

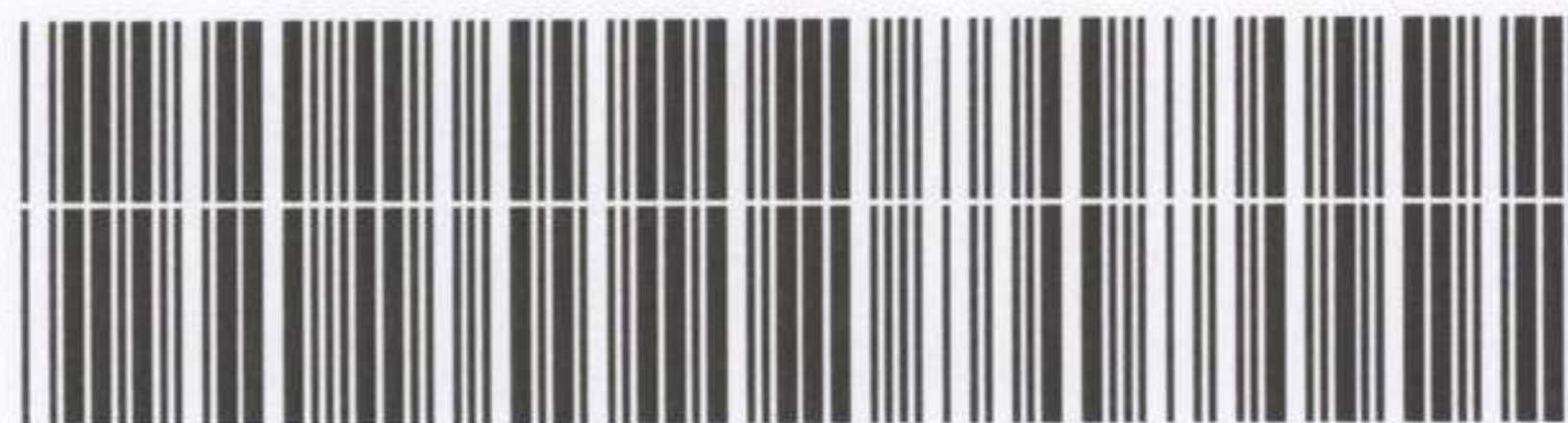
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/6/20

Title: 6th Infantry Brigade

April 1917



AWM4-23/6/20

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

6th AIRBORNE

Army Form C. 2118.

233

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.

Vol 4 pi

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BECOURT	1		Fine & cold combined. Church Parade held at which medals & ribbons were presented by Corp Commander. GOC. Dv. also present.	
BECOURT	2		Cold & squally with showers at intervals. Bn. training continued. GOC. visited all units and attended lecture by 23 rd Bn.	
BECOURT	3		Cold with snow in afternoon. Training continued by all units. Order received for 22 nd Bn to be held in readiness to proceed to BAPAVME for work on railway construction.	
BECOURT	4		Heavy fall of snow during morning prevented units from parading. Lectures held in huts. Dv. Comdr. visited GOC. Advance party of 22 nd Bn proceeded to BAPAVME and erected tents.	
BECOURT	5		Bright clear atmosphere. Training continued. 22 nd Bn instructions cancelled and Bn returned to D Camp MAMETZ.	
BECOURT	6		Fine and clear. Training continued. Range practice given by 21 st Bn & 22 nd Bn. Half-holiday granted on account of Good Friday.	

WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Vol 4 p 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BECOURT	1917 April 7		Snow & squalls during morning, fine afternoon. Training continued. Range practice by 23 rd & 24 th Bns. Demonstration in Bayonet Fighting given attended by Lt Col Dwy	
BECOURT	8		Cool and bright. Church Parade attended by all units. Wks moved to BALAVME under orders of Lt Col Dwy	
BECOURT	9		Wet & cold during morning, fine cold afternoon. Attack practice using new formations carried out by 22 nd & 23 rd Bns. ^{9 TMS} Lecture on "Advance Guards" by Lt Col Bridges given to officers & NCOs of the Bde	
BECOURT	10		Snow squalls with bright intervals. 21 st & 24 th Bns engaged in attack practice employing new formations. 22 nd & 23 rd continued training. Lt Col Somerville conferred with Staff Capt, COs of units, QMs & Adjutants. Lt Col's meeting of COs to discuss recent attack practice	
BECOURT	11		Windy with falls of hail & snow at intervals. Capt Norman evacuated to No. 9 C.C. Hospital. Brigade Training continued	
BECOURT	12		Bright & windy. Orders received to move to BEUGNATRE on 13 th inst. Bde training continued	Operative Order 83
BECOURT	13		Clear & cool. Bde, less Wks, marched to BEUGNATRE and occupied the BEUENT-VRES line as support Bde. Orders changed during move, but all ended satisfactorily	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol 4 p 3

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAULX	14		<p>Clear & bright. Morning spent improving shelter. Received instructions about midday to move forward & occupy left Bde Sector of Div. Front after dusk. Reorganized hurriedly and duty completed. 2 Co Bn & 2 Co. 2nd Bn in front line with 2 Co of each in support. 5th AI Bde on right flank & 168th Bde on left.</p>	
NOREUIL	15		<p>Casualties Nil Fine morning & wet cold afternoon. Germans attacked Div. on our right and drove thru in. One Bn 5th Bde likewise. First detected at 7 am moving against our right flank. Support Co. ^{2nd Bn} moved facing enemy & supported the 5th Bde with rifle M.G. fire. Artillery co-operation splendid. Enemy finally driven off with heavy loss, about 300 made prisoners. Whole area and all guns captured by the enemy retaken.</p>	
NOREUIL	16		<p>Casualties 1 killed, 1 off 15 ORs wounded Fine and cold. Gills, Bardwood & White visited Bde. Artillery engaged cutting wire opposite our front. Situation unchanged. G.O.C. visited left flank Bde - 186th - 62nd Div. Casualties 2 killed 9 wounded</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

233

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol 4 p 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NOREUIL	1917 April 17		<p>Wet and cold. Inter-battalion reliefs carried out, 2 Cos of 22nd & 24th Bn relieving 2 Cos. of 22nd, 24th Bn. Situation unchanged. 24th Bn support Cos. heavily shelled at 3 pm & 10 pm. making it advisable to withdraw them temporarily. Wire cutting programme proceeded with Cap our artillery. Patrol reports cut in front of left of sector and not touched on our right.</p> <p>Casualties - Killed 3 ORs. - Wounded 9 ORs. -</p>	
NOREUIL	18		<p>Wet and cold. Situation normal. Enemy shelling heavy at intervals. Experiments with Bangalore Torpedoes partially successful. (Dw Order 121 received at 11 pm)</p> <p>Casualties - Killed 4 ORs. - Wounded 22 ORs. -</p>	
NOREUIL	19		<p>cloudy & cold. Situation unchanged. Bell front taken over by 7th A Bn</p> <p>25th Bn relieving 22nd & 24th Bn! Disposition on completion of reliefs, 21st Bn VAULX, 22nd Bn FAVREUIL, 23rd Bn BEVENY-YTRES line, 24th Bn FAVREUIL</p> <p>Casualties - Killed 2 ORs. - Wounded 15 ORs. -</p>	<p>Bd Order 85</p>
FAVREUIL	20		<p>Bright & cold. 22nd & 24th Bns arrived in Camp about 3 am. Bell resting and cleaning up generally. Conference of Brigades at DHD re attacks on</p>	

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13

Mundenburg Line casualties - 1 OR wounded

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

333

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol 4 p 5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAVREUIL	21		Clear & cold. 24 th Bn bathing remainder training. A practice ground for forthcoming attack laid out under Div. supervision. Operation order for the attack issued. Casualties - 1 O.R. Wounded.	Bde Order 86 E
FAVREUIL	22		Cloudy & cold. Attack practice carried out on ground representing the objectives to be taken. Four waves in two lines each for Bn employed. Air top satisfactory. Conference held to discuss improvements and decided one line per wave preferable.	E
FAVREUIL	23		Fine & clear. Training continued. Witnessed attack practice by 5 th A.I. Bde. Further meeting of COs at D.H.Q. Casualties - Killed 1 O.R. - Wounded 2 officers & 4 O.Rs.	
FAVREUIL	24		Fine & clear. 22 nd & 24 th Bns in conjunction with 5 th Bde carried out attack practice up to 2 nd objectives. Four waves of 1 line each used and proved more suitable than other formation. Decided to use this formation in the attack. Casualties -	E
FAVREUIL	25		Cloudy & fine. Anzac Day was observed as a holiday as far as possible. Casualties - Nil.	Operative Memo.
FAVREUIL	26		Fine and cold. Training continued. 21 st & 23 rd Bns relieved tempy. in the VAULX & BEUGNY-YTRES lines respectively. Conference at D.H.Q. of Brigadiers & C.Os. in coming operation. Casualties - Nil.	E

WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Vol 4 p 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAVREUIL	27		<p>cloudy & cold. Attack practice carried out on practice ground representing position to be attacked subsequently. Bde formed up at 3.30 am. a very useful practice which indicated necessity for more practice at forming up on jumping off tape and steps taken to ensure that each man understands what man he belongs to and what his objective is. Demonstration in blowing gaps in wire entanglements with "Bangalore Torpedoes" highly successful.</p> <p>21st & 23rd Bns returned to their positions in Vault & Burgny lines.</p> <p>Casualties - Nil -</p>	
FAVREUIL	28		<p>Fine and hazy. Brigade training continued</p>	
FAVREUIL	29		<p>Fine and sunny. Bde HQ move to HQD, 21st & 23rd Bns relieved by 1st & 4th Bns. moved into Camp near FAVREUIL. Church parade held in each unit</p> <p>Casualties - Nil -</p>	
FAVREUIL	30		<p>Fine and bright. Attack practice by 5th & 6th Bdes carried out at 4 am. Improvement on last. Much practice needed to enable units to form up satisfactorily on jumping off tape. Found necessary to tie up scabbard & belts to prevent noise</p> <p>Casualties - Nil -</p>	<p>Bde Order 87</p>

233

SECRET

8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.83

Ref. Map.- 57c S.W., S.E.
& N.W. 1/20,000

12th April, 1917.

1. The 2nd Aust. Divn. will relieve 4th Aust. Divn. in left Sector of Corps Front on 12th, 13th & 14th instants.
2. The 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move to BEUGNATRE on 13th inst. via SAUSAGE VALLEY to ALBERT - POZIERES Rd. - POZIERES - BAPAUME to destination and relieve 5th A.I.Bde.
3. Transport and Cookers will move separately via LA BOISELLE - POZIERES BAPAUME to BEUGNATRE under Captain FARREL reaching POZIERES at 10.30 a.m. Baggage waggons will report to Units at 6.30 a.m.
4. Starting point - Bayonet Fighting ground North East of BECOURT CAMP, head of column to pass at 8.45 a.m. and reach POZIERES at 9 a.m.
5. Order of March.-
 - 22nd Battalion
 - 24th "
 - 21st "
 - 23rd "
 - 6th T.M.Battery
 - Bde. H.Q.'s details.
6. Following distances will be maintained on the roads during the march.
 - 200 yards between Battalions
 - 100 " " Companies
 - 200 " " each Unit's Transport.
7. 6th Aust. M.G.Company will remain in their present position and rejoin Brigade on receipt of orders.
8. Billeting parties will report to Lieut. S.J. HODGSON, 23rd Bn., at the Crucifix BEUGNATRE at 2 p.m. on 13th instant.
9. A C K N O W L E D G E

Issued at 2.45 p.m.

Copies to.-

1. Filed
2. War Diary
3. 2nd Aust. Divn.
4. 21st Bn.
5. 22nd "
6. 23rd "
7. 24th "
8. 6th M.G.Co.
9. 6th L.T.M.Bty.
10. 16th A.A.S.C.
11. G.O.C.
12. 5th A.I.Bde.
13. 7th A.I.Bde.
14. Spare.

Bevan
Major,
Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

SIXTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BRIGADE OPERATION ORDER NO. 84 CANCELLED.

233

APPENDIX

9

Secret.

Copy No. 2

SIXTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 85.Ref. Map Sheet 57c.N.W., 1/20,000.
ECOUST 1/10,000.

19th April, 1917.

1. The 22nd & 24th Battalions, 6th Aust. Inf. Bde., will be relieved on night 19/20th April by 25th Battalion, 7th Aust. Inf. Bde., and will move to Camps occupied by 23rd and 25th Bns. respectively, near FAVREUIL.
2. The 24th Bn. in front line will be relieved by "B" Coy. & $\frac{1}{2}$ Coy. "C" Coy. 25th Bn.
The 22nd Bn. in front line will be relieved by $\frac{1}{2}$ "C" Coy. & "D" Coy., 25th Bn.
"A" Coy., 25th Bn., in support, will occupy Cuttings in C.4.c. & C.4.d.
Supporting Companies of 22nd & 24th Bns. will move back at 9 p.m.
3. Guides from all front line Companies will meet incoming troops at CRUCIFIX near Bde. Hdqrs. at 9 p.m.
4. 6th Aust. M.G. Coy. will be relieved by 22nd M.G. Coy. and will return to old Camp on completion.
5. 6th Aust. L.T.M. Bty. will return to 23rd Bn. lines on receipt of this order.
6. 21st & 23rd Bns. remain in present positions.
7. 21st Bn. will furnish the Gun Escort at S.E. entrance to LONGATTE in relief of 24th Bn. Strength 1 Platoon and 2 Lewis Guns.
Escorts for batteries in NOREUIL will be relieved by 7th A.I. Bde.
8. Numbers "1" of Vickers & Lewis Gun Crews in position will remain with 22nd M.G. Coy. & 25th Bn. respectively for 24 hours.
9. 22nd & 24th Bns. will carry out patrol work between 11 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.; patrols returning to our own Units after handing in reports to 25th Bn.
10. Report of relief completed of front line will be sent in code to Bde. Hdqrs.
11. Acknowledge.

Copies to.-

1. Filed.
2. War Diary.
3. 2nd Aust. Div.
4. 21st Bn.
5. 22nd Bn.
6. 23rd Bn.
7. 24th Bn.
8. 6th M.G. Coy.
9. 6th L.T.M. Bty.
10. 5th A.I. Bde.
11. 7th A.I. Bde.
12. 185th Bde.
13. 22nd M.G. Coy.
14. G.O.C.

E. Lewis
Major,
Bde. Major, 6th Aust. Infantry Bde.

SECRETCOPY NO. 26th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.86
=====

Ref. Map 1/10,000 ECOUST Ed.2

21st April, 1917.

1. The Brigade will attack (leapfrog principle) the HINDENBURG LINE in co-operation with 5th A.I.Bde. on our right and 185th & 186th Brigades on our left, on "Y" day at a time to be notified later.
2. The frontage allotted to the Brigade runs from the road through U.29.a. & c., exclusive, to U.22.d.6.0. as shown on Objective Map with Bn. frontages marked thereon, which has been issued to all concerned.
3. The 24th Bn. will be on the right and 22nd Bn. on left, and will carry first two objectives.
The 23rd Bn. on right and 21st Bn. on left will pass through and complete the three phases of 3rd objective.
 - 1st Objective Enemy trench system up to and including the second line from U.23.c.85.05. to U.22.d.6.3.
 - 2nd Objective Six cross roads in U.23.d. to road fork U.22.b.8.5.
 - 3rd Objective
 - 1st Phase - Trench from U.23.b.5.4. to U.17.c.5.3.
 - 2nd Phase - Line from U.18.c.4.1. to U.17.b.2.1.
 - 3rd Phase - Establish six posts each one platoon strong along ridge from CHATEAU and LE BRULLE.
4. The attack will be launched from a marked line about 500 yds. North of Railway Embankment, and parallel to Enemy trenches. At intervals of 100 yards tape will be laid forward to ensure that correct direction is maintained when advancing.
Battalions will attack in four waves of two lines each, 15 yards between lines and 50 yards between waves.
1st wave will be formed up on a J.O. mark, with remaining waves in rear, by ZERO - 30.
5. The 1st wave will carry and clean up enemy front trench at ZERO plus 16, pushing two special parties to the left, vide para.6.
The 2nd wave will pass through and carry enemy support trench at ZERO plus 33 and clean up, pushing one special party to left flank (para.6)
The 3rd wave will consolidate the above 1st objective by passing through and forming a line of posts about 150 yds. in advance NORTH of enemy support trench at ZERO plus 33. & establish a S.P. at U.23.c.0.4
The 4th wave will pass through and occupy 2nd objective at ZERO plus 1'40", special care being taken to maintain close touch with 186th Brigade on left flank.
The 5th wave will carry trench in U.23.b. & 17.c. at ZERO plus 2'29" (1st Phase, 3rd objective).
The 6th and 7th waves will pass through, occupy and consolidate line U.18.c. - U.17.c. (2nd Phase 3rd objective) at ZERO plus 2'44".
The 8th wave will establish posts, 3 per Bn., along spur from LE BRULLE to CHATEAU, and maintain connection between 186th Brigade and 5th A.I. Bde.
6. After taking front line and support trench, 22nd Bn. will detach 3 special flank parties, referred to in para 5., as under to establish connection with 185th Brigade on left via enemy 1st trench, support trench through U.28.a. central and support trench in 22.c. -
 - Rifle Bombers ... 2 & 1 carrier.
 - Bombers ... 4 & 2 carriers (with two reliefs for bombers held in readiness).
 - Lewis Gun & 4 men.
 - 1 Stokes Mortar and detachment.
 The progress of these parties will be marked by displaying black and yellow flags.

(Contd.)

-2-

7. The 6th Aust. L.T.M. Battery will attach 3 Mortars (Lieut. Gray) to 22nd Bn., 1 Mortar each to 24th, 21st and 23rd Bns. (Lieut. Robinson). Those with 22nd and 24th Bns. will advance with 2nd wave, the remainder with 5th wave. Bns. to which Trench Mortars are allotted will furnish an Ammunition Carrying Party of 12 men per Mortar.
2 Guns in reserve, C.5.a.3.3.
15th T.M. Battery will bring 4 Mortars into action near 28. central against M.G. positions on East edge of BULLECOURT; remainder in reserve at Railway Line, U.28.c.9.2.
8. 6th Aust. M.G. Company will detail 2 Guns to move on the left of the 2nd wave, 24th Bn., to U.23.c.0.4., for action against the FACTORY, HENDECOURT, and the spur running N. to the CHATEAU from RIENCOURT; 2 Guns with 4th wave, 24th Bn., to U.23.a.6.0. to fire on the FACTORY and HENDECOURT;
2 guns with 4th wave, of 22nd Bn. to U.22.d.6.3. for action against FACTORY and N.W. trenches, as well as enfilade of road S.W. from HENDECOURT. These guns will be in readiness to move to our left to enfilade the boundary road on the west.
6 M.G.'s in action at Railway Embankment for barrage (1st) from U.23.central to FACTORY from ZERO till plus 1'15"; (2nd) on trenches from U.16.d. central to S.E. till plus 2'; (3rd) road N.W. through U.17. central till plus 2'20".
4 M.G.'s in reserve at Road cutting in C.4.d. central.
22nd Aust. M.G. Company will come into action with 4 guns at C.4.c.3.0. and enfilade communication trench and communications in U.23., lifting at ZERO plus 15";
2 Guns in C.9.a. against communications in C.22., lifting at ZERO plus 15"
4 Guns employed on Anti-Aircraft.
Headquarters and 6 guns in reserve at VAULX.
9. Map showing Artillery co-operation, with times of lifts of barrage as under, have been issued to all concerned.-
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1st Objective. | (Front line trench ... plus 16". |
| | (Support " " ... plus 33". |
| 2nd Objective. | ... plus 1'40". |
| 3rd Objective | (1st Phase ... plus 2'29". |
| | (2nd " ... plus 2'44". |
| | (3rd " ... plus 2'54". |
10. Dress and equipment as laid down in XXXI of S.S.135.
Bombs will be carried as under.-
- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----------|
| Bombers and Rifle Bombers | ... | 10 bombs |
| Carriers | ... | 24 " |
| Others | ... | 36 " |
- 4 P.Bombs will be carried in each platoon for mopping-up dugouts.
170 rounds S.A.A. will be carried by each man.
4 Sandbags will be carried by each man.
Tools in proportion of 1 pick to 5 shovels will be carried by 25% of the men.
1st and 2nd waves will each carry 20 mats and 5th wave 10 mats for crossing wire, while all waves will be provided with wire cutters.
11. Carryngg parties will be furnished by 1 section from each platoon, with 2 Officers per Bn., and will move with the waves to which allotted.
A brigade Dump will be established at C.5.a.3.3. containing .-
- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Bombs | 30,000 | "P" Bombs | 200 |
| S.A.A. | 100,000 rds. | Ground flares | 300 |
| Rifle Grenades | 3,000 | Very Lights | 200 Red, |
| Water Tins | 200 | " " | 500 White. |

233

(Contd.)

-3-

German

- 12. Every endeavour will be made to utilise arms, ammunition, bombs & material when opportunity arises to economise own supplies. The utmost importance is attached to the early and efficient establishment of dumps in the hostile lines.
- 13. An Amplifier will be established at Bde. Hdqrs., working with Power Buzzers from about U.23.c.1.3. Telephone wire will be laid to each forward Bn. H.Q.'s. which will be established at approximately.-
 - 22nd Bn. ... U.22.d.6.0., Trench.
 - 24th " ... U.23.c.5.2., Trench.
 - 21st " ... U.17.c.8.1., Trench.
 - 23rd " ... C.4.b. Railway Embankment.
 Relay posts at intervals of about 400 yds. will be arranged by Bde. Signal Officer, which will also pass on all signals observed. 4 Pigeons will be issued to each Bn., and will move forward with 3rd and 6th waves.
- 14. "Success Signals" will be fired as follows.-

1st Objective	(1st Trench	...	One white flare repeated at intervals of 10 seconds.
	(Support "	...	One red -do- -do-
2nd Objective		...	Red and White flares fired alternately at intervals of 10 sec

 Observation posts will repeat success signals when seen.
- 15. Front line will indicate their positions to Contact Patrol by lighting red flares when called for by Klaxon Horn or Very Light. Also, provided that Contact Aeroplane is in sight, flares will be lighted at.- ZERO plus 1 hour.

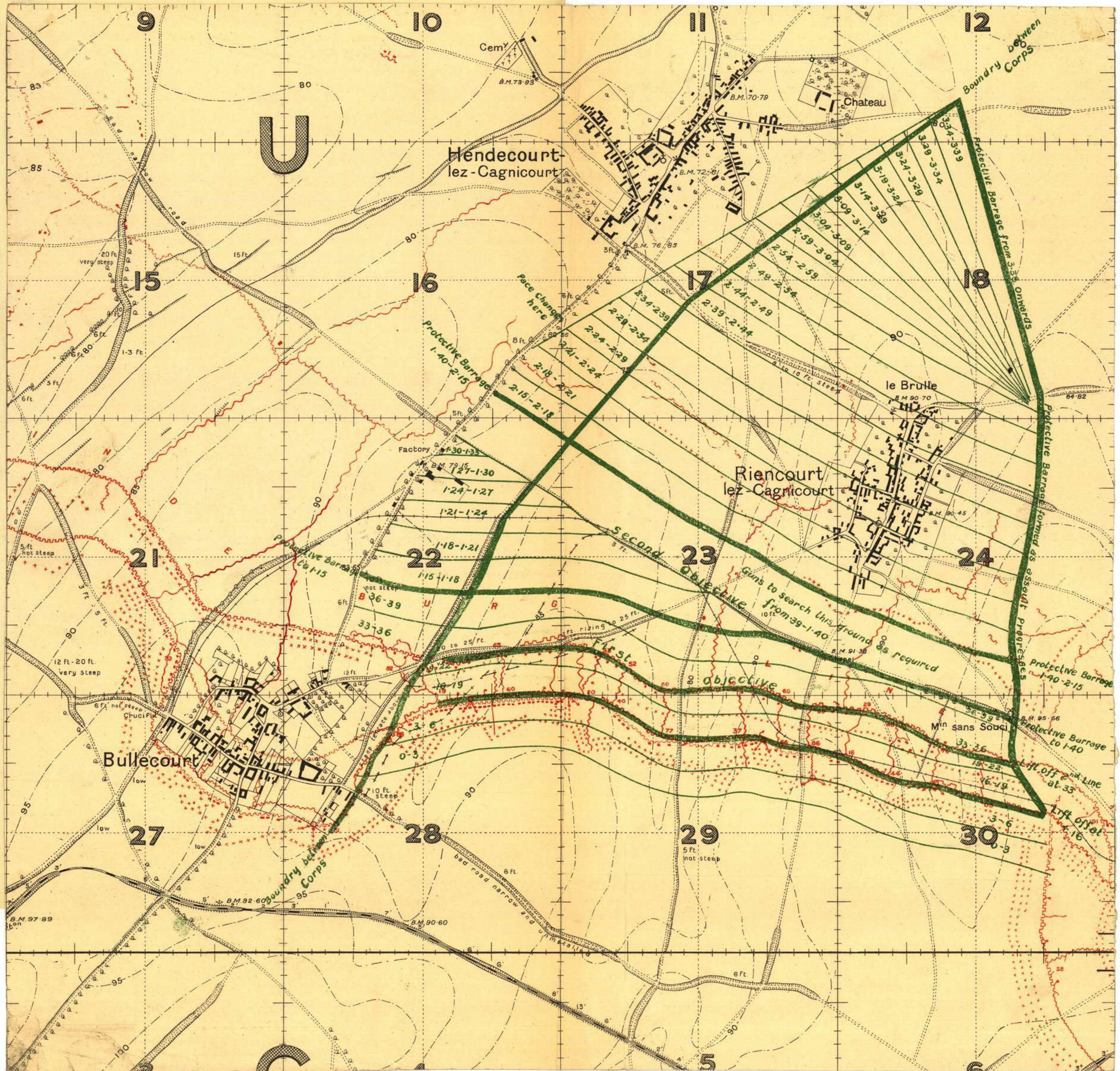
"	"	2 hours
"	"	3 "
- 16. Parole - THORN. Countersign - THROUGH.
- 17. Prisoners, with escort not exceeding 10%, will be sent to NOREUIL via Bde. Hdqrs., and handed over to A.P.M., fullest use being made of them for return of wounded.
- 18. Major A.R.L. Wiltshire, 22nd Bn. and Lieut. F.G. Menzies 24th Bn. will carry out liaison duties to right and left Brigades respectively. Bns will similarly arrange liaison with their flank Bns.
- 19. Wounded will be evacuated from R.A.P.'s to Ambulance posts established at.-

C.10.c.8.7.	C.14.central
C. 9.d.7.7.	C.16.a.7.0.
C.15.a.8.8.	
- 20. Reports to Bde. Hdqrs. at C.5.a.1.4.
- 21. A C K N O W L E D G E

Copies to.-

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Filed | 10. 22nd M.G.Co. |
| 2. War Diary | 11. 15th T.M.Bty. |
| 3. 2nd Aust. Divn. | 12. 5th A.I.Bde. |
| 4. 21st Bn. | 13. 7th A.I.Bde. |
| 5. 22nd " | 14. 185th Bde. |
| 6. 23rd " | 15. 186th " |
| 7. 24th " | 16. G.O.C. |
| 8. 6th M.G.Coy. | 17.) Spare. |
| 9. 6th T.M.Bty. | 18.) |
| | 19. C.R.A. |

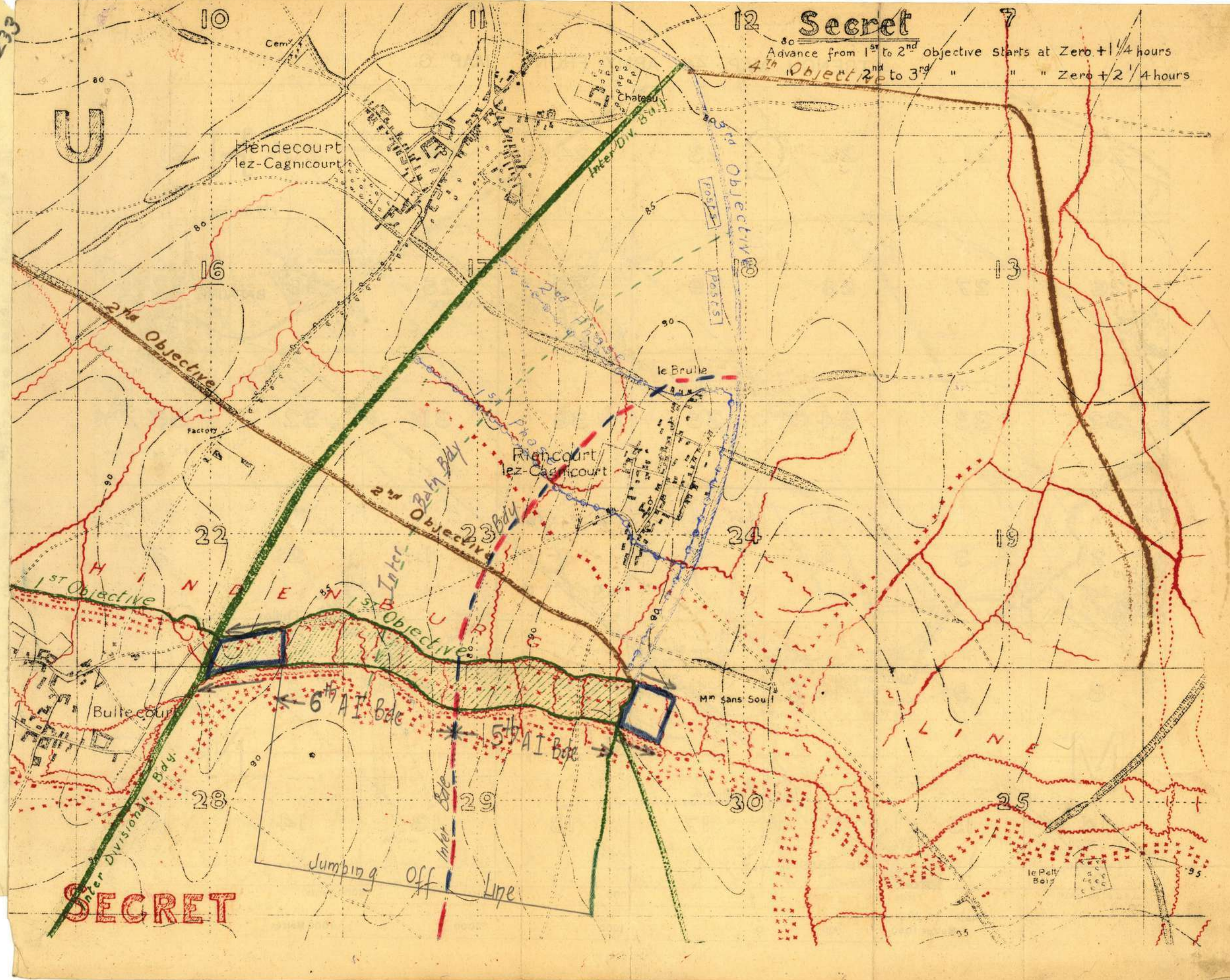
[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.



233

Secret

Advance from 1st to 2nd objective starts at Zero + 1/4 hours
4th Objective to 3rd " " " Zero + 2/4 hours



SECRET

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE



Brigade Headquarters
25th April, 1917.

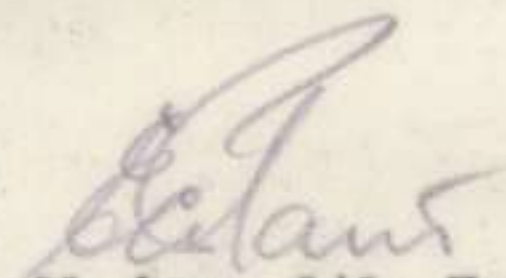
In connection with the forthcoming operation referred to in Brigade Order No.86 the G.O.C. desires attention to be drawn to the following points.

1. There is no objection to Bns. altering the organisation of waves provided that four waves of approx. equal strength are maintained in the Battalion.
2. On Y/2 night energetic patrolling will be carried out by special details of 22nd and 24th Bns. on their respective fronts to cover the work of laying out a jumping off tape, and to ensure that no hostile patrols are permitted to be in NO MAN'S LAND.
3. When forming up, units will move in file or single file into position on to markers who will be in position before troops move out. Each Bn. with any attached details will be in four waves, of 1 line only, and will form up with first wave on J.O.Tape and others in rear at 25 yards distance. The whole will lie down.
4. Companies will arrange for selected N.C.O's to mark their flanks, and be responsible for maintaining correct distances and direction.
5. At ZERO all eight waves will advance until first wave is close up to our barrage when all will lie down and wait for the lift, preserving the 25 yards distance. It is important to move the waves as far as possible across NO MAN'S LAND before the hostile barrage opens.
6. After the clearing of 1st trench (or O.G.1) the 2nd & 3rd Waves following each other as closely as possible will attack support trench or O.G.2. The 4th wave then passes through and follows close up to our barrage towards 2nd Objective. After mopping up Support trench 3rd wave will establish a series of strong posts about 150 yards in advance of it.
7. After passing support trench O.G.2 remaining waves will advance maintaining distances of 50 yards between each. As 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th waves arrive at this trench they will dump two bombs per man which will be passed to either flank to supplement Bn. dumps. which have already been formed there.
8. Latest air photo shows that the tramway in U.23.c. has been continued in a curve from road at U.23.d.45.70. to about road at U.22.b.8.5. and that the road between these two points is practically obliterated. The 2nd Objective of 22nd & 24th Bns. will therefore be the tramway instead of the road. Artillery barrage has been amended accordingly.
9. Throughout the advance when waves halt the utmost use of available cover will be made. Trenches, shell craters and folds in the ground should be taken advantage of.
10. All ranks are to be thoroughly conversant with what is expected of them and what their objective is. Colours may be worn by the various waves to ensure that men of a wave are kept together, and will enable men who have become inadvertently mixed with wrong waves to be detected.

APPENDIX

-2-

11. Officers and other ranks will be warned that under no circumstances will maps, papers or anything containing information that would be of value to the enemy, be carried on their persons. All ranks are also reminded that in the event of their being unfortunately captured they cannot be compelled by the enemy to give any information other than name and rank.
12. Escorts for German prisoners to the rear will be found from 1st wave. Escorts from other waves will return to their respective duties after passing prisoners over to 1st wave. The same principle will be adopted regarding the conveying of wounded.
13. Bn. carriers 8 per platoon moving with the waves should be loaded with L.G. panniers and bombs as far as possible.
14. Bns. to which Vickers Guns are attached will furnish 8 men per gun to carry S.A.A. for same.
15. Brigade carriers will be furnished by the 22nd & 24th Bns. who will each provide 60 men with proportion of N.C.O's under an Officer (exclusive of the 20 with Bn.). This party will ~~sell up~~ form up at Railway Embankment and be at disposal of Brigade Dump Officer at ZERO - 15, 200 yards E. of the derelict tank.
16. Full water bottles, 24 hours rations and the iron ration will be carried ~~on~~ by all ranks.
17. Two tanks will be co-operating with the Brigade on our left. (185th Bde.) and are timed to reach the outskirts of BULLECOURT at ZERO plus 45. After the capture of the village they will move forward in the direction of HENDECOURT.


 Major,
 Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

Copies to.-

1. Filed
2. War Diary
3. 2nd Aust. Divn.
4. 21st Bn.
5. 22nd "
6. 23rd "
7. 24th "
8. 6th M.G.Co.
9. 6th L.T.M.Bty.

185 - Port of Bde

186

5 a 1 Bde

CRA

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
28th April, 1917.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM

With reference to the proposed operations the G.O.C. takes the present opportunity of drawing the attention of all ranks in the Brigade to the following points.

1. The absolute necessity for the public issue of clear concise and definite orders to regulate action where individuals are concerned such orders must be given in an unmistakable manner and their execution must be supervised in accordance with the custom of the service where units are concerned due regard must be paid to the latitude of action within the limits prescribed by Regulations.

2. The equal necessity of explaining in the fullest details the proposed action to each soldier engaged therein and of ensuring that he fully understands the duty allotted. e.g. number of his wave objective and distance.

3. The orders and explanations thus given are not to be departed from without authority or on emergency arising and Commanders are personally responsible for this within their units.

4. It is impossible for an extended line of 30 paces or more to dress or move by a flank. The positions of the flanks of Battalions are fixed by guides detailed by Bn. H.Q., those of the Companies &c by guides detailed by their Commanders.

Under no circumstances whatever are the flank guides of units to be dispensed with and due precautions are to be taken to replace them if they become casualties.

Loss of direction is on no account to be made good by an incline or march in file to a flank. If the line is too thick men are to be detailed to fall out and follow; if too thin the line is to be reinforced from the rear.

5. Leaders are to remain in the positions allotted to them by regimental orders, usually near the centre of their commands and are not to change their positions except on emergency. Officers are to advance in the wave and not in advance under normal conditions.

6. It is pointed out that the honour of our arms and the safety of our troops turn in no small measure on the efficiency of our communications and liaison service. The Commander of every unit is directly responsible for maintaining communication continuously with his neighbour on either flank, as well as for regular and complete reports being sent to H.Q.

7. Officers are reminded that all details moving with their units or allotted to tasks in co-operation with 6th Brigade units are under these orders unless expressly stated otherwise.

8. The strictest attention is to be paid from the first to sanitation and to salvage.

Proper and clearly defined latrines are to be provided at once and shell holes &c. are not to be used promiscuously.

Rifle and equipment of dead and wounded are to be collected at the earliest opportunity for return.

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.87

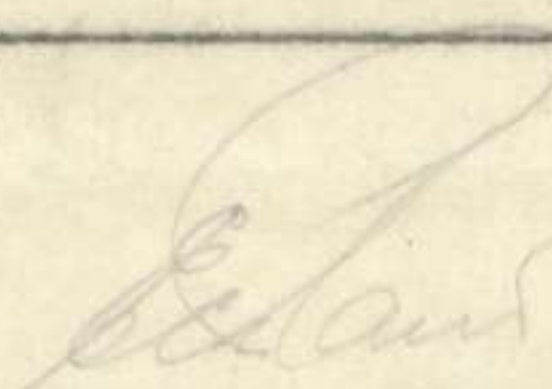
Ref. Map ECOUST 1/20,000 Ed.3

30th April, 1917

1. The 21st and 23rd Bns. will relieve 26th Bn. in left sector on night 30th April/ 1st May, this being "W/X" night. 23rd Bn. will take over front line from C.5.a.5.2 to C.4.b.5.8. with two Companies, remaining two, with Bn. H.Q., in support at Cutting C.10.c. 21st Bn. will take over front line from C.4.b.5.8. to U.28.c.4.3. with 1 Coy. & Bn. H.Q. in cutting C.4.c. and 1 Coy. in cutting C.4.d. in support.
2. 6th M.G. Company will relieve 22nd M.G. Coy., less four guns on A.A. duty in left sector.
3. 22nd Bn., 24th Bn., & 6th and 15th T.M. Batteries will remain in present Camps until May 2nd 1917.
4. 6th Bde. Hdqrs. moves to C.9.d.9.3.
5. Details of relief will be arranged mutually between C.O's concerned.
6. Guides to meet incoming Bns. will be available at C.14.b.9.1. at 9 p.m. Units not to cross ridge before this hour.
7. Left Bn. 1st A.I. Bde. in MORCHIES - VAULX Line will come under tactical control of 6th A.I. Bde. on completion of the relief.
8. Completion of relief to be reported to Bde. Hdqrs. by Code.
9. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Copies to.-

1. Filed
2. War Diary
3. 21st Bn.
4. 22nd "
5. 23rd "
6. 24th "
7. 6th M.G. Co.
8. 6th L.T.M. Bty.
9. 15th L.T.M. Bty.
10. 1st A.I. Bde.
11. 5th A.I. Bde.
12. 7th A.I. Bde.
13. 2nd Aust. Divn.
14. C.R.A.
15. C.R.E.


Major,
Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.