

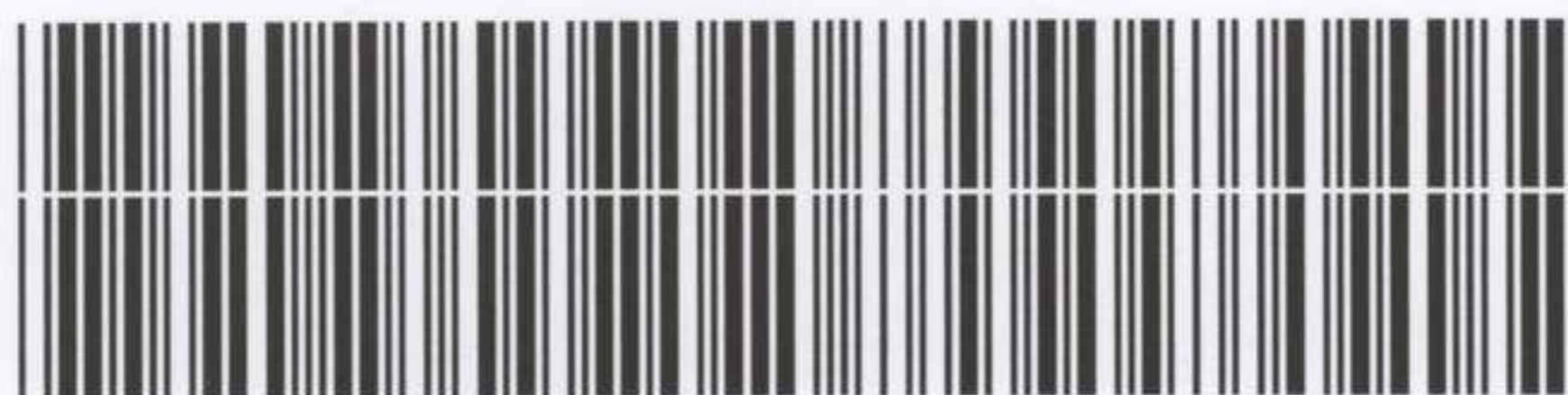
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/12/26

Title: 12th Infantry Brigade

April 1918



AWM4-23/12/26

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

12th Australian Infantry Brigade

FOR

April 191*8*

Signature of Officer compiling

W. M. ...

Signature of Officer Commanding

Raymond H. Keane

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LAVIEVILLE.	April 1st		<p>12-40 a.m. 52nd Brigade advised that our left had been extended to new Divisional Boundary.</p> <p>4 a.m. Situation on Brigade Front unchanged. Very little enemy artillery activity.</p> <p>A few gas shells fell in D.12.D. - no damage.</p> <p>8-30 a.m. At this hour enemy attacked left Company, 46th Battalion at E.3.D.13. The attack was local and the object was to occupy Railway Signal House on Railway Embankment. The estimated strength of the attack was about 70 men and they advanced in two parties against our position.</p> <p>The strength of the first party was about 30 other ranks which was severely dealt with by our Machine Gun fire and Rifle fire. Only 6 men of this party were observed to get away, the remainder being killed, wounded or taken prisoners. The second party of 40 other ranks following their first party, seeing the casualties being inflicted withdrew to a line about E.3.D. after receiving heavy casualties.</p> <p>6 prisoners, 4 of whom were wounded, were captured and identified as the Storm Troops of 3rd Marine Division.</p> <p>The attack was preceded by light artillery and Minenwerfer fire on our front line. This fire somewhat increased on our front and supports on the Right Battalion Front but damage done and casualties were very slight.</p> <p>5-30 p.m. In accordance with orders issued, Artillery carried out a Hurricane bombardment of DERNANCOURT and patrols were sent forward to ascertain damage done and whether enemy held village in strength.</p> <p>Much damage had been done and patrols encountered the enemy holding the village in strength. Patrols returned at 9 p.m.</p> <p>8-30 p.m. G.O.L.C. visited Front Line Battalions and found Pioneer Battalion digging line E.2.Central - E.7.C. who Failed to report to Battalions before going on work. This has now been rectified.</p> <p>46th Battalion report that they had to put 3 Companies in Front Line as they considered 2 Companies not sufficient and only had one Company in Support.</p> <p>9-40 p.m. Orders sent to 48th Battalion to move one Company to report to C.O., 46th Battalion. Coy. will occupy trench in E.1.C. - E.7.A. and will be under tactical orders of 46th Battalion and under orders 48th Battalion for administration. Move to be completed by 4 a.m.</p> <p>11 p.m. Brigade Headquarters moved from LAVIEVILLE to quarry at D.4.C.34.</p> <p>Generally the enemy activity excepting his attack early in the morning, for the period under review, has been below normal. Enemy artillery was very quiet likewise his Machine Guns. An enemy Machine Gun firing from house at E.3.C.05 20. caused a few casualties by enfilading the Railway Embankment but was engaged by our 4.5 Howitzers and silenced.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In quarry D.4.C.3 4.	April 1st (ctd.)		<p>Enemy aircraft during the morning were very active flying low and patrolling our lines. Movement of small parties of the enemy was observed throughout the day and were engaged by our snipers with good results. The attitude of the enemy points to the fact that he has for the time being come to a standstill for he has been observed to be digging in along the line E.24 - E.23.D. - E.29.D. approximately along the line of the 100 contour.</p> <p>This may be due to artillery requirements before resuming his attack on AMIENS or an intention to make good his old 1916 line or to make an unexpected attack elsewhere, and in any case it is to his advantage to sieze and hold the LAVIEVILLE - BOUZENCOURT circle of heights. Whilst the enemy is digging in we are also digging in and a line has been constructed from E.2.Central - E.7.C. also strong points on the forward slopes have been constructed and the Brigade Sector from a defensive point of view looks much healthier.</p> <p>The weather during the last 24 hours has been generally fine at intervals with light showers</p>	
do.	2nd.		<p>2-30 a.m. One Company 48th Battalion moved into position and reported to 46th Battalion. 4 a.m. Situation quiet. Enemy artillery generally quiet - back areas intermittently shelled. 9 a.m. 4th Div. Artillery Instruction No. 46 received giving new barrage lines. 9-35 a.m. Orders issued for relief of 45th Battalion by 47th Battalion on night 2/3rd. Orders attached. 11-55 a.m. Following wire received from 4th Aust. Div. "D.H.Q. closes at C.6.A.23. at 2 p.m. today and opens same hour at BEAUCOURT CHATEAU B.12.A.Central, Sheet 62 D. 11-45 a.m. 12th T.M.Bty. ordered to move 2 guns, one to each Battalion Headquarters as reserve guns. 1 p.m. Orders issued to 46th and 48th Battalion for relief of 46th Battalion by 48th Battalion on night 3/4. Orders attached. 12-30 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 4 p.m./12 Situation last 12 hours very quiet. Enemy observation balloons active opposite Brigade Front. Slight shelling E.8.A. and E.8.B.. Enemy aircraft during the day very active. About 7-30 p.m. enemy aeroplane flew low over forward area firing his machine guns on roads, etc.</p> <p>During the period situation reports received from Flank Brigade, Division and Corps notifying a very quiet period.</p> <p>Enemy movement opposite Brigade Sector was normal, usual small parties being observed throughout the day.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>As ordered</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>As ordered</i></p>

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In quarry	April		The weather generally was fine during the day but between 9 p.m. and midnight heavy rain fell.	
do.	2nd (ctd.)		At 1-5 a.m. Relief of 45th Battalion by 47th Battalion completed without incident.	
	3rd		3-30 a.m. 46th Battalion reports enemy patrol of 40 strong encountered and bombs were exchanged.	
			4 a.m. Situation very quiet - practically no enemy activity.	
			5 a.m.-5-35 Enemy shelled vicinity Brigade Headquarters with 77's gas - no damage.	
			8-15 a.m. Enemy put down a fairly heavy Trench Mortar, Artillery barrage on the Railway Embankment and Support Line. Following the barrage the enemy attacked the Railway Embankment on a frontage of 300 yards and launched against the Left and Right (46th and 47th Bns.) and the strength of the attack was a Battalion of 300 rifles. The enemy attacked in two waves and employed a fair amount Machine Gun fire.	
			The attack was met by Machine Gun, Rifle fire, and bombs, and was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. Our losses were somewhat heavy owing to the fact that the 46th Battalion held the attack up with rifle fire and then "hopped the bags" and used the bayonet on the enemy. This enabled the enemy to flank them with his Machine Guns, also the casualties caused by the bombardment were heavier than expected. One prisoner was taken and identified as 2nd Coy. 1st Bn., 1st Regt. 3rd Marine Division.	
			At about 9 a.m. the situation had quietened down and what was left of the attacking troops had fallen back in disorder.	
			During the attack the enemy aeroplanes were very active and at one time 20 machines ^{were} in the air flying very low over our lines.	
			9 a.m. Following from Division :- "The entire responsibility for the demolition of railway bridges over the river SOMME has now been assumed by the French.	
			Arrangements will, however, be made by A.D.G.T. III in case of necessity for demolition to be carried out on the lines AMIENS - BUIRE; AMIENS - CANDAS - DOULLENS; and LONGPRE - CANAPLES exclusive of Railway bridges over the SOMME.	
			The French are undertaking responsibility for demolitions on the lines AMIENS - BEAUVAIS; AMIENS - ROUEN; LONGPRE - GAMACHE; and AMIENS - ABBEVILLE."	
			Following from 4th Aust. Div. - "There is every reason to believe that the enemy is pushing forward Listening Sets in this Sector. All units will immediately take steps to ensure that all telephone circuits are made metallic. Attention is again called to the necessity of using the utmost care when talking on the 'phone in the forward areas." This was passed on to units for necessary action	

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In quarry.	April 3rd (ctd.)		<p>10 a.m. Orders of 52nd and 35th British Brigades received for relief on 2/3. Flank unit Nov 1918 35th Brigade 12th British Division.</p> <p>Arrangements were made with Left Group Artillery to establish liaison with Company Headquarters in the line by sending an officer from the Batteries - this commenced today. Copy of instructions issued to Batteries attached.</p> <p>4 p.m. Since the enemy attack this morning the situation on the Brigade Front has been exceptionally quiet, practically no enemy activity being observed.</p> <p>10 p.m. 47th Battalion reported short shooting of our artillery, 18 pounders shells falling in the vicinity of E.S.C. and unfortunately causing casualties.</p> <p>Information passed to artillery who investigated all shooting and cannot understand or find any trace of short shooting by our guns. After careful enquiry no definite information could be obtained concerning this unfortunate occurrence.</p> <p>11-5 p.m. Relief of 12th Machine Gun Coy. by 24th Machine Gun Coy. completed without incident. 12th Coy. moved back to vicinity BAIXIEUX BAIZIEUX.</p> <p>Usual situation reports from Flank Units, Division and Corps received throughout the day. The weather during the last 24 hours has been very wet and cold. The going is now extremely heavy and exhausting to the men forward. If only we could experience a week of warm sunny days it would be of great assistance.</p>	<p>Adding Instructions</p>																				
do.	4th		<p>4 a.m. Situation very quiet. Slight shelling with 4.2's vicinity of LAVIEVILLE and Brigade Headquarters. Slight shelling with 77 vicinity left Battalion Headquarters.</p> <p>Relief of 46th Battalion by 48th Battalion completed at 12-25 a.m. without incident.</p> <p>Dispositions of the Brigade as at 8 a.m.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">48th Bn. and 1 Coy. 46th</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Line Left.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>47th Bn. " " 45th</td> <td>Line Right.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>46th Bn. less 1 Company.</td> <td>V.29.C.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45th Bn. " "</td> <td>LAVIEVILLE Line.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 guns. T.M.Bty.</td> <td>Line.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 " Bn. Headquarters.</td> <td>Reserve.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 " Bty. "</td> <td>V.28.C.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24th Machine Gun Coy. 16 guns</td> <td>line.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coy. Headquarters.</td> <td>LAVIEVILLE.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brigade Headquarters.</td> <td>D.4.C.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Two parties 25 Pioneers went forward to construct tunnels through railway embankment for placing machine guns for flanking fire. Also party of 50 commenced sapping T heads under rails on Railway embankment.</p>	48th Bn. and 1 Coy. 46th	Line Left.	47th Bn. " " 45th	Line Right.	46th Bn. less 1 Company.	V.29.C.	45th Bn. " "	LAVIEVILLE Line.	2 guns. T.M.Bty.	Line.	2 " Bn. Headquarters.	Reserve.	4 " Bty. "	V.28.C.	24th Machine Gun Coy. 16 guns	line.	Coy. Headquarters.	LAVIEVILLE.	Brigade Headquarters.	D.4.C.	<p>*</p>
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In quarry.	April 4th (ctd.)		<p>4 p.m. Situation on Brigade Front - practically no enemy activity excepting that front line was shelled during enemy attack on Left Brigade. At times enemy machine guns opened up short bursts of fire on front line.</p> <p>G.27/50 received from Division regarding work of commencing communication trench. Reconnaissance carried out with Engineers and proposals forwarded to D.H.Q. Work to be undertaken by Pioneers - shortage of revettment material and suggestions re. using brushwood for bottom of trench. Arrangements made for Pioneers to commence as soon as D.H.Q. approval was received.</p> <p>11-22 p.m. Following from D.H.Q. - "Indications are that the enemy may attack towards AMIENS both South of the SOMME and on our front tomorrow morning 5th. Special precautions to be taken aaaa" All Battalions advised accordingly.</p> <p>Throughout the period situation reports were received from Flank Brigades, Division and Corps. The weather during the last 24 hours has been very unsettled.</p> <p>From midnight until 6 a.m. heavy rain fell continuously making the going very heavy and in places some of the ploughed fields impassable. During the day bright intervals of fair visibility and mixed with showers - from 6 p.m. to midnight rain held off but the night was very dark for the most part.</p> <p>12 midnight. Left Group Artillery instructions No. 18 received also copy VII Corps letter G.C.R. 895/137 copies of which are attached. See operations attached.</p>	
LAVIEVILLE.	5th			<i>Applying + Submissions</i>
LAVIEVILLE.	6th	12	The situation on the left flank of the 48th Battalion not being clear a Staff Officer was sent to Left Brigade, 35th Brigade Right Battalion and on arrival found that their right was at E.2.Central and not at E.3. as advised by Division and they were in touch with 48th Battalion and had no posts forward of E.2.Central. Division informed of this.	
		2-47	4th Pioneer Battalion report in touch with 50th Battalion, A.I.F. in LAVIEVILLE Line.	
		3-20	46th Battalion reported that their right was in touch with 13th Brigade about E.13.B.Central and were in touch with 35th Brigade on right at E.2.Central. Division advised of situation and of inadvisability to push forward posts to E.3. and they concurred.	
		3-21	Relief of 48, 47, 45th Battalions in the outpost position by the 46th Battalion was completed by 3-21 a.m. The 48th, 47th, 45th Battalions on relief moved back to Pioneer Trench and reorganised. Reinforcements of all Battalions arrived and were sent forward to Battalions, a total for the Brigade of 19 officers, 300 men. These were the 33.1/3% who had been left out.	
		4 a.m.	Situation was generally quiet on the Brigade Front with slight shelling of the Forward Area also Machine Guns were active. 4th Pioneer Battalion ordered to send forward to occupy	

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LAVIEVILLE	April 1918	12 6th noon (ctd.)	4th Divisional Order No. 107 received advising placing 6th A.I. Brigade at disposal of 4th Aust. Division and advising that this Brigade will be holding the BAIZIEUX Line, and if circumstances permit will relieve 12th Brigade tonight. Brigade Major, 6th A.I. Brigade reported to Brigade Headquarters and all dispositions and arrangements for relief were arranged should it be decided to relieve tonight.	
		12-30	Following sent to 48th Battalion following G.A.890 from Division :- "The situation on the Left Flank is not quite clear. The 35th Brigade report that they are holding a post in W.27.C. at the quarry and Division have issued instructions that a post be established by us in E.3.C. and the G.O.C. wishes you to send forward a patrol of 2 officers and 30 other ranks with a view to establishing a post in E.3.C. about the mouth of the ravine. This is to be done as soon as possible in order to gain touch with the British on the Left."	
		1-58	Following from 35th Brigade :- TUSK still holding original line from quarry W.27.C.3 6. to W.27.A.3 0. W.27.A.4 8. W.21.C.3 0. and in touch with TRIGGER on left and TWIST on right but exact disposition of TWIST not yet known and No forward movement by GABY from E.2.Central where we are in touch."	
		2-30	Arrangements were made with 35th Brigade that when we had established the post in E.3.C. they would send forward a post to connect with the quarry post which they advise is still holding out. The 48th Battalion arranged to advise their Right Battalion as soon as post had been established.	
		4 p.m.	Since last report situation on the Brigade Sector has been quiet excepting that intermittently shelling of forward area. Enemy shelled support line about 2 p.m. with 5.9's and slight gas shelling in D.12.D. Visibility has been bad and little enemy movement observed.	
		5-40	4th Aust. Div. advise that the 35th Brigade have been bombed out of quarry W.27.C.5 8., also that enemy attacked their left Battalion, the attack reported to have been repulsed, with losses. Undecided at the time whether they are going to retake quarry and will advise later regarding this point. For the time being do not do anything to push post forward to E.3.C. by 48th Battalion. 48th Battalion informed of this and ordered to await further instructions.	
		6-15 6-35	4th Aust. Div. Order No. 108 for relief of 12th Brigade by 6th A.I. Brigade received At this hour the enemy placed a heavy barrage on the Brigade Front and the S.O.S. was sent up to which our artillery replied. This heavy shelling continued for about 30 minutes. In the meantime numerous flares of golden showers - Green and Red were fired by the enemy. No infantry action followed the enemy shelling which extended back to Battalion Headquarters. From reports received it appears that no S.O.S. was fired from our Front Line but that the enemy fired two green flares when his barrage came down which was taken by the support companies	

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LAVIEVILLE	1918 Apr. 6th (ctd.)		for our S.O.S. and was repeated. This naturally was answered by our artillery. The S.O.S. signal was at this time two green very flares fired in rapid succession. Since the Brigade has been in this Sector the S.O.S. has been most unsatisfactory and the cause of quite an amount of waste of Gun Ammunition, to say nothing of retaliation from the enemy for our shelling in answer to our supposed S.O.S. which have been fired by the enemy. Why we do not manufacture a decent flare or flares for S.O.S. - lengthen barrage - Barrage required no longer after the experiences we have been through cannot be understood.	
	6-40		Instructions No. 1 for relief of the Brigade by 6th Brigade issued to units. Dispositions of 6th A.I. Brigade on relief given to units in this instruction. Copy attached.	<i>Included</i>
	7 p.m.		Brigade order No. 198 for relief issued to units. Copy attached. Following message sent to 4th Pioneer Battalion Battalion - "On completion of work tonight your Battalion will come under the orders of the 13th A.I. Brigade, dispositions as follows :- 2 Coys. at D.23.A. and C., 2 Coys. at D.21.B., Bn. Headquarters D.21.C.9 2. at quarry. 13th Brigade wish your signal officer report forthwith to arrange communications from your new Headquarters.	<i>Bde order</i>
	7-30		Instructions were received from Division to establish a post to cover the valley in E.3.C. by pushing forward a post to E.2.B. 48th Battalion order to send forward party of 1 officer, 30 other ranks to occupy the position and construct a post. This party left our lines at 8-30 p.m. and dug themselves in at E.2.B.7 3. In accordance with Instructions No. 1 and Brigade Order No. 198 the relief of 6th A.I. Brigade was completed at 12-10 a.m., 7th. The relief took somewhat longer than was anticipated owing to the weather and the late arrival of 22nd Battalion. The night was very dark and heavy rain fell from 4 p.m. to about 11 p.m. which made the going very heavy and with the incoming units moving in single file and being new to the area and the local conditions the relief was completed in quite good time taking everything into consideration. The weather for the 24 hours under review was bad it being cold and wet for the best part of the period.	
BAIZIEUX	7th 12-13	a.m.	Relief complete.	
		2 a.m.	On relief the Brigade moved back to the BAIZIEUX Line and occupied the trenches as follows :- 48th Battalion D.2. - D.9. 47th and 46th Bns. D.1. - D.7. - D.13. - D.14. 45th Bn. and 12th T.M.Bty. C.5. 24th Machine Gun Coy. C.5. Bde. H.Q. BAIZIEUX CHATEAU. The move back from the front line to the above position was a great hardship and a trying time on all ranks. The night was pitch black and the rain earlier in the night had made the	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				

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BAIZEUX	April 7th (ctd.)	2-30 a.m.	<p>going very heavy but notwithstanding this the units arrived in good order and made themselves as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.</p> <p>On arrival Divisional Order issued at 10-45 p.m. was received for move of the Brigade to PONT NOYELLES - LaHOUSOYE - BUSSY Area on relief by 7th A.I. Brigade.</p> <p>Division were telephoned to ascertain probable time of arrival of 7th A.I. Brigade but they could not inform us and 7th Brigade were telephoned and advised that they had received orders not to move. Division informed of this new order and Corps were telephoned who knew nothing of such an order and Division instructed Brigade to carry on in accordance with orders already received.</p> <p>Instructions No. 2 were issued to units for relief and for march to PONT NOYELLES Area. A Copy is attached.</p> <p>7th Brigade Order for their move received and a Staff Officer reported and asked for guides to be sent to cross roads C.28.D.9 O. as soon as possible. This officer expected was head of column to reach this point at about 12-30 p.m. Guides from all units sent. Staff Captain and billeting parties went forward to new area and arranged billets</p> <p>At this hour information was received that head of 7th A.I. Brigade column would reach FRANK-VILLERS at 1-30 p.m. and units were informed of this and instructed to march independently on being relieved in accordance with instructions No. 2 already issued and to notify Brigade Headquarters of relief and marching out.</p> <p>G.O.C., 7th A.I. Brigade arrived at Brigade Headquarters.</p> <p>General BIRDWOOD, Corps Commander and General McLAGAN, Divisional Commander, arrived at Brigade Headquarters and interviewed G.O.C. Brigade and Battalion Commanders 45th and 47th Battalions.</p> <p>At this time enemy commenced to shell Brigade Headquarters with long range guns fortunately doing no damage or causing casualties.</p> <p>1-30 p.m. Staff Captain returned from new area with location of billets of units. These were notified to units and the Brigade Transport Order to march to new area.</p> <p>3 p.m. The first unit of 7th Brigade arrived, 7th T.M. Battery and it was not until 5-30 p.m. that the relief was complete. Owing to congestion of traffic on road the 7th Brigade were delayed which accounted for late arrival of their units. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. enemy shelled vicinity Brigade Headquarters wounding one officer and one man of the 7th Brigade.</p> <p>On completion of relief Brigade moved by march route in accordance with instructions issued and were complete in their billets by 10-30 p.m. The weather during the morning was clear and fine but during the afternoon became over cast and showery.</p>	<p>Instructions No. 2</p>
			A6945 Wt. W11422/N1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.	b

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PONT NOYELLES.	8th April	8 a.m.	Disposition of units of Brigade as at this hour attached. The Brigade having marched in late during the evening of 7th were resting most of the day and cleaning up and generally getting over the last period in the line. G.S.O. I Division and D.A.A.G. called upon Brigade to rectify any troubles which we might be experiencing - asked to hurry along clean clothes and that bathing arrangements be put in hand as soon as possible as the men wanted a bath and clean clothes as soon as possible. Parties despatched with motor lorries to collect packs and blankets dumped at BAILLEULMONT - BAILLEULVAL - BERLES-AU-BOIS Area - party to report to BEAUCOURT Church at 9-30 a.m. The party returned at 9 p.m. with the packs and blankets which were very acceptable to the men they having been without a blanket since 26th March. The weather during this period was bad it being wet and cold which did not improve the comfort of the men. The billets generally were comfortable and roomy and this will greatly help the men to recover their old form.	<i>Disposition</i>
PONT NOYELLES.	9th		G.O.C., Division visited Brigade Headquarters and then went round units of the Brigade who were resting, cleaning up, and generally recovering from their last operations. A big improvement was noticed in the men today who had had a couple of nights rest and they were very cheerful and are fast picking up. Baths were erected in the village and clean clothes issued to all units and one Battalion, 46th, were bathed. Verbal instructions were received early during the morning that the Brigade would in all probability move to COISY - CARDONNETTE - RAINNEVILLE Area on the 10th. Staff Captain proceeded to new area to arrange billets in event of move taking place.	
		7-30 p.m.	Following from 4th Aust. Div. timed 6-10 p.m. " 12th A.I. Brigade, four Battalions, T.M.Bty. will move tomorrow, 10th instant to CARDONNETTE - COISY - VILLERS BOGAGE - RAINNEVILLE Area. Brigade Headquarters to RAINNEVILLE via Route South of St GRATIEN via Units not to reach RAINNEVILLE before 2 p.m. 12th Field Ambulance will accompany Brigade who will arrange billets. Completion of move to be notified."	
		9-15 p.m.	Brigade Order No. 199 for move issued. The weather during the day was mild but dull with light misty rain - at times the sun appeared but during the early part of the evening it rained somewhat heavily.	<i>Handwritten</i>
PONT NOYELLES.	10th		In accordance with Brigade Order No. 199 the Brigade moved to the RAINNEVILLE Area by march route arriving and complete in billets by 8-30 p.m. Located as follows :- Brigade Headquarters, RAINNEVILLE - Trench Mortar Battery, RAINNEVILLE - 45th and 47th Bns., 12th Field Ambulance CARDONNETTE - 48th Battalion, COISY - 46th Battalion, POULAINVILLE. G.O.C. en route to RAINNEVILLE called on Division at ALLONVILLE for any orders and it was anticipated by Division that the Brigade	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PONT NOYELLES.	April 10th		would move to VIGNACOURT on 11th and the 13th A.I. Brigade replace us in the RAINNEVILLE Area. News of the enemy attack up North received. Weather dull but mild - early in the morning light misty rain.	
RAINNEVILLE	(ctd.) 11th	11 a.m.	Conference of C.O.'s Battn. at Brigade Headquarters - points discussed - Divisional Instructions for the defensive No. 1, points brought out from letter H.130/236 from Aust. Corps also Captured German Documents on Offensive Tactics and offensive battle copies of which are attached. Copies of these documents were issued to all Battalions and Trench Mortar Battery. The question of liaison with flank units was discussed and also duties of F.O.O. of Heavy Artillery which from an Infantry point of view appear to establish their O.P. too far back and in position where they are of little value. Also the question of flares was discussed.	<i>Instructions</i>
		2-45 p.m.	During our last operations the lack and unsuitability of flares at our disposal was very noticeable. What is and has been wanted for the last year is light signals similar to the Bosche by which we could control our artillery fire and compile code which would save hours getting messages through during operations. Divisional wire No. G.59 received - "12th A.I. Brigade, 12th Field Ambulance will move to MOLLIENS-AU-BOIS - BEAUCOURT - MONTIGNY - FRECHENCOURT - ST GRATIEN Area tomorrow 12th - Bde. Headquarters to MONTIGNY a.m. March and billeting of 12th Field Ambulance will be carried out under the orders of 12th A.I. Brigade a.m. Move to be completed by 12 noon."	
		3 p.m.	4th Aust. Div. warning order "A" received - "While present situation continues in all probability Division may be called to move shortest possible notice by road, rail, or bus and to keep units in constant state of readiness to march and prevent men wandering."	
		4 p.m.	Orders sent to all Battalions, Trench Mortar Battery and Field Ambulance. Staff Captain with Divisional Officer left for new area to arrange billets.	
		5-30 p.m.	Draft of about one hundred reinforcements for the Brigade marched in. Draft consisted of men who had been on detached duty, sick, etc. and had been mustered to rejoin. Draft marched from VIGNACOURT today but appear to be fresh. They were at once posted to their units.	
		8-30	Brigade Order No. 200 issued to all units of the Brigade.	
		9-30	Message from 4th Aust. Div. - "Brigade Headquarters moves to EBART CHATEAU, "12th inst."	<i>Advised</i>
EBART FM.	12th		Weather during the day clear and mild but during the afternoon became overcast. Between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. heavy rain fell and this cleared about midnight. In accordance with Brigade Order No. 200 Brigade moved to EBART FARM - BEAUCOURT - MOLLIENS-AU-BOIS - FRECHENVILLE Area and were complete in billets by 12 noon. The weather today has been glorious. A clear blue sky and a warm sun, it being the best weather we have experienced for some period.	

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Place	Date 19 18	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EBART FARM.	April 12th (ctd.)		General BIRDWOOD and General McLAGAN visited Brigade Headquarters also. 46th Battalion and 48th Battalion. Dispositions of the Brigade in accordance with Brigade Order No. 200.	
			Brigade Headquarters. EBART FARM. Trench Mortar Battery. FRECHENCOURT. 45th Battalion. do. 46th " MOLLIEUS AU BOIS. 47th " FRECHENCOURT. 48th " BEAUCOURT. 12th Field Ambulance. BEHENCOURT. 26th A.S. Company MOLLIEUS AU BOIS.	
		1 p.m.	Following from 4th Aust. Division timed 12-25 p.m. - "Arrange to have RIBEMONT - BAIZIEUX Line reconnoitred today with a view to its occupation at short notice by a nucleus garrison of one Battalion of your Brigade aaa Whole line from ANCRE - BAIZIEUX to be included aaa Scheme should be arranged on the principle of occupation of tactical points and <u>NOT</u> continuous thin line aaa" 46th Battalion ordered to carry out reconnaissance forthwith. Great difficulty experienced in accomodating 46th Battalion in MOLLIEUS AU BOIS. Information given by Town Major of village showed accomodation for 800 in the village but when troops arrived the billeting parties could only billet 500. Tents were later obtained from 2nd Div. Details camp which righted the situation and fixed up the remainder of the Battalion (200) and the 26th Coy. A.S.C. (100). Arrangements were made to bath 48th Battalion during afternoon at BEHENCOURT baths, and Div. advised that clean clothes would be delivered at the baths about noon for issue to the men after bath. Up to 5-20 p.m. these clean clothes had not arrived and no advice from Division as to reason of delay. On enquiry Division advise that lorry with clothes had broken down. Brigade G.S. Waggon was then sent to CARDONNETTE to get some clean clothes which had been left there under Div. instructions. The afternoon was thus wasted when timely advice of mishap to lorry would have obviated delay.	
		9 p.m.	Verbal message from D.H.Q. in all probability 2 Battalions will move to BAIZIEUX and La HOUSOYE. Instructions sent to 45th and 46th Battalions to be prepared to move at any hour on 13th to BAIZIEUX and La HOUSOYE.	

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EBART FARM	April 13th	10-12	a.m. Following timed 9-50 a.m. from 4th Aust. Div. - "Move one Battalion to BAIZIEUX and one to La HOUSOYE today accommodation being arranged by 2nd and 3rd Australian Divisions respectively. These Battalions will be employed by 2nd and 3rd Divisions to man with nucleus garrisons certain selected localities in their respective areas. Send S.O. to report for instructions to Headquarters of 2nd and 3rd Australian Divisions at once.	
		10-15 11 a.m.	Brigade Major reported to 2nd Aust. Div. and I.O. to 3rd Aust. Div. for instructions. 46th Battalion instructed as follows :- Move your Battalion to BAIZIEUX by march route forthwith. Route - BEAUCOURT - BEHENCOURT. Distances 100 yards between Companies after passing BEHENCOURT 50 yards between Platoons and 100 yards between Companies. Send forward an officer to report to Town Major, BAIZIEUX arrange billets. Your Battalion is under tactical orders 2nd Aust. Div. Battalion less 2 Platoons will be billeted in BAIZIEUX. Two Platoons will occupy BAIZIEUX Line as a nucleus garrison in the vicinity of following points :- 1 Platoon D.19. 1 Platoon C.I.D. or D.7.	
		11-40	C.O. to report to Brigade Headquarters on passing through. Intelligence Officer telephones from 3rd Div. Headquarters instructions for 45th Battalion issued. Move your Battalion to La HOUSOYE forthwith by march route. Your Battalion is under tactical orders of 3rd Aust. Div. - Route direct. Distances of 100 yards between Companies. Send forward billeting parties report Town Major arrange billets. Your Battalion will be required to provide nucleus garrisons for La HOUSOYE Line and 3rd Aust. Div. will communicate direct with you the exact points to be garrisoned and strength of garrison. Remainder of your Battalion will be in billets at La HOUSOYE. C.O. or 2nd in command to report to Brigade Headquarters forthwith.	
		2-36	47th Battalion ordered to carry out reconnaissance of defences in B.23.D. B.29.B. and D. to H.5.Central with a view to occupying line with nucleus garrison and with outposts on line B.24.D. B.30.B. and D. and H.6.A. - map reference 62D 1/20,000. These instructions were issued after G.O.C., Division telephoned to G.O.C.. Brigade also reconnaissance by G.O.C.	
		3-4 p.m.	Brigade of country running North to B.6.D. with a view to digging a line. From 4th Aust. Div. timed 2-30 p.m. delivered personally by Captain MAXWELL, D.S.O., M.C. The Defence of the QUERRIEU Line is the line running along the HALLUE River on the West Bank has been allotted to this Division as the close Support Division of the Corps. You will take over this line from H.5.Central to the Corps Northern Boundary. The force at your disposal for this purpose is your own Brigade (less the two detached Battalions) and a Machine Gun Coy. One Battalion is to be allotted the defence of the crossing from H.5.Central to about B.18.D.0 4.	

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EBART FARM	April 13 (ctd.)		and another to the defence of those from B.18.D.0 4. to the Northern Corps Boundary. The present defences which are dug as far North as B.23.D. are to be continued West of the river to the Northern Corps Boundary. No labour apart from that of your own Brigade can be placed at your disposal. Captain A.M. MAXWELL, D.S.O., M.C. is placed at your disposal to assist in work of reconnaissance and supervision. The troops at your disposal are to be disposed as a nucleus garrison grouped at intervals in the prepared defences with outposts directly guarding the various crossings.	
		3-15 4 p.m.	G.O.C., Brigade and O.C., 48th Battalion left on reconnaissance. 45th Battalion report move completed. Bn. at La HOUSOYE at 2-35 p.m. Bn. Headquarters at I.9.A.6 9. 3rd Aust. Div. and 4th Aust. Div. notified by wire.	
		5-45	G.O.C. returned from reconnaissance. Strong Points to be dug by 48th Battalion at following locations :- B.23.B.55 20. - B.23.B.60 80. - B.24.A.65 60. - B.17.D.90 45. - B.18.C.60 75 - B.18.A.95 35. - B.18.A.85 90. - B.12.D.20 30. - B.12.D.45 70. - B.12.D.25 85. - B.12.B.75 55. B.6.D.85 05. - C.7.A.75 90. - C.1.C.00 30. - B.6.D.40 50. - B.6.D.35 85. 48th Battalion commenced to dig at 7 p.m. The weather during the period under review was cold and dull with strong winds during the evening - some slight showers during the day with heavier rain during the evening.	
		7-20 p.m.	46th Battalion report move complete 5-30 p.m. - disposed as follows :- Bn. Headquarters C.12.A.50 95. 3 Coys. less 2 Platoons C.5.Central - 1 Coy. C.12.A.30 70. 2 Platoons D.26.A.5 3. D.1.D.1 5. Transport Lines C.10.C.3 6.	
do.	14th	8-10 a.m.	Divisional Order No. 141 received confirming verbal orders re. occupying the QUERRIEU Line. Further reconnaissance of 47th Battalion Sector and strong points selected and work of construction commenced. 48th Battalion continue work of construction.	
		12 noon	General RAWLINSON called at Brigade Headquarters. 9 p.m. Brigade Order No. 201 for the defence of the line from B.6.Central to H.5.Central issued to all units. Trench Mortar Battery ordered to carry out reconnaissance and submit proposals as to emplacements in the line. The weather today has been very boisterous with very heavy gales and rain, also it has been extremely cold. Notification received from D.A.D.V.S. that an outbreak of "Epizootic Lymphangitis" in horses had been discovered in the following villages :- St GRATIEN - FRECHENCOURT - MONTIGNY - BEHENCOURT. Instructions sent to units to take all precautions to prevent infection and all animals in area quoted to be removed to fresh area also improvised water troughs to be made and horses watered from wells if possible.	<i>Re Order</i>
	15th		12th Machine Gun Coy. placed under command G.O.C. Brigade for defence of HALLUE. O.C. Coy.	

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EBART FARM	April 15th (ctd.)		reported to Brigade Headquarters and was instructed to carry out a reconnaissance and select suitable gun positions for the defence of the line allotted to the Brigade. Division ask to move 12th Machine Gun Coy. from PONT NOYELLES to FRECHENCOURT and BEAUCOURT on 16th to be in such a position to man the line at short notice in case of necessity. Weather today has been cold and windy also very dull.	
do.	16th		47th and 48th Bns. Trench Mortar Bty. working on defences of River HALLUE. 12th M.G. Coy. having selected gun positions commenced their construction. Arrangements were made to accommodate 12th Machine Gun Coy. at FRECHENCOURT and BEAUCOURT but it was decided that the Company would not move and would remain at PONT NOYELLES, but working parties from 12th Coy. would report daily until gun emplacements were completed. Weather dull and cold with rain showers.	
do.	17th		Work continued on defences. 48th Battalion have practically completed a continuous line from Left Brigade Boundary to B.23.B. where they connect with 47th Battalion. Trench Mortar positions completed and M.G. Positions nearing completion. Weather during the morning fine and mild with heavy rain during the afternoon.	
do.	18th	2-35	p.m. G.O.C., Division visited Brigade Headquarters and went round the defences with G.O.C., Brigade. From Division - "Anticipate 45th and 46th Battalions rejoining Brigade on 19th and 20th inst. respectively. Weather wet and dull and cold.	
do.	19th	10-15	Following from 4th Aust. Div. - "Please send billeting party from 45th Battalion to QIERRIEU today and warn Battalion to be prepared move there at three hours notice." 45th advised accordingly.	
		12-25	45th advise G.S.O. I 3rd Div. inform them they will not move until 21st and 4th Div. communicated with and confirm this. 45th advised accordingly.	
		3-20	46th Battalion ordered to move tomorrow 20th on relief by "A" Bn. 5th A.I. Brigade. On relief 46th Battalion move back to wood in B.23.B. Battalion 5th Brigade expected to arrive about 1 p.m. Battalion Headquarters on completion of relief at FRECHENCOURT CHATEAU with 47th Bn.	
		4-30	p.m. Brig. Gen. J. GELLIBRAND, C.B., D.S.O. commanding 12th A.I. Brigade, evacuated sick to hospital. Lieut. Col. R.L. LEANE, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C. temporary commanding during temporary absence of Gen. GELLIBRAND. Major A.S. ALLEN to command 48th Battalion vice Lieut. Col. LEANE to Brigade. Weather cold with sleet and hail and strong winds also rain with bright intervals.	
do.	20th*		*Construction of the defences of the River HALLUE being completed - training now to be undertaken by units, the majority of the time being spent in Rapid Loading - Rapid Fire - Fire Control Gas Drill - Platoon, Company Drill - route marching. Weather fair and mild. 46th Battalion moved from BAIZIEUX under orders 2nd Division to Wood in B.23. and came under orders of Brigade. Brigade now concentrated less 45th Battalion who are still under 3rd Division.	

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EBART FARM	April 21st		Church Parade. 45th Battalion moved from LAHOUSOYE to QUERRIEU and came under orders of Brigade. The Brigade is now again concentrated and located as follows :- 45th QUERRIEU - 46th and 47th FRECHENCOURT - 48th BEAUCOURT - Trench Mortar Battery FRECHENCOURT.	
	22nd		Weather fair and mild during the morning - cloudy with showers during the afternoon.	
	23rd		Training carried out by units - weather fine - enemy aeroplanes active bombing back areas.	
			Training - Conference of Brigade Commanders at Divisional Headquarters. List of subjects discussed are appended.	<i>Instructions</i>
		1 pm.	Verbal message from Division that Brigade would relieve 10th Brigade, 3rd Division in Line on 25/26th - orders follow.	
		10-22	Divisional Order No. 112 for relief of 3rd Division received. Conference of C.O's of Brigade units called for 10 a.m., 24th. Weather fine and clear during the day but dull at night with light rain.	
do.	24th	4 am.	Heavy artillery fire heard in the distance.	
		5-35 am.	Message from D.H.Q. - "Warn all units to be prepared to move at short notice. One M.G. Coy. will be detailed for attachment to each Brigade ready to move with it on receipt of orders."	
		5-39	Following to all units - "Units to be prepared to move at short notice. Warn all concerned."	
		10 am.	Conference of C.O's held at Brigade Headquarters. Subjects discussed at Div. Conference brought to notice of unit commanders. Relief of 3rd Division 10th Brigade - details of relief arranged and in accordance with message from 4th Division relief held in abeyance until further orders. C.O's units notified of this at Conference.	
		11 am.	Situation as far as known at present, enemy moving towards FOUILLOY astride VILLERS-BRETONNEUX-FOUILLOY road. 5th Aust. Div. astride road forming flank and keeping touch with right aaa All units will be warned to be ready to move at short notice. 13th A.I. Brigade Group moving to BLANGY TRONVILLE.	
		11-37	Following temporary grouping will hold itself in readiness to move at short notice under command of 12th A.I. Brigade Commander. 12th A.I. Brigade, 1 Machine Gun Coy., S.A.A. Sub-Section 4th D.A.C., 1 Field Ambulance, Company Div. Train. Representatives of attached units will report at once to 12th A.I. Brigade Headquarters at EBART FARM and remain there until required. Units will not assemble but will remain in readiness at present location. This is in addition to 13th A.I. Brigade.	
		12-40 pm.	4th Aust. Div. Order No. 112 is held in abeyance until further orders. Attached units located as follows - 12th Field Ambulance, BEHENCOURT - 12th Machine Gun Coy., PONT NOYELLES - S.A.A. Sub-Section, EBART FARM - A.S. Coy., EBART FARM.	

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EBART FARM	April 24th	12 noon (ctd.)	Battalions and Trench Mortar Battery ordered to send an officer to Brigade Headquarters for orders.	
		4-50	Following from Division - "Reference my G.75 of today 12th A.I. Brigade Group (less Machine Gun Company) will move to area lately vacated by 13th A.I. Brigade at once. Battalions will be located at QUERRIEU - PONT NOYELLES - DOAURS and under shelters at H.29.A.6 1. Brigade Headquarters at Field Ambulance at QUERRIEU. S.A.A. Sub-Section will move to bivouac between QUERRIEU and BUSSY if not sufficient room at QUERRIEU. Machine Gun Coy. will remain at PONT NOYELLES. Completion of moves to be notified.	
QUERRIEU		5 pm.	Orders for move of Brigade Group issued to units.	
		10-40	Move completed at 9-15 p.m. 47th Battalion last unit to report.	
do.	25th	9-35	am. Following wire received from 4th Aust. Div. "Busses and lorries have been made available by 4th Army for the move of the 12th A.I. Brigade and 12th Machine Gun Company in case of emergency aaa These will be distributed and parked under cover as far as possible near the respective units aaa In case of move by bus and lorry machine and Lewis Guns will be taken in the busses and lorries with the personnel and suitable proportion of belt boxes and magazines aaa Acknowledge aaa Addressed 12th A.I. Brigade Reptd.AQ."	
		9-45	Brigade Order No. 297 issued to all concerned.	
		10 am.	Distribution of lorries for emergency move will be as follows :- Brigade Headquarters and 12th Trench Mortar Battery 10 - 45th Battalion QUERRIEU 28 - 46th Battalion H.29.B.3 2. - 47th Battalion DOAURS 23 - 48th Battalion PONT NOYELLES 37 - 12th Machine Gun Coy. PONT NOYELLES 15 - 12th Field Ambulance QUERRIEU 15.	
		10-10 a.m.	Officer in charge of bus convoy reported with busses and was given the distribution. An officer from Headquarters went to various unit parks with him to render any assistance that may be required.	
		11 pm.	Situation wires received during the day. Brigade standing by ready to move, since arriving in this area. The time awaiting orders is very tedious but can only be expected under these conditions. The weather during the period under review has been mild and fine for the exception of light showers during the later part of the evening.	
do.	26th	11-30	am. Telephone orders received from Division for lorries and busses to move under direct orders from 4th Army. Staff Officer from 4th Army reported and issued orders direct to O.C. Tactical Battalions Column to move.	
		11-35	Following to all units "Brigade Group :- "Under direct orders from Army busses now moving	x

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QUERRIEU	April 26th	2 pm.	without troops. Units will be prepared to move by march route at half an hours notice. G.O.C. and Brigade Major proceeded to D.H.Q. and were informed that Brigade would relieve 13th & 15th Brigade on night 28/29th. from On returning to Brigade Headquarters conference of C.O's called for 8 p.m.	
		7-45	Divisional Commander and G.S.O. 1 called at Brigade Headquarters and informed us that the Brigade would relieve 13th and 15th A.I. Brigades on night 27/28th from U.5. Central thence grid line E. & W. to U.1. Central, Brigade Southern Boundary - O.30D.95 25. thence road running East and West exclusive, Northern Boundary.	
		8 pm.	Conference of C.O's. Information concerning front to be taken over being limited situation was explained to C.O's. 45th and 46th Battalions to take over line - 47th Support - 48th Reserve. Brigade Major and Staff Captain left for 13th A.I. Brigade Headquarters, TRONVILLE CHATEAU to arrange for relief.	
		9-45 pm.	Following from 4th Div. :- " Div. Ammunition Dump for S.A.A. and Grenades will be formed at M.2.B.4 2. Instruct sub-Section of D.A.C. now attached to you to report to that location at 2 p.m. tomorrow. O.C. S.A.A. Section will meet and instruct as to waggon lines. All demands for ammunition will be sent to dump. Instructions issued to O.C., Sub-Section D.A.C. Weather dull and mild with mist and fog during the morning - situation wire from time to time received from D.H.Q.	
QUERRIEU	27th	1-10	Following from 4th Div. - "4th Aust. Brigade will move from present positions today 27th and be located as follows :- Machine Gun Company, 1 Battalion and Trench Mortar Battery at DACOURS 1 Battalion H.29.A.6 1. - 1 Battalion PONT NOYELLES - 1 Battalion QUERRIEU - A.S.Coy. QUERRIEU not to reach destination before noon. No restrictions as to route.	
		6-32	Divisional Order No. 113 for relief of 13th Brigade and Portion of 15th Brigade received. Confirming verbal instructions issued to all units excepting 47th Battalion. Brigade order No. 203 for relief of 13th A.I. Brigade and portion of 15th Brigade issued to units.	<i>Recorded</i>
		9-20	Battalions and Trench Mortars Bty. instructed to concentrate the nucleus personnel at QUERRIEU preparatory to moving to ALLONVILLE. Nucleus of Battalions formed into details Battalion under command of Major BREARLEY, 48th Battalion.	
		10 am.	Divisional Commander telephoned Brigade Commander that 8th British Division were arranging relief and that Div. Order No. 113 would not now stand and that the Brigade was under tactical orders of 8th British Division and that G.O.C. to report to 8th Division Headquarters GLISY for instructions.	
		10-15	47th and 48th Battalions ordered to stand fast and not move in accordance with the Brigade Order No. 203 until further orders.	

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QUERRIEU	April 27th (ctd.)		G.O.C. returned from 8th Division with orders to take over front in accordance with Brigade Order excepting that the ABIGNY LINE would not be occupied by us and that CACHY LINE would be held, also that troops of 23rd and 25th British Brigades occupying rear lines in Brigade Sector would be relieved. Battalions to take over accordingly - informed.	
do.	"	11-15 am.	45th Battalion moved out - informed by wire.	
		11-25	46th Battalion moved out from bivouacs at 10-30 a.m.	
		11-45	12th Trench Mortar Battery moved out.	
		11-45	Div. advise 26th A.A.S.C. Coy. H.Q. will be at M.16.B.9 l. Coy. ordered to move to this location.	
		11-50	Div. advise Brigade Transport will be parked at M.17.B. - M.18.A. and units notified accordingly.	
		12-15	13th Brigade rang up for 46th Battalion to know if there were any instructions for Col. FORD.	
		1-40	47th and 48th Battalions instructed to move in accordance with Brigade Order No. 203 and that the majority of the Battalion were to occupy CACHY SWITCH, the balance of the Battalion, if any, to occupy ABIGNY LINE (Corps Reserve Line). Car No. 1059 placed at disposal of Brigade Headquarters, from 4th Div. Headquarters.	
		1-45	48th Battalion moved out of PONT NOYELLES.	
		3-15 pm.	Brigade Headquarters closed at QUERRIEU and moved to TRONVILLE CHATEAU at which Brigade Headquarters opened at 4 p.m.	
TRONVILLE CHATEAU		4 pm.	G.O.C., 23rd and 25th Brigades and G.S.O. 1, 8th Division arrived at Brigade Headquarters and arranged for relief. Order of 25th Brigade issued. <i>secured.</i>	x
		5 pm.	13th A.I. Brigade order for relief received, also 8th British Division Order for relief.	
		5-20	4th Division A.D.M.S. order received.	
		5-25 pm.	Following sent to 47th Battalion :- "In addition to relieving 51st Battalion in CACHY LINE your Battalion will take over from 2nd West Yorks and 2nd Middlesex Regiment who occupy CACHY LINE from O.34.C.6 0. - O.28.D.3 4. inclusive. Battalion Headquarters is at O.26.D.9 4. and guides will be provided by these units to be at BOIS l'ABBE O.26.C.9 4. at 7 p.m. and will await your arrival."	guides
		6-55	25th Brigade Order for relief of 2nd East Lancs. Battalion by 2 Companies 46th Battalion on night 28/29 received.	
		8-50	4th Div. Order No. 114 for relief of 4th A.I. Brigade received.	
		9-10	23rd Brigade Order for relief received.	
		9-30	Following to 46th Battalion :- "Your Battalion will relieve the 2nd Battalion East Lancs. on night 28/29 with 2 Coys. East Lancs. at present occupy a line in O.29.D. O.30.C. O.36.A. All arrangements for the relief will be made direct between O.C. East Lancs. and yourself and	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	April 27th (ctd.)	9-15	<p>An officer from East Lancs. will report your Headquarters tomorrow morning to arrange details of relief. Headquarters East Lancs O.29.B.7 5. Distinguishing flags for tanks. 1st Bn. Red 3rd Light Battalion Green Flag</p> <p>pm. 8th Division wire :- Reference 8th Division Order No. 290 dated 27th April aaa In addition to 2nd East Lancs. Regt. 25th Infantry Brigade will leave 2nd Rifle Brigade in forward area tonight aaa 2nd Rifle Brigade will remain in present positions in O.28. aaa In the event of a hostile attack penetrating into VILLERS BRETONNEUX the O.C. 2nd Rifle Brigade will on his own initiative counter-attack against VILLERS-BRETONNEUX from the N.W. his objective being S.E. outskirts of the village aaa Immediately this counter-attack takes place 2nd Rifle Brigade will come under the orders of 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade aaa 2nd Rifle Brigade will be withdrawn tomorrow probably about 10 a.m. under orders which will be issued by 8th Division Headquarters aaa 24th Infantry Brigade after assembling in BOIS de BLANGY will on receipt of orders from Div. Headquarters be prepared to counter-attack (a) South of the Bois l'ABBE in an Easterly direction or (b) North of BOIS l'ABBE against VILLERS BRETONNEUX aaa"</p>	
		11-25	<p>8th Div. wire :- "Reference 8th Division Order No. 290 dated 27th April aaa 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade will relieve that portion of 2nd East Lancs. Regt. South of the main LONGUEAU - WARFUSEE ROAD on night 28/29 April aaa that portion of the 2nd East Lancs North of the above road will be withdrawn at 11 p.m. on night 28/29th April without relief aaa 2nd East Lancs. on relief will move to BLANGY TRONVILLE billets from Town Major aaa Addrds. 25th Inf. Brigade 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade repts. 5th Aust. Division 2nd East Lancs. Regt." Relief progressing.</p> <p>Weather during the period fine and mild during the day but cloudy during the afternoon. Showery from 7 p.m. to midnight</p>	
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	28th	4 am.	<p>Situation wires received - Everything quiet - Slight M.G. fire Right Battalion Sector.</p>	
		5 am.	<p>45th Battalion Report 18 pounders and one How. approx. 6 in. falling short on Battalion Front. Artillery instructed to rectify.</p>	
		5-10	<p>48th Battalion ring to say that S.O.S. went up on Right (French) front. Division informed. Rang 45th Battalion for confirmation but line down from Battalion to Company Headquarters. Artillery opened up on our S.O.S. Line. Liaison officer informed that this was not required by us and same was switched off at 5-35 a.m.</p>	
		6-50	<p>45th Battalion rang up to say that the Liaison Officers with French report that artillery was called for to deal with an enemy concentration with tanks in Hangard. Trouble was being experienced from Flammenwerfers. The situation is now quiet and a report will be forwarded by their Liaison officer later.</p>	
		10 am.	<p>Following from 8th Division timed 9-30 a.m. :- "If situation is quiet 2nd Rifle Brigade will withdraw at 10-30 a.m. under orders O.C."</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	April 28th (ctd.)		<p>Battalion from present position in O.28. and will march to rejoin 25th Inf. Brigade at BONFILLERIC 1 mile South West of LONGEAU.</p> <p>In accordance with Brigade Order No. 203 verbal instructions issued to Battalion Commanders. Relief of troops occupying Brigade Sector less 1 Battalion East Lincs. was completed at 2-15 am. The relief was most difficult owing largely to the fact of the units to be relieved not knowing very much concerning the actual disposition of their troops and the number of units in the Sector which had to be relieved. The troops in the Sector to be relieved were 13th A.I. Brigade, 3 Battalions and a Trench Mortar Battery - 15th A.I. Brigade 2 Companies 23rd British Brigade 22nd D.L.1 Battalion, 2nd Royal Berkshire Battalion - 25th British Brigade 2nd West Yorks - 2nd Middlesex - 2nd Devons - 1st Worcestershire Battalion. The 2nd East Lincs. remained in the Sector and will be relieved to-night.</p> <p>The Brigade Sector was full of troops and our Battalions experienced much difficulty in locating the several Headquarters of the outgoing Battalions and eventually the relief was completed. The Brigade was disposed as follows :- Bde. H.Q. TRONVILLE CHATEAU - 45th Bn. Line Right - 46th Bn. Line Left - 48th Battalion CACHY SWITCH in Support to 45th Battalion. 47th Battalion CACHY SWITCH in Support to 46th Battalion. 12th Trench Mortar Battery 4 guns in line. A map showing the Brigade Sector with the actual boundaries and Battalion Dispositions is attached. The units on the flanks - Right Flank 1st Bde. Moroccan Div. 31st French Corps - Left Flank 15th A.I. Brigade 5th Aust. Division. The Brigade is now the Right Flank unit of the British Army or holding the Right of the British Line.</p> <p>10-45 G.O.C. and Brigade Major visited each Battalion Headquarters and generally conferred with them concerning the Sector. The searching of cellars in VILLERS BRETONNEUX for German prisoners hiding there was arranged with 46th and 45th Battalions. 46th Battalion to establish a joint Post with the 4th Brigade, 13th Battalion in the vicinity of O.30.D.7 3. - also 45th and 46th Battalions were to reconnoitre and submit proposals for new Battalion Headquarters. 46th Battalion advised and suggested the pushing forward of their line to about 250 yards and were arranging to do this tonight.</p> <p>4 pm. Proposals received from 45th Battalion re. new Headquarters and asking for assistance. 4th Pioneer Battalion are sending an Officer at 7-30 a.m. tomorrow to arrange all details. Brigade Headquarters will be established at O.25.C.5 3. as soon as accommodation is available - work of construction is under way and should be completed in about 3/4 days. The situation up to this time was quiet with light scattered shelling of the Forward Area. No other activity was observed.</p> <p>7-25 pm. Following from Division. :-</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A7883) Wt W809/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a. Forms/C/2 18/14

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	1918 April 28th (ctd.)		<p>" Persistent reports of enemy sniper in wood about O.32. using rifle and rifle grenades. 13th A.I. Brigade will arrange to mop up the wood tomorrow 29th." 47th and 48th Battalions accordingly informed."</p> <p>8-5 pm. Following to 46th Battalion :- "Confirming conversation of today. Arrange mutually with O.C., 13th Battalion for a joint Post to be established near point of junction South of Road WARFUSEE - LONGEAU. Establishment of Post to be notified to Brigade H.Q. As a result of search of VILLERS BRETONNEUX 15 prisoners were found. These were all more or less wounded.</p> <p>8-5 At this hour very heavy artillery fire commenced - the great part on the French Front. In response to S.O.S. French put down a barrage and our artillery did likewise. This barrage continued until 9 p.m. when it died down. The barrage put down was reduced to slow rate at 8-20 p.m. and ceased altogether at 8-30 p.m. In reply to our barrage the enemy shelled the Right Company of the 45th Battalion causing 8 casualties. 2 enemy Machine Guns were active during the bombardment</p> <p>Intelligence Summary up to 6 a.m. attached.</p> <p>During the last 24 hours the weather has been mostly overcast and warm from 7 p.m. to midnight light showers fell.</p>	
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	29th	1-30	12th Machine Gun Company advised completion of relief of Guns in Forward Area.	
		2-5	46th Battalion reported that they had withdrawn one Company from Front Line and that the relief of the 2nd Battalion East Lancs. was completed.	
		2-15	46th Battalion reported that the line of Posts could not be pushed forward but would remain for the time being in their present positions.	
		4 am.	Situation since last report 4 p.m. Other than the barrage of 8 p.m. was very quiet on the Brigade Sector. Light scattered shelling by enemy of the Forward Area and BOIS l'ABBE also VILLERS BRETONNEUX and Railway Line. Our artillery throughout the night carried out selected shoots and harassing fire. No signs of enemy activity other than numerous flares. Enemy appear to be nervous.	
do.		3-45 pm.	French Brigade Report an inter-Battalion relief tonight. Battalions informed accordingly.	
		4-5 pm.	Division telephone and advise 2 Heavy Guns are being emplaced about O.27.D.6 3. and will be in this position in a few days only they are for counter-Battery work and cannot reach their targets unless pushed forward. Battalions notified.	
		4-15	4 Div. Artillery Instructions No. 1 and 2 for defensive received.	
		4-30	Situation report. Quiet generally on Brigade Sector since last report. Slight shelling VILLERS BRETONNEUX and Woods. Enemy aeroplanes active flying low over forward positions about 10 am. One of our 'planes brought down by an enemy 'plane during the morning which fell near l'Abbe.	

D. P. & IA, London, E.C.
(A7883) Wt W809/M1672 550,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2 18/14

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	April 29th (ctd.)	14-30 12	Division advised in accordance with Div. Order No. 114 that Joint Post had been established at 0.30.D.60 25. with 13th Battalion. Midnt. Quiet up to this hour. Intelligence Summary for last 24 hours attached. Weather	
do.		30th 4 am.	generally dull with bright intervals - visibility poor. Situation since last report - Very quiet - enemy activity practically nil - enemy Artillery very quiet - slight shelling Forward Area and vicinity l'ABBE. One prisoner captured vicinity 0.36.C.4.0.. Identified 8th Battalion Jäger Div.. 46th Battalion advanced their line approx. 500 yards on Left Flank and 150 yards along Railway.	
		4-50 am.	Information was received from 45th Battalion that their Right Flank did not go as far as the Brigade Boundary and that the French overlapped for some distance. Arrangements were made with 2nd Moroccan Brigade that 45th Battalion would extend on night 30/31 to the Right Brigade Boundary U.5.Central.	
		4-55	2nd Moroccan Brigade issued orders to their Battalion accordingly and C.O. 45th Battalion instructed to get in touch with French Battalion Commander early this morning to arrange all details.	
		9 am.	Instructions sent to 47th and 48th Battalions occupying CACHY LINE that Engineer Assistance would be available to assist in erection of entanglements and improvement of CACHY LINE. An Engineer officer of 13th A.F. Company reported at their H.Q. at 8-30 a.m. to arrange all details.	
		11 am.	Message from 2nd Moroccan Brigade received regarding adjustment of line of 48th Battalion. Message sent stating that an officer would call at their Headquarters at 11 a.m. to arrange all details.	
		11-30 am.	Map of dispositions of Brigade despatched to Division, Flank Brigades. Brigades Major visited French Brigade Headquarters and arranged all details of extension of 45th Battalion Right Flank which would be carried out night 30/1. The Battalion on the right is the 3rd Bn. Tirailleurs commanded by Major TRACATEL.	
		1 pm.	2nd Moroccan Brigade Order received. Following to 45th Battalion :- "Your Battalion will extend so as your Right Flank rests on U.5.Central Grid line running East and West. Attached herewith 2nd Moroccan Brigade Order to the C.O., 8th Zouaves Battalion. Get in touch with C.O. 8th Zouaves and arrange all details of relief (This order has already been sent you). Special care to be exercised with regard to Liaison. Completion of extension to be reported.	
		4 pm.	Situation since last report very quiet. Very little enemy artillery activity. Slight shelling of village and railway at long intervals.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRONVILLE CHATEAU	April 30th (ctd.)	5 pm.	Instructions No. 3 for Defensive from Div. Artillery received which orders special harassing fire in preparation for attack on MONUMENT WOOD.	
		6-35	pm. Following to 46th Battalion :- "In anticipation of future operations on MONUMENT WOOD and to improve our present line the line will be pushed forward so that a Post is established at approx. O.36.D.65 10. This Post to be established by 45th Battalion. You will arrange to cooperate with 45th Battalion and push your line forward silently tonight and tomorrow night by stages so that by tomorrow night the line will run on the approx. line present Left Boundary O.36.D.68 92. - O.36.D.65 10. thence South along Railway Line. From information received the enemy Post at O.36.D.48 92. will have to be dealt with. The G.O.C. considers that this will take 40/50 O.R. under 2 selected officers. Your proposals for numbers to be used and method of advancing the line after conferring with O.C. 45th Battalion to be submitted to Brigade Headquarters."	
		7 pm.	Conference of C.O. 45th and 48th Bns. regarding what proposals re. attack on MONUMENT WOOD was discussed. Brig. Gen. BRAND, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., 4th A.I. Brigade present. C.O., 45th Battalion informed of the necessity of pushing our line forward as far as possible prior to operation on MONUMENT WOOD to increase the chance of success of this operation.	
		7-10	pm. From Div. - "Owing to suspected concentration of enemy troops opposite the front gas bombardments are being carried out by our artillery. Warn all concerned to be prepared for retaliation." Units informed.	
		8 pm.	Division advise harassing programme which will be carried out by covering artillery and 5th Div. Artillery throughout the night.	
		9-17	pm. Following from Div. "Tank Officer will visit C.O., 48th Battalion at his Headquarters at O.26.C.9 2. at 11 a.m. tomorrow to arrange details, warn 48th Bn. Bn. advised accordingly.	
		12 mdt.	Situation quiet. Weather during the period dull with intervals of good visibility.	

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WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

OF

12th Aust Inf Bde

FOR

April1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1/ | Map of Brigade Sector Albert. |
| 2/ | Brigade Orders Nos 197 - 203 |
| 3/ | Report on Operations 25 th March - 6 th April
with Map |
| 4/ | Instructions No 1.2.3. |
| 5/ | Disposition. |
| 6/ | Map of Villers Bretonnoux Sector. |
| 7/ | Miscellaneous |
| 8/ | Intelligence Summaries |
| 9/ | Fighting Strength etc. |

203
SECRET.

12th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 197.

APPENDIX

26

Map. Reference. ALBERT. 1/40,000.

2-4-18.

1. The 47th Battalion will relieve the 45th Battalion in the Right Battalion Sector on night 2/3rd.

2. All details of relief will be arranged mutually between C.O.'s concerned.

3. On completion of relief 45th Battalion will occupy with 3 Companies LAVIEVIKLE - RIBEMONT Line now occupied by 47th Battalion. One Company, 45th Battalion will occupy line E.7. Central under tactical orders 47th Battalion and under orders 45th Battalion for administration.

4. Completion of relief to be wired to Brigade Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major.

Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued to signals at 9-35 a.m.

SECRET.

12th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 197A.

Map Reference. ALBERT. 1/40,000.

2-4-18.

1. The 48th Battalion will relieve 46th Battalion in the Left Battalion Sector on the night 3/4th April.

2. All details of the relief will be mutually arranged between C.O.'s concerned.

3. On completion of relief 46th Battalion, less one Company, will move back to V.29.C.

One Company 46th Battalion on relief will occupy trench running in E.1.C. and will come under the tactical orders of C.O., 48th Battalion, and orders 46th Battalion for administration.

4. Completion of relief to be wired to Brigade Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major.

Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued at 1 p.m.

203

APPENDIX 2²⁴

SECRET.

12th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 198.

Copy No.....

Map Ref. ALBERT. 1/40,000.

6-4-18.

2

-
1. The 12th A.I. Brigade will be relieved by 6th A.I. Brigade in the Left Brigade Sector on the night 6/7th April.
 2. Dispositions of 6th Brigade have been already sent to units also arrangements for guides to meet incoming units.
 3. On completion of relief units will move back and occupy trenches in following locations :-

48th Battalion.	D.2. and 9.
47th ")	D.1. - D.7. - D.13. - D.14. BAIZIEUX LINE.
46th ")	
45th " and T.M.Bty.	
24th M.G.Coy.	C.5.
Brigade Headquarters.	BAIZIEUX.

Units will move back with 120 rounds ammunition only, balance being dumped.
 Orders for Pioneer Battalion will be issued separately.
 Completion of relief to be wired to Brigade Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major,
 Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued at 7 p.m.



203

2/

SECRET

COPY No. 17

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 199,

Map Reference 62D 1/40,000.

9/4/18.

1, The 12th Australian Infantry Brigade (less the 12th Australian Machine Gun Company) and the 12th Field Ambulance and the 26th A.S. company will move by march route to the CARDONNETTE.- COISY- RAINNEVILLE AREA on the 10th April 1918.

2, Order of march, Pass Starting Point.

46th Battalion	12-45 p.m.
48th "	1 p.m.
45th "	1-15 p.m.
47th "	1-30 p.m.
Bde Headquarters	1-45 p.m.
12th T.M. Battery	do
12th Field Ambulance	1-50 p.m.
26th A.S. Company	2- p.m.

3, Starting Point, Fork Road H 10 A

4, Route, QUERRIER + H 3 Central.

5, Units will be billeted as under:-

46th Battalion	POULAINVILLE	taking over from
48th "	COISY	8th Battalion
45th Battalion	CARDONNETTE	6th Battalion
47th Battalion	do	5th Battalion
Bde Headquarters	RAINNEVILLE	7th Battalion
12th T.M. Bty	do	2nd Bde
12th Field Amb,	COISY	2nd T.M. Bty
26th A.S. Coy	do	

6, Billetting Parties, Units will send forward Billetting Parties to take over billets by 10 a.m.

7, Supplies, A.S.C. waggon will deliver to Units, with refilling point at COISY,

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Major

Major.
Brigade Major, 12th A.I. Bde.

Issued to Signals at
9-15p.m.

Copies to:-

Normal
12th Field Ambulance
26th A.S. Company.

203

SECRET.

12th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 200.

Copy No.

Map Reference 82 D. 1/40,000.

11-4-18.

1. The 12th Australian Infantry Brigade, and the 12th Field Ambulance and 26th Coy. A.S.C. will move by march route to the MOLLIENS-AU-BOIS - BEAUCOURT - MONTIGNY - FRECHENCOURT - St GRATIEN Area on the 12th April, 1918.

<u>2. Order of march.</u>	<u>Starting Point.</u>
47th Battalion.	9 a.m.
45th "	9-15 a.m.
12th Field Ambulance.	9-30 a.m.
48th Battalion.	9-45 a.m.
12th Trench Mortar Battery.	10 a.m.
Brigade Headquarters.	do.
46th Battalion	9-30 a.m.
26th A.S. Company	9-45 a.m.

3. Starting Point. Fork Road B 25 B 8 2 (all Units excepting 46th Battalion and 26th A.S. Company)
Starting Point 46th Battalion and 26th A.S. Company Cross Roads ~~G 3 D~~, G 4 A

4. Routes. 47th 45th and Trench Mortar Battery Field Ambulance, St GRATIEN- FRECHENCOURT.

48th Battalion Road North East to BEAUCOURT.

46th Battalion RAINNEVILLE
26th A.S. Company "

5. Units will be billeted as under:-

Brigade Headquarters	Location later
Trench Mortar Battery	FRECHENCOURT
45th Battalion	do
46th Battalion	MOLLIENS AU BOIS
47th Battalion	FRECHENCOURT
48th Battalion	BEAUCOURT
12th Field Ambulance	BEHENCOURT
26th A.S. Company	MOLLIENS AU BOIS

6. Billetting parties from Units to report to Town Majors at the village of destination, by 9 a.m. to arrange billets.

7. Supplies will be deliver to Units by A.S.C. wagons with refilling point at MOLLIENS AU BOIS.

8. Completion of move and location of Headquarters to be notified to Brigade Headquarters.

9. Distances of 100 yards to be maintained between Companies and 100 yards between Unit and its Transport.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Major.
Brigade Major, 12th A.I. Bde.

Issued to Signals at
8-30 p.m.

Distribution,
Normal
12th Field Ambulance
26th A.S. Company.

203

30

APPENDIX 2

SECRET.

Copy No. 16

12th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 201.

Map Reference Sheet 62 D. 1/40,000. 14-4-18.

1. The role allotted to the 4th Australian Division as Close Support Division of the Corps is threefold :-

1. To act offensively in aid of the Forward Division.
2. To be prepared at short notice to man any portion of the 2nd Zone Defences in the RIBEMONT - BAIZIEUX line back to the River HALLUE (exclusive).
3. To check the enemy on the line of the HALLUE.

2. This order deals with the 3rd role, which involves the defence, in case of necessity, of the QUERRIEU Line from BUSSY les DOURS inclusive to the Northern Corps Boundary and the bridgehead defences of PONT NOYELLES in H.12. and H.18.

3. This line has been divided for tactical purposes into 2 Sectors, the Right or Southern Sector will be held by a composite force of Pioneers, Engineers, Machine Gun Company, and the Left or the Northern Sector by the 12th A.I. Brigade (less 2 Battalion and a Machine Gun Coy.

4. The frontages held by the 12th A.I. Brigade extends from H.5. Central to the Northern Corps Boundary at B.6. Central, and will be held by the 48th Battalion on the Left and 47th Battalion on the Right, the inter-Battalion boundary running East and West through B.2. B.90 20.

5. Battalions will arrange for the system of strong points (now under construction) to be definitely allotted to Companies as Company Sectors for purposes of Defence. These Sectors are to be reconnoitred by officers of Companies detailed for their defence to ensure that they are occupied in the shortest possible time in case of necessity.

6. As soon as the S.P. are completed and habitable nucleus garrisons will be allotted to each S.P. but outposts will be detailed forthwith to take up suitable positions on the West Bank covering all crossings leading into the Northern Sector.

The remainder of the troops will remain at their present billets excepting one Company 48th Battalion which will move tomorrow to billets in MONTIGNY.

7. Battalions will reconnoitre forthwith and select command and observation posts, notifying Brigade Headquarters to enable arrangements to be made for communication.

Brigade Report centre will be situated at house B.17.B. Fork Roads.

8. Battalions will submit to Brigade Headquarters tomorrow by 5 p.m. sketch showing locations of Battalion Command and Observation Posts, Company Boundaries, Strong Points. Positions of outposts and report on work done on Strong Points up to 12 noon.

9. All wire in the area which does not fulfill tactical requirements will be salvaged and put out so as to delay the enemy under close rifle fire.

10. Corresponding instructions are being issued to 12th Trench Mortar Battery and Machine Gun Company whose dispositions will be notified to Battalions later.

APPENDIX

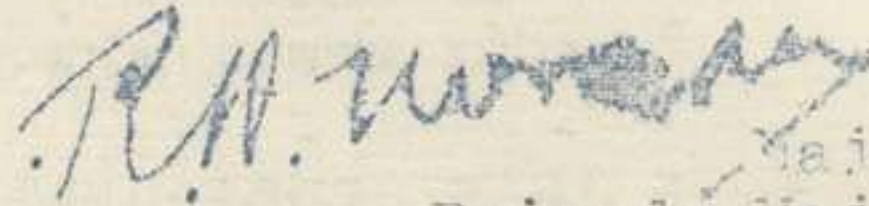
- 2 -

11. A proportion of officers will be sent forward to reconnoitre the BAIZIEUX Line to ensure that Companies can move forward by the shortest route to occupy this line.

12. Until further orders, all men of the Brigade away from the immediate vicinity of their billets will be armed and equipped. No man is to be permitted to leave his billeting area except on duty or on leave and must be in possession of written authority to be so absent.

The practice of firing rifles in the areas behind the front system of works must cease.

ACKNOWLEDGE.



Major.
Brigade Major.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 9 p.m.

Distribution.

Normal.
4th Aust. Div.
Lt: Col. H. PAUL.

203

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APPENDIX

2

SECRET.

Copy No. 13

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 202.

Map Reference 1/40,000. Sheet 62 D.

21-4-18.

- 1. Reference to Brigade Order No. 201.
Para. 4 is cancelled and amended to read as follows :-

The frontage to be held by 12th A.I. Brigade extends from H.5. Central to the Northern Corps Boundary and will be held by 45th Battalion on the left, the 46th Battalion centre, 47th Battalion on the right, the inter-Battalion Boundaries as follows :-

- Left Boundary, 48th Battalion. Northern Grid of B.6. running East and West.
- Right Boundary. Grid running East and West through B.17. and 18. Central inclusive.
- Left Boundary, 46th Battalion. Grid running East and West through E.17. and 18. Central exclusive.
- Right Boundary. Northern Grid B.29. and B.30. running East and West inclusive.
- Left Boundary, 47th Battalion. Northern Grid B.29. and B.30. running East and West exclusive.
- Right Boundary. Grid running East and West through H.5. and H.6. Central inclusive.

- 2. 46th Battalion will make all arrangements with 47th and 48th Battalions to take over their Sector by 10 a.m. 22nd.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. J. Conroy
Major.
Brigade Major.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to signals at *6/30pm*

Distribution

Normal.
4th Aust. Division.
Lieut. Col. H. PAUL.

SECRET.

Copy No.....

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 202A.

APPENDIX 2

Map Reference 1/40,000. Sheet 62 D.

24-4-18.

1. The 12th Brigade Group composed as under

- Brigade Headquarters.
- 12th Trench Mortar Battery.
- 45th Battalion.
- 46th "
- 47th "
- 48th "
- 12th Machine Gun Coy.
- S.A.A. Sub.Section 4th D.A.C.
- 12th Field Ambulance.
- 26th Coy. A.S.C.

will move by march route direct to the undermentioned areas vacated by 13th A.I. Brigade moving in the following order as soon as possible after receipt of this order.

47th Battalion	to	DAOURS.
46th "	"	H.29.A.6 1.
Trench Mortar Bty.	"	QUERRIEU.
48th Battalion	"	PONT NOYELLES.
Brigade H.Q.	"	QUERRIEU CHATEAU.
S.A.A. Sec. D.A.C.	"	QUERRIEU.
12th Field Ambulance.		QUERRIEU.
12th Machine Gun Coy. remains	"	PONT NOYELLES.
26th A.S.Coy.	"	QUERRIEU.
45th Battalion.	"	"

2. Nucleus 33.1/3% will accompany units. Packs of 46th and 47th Battalions will be left at present billets under small guard.

3. Distances of 500 yards between Companies.
100 " " Unit and Transport.

4. Completion of moves to be notified to Brigade Headquarters.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major.
Brigade Major, 12th Aust.Inf.Brigade.

Issued at

203

34

APPENDIX 2

SECRET.

Copy No.....

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 203.

Map Reference 62D. 1/40,000.

27-4-18.

1. The 12th Australian Infantry Brigade will relieve 13th A.I. Brigade and portion of 15th A.I. Brigade in the front line on night 27/28th.
2. The Brigade Southern Boundary U.5. Central thence grid line E. & W. to U.1. Central - Northern Boundary O.30.D.95 25. thence road running East and West exclusive.
The inter-Battalion Boundary will be the railway in O.36.C. to O.35. Central thence along grid line East and West to O.31. Central.
The 15th Aust. Inf. Brigade is on the left of the Brigade and the Moroccan Division of the 31st French Corps on the right of the Brigade.
3. The 45th Battalion in Right Battalion Sector will relieve 50th Battalion. The 46th Battalion in Left Battalion Sector will relieve 49th Battalion and such units of 59th Battalion occupying up to Northern Brigade Boundary. Both Battalions in forward sectors will be disposed in depth of approx. 1,000 yards.
The 48th Battalion in support to 45th Battalion will be distributed in the CACHY SWITCH and the ABIGNY Line on the right relieving 51st Battalion.
The 47th Battalion will be disposed in CACHY SWITCH in ABIGNY Line on left relieving 51st Battalion.
4. All details of the relief will be arranged mutually between C.O.'s concerned.
5. The relief of 13th Machine Gun Company and the Machine Guns of 5th Machine Gun Battalion in Brigade Sector will be relieved by 12th Machine Gun Company under mutual arrangements between C.O.'s concerned. Likewise relief of Trench Mortar Batteries.
6. Units will move from their present areas independently, the 45th and 46th Battalions and 12th Machine Gun Company staging at O.7. and O.13., the 47th and 48th Battalions and Trench Mortar Battery moving direct.
7. Brigade Headquarters at TRONVILLE CHATEAU.
8. Completion of relief to be wired to Brigade Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Alverson
 Major.
 Brigade Major.
 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to signals at.....

Distribution.

- Normal.
- 4th Aust. Division.
- 13th A.I. Brigade.
- 15th A.I. Brigade.
- 8th Division.
- Moroccan Division.

203
12th A.I. BRIGADE.

APPENDIX 2

35

REPORT ON OPERATIONS FROM 25th MARCH to 4th APRIL, 1918.

On the 25th March the Brigade Group composed as under embussed :-

12th Bde. H.Qrs. - 45th Bn., 46th Bn., 47th Bn., 48th Bn.,
12th Machine Gun Coy., 12th T.M.Bty., D.H.Q. Units, 26th A.A.S.Coy

Units marched from billets in METEREN Area to Embussing Point at X.20.D.3 8. and arrived at 9-45 a.m. A column of 160 motor lorries were in position and the embusment of the troops commenced immediately and was completed at 10-30 a.m. Slight delay was caused at times owing to the narrow road and busses and lorries passing our column which necessitated the men leaving the road and allowing them to pass.

The column moved at 10-40 a.m. via the following route :- St POL - ROELLECOURT - MAIZIERES - AVENES-LE-COMTE - BAVINCOURT - BAXINCOURT and arrived at BASSEUX at 10-40 p.m. when troops debussed and moved by march route to billets, and were complete in billets at 1-45 a.m. 26th.

The Brigade was located as follows :-

Bde. H. Qrs., 45th Bn.	BAILLEULMONT.
46th Bn.	BAILLEULVAL.
47th and 48th Bns., 2 Sects. M.G. Coy.	BERLES AU BOIS.
Trench Mortar Battery.	BERLES AU BOIS.
Pioneer Battalion.	BELLECCOURT.
12th M.G. Coy. less 2 Sects.	BAILLEULMONT.

Picquets were posted in all roads leading into the Divisional Area from the South East and orders were issued to units to carry out a reconnaissance and be prepared to occupy the line along the crest of the Spur forward of the road BERLES-AU-BOIS - BELLECCOURT frontages being allotted to 46th, 47th, 48th and Pioneer Battalion. 45th Battalion in Brigade Reserve.

A reconnaissance of the position allotted to the Brigade was carried out early on the morning of the 26th by all units and all arrangements were completed to occupy the Sector allotted at short notice. At 11-45 a.m. information was received from D.H.Q. regarding the report of the enemy breaking through at HEBUTERNE with armoured cars and picquets were despatched to block the roads in accordance with instructions. Orders were received at midday to the effect that the Brigade was under orders to move at one hour's notice. Packs and the one remaining blanket were collected and dumped in the various villages by units and the Brigade stood by pending further orders. At 3-50 p.m. orders were received for the Brigade, less Divisional Units, to move by march route from BASSEUX Area and rendezvous at HENNECAMP moving via MONCHAY au BOIS, and orders were issued and the Brigade was on the march at 5 p.m. and advance parties from each unit had been sent ahead.

At 6 p.m. orders were received cancelling the move to HENNECAMP. Units were halted and at 6-30 p.m. Captain MAXWELL, D.S.O., M.C. arrived with instructions that the Division, less 4th Brigade, would march to SENLIS Area passing starting point at 8 p.m. Divisional Order for march would follow. This order was received at 7-15 p.m. and orders were issued for march of the Brigade. It was impossible, owing to the shortness of time, for the Brigade to pass the starting point at 8 p.m. and the Divisional Commander on calling at Brigade Headquarters was so informed, and he issued instructions that the 13th Brigade should pass starting point at 8 p.m. These instructions were passed to D.H.Q. but we were informed that the 13th Brigade could not pass before 10 p.m. and we were to move as soon as possible after 8 p.m., and if the head of our column reached the starting point before the 13th Brigade they would halt until we were through.

The head of the column passed the starting point at 10 p.m. and the rear passed at 12-50 a.m.

From leaving billets until getting clear of SOUASTRE very heavy traffic was met and many blocks and delays were caused. Infantry moving in the opposite direction and transport of all description were encountered. After passing SOUASTRE practically no traffic was passed. The usual halts were observed during the march and the march discipline was good and the head of the column arrived at SENLIS at about 6-30 a.m. and the last unit arrived at 8-50 a.m. As many men as possible were put into billets at SENLIS but a number had to bivouac.

Orders were received from Division for the Brigade to move after a rest of four hours to take up a position facing South and South East on the high ground in E.7. and E.13. with two Battalions distributed in depth and with 2 Battalions in low ground in D.17. D.23.

Orders were issued for this move to be carried out at 10 a.m. but at 9-10 a.m. a Staff Officer from 9th British Division reported to G.O.C. with the following orders.

"A Brigade, 4th Australian Division, at present at SENLIS, has come under orders of 9th Division. They will concentrate immediately in low ground V.28.D. and V.29.C. West of MILLENCOURT." This was confirmed by message from VII Corps instructing G.O.C. to report to 9th D.H.Q. forthwith.

Brigade moved from SENLIS (less Divisional units and transport) and concentrated at V.29.C. and V.28.D. by 12-30 p.m.

Orders were received from 9th Division that owing to troops reported to be falling back, 2 Battalions to be sent forward and occupy general line E.1., E.7., E.13. 48th Battalion with one section machine guns on left and 47th Battalion with one section machine guns on right, were ordered forward to occupy this line, inter-Battalion boundary running through E.8.Central - E.9.D.40 00. with instructions to dig in on this line.

46th and 45th Battalions, Machine Gun Company less 2 sections and 12th Trench Mortar Battery remained at V.29.C. and V.28.D. and Brigade Headquarters was established at LAVIEVILLE with Headquarters of 26th and 27th British Brigades.

47th and 48th Battalions moved forward in artillery formation and reported on the general line ordered by 3 p.m.

The 47th Battalion came under fairly heavy enemy artillery fire which caused slight casualties. The 48th Battalion got through without casualties.

Previous to this orders were received for the relief of the 9th Division by the Brigade on the night 27/28th and arrangements were accordingly made with the 26th and 27th and South African Brigades for the relief, the 48th Battalion taking over the left sector and the 47th Battalion the Right Sector.

At 3-15 p.m. 47th and 48th Battalions were ordered, on receipt of urgent instructions, to move forward to the general line E.2.Central, E.8.Central, E.13.Central with advance posts on the Railway Embankment and to take special precautions regarding the flanks.

By 5-30 p.m. 47th and 48th Battalions were on the general line E.2.Central, E.8.Central, E.13.Central, the 47th suffering from enemy artillery fire. Unfortunately a British aeroplane evidently not being aware of the situation opened fire with his machine guns on the 48th in the vicinity of E.2.Central, E.8.Central, killing 1 man and wounding 3. This 'plane was flying very low and the reason why our men could not be distinguished from Bosche is not understood. The enemy artillery since the 47th and 48th Battalions moved forward at times heavily shelled the forward area causing both Battalions casualties.

Battalions taking over the line reconnoitred their Sectors and made all arrangements for relief.

The relief was somewhat difficult owing to the disorganisation of the British units holding the line and it was not until 1-30 a.m. that the relief of 9th Division was completed. The Machine Gun

Battalion of the 9th Division, 20 guns in the Sector, were relieved by 12th Machine Gun Coy. 16 guns relief being complete by 8-30 p.m.

The dispositions of the Brigade on completion of relief were as follows :-

Left Boundary E.9.B.19.	-	Right Boundary	E.15.C.4 1.
Inter-Battalion Boundary	E.8.Central	-	E.9.D.40 00.
48th Battalion -	2 Coys.	Line Left.	
	1 Coy.	Support.	E.1.B. - E.7.A.
	1 "	Reserve.	D.12.B. -D.6.D.
	Bn.H.Q.		D.12.B.
47th Battalion.-	2 Coys.	Line Right.	
	2 "	Support and Reserve.	E.8.Central
			E.13.Central.
	Bn. H.Q.		D.12.D.
45th Battalion.		V.28.D.	in bivouac.
46th "		V.29.C.	in "
Trench Mortar Bty.		V.28.C.8 1.	in "
Machine Gun Coy. H.Q.		LAVIEVILLE.	
2 -	E.20.B.40 55.	2 -	E.15.C.25 00.
2 -	E.15.C.52 60.	2 -	E.14.C.50 50.
2 -	E.13.A.25 70.	2 -	D.12.D.90 10.
2 -	D.12.C.02 40.	2 -	D.6.D.50 30.

Brigade Headquarters. LAVIEVILLE.

The situation up to midnight was fairly heavy enemy artillery fire on the front line and supports. Active enemy M.G. and rifle fire on to the Railway Embankment. LAVIEVILLE was heavily shelled during the afternoon with 5.9's and 8 inch.

28th March. From information received regarding probable enemy attacks and the general disposition of the Brigade on relief it was decided to move the 45th Battalion forward to be in closer support in case of necessity, and orders were issued to 45th Battalion to move forward and occupy a position of readiness in the vicinity of D.18.Central facing East and South East and dig in. Move of 45th Battalion was completed by 2-30 a.m. and were disposed as follows :-

2 Coys.	D.18.D.6 1.	-	E.13.Central.
2 "	D.18.Central	-	E.7.C.8 3.
Battalion H.Qrs.	D.17.B.3 2.		

Approximately at 5 a.m. the enemy put down a heavy artillery and Trench Mortar barrage on our front line and Support lines, extending back as far as Battalion Headquarters, and under cover of this bombardment the enemy launched an attack which extended from our Left Boundary to E.15.C.6 3. At about E.15.Central a small party of the enemy, estimated about 30, managed to gain an entrance, but by a counter attack our line was restored leaving in our hands 1 Officer and 28 other ranks captured together with 4 machine guns. At all other points of the front the attack was repulsed with heavy losses by Machine Gun fire and rifle fire. Throughout the day the enemy made 9 attacks against the Railway Embankment and in every instance his attack broke down under our M.G. and rifle fire. Each attack was preceded with a bombardment of the railway embankment with artillery and Trench Mortars.

Throughout the day a great amount of movement was observed and our Lewis Guns and Snipers were kept busy with very good targets and inflicted many casualties.

Many artillery targets were observed from time to time during the day and passed to the artillery who opened fire and in many cases causing casualties.

The situation at 10-30 a.m. regarding DERNANCOURT had been cleared up and it was found by 106th Brigade that the Bosche held this village and arrangements were being made for the recapture of the village by them, and asking us to cooperate.

47th Battalion ordered to extend their Right to E.20.B. Central and if the attack on the village was successful to move forward their Right Company holding the Railway Embankment to support the British attack on DERNANCOURT.

At the same time a Company of 45th Battalion was placed at the disposal of 47th Battalion to replace their Right Company on going forward. This Company moving forward from D.18. Central. The attack on DERNANCOURT by 106th Brigade (which materialized by sending forward strong patrols) broke down under heavy enemy machine gun fire.

29th. There was practically no enemy activity on the Brigade Sector other than slight shelling of the Forward Area, the weather being mainly responsible. Rain fell at intervals during the day and the visibility was poor. The 45th Battalion relieved 47th Battalion in the Right Battalion Sector, the relief being completed by 2-50 a.m.

Two Companies of Pioneers were placed at our disposal and were put on to digging a system of strong points from E.2. Central, E.8.A., E.7.D. to the Right Brigade Boundary.

The strong points were marked out at dusk and the work of construction commenced.

30th. Throughout the day the enemy activity increased especially as regards to his low flying aeroplanes which patrolled our Forward Areas during the morning directing artillery fire by flares, also his observation balloons were more active than usual 8 being up opposite the Brigade Front.

During the afternoon enemy artillery fire was very active on Front Line and Supports which unfortunately caused slight casualties to the garrisons.

The 45th Battalion extended their Right Flank at dusk to E.20.B.4 4. which was the point of junction with the 13th Brigade who were to relieve the 35th Division that night.

The 46th Battalion relieved 48th Battalion in the left Battalion Sector relief being completed by 11-30 p.m.

2 Companies of Pioneers completed the system of Strong Points under construction and the section of Engineers with working parties commenced to wire the most important tactical points, a continuous obstacle being impossible owing to scarcity of wire. Battalions in support were put on to salvage wire from the vicinity of their bivouacs and by this means the amount of wire at our disposal was considerably increased.

31st March. This was a quiet day with usual enemy shelling, sniping, and machine gun fire. Patrols were sent out from our line throughout the night from both Battalions holding the line, one patrol going out from E.9. Central until reaching the ANCRE. No enemy were encountered or movement was observed by our patrols.

Instructions were received that the Left Divisional or Northern Boundary would from tonight be extended to run along the grid line E 1 2 3 Central and arrangements were made with the Left Brigade, 52nd Brigade, to take over this portion of their front by the 46th Battalion.

Relief of Company of Manchester Regiment was completed by 10 p.m.

The 47th Battalion (less one Company which was placed under the tactical orders of 45th Battalion) was ordered to move from D.18. Central and E.13. Central and occupy the LAVIEVILLE Line with Battalion Headquarters at D.4.C.3 8. replacing a Battalion of 13th Brigade.

7-45 p.m. 45th Battalion observed a party of the enemy taking up a position at E.21.A.3 6. and opened fire on this party with a Lewis Gun killing 4. A patrol was sent out to obtain identifications and brought in a Lewis Gun and a light German Machine Gun, also several papers from the bodies of these men. The 230 R.I.R. were identified. This patrol reported that they saw at least 50 enemy dead in the streets of DERNANCOURT.

During the early morning very heavy rain fell which made the going very heavy.

2 Companies of Pioneers were put on to connecting the system of Strong Points and so making a continuous line, wiring was also continued.

1st April. At 8-30 a.m. the enemy attacked the left Company of the 46th Battalion at E.3.D.1 l.. The attack was local and the enemy intention was to occupy the signal house on the Railway Embankment. The estimated strength of the attack was 100 and the enemy advanced to the attack in two waves. The attack was met by Machine Gun and Rifle fire and of the first wave only 6 men were observed to get back to the 2nd wave. The 2nd wave halted and finally broke in disorder after severe casualties had been inflicted. 6 prisoners were captured, 4 of whom were wounded and identified as Storm Troops of 3rd Marine Division.

This attack was preceded by a light artillery and Trench Mortar bombardment. The enemy fire somewhat increased on our front and support line in the Right Battalion Sector but the damage and casualties caused thereby were slight.

At 3-30 p.m. the 45th Battalion cleared their front line to the safety margin required by the heavy artillery preparatory to the bombardment of DERNANCOURT. At 5-30 p.m. our artillery carried out a hurricane bombardment of the village which lasted until 5-45 p.m. Patrols in conjunction with patrols from 13th Brigade were sent forward to the village to ascertain the damage and to find if the village was held in strength.

Patrols on entering the village came under heavy machine gun fire which gave them the information required, also patrol reported that the bombardment had caused considerable damage.

With the exception of the attack early during the morning enemy activity has been below normal. Both his artillery and machine guns have been very quiet.

2nd April. Owing to the length of front now held by 46th Battalion and necessitating 3 Companies to hold the embankment, a Company of 48th Battalion were moved forward to occupy trenches in E.1.C. under the tactical orders of 46th Battalion.

This day was quiet. Usual enemy shelling and machine gun fire, and sniping - enemy movement normal. Small parties were observed in ALBERT and DERNANCOURT. The enemy were also observed to be busily engaged on digging and defence work on the high ground in E.24., E.23.D., E.22.D.

The 47th Battalion relieved 45th Battalion in the Right Battalion Sector, relief being completed by 1-5 a.m. 3rd.

3rd April. At 8-15 a.m. a heavy enemy barrage, consisting of artillery and Trench Mortars, was placed on the Railway Embankment. On the barrage lifting the enemy attacked the right of 46th Battalion and left of 47th Battalion on a frontage of approximately 300 yards. The strength of the attack was about 300 men and the enemy advanced to the attack in two waves, and covered by machine gun fire from the flanks of the attack. The attack was met with rifle and machine gun fire and bombs, and was repulsed with very heavy losses. One prisoner was captured and identified 2 Coy. 1st Bn., 1st Regt., 3rd Marine Division. During this attack enemy aeroplanes were very active directing artillery fire and firing their machine guns on ground targets. At one period of the attack as many as 20 machines were up. At 9 a.m. the situation on the Brigade Front had quietened down.

Since the attack of this morning the enemy contended himself by intermittently shelling the front line, Supports, and back areas. Other than this the enemy activity has been normal.

The 24th Machine Gun Coy. relieved 12th Machine Gun Coy. in the Brigade Sector. Relief was completed by 11-5 p.m. and 48th Battalion relieved 46th Battalion in left Battalion Sector, Relief was complete at 12-25 a.m.

Pioneers completed connecting system of strong points into a continuous line, and most tactical points have been wired. This wire is being strengthened and as supplies become available will be continued.

Two parties of Pioneers, 50 other ranks, went forward to Railway Embankment and commenced to drive 2 tunnels through the embankment. Also a party of 50 were put on digging T Heads on the embankment so as to provide cover for the garrisons holding the embankment.

4th April. Practically no enemy activity other than usual shelling of forward area was observed. This was mainly due to the weather conditions which throughout the day were very unsettled. At intervals heavy rain fell and visibility was very bad.

Information of a probable enemy attack from ALBERT to ROYE was received about 11-45 p.m. and passed to units.

5th April. Report on operations of 5th has already been submitted.

Weather. During the period 25th March - 5th April the weather generally was bad. The first 3 days were fair and the remaining days heavy rain fell at intervals which made the going very heavy. The trenches in the forward area were very wet and muddy. After the moon went down the nights were very black and it was almost impossible to see beyond 20/30 yards. The temperature generally was very low and added considerably to the hardships of the troops.

Trench Mortars. Owing to the difficulty experienced in maintaining supplies of ammunition for these Mortars only two were emplaced in the Brigade Sector, and these guns were of the utmost assistance to the infantry throughout the period in engaging Trench Mortars, Machine Guns, and snipers and targets which the artillery could not fire on.

Also during the enemy attacks on the Railway Embankment their fire did much to disorganise the enemy attacking troops and by close cooperation with the Lewis Guns engaged many targets and inflicted heavy casualties. During the tour 4 Mortars were blown out but they were quickly replaced by Reserve Guns.

Artillery. The assistance given to the Brigade by the Left Group Artillery under Lieut.Col. WILLIAMS, 10th Bde., was all that could be desired, and their close cooperation and keenness to engage targets given them by the infantry was of great help to us in holding up the numerous enemy attacks.

Casualties. The casualties suffered by the units of the Brigade during the operations are as follows :-

Date.	12th Machine Gun Company.											
	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Shell Shock.		Wounded at duty.		Total.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
27-3-18.			3									3
28-3-18	3	2	5				1				2	9
29-3-18	1											1
31-3-18.			1						1			2
3-4-18.					1							1
Total	4	2	9		1		1		1		2	16

Officers.
Wounded. Lieut. C.H. HATCHER. 28-3-18.
 2/Lt. J.H. GIBSON. "

- 7 -

12th A.L.T.M. Bty.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Wounded & Missing.		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
2-4-18				1				1
3-4-18		1	1	1			1	2
Total		1	1	2			1	3

Officer Wounded.

Lieut. H.K. COWARD, M.C., D.C.M.

45th Battalion.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
27-3-18				2				2
28-3-18	1	11		40		1	1	52
29-3-18		1		2				3
30-3-18		2		2				4
31-3-18	1	2		4			1	6
1-4-18		4		3				7
2-4-18			1	3			1	3
3-4-18				2				2
4-4-18				2				2
Total	2	20	1	60		1	3	81

Officers.Killed.Lieut. J.S. TERRAS.
Capt. O.B. DIBBS.28-3-18.
31-3-18.Wounded.

Lieut. A.J. PIRIE.

2-4-18.

46th Battalion.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Wounded at duty.		Missing		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
27-3-18		1								1
28-3-18		5		7						12
29-3-18										
30-3-18				1						1
31-3-18		1	1	5					1	6
1-4-18		4	1	12					1	16
2-4-18				5						5
3-4-18	1	18	1	32		7			2	57
Total	1	29	3	62		7			4	98

Officers.Killed.

Lieut. W.H. JENNINGS.

3-4-18.

Wounded.

"

R.F. FOSTER.

31-3-18.

"

S.A. LATIMER.

1-4-18.

"

J.W.H. MARSHALL.

3-4-18.

47th Battalion.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Wounded & Missing.		Missing.		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
27-3-18		10	2	46					2	56
28-3-18	2	24	6	80					8	104
29-3-18		2		9						11
30-3-18		1		3						4
31-3-18		1		3						4
1-4-18				1						1
2-4-18										
3-4-18		6		19						25
4-4-18				6						6
Total	2	44	8	167					10	211

Officers.Killed.

Lieut. C.V. NOMMENSON. 28-3-18.
" F.W. LANE. 28-3-18.

Wounded.

Major D.V. HANNAY. 28-3-18.
Capt. E.O. WILLIAMS, M.C. "
" G.J. GIBSON. "
Lieut. J. SCHULTZ, M.C. "
" G.R. ROBERTSON, D.O.M. "
" D.M. DOIG. "
" F.A. PATERSON. "
2/Lt. L.L. CARTER, M.M. "

48th Battalion.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Wounded at duty.		Missing		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
27-3-18		1		6						7
28-3-18	2	11	1	44			4	3	5	59
29-3-18		13								13
30-3-18				1						1
31-3-18										
1-4-18										
2-4-18				1						1
3-4-18		3		5						8
4-4-18			1						1	
Total	2	28	2	57			4	4		89

Officers.Killed.

Captain T.H. ELLIOT. 28-3-18.
Lieut. J. WHITTLE. "

Wounded.

Lieut. E.G. HOLTON. "
Capt. L.L. CARTER, M.C. 4-4-18

18-4-18.

Sgt J. Hallward
Brigadier General.
Commanding 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

OPERATIONS 5th APRIL, 1918.

Information was received from D.H.Q. about midnight 4/5th that from statements obtained from prisoners the enemy contemplated carrying out an attack from ALBERT to ROYE on the 5th April.

The dispositions of the units of the Brigade at 1 a.m. were as under :-

48th Bn. and 1 Coy.	46th Bn.	holding line.	Left Bn. Sector.
47th Bn. and 1 Coy.	45th Bn.	" "	Right Bn. "
46th Bn. (less 1 Coy.)		Support.	in bivouac at V.29.C.
45th Bn.		"	in LAVIEVILLE Line.
24th M.G. Coy.		16 guns in	Forward Area.
1 Section, 12th M.G. Coy.		4 " "	" "
12th Trench Mortar Battery.		2 " "	Railway Embankment.
		2 " "	Bn. Headquarters D.12.B.
Battery Headquarters.		4 " "	V.28.D.
Brigade Headquarters.		Quarry.	D.4.C.

The information mentioned above was passed to all units and the 47th and 48th Battalions were ordered to send forward special Officer's patrols to reconnoitre enemy forming up positions and to watch for any unusual enemy movement. 45th and 46th Battalions were notified of possible enemy attack and were ordered to be prepared to move immediately on receipt of orders as required. Arrangements were also made with the Left Group Artillery to fire, commencing at 5-15 a.m., on their S.O.S. Lines at slow rate and to search back for a depth of 500 yards and so harass any forming up undertaken by the enemy. Patrols were despatched from 47th and 48th Battalions and at 5-8 a.m. 47th Battalion reported that enemy were observed massing at level crossing approximately E.21.A.8 8. At 5-20 a.m. 48th Battalion reported that enemy were observed massing on Right Company Front in vicinity of E.15.B. and D.

On information obtained from patrols orders were issued at 5-25 a.m. to the 45th Battalion to move from the LAVIEVILLE Line and take up a position in vicinity of D.12. and to dig in.

The 45th Battalion moved from LAVIEVILLE Line in Artillery Formation and passed through LAVIEVILLE at 6-38 a.m. and were in position, with the exception of the rear Company who had to advance through the enemy barrage, at 6-55 a.m. The rear Company suffered heavy casualties from the barrage and eventually arrived in position at 7-20 a.m. and the Battalion dug in. The 46th Battalion being ordered at 5-30 a.m. to move from V.29.C. to LAVIEVILLE Line and replace 45th Battalion. 46th Battalion arrived in position at 7-33 a.m. without incident.

When dawn broke a thick mist prevailed and ground observation was almost impossible at a greater distance than 150/200 yards.

This low visibility continued until about 11 a.m. when at this hour the mist cleared.

At 6-55 a.m. the enemy placed a very heavy barrage down which covered the whole of the Brigade Sector as far back as HENNENCOURT-MILLEN COURT, it being intense and extremely heavy in the vicinity of the Support Line E.2. Central - E.8. Central - E.14.A. - Reserve Trench E.2.A. - E.7. Central - Battalion Headquarters D.12.B. and trenches in D.6., and all valleys in the Sector were systematically searched.

The enemy used guns of all calibre firing shrapnel and H.E. and Gas, and the barrage continued with intensity until 9-30 a.m. when it lifted. In reply to enemy barrage our Artillery opened up at 7-10 a.m. on their S.O.S. Lines.

At 7-55 a.m., 8-30 a.m., 9-15 a.m. barrage slackened at each of these times for a period of 5 minutes.

Up to 9-15 a.m. very little enemy artillery fire was directed against the Railway Embankment (our Front Line) but at this hour a very heavy Trench Mortar and Artillery bombardment commenced and remained on the embankment until 9-30 a.m.

203
A

At 9-30 a.m., when the enemy barrage lifted the enemy Infantry attacked under cover of the haze and mist along the whole of the Brigade Front with considerable numbers. This attack was met by the garrisons of the front line with Lewis Gun and Rifle fire and successfully withheld the repeated enemy endeavours to break the line until 10-40 a.m. when, at this time, the enemy succeeded in breaking our line at the junction of the Brigade Boundary with the 13th Brigade.

At 10-40 a.m. 47th Battalion reported that the enemy had broken through and were advancing up the slopes towards E.13.Central, and along the DERNANCOURT - LAVIEVILLE Road, and that the troops of the 13th Brigade had fallen back on the line D.18.Central, and as far as was known the 47th Battalion were still holding the Railway Embankment to the Brigade Right Boundary.

The enemy on breaking through moved with his Right flank on the DERNANCOURT - LAVIEVILLE Road in a N.E. direction until he reached a point about E.14.C.8 2. From this point the enemy changed the direction of his attack and advanced due North making for the high ground in E.14.A. and 8.Central. The mist and haze still on the ground prevented the men of the 47th Battalion, holding the Railway Embankment, observing this new move and it was not until 11-17 a.m. that they were aware that the enemy were in rear of them and firing into their backs.

At 11-30 a.m. the 47th Battalion were unfortunately forced to withdraw and withdrew to the line E.8.Central.

From the commencement of the attack the enemy repeatedly endeavoured to force his way through the 48th Battalion front but were driven off with heavy losses, and to preserve their flank and conform to the movement made by the 47th Battalion, the Right and Centre Company of the 48th Battalion withdrew to the line E.2.Central - E.8.Central. The Left Company of the 48th Battalion fighting hard remained on the original front line, and it was not until 3-45 p.m. that this Company after a very gallant stand were forced to withdraw to E.2.Central owing to the enemy threatening to get behind them. The retirement of this Company was carried out in very fine order and they suffered very few casualties in the withdrawal.

The 47th Battalion reported at 11-20 a.m. that they had troops in E.14.A. and that the 13th Brigade appeared to be approximately 800 yards to their right rear. The situation on the right flank being not clear the 45th Battalion, who were dug in in D.12., were ordered to occupy with two Companies trench from Right Brigade Boundary running in front of E.7.Central leaving the Company in E.12.D. and establishing Battalion Headquarters with 47th Battalion.

At 12-42 p.m. it was reported that the enemy now held the quarry in E.14.C. and along the line E.14.A. - 8.Central and that the left Company of 48th Battalion were still holding on and that our troops had withdrawn to Pioneer Trench with Posts at E.7.D. - E.8.A. - E.8.B. - E.2.D. and the 13th Brigade on the right were reported to be holding a line with their Left in E.7.C. thence to D.18. also that they were holding the Railway Embankment from E.19.D.1 1. to Right Brigade Boundary.

To regain the Spur and the high ground E.13 - E.14.A. - E.8.C. - E.8.A. a counter attack was arranged. The 49th Battalion were ordered forward at 1-12 p.m. from D.16.B. and D. with their left on LAVIEVILLE - DERNANCOURT Road and their right on D.18.Central and E.19.Central to regain the ground given up by 52nd Battalion.

Orders were issued to 45th, 47th, and 48th Bns. to cooperate with 49th Battalion in a direct attack to regain line E.8.A. - E.8.Central - E.14.A. and at the same time they were informed of the 49th Battalion moving forward. The Company of 45th Battalion in D.12. was ordered forward to Pioneer Trench to take part in the counter attack. 45th, 47th, and 48th Battalions reorganised to cooperate with the 49th Battalion when this Battalion came up, with 45th Battalion on left 47th Battalion centre and 48th Right and were ready to carry out counter-attack at 4 p.m.

Instructions were received from Division that G.O.C., Division desired G.O.C., 12th and 13th Brigades to cooperate and use Tanks on both Brigade Sectors for counter attack but on conferring Brigadiers decided to hold tanks pending the capture of E.13. Spur. Some delay occurred with the moving off of 49th Battalion and their losing direction at the commencement of the move, and they crossed the ALBERT - AMIENS Road in the vicinity of D.12. at 2-46 p.m. After crossing road 49th Battalion moved forward into position, rested and formed up ready to move forward to the attack. At 5-4 p.m. 48th Battalion reported that the counter attack would be launched at 5-15 p.m. and arrangements were at once made with the artillery to bombard the quarry E.14.C. with 4.5 howitzers, and to assist the attack by placing a barrage along the line of road E.13.D. - E.14.A. - E.8.Central from 5-15 p.m. to 5-21 p.m. and to lift to the Line E.19.B.3 3. - E.14.Central - E.9.Central at 5-21 p.m.

The counter attack was launched at 5-15 p.m., all Battalions moving off together in close touch and in excellent formation. The attack was met with heavy machine gun and rifle fire but notwithstanding the heavy casualties the advance continued in good order and when the attack reached a line about 200 yards from their objective they charged. The enemy retired before the charge in disorder.

The general line taken ran as follows :-

E.13.B.8 5. - E.8.C.6 5. - E.8.Central - E.2.Central and a system of Posts were dug joining up with 49th Battalion on the Right.

5 prisoners of 230th Regiment, 1 heavy machine gun, and 3 Lewis guns were captured.

Owing to the heavy casualties sustained it was considered inadvisable to regain the Railway Embankment by counter attack and at 6-10 p.m. Tanks were ordered up to circle the new line established and protect the Infantry digging in, but for some unknown reason they did not arrive at Battalion Headquarters until about 8-30 p.m. when it was too dark for them to proceed and they were ordered back.

At dusk situation was much quieter and infantry action had practically ceased. The 46th Battalion were ordered to take over the outpost line from the 45th, 47th, 48th Battalions, these Battalions, on completion of relief, occupying Pioneer Trench and reorganising.

The 46th Battalion moved from LAVIEVILLE Line to take our outpost line at 6-45 p.m., and to replace the 46th Battalion in the LAVIEVILLE Line the 4th Pioneer Battalion were ordered forward and were in position at 8 p.m. with Headquarters at LAVIEVILLE.

The relief of the outpost line by the 46th Battalion was completed at midnight.

Communications. Throughout the operation the communications

wire being destroyed by shell fire, visual communication was impossible owing to the

event happened.

Stokes Mortars. The two Stokes Mortars emplaced in the Railway Embankment, No. 1 gun at E.9.B.1 3., No. 2 gun at E.15.A.6 3., did excellent work cooperating with Lewis Guns throughout the operation and engaging the enemy forming up for his attack on which the artillery fire could not be directed.

Owing to the shortage of ammunition available for these guns it was not considered advisable to emplace more guns and at the commencement of the operation the number of rounds available for each gun was approximately 250 rounds.

No. 1 gun continued firing until knocked out at 11-30 a.m. and all detachment were casualties.. No. 2 gun remained in action until forced to withdraw with 47th Battalion at 11-30 a.m.

This gun was destroyed before the detachment withdrew.

Instructions were received from Division that G.O.C., Division desired G.O.L.C., 12th and 13th Brigades to cooperate and use Tanks on both Brigade Sectors for counter attack but on conferring Brigadiers decided to hold tanks pending the capture of E.13. Spur. Some delay occurred with the moving off of 49th Battalion and their losing direction at the commencement of the move, and they crossed the ALBERT - AMIENS Road in the vicinity of D.12. at 2-46 p.m. After crossing road 49th Battalion moved forward into position, rested and formed up ready to move forward to the attack. At 5-4 p.m. 48th Battalion reported that the counter attack would be launched at 5-15 p.m. and arrangements were at once made with the artillery to bombard the quarry E.14.C. with 4.5 howitzers, and to assist the attack by placing a barrage along the line of road E.13.D. - E.14.A. - E.8.Central from 5-15 p.m. to 5-21 p.m. and to lift to the Line E.19.B.3 3. - E.14.Central - E.9.Central at 5-21 p.m.

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Owing to the heavy casualties sustained it was considered inadvisable to regain the Railway Embankment by counter attack and at 6-10 p.m. Tanks were ordered up to circle the new line established and protect the Infantry digging in, but for some unknown reason they did not arrive at Battalion Headquarters until about 8-30 p.m. when it was too dark for them to proceed and they were ordered back.

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The 46th Battalion moved from LAVIEVILLE Line to take our outpost line at 6-45 p.m., and to replace the 46th Battalion in the LAVIEVILLE Line the 4th Pioneer Battalion were ordered forward and were in position at 8 p.m. with Headquarters at LAVIEVILLE.

The relief of the outpost line by the 46th Battalion was completed at midnight.

Communications. Throughout the operation the communications forward of Brigade and forward of Battalion Headquarters were practically impossible owing to the haze and mist and the only source of communication from the front line to the rear was by runner. The heavy casualties to runners made communication still more difficult, and the situation from time to time was received long after the event happened.

Stokes Mortars. The two Stokes Mortars emplaced in the Railway Embankment, No. 1 gun at E.9.B.1 3., No. 2 gun at E.15.A.6 3., did excellent work cooperating with Lewis Guns throughout the operation and engaging the enemy forming up for his attack on which the artillery fire could not be directed.

Owing to the shortage of ammunition available for these guns it was not considered advisable to emplace more guns and at the commencement of the operation the number of rounds available for each gun was approximately 250 rounds.

No. 1 gun continued firing until knocked out at 11-30 a.m. and all detachment were casualties.. No. 2 gun remained in action until forced to withdraw with 47th Battalion at 11-30 a.m.

This gun was destroyed before the detachment withdrew.

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The two guns in reserve at Battalion Headquarters were emplaced, one to Left Battalion Sector and one to Right Battalion Sector, in rear of the Pioneer Trench to be ready to assist the infantry to hold this line but they were not required.

During the operation the two Mortars in the Embankment fired about 400 rounds and did excellent work in aiding to beat off the repeated enemy attacks.

Machine Guns. During the early stages of the attack the action of machine guns was hampered by low visibility and it was not until the progress of the action brought the enemy into close view that the full effect of the guns could be developed. The period left for action was necessarily short and though heavy enemy casualties were caused the 2 groups of 4 guns each, in E.14. near the quarry, were lost after maintaining their fire to the last.

The other guns of 24th Coy. engaged the attacking infantry and machine guns, and succeeded in getting back in time and remained in action near the infantry second positions. Later in the day they cooperated in our counter attack and in the consolidation of the new front line of the Brigade in front of Pioneer Trench.

Liaison. This with flank Battalions was most unsatisfactory, the reason being the distance being so great and information of any value arrived at Battalion Headquarters too late to be of any value. Everything possible was done in this direction, officers with runners being sent to flank Battalion Headquarters but messages were received too late to be of assistance. It was impossible to keep up telephone communication or visual communication with flank Battalions. Liaison with Brigades was more satisfactory as telephone communication was for the best part of the day possible but should this have failed at a critical time much delay would have resulted by sending the officer doing liaison to his Headquarters.

Artillery Cooperation. Nothing was left to be desired regarding the cooperation of Left Group Headquarters and Brigade Headquarters but F.O.O. of heavy artillery could be far better employed by establishing their O.P. further forward, and controlling and directing their fire from these positions.

The establishing of O.P. of heavy artillery forward in places such as mentioned above was very necessary from our point of view, and with a liaison officer in the vicinity of Battalion Headquarters greater results would have no doubt been achieved by this Arm of the Service.

Counter attack. It was not considered advisable to endeavour to regain the Railway Embankment by counter attack owing to the insufficient numbers which we had available, and the possession of the high ground E.2.Central - E.8.Central and the Spur in E.13.Central was considered a sounder defensive position than the Railway Embankment.

There is no doubt that a counter attack of this nature should be undertaken as soon as possible after the ground has been lost and the troops for counter attack are ready in position. Every minute of delay means a stronger defence put up by the enemy and the sooner the counter attack is launched the more certainty of success and light casualties.

Where the counter attack involves the employment of 2 units, a considerable loss of time must elapse before the necessary arrangements as to formation, zero and assembly can be made. Generally under these circumstances artillery cooperation is required, i.e. time of opening fire, lifting, etc.

The best form of counter attack is the one carried out on the Spur of the moment supported only by Trench Mortars and Rifle Grenades, as well as rifle and Lewis Gun fire. Short supply of these former appears likely to be the case owing to the difficulty of movement over ground such as at ALBERT.

The set form of counter attack is in my opinion likely to be expensive and therefore warranted only to regain the essential ground for our prolonged defence or for that of units on the flanks.

Casualties. During the attack the casualties sustained by units of the Brigade were as follows :-

	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
12th Trench Mortar Battery.				1		
45th Battalion.	5	23	7	73	1	9
46th "	-	17	3	50		3
47th "	2	26	3	62	3	173
48th "	1	14	3	36		27
24th M.G. Coy.				3	2	33
	8	80	16	225	6	245

45th Battalion Officer Casualties.

Killed.

- Lieut. T.E.J. LINDSAY.
- " T.W. PERRY.
- 2/Lt. A.K. McDONALD.
- Lieut. A.M. McDIARMID.
- 2/Lt. H.F. MITCHELL.

Wounded.

- 2/Lt. C.R. BURNETT.
- Lieut. G.A. SIMPSON.
- " W. HARDLY.
- " J. YOUNG.
- " S. McDONALD.
- " J.R.S. PERRY.
- Major W. GARNETT. A.A.M.C. attached.

Missing.

- 2/Lt. J.H. ALLEN. Believed prisoner of war.

46th Battalion Officer Casualties.

Wounded.

- Capt. G.E. MILNE.
- Hon. Major E.S. DAVIS.
- Lieut. W. HOOD, M.C.

47th Battalion Officer Casualties.

Killed.

- Lieut. H.F.W. MARSON.
- 2/Lt. W.J.F. COOKSLEY.

Wounded.

- Lieut. H.M. DOUGLAS.
- 2/Lt. O.E. ULCOG.
- " H.T. HINES.

Missing.

- Lieut. W. GOODSALL.
- " J.E. SMITH.

Wounded and missing.

- Lieut. E. ROBINSON.

48th Battalion Officer Casualties.Killed.

Lieut. H.H. MAYNARD.

Wounded.

Lieut. G.A. PAVY.

" H.M. SHEPHERDSON.

Wounded at duty.

Lieut. H. DOWNES.

From prisoners interrogation it was ascertained that 3 German Divisions and in all probability 4 Divisions had been employed in the attack viz :- 50th Division, Marine Division, 9th or 79th Division, opposite our Left Flank.

The casualties inflicted on the enemy were heavy and it is impossible to give any estimate of numbers of casualties inflicted by the Brigade.

The weather preceding the attack had been very wet and in consequence the going was very heavy, and the men were very wet and uncomfortable but nevertheless in spite of the hardships and the severity of the bombardment preceding the attack, the spirit, endurance, and keenness of the troops engaged was of the highest order.

11-4-18.

*Helliwell*Brigadier General.
Commanding 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

6th April. The situation on the Brigade Front since dusk on 5th to 4 a.m. 6th had quietened down and the relief of the 45th, 47th, 48th Battalions in the outpost positions was completed without incident by 3-20 a.m. The 45th, 47th, 48th moving back to Pioneer Trench and reorganising.

At 4 a.m. orders were issued to 4th Pioneer Battalion to move two Companies forward to occupy trenches in the vicinity of 48th Battalion Headquarters and were placed under orders of 48th Battalion. These 2 Companies moved from LAVIEVILLE Line at 5 a.m.

At 5-30 a.m. 5 Whippet Tanks reported in position at D.9.B. and were ordered to await for further orders.

7-17 a.m. 2 Companies Pioneers in position.

11-17 a.m. Information was received from Division that in all probability 6th A.I. Brigade would relieve the Brigade on night 6/7th.

12 noon. 12th Division reported that their Right Brigade were holding posts in advance of line E.2. Central and 4th Division instructed that a post be established in E.3.C. and instructions were accordingly issued to 48th Battalion. All arrangements were made to send out a strong patrol to establish themselves at this point and the 35th Brigade were to cooperate and so connect up with their post at the quarry. Patrol from 48th Battalion would go out as soon as dusk prevailed.

Brigade Major, 6th Brigade, visited Brigade Headquarters and made all arrangements for relief in anticipation of definite orders.

5-40 p.m. Division advise that enemy attacked 35th Brigade and had occupied their post at the quarry and it was not decided whether they were going to retake the quarry, and for the time being not to do anything with establishing the post in E.3.C.

6-15 p.m. Divisional Order for relief received.

6-35 p.m. Enemy placed a very heavy barrage on the front line, supports, and as far back as the reserve trenches and Battalion Headquarters. This heavy shelling lasted for about 30 minutes, and the enemy fired many flares including green flares which were mistaken by our supports for our S.O.S. This signal was repeated and our artillery fired on their S.O.S. Lines. No infantry action followed the very heavy shelling.

2 Companies of Pioneers from occupying LAVIEVILLE Line were put under orders of 13th Brigade for digging. The 2 Companies under 48th Battalion were to dig a line of strong points and on completion would come under orders of 13th A.I. Brigade.

Brigade Order No. 198 for relief issued to all units.

Instructions were received from Division to establish a post to cover the valley in E.3.C. by establishing a post in E.2.B. 48th Battalion instructed to carry this out.

In accordance with Brigade Order relief of Brigade was carried out and was completed at 12-10 a.m., 7th.

Owing to the late arrival of the 22nd Battalion and the weather conditions prevailing at the time, and the previous heavy rain which had fallen during the day, the relief was carried out in good time.

On completion of relief the Brigade moved back to the BAIZIEUX Line, Brigade Headquarters at BAIZIEUX.

Casualties.

Unit.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
45th Bn.		3		20		30		53
46th Bn.		3	4	5		1	4	9
47th Bn.		2	1	12		1	1	15
48th Bn.				6		13		19
Total		8	5	43		45	5	96

Officers. 46th Battalion.

Wounded. Lieut. C.J. JENNINGS.
" L. BULL.
" A.S. DICKINSON.
2/Lt. A.B. MORTIMER.

47th Battalion.

Wounded. Lieut. B.R. BIRD, M.C.

Lieut. Col.,

19-4-18.

Commanding 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET

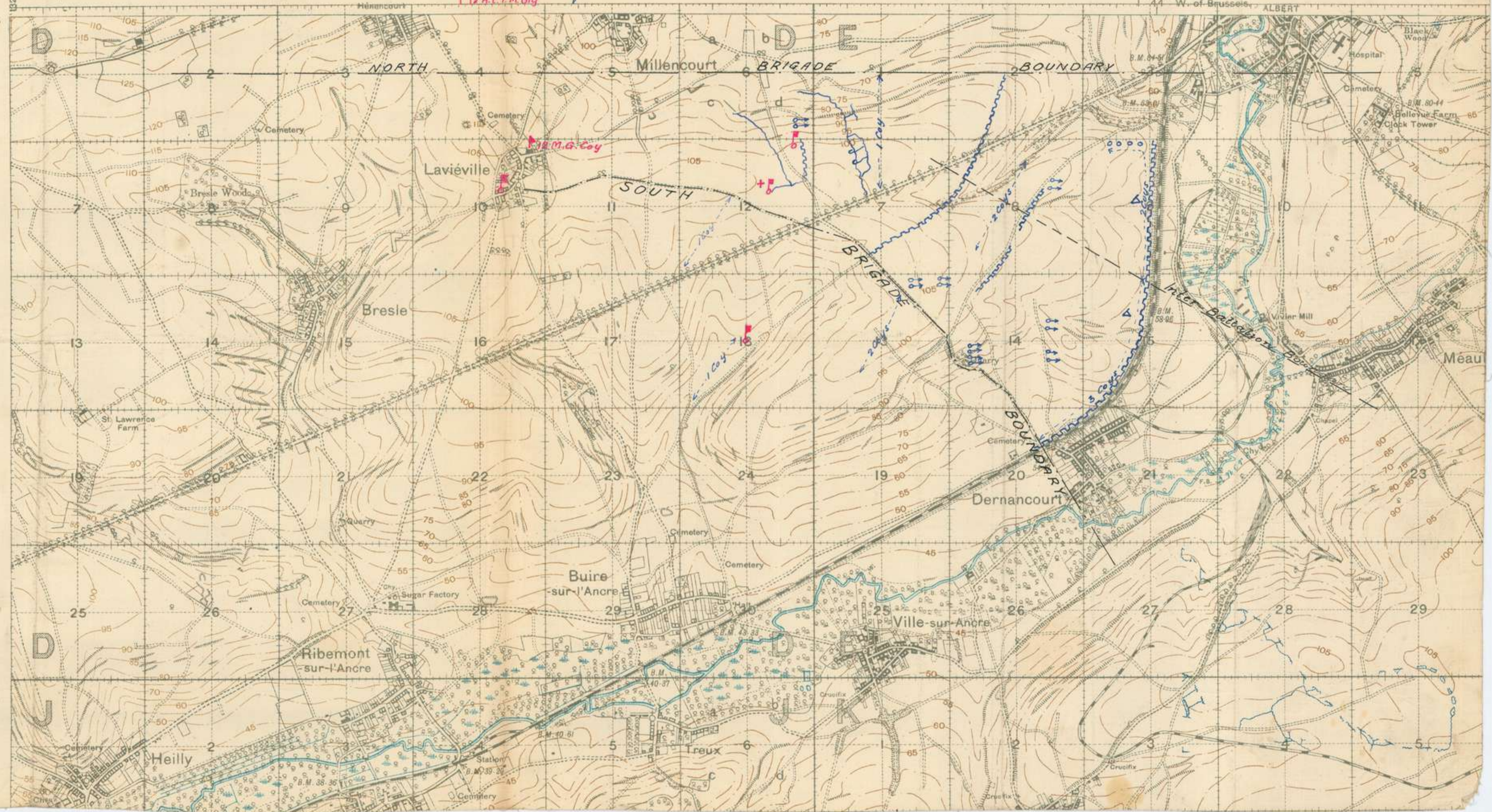
Dispositions as at 29-3-1918.



FRANCE.

Headquarters Brigade shown
 Battalion
 Posts
 Machine Guns
 Trench Mortars
 Aid Posts
 Trenches

203
 1
 20,000

42760 m. S.



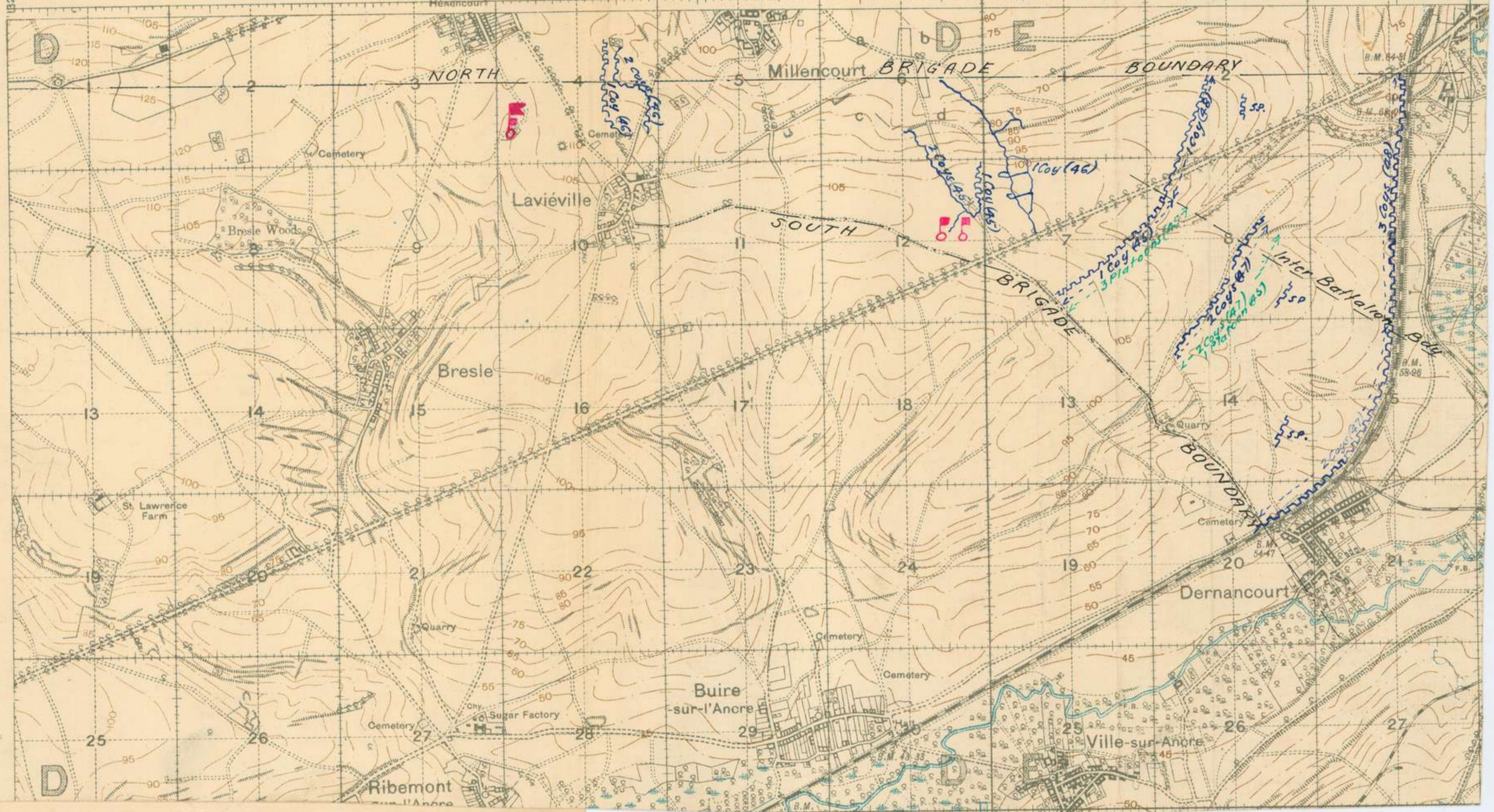
Headquarters Bds --- 
" " Bn --- 

FRANCE. 51

Dispositions as at 8 a.m. 5-4-18
" " Noon

192000 m. W. ²⁰⁰
1
20,000

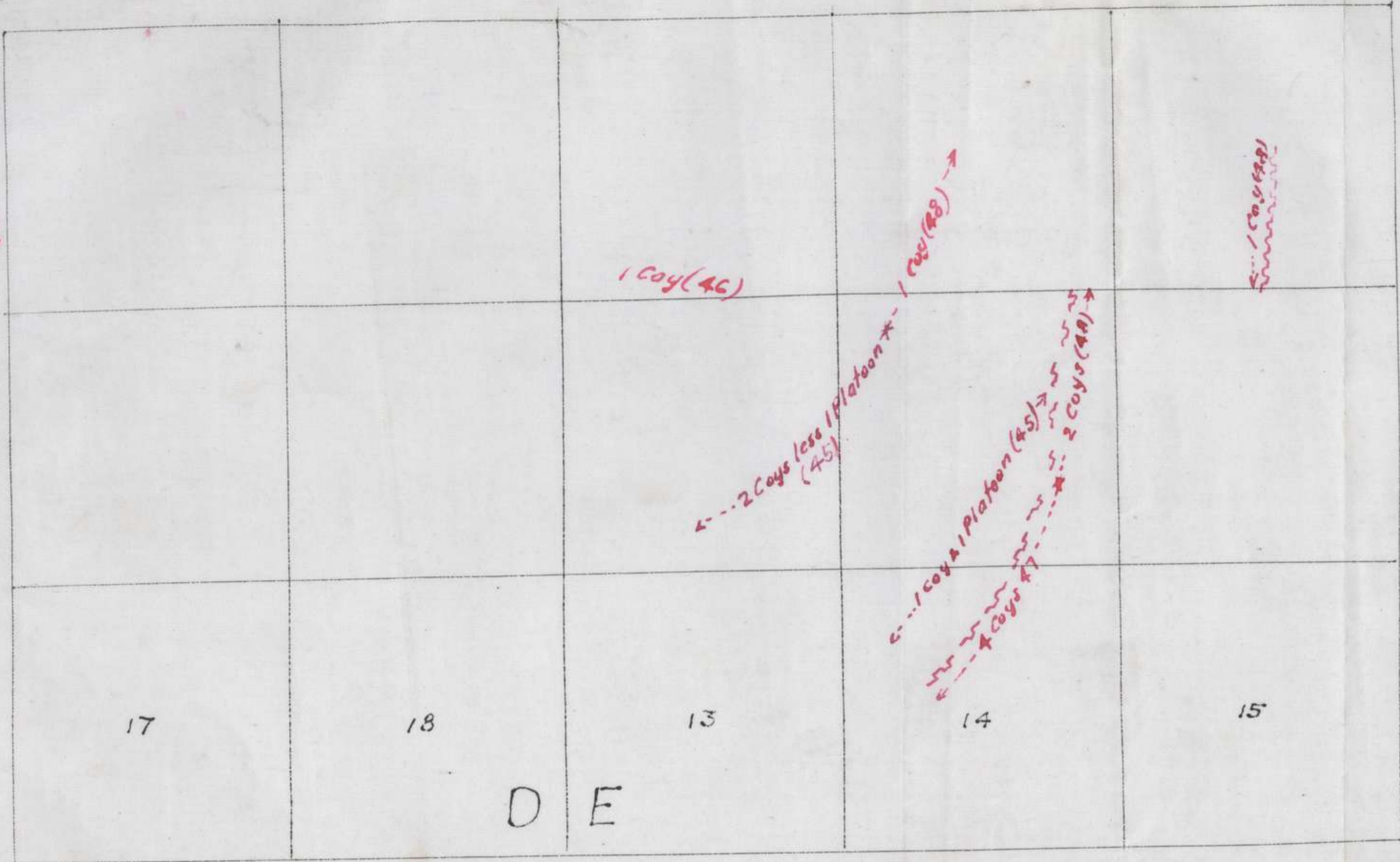
42760 m. S.



203

52

← 2 Coys A6
← 1 Coy A6

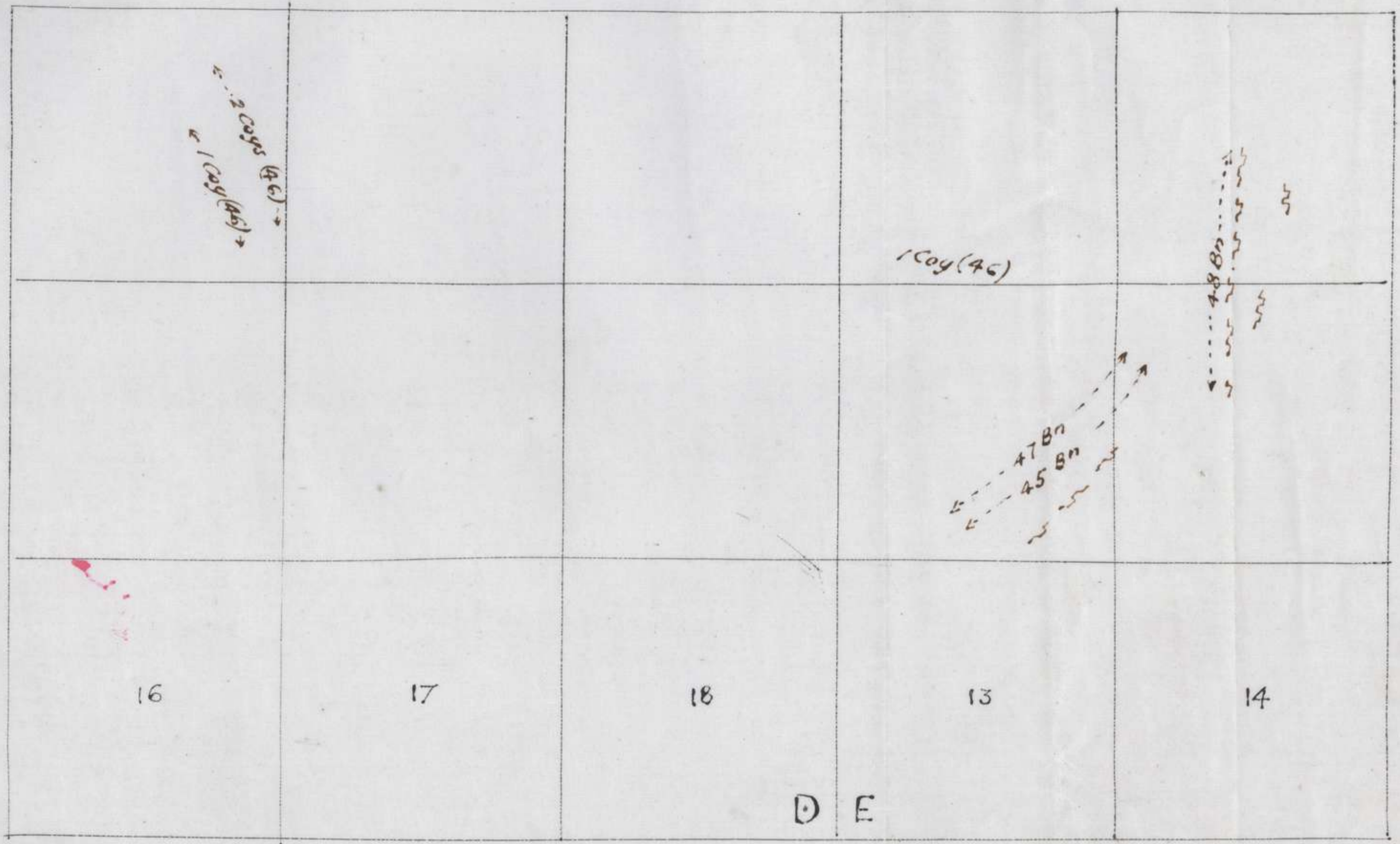


Dispositions at 2pm 5.4.18

5

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53



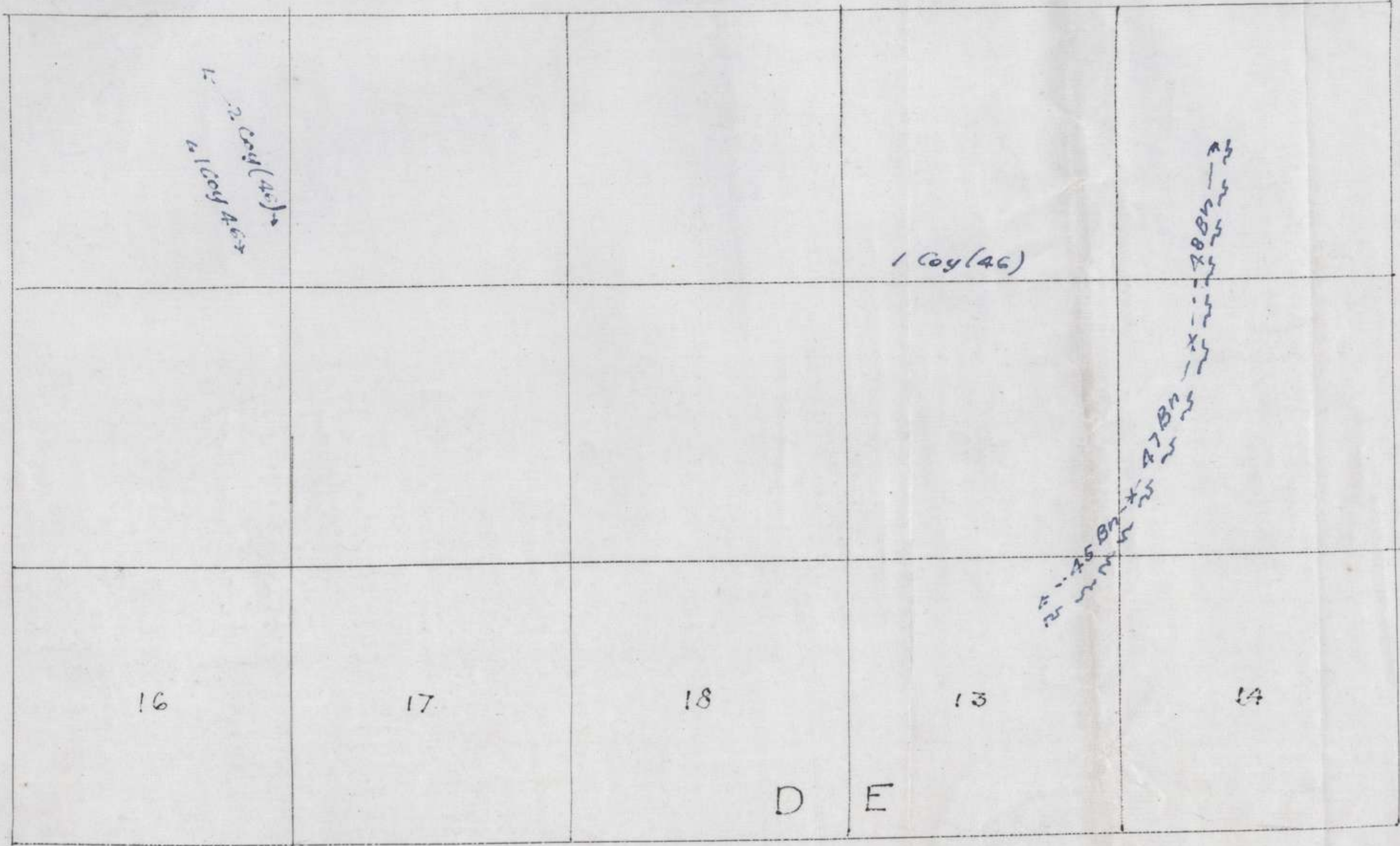
Dispositions at 4pm 5-4-18

8

203

Dispositions at 6.30 p.m. 5-4-18

54



1

6

INSTRUCTIONS NO. 1.

The 6th Aust. Brigade will relieve 12th Brigade in Left Brigade Sector on night 6/7th April. Further orders later.

Dispositions of 6th Brigade.

23rd Battalion.	Left Bn. Sector.
22nd "	Right Bn. "
21st "	Support to Right Bn.
24th "	" " Left Bn.
Left Battalion.	23rd Battalion.
1 Coy.	Outpost line - relieves half 46th Bn.
2 Coys.	Support Line - relieve 48th Bn.
1 Coy.	Reserve Line E.I.D.
	Coy. 48th and Coy. 4th Pioneer Bn.
	Bn. H.Q. at 48th Bn. H.Q. D.12.B.
22nd Battalion.	Right Battalion.
1 Coy.	Outpost Line - relieves half 46th Bn.
2 Coys.	Support Line - relieve 47th and 45th Bns.
1 Coy.	Reserve Line in D.12.B. and D.6.D.
	Relieve Coy. 4th Pioneers.
	H.Q. at 47th Bn. H.Q. D.12.B.
21st Battalion.	Relieve 2 Coys. Pioneer Battalion in LAVIEVILLE Line.
24th Battalion.	Support to Left Battalion. Bivouaced in V.29.C.
6th T.M. Battery.	Relieve 12th T.M. Battery. 1 Gun at E.7.D.2 3. Remainder of Bty. and H.Q. at V.28.C.

GUIDES.

46th Battalion will arrange for guides to meet leading Company of 23rd Battalion (left Battalion) at D.3. Central HENENCOURT BRESLE WOOD ROAD at 7-30 p.m. and guides for leading Company of (Right Battalion) 22nd Battalion at cross roads in D.17.B. at 7-30 p.m.

48th Battalion guides for 2 Companies for Support Line and 1 Coy. for Reserve Line of 23rd Battalion to be at D.3. Central HENENCOURT - BRESLE WOOD ROAD at 7-30 p.m.

45th Battalion guides for 2 Companies Support Line (22nd Bn.) at cross roads D.17.B. at 7-30 p.m.

45th Battalion guides for Coy. 22nd Bn. Reserve Line D.12.B. and D.6.D. to be at cross roads D.17.B. at 7-30 p.m.

12th Trench Mortar Battery will arrange guides direct with 6th Trench Mortar Battery.

It is possible that Battalions of 6th Brigade will be late in arriving at rendezvous already mentioned but guides will await their arrival at these localities.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major,
Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued at 6-40 p.m.
6-4-18.

Map. Ref. Sheet 62 D.

7-4-18.

1. The 12th Australian Infantry Brigade will in all probability be relieved by 7th Australian Infantry Brigade on 7th April in their present positions.

2. On completion of relief, approx. 12 noon, the Brigade will be prepared to move by march route to La HOUSOYE - PONT NOYELLES BUSSY Area, passing starting point cross roads C.23.B. at zero.

3. Order of march :-

47th Battalion.
48th "
46th "
45th "
24th Machine Gun Coy.
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.
Brigade Headquarters.
12th Machine Gun Coy.

4. Route :- FRANKVILLERS - LA HOUSOYE.
Distances to be maintained :-

200 yards between Companies.
500 " " Battalions.

5. Destination of units will be notified en route.

6. Billeting Parties from units with bicycles will report to Staff Captain at the Church PONT NOYELLES at 10 a.m.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major.
Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued to signals at 2-45 a.m.

Note. Transport will move direct in accordance with orders to be issued separately to Brigade Transport Officer.

Transport of 12th and 24th Machine Gun Coy. will move with units.

INSTRUCTIONS.

Motor Lorries have been made available and are reporting to units for move in case of emergency. Parks and embussing points in the vicinity of present billets will be selected by units forthwith and on arrival of busses, busses will be parked in these positions ready for immediate embussment on receipt of further orders.

Vickers Guns, Lewis Guns complete with ammunition boxes and magazines will be taken in the lorries.

All arrangements for embusment to be made to ensure of quickest possible move on receipt of orders.

220 rounds S.A.A., 24 hours rations, water bottles full to be carried by the man.

33% to be left behind.

Packs to be dumped in present billets if not already done so.

Arrangments for move of transport also concentration of 33% at QUERRIEU later.

(Sgd.) R.H. NORMAN, Major.
Brigade Major, 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued at 9-45 a.m.
25-4-18.



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LOCATIONS OF UNITS as at 8 a.m. 8-4-18.

Brigade Headquarters.	PONT NOYELLES.
45th Battalion.	BUSSY.
46th "	PONT NOYELLES.
47th "	La HOUSOYE.
48th "	BUSSY.
12th Machine Gun Coy.	PONT NOYELLES.
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	" "
4th Pioneer Bn.	La HOUSOYE.
12th Field Ambulance.	PONT NOYELLES.
26th A.A.S.C.	" "
24th Machine Gun Coy.	" "

5/

Units' Transport parked with unit.



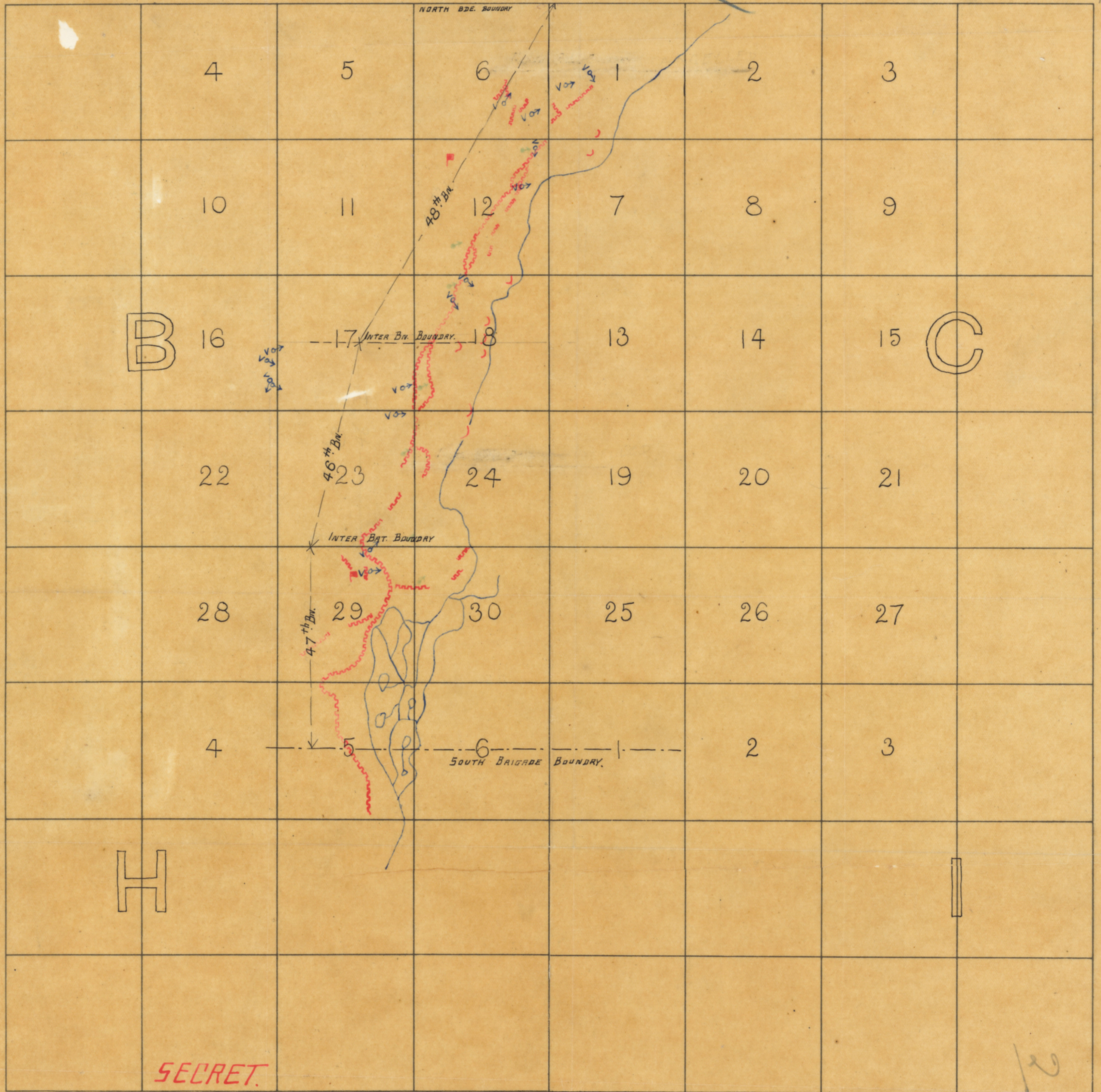
AMWA
25/12/52

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APPENDIX

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Identification Trace for use with Artillery Maps.



NOTE.—(1). These traces are intended to facilitate the communication of information as to the position of targets, which have been located on a squared map.
 (2). The squares on this trace are 500 yards in length on the 1/10,000 scale, 1,000 yards in length on the 1/20,000 scale, and 2,000 yards in length on the 1/40,000 scale.
 (3). The squares on the trace are fitted to the squares of the map showing the targets, which are then drawn on the trace. Sufficient letters and numbers must also be added to enable the recipient to place the trace in the correct position on his own map. A little detail may also be traced, but this is not essential. The name and scale of the map to which the trace refers must be always given. The trace can be used for the 1/10,000, 1/20,000, or 1/40,000 scale.

- BATT. HEAD QUARTERS SHOWN ■
- MACHINE GUNS (VICKERS) - V
- TRENCHES - ~~~~~
- TRENCH MORTARS - +
- POSTS -)
- RIVER - ~~~~~

G.S.G.S. 3023.

Tracing taken from Sheet 62nd N.W.

of the 1:..... map of.....

Signature..... Date.....

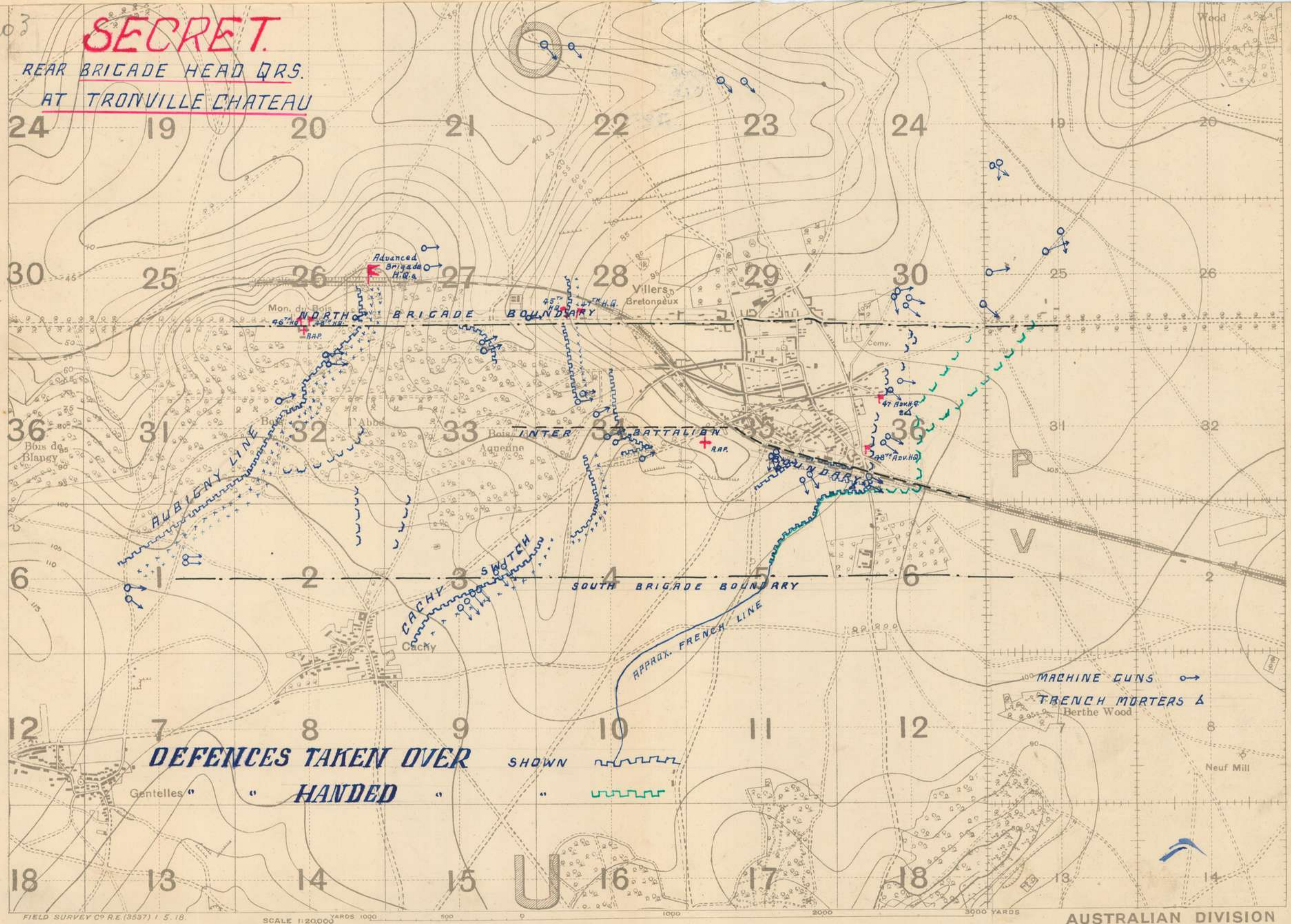
SECRET.

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SECRET.

REAR BRIGADE HEAD QRS.
AT TRONVILLE CHATEAU



AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Copy.

SECRET. LEFT GROUP AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY.

11th Bde. Sub-Group.
All Btys. 10th Bde.

Headquarters,
3rd April, 1918.

LIAISON.

1. In addition to the liaison arrangements laid down in Instructions No. 12, one officer per 2 Batteries will be sent forward to Company Headquarters daily, to ensure a closer liaison with the Infantry.
2. This detail will be mutually arranged between Battery Commanders as in the case O.P. duties. The officers going forward will firstly report at Battalion Headquarters, interview the liaison officer with Battalion and obtain instructions as to which Company in the line he will visit. He should go up to Company before daylight. He will arrange through the Btn. Liaison Officer, any shoots desired by the Company Commander. His tour of duty will be decided by the Company Commander, according to the latter's requirements.
3. B.Cs. will endeavour to maintain conjointly a wire from Btn. to Company Headquarters for the use of Artillery Liaison Officers with the Infantry.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) C.E. BURKE,
Lieut. & Adjutant,
for C.O., 10th Aust. F.A. Brigade.
LEFT GROUP AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTY.



Copy.

SECRET.

LEFT GROUP AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

7

Instruction No. 18.

Headquarters,
4th April, 1918.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

1. At 5 a.m. tomorrow 5th instant, one gun per battery will search back and sweep 200 yards from S.O.S. Lines at rate of one round per gun per minute, till ordered to stop from this office.
2. At 7-30 a.m. (if not cancelled) a concentrated shoot on square E will take place.

11th A.F.A. Brigade will take E.4.a and b.
 10th A.F.A. Brigade will take E.4.c and d.

If weather conditions are suitable Hqs. will use gas on Eastern edge of concentration area.

3. Rates of fire - 18-pdrs. 3 rounds per gun per minute.
 Hqs. 3 rounds per gun per minute.

Duration. - five minutes.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd.) C.E. BURKE, Lieut. & Adjutant
for C.O., LEFT GROUP AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY

Distribution -

11th Bde. 5
 10th Bde. 5
 Diary. 1



S E C R E T.

APPENDIX 7

3rd Australian Division.
4th Australian Division.
VII Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. Concentrations, at a time to be notified later, will be carried out tomorrow morning, 5th April, by Heavy and Field Artillery on the valleys from K.26. to K.31. and from K.27 to K.32., on the village of MORLANCOURT, and the valleys to the South and East, especially along the road in K.8.D., and K.14.B., on the MEAULTE - MOULIN - du - VIVIER valley, and on SAILLY LAURETTE. 4.5" Howitzers to use gas if the weather conditions are suitable.
2. The battery areas S.E. of MORLANCOURT will then be bombarded with Gas Shell, or H.E. if the weather be not suitable for gas shell.
3. All F.O.O's should be warned to be on the alert for any signs of movement indicating an attack.
4. Vigorous harassing fire should be kept up on all roads and tracks in the above areas.

(signed)

for Brigadier General.
General Staff VII Corps.

4th April, 1918.

Copies to, 3rd Australian Divnl. Artillery.
4th " " "
G.O.C., R.A.
V Corps.
XIX Corps.
War Diary.
File.

Headquarters.
4th Australian Division.
4th April, 1918.

12th Aust. Inf. Bde.
13th Aust. Inf. Bde.

For your information.

(sgd.) L. CRAIG, Captain
for Lieut. Colonel.
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION&

GERMAN OFFENSIVE TACTICS.

APPENDIX Y.-----
Note by General Staff.

1. The enemy appears to have profited during the recent battle by the instructions laid down in the two memoranda of which translations are attached.

The chief points which have been brought to notice up to the present are the following :-

(a) The enemy's use of reinforcements at points at which progress is being made, so as to outflank the strong points of resistance, rather than the strengthening of the direct attack on such points of resistance.

(b) The necessity for the fullest and most effective employment of the Infantry weapons, and for guarding against training the Infantry to rely too exclusively on Artillery support.

(c) The pushing forward of Staffs so that they may be better able, with the least possible delay, to make dispositions to meet the tactical situation as it changes.

(d) The need for initiative, based on tactical skill, on the part of subordinate (battalion and company) commanders.

2. Among the lessons to be drawn from the enemy's application of the above instructions during his recent offensive for use in the conduct of our defence, emphasis should be laid on the following :-

(a) Subject to the General Scheme of defence of the Corps or Army, the garrisons of tactical localities must hold their ground even though the enemy may penetrate our line on the flanks of such localities. So long as the line holds even in parts, and so long as the defence maintains its grip on points or areas of special tactical importance an enemy penetrating on a narrow front between such localities is in no easier position than are the defending troops, who hold out between two points of penetration.

We have had ample experience on the offensive of the difficulty of retaining a salient with a narrow base when the enemy is holding the flanks of the gap so strongly as to resist attempts to widen it. Indeed, the attacker in a pronounced salient of moderate extent is in a position of disadvantage in comparison with defending troops in a similar position, at least in respect of his communications: for, though the defender's communications may be in danger, the attacker has no communications except such as he can improvise in the stress of battle. In the event of local penetration, therefore, the essential thing for the defenders is to strengthen the flanks of the gap which the enemy has made, to maintain their hold on the tactical localities on either side of the gap, to resist attempts to widen it, and to counter attack on the flank of the salient formed by the enemy's penetration rather than to throw troops across the head of the salient to fill the gap.

(b) It appears that the enemy has made admirable use of his light infantry machine guns (which correspond to our Lewis Guns) on many occasions on all parts of the battle front during the initial fight for fire superiority. These weapons seem to have been used as automatic rifles; that is, their employment has been based on Infantry rather than Machine Gun tactics - a definition which is not always sufficiently clearly emphasized. This has enabled the enemy to build up a fire position with a minimum of exposure of personnel. The enemy's light infantry machine gunners appear to have been well trained in the use of ground. This is an essential point, since it enables them to build up a firing line in which not only are comparatively few troops employed, but of which also little or nothing can be seen and located.

These points demand special attention in the training and employment of our own Lewis Gunners. In open warfare, at any rate, the enemy's offensive tactics in this respect may frequently be best countered by the employment of similar tactics on the defence, our own Lewis Gunners taking full advantage of the ground in order

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APPENDIX

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- 2 -

to adopt mobile tactics against the enemy's light machine gunners.
(c) In open warfare, divisional and Brigade Staffs should be well forward, so as to enable information to be obtained rapidly by mounted Staff officers and other means.

The battle Headquarters of Brigade Commanders in prepared positions should be so placed that either they themselves can observe the progress of the fight or are in close communication with an observation post occupied by a reliable officer.

General Staff
G.H.Q.
8-4-18.



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APPENDIX

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Copy of letter 130/238 dated 9th April 1918, received from Australian Corps, addressed all Divisions.

1. Your attention is drawn to the attached papers Ia/48095 on the subject of German Offensive tactics.

The Corps Commander wishes these papers and the principles with which they deal, carefully studied. Five main points are brought out :-

- (i) The danger of rigidity due to entire reliance on Artillery barrage.
- (ii) The essential need of covering rifle and machine gun fire in all operations.
- (iii) The offensive use which can be made of Lewis Guns, and in some circumstances by Vickers Guns, by bold action whereby gaps in the enemy's lines can be prepared for the subsequent advance of attacking troops.
- (iv) The falsity of the theory that every threat on the flank involves "conforming."
- (v) The need and value of reinforcing where success is obtained and not necessarily where difficulty is encountered.

2. Whereas there is probably need for correction in all these points, that requiring most attention is the use of covering fire. No opportunity should therefore be lost of instilling this into the troops and training them in its practice.

All Battalions.

In continuation of conference this morning, forwarded for information and necessary action.

11-4-18.

Major.
Brigade Major.
18th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

TRANSLATION OF GERMAN DOCUMENTS.

A. -- NOTES ON THE OFFENSIVE BATTLE.Ia/II.Nr.6220
(Secret)G.H.Q.
25-1-18.

The results of my tactical conferences will be issued in the "Supplement", dated 1-2-18, to part 14 of the "Manual of Position Warfare for all Arms."

I desire to call attention to the following points:-

1. The idea that our attacking Divisions must be relieved after one day's fighting cannot be entertained. On the contrary, the Infantry must, by skilful tactical leading, preserve its fighting strength, so that Divisions are capable of carrying out offensive battles of several days' duration and entailing a considerable advance. I request that this principle be made generally known throughout the Army.

2. (a) Even in the case of minor operations, the offensive must be carried 8 km. or more, in specified sectors of attack, through a hostile defensive system and across numerous obstacles, up to and beyond the enemy's artillery.

The attack in combination with troops on either flank must also be practiced, based on similar principles. The scheme will, whenever possible, be set by higher authority. Arrangements for representing the enemy and for providing umpires are of importance.

(b) In these practice attacks, the principle must be clearly emphasized that the success of an attack does not consist only in a careful engagement and assembly of the attacking troops and in the execution of a methodically considered attack, but that skilful leadership on the part of higher and subordinate commanders, in accordance with the tactical situation at the moment, is required in addition during the actual attack.

Our attack must differ essentially in this respect from the attacks hitherto undertaken by the British. The British believed in the efficacy of their skilfully worked out but rigid artillery barrage: this was to carry forward the infantry attack, which advanced without any impetus of its own. The subordinate, and, still more, the higher commanders ceased to have any further influence.

In the various British Offensives - Somme, Arras, Messines, Flanders, Cambrai - the initial tactical successes, which were frequently very considerable, were not seized upon and were not usefully exploited. A defeat was eventually the outcome of this narrow minded principle on which the conduct of the battle and the leadership was based.

As in open warfare, so also in the break through, free play must be allowed, from the opening of the artillery barrage, for the fullest independence and tactical skill of the subordinate commanders from company or battalion commanders upwards. The decision will often depend on the action of the subordinate commanders.

The higher commands (Divisions, Groups and Armies) are even more important in the offensive. For these, the most important matters are economy of force and the proper engagement of the Reserves. These will, as a general rule, not be thrown into the battle at points where the attack has been held up by strong points and centres of resistance, and where unnecessary sacrifice is involved, but at points where the attack is still in movement and its progress can be facilitated with a view to breaking down the enemy's resistance in the neighbouring Sector by rolling it up from flank and rear.

R.E

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This applies particularly to the bringing up and engagement of the 2nd and 3rd Line Divisions, which Corps and Armies must consider as their reserves, and must bring up and engage at the right time. Premature engagement of the reserves invariably uses up the force of the attack and brings the offensive movement to a standstill before the break through has been effected. On the other hand, it is the duty of every commander to keep the reserves up so close that every reverse can be prevented, every success properly exploited and the offensive continued.

The position of the commander is of considerable importance. All Staffs, including Corps Staffs, must be on the battlefield, the divisional staffs being pushed well forward.

(c) The success of every break through will depend on the timely bringing up of light and heavy artillery, with its ammunition, as well as sufficient light minenwerfer or flat-trajectory carriages.

(d) In particular, the artillery barrage should prepare the way for the infantry after the latter has penetrated the first line. The forward movement of the barrage will depend on the rate of the Infantry advance.

Note.- The captured copy of this document is not signed, but a note describes it as a "Verfugung von Ludenorff", and it was presumably issued under Ludenorff's signature.

B.-- MEMORANDUM DEALING WITH THE TACTICS OF THE OFFENSIVE.
G.S.S. of the Field Army.
II Nr. 8408 Secret. op. 8-2-18.

1. The endeavour to effect surprise must not lead to hasty preparations and particularly not to excessive curtailment of the artillery preparation. In the case of an attack on a large scale, the advantage of surprise to the attacker lies chiefly in the fact that he is enabled to make his dispositions first and secondly in the uncertainty of the defender as to the actual day and hour of the attack. The attack must be framed on correct tactical principles which guarantee success.

2. Decisive role of commanders of all ranks and arms. The attack does not go on merely mechanically; commanders must command; every man must act in his own initiative.

3.
4. Counter battery work, with careful observation, must be increased on all fronts before the commencement of the attack.

5. Too little importance appears to be attached to the neutralization of the enemy's artillery during the attack.

6. The artillery preparation should not take longer than is necessary. The fact should not be overlooked that a one hour's bombardment is not sufficient to obtain a satisfactory destructive effect. The chief difficulty lies in the satisfactory destruction of the rearward positions (particularly the wire).

7.
8. Emphasis must be repeatedly laid on the fact that the barrage will never form a thick curtain of fire, and that it cannot save the infantry from the necessity of carrying out the close combat with machine gun, rifle fire and bayonet, grenade, light minenwerfer and guns accompanying it, but that it can only facilitate this combat. Also, that the barrage is only of value if the Infantry keeps close up to it and continually endeavours to advance right into our own (artillery) fire, in the manner taught in the assault Battalions.

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The barrage must be lifted in accordance with a timetable. If signals are employed in addition, they must be simple and their number must be restricted. It is desirable that there should be only one signal either to cause the barrage to advance ("Lift barrage") or to cause it to halt ("Halt barrage"). The order to halt barrage should only hold good for a short period, for instance, for 10 minutes.

9.
10. The success with which the Artillery comes into action will be decisively influenced by good cover against air observation.

11. Batteries will be detailed as batteries "in positions in readiness" and to engage fleeting targets, and will be employed as such.

12. An advance of the Infantry in waves, the number of waves corresponding to the number of hostile lines which may be expected to offer resistance, and during which the rearward waves are intending to overtake the preceding waves, is to be deprecated. The foremost infantry should, on the contrary, advance as long as it possibly can and should only be reinforced from the rear when this is absolutely necessary. A sufficient distribution in depth to ensure against a counter-offensive (flanks) must be continually maintained.

13. Too little importance is now attached to the fire support of the infantry with the means at its disposal, as practiced by us in peace time without advance by rushes. Not only should the Infantry be helped forward by the artillery firing from positions far in rear, by the batteries accompanying the Infantry and by the light Minenwerfer, but it also should be principally assisted by the machine gun and rifle fire of the infantry itself.

Short, surprise bursts of machine gun fire, varied methodically, and directed against important points in the back area, will frequently be effective in disturbing traffic and communications, especially before the attack begins.

14. In view of the scarcity of forage, it is absolutely essential that the work to be done by the horses should be proportional to the forage used. This is also necessary in connection with the preparatory work now going on, as the supply of forage, though it will be more regularly maintained, will not be appreciably increased. It must, therefore, be a guiding principle to save the horses as much as possible.

(signed) Ludendorff.



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All Units.

Telephone Communication. Complaints have been received that messages handed into signallers for transmission have been considerably delayed owing to congestion on the lines by conversations.

Please issue instructions that telephone conversations are to be cut down to the absolute minimum and as short as possible.

30-4-18.

H.Q.
12TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. 2279/18
Date. 30.4.18

Howson Major.
Brigade Major.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

All Units.

The Brigade Front is covered by the Right Group Artillery composed of 2 Field Artillery Brigades plus one Battery of 4.5 Howitzers.

The S.O.S. barrage line is shown on the attached tracing.

A liaison officer will be stationed at Battalion Headquarters in the line during the hours of darkness and will be in communication direct with his Battery and Group Headquarters. The duty of the Battalion Liaison officer will be to advise the Battalion Commanders possibilities of artillery action and to keep the group informed of the situation and the Infantry requirements.

In addition to the Liaison Officer at Battalion Headquarters a Liaison Officer is at Brigade Headquarters throughout the day and night.

Any artillery targets will be reported to Brigade Headquarters and arrangements will be made with artillery to take them on. Should the Battalions wish the artillery to keep off certain areas to enable patrols to work, these areas will be notified and times of patrol and arrangements will be made accordingly.

30-4-18.

H.Q.
12TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. 2280/18
Date. 30.4.18.

Howson Major.
Brigade Major.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.



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12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No. 3.

APPENDIX

for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 1-4-18.

OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Active during the day firing on enemy movement on roads and targets given by Infantry. Good results were observed. An enemy Trench Mortar at E.3.D.7 6. was destroyed by our 4.5's.

(b) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
5 O.R.		From E.15.C.00. along	No enemy were seen. House where woman was seen during the day was examined but no one could be aroused.
1 N.C.O. 6 O.R.	9-30 p.m. 11-15 p.m.	From E.9.B.1 4. to E.9.B.3 7. to E.3.D.6 1.	Patrol moved out to the road and then moved North along road in two parties till reaching house at E.3.D.6 1. House is of concrete and has one room. It is unoccupied but has probably been used as an O.P. as telephone wires were found there. Patrol then proceeded to what appeared to be a strong point about 20 yards West of house. On approaching Post they were challenged and they immediately opened fire with rifles and bombs. Enemy retaliated with rifle fire from approx. E.3.D.7 1. Patrol returned to our lines by same route as they went out by.
1 Off. 10 O.R.	12 mid- night 3 a.m.	From E.9.D.00 50. to E.9.D.5 9. to E.9.D.6 6. to E.10.A.00 30. and back to E.9.Cent.	Patrol proceeded to E.9.D.5 9. with 6 other ranks when talking and whistling could be heard from many directions. They returned and brought out 4 more men. Proceeded through timber yard and into wood at about E.9.D.6 6. thence along edge of wood to E.10.A.00 30. Ground to the skyline was plainly visible but no enemy were seen. While patrol was in the wood five enemy 77's fell in the timber yard at approx. E.9.D.5 9.

From 3-30 a.m. till dawn whole front was constantly patrolled to ascertain if enemy intended to attack but nothing unusual was observed. Liaison patrols were maintained between neighbouring units throughout the night.

(c) Machine Guns. Indirect harassing fire from guns in E.13.B. at irregular intervals on bridge and roads near VIVIER MILL was carried out during the night. Expenditure 3,500 rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars. Stokes Mortars were active against enemy Trench Mortar and Machine Gun positions. The shooting was effective in keeping down enemy fire.

(e) Aircraft. Active during the day along our front.

(f) Sniping. Our snipers very active during the day and inflicted many casualties on the enemy.

Relief. Half Coy. of 46th Battalion relieved a Company of Manchester Regiment on the ALBERT - AMIENS Road Sector. Relief complete at 11-30 p.m.

Intelligence Summary No. 3 (contd.)ENEMY OPERATIONS.

- (a) Artillery. Fairly quiet during the 24 hours. Squares E.2.D. and C. and E.8.C. and B. were shelled at intervals. At 3 p.m. active on our Support Trenches in E.8.Central also on our wire in E.15.A. & C. At 4 p.m. about 30 5.9's fell in vicinity of Railway crossing at E.15.C.8 9.
- (b) M.G's. Inactive.
- (c) T.M's. Enemy Trench Mortar active from E.3.D.6 7. was silenced by our 4.5's. Another Mortar active from DERNANCOURT was dealt with by our 18 pounders.
- (d) Aircraft. Enemy aircraft active during the day but flying high. Two 'planes, one bearing black cross and letter B markings and another black cross and letter S markings flew over our lines and remained about half an hour. At 9 a.m. 5 enemy aeroplanes were driven off by A.A. fire.
- (e) Movement. Considerable movement was observed on ALBERT -POZIERES Road during the day. Working Parties seen in squares E.23. 24 and 29. Artillery informed but shooting not effective. New earthwork, probably M.G. emplacement observed at E.16.A.8 7. - trench about 20 yards long.
- (f) Miscellaneous. Enemy field gun was firing from approximately W.24.A.3 1. A Battery was located at W.24.C.3 4. Weather - Dull day with occasional showers. Visibility fair, at times very good.

Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE, APPENDIX

Intelligence Summary No. 4

for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 2-4-18.

OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our Artillery was active during the day against enemy movement. At 5-30 p.m. a 15 minute concentrated shoot was carried out on DERNANCOURT. A large number of rounds fell short of the village. Harassing fire on enemy communications was maintained during the night.

(b) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
1 Off. 3 O.R.	1 a.m. 2-25 a.m.	From E.15.C.4'2. to E.21.A.8 9. and back.	To ascertain if enemy is holding cross roads at E.21.A.8;9. From noises heard it is believed that enemy hold cross roads lightly. Only one man was seen.
1 Off. 15 O.R.	8 p.m. 9-15 p.m.	From E.20.B.8 8. to E.20.B.9 4. and back.	To ascertain if enemy still held village. Two L.G's were taken for protection. Fired on by M.G. from approx. E.20.B.95 40. at 30 yards range. Half the patrol remained here to protect the other half who proceeded further into the village. When attempting to return by road running through village found road held by three groups of 12 men each. They then made in direction of M.G. which fired earlier but it was surrounded by a wire fence. They listened at this point for 15 minutes. M.G. was sweeping Railway embankment. Five bombs were thrown into M.G. position and it did not fire any more. Snipers were active from houses on N.W. side of road. Patrol returned without casualties.
1 N.C.O. 6 men.	8-30 p.m. 9-15 p.m.	From E.9.B.1 8. to E.3.D.1 2. to our Posts.	To ascertain if enemy were digging in. At E.3.D.1 2. enemy could be heard digging at approx. E.3.D.3 2. Patrol threw some bombs and enemy groans were heard. Patrol being fired on returned and enemy working party was engaged with rifle grenades.
1 Off. 6 O.R.	12 mid- night.	From E.15.B.0 7. to E.9.D.6 8. along road and back to E.9.Cent.kind	To ascertain if enemy had M.G. positions in that vicinity. None were found and no movement of any kind was detected.

(c) M.G's. No targets were observed during the day but roads and tracks in the vicinity of VIVIERS MILL were engaged during the night. Expenditure - 4,000 rounds.

(d) Aircraft. Fairly active during the day.

(e) Snipers. Very active during the day using telescopic sights, harassing the enemy and causing casualties.

(f) Relief. The 46th Battalion relieved one Company of the Manchesters on their Left, relief being complete by midnight.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our Support Line was shelled at intervals during the day with 4.2's and 5.9's. Back areas including MILLENCOURT and LAVIEVILLE were shelled intermittently during the day.

(b) M.G's. Very little activity during the night. During the day guns were located at E.15.C.90 59. and E.16.C.1 9. Gun at E.3.D.05 15. was engaged by our artillery.

Intelligence Summary No. 4 (contd.)

(c) T.M.'s. Active on our Front Line from E.3.D.5 5. and E.3.D.3 5. These positions were engaged by our Artillery. Right Sector was heavily bombarded with T.M. shells at 9 a.m. but guns could not be located.

(d) Aircraft. Active during the day flying at all altitudes. Low flying planes were engaged by our L.G. but without effect.

(e) Movement. Enemy is still digging in E.29.C. and E.28.D. Enemy appears to be digging a trench in W.29.B. Central.

Much movement noticed on ALBERT - POZIERES Road, engaged by artillery.

Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE APPENDIX

Intelligence Summary No. 5.

for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 3-4-18.

OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Active during the day on targets observed and against enemy Trench Mortar emplacements, etc. More active during the night against enemy roads and communications.

(b) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
1 Off. 6 O.R.	9-15 p.m. 11-40 p.m.	From E.9.B.1 9. to E.3.D.1 1. to E.3.D.1 2. to E.3.D.2 2. to E. 3.D.3 1. and back to starting point.	At E.3.D.1 1. patrol waited and listened. No enemy Posts on Railway to above point. An enemy Post was located at approx. E.3.B.2 4. and was garridoned by about 9 men with either a M.G. or Automatic Rifle.
1 Off. 6 O.R.	11 p.m. 12-30 a.m.	From E.9.Central to E.9.D.3 9. along road and back to E.9.Central.	At E.9.D.3 9. patrol came in contact with an enemy working party about 40 strong. Bombs were thrown by the patrol who then withdrew and returned to starting point. Here they joined forces with No. 1 patrol and went back to where enemy party was encountered. The enemy had gone as the road was patrolled for 100 yards in the vicinity and 50 yards forward. Packs were xxx found on the road apparently left by men wounded by our bombs. Packs were examined and contained 2 tins meat and half a loaf of bread. Patrol then returned.

Protective patrols along the front were kept up during the night. At 3-15 standing patrols went out a distance of 300 yards and remained out till dawn. Liaison patrols hourly during the night with neighbouring units.

(c) M.G.'s. Indirect fire on roads, bridge and tracks in the vicinity of VIVIERS MILL during the night. Expenditure 2,000 rounds.

(d) T.M.'s. Stokes Guns engaged enemy M.G. and Sniper positions with good effect. A party of the enemy in E.5.B. was dispersed and casualties caused. Partly dug trench in E.3.D.3 2. was also fired on.

(e) Aircraft. Our 'planes were very active during the day, constantly patrolling the enemy lines.

(f) Relief The 47th Battalion relieved 45th Battalion in the Right Sector of the Brigade Front, the relief being complete by 12-30 a.m.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Artillery. Fairly active during the day on our Support Areas but exceptionally quiet during the night. LAVIEVILLE and MILLENCOURT were shelled intermittently throughout the day.

(b) Machine Guns. M.G. active from RED COTTAGE at E.3.D.05 25. during the day but M.G.'s were very inactive during the night.

(c) T.M.'s. T.M. active from E.3.D.Central against our Front Line was silenced by Artillery fire otherwise inactive.

(d) Aircraft. Active during the day flying high over our Sector. They were heavily engaged by our A.A. It is reported that one E.A. came down in flames in his own lines at 6 p.m.

Intelligence Summary No. 5 (contd.)

(e) Movement. A party of the enemy in file which took a quarter of an hour to pass a point were seen at dusk in E.24.A. Owing to darkness no further movement could be seen. Enemy in small numbers could be seen moving along roads in rear of his lines.

Weather. Fine warm day with good visibility.

Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Our Operations

a Artillery. Active throughout the day on observed targets and at night on harassing fire on enemy roads and communications. In answer to an SOS barrage was put down at about 8.15 am for a quarter of an hour.

16. Patrols

Time	Strength	Route	Remarks
2.30 am	1 off 6 th A	From E 15 C 5020 to E 15 C 90.05 and back to S point.	a deserted enemy post was found at E 15 C 9005. Talking could be heard from direction of E 21 B 19. No movement could be detected and no enemy were encountered.
3 am	1 off 3 rd A	From E 15 C 9570 to along front and back to E 15 C 9595	No enemy were seen but talking could be heard. Patrol proceeded to where noise came from but could not locate enemy.

Intelligence patrols along the whole front were very frequent during the night but nothing of an unusual nature occurred. Harassment patrols were maintained between neighbouring units hourly.

116th Ls. Inaction owing to relief

T.M.s. Stokes T.M. were successfully employed against enemy hutments in E 15 B and 10 direct hits were observed. 116 G positions were also engaged.

Rifle Grenades. Successfully employed against enemy sniper positions.

Aircraft. At about 8.30 am 5 enemy machines attacked three of our, without success. One of the enemy machines came as low as fifty feet from the ground over our, our plane escaped though it actually touched ground before doing so. Plans were active during the day.

Relief. Relief of 12 MG Coy by 24 MG Coy was completed last night. The 116 Bth were relieved by 118 Bth in the left Sector, relief being complete by 12.5 am without casualties.

Enemy activity

a Artillery

Prior to enemy attack at 8.15 am our front line was heavily shelled. When attack commenced barrage lengthened to support areas. Enemy artillery more active than usual during the morning. About 300 shells fell in vicinity of D 12 C 4 D. Salvoes of 5.9" were directed against E 15 a. 9. 1. Shelling of LAVIEVILLE and MILLETICOURT less than usual.

- (b) MGs. Very active during attack and at intervals during the day. Occasional bursts during the night.
- (c) T.M.s. Active at intervals during the day on our front lines but guns could not be located.
- (d) Enemy aircraft were very active during the attack. Saw 30 machines over our lines. They were heard to be

Enemy activity

Attack at 8.15 am - after a short bombardment enemy attacked in considerable force mainly against our left Bn. Attack was broken up by MG and rifle fire before reaching our lines. One prisoner was taken out in front of our posts.

Identification. Prisoner captured belonged to the 2nd Coy 1st Battalion 1st Marine Regt 3rd Marine Division.

Flares. During attack enemy aeroplanes dropped many green flares.

Movement. Small numbers of the enemy could be observed moving in vicinity of ALBERT and MEAUFTE. Trambull could be heard during the night on ALBERT-BAPAVINE ROAD. A party of men were seen digging during the day on spur N of MORLAITCOURT.

Weather. Intermittent rain during the day with low visibility. Rain during the night and early this morning.

4/4/18

W. Stasback Lt
1.0.
13A1 Bde.

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12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

APPENDIX 8 79

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

24 hours ending 6 a.m. 28-4-18.

OUR ACTIVITY.

(a) Artillery. During the day our artillery active on enemy forward area. Quiet during the night. An 18 pounder Battery firing between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. was firing short on Right Battalion Sector and liaison was informed. About 5 a.m. an S.O.S. was fired on our Right and our artillery fired on S.O.S. Lines. As everything on our front was normal artillery was informed and fire ceased.

(b) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
1 Off. (Lieut. PINSENT) 5 O.R.	1-40 a.m. 3 a.m.	From O.30.D.25 20. to O.30.D.9 4. O.30.D.7 5. to O.30.A.95 70.	59th Battalion Post is established at O.30.D.9 4. An enemy patrol of about 8 men were seen moving in direction of huts in O.30.B.8 0. but were too far off to engage. About 150 yards in front of our line there is a wire obstacle parallel to our front. Wire is in good condition but needs strengthening.

Listening Patrols in front of Company Sectors were put out during the night but have nothing unusual to report. Liaison patrols between posts and neighbouring units were maintained throughout the night.

(c) M.G. and T.M. Inactive owing to relief.

(d) Aircraft. Very active during the day.

(e) Reliefs. The 45th Battalion relieved 50th Battalion and elements of 8th British Division in the right subsector and the 46th Battalion relieved 2 Companies of 49th Battalion and two Companies of 59th Battalion in the left subsector. The 12th A.L.T.M.Bty. relieved 13th A.L.T.M.Bty. and portion of 15th A.L.T.M.Bty.. Reliefs were complete by 1-30 a.m.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Artillery. Active at intervals during the day on widely scattered areas. Quiet during the night. A few H.V. shells fell in the vicinity of BLANGY TRONVILLE during the day.

(b) M.G's. Very little activity - only one gun reported firing but was not located.

(c) T.M's. Nil.

(d) Aircraft. No aerial activity reported.

(e) Movement. Other than patrol already reported no movement was seen.

J. O. Stabbe
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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APPENDIX 5

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 2

for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 29-4-18.

OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our artillery was active during the day and shelled the enemy forward positions intermittently through the night. At about 8-10 p.m. our artillery put down a barrage on our front. Shooting was good. No shells fell short and barrage was well placed.

(b) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
1 Off. 5 O.R. (Lt. PALSTRA)	9 p.m. 11-30 p.m.	From O.36.C.9 3. to O.36.D.3 3. to O.36.D.6 5. to O.36.Central.	Small enemy post lightly held was located from O.36.D.3 3. about 50 yards further along railway line. Patrol then moved to O.36.D.6 5. Farm immediately in front of this point is held by the enemy with a Machine Gun. Their line runs about 150 yards to rear of the farm. There are several small strong points between O.36.D.3 3. and O.36.D.6 9. Much talking and shouting was heard behind the enemy line. No enemy patrols encountered.
1 Off. 4 O.R. (Lt. MCKENZIE)	8-30 pm. 10-30 pm.	From O.36.A.9 3. to O.36.B.45 10. and back to starting point.	An enemy sentry group was located at O.36.B.5 1. An enemy Machine Gun was active from mound at O.36.B.4 1. Three men appeared to be on duty.
1 Off. 4 O.R. (Lt. COULSON)	1-10 am. 3-15 am.	From O.30.A.9 3. to Post at O.30.B.9 3. thence past cross roads at P.25.C.2 2. to P.31.A.3 7. to O.36.D.8 3. to O.36.Central to O.36.B.6 1. and back to O.36. Central.	No movement could be observed in the vicinity of HANGARDS at P.25.C.3 1. An enemy flare was fired at P.25.A.5 5. No enemy movement or no firing from farm at O.36.D.7 8. Patrol then moved to the farm but no trace of the enemy was found although this farm was reported occupied by a patrol earlier in the night.
1 Off. 3 O.R. (Lt. VINCENT)	8 pm. 11 pm.	From O.36.A.5 2. to U.6.A.6 9. along edge of wood to U.5.B.9 5. to U.5.B.8 4.	Patrol proceeded to U.6.A.6 9. where one enemy was seen to fire a flare from a trench. Moving along the edge enemy could be heard talking just inside the wood in a shallow trench. At U.5.B.9 5. another enemy Post was located. One man firing flares was seen. Transport could be heard on road running N. & S. through U.6.A.

A patrol from Right Battalion moved out from railway cutting and located enemy Post at U.6.A.6 9. and followed narrow shallow trench to U.6.A.9 7. Along this trench enemy is distributed lightly. Many flares were fired by the enemy but no Posts ahead of this trench could be seen.

Another patrol from Right Battalion patrolled right front of that Sector and confirms previous patrol report regarding enemy Posts in MONUMENT WOOD.

Liaison patrols were maintained with neighbouring Battalions and between Posts hourly throughout the night.

(c) M.G.'s. Inactive.

(d) T.M.'s. Inactive.

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(e) Aircraft.

Very active during the day repeatedly flying very low over enemy forward area. They were not troubled very much by enemy fire probably owing to poor visibility.

(f) Relief. The 12th Aust. Machine Gun Coy. relieved 13th Machine Gun Coy. on the Brigade Sector. Relief was complete at 1 a.m.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Very little artillery activity on our Sector during the day. O.32.C. & D. and O.33.C. & D. were heavily shelled at intervals and a few 4.5's and 5.9's fell in the vicinity of CACHY SWITCH. Whilst our barrage was down at 8 p.m. enemy retaliated on our forward area but very little damage was done.

(b) M.G's. Only slight activity during the night. The most active gun was firing down WAFASSU-BRETTONEUX Road, using a good many tracer bullets. Indirect Machine Gun fire was kept up by the enemy continually through the night on the valley in O.34.A. B. A machine gun was located at O.36.B.4 1. and also 2 in MONUMENT WOOD on the Western Edge.

(c) S.M. Nil.

(d) Aircraft. One enemy aeroplane crossed our lines at 4 p.m. and was engaged by Lewis Guns without effect. No other aerial activity reported.

(e) Miscellaneous. Enemy used a very large number of flares during the night. No movement was observed or no patrols encountered. Weather dull with low visibility - cloudy with rain and heavy mist during the night.

G. P. Abbott
Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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APPENDIX

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12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 3

for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 30-4-18.

OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Normally active during the day. Heavies engaged various targets in rear of the enemy's lines. Our field guns fired salvos into MONUMENT WOOD at frequent intervals during the day. A steady rate of fire was maintained during the night on enemy communications and forward areas. At 3-20 a.m. a slight barrage was put down on our front and ceased again at 3-50 a.m.

(b) Machine Guns. Inactive during the period.

(c) Trench Mortars. Inactive.

(d) Aircraft. Our aircraft was very active during the day. Making use of clouds approached the enemy lines and flew low over the enemy forward area continually during the day. They were heavily engaged by A.A. and M.G. fire. One of our planes was forced to land in O.S.C.. Pilot was wounded but observer unhurt.

(e) Patrols.

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
1 N.C.O. 3 men.		From O.36.C.8 3. to O.36.D.60 15. to O.36.C.4 1.	An enemy Post was located at O.36.D.65 10. Flares were being fired at frequent intervals from this Post. Enemy trench runs from this point to house in U.5.A.6 8. Working party was at work improving this trench. No patrols were encountered.
1 Off. 4 O.R. (Lt. LEDDY)		From U.5.B.5 8. to U.5.A.35 40. to U.5.A.6 9. thence to Post at O.36.D.4 1.	An enemy Post was located at U.5.A.3 5. Patrol was observed and Post opened fire with M.G. and rifles. Patrol threw bombs into Post and then withdrew to a shell hole where it was found that one of the party had been wounded and one was missing. Search in the vicinity was made for half an hour but no trace of missing man could be found. Patrol then examined trench reported above and found that it was only a shallow trench but was strongly held and the garrison working hard deepening it. Two men were then sent back to make a further search for missing man. Enemy Post was again encountered and bombed but no trace of the missing man could be found.
1 Off. 8 O.R. (Lt. MCKAY)		From O.35.D.8 0. to U.5.B.8 2. and back to starting point.	A thin wire obstacle apparently old runs along Western side of wood. Flares were being fired from U.5.B.9 3. A Machine Gun was active from approx. U.5.B.90 45. A party of about 20 men were seen digging a trench from approximately Machine Gun position to where flares were fired from. Much talking could be heard from the wood.
2 Off. 10 O.R. (Lt. MCKENZIE)	9-50 pm. 12-30 pm.	From O.36.B.3 3. to O.36.B.5 3. to O.36.B.6 0.	Instructions were to reconnoitre farm at O.36.D.70 85. and if occupied to attack and capture garrison. Patrol proceeded to within 30 yards to North of haystack close by and observed. A great number of flares were fired from this farm and one was fired from front of haystack. M.G. was located 20 yards in front of haystack at approx. O.36.D.62 85. About 8 enemy were seen around the gun. A Listening Post of 3 men was observed about 15 yards N.W.

(e) Patrols (contd.)

Strength.	Time.	Route.	Remarks.
		of haystack. More enemy could be seen around the sides of the stack. What appears to be an enemy Post was observed at O.36.D.5 8. Much enemy movement also between haystack and farm buildings. On false being fired from haystack Machine Gun was turned in direction of patrol. Enemy around the haystack then appeared to stand to and were facing in the direction of the patrol. The garrison of this defended locality was estimated at between 20 and 30. Owing to enemy strength it was decided not to rush the Post and patrol returned to our lines	
1 Off. 4 O.R. (Lt. HANNA)	11 pm. 3-30 am.	From O.30.D.9 3. to P.25.D.30 35. to P.25.C.85 10. to P.31.A.4 9. to O.36.D.6 1. to O.36.E.1 3.	Patrol examined aeroplane hangars on right of road immediately in front of our lines and found same unoccupied. Enemy M.G. active down main road. From P.25.C.8 0. flares were observed being fired from approx. P.25.D.9 1. Patrol then proceeded to and examined buildings at P.31.A.4 9. which were found unoccupied. Upon nearing haystack 5 enemy were observed digging. Patrol then returned to our lines.

A patrol under Lieut. HATFIELD proceeded along Left bank of Railway and located enemy entrenched at approx. O 36 D 32 20. Enemy were also located in Farm and at Haystack as previously reported. Liason patrols were maintained constantly during the night operation at dusk tape was laid from O 30 D 93 to O 36 B 20 and later the 48 Battalion advanced and established 4 Posts each a platoon strong on that line. No opposition from the enemy was experienced.

(f) Identification. At about 11 p.m. last night one of the enemy wandered into the lines of the Right Battalion. Prisoner belonged to Minenwerfer Company, 8th Battalion, Jaeger Regiment.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Artillery. Quieter than usual. VILBERS BRETTONEUX lightly shelled during the day, also the whole of the forward part of the wood. One red flare and one green fired by the enemy about 8-30 p.m. brought down a barrage for 15 minutes on O.34.D. and O.35.C. and on the French Front. Very little damage was done. An H.V. Gun shelled back areas at intervals during the day.

(b) M.G.'s. Enemy Machine Guns were located at U.6.A.1 5. - U.5.B. 90 25. - O.36.D.65 80. and gun also on main road but not definitely located. These guns fired short bursts at long intervals throughout the night.

(c) T.M.'s. Nil.

(d) Aircraft. Very active over the forward area throughout the day. 19 'planes were flying over our Sector at 10-45 a.m. Between 5 and 6 p.m. 14 'planes were observed at one time. One low flying 'plane was driven off by Lewis Gun fire.

(e) Movement. Enemy appears to be digging on on line O.36.D.8 5. to O.36.D.8 7. He appears to be working hard on front line trenches in vicinity of MONUMENT WOOD. Considerable movement of small parties was observed in MONUMENT WOOD during the day.

(f) Miscellaneous. Between 8 and 10 p.m. enemy fired no flares and was exceptionally quiet. After 10 p.m. many flares were used and Machine Guns appeared to fire on different targets than previously. It seems probable that a relief of some kind was carried out.

Lieut.
Intelligence Officer.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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Fighting Strength as on April 7th, 1918.

45th Battalion.	26	688
46th "	43	816
47th "	32	381
48th "	39	637
A.L.T.M.Bty.	3	46
M..G.Coy.	12	209
	<u>155</u>	<u>2777</u>

APPENDIX

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Officers arrived for week ending 7-4-18.

2/Lieut.	W.L. O'MALLARD.	12th M.G.Coy.	from Cadet Bn.	1-4-18.
Capt.	J.S. McKAY.	45th Bn.	" 12th Field Amb.	5-4-18.
Lieut.	F.P. PRING.	"	" Hospital	1-4-18.
"	H.C. PINSENT.	46th Bn.	" Supy.List.	3-4-18.
Captain	F.R. NORTH.	47th Bn.	" AUSTRALIA.	"
"	A.E. MORGAN.	"	" Supy.List.	5-4-18.

Reinforcements arrived for week ending 7-4-18.

45th Battalion.	1
48th "	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u> O.R.

45th Battalion.

Casualties and sick evacuations for week ending 7-4-18.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Sick		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
1-4-18.		4		3						7
2-4-18.			1	3					1	3
3-4-18				2						2
4-4-18				2						2
5-4-18	5	23	7	73	1	9			13	105
6-4-18		3		20		30				53
7-4-18										
Total	5	30	8	103	1	39			14	172

Officers.

Killed.

Lieut.	T.E.J. LINDSAY.	5-4-18.
"	T.W. PERRY.	"
2/Lt.	A.K. McDONALD.	"
Lieut.	A.M. McDIARMID.	"
2/Lt.	H.F. MITCHELL.	"

Wounded.

Lieut.	A.J. PIRIE.	2-4-18
2/Lt.	C.R. BURNETT.	5-4-18
Lieut.	G.A. SIMPSON.	"
"	W. HARDLY.	"
"	J. YOUNG.	"
"	S. McDONALD.	"
"	J.R.S. PERRY.	"
Major	W. GARNETT.	A.A.M.C. attached. 5-4-18

Missing.

2/Lieut.	J.H. ALLEN.	5-4-18.
		Believed prisoner of War.

- 2 -
46th Battalion.

Date.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Wounded at duty.		Sick total.		
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	
1-4-18		4	1	12					1	1	17
2-4-18				5					1		6
3-4-18	1	18	1	32			7		2	2	59
4-4-18											
5-4-18		17	3	49	3		1			3	70
6-4-18		3	4	5	1					4	9
7-4-18											
Total	1	42	9	103	4		8		4	10	161

Officers.

<u>Killed.</u>	Lieut.	W.H. JENNINGS.	3-4-18.
<u>Wounded.</u>	Lieut.	S.A. LATIMER.	1-4-18.
	"	J.W.H. MARSHALL.	3-4-18.
	Hon. Mir.	E.S. DAVIS.	5-4-18.
	Capt.	G.E. MILNE.	"
	Lieut.	W. HOOD, M.C.	"
	"	C.J. JENNINGS.	6-4-18.
	"	L. BULL.	"
	"	A.S. DICKINSON.	"
	2/Lt.	A.B. MORTIMER.	"

47th Battalion.

Date.	Killed.		Wounded.		W. and Missing.		Missing.		Sick.		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
1-4-18.				1								1
2-4-18												
3-4-18		6		19						6		31
4-4-18				6								6
5-4-18	2	26	3	62	1	7	2	166			8	261
6-4-18		2	1	12				1			1	15
7-4-18												
Total	2	34	4	100	1	7	2	167	6	9	314	

Officers.

<u>Killed.</u>	Lieut.	H.F.W. MARSON.	5-4-18.
	2/Lt	W.J.F. COOKSLEY.	"
<u>Wounded.</u>	Lieut.	H.M. DOUGLAS.	"
	2/Lt.	O.E. ULCOG.	"
	"	H.T. HINES.	"
	Lieut.	B.R. BIRD, M.C.	6-4-18.
<u>Missing.</u>	Lieut.	W. GOODSALL.	5-4-18.
	"	J.E. SMITH.	"
<u>Wounded & Missing.</u>	Lieut.	E. ROBINSON.	"

48th Battalion.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		W. at duty.		Sick.		Total	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
1-4-18										1		1
2-4-18				1								1
3-4-18		3		5								8
4-4-18			1							1	1	1
5-4-18	1	14	2	35	1	27	1	1			4	77
6-4-18				6								6
7-4-18		2		2								4
Total	1	19	3	49	27		1	1	2	4	98	

48th Battalion casualties (contd.)Officers.Killed. Lieut. H.H. MAYNARD. 5-4-18.Wounded. Lieut. G.A. PAVY. 5-4-18.

" H.M. SHEPHERDSON, M.M. "

Capt. L.L. CARTER, M.C. 4-4-18.

Wounded at duty.

Lieut. H. DOWNES. 5-4-18.

12th Machine Gun Company.

Date	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Sick.		Total.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
3-4-18						1				1
5-4-18			1							1
Total			1			1				2

12th A.L.T.M.Bty.

2-4-18.			1							1
3-4-18	1		1	1				1	1	3
4-4-18								1		1
5-4-18	3		2		1					7
Total	4		1	4		1		2	1	12

Officer.Wounded. Lieut. H.K. COWARD, M.C., D.C.M.

Fighting Strength for week ending 12-4-18.

45th Battalion.	24	604
46th "	39	780
47th "	32	493
48th "	39	807
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	3	46
	<u>137</u>	<u>2731</u>

Officers who have arrived for week ending 12-4-18.

Lieut.Col.	S.L. PERRY, M.C.	45th Bn.	from leave	10-4-18.
Capt.	W.H. SCHADEL.	"	" Sec. List	11-4-18.
Lieut.	G.P. STOREY.	47th Bn.	" Supy. List.	"
2/Lt.	W.H. KEOGH	"	" " "	"
Capt.	A.M. ANDERSON.	"	" 12th T.B.	12-4-18

Officers who have "Gone" for week ending 12-4-18.

Lieut.	E.V. STEEL.	45th Bn.	Area Comdt., MOLLINIENS	6-4-18.
2/Lt.	M.M. CUDDIHY.	46th Bn.	to A.I.F. H.Q. for return	
			to AUSTRALIA.	9-4-18.
Major	H.F. McLAUGHLIN.	47th Bn.	do.	do.

Reinforcements arrived for week ending 12-4-18.

45th Battalion.	19
46th "	32
47th "	32
48th "	82 casualties over estimated
	<u>178</u>
	<u>343</u>

Sick evacuations for week ending 12-4-18.

45th Battalion.	1
46th "	3
47th "	2
48th "	1
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	<u>2</u>
	<u>9</u>

Fighting Strength as on April 19th, 1918. **APPENDIX**

45th Battalion.	27	626
46th "	40	759
47th "	33	496
48th "	42	903
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	3	46
	<u>145</u>	<u>2830</u>

Officers who have arrived for week ending April 19th, 1918.

2/Lieut.	R.B. KERR.	45th Bn.	from Reinf.	16-4-18.
"	J. LECKY.	"	" "	"
"	F.W. FIFIELD.	"	" "	"
Capt.	J.R. ANDERSON R.M.O.	"	" 12th Field Amb.	14-4-18
2/Lt.	M.D. COBB.	46th Bn.	" Reinf.	16-4-18.
"	A.F.M. MCKENZIE.	"	" "	"
Lieut.	E.A. LEITH.	"	" Sec. List.	14-4-18.
2/Lt.	J.G. O'NEILL.	47th Bn.	" O.C.B.	"
Lieut.	H.C. GARLAND, D.C.M.		Retd. from Aust.	"
2/Lt.	D. LEUTCHFORD, M.M.		From O.C.B.	16-4-18.
"	P. SYMES, D.C.M.		" "	"

Officers who have "Gone" for week ending April 19th, 1918.

Captain	J.S. MCKAY. R.M.O.	45th Bn. to 12th Field Amb.	
Lieut.	W. BAXTER.	47th Bn. Sick to Hosp.	15-4-18

Reinforcements arrived for week ending April 19th, 1918.

45th Battalion.	46
46th "	15
47th "	16
48th "	<u>123</u>
	<u>300</u>

Sick evacuations for week ending April 19th, 1918.

45th Battalion.	8
46th "	1
47th "	3
48th "	3
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	<u>1</u>
	<u>16</u>

203

APPENDIX

9
89

Fighting Strength as on April 26th, 1918.

45th Battalion.	31	631
46th "	40	780
47th "	38	527
48th "	42	917
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.	3	46
	<u>154</u>	<u>2901</u>

Officers who have arrived for week ending April 26th, 1918.

2/Lieut.	L.R. CORBETT.)			
"	A.M. MILLS.)	45th Bn.	Commissioned	17-4-18.
"	G.H. SMITH.	47th Bn.	from 15th Bn.	20-4-18.
"	G.H. HOHNEN.	"	" "	"
Capt.	C.H. KING.	"	" Supy.List.	24-4-18.
2/Lieut.	G.L. SWAN.	"	" "	"
"	H.L. DUNNETT, M.M.	"	" Hospital	25-4-18
"	G.J. O'NIELL.	"	" O.C.B.	21-4-18.

Officers who have "Gone" for week ending April 26th, 1918.

Brig.Gen.	J. GELLIBRAND, C.B..D.S.O.		Sick to Hosp.	19-4-18.
2/Lieut.	A. CLAYTON.	45th Bn.	" " "	20-4-18.
"	A.J. FROST.	"	" " "	24-4-18.
Captain	T.R. HAMMOND.	48th Bn.	" " "	23-4-18

Reinforcements arrived for week ending April 26th, 1918.




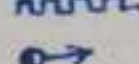



45th Battalion.	19
46th "	22
47th "	35
48th "	<u>17</u>
	<u>93</u>

Sick evacuations for week ending April 26th, 1918.

45th Battalion.	6
46th "	4
47th "	2
48th "	<u>5</u>
	<u>17</u>

SECRET

Reference Sheet
62° N.E
1/29000

- Headqrs Bde shewn 
- " Bn " 
- Posts " 
- Trenches " 
- Machine Guns " 
- Trench Mortars " 
- Aid Posts " 

Dispositions
as at 29-3-18

