front line at the junction of the DOUVE and cross the DOUVE in enemy territory by means of a bridge to be carried and placed at point "A", and will operate in a Westerly direction along and behind ULRICA TRENCH to the tram line.

3. Nos. 2 and 3 Platoons will respectively place a bridge across the DOUVE at points "B" and "C" and will make for and capture ULNA SWITCH.

4. No. 4 Platoon will place a bridge over the DOUVE at point "D" and will capture enemy front line and ULNA SUPPORT from tram line to enemy front line.

5. "A" Coy. will make good and consolidate the line H.J. from point where 25 metre contour cuts the line to DOUVE at H. exclusive.

14. COMPASS BEARING OF THE ADVANCE. The direction of the advance will be on a bearing of . The special attention of Officers Commanding Coys. is drawn to this fact as a change of direction to this bearing will be necessary after the capture of the BEAK.

15. COMMUNICATIONS. Communications will be maintained by Telephones, Duetz Sics, Runners and Visual Signalling. The Signalling Officer will establish a forward Station at immediately first objective has been gained.

16. DRESSING STATION. The Dressing Station (R.A.P.) will be at

17. OFFICERS ETC. TO TAKE PART IN THE ASSAULT. Inorganising parties O/C. Companies will do so having regard to the "Training of Divisions for Offensive Action" page 58, chapter xxx. The following Officers will go forward with assaulting troops, O/C. "A" Coy., O/C. "B" Coy., 2nd. forward

in Command "C" Coy.

1. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT.

Dress and equipment will be as per "Training of Divisions for Offensive Action" page 58, chapter xxxi. (This is subject to amendment) also see para. 22 ).

2. SYNCHRONISATION OF WATCHES.

Watches will be synchronised by reference to Battalion Headquarters at .

3. CARRYING PARTIES.

Each Coy. will furnish two sections for carrying parties each man of one section to carry 5 shovels and 10 sand-bags. Each of 5 men of the other sections to carry respectively -

Picks.

Shovels.

Grenades.

(a) 4 Picks and 10 Sand-bags.

(b) 2 Boxes of Grenades and 10 sand-bags.

These carrying parties will follow with their loads immediately on the heels of H. Battalion to their respective Company Fronts on the line H.J. They will remain at the disposal of Company Commanders for carrying purposes.

Sand-bags. Every man in the attack will carry 5 sand-bags.

S.A.A.

Every man in the attack (except Runners, Signallers, Bombers, L.G.'s who will carry 50 rounds) will carry 200 rounds of S.A.A.

Bombers.

Bombers will carry 8 Grenades in bags.

Lewis Guns.

All Lewis Gunners except No. 1. will carry 5 magazines (filled) in haversacks.

Flares.

The following flares will be ordered by all ranks:-

Badges.

The following distinguishing badges will be worn:-

Scouts. - Green Band.

Runners. - Red ,,

Reg. & Coy. Sigs. Blue ,,

Carrying Parties. Yellow ,,

Moppers Up. White ,,

These bands are being obtained regimentally and will be supplied.

21. GENERAL.

Immediately on receipt of this order C/C's Companies will organise all necessary parties for the above duties also carrying parties, Moppers Up etc. Copies of the Instructions drawn up for issue to be forwarded as soon as possible to this Office. The bridges referred to herein will be supplied by Engineer Services and 4 men will be required to carry each bridge. Mines will be exploded at Zero hour in front of 9th. Brigade Sector.

22. REPORTS.

Reports to Battalion Headquarters (U.S.c.35.40.)

F.W. Green, Lieut.  
A/Adjutant.

APPENDIX "A".POSITIONS OF HEADQUARTERS

Division	Steenwerck.
9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.	U. 20. a. 80. 90.
10th. " " "	U. 14. c. 50. 20.
11th. " " "	CATACOMBS.
A. Bn.	U. 15. c. 60. 65.
B. " "	PROUSE POINT.
C. " "	U. 14. b. 15. 95.
D. " "	U. 28. b. 35. 40.
E. " "	U. 15. c. 95. 50.
F. " "	U. 15. a. 65. 15.
G. " "	U. 28. c. 25. 15.
H. " "	not yet recommended

Note.- E.F.G.&H. Battalion Headquarters will move forward, after assault, to suitable dug-outs in captured territory.

Issued at..... to.....

Copy No. 1.	to War Diary.
2.	10th. Inf. Brigade
3.	O/C. "A" Coy.
4.	"B" " "
5.	"C" Coy.
6.	"D" " "
7.	37th. Battalion.
8.	39th. " "
9.	38th. " "
10.	Q.M.
11.	M.O.
12.	Sig. Officer
13.	L.G. Officer
14.	10th. M.G. Coy.
15.	10th. A.L.T.M. Battery



## --- SUPPLIES ---

	<u>S&amp;A.A.</u>	<u>Blank</u>	<u>Bombs</u>	<u>Sandbags</u>	<u>Rifle &amp; Bayonet</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Bombers	50		15	4	fixed	
Rifle Grenadiers	120	20	2--6 R.G.	4	"	1 cup 3 rods
Lewis Gunners	120		2	4		5 Magazines per man
Riflemen	120		2	4		
Moppers Up	120		2-1 P-1 MSK	4		
Runners	50		2			
Signallers	50		2			
Carrying Parties	50		2			

Flares 1 per 4 men

Tools 4 picks & 8 shovels per platoon carried by Bombers & R.G.s

Very Lights (white) 1 box per Co (150)

S.O.S. 12 per Company

*Pl*  
*30/5/17*

A.C.C.

Headquarters  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade.  
27th May 1917.

To, C.O. 37th Battalion A.I.F.  
38th - do -  
39th - do -  
40th - do -  
10th Machine Gun Coy.  
10th A. L. T. M. Bty.

Reference Preliminary Instructions for "MAGNUM OPUS", Number 2, paragraph C, Organization of Divisional Pack Transport

In order to accustom personnel and animals to Pack Transport, the organization of Divisional Pack Transport will be proceeded with at once.

Brigade Troops will concentrate at their respective Brigade Transport Lines. The Divisional Troop will concentrate at the standings at B.23.c.1.3. Sheet 36, N. W.

Personnel with animals and saddlery to form the Divisional Troop will report to Lieut. RAMSAY, O.C. Divisional Troop at Lines B.23.c.1.3. on 29th instant before 3 p.m. Unconsumed portion one day's ration will be taken. The personnel, animals etc, will be permanently detached from their Units from this date.

Units detailing animals will send also the proportion of limbered or G.S. wagons that these animals would normally draw. Requisitions may be submitted to O.C., Divisional Troop for transport which cannot be done by Units with the transport left at their disposal. The O.C., Divisional Troop will detail either Pack or wheeled transport.

It is the intention to commence the delivery of stores and supplies by pack transport at an early date. With this in view a parade will probably be held in the course of a few days at which the Divisional Commander will be present. Only very short notice will be given in order to test mobility.

Saddle attachments are not yet available, but the animals will be paraded fitted with universal saddles, less stirrups and leathers.

38/417/31.

The Transport Officer

*Geo. H. Browne*  
Captain.  
Staff Captain,  
10th Australian Infantry Brigade

To be noted and returned *John W. Hoady*