

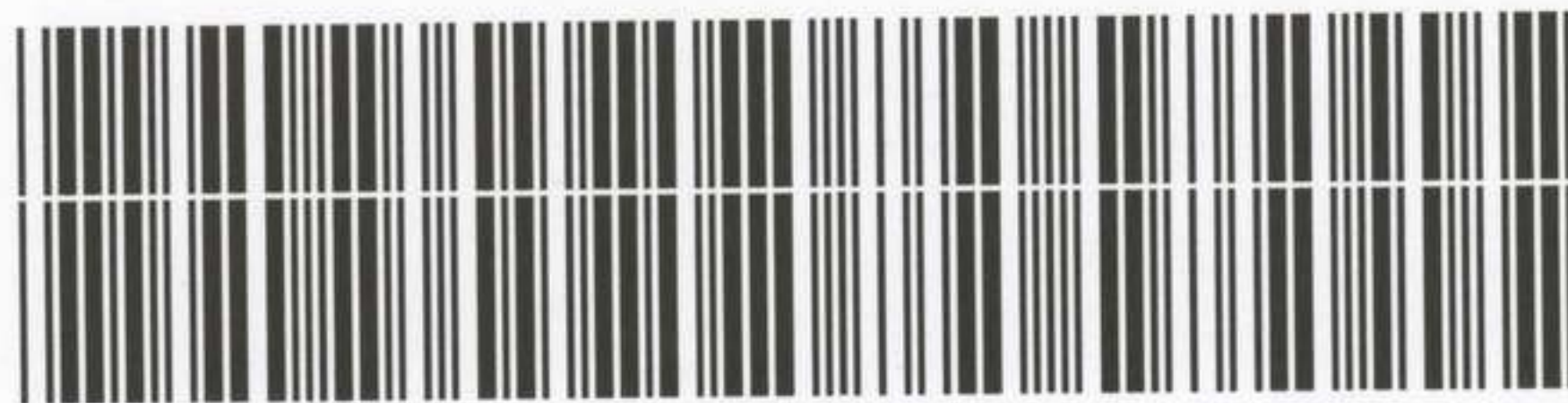
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/30/35

**Title:** 13th Infantry Battalion

September 1917



AWM4-23/30/35



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

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

13th Bn

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VERTE RUE	1/9/17.		Battalion brightening up generally, and cleaning of clothes etc.	
	2/9/17.		Battalion moved to new billeting area BOMY by bus - embussing at 10 a.m. on MERVILLE Road and debussing at 3 p.m. on the LISBOURG - LAIRES Road.	See Appendix 83.
LISBOURG	3/9/17.		Training - Hours from 7-15 to 7-30 a.m., 9 a.m. to 12 (noon)	See Appendix 84
Refctkap:-			2-30 to 4 p.m. - Organized games etc. and Specialist Training.	
HAZEBROUCK, Sheet 5A				
$\frac{1}{100,000}$ Square C.b.				
do.	4/9/17.		do.	do.
do.	5/9/17.		do.	do.
do.	6/9/17.		do.	do.
do.	7/9/17.		do.	do.
do.	8/9/17.		do.	do.
do.	9/9/17.		Church Parade.	do.
do.	10/9/17.		Training.	See Appendix 85
do.	11/9/17.		do.	do.



## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 29

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. (2)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LISBOURG.	12/9/17.		Training. Brigade Boxing Tournament at night.	See Appendix 85.
do.	13/9/17.		do. do	See Appendix 87.
do.	14/9/17.		Brigade Scheme near LISBOURG.	See Appendix 86.
do.	15/9/17.		Training.	See Appendix 85.
do.	16/9/17.		Church Parade.	do.
do.	17/9/17.		Training.	See Appendix 90.
do.	18/9/17.		Battalion moved to new billeting area WALLON. CAPPEL. by bus, embussing at 10 a.m. on LISBOURG - LAIRES Road and debussing on WALLON. CAPPEL. Road at 3 p.m.	See Appendix 88.
HONDEGHEM.	19/9/17.		Training.	See Appendix 90.
Map Ref: - Sheet 24 U IIa.	20/9/17.		Battalion moved to billeting area STEENVOORDE.	See Appendix 89.
STEENVOORDE.	21/9/17.		Training.	See Appendix 90.
Map Ref: - HAZEBROEK SHEET 5A. G. 3.	22/9/17.		Battalion moved to CANAL Area near YPRES by bus.	See Appendix 91.
	23/9/17.		Relief of 23 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion by 13 <sup>th</sup> Bn. in front line sector. Relief complete 10.30 p.m.	See Appendix 92.
	24/9/17.		See copy of Intelligence Summary (Appendix 93.)	



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

199

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
	25/9/17		See Intelligence Summary (Appendix 94).	
	26/9/17	5.50am	Attack on RED + BLUE LINE (Appendix 95).	
	27/9/17		See Intelligence Summary and Narrative (Appendix 96.)	
	28/9/17	11.30pm	Relief of Battalion	
	do	7.30pm	250 men buying cable.	
MONTREAL CAMP	29/9/17	-	Resting and reorganizing - Bathing	
do	30/9/17	1.30pm	Move to STEENVORDE AREA (Appendix 97.)	
	do		150 O.R.'s + 4 officers detached - Buying cable.	
			Strength of Battalion, casualties, evictions etc. (Appendix 98.)	

*J. Marks*  
Lieut. Col.  
C.O. 13th Battalion A.I.F.




## 13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No. 38

Ref. Map HAZEBROUCK 1/100,000

Headquarters,  
31st August, 1917

1. The Battalion will move on the 2nd September, 1917, to billets in WALLON CAPPEL Area, passing starting point at "C" Coy's billets, at 8.40 a.m. March in the following order:-

Band  
 Signallers & Runners  
 "D" Company  
 "A" "  
 "B" "  
 "C" "  
 Pioneers  
 S.Bs. & A.M.C.  
 Transport.

2. ROUTE - LA MOTTE - Last D of LE Gd. HASARD - CROSS ROADS 200 yards East of last E of LA CUNEWELLE - Cross Roads 200 yards S. of first L of La Htc. LOGE - Cross Roads (  ) 1/4 mile N.E. of last L of WALLON CAPPEL - thence to Billeting Areas.
3. A distance of 400 yards will be maintained between Battalions, and 100 yards between Companies on the march.
4. Reveille - 6.30 a.m. Breakfast 7.30 a.m.
5. BAGGAGE. - Packs with blankets inside ~~and steel helmets attached~~ will be dumped in Company heaps outside the respective Company H'ars by 7.30 a.m. - Packs to be distinctly labelled with No. Name and Company. All Officers' gear will be stacked similarly by 7.30 a.m. Headquarters gear will be stacked outside Bn. Orderly Room, and Band gear outside Band's billet also at 7.30 a.m.
6. DRESS - Fighting Order with great coat rolled in waterproof sheet and strapped on the back underneath haversack, <sup>with steel hat attached.</sup> Dismounted Officers will wear similar dress to the men. All ranks will wear hats.
7. Billeting party of 1 Officer (Lieut. Gowing) and 4 other ranks will move direct to billeting area on the 1st proximo, reporting to the Staff Captain by 2 p.m. at Church STAPLE.
8. The billets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition. All Coy's sanitary men will be left behind and will proceed with rear guard. The Second-in-Command and the R.M.O. will inspect billets at 8 a.m. Billeting certificates from Platoon Commanders will be forwarded
9. ~~Existing~~ to Bn. Orderly Room on arrival at new billets.
9. O.C. "A" Company will detail one Platoon under an Officer to act as rear guard and cleaning up party, reporting to Bn. Orderly Room at 8.30 a.m.
10. Marching-out States to be rendered to B.O.R. by 7.30 a.m.
11. O's.C. Coys. will detail one man per Company to report as Brakenmen to Transport Lines by 8.30 a.m.
12. The Transport will march in rear of the Battalion until the midday halt, when the Transport, less Cookers, will proceed direct to the billeting area.
13. A halt will be made for midday meal between HAZEBROUCK and WALLON CAPPEL.
14. The Bn. Orderly Officer (Lieut Baker) will take charge of the Guard and will march in rear of the Battalion.
15. Attention is drawn to G.S. Circular No. 34 re March Discipline. - Copies have been issued to all concerned. Certificates called for in the above mentioned Circular as to number of men falling out on the line of march will be rendered to

P.T.O.



15 (Contd) Bn. Orderly Room one hour after arrival at new billets.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Following*

Lieut. A/Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued by Runner at

- Copy No.1 War Diary
- 2 4th A.I. Bde
- 3 O.C. "A" Coy.
- 4 "B" "
- 5 "C" "
- 6 "D" "
- 7 Transport Officer
- 8 Sig. Officer & L.C.O.
- 9 R.M.O.
- 10 Q.M.
- 11 R.S.M. & H.Q. Details
- 12 C.O. & File

A distance of 400 yards will be maintained between battalions, and 100 yards between Companies on the march.

Breakfast 7.30 a.m. - 8.30 a.m.

Reveille 8.30 a.m.

8.30 a.m. - 9.00 a.m. - Packa with blankets inside and outside the respective Company H'rs will be dumped in Company heaps outside the respective H'rs and by 7.30 a.m. - Packs to be distinctly labelled with Co. name and Company. All Officers' gear will be stacked outside the Orderly Room, and Headquarters gear will be stacked outside the billet also at 7.30 a.m.

9.00 a.m. - Billeting Order with great care will be issued in accordance with the Orderly Room instructions. Officers will wear similar dress to the men. All ranks will wear hats.

9.00 a.m. - Billeting party of 1 Officer (Lieut. Gowing) and 4 other ranks will move direct to billeting area on the far proximo, reporting to the Staff Captain by 2 p.m. at Church Street.

9.00 a.m. - The billets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition. All Coy's sanitary men will be left behind and will proceed with rear guard. The second-in-command and the R.M.O. will inspect billets at 8 a.m.

9.00 a.m. - Billeting certificates from Platoon Commanders will be forwarded to the Orderly Room on arrival at new billets.

9.00 a.m. - O.C. "A" Company will detail one Platoon under an Officer to act as rear guard and cleaning up party, reporting to the Orderly Room at 8.30 a.m.

9.00 a.m. - Marching-out States to be rendered to B.O.R. by 7.30 a.m.

9.00 a.m. - O.C. Coy. will detail one man per Company to report as Breakman to Transport Lines by 8.30 a.m.

9.00 a.m. - The Transport will march in rear of the Battalion until the midday halt, when the Transport, less Cooks, will proceed direct to the billeting area.

9.00 a.m. - A halt will be made for midday meal between HANBROOK and WATSON CAMP.

9.00 a.m. - The Br. Orderly Officer (Lieut. Baker) will take charge of the Guard and will march in rear of the Battalion.

9.00 a.m. - Attention is drawn to G.S. Circular No. 84 re March Discipline. Copies have been issued to all concerned.

9.00 a.m. - Certificates called for in the above mentioned Circular as to number of men falling out on the line of march will be rendered to B.O.R.



SECRET. 13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No.39

Copy No. 12

Ref. Map HAZEBROUCK 1/100,000

Headquarters,  
1st September, 1917

1. The Battalion will move on the 2nd September, 1917, to billets in BOMY Area by 'bus, passing starting point "C" Coy's billets at 8.30 a.m. in the following order, proceeding to K.22.c.9.7. where they will embus:-

Band  
Sigs. & Runners  
"B" Coy.  
"A" "  
"D" "  
"C" "  
Pioneers  
S.Bs. & A.M.C.

2. Reveille - 5.45 a.m. - Breakfast 6.30 a.m.
3. Dress - Marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be ~~carried~~ carried.
4. Transport will leave Transport Lines at 7.45 a.m. and pass starting point K.15.c. Cross Roads at 9 a.m.; no Brakesmen required.  
Transport will dump dixies at K.15.c. - Coys will arrange to take same on lorries.  
The Transport will proceed to BOMY under Major Margolin.
5. Officers' gear will be dumped outside their billets at 7 a.m.
6. Officers will be so distributed that an Officer or senior N.C.O. will be in charge of each bus or lorry. Each lorry will take 20 men and each bus 25 men.  
Battalion Orderly Officer (Lieut Baker) will proceed with guard in rear of the Bn. and will guard prisoners en route.
7. Billets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition.  
The Second-in-Command and the R.M.O. will inspect billets at 7.30 a.m.
8. Marching-out States are to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 7.30 a.m.
9. Attention is drawn to G.S. Circular No.34 re March Discipline. Copies have been issued to all concerned.  
Certificates called for in the above mentioned Circular re No. of men falling out on the line of march will be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room one hour after arrival at new billets.
10. "A" Coy. will detail two (2) men to report to Bn. Orderly Room immediately on arrival at new billets. Duty - to guard Bn. rations 24 hours rations to be carried.
11. This Order cancels Order No.38 issued 31-8-17.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*H. J. Powell*  
Lieut.  
A/Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued by Runner at

- Copy No.1 War Diary  
2 4th A.I.Bde  
3 O.C. "A" Coy  
4 "B" "  
5 "C" "  
6 "D" "  
7 Transport Officer  
8 Sig. Officer & L.G.O.  
9 R.M.O.  
10 Q.M.  
11 R.S.M. & H.Q. Details  
12 C.O. & File.



## TRAINING PROGRAMME for Week Ending 9th September, 1917.

Monday 3rd	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	-	Foot inspection.
	9. - 9.25 a.m.	-	Falling in and inspection of Platoons.
	9.30 - 10 a.m.	-	Bayonet Fighting & Muscle Exercises.
	10.5 - 10.20 a.m.	-	Lecturette - Cause and prevention of Trench Feet.
	10.20- 10.35 a.m.	-	Inspection of Box Respirators.
	10.35- 11.30 a.m.	-	Specialist Training:- Lewis Gunners Wiring Squad Riflemen Bombers
	11.35- 12 noon	-	Close Order Drill - 5 minutes saluting
	2.30 p.m.	-	Company Cricket Matches.
-----			
Tuesday 4th	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	-	Organised Games.
	9. - 9.30 a.m.	-	C.O's parade.
	9.30 - 10. a.m.	-	Guards and Sentries.
	10.5 - 10.20 a.m.	-	Lecturette - "March Discipline".
	10.20- 10.35 a.m.	-	Muscle Exercises.
	10.35-11.30 a.m.	-	Specialist Training.
	11.35- 12 noon	-	Close Order Drill - 5 minutes saluting
	2.30 - 4 p.m.	-	"A" Coy's Lewis Gunners on 25 yards range.
-----			
Wednesday 5th	-		Battalion Route March 9.30 a.m. - not less than 10 miles - Dress, marching order, mid-day meal to be carried. Transport to parade. Route to be notified later Foot inspection immediately on return to billets.
-----			
Thursday 6th	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	-	Physical Drill and organised games.
	9. - 9.15 a.m.	-	Falling in and inspection of Platoon.
	9.15 - 9.25 a.m.	-	Gas Helmet Drill.
	9.25 - 9.45 a.m.	-	Bayonet Fighting & Muscle Exercises
	9.50 - 10.5 a.m.	-	Lecturette - Range finding & judging distance.
	10.5 - 10.35 a.m.	-	Musketry for all sections of the Platoon
	10.35 - 11.30 a.m.	-	Specialist Training.
	11.35 - 12 noon	-	Close Order Drill - 5 minutes saluting.
	2.30 - 4 p.m.	-	"B" Coy's Lewis Gunners on 25 yards range.
	8.30 - 9 p.m.	-	Marching on a Compass bearing in the dark with Box Respirators on.
-----			
Friday 7th	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	-	Physical Training and organised games.
	9. - 9.20 a.m.	-	C.O's Parade
	9.20 - 9.40 a.m.	-	Rapid manipulation of bolt and rapid aiming
	9.45 - 10.5 a.m.	-	Lecturette - Fire direction and fire control
	10.5 - 10.35 a.m.	-	Bayonet fighting and muscle exercises.
	10.35 - 11.30 a.m.	-	Specialist Training
	11.35 - 12 noon	-	Company Drill
	2.30 - 4 p.m.	-	"C" Coy's Lewis Gunners on 25 yards range.
	2.30 p.m.	-	Cricket Match.
-----			
Saturday 8th	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	-	Physical Training and organised games.
	9. - 9.15 a.m.	-	Falling in and inspection of Company.
	9.15 - 9.45 a.m.	-	Bomb throwing from cover to cover.
	9.45 - 10.5 a.m.	-	Lecturette - Demonstration of Bomb tactics
	10.10 - 10.30 a.m.	-	Lecturette on the history of the Bn. and Esprit de Corps.
	10.30 - 12 noon	-	A simple outpost scheme.
	2.30 - 4 p.m.	-	"D" Coy's Lewis Gunners on 25 yards range

(Contd)




199

Sunday  
9th

CHURCH PARADE

- NOTES.-
1. The period covered by this programme is devoted to elementary training in Units not larger than the Platoon. Though the total training time at our disposal may not be long, the elementary stages must not be rushed. All work to be progressive.
  2. Officers will meet the C.O. at 7 p.m. daily to confer on following day's work and Company Commanders will assemble their N.C.O's for the same purpose.
  3. All Details of Battalion Headquarters who are detached from Companies will report to their respective Companies on the 9 a.m. parade and remain until ordered to fall out.
  4. Signallers will train independently under Sig. Officer but will conform to the spirit of this programme.
  5. Scout, L.G. and Bombing Officers will assist Company Commanders and supervise the training in their respective branches.
  6. Each Company will select and train 12 men in rapid wiring
  7. Intervals of five (5) minutes when shown on the programme are to be devoted to "Smoke-Oh" while changing over.
  8. Stretcher Bearers will train under the R.M.O.
  9. Company schemes for Saturday's outpost exercise will be submitted to Battalion Orderly Room by 5 p.m. Friday.
  10. Arrangements will be made for range practice for riflemen on arrival at new billets and a table issued.

  
Lieut.  
A/Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.



1919  
 TRAINING PROGRAMME for Week Ending 16th September, 1917.

1. The period of training covered by this programme is devoted to the application of last week's elementary instruction to Tactical schemes.
2. Stress is again laid upon the necessity for conducting training in progressive stages. Remember that a thorough knowledge of the rudiments of a subject is of more value than a hazy idea of the whole.
3. Specialist training will be even more vigorous than in the last period, and range practice and live grenade throwing will be carried out daily as circumstances permit.
4. Route marching is cut out of this syllabus. Units will be fully exercised on early morning parade and throughout the day's training.
5. Bayonet fighting has been deleted also. This will be provided for later, when the present excellent training ground is supplanted by confined fields. Muscle exercises, however, will be practised daily.
6. C.O.'s conference and Company meetings will be held daily as heretofore.
7. During the week platoon, musketry and rifle shooting competitions will be held and prizes awarded.
8. Prizes will be awarded to Transport personnel for best turn out on Brigadier's "snap" inspection.
9. Special attention is drawn to "Notes on Training & Preparation for Offensive Operations" issued to all Platoon Commanders.
10. Runners are to be trained as specialists and given a special role in all tactical exercises.
11. Part of time spent at specialist training will be done in gas helmets.

Monday	7.15 - 7.30	a.m.	-	Physical training and Organised games.
10th Sept.	9. - 9.15	a.m.	-	Falling in and inspection of Platoons.
	9.15 - 9.30	a.m.	-	Rapid loading with ball ammunition - (against a high bank)
	9.30 - 11	a.m.	-	Further exemplification of Friday's exercises on Platoon in the attack. Use of Lewis Gun, Rifle Grenadier, Bombing Section and Riflemen.
	11.10 - 11.20	a.m.	-	Lecturette on "Artillery Formations"
	11.20 - 12 noon		-	Company deploying from Column of Route to Artillery Formations (Casualties to occur amongst Platoon and Section Commanders) Rallying.
	2. - 3.30	p.m.	-	Specialist training.
	8. - 9.30	p.m.	-	Companies marching to a point of assembly in Artillery formation in the dark with box respirators on.
Tuesday	7.15 - 7.30	a.m.	-	Physical training and organised games
11th Sept.	9. - 9.10	a.m.	-	Falling in and inspection of Platoons.
	9.10 - 9.50	a.m.	-	Lecturette on points to be observed during the attack:-
			1.	Role of:- Lewis Gunners Riflemen Bombers Rifle-Bombers Moppers-up Carrying parties Scouts Runners
			2.	Formations in attack.
			3.	Artillery action. Action of Stokes Mortars & Vickers Guns.
			4.	Development of the attack.
			5.	Consolidation.
			6.	Role of:- Rapid wiring parties Patrols Covering parties
			7.	Information.-Collection & transmission of
			8.	Hostile Counter Attack.

(Contd).



199 Tuesday 11st Sept. (Contd)	9.50 - 10.5 10.15 - 12	a.m. noon	Rapid fire. Company attacking on a narrow point assuming other Companies on flanks:- (a) Artillery Formations. (b) Deployment into waves (of varying strength) (c) Waves to halt on prearranged lines & reorganise under covering parties. (d) Leap-frogging.
	2. - 3.30	p.m.	Specialist training.
Wednesday 12th Sept.			Battalion Tactical Exercise. Detailed orders later.
Thursday 13th Sept.	7.15 - 7.30 9. - 9.20 9.20 - 9.40 9.40 - 10.15	a.m. a.m. a.m. a.m.	Physical training and organised games. At Disposal of Platoon Commanders. Trigger pressing and Rapid aiming. Bomb throwing for Lewis Gunners and Rifle-men.
	10.15 - 10.45 10.50 - 12	a.m. noon	Musketry for Bombing Section. Lecturette on new Hun system of defence. Coy. Tactical Exercises. Platoon Cmdrs. to solve problems set by their O's.C.
	2. - 4	p.m.	Specialist Training.
Friday 14th Sept.	9 - 9.30 9.30 - 10. 10. - 12. 2.30 p.m. 8. p.m. 10. p.m.	a.m. a.m. noon	At disposal of Platoon Cmdrs. for recapitulation of organization Lecturette - "Consolidation". Specialist training. Pistol practice for all Officers and Lewis Gunx Nos. 1 (if ammunition is available) Battalion in attack. - Detailed orders later.
Saturday 15th Sept.	-----		Brigade Tactical Scheme.
Sunday 16th Sept.	-----		Divine Service.

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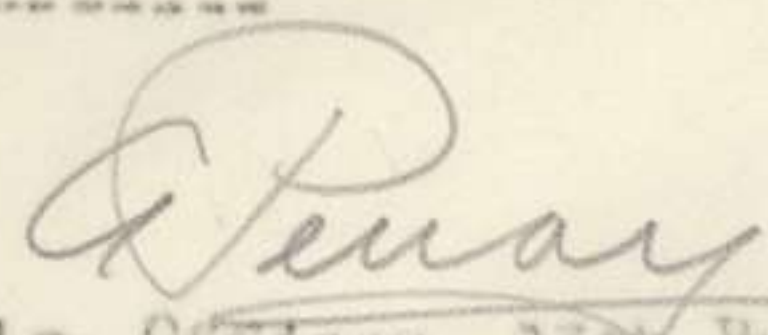
(S<sup>gd</sup>) G.S. McDOWELL, Lieut.  
A/Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.



APPENDIX No. 1

SIGNAL SYLLABUS to be read in conjunction with Regtl. Syllabus  
for week ending 16-8-1917

Monday 10th Sept.	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	Physical Training
	9. - 9.20 a.m.	Inspection
	9.25 - 10.25 a.m.	Visual Stations (Flags)
	10.30 - 11. a.m.	Lecturette on "Station Discipline".
	11. - 12 noon	Fullerphone
	2. - 3 p.m.	Playfair and Codes.
Tuesday 11th Sept.	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	Physical Training
	9. - 9.20 a.m.	Inspection
	9.25 - 10.25 a.m.	Visual (Lamps)
	10.30 - 11. a.m.	Lecture on Compass
	11. - 12. noon	Buzzer work.
	2. - 3.30 p.m.	Map & Compass (in the open)
Wednesday 12th		Battalion Scheme.
Thursday 13th	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	Physical Training
	9. - 9.30 a.m.	Inspection
	9.25 - 10.25 a.m.	Visual (Flappers)
	10.30 - 11. a.m.	Lecturette on Aeroplane Signalling
	11. - 12 noon	Buzzer work
	2. - 3 p.m.	Exam. Tests.
	3 - 4 p.m.	Exam. Tests.
Friday 14th Sept.	7.15 - 7.30 a.m.	Physical Training
	9. - 9.20 a.m.	Inspection
	9.25 - 10.25 a.m.	Visual (Flags)
	10.30 - 11. a.m.	Lecturette (Pigeons)
	11. - 12. noon	Drill (Rifles)
	8 p.m. 10 p.m.	- Br. in attack.
Saturday 15th Sept.	- - - -	Brigade Scheme
Sunday 16th Sept.	- - - -	Divine Service.

  
 Lieut.  
 Sig. Officer, 15th Bn., A I.F.



APPENDIX No.2

TRAINING SYLLABUS, Lewis Gun Section, for week ending 16-9-1917.

To be read in conjunction with Battalion Syllabus of Training.

-----

Monday. 10th Sept.	2.	-	2.45 p.m.	-	Mechanism Backward Action.
	2.45	-	3.30 p.m.	-	Mechanism Forward Action.
Tuesday 11th Sept.	2.	-	3.30 p.m.	-	Firing practices on Coy. ranges combined with stoppages.
Wednesday 12th Sept.		-	-----	-	Battalion Scheme
Thursday 13th Sept.	9.	-	10.15 a.m.		Bomb throwing
	2.	-	3. p.m.		Gun drill - Changing of Parts.
	3.	-	3.30 p.m.		<del>Stoppages</del> Magazine filling
	3.30	-	4 p.m.		Stoppages
Friday 14th Sept.	10.	-	11 a.m.		Rapid changing of parts, stripping & assembling.
	11.	-	12 noon		Stoppages.

NOTE.- New men to receive special attention under special Instructors and training to be adapted accordingly.

(Sgd) L.W.H. CLELAND, Lieut.  
L.G. Off. 13th Battalion, A.I.F.



199.

APPENDIX No.3

TRAINING SYLLABUS, Bombing Section, for week ending 16-9-1917

To be read in conjunction with Battalion Syllabus of Training.

-----

Monday 11th Sept.	2. - 3.30 p.m.	Lecture on Late developments in Bombing, by Bn.B.6. Throwing in various positions. Mills 5, 23 & 36. Explosives, Fuzes & Detonators. Parts of Mills 5. Throwing <sup>from</sup> various positions Throwing from various positions.
Tuesday 12th Sept.	2. - 3.30 p.m.	The Mills No.5. No.23 and No.36. Explosives high and low, Detonators & fuzes. Parts of Mills No.5 Formation and working of Bombing Squads. Bomb cleaning drill.
Wednesday 13th Sept.	-----	Battalion Scheme
Thursday 14th Sept.	2. 4 p.m.	Bombers in Attack and Raids. Barracading and Blocking. Double Blocking Short distance Dummy throwing for accuracy.
Friday 15th Sept.	10. - 12 noon	Throwing exercises. Accuracy before Distance to be aimed at. Platoon Bulls Eye Competition Firing Dummy Rifle Grenades.- Standing, kneeling in shellholes and lying positions.

(Sgd) G.S. MC'DOWELL, Lieut.  
for Bn. B. Off. 13th Bn., A.I.F.



APPENDIX No. 4.

MUSKETRY TRAINING SYLLABUS for week ending 16th September, 1917.  
to be read in conjunction with Training Programme.

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Monday 10th Sept.	9. - 12 noon	"A" Coy. Application 200 and 300 yards range Snap shooting 100 and 200 yards range.
	2. - 3.30 p.m.	"B" Coy as for "A" Coy.
Tuesday 11th Sept.	9. - 12 noon	"C" Coy. as for "A" Coy.
	2. - 3.30 p.m.	"D" Coy. as for "A" Coy.
Thursday 13th Sept.	9 a.m.	Platoons and tiles match. 2 minutes rapid fire match.
Friday 14th Sept.	9. - 9.45 a.m.	"A" Coy. advancing by 25 yards rushes by Platoons under covering fire from Lewis Guns and other Platoons from 300 yards to 100 yards.
	9.45 - 10.30 a.m.	"B" Coy. as for "A" Coy.
	10.30 - 11.15 a.m.	"C" Coy. as for "A" Coy.
	11.15 - 12 noon	"D" Coy. as for "A" Coy.

-----

- NOTES.-
1. The Bn. Training Programme will be carried out by Coys. while on the range. While one Platoon is shooting the others will carry on with the programme.
  2. The Adjutant will arrange for the Armourer Sgt. and boiling water to be on the range.
  3. Sig. Officer will arrange for telephones to be on the range on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- 

(200) H.W. Murray. Major.  
Musketry Off. 13th Bn. A.I.F.



COPY.

SECOND ARMY.

## NOTES ON TRAINING AND PREPARATION FOR OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS.

The following notes are issued as a guide in training and preparation for future offensive operations.

1. The new system of defence adopted by the enemy, consisting of lines of shell holes in depth and a large proportion of his strength disposed in readiness for counter-attack, is liable to produce a condition of affairs by which -

(a) The further we penetrate his line, the stronger and more organised we find him.

(b) The further we penetrate his line, the weaker and more disorganised we are liable to become.

2. There are no longer any definite lines of trenches to form objectives. Objectives must therefore be selected according to the lie of the ground which gives us the greatest advantages to defeat the enemy counter-attack, and must be so limited that the infantry will be in a condition to consolidate and hold the points gained.

3. The attack must be made in greater depth and the distance between the waves must be carefully regulated so that during any period in the advance there are several lines ready to support one another in case of a counter-attack.

4. The distance between objectives and consequently the areas to be cleared will decrease as the advance progresses on any one day. Further, the numbers of troops allotted to the final objective will be proportionately greater than those allotted to the first, so as to ensure that there are sufficient to hold on against counter-attacks and exploit success when the counter-attack is repulsed. The troops detailed to capture the first objective should be lightly equipped. The advantages of covering the first portion of the attack quickly are obvious.

5. The ground must be divided up into areas, and each unit, battalion or company, will be responsible for clearing the enemy in that area. Any good defensible positions so cleared should be garrisoned by the "mopping up" party.

6. The waves of attack, which have been hitherto used, do not give sufficient elasticity, nor are the platoons and sections sufficiently under the control of their leaders to deal with the sudden opposition likely to be encountered under the new conditions. The leading wave, in one or two lines, should be extended to force the enemy to disclose his positions, the remainder in small groups or in file ready to deal with unexpected machine guns or parties of the enemy. It must be impressed on all subordinate leaders that rapidity of action is of paramount importance, and that any delay in assaulting these points adds to the seriousness of the situation and increases the difficulties in dealing with it. Known machine gun emplacements and defended points are dealt with by parties previously told off for the duty.

Careful study of the ground and aeroplane photographs will go a long way towards increasing the "known" and giving all leaders a clear idea of the points from which opposition may be expected.

The rear waves must keep closed up until across No Man's Land, and gradually gain their distance after this. Officers must be trained to ensure that this is done.

7. Every commander, down to the Company commander, must have a small reserve in hand. Commanders of subordinate formations must also ensure that if groups or parties are drawn away to deal with unexpected enemy defences their places in the general alignment are at once filled in order to prevent gaps occurring.

8. As each successive area in the advance will be allotted to a definite unit, the leap frog method becomes essential.

P.T.O.



9. Very definite instructions must be given to commanders of units on the flanks of formations. In all orders a point of junction is given in the duty of securing it allotted to a unit. It is, of course, the duty of the commander of that unit to secure the point if he can, but if for any reason he fails to do so at the time appointed it is the duty of the commander of the other unit to endeavour to do so.

10. The ideas as regards the relative importance of the various weapons in the hands of platoon commanders require readjustment to meet present needs.

Rifle and Lewis gun fire is becoming more and more important. The rifle grenade is most valuable for dealing with the enemy in shell holes. The hand grenade will only occasionally be required, and therefore the bombing squad should be trained primarily as riflemen.

It has been proved that smoke grenades (No. 27) and an improvised 3in Stokes mortar smoke bomb (The Varley Bomb) are of great value for blinding machine gun emplacements and concrete dug-outs during the advance of the party detailed to attack them.

Arrangements should be made for a proportion of the above to be carried by rifle grenadiers and light trench mortar batteries, respectively. It has been found by experience that when these points have been blinded better results are obtained if only a few men, working round the flanks, are detailed to deal with them.

11. It should always be assumed by every formation that they will have to meet a counter-attack, and the steps to be taken to defeat it should always be included in every plan, and all ranks should be thoroughly understand that this is their real opportunity for inflicting loss on the enemy, who will expect them to be disorganised and discouraged to some extent and an easy prey. His counter-attack must not only be repulsed, but it must be followed up within limits and the enemy routed and disorganised, and troops must be trained to reach their final objective in such a state that they will not be satisfied with merely repulsing a counter-attack. In addition to consolidating the objective gained they must be ready to receive, drive back and follow up the enemy counter-attack with rifle and bayonet and make the most of the opportunity which is sure to be afforded them.

12. During training, special attention must be paid to developing the initiative of junior commanders, creating unexpected situations, meeting and dealing with counter-attacks at all stages of the advance and re-organising when they have been dealt with. These counter-attacks will be in the nature of immediate local counter-attacks during the earlier stages of the advance, with larger and better prepared counter-attacks during the later stages.

#### ARTILLERY.

The following are the chief points in connection with artillery:-

The barrage must have much greater depth, and with the exception of the creeping barrage, the barrages must not move so regularly.

There will probably be several barrages of different natures of guns or a combination of natures.

The enemy must be driven to lie at the bottom of shell holes and be drilled to always expect another barrage to pass over. This can be done by making barrages irregular and unexpected. His front system must be cut off and starved. All means of supply and reinforcement must be reduced and his morale lowered by every possible means.

His batteries must be located and destroyed. This is the real road to infantry success, and the enemy is well aware of it. To avoid it, he draws back his guns to extreme range. Our reply must be to advance our counter-battery guns to positions from which his batteries can be effectively dealt with.

In the preliminary bombardment all known machine gun emplacements,

P.T.O.



farms, dug-outs, etc., must be dealt with, and these must be kept under fire as long as possible during the attack.

Ground which is likely to contain machine gun emplacements (especially that from which machine gun fire may be expected through our creeping barrage) must be searched and swept continually, both during the attack and on days prior thereto.

The pauses on each of the intermediate objectives must be longer, to ensure that the infantry have had sufficient time to clear the area, and to ensure a simultaneous advance to the next objective.

The rate of advance of the creeping barrage will probably have to be somewhat slower than heretofore, and slower still as the attack progresses and enemy resistance becomes stronger.

It is more than ever essential that the barrage shall not get away from the infantry. In principle it may be said, that the initial advance should be made as quickly as the state of the ground will permit, and will gradually slow down as the attack progresses.

#### PROTECTIVE BARRAGE.

It is a point of consideration whether our protective barrage should not be put somewhat further out, in order to give more freedom of movement to patrols, and also to permit of defeated counter-attacks being followed up.

#### LIAISON.

There should be a senior artillery officer at every divisional headquarters for liaison work. The value of such an arrangement has been constantly proved.

#### MACHINE GUNS.

1. All experience goes to show the increasing value of machine gun fire, both for offensive and defensive purposes.
2. Special attention must be paid to bringing a harassing fire on the area likely to contain enemy machine guns which are endeavouring to put a barrage against our attacking infantry.
3. The greatest attention is required in the arrangement of machine gun barrages, and the closest working with the artillery is necessary to ensure success.
4. Experience has shown that machine guns sent forward with the assaulting waves almost invariably get knocked out or suffer such losses of personnel as to be practically useless on arrival at the objective.
5. The best solution with regard to forward guns would seem to be for the sections to follow closely behind the battalion to which they are attached, and to attain their objective by a series of bounds previously reconnoitred in each case by the section commander.
6. Every preparation must be made for moving forward barrage guns by "bounds". It has been found that a bound of 800 yds. can be accomplished, and the guns set up in their new position and ready to fire, in one hour.

#### PACK TRANSPORT.

Where the ground gives cover from observation during daylight, pack transport can be largely used for carrying rations, water, ammunition and R.E. material over ground which is impassable for wheeled vehicles.

P.T.O.



1917

COMMUNICATIONS.

The system of intercommunication is laid down in S.S. 148. The following extracts from reports may prove useful:-

1. The power buzzer produced some excellent results and too much stress cannot be laid on the necessity for training personnel with this apparatus. Amplifiers should not be placed in cable heads or signal offices. Where this was done they were jammed.

2. Visual. The Lucas lamp was used extensively and proved invaluable. Shutters and flags were used by battalions and companies. They are not of much use to brigade forward stations.

3. Pigeons were not much used, but messages sent off generally arrived in good time. The supplies were good.

4. Sufficient stress is not yet laid on the necessity for despatching an important message in duplicate, to increase the chance of its safe arrival. Where possible, such messages should be sent by alternate methods; when runners only are employed, they should be despatched with the duplicate message at 100 yds. interval.

Closer touch is desirable between battalions and the relay system of runner posts organised by brigades. The relay posts should be marked so as to be easily recognisable from a distance, e.g., with a large coloured flag by day and with a coloured lamp by night. In one instance it was found useful also, to mark with small coloured flags the shortest route for runners from brigade headquarters to the brigade forward station. Alternative routes should not be marked.

(Sgd) C.H. HARRINGTON, Major-General, General Staff, Second Army.

August 31st, 1917.

BACK TRANSPORT.

P.T.O.



NOTES.

1. During next week each Battalion will be exercised in the task allotted it and probably "Z" day the whole exercise will be ~~15th~~ instant. All Officers to be taken over the ground beforehand. <sup>14th</sup>
2. The greater portion of the area selected for this exercise is stubble fields, but there are several small crops of cereals which can be avoided if such are made to indicate shelled spots, patches of enemy wire, or large craters, units on coming to them getting in small columns and when clear quickly extending. All good training.
3. Zero hour will be (4.30 a.m.) 10.30 a.m., but units to be in position at (4.15 a.m.) 10.15 a.m. when every man if questioned should have an intelligent grip of the exercise and the part he is to play.
4. Outposts to be out as if in reality but no forward movement before 10.30 a.m.
5. The exercise based on the Artillery arrangements will occupy one hour.
6. At Noon units will assemble in Square L.l.c. beyond GREEN LINE for mid-day meal. Cookers to reach there under Regimental arrangements. Band instruments to be left at bivouac, and bandsmen used as enemy vide para.7. At 1.30 p.m. Units will march back to billets.
7. The enemy wearing white hat bands will be under the command of Major E.L. MARGOLIN, D.S.O. with 13th and 15th Battalion Bandsmen on the right, and Major H.W. MURRAY, V.C., D.S.O. with 14th and 16th Battalion Bandsmen on the left. These will be distributed as arranged confidentially with Brigade Major.
8. Battalion Commanders after ensuring all arrangements are perfected will act as neutrals and see where the weak points in their units are.
9. No matter how brave and well trained ~~the~~ troops are, if the regimental arrangements for getting forward supplies of food, water, bombs, ammunition, are faulty, positions gallantly taken will be lost, therefore the organization for these supplies must be worked out systematically and practised on "Z" day. Brigade Dump is at L.26.b.central.
10. The Brigade Signal Officer will arrange for linesmen from each Battalion to establish a Forward Station when GREEN LINE is consolidated. One Power Buzzer will be taken forward by the 14th and 15th Battalions respectively.
11. Should a wave be obviously thick C.O's. acting as neutrals are to consider half a dozen or so have been casualties.
- 11a. The question of moppers up must not be lost sight of.
12. Casualties are to be practised. 4th Field Ambulance Bearers will evacuate from R.A.P's to A.D.S.
13. Runners duplicated are to be used and useful messages sent back by Company Commanders to Battalion Headquarters and then to Brigade Headquarters. The question of relays of runners must be thought out by Battalion Signal Officers and Brigade Signal Officer.
14. The Vickers Gun detailed for barrage work will be in position with all the details as to arcs of fire &c. ready.
15. If it can be arranged for an aeroplane to co-operate, flares as usual will be lit at a time to be given later.

(Sgd) E. Wilton, Major  
Bde. Major  
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

6-9-1917.



Appendix 86  
Copy No. 6

SECRET.

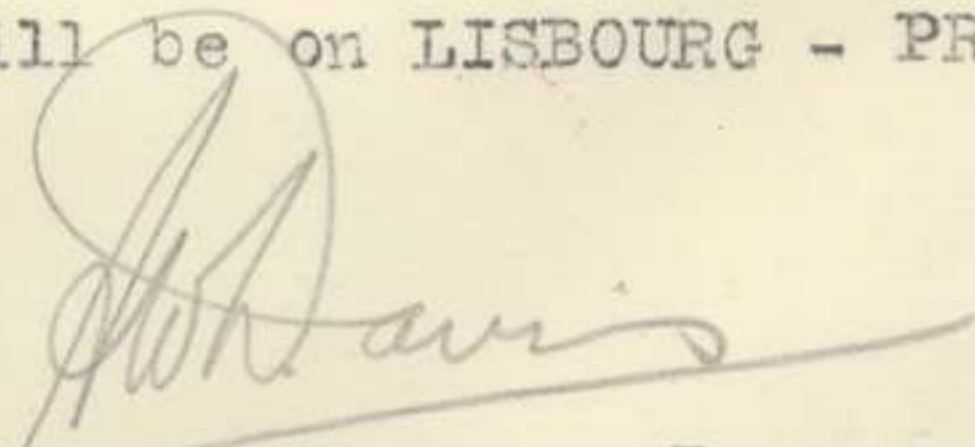
13th BATTALION, A.I.F., TRAINING ORDER No.1

LISBOURG,

10th September, 1917.

Reference BERGUENEUSE Map.

1. The enemy has been gradually falling back before the XX Army whose outposts are approximately on a line running through W.29.central - F.13.central - F.26.central - Southern end of HEUCHIN to EPS.
2. On "Z" day, by bounds known as RED LINE and BLUE LINE the Railway Line ANVIN to VERCHIN (known as GREEN LINE) will be captured, and consolidated, vide attached sketch.
3. The dividing line between the 4th Aust. Division and 106th Division on the right is F.20.central - F.25.central - K.6.central, and on the left between the 7th Division is L.3.central - L.8.central. The 4th Aust. Infantry Brigade is the Right Brigade and 12th Aust. Infantry Brigade the Left, the boundary being the Road Junction in F.26.d. - N. end of EQUIRRE Wood in L.2.c. to GREEN Line at L.7.b.2.8.
4. Artillery arrangements are as follows:-
  - (a) At Zero hour the barrage will fall about 200 yards in front of RED Line and creep forward at the rate of 30 yards a minute. Guns are specially detailed to shell "areas", machine gun nests or fortified shell holes known or suspected of being occupied.
  - (b) On the RED Line the barrage will remain for 3 minutes (30 minutes in actual attack); on the BLUE Line for 4 minutes (40 minutes in actual attack) and on the GREEN Line 6 minutes (60 minutes in actual attack).
  - (c) 300 yards beyond the GREEN LINE the barrage will remain for 10 minutes or until ordered to cease.
5. The 13th Battalion will capture the RED LINE, the 16th Battalion the BLUE LINE. The 15th and 14th Battalions the GREEN LINE each on a frontage of about 400 yards, dividing line as shown on sketch.
6. O.C. 4th Aust.L.T.M. Battery will arrange for 1 Stokes Gun to accompany each Battalion and to be with the leading Units.
7. Advanced Dressing Station at Road Junction in F.27.b.
8. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be on LISBOURG - PREDEFIN Road at F.26.b.5.6.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

  
 Capt.  
 Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued at p.m.

- Copy No.1 O.C. "A" Company
- 2 "B" "
  - 3 "C" "
  - 4 "D" "
  - 5 4th A.I.Bde.
  - 6 C.O. & File
  - 7 War Diary
  - 8 R.S.M. & Details

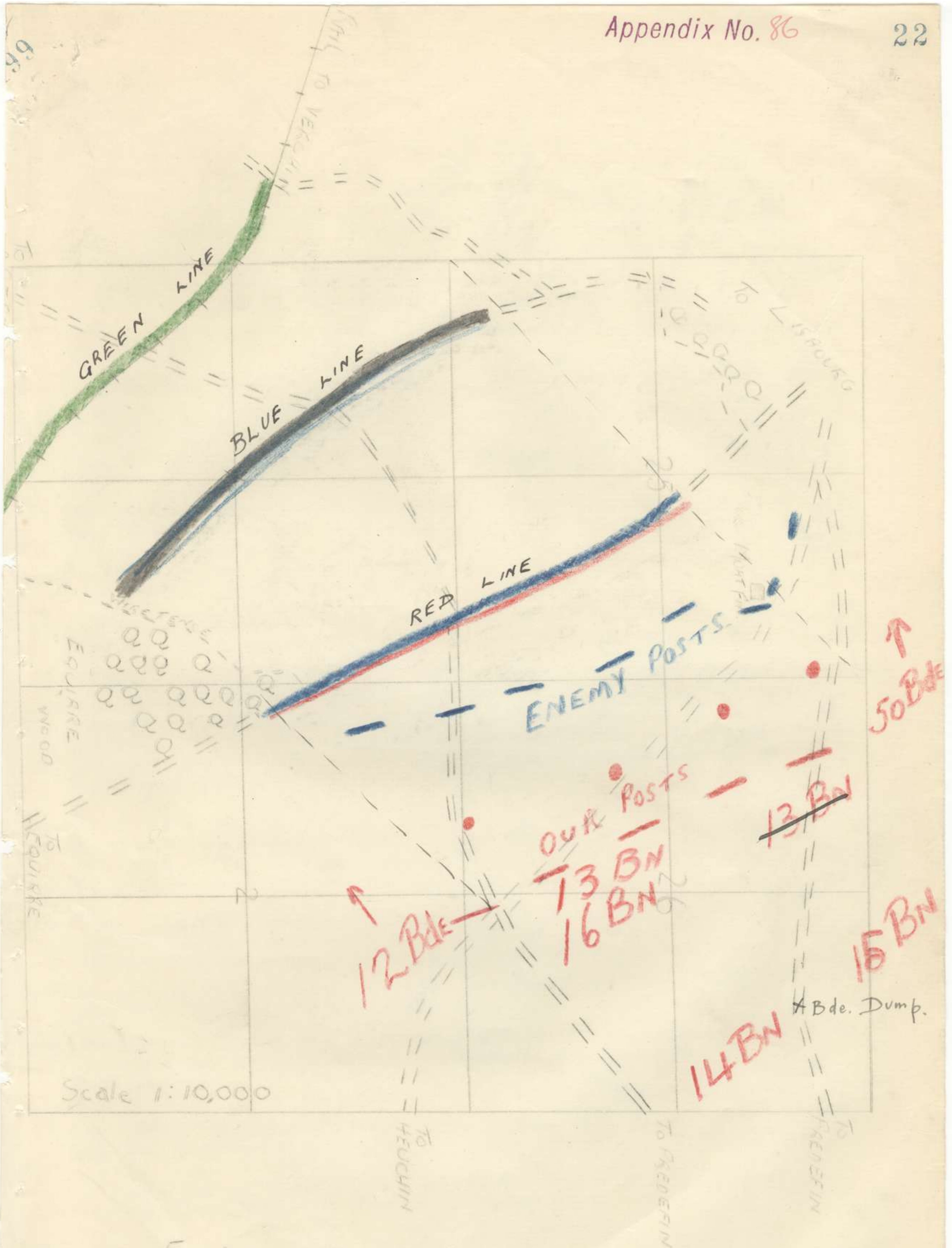


~~XXXXXX~~~~XXXXXXXXXX~~NOTES.

1. This Exercise will be done in skeleton by all Platoon Commanders, Platoon Sergeants, and Section Commanders and Company Runners, at 4.30 p.m. 11-9-17.
2. The same Exercise will also be done by the Battalion with troops on the 12-9-17. - Zero hour 10.30 a.m.
3. Quartermaster will arrange for Mobile Echelon, S.A.A., Bombs, Picks and Shovels, Flares, Yukon Packs and Petrol Tins etc., to be taken to the location of the Exercise on Wednesday, 12-9-1917, and also on Friday 14-9-17.
4. Bandsmen will be used to represent the enemy and will report to Major Murray at location of Exercise at 9 a.m. on Tuesday and Friday. - Band instruments are to be left in billets.
5. All Companies will detail a certain number of casualties for the Exercise, tickets to be obtained from the Medical Officer.
6. Quartermaster will arrange for Cookers to assemble in Square L.I.C. on <sup>Wednesday</sup> Tuesday and Friday at 11 a.m., to prepare mid-day meal.
7. Copy of this Order, together with <sup>attachments</sup> annexes, is to be returned to Bn. Orderly Room by 8 p.m. on Friday.

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Scale 1:10,000

Each square = 500yds

ROUGH SKETCH FOR BRIGADE EXERCISE



LISBOURG,  
13/9/17.

*Appendix 6*

BOXING PROGRAMME (Second night 13th Sepr., 1917).

Commencing 5.30.p.m.

Stadium at LISBOURG on LISBOURG - PREDEFIN Road.

Referee - Cpl. HUGHIE MEHEGAN.

FEATHER WEIGHT.

No. 10. Pte. E.T.BENT, 16th Bn. V Pte. H.TWINING, 14th Bn.

LIGHT WEIGHT.

3. Pte. W.F.WISHART, 16th Bn. V Pte. PRIOR, 13th Bn.  
2. Pte. W.H.FARRELL, 14th Bn. V Pte. J.A.PAUL, 16th Bn.  
9. Winner of No. 2. V Winner of No. 3.  
13. Cpl. T.ANDREWS, 13th Bn. V Winner of No. 9.

WELTER WEIGHT.

4. L/Cpl. GRIFFITHS, 16th Bn. V Pte. G.SMITH, 15th Bn.  
11. Dvr. F.PERRY, 4th Fld. Amb. V Winner of No. 4.

MIDDLE WEIGHT.

1. Sgt. GODFREY, 15th Bn. V Pte. F.THERING, 13th Bn.

HEAVY WEIGHT.

6. Dvr. P.S.CHARLWOOD, 4th Fld. Coy. V Pte. BURNS, 14th Bn.  
5. Sgt. GODFREY, 15th Bn. V Pte. MURPHY, 13th Bn.  
14. Winner No. 5 V Winner No. 6.

BLINDFOLD BOXING.

1 Entry per Battalion.

<u>Winner.</u>	<u>Second.</u>	<u>Points Scored.</u>					
		<u>13 Bn.</u>	<u>14 Bn.</u>	<u>15 Bn.</u>	<u>16 Bn.</u>	<u>4th F.Amb.</u>	<u>4 Engrs</u>

FEATHER WEIGHT

LIGHT WEIGHT

WELTER WEIGHT

MIDDLE WEIGHT

HEAVY WEIGHT



FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R O G R A M M E.

- | <u>No.</u> |  | <u>Winner.</u> |
|------------|--|----------------|
| 1.         | Sgt. GODFREY, 15th Bn. V Pte. F.THERING, 13th Bn. FINAL.         |                |
| 2.         | Pte. W.H.FARRELL, 14th Bn. V Pte. J.A.PAUL, 16th Bn.             |                |
| 3.         | Pte. W.F.WISHART, 16th Bn. V Pte. PRIOR, 13th Bn.                |                |
| 7.         | Humorous Event - 14th Bn. V 16th Bn.                             |                |
| 4.         | L/Cpl. GRIFFITHS,, 16th Bn. V Pte. G.SMITH, 15th Bn.             |                |
| 6.         | Dvr. P.S.CHARLWOOD, 4th Fld. Coy. V Pte. BURNS, 14th Bn.         |                |
| 5.         | Sgt. GODFREY, 15th Bn. V Pte. J.F.MURPHY, 13th Bn.               |                |
| 9.         | Winner of No. 2 V Winner of No. 3.                               |                |
| 8.         | Humorous Event - 13th Bn. V 15th Bn.                             |                |
| 10.        | Pte. E.T.BENT, 16th Bn. V Pte. H.TWINING, 14th Bn. <u>FINAL.</u> |                |
| 11.        | Dvr. F.PERRY, 4th Fld.Amb. V Winner of No. 4. <u>FINAL.</u>      |                |
| 12.        | Humorous Event Winner No. 7 V Winner No. 8. <u>FINAL.</u>        |                |
| 13.        | Cpl. T.ANDREWS, 13th Bn. V Winner of No. 9. <u>FINAL.</u>        |                |
| 14.        | Winner of No. 5 V Winner of No. 6. <u>FINAL.</u>                 |                |

## PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES.



199

SECRET.

13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No. 40.

Copy No. ...!

25

Ref. Map HAZEBROUCK 1/100,000 *Appendix 88* Headquarters, 16th September, 1917

1. The Battalion will proceed by Motor 'bus to WALLON CAPPEL Area on Tuesday, 18th September.

2. Embussing will be carried out as follows:-

Time of embussing - 10 a.m.  
Order of embussing - 4th A.I. Bde. H'qrs.  
 13th Bn. H.Q. Details  
 "A" Company  
 "D" Company  
 "B" Company  
 "C" Company  
 4th A.L.T.M. Battery

Embussing Road - LISBOURG - LAIRES Road  
Head of Column - At LAIRES end of LISBOURG Village facing South.

Embussing Officer - Lieut. G.S. McDowell, M.C.

3. (a) The Embussing Officer will be responsible for embussing and debussing the above group.  
 (b) Personnel will be drawn up in Groups of 25 - Six Groups to every 70 yards.  
 (c) Units to be in position ready for embussing by 9.45 a.m.

4. Reveille - 5.45 a.m.  
Breakfast - 6.30 a.m.  
Sick Parade - 7 a.m.

5. Dress - Marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried.

6. Baggage - All Officers will take their valises on the motor busses. All other surplus gear will be returned to Q.M.'s Store by ration limbers on 17th instant. Dixies and unconsumed portion of meat ration etc. will be carried on busses.

7. Transport will move Brigaded under command of Major E.L. MARCOLIN, D.S.O., 16th Battalion, on 18th instant, passing Statting Point F.29.d.7.7. at 9 a.m. Route - WESTREHEM - AIRE - WALLON CAPPEL. An interval of 200 yards will be maintained between units.

8. Officers will be so distributed that an Officer or senior N.C.O. will be in charge of each 'bus or lorry. Each lorry will take 20 men and each 'bus 25 men. Bn. Orderly Officer (Lieut. Hall) will proceed with guard in rear of the Battalion and guard prisoners en route.

9. Billets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition. Usual certificates to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room on arrival at new billets. The Senior Major and R.M.O. will inspect billets at 7.30 a.m.

10. Marching Out States to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 8 a.m. 18-9-17.

11. Billetting Party will report to Area Commandant's Office at 2 p.m. on 17-9-17.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Signature]*  
 Adjutant, 13th Battalion, Capt. A.I.F.

Issued by runner at

Copy No. 1	War Diary	Copy No. 3	4th A.I. Bde.	Copy No. 5	O.C. "A" Coy
2	" "	4	4th A.L.T.M.B.	6	"B" "
9	Q.M. & Transport			7	"C" "
10	R.M.O. & I.O.			8	"D" "
11	R.S.M. & Details				
12	C.O. & File				



SECRET.

Copy No. ....

13th BATTALION ORDER No. 45 41

Reference Sheet 27 1/40,000.

*Appendix* 890  
Headquarters,  
19-9-1917.

1. The Battalion will move on the 20-9-1917 to billets in STEENVOORDE Area, passing the starting point - Road and Railway Crossing in U.6.a. (near "D" Coy's billets) at 9 a.m. in the following order:-

- Band
- Signalers & Runners
- "D" Company
- "C" Company
- "A" Company
- "B" Company.
- S. B's.
- A.M.C.
- Transport.

2. Route Via KOURTEN LOOP ST. SYLVESTRE CAPPEL - WA ANBRU E - STEENVOORDE.

3. Reveille - 5.30 a.m. Breakfast 6 a.m.

4. Blankets - Blankets, Officers' gear and Mess gear will be dumped in Company heaps outside Company Headquarters by 6.30 a.m. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 20 and distinctly labelled. Each Company will detail a loading party of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men to be standing by at that hour. Headquarters blankets, with the exception of Pioneers and Stretcher Bearers, will be dumped near Battalion Orderly Room by 6.45 a.m.

5. Billets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition. The Senior Major and R.M.O. will inspect the billets at 7.45 a.m. The usual certificates will be forwarded to Battalion Orderly Room on arrival at new billets.

6. Attention is again drawn to G.S. Circular No.34, which is to be strictly adhered to.

7. O.C. "D" Company will detail a rear guard of 1 Officer and 20 men.

8. A billeting party of 1 Officer (Lieut McDowell, M.C.) and 4 O/Ranks will report to the Staff Captain at Brigade Headquarters at 6 p.m. 19-9-1917.

9. The Battalion Orderly Officer (Lieut. Owen) will take charge of the Guard and will march in rear of the Battalion.

10. ~~Cookers will march with Transport.~~ For para. 10 see over.

11. Marching Out States to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 7.30 a.m., 20-9-1917.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*W. Davis*  
Capt.  
Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued by runner at

- Copy No.1 War Diary
- 2 " "
- 3 4th A.I.Bde.
- 4 O.C. "A" Coy
- 5 "B" "
- 6 "C" "
- 7 "D" "
- 8 Q.M. & Transport
- 9 R.M.O., & I.O.
- 10 R.S.M. & Details
- 11 C.O. & File.



Reference Sheet 27 1/49 000  
Headquarters  
19-9-1917

10. Cookers will march with Companies.  
A halt for mid-day meal will be made in Q.I.C. Transport  
will not halt, but will move to new area.  
After mid-day meal Cookers will proceed ahead under  
Quartermaster.  
Mid-day meal to be carried on the man.

- "D" Company
- "C" Company
- "A" Company
- "B" Company
- S. B's
- A.M.C.
- Transport

Route via Kourtn Loop St. B.V.L.V.S.T.R. CAMP - WA ALBUH R - STEINVOORDE.

Breakfast 6 a.m. 5.30 a.m. - Havelia

Blankets, Officers' gear and Mess gear will be dumped in Company heaps outside Company Headquarters by 6.30 a.m. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 20 and distinctly labelled. Each Company will detail a loading party of 1 M.C.O. and 6 men to be standing by at that hour. Headquarters Blankets, with the exception of Pioneer and stretcher Bearers, will be dumped near Battalion Orderly Room by 6.45 a.m.

Blankets are to be left in a perfectly clean and sanitary condition. The Senior Major and R.M.O. will inspect the blankets at 7.45 a.m. The naval certificates will be forwarded to Battalion Orderly Room on arrival at new billets.

Attention is again drawn to S. Circular No. 34, which is to be strictly adhered to.

O.C. "B" Company will detail a rear guard of 1 Officer and 20 men.

A billeting party of 1 Officer (Lieut. McDowell, M.C.) and 40 ranks will report to the Staff Captain at Brigade Headquarters at 6 p.m. 19-9-1917.

The Battalion Orderly Officer (Lieut. Owen) will take charge of the Guard and will march in rear of the Battalion.

Coaches will march with Transport. For para. 10 see over.

Marching Out States to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 7.30 a.m. 20-9-1917.

ACKNOWLEDGED

Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.  
Capt.

Issued by runner at

- Copy No. 1 War Diary
- " " " " " "
- 3 4th A.I. Bde.
- 4 O.C. "A" Coy
- 5 " " " "
- 6 " " " "
- 7 " " " "
- 8 G.M. & Transport
- 9 R.M.O. & I.O.
- 10 R.S.M. & Details
- 11 C.O. & Wife.



13th BATTALION A.I.F.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

17-9-17 - 23-9-17.

Date	7 a.m. to 7.30 a.m.	9.a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
Monday 17-9-17	Physical Training & Organised Games 30 min.	Battalion Parade Platoon Drill (Falling in & Inspection) Bayonet Fighting Lecturette (March Discipline) Fitting Equipment	Muscle Exercises Gas Helmet Drill Route March by Companies Fire Discipline & Control
		30 min. 25 " 30 " 15 " 25 "	15 min. 15 " 60 " 25 "
Tuesday 18-9-18	-	Move to New Billets.	
Wednesday 19-9-17	Physical Training & Organised Games. 30 min.	Rifle Inspection & Exercises Bayonet Fighting Lecturette (Guards & Sentries) Gas Helmet Drill Guards & Sentries Company Drill	Lecturette on "Artillery Formations" Company deploying from Column of Route to Artillery Formations (Casualties to occur amongst Platoon & Section Commanders) Lecturette "Consolidation" Demonstration "Consolidation in Depth"
		25 min. 25 " 15 " 15 " 25 " 25 "	20 min. 40 " 20 " 30 "
Thursday 20-9-17	Physical Training & Organised Games. 30 min.	Platoon Drill Bayonet Fighting Lecturette (Judging Distance) Gas Helmet Drill Judging Distance Company Drill	Rapid Loading Extended Order Drill Wiring Demonstration by Coy's.
		25 Min 25 " 15 " 15 " 25 " 25 "	15 min. 25 " 50 "
Friday 21-9-17	- - -	BATTALION EXERCISE.	

Appendix 90

Appendix 90

(Contd)



Training Programme Page 2.

Date	7 a.m. - 7.30 a.m.	9 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
Saturday 22-9-1917.	Physical Training & Organised games. 30 min.	Section & Platoon Drill Bayonet Fighting Gas Helmet Drill Extended Order Drill Company Drill	25 min. 25 " 15 25 " 25 " 25 "
Sunday 23-9-1917	CHURCH PARADE.		

FOOTBALL

- NOTES: -
1. Company Commanders will confer with the C.O. at 7.30 p.m. daily on the next day's work, and be prepared to explain their plans for carrying out the same.
  2. Lewis Gunners will train under Company Lewis Gun Sgts. under the supervision of Lieut. Cleland from 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.
  3. The Bombing Sections of Companies will report to Lieut. McDowell, M.C., at times to be arranged.
  4. Each Company will select and train 12 men in rapid wiring under Company Arrangements.
  5. O's. C. Companies will have a daily conference with <sup>their</sup> Officers and ~~the~~ N.C.O's.
  6. Signallers will train under Lieut. Perray.
  7. Arrangements for rifle range are being made and instructions will be issued later.
  8. S.B's. will be trained in Stretcher Drill and First Aid work by the R.M.O.

Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F. Capt.

Appendix No. 90



199

9202

Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade.  
HEADQUARTERS.  
18th Sept., 1917.

Appendix 90

G. O.,  
ALL UNITS.

TRAINING MEMO NO. 2.

The G.O.C. desires training to be carried out during period the Brigade is in this area on the following lines :-

1. **Fitness.**  
Bayonet and Physical exercises and a certain amount of route marches.  
The Army Bayonet Instructor will be attached to units daily as under :-  

13th Battalion	19th & 23rd instant.	
14th Battalion	20th & 24th	"
15th Battalion	21st & 25th	"
16th Battalion	22nd & 26th	"
2. **Musketry.**  
Ranges will be built where possible at once and firing carried out, meanwhile Rapid Loading and Aiming daily.  
Covering Fire and Mutual Support.
3. **Gas.**  
Gas Drill will be carried out as usual. In addition Div. Gas Officer will give a demonstration at a date to be notified later.
4. **Specialists.**  
Lewis Gun, Grenades and Signalling will be carried out.
5. **Drill.**  
Attention to be paid to detail and thoroughness and no slovenly work permitted.  
Vary programme to obviate monotony and set a high standard.
6. **Fitting of Equipment.**  
This will be carried out in accordance with "Fitting of Equipment Memo of 26/7/1917". Kit Inspections will be frequently carried out.
7. **Rapid wiring to be carried out.**
8. **Writing of messages and reports.**  
Lectures to be given to N.C.O's. and Men.
9. **Training Programmes for week ending 26th instant to be in to Brigade Headquarters by 8.p.m. 19th instant.**  
One copy will be sufficient.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Major.  
Brigade-Major.  
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

*[Handwritten initials]*

10-20pm



Appendix 91

199

SECRET.

Copy No. ....

13th Battalion Move Order No. 42.

Reference Sheets 27 &amp; 28 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
21st September, 1917.

1. The Battalion will proceed by Motor 'bus to CANAL Area near YPRES on Saturday 22nd September, 1917.
2. Embussing will take place as follows:-  
Embussing Road Road N.E. through K.22 facing Earth.  
Time of Embussing - 9 a.m.  
Starting Points & Routes - As shown on attached sketch.  
Embussing Officer - Lieut. G.S. McDowell, M.C.
3. (a) The Embussing Officer will be responsible for embussing and debussing of the Battalion.  
 (b) Personnel will be drawn up in groups of 25 - Six groups to every 70 yards.
4. Reveille - 5.30 a.m.  
Breakfast - 6 a.m.
5. Dress - Marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried.
6. Baggage - Officers' kits will be taken forward by transport. All other surplus gear will be returned to Q.M.'s Store by ration limbers on 21st instant. Dixies and unconsumed portion of meat ration etc. will be carried on busses.
7. Transport will proceed by Road brigaded under command of Major A.R. COX, 14th Bn.  
Pass Starting Point Road Junction K.33.d.7.E. at 10 a.m.  
Route POPPERINGHE - VLAMERTINGHE - Cross Roads H.16.d. - CANAL AREA. Distances of 200 yards between units.
8. Officers will be so distributed that an Officer or Senior N.C.O. will be in charge of each 'bus or lorry. Each lorry will take 20 men and each 'bus 25 men.  
 Bn. Orderly Officer (Lieut. Turner) will proceed with guard in rear of the Battalion and guard prisoners en route.
9. The Senior Major and R.M.C. will inspect billets at 7.30 a.m.
10. Personnel remaining out of the line will parade at Bn. Headquarters at 9 a.m., reporting to Capt. Wallach.  
Dress - Full marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried. 48 Hours rations.  
 The above personnel will concentrate in 14th Bn. Area and come under charge of Major DICKINSON, 15th Bn.
11. Marching Out Status to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 7 a.m. 22-9-17.
12. Billeting Party will report to ~~Area~~ Commandant's Office at 6 p.m. on 22-9-1917., VLAMERTINGHE.
13. ACKNOWLEDG.

*W. Davis*  
 Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.      Capt.

Issued by runner at 7.30 p.m.

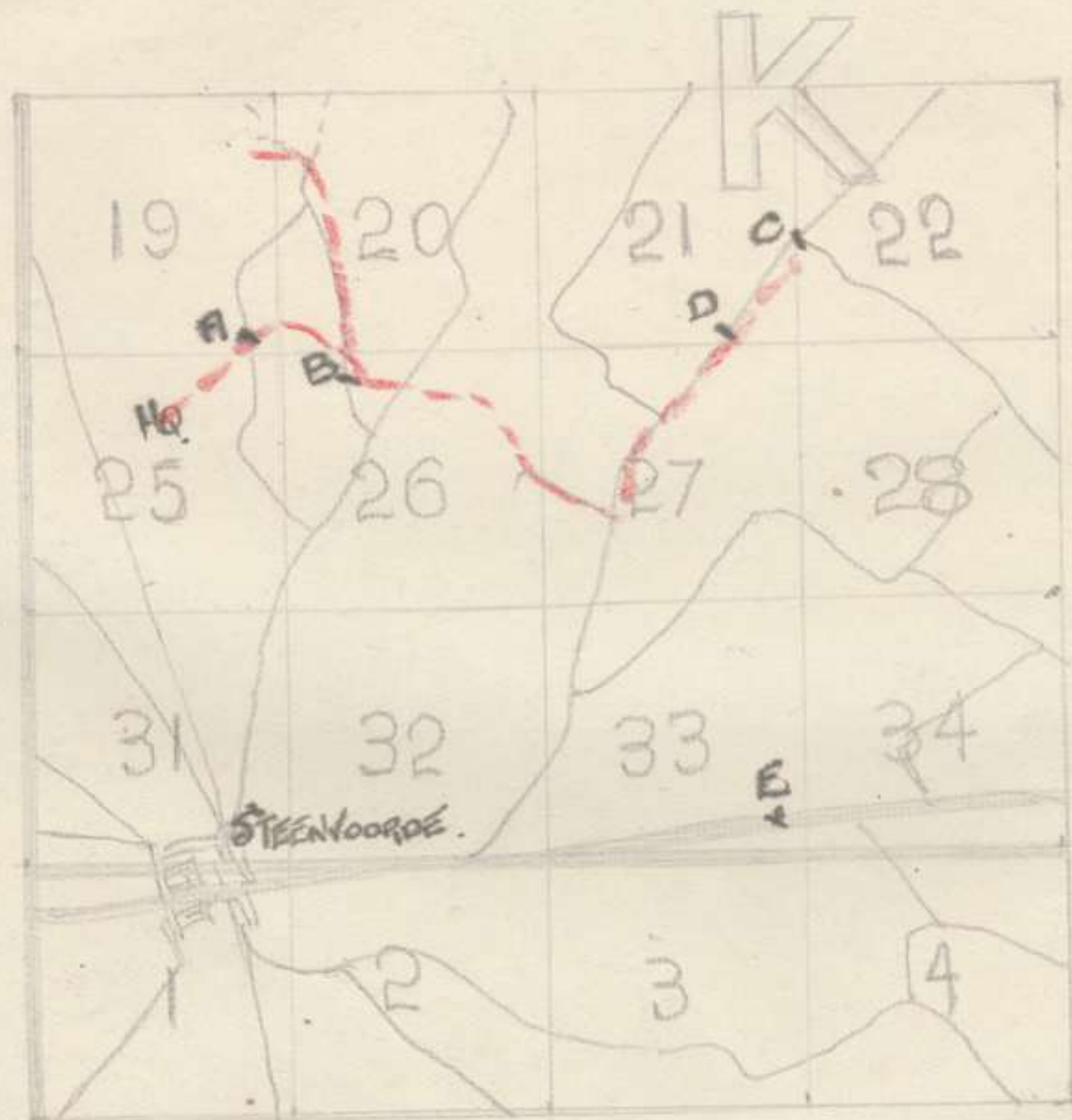
- Copy No. 1 War Diary  
 2 " "  
 3 4th A.I.F. de  
~~4th A.I.F. de~~  
 5 O.C. "A" Coy.  
 6 "B" "  
 7 "C" "  
 8 "D" "  
 9 Q.M. & Transport  
 10 R.M.C. & I.O.  
 11 R.S.M. & Details  
 12 C.O. & File .



Appendix No. 91

BELGIUM AND FRANCE.

SHEET 27.



NOTES.

- A = STARTING POINT A, B + C. COYS AT 8.00. AM.
  - B = " " " D COMPANY. AT 8.5. AM.
  - C = HEAD OF COLUMN.
  - D = TAIL OF COLUMN.
  - E = TRANSPORT STARTING POINT.
- ROUTE MARKED IN RED.



*Appendix 9*

23-9-1917.

Reference Sheet 28.N.W.) 1/20,000  
Sheet 28.N.E.)

1. (a) The 13th Battalion as under will relieve the 23rd Battalion, 6th A.I. Bde. on night 23/24th September, 1917, in GREEN and BLUE LINE.
    - (b) "D" Company, 13th Bn., relieves "A" Company, 23rd Bn. GREEN LINE J.9.b.4.8. to J.3.d.3.2.
    - "C" Company, 13th Bn., relieves "D" Company, 23rd Bn. GREEN LINE J.3.d.3.2. to J.3.d.1.5.6.5. (2½ Platoons). 2 Sections in Trench J.3.c.6.5. to J.3.c.6.4.
    - "B" Company, 13th Bn., relieves "B" Company, 23rd Bn. BLUE LINE J.9.a.7.4. to J.9.a.7.7.
    - "A" Company, 13th Bn., relieves "C" Company, 23rd Bn. BLUE LINE J.9.a.7.7. to J.3.c.7.2.
    - Battalion Headquarters at J.8.b.7.2.
  - (c) 25% Specialists, 13th Bn., will relieve 25% Specialists, 23rd Bn. on 23rd September, 1917.
2. Companies and H.Q. Units will be ready to march out at 4 p.m. 23-9-17 in following order:-
    - H.Q. Details
    - "C" Company
    - "D" Company
    - "A" Company
    - "B" Company.
  3. Transport Lines and Q.M.'s Store will remain at present location.
  4. Companies and H.Q. Units will rendezvous at GORDON HOUSE (CHINA WALL) where hot evening meal will be served. 3 Cookers to accompany Companies. *will go forward under Lieut. Cleland at 3 p.m.*
  5. All movement forward of CANAL to be by sections in daylight - Platoons after dusk.
  6. One guide per Platoon will meet Companies at WEST HOOK from 7.30 p.m. 23-9-17.
  7. DRESS - Fighting order. Each man will carry his Greatcoat and waterproof sheet.
  8. RATIONS - Iron rations, 24 hours rations and unconsumed portion of to-day's ration to be carried on the man.
  9. Packs and Officers' gear will be dumped at Q.M.'s Store. Blankets and hats to be put in pack.
  10. Lewis Gun gear will be carried forward by limbers as far as GORDON HOUSE. One Lewis Gunner per Company to accompany wagons.
  11. Cooking utensils will be carried forward by Companies from GORDON HOUSE.
  12. Trench stores will be taken over by Companies and a list (in duplicate) forwarded to Bn. Headquarters on completion of relief.
  13. Box Respirators are to be worn at the "Alert" position by all ranks at all times.
  14. MOVEMENT IN FRONT LINE. There has been too much movement in the forward area. All movement in daylight is to be cut down to a minimum.
  15. Completion of relief will be wired to Bn. Headquarters by code word "BLOTTO".
  16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Signature]*  
Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F. Capt.

Issued by runner at

P.T.O.



199

15th Battalion Order No. 1/20,000  
15th Battalion Order No. 1/20,000  
15th Battalion Order No. 1/20,000

Copy No. 1 War Diary

- 2 do
- 3. 4th A.I. Bde.
- 4. "A" Coy.
- 5. "B" "
- 6. "C" "
- 7. "D" "
- 8 R.M.O. & I.O.
- 9 Q.M.
- 10 St. Officer
- 11 C.O. & File

(a) The 15th Battalion as under on night 23/9/17 at 4th A.I. Bde. on night 23/9/17.

(b) The 15th Battalion as under on night 23/9/17 at 4th A.I. Bde. on night 23/9/17.

(c) The 15th Battalion as under on night 23/9/17 at 4th A.I. Bde. on night 23/9/17.

Companies and H.Q. Units will be ready to march out at 4 p.m. 23-9-17 in following order:-

- H.Q. Details
- "B" Company
- "C" Company
- "D" Company
- "A" Company
- "E" Company

- 1. Transport trucks and G.M.'s store will remain at present location.
- 2. Companies and H.Q. Units will remain at present location.
- 3. (GRIMM FALL) have not evening meal will be served. 3 cooks will go forward under tent.
- 4. All movement forward of G.M.'s store to be by sections in daylight - Platoon after dusk.
- 5. One guide per Platoon will meet Companies at WEST HOOK from 7.30 p.m. 23-9-17.
- 6. DEFENSE - Fighting order. Each man will carry his personal and waterproof sheet.
- 7. RATIONING - In 1 hour rations, 16 hours rations and uncooked portion of to-day's ration to be carried on the men.
- 8. Packs and Officers' gear will be dumped at G.M.'s Store. Blankets and hats to be put in pack.
- 9. Lewis (no gear will be carried forward by limbers as far as GORDON HOUSE. One Lewis (no gear) must per Company to accompany weapons. Cooking utensils will be carried forward by Companies from GORDON HOUSE.
- 10. French stores will be taken over by Companies and a list (in duplicate) forwarded to H.Q. Headquarters on completion of relief.
- 11. Gas Respirators are to be worn at the "Alert" position by all ranks at all times.
- 12. MOVEMENT IN FRONT LINE There has been too much movement in the forward area. All movement in daylight is to be cut down to a minimum.
- 13. Completion of relief will be wired to H.Q. Headquarters by code word "BLOTTO".
- 14. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Adjutant, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.  
Capt. A.I.F.  
Issued by runner at 11.15 p.m.

E.T.O.



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Appendix 93

6 p.m. 23-9-17  
6 a.m. 24-9-17

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Artillery normal during afternoon.  
From 7.15 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. Retaliation barrage on Hun positions and batteries. Our Artillery has been shelling the area in front of our sector all night with shrapnel. Rate of fire about one round every two or three seconds. Heavy barrage commenced at 5.30 a.m. and was still on at 6 a.m.

Aerial Activity. Nil.

Bombs & Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine guns and Snipers Occasional bursts during night.

Patrols. See Patrol report.

Enemy Movement. Nil.

Signals. Nil

Enemy Operations. Artillery. Was very active between 6.30 p.m. and 7.45 p.m. He shelled the whole Battalion area with 5.9 shells and H.E. During the night he has been firing 4.2 in front of our front line - about 500 yards away. A barrage was placed over our sector from 5 a.m. to 5.30 a.m.

Aerial Activity. Nil.

Bombs and Trench Mortars. He is using pineapples but they are falling about 200 yards short - mostly along "C" Company Sector.

Machine guns and Snipers. No machine guns heard on our sector.

Signals and Flares. Using a double red flare apparently for the purpose of increasing the range of his artillery. When range is lengthened he sends up a white flare

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24/25

PATROL REPORT

Strength	Time of departure	Time of return	Routes	Remarks
S t. 1 3 men	7.30 p.m.	9 p.m. <del>12 midnht</del>	J.3.d.3.2. to J.3.d.0.7.	Patrolled No-man's Land and established communication with unit on left. Did not come into contact with enemy.
Same Party	10 p.m.	12.30 p.m.	"	Went 200 yards out and patrolled Front Line. Did not see any enemy
"	2 a.m.	2.45 a.m.	"	Same result.
1 S t. 3 Men	8 p.m.	12 midni ht	J.9.b.5.7. to J.3.d.3.2.	Reported good deal of enemy movement but could not get out more than 300 yards owing to our protective barrage Drove a Hun away with rifle grenades, who was firing flares. <del>from our trenches</del>
1 S t. 3 Men	10 p.m.	12 midni ht	J.3.d.3.2. to J.3.d.0.7.	From our trenches and considerable wire commencing about 30-50 yards from our trenches. This wire is quite passable by day but forms a considerable barrier by night.
1 S t. 3 Men	2.30 a.m.	3.50 a.m.	J.3.d.3.2. to J.3.d.0.7.	After patrolling our front line about 100 yards out endeavoured to get touch with the left but after going about 150 yards returned unsuccessfully.
1 S t. 3 Men	10.30 p.m.	12 midni ht	J.9.b.5.7. to J.3.d.3.2.	Got out about 300 yards in front of line and moved South getting into touch with Right Battalion (55 Bn) who reported all O.K. Discovered no sign of enemy movement.
1 S t. 3 Men	3 a.m.	4.30 a.m.	J.9.b.3.7. to J.3.d.3.2.	Patrolled No.-man's Land and heard enemy talking in vicinity of J.3.d.8.1.

Appendix No. 93



199

SPECIAL OPERATIONS.

1. A Fighting Patrol consisting of Lieut. Westwood and 12 men left J.3.d.2.6. at 8.45 a.m. on morning of 24th inst. and under cover of a fog moved N.E.. The enemy were observed collecting timber and building a shelter. One Red Cross man was with the party. The party surrendered and nine prisoners were brought back. No attempt was made by the Huns to resist being taken prisoner.
2. The same patrol immediately went out again and this time moved out 250 yards in a N.E. direction, when an enemy position (camouflaged) was encountered. After killing or wounding four of the enemy and after two of our own men had been wounded, the patrol was withdrawn and returned to our trenches as the fog was rapidly thinning out.  
About 20 of the enemy were observed to be scattered around in shell holes.
3. A fighting patrol of one Sergeant and six men was sent out at J.3.4.0. and did not encounter any of the enemy as far as 300 yards out from our front line.

-----



WORKS REPORTFor Night 23/24 September, 1917.

Immediately the relief was complete the Support Companies (A & B) set all available men on constructing the communication trench from the Support Line back to Bn. H.Q. This trench was connected up all the way, and has an average depth of about 5 ft. 6 inches. Length of trench dug, about 500 yards.

The front line Companies in addition to deepening their trenches and constructing covers completed communications between Front Line and Supports.

)))-----

WORKS REPORTFor Night 24/25th September, 1917

1. A Communication Trench 150 yards in length and 4' to 4'6" in depth and wide enough to allow fully equipped men to pass along it was dug from J.3.d.25.3Q to J.3.d.5.4.
2. The outpost in Du out J.3.d.9.5. has been connected up with our front line by C.T.
3. All forward posts improved.
4. Tracks across swampy area between support line and front line improved. Duckboarded where necessary.
5. Shelters erected around "A" & "B" Coys H.Q. - J.9.2.25.40.

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199

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

*Appendix 94.*

6 a.m. 24-9-1917  
6 p.m. 25-9-1917

OUR OPERATIONS.

- 1. ARTILLERY Activity abnormal. Intermittant shellin of enemy positions durin the period. Apparently practice barra e put down on pur front at 10.30 a.m. Our Artillery barra e on ri ht of our sector from 9 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. Very intense bombardment from 5.10 a.m. to 6 a.m. this mornin .
- 2. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Activity normal.
- 3. BOMBS & TRENCH MORTARS. Activity nil.
- 4. MACHINE UNS & SNIPERS. Occasional bursts. Active from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- PATROLS. See patrol reports.  
Si nals and Flares Nil

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery - Very active. Heavy barra e placed down on Havebuk Valley and at I.8.a and J.9.a. - at 9.30 p.m. and a ain at 5.10 a.m. this mornin . uns of all calibre were apparently used. The enemy barra e lasted from 5.10 a.m. to 6.15 a.m. Our front line is almost free from heavy shellin. Most of the shells fall in rear of our Support Line.

AERIAL ACTIVITY. Two Balloons observed on our sector. Places active. Several planes seen over our front line and support line flyin low, at 12.30 p.m.

BOMBS AND TRENCH MORTARS. Pineapple bombs were used but fell short of our front line. Apparently fired from extreme ran e.

MACHINE UNS & SNIPERS. No machine uns heard on our sector. Snipers active in evenin s.

SI NALS & FLARES. Activity normal.

-----



199  
SECRET.Appendix 95  
13th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER No.

Copy No.....

Reference WESTHOEK 1/10,000.

Headquarters,  
25-9-1917

1. On the mornin of the 26th September, 1917, the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde., in conjunction with the 14th Bri ade on Ri ht and 13th Bri ade on Left, will assume offensive operations in two sta es as under:-
  - (a) 16th Bn. will secure RED LINE and construct 3 or 4 stron pointe thereon.
  - (b) 15th and 14th Bns on a fronta e of about 500 yards will secure the BLUE LINE, each constructin 3 stron points thereon.
  - (c) 13th Bn. will be reserve in position now occupied.
2. Zero hour will be 5.<sup>59</sup> a.m.
3. "A" and "B" Companies will di a C.T. between front line and RED LINE. "A" Company nearest to old front line. C.T. to be made by joinin up shell holes.
4. "D" Company to detaill 1 N.C.O. and 20 men to carry Stokes Mortar Ammunition for 4th Trench Mortar Battery, followin 16th Batalion, and will also co-operate with "A" and "B" Companies in di in operations.
5. "C" Company will be held in readiness to move forward if called upon.
6. The three Bat talions attackin are expected to arrive at formin up place at 3 a.m. 26-9-1917.
7. RI HT Boundary adjustments will be made at 8 p.m. on ni ht 25/26th September, 1917. O.C. "D" Company has been informed re this.
8.
  - (a) 50th Bn goes for RED Line on left
  - (b) 49th Bn. goes for BLUE line on left
  - (c) 53rd Bn. goes for RED line on ri ht.
  - (d) 55th Bn. goes for BLUE line on ri ht.
9. Picks and Shovels. All available pickas and shovels are to be collected and placed in front line in dumps.
10. Password for night 25/26th - COBBER  
do 26/27th - GINGER.
11. Lucas Lamps at SUPPORT Company Headquarters and front line Headquarters to flash at minute intervals from midni ht 25-9-1917 until zero minus  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour.
12. Synchronization of watches. Watches will be synchronized as already with Adjutant.
13. The hoppin out trench will be marked with white tape on ni ht 25th September, by I.O's of the Bri ade. O.C. "C" and "D" Coys will be held responsible for safety of the tape until such time as the attackin units are formed up thereon.
14.
  - (a) The barrage will be put down 150 yards in ~~xxx~~ front of our fromin up line at zero.
  - (b) It will be in to advance at zero plus <sup>7</sup> minutes at the rate of 100 yards in 4 minutes for 200 yards thereafter and up to the RED LINE the rate will be 100 yards in 6 minutes.
  - (c) The time at which the barra e will move from its protective position in front of RED LINE has not yet been decided (probably  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour). Just prior to movement it will be increased in intensity and troops will move up close under it.
  - (d) The rate of movement from RED to BLUE line will probably be 100 yards in 6 minutes.
  - (e) Smoke will be fired by each Battery as it arrives on its



(2)

protective barrier in front of the RED LINE and BLUE LINE so as to indicate the position to the troops.

15. Reports as to progress on Battalions in front and as to progress of work in hand to be sent as frequently as possible to Battalion Headquarters.
16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(S d) A.W. DAVIS, Capt.  
Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued by runner at.



Appendix 96,

INTELLIGENCE REPORT.

6 a.m. 25-9-17  
6 a.m. 27-9-17

OUR OPERATIONS

1. Artillery - Practice barrage at 6.30 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. on 25th instant. Activity normal throughout day - 25th inst. Night 25/26 very quiet. Abnormal activity throughout the whole day - 26th inst. - due to the STUNT and the massing of enemy storm troops for counter-attacks. From 9 p.m. everything fairly quiet on our sector, Barrages were placed down at 2 p.m., 5.55 p.m. and 8 p.m. in response to our S.O.S. signals. Artillery was excellent.
2. Aerial Activity. From 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. our activity was abnormal. During part of afternoon they were not active on our sector. From 5 p.m. till 7 p.m. our planes were active observing enemy movement.
3. Bombs and Trench Mortars. Activity normal. T.M. used with good effect in Front Line.
4. Machine guns and Snipers. Our machine gun barrage was placed down at 3 p.m., 5.55 p.m. and 8 o'clock p.m. in response to S.O.S. signals.

PATROLS.

Patrol reports.

Strength	Time of departure	Time of Return	Route	Remarks
1. S t. 3 Men	7.10 p.m.	12 noon	Whole Front Line	Encountered enemy patrol - Killed two enemy and took prisoner one Hun, wounded. Prisoner proved that relief had taken place that night He belonged to the 24th Reserve Div. Otherwise everything very quiet
Same party	2 a.m.	4 a.m.	same route	



199.

## NARRATIVE - STUNT 25/26th/9/17

Date	Time	From	To	Serial No.	SUBJECT
25-9-17	9.45p.m.	D	-	-	Patrols report enemy suspected massin for attack
do	10.30p.m.	-	A	-	To push forward 1 L. . to "D" Coy. 1 L. . to "C" Coy.
do	11.30p.m.	D	-	-	Patrols report all jaques - One prisoner 24th Reserve Division
do	11.45 p.m.	A.	-	-	2 Lewis uns in posn. at C & D Coys
26-9-17	3.15 a.m.	<del>Ex.</del>	-	4	16 Bn. clear of 13 Bn. H.Q.
do	3.30 a.m.	-	-	"	14th do
do	3.45 a.m.	-	-	"	15th do
do	4 a.m.	B	-	-	Di in party moved
do	do	A	-	-	do do
do	5.35 a.m.	15 Bn.	Bde	1 a	"Mena"
do	6.45 a.m.	C	-	1	Attack well started - 6 Prisoners 49th R.I.R.
do	6.35 a.m.	A	-	2	"A" & "B" Coy. workin on C.T.
do	6.40 a.m.	Bn.	Bde	3	To Bde - 10 Prisoners 49th R.I.R.
do	7 a.m.	B	-	5	"B" report everythin O.K. - di in close to first objective.
do	7.10 a.m.	FILE	-	6	Everythin oin splendidly - H.Q. at J.4.c.2.3. approx.
do	7.40a.m.	FILE	-	7	RED LINE ained
do	8.15a.m.	FAD	-	8	RED LINE passed 7.10 a.m.
do	9.40 a.m.	D	-	9	re Carryin party O.K.
do	9.35a.m.	FADE	-	-	Report from Colonel McSharry
do	do	-	Bde	10	do do
do	9.45a.m.	-	D	11	Everythin O.K.
do	10 a.m.	FAD	-	12	Lon report
do	10.20a.m.	-	Bde	-	Fad's Report to Bde.
do	10.35 a.m.	-	-	-	Bn. of Royal Welsh Fusiliers passed oin to R. of our R. Bde to attack at 12 noon - Compass bearin iven to Adjt.
do	11.10a.m.	FAD	FACT	13	Artillery fallin short on front line
do	11.20a.m.	FADE	-	14	Sandbags and stakes required
do	do	D	-	15	re Carryin party
do	11.20 a.m.	-	Bde	16	Reportin artillery fallin short
do	11.40 a.m.	D	-	17	Report re T.M. carriers & S.A.A. carriers.
do	11.40 a.m.	FAD	-	18	Artillery fallin short
do	11.40 a.m.	FADE	-	19	18 pds. fallin on BLUE LINE
do	do	-	FACE	20	Verbally reported to Bri ade
do	do	FADE	-	20	M. . fire from J.4.b.4.9. and from MOLENAAREOSTHOEK
do	do	-	FACE	-	Verbally reported to Bde.
do	11.45a.m.	Front Line	FACE	21	Request for extra S.B's.
do	do	FACT	FACE	-	For 25 squads bearers
do	11.50a.m.	-	FADE	22	Bde take action re M. . - stokes to deal with situation
do	12.10p.m.	BLOCK	-	23	S.O.S. one up on left of BLOCK SECTOR
do	do	-	FACE	-	Verbal report as above
do	do	-	-	-	Verbal report to F.O.O. to be on the look out
do	12.15p.m.	A.T.A.	FAD	24	Bde arran ed for ran e to be
			FADE		len thened 100 yards.
25	12.30p.m.	FADE	-	25	Enemy collectin on Rid e D.29.a.&c.
do	do	do	-	26	Stand by for S.O.S.
do	12.31p.m.	-	FACE	-	Verbal report of above to FACE
do	12.45p.m.	FACE	-	27	roup res isterin 2 rounds on S.O.S. line at 2.30 p.m.
do	12.45p.m.	-	FAD	-	S.T.338 - Reportin above
			FADE		



(2)

Date	Time	From	To	Serial No.	SUBJECT
26-9-17	12.50p.m.	FADE		28	Trench Mortars firin from J.4.b.8.4.
do	do		FACE		Verbal report to Bde.
do	1.5 p.m.	FACT	FADE		S.T.339 - Trench Mortars to be dealt with by our own Stokes.
do	3.5 p.m.	C		29	Report as to enemy plane brought down.
do	do	D		30	Enemy aeroplanes very active
do	do	FADE		31	Enemy massin on left flank
do	do	-	FACE		No.30 & 31 by Power Buzzer & verbally
do	do	C		32	Rifle grenades wanted.
do	3.10p.m.	-	FACE		do
do	3.55p.m.	A			Verbal message Hun massin for counter attack at 3.15 p.m. on ridge 28.B - 29.c. - S.O.S. Signals answered - all O.K.
do	4 p.m.		FACE		re above
do	do	FAD			H'qrs now at J.3.b.3.4.
do	4.45 p.m.	-	FAD		Mitchell FAD without S.O.S. FAD to supply.



ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery Abnormal activity throughout the day. Barrage placed down on ridge behind our Support Line, and over the Hanebeek Valley. Artillery very quiet during the night. Shelled rear portions heavily from 12 noon to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Aerial Activity. Very active - Flying very low over our positions from 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
One plane brought down by our Lewis gunners on 25th inst.  
Two planes brought down by our Lewis gunners on 26th inst.  
(as reported - special note).

Gas. Four gas shells on Support line.

Bomb and Trench Mortars. Active on our new front line.

Machine guns and Snipers. Very active. Location reported by forward Battalions.

Special Note. German prisoners' time according to watches they had was 15 minutes slow on our time.

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199

SECRET. C.O. & File

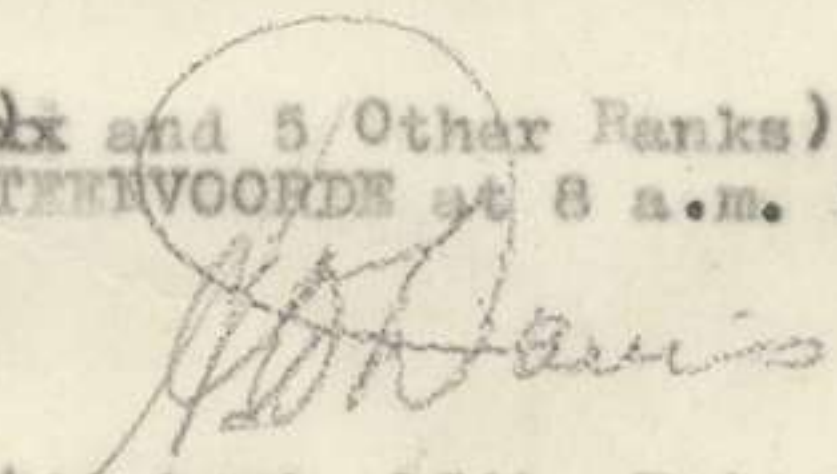
Appendix 97 Copy No. 11

13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No. 44.

Reference Sheet 27 & 28 1/40,000

Headquarters,  
29th September, 1917

1. The Battalion will proceed by Motor Bus to STERNVOORDE Area on Saturday, 30-9-1917.
2. Embussing will take place as follows:-  
Embussing point - Head of busses on road opposite Area Commandant's Office, WINNIPEG Camp, facing South West.  
Time of embussing - 11 a.m.  
Companies and H.Q. Units to be ready to move at 10.15 a.m.  
Embussing Officer: Lieut. R. L. Gowing.
3. (a) The Embussing Officer will be responsible for embussing and debussing of the Battalion.  
(b) Personnel will be drawn up in groups of 25 - six groups to every 70 yards.
4. Reveille : 6.30 a.m.  
Breakfast: 7 a.m.  
Dress: Marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried on the man.
5. Baggage.- All surplus gear, Lewis Gun gear etc., will be taken forward by transport, and will be stacked outside Q.M.'s Store by 7 a.m. Cookers will accompany Transport. Dixies etc. will not be taken on the busses.
6. Transport will proceed by road, brigaded, under command of Major A.R. Cox, 14th Bn.  
Pass starting point - 30.b.2.9. at 8.30 a.m.  
Order of march - Brigade H'qrs, 14th Bn., 13th Bn., 4th M.G. Coy, 15th Bn., T.M. Battery, 16th Bn.  
Route - RENNINGHELST - ABELLE - STERNVOORDE, 200 yards between Units
7. Officers and N.C.O.'s will be so distributed that an Officer or Senior N.C.O. will be in charge of each 'bus or lorry. Each lorry will take 20 men and each bus 25 men.
8. The Senior Major and R.M.O. will inspect billets at 10 a.m.
9. Marching out States to be rendered to Bn. Orderly Room by 9.30 a.m. 30-9-17.
10. Billetting party (Lieut Davis and 5 Other Ranks) will report to Area Commandant's Office STERNVOORDE at 8 a.m. 30-9-17.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

  
 Capt.  
 Adjutant, 13th Battalion, A.I.F.

Issued by Runner at 11.30 p.m.

- Copy No. 1 War Diary  
 2 " "  
 3 O.C. "A" Coy.  
 4 "B" "  
 5 "C" "  
 6 "D" "  
 7 Sig. Sgt.  
 8 Q.M. & Transport  
 9 R.M.O. & I.O.  
 10. R.S.M. & Details  
 11 C.O. & File



199

APPENDIX No. \_\_\_\_\_ to WAR DIARY - Month of September, 1917

Strength of Bn. as at 1st September, 1917	Off.	O/Ranks	Total
Attached	37	785	822
Ration Strength	2	5	7
	32	693	725

Appendix 98

Date	Hos.	Transfd.	Base	OUT		IN											
				A.I.F. Depots Tidworth	Prison	Wnd.	Hosp.	Base	Reinf's.	Super.List	Transfd.	Sec.					
1st	3						1										1 off. Lt.N.J. Browne
2nd							1										" Lt.F.H. Doust
3rd	2								2								
4th	3									7	13						
5th	2																
6th	4	2							9	10							1 off. Lt.C.D'Arcy Irvine
7th									1								
8th									1								1
9th									1	3	2						
10th																	1 off Lt.R.B. Withers
11th	1																
12th	5																
13th	2																
14th	1		9														
15th	3																1 off, 2/Lt S.Smith
16th	3									11	7						1 off 2/Lt.L.M. Player
17th	9																4
18th	2																

(Contd)

Appendix No. 98



<u>Date</u>	<u>Hos.</u>	<u>OUT</u>				<u>IN</u>	
		<u>Transfd.</u>	<u>Wnd.</u>	<u>K.i.A.</u>	<u>O.T.C.</u>	<u>Hosp.</u>	<u>Transfd.</u>
19th		1				1	
20th	5						
21st	12	1					
22nd			1				
23rd	NIL.						
24th			4	1			1
25th		1	3	3			
26th			5	4			1
27th			2 - 7	3			
			Lt. F. H. Doust				
			" A Perray				
28th	7		1 - 57	12	1	3	
			Lt. Dwyer				
29th	1		1				
30th	2						

Strength of Br as at 30th Sept, 1917  
 Attached  
 Ration Strength

<u>Officers</u>	<u>O/Ranks</u>	<u>Total</u>
37	675	712
2	6	8
17	290	307

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Appendix No. 98



199

COPY.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ON 26/9/1917 AND SUBSEQUENT DAYS.

A. PREPARATIONS AND DISPOSITIONS PRIOR TO ZERO.

1. Early intimation was received from 1 ANZAC in the form of Preliminary Instructions to the effect that the 4th Aus. Division would participate in the second phase of the operations against PASCHENDALE RIDGE. Final orders for the attack were received on September 24th. The frontages and objectives allotted to the Division were as shown on attached Map.

2. It was decided to attack with two Brigades (4th and 13th) with one Brigade (12th) in Divisional Reserve. The frontage of each Brigade was approximately 700 yards. The area to be captured was divided into two phases, the first being the RED LINE, and second the BLUE LINE, as per Map herewith. Each Brigade was ordered to employ one Battalion against First Area, and two Battalions against the second; one Battalion remaining in old front line to form Brigade reserve.

A careful record was kept of the enemy barrage lines prior to Zero Day, and the most suitable plan for forming up was adopted. The Red Line Battalions formed up in advance of the front line while the Blue Line Battalions were immediately in rear, extending for about 350 yards in depth. These positions were marked out with tape beforehand.

The troops carrying out the attack had the colour of the objective they were detailed for, painted on the back of their helmets, in order to lessen the chance of confusion.

3. Our troops were disposed as follows at Zero hour, 5-50 a.m., 26th September:-

- Div. Headquarters. - H.21.d.6.2. BRYTNE CAMP
- 4th Aus. Inf. Bde. - H.Q. at WESTHOEK J.7.d.9.8.
- 13th Battalion - Holding line from J.9.b.6.9. to J.3.d.0.75.
- 14th Battalion - On forming up tape with rear about 350 yards in rear of left half 13th Battalion front.
- 15th Battalion - On forming up tape with rear about 350 yards in rear of right half 13th Battalion front.
- 18th Battalion - On forming up tape with rear about 70 yards in advance of 13th Battn.
- 4th A.L.T.M.B. - 2 Mortars allotted RED Line  
4 " " " BLUE "  
2 in reserve.
- 12th Aus. Inf. Bde. - H.Q. at BIRR CROSS Roads  
J.17.b.2.8.
- 45th Battalion - WESTHOEK Ridge.
- 46th Battalion - CHINA WALL J.16.a.central.
- 47th " - YPRES J.7.d.5.1.
- 48th " - CANAL Area H.23.b.
- 12th A.L.T.M.Bty - 4 Mortars allotted RED Line  
4 " " " BLUE "
- 13th Aus. Inf. Bde. - H.Q. at WESTHOEK, J.1.d.75.10.
- 49th Battalion - On forming up tape with rear about 300 yards in rear of right half of 52nd Bn.
- 50th Bn. - On forming up tape about 70 yards in advance of 52nd Bn.
- 51st Bn. - On forming up tape with rear about 350 yards in rear of left half of 52nd Bn.
- 52nd Bn. - Holding line from J.3.d.0.75. to J.3.a.1.7.



13th A.L.T.M.Bty - 4 Mortars allotted RED Line  
4 " " " BLUE "

24th Aus. M.O. Company - H.Q. at J.l.d.6.1.

4th Field Coy. Engineers - With 4th Brigade  
12th " " " " " H.24.a.central (Reserve)  
13th " " " " " - With 13th Brigade.

4th Aus. Div. Artillery - Vicinity of BELWAARDE Ridge.

4th Aus. Pioneer Bn. - H.18.c.central.

#### B. DIARY OF EVENTS.

The attacking troops, 4th Aus. Infantry Bde. on Right, and 13th Aus. Infantry Brigade on Left were in position before Zero, and advised everything ready for the assault at 5.35 a.m. and 5.5 a.m. respectively, which was reported to 1 ANZAC.

The barrage fell at the appointed time, 5.50 a.m., and lifting three minutes later our troops commenced to advance moving close under it. Distances were adjusted between waves after all troops were in advance of our front line.

The morning mist rendered visibility difficult, but this cleared later, the day being calm and fine.

The hostile retaliation to our opening fire was weak, probably due to our counter battery work harassing their Artillery.

The attack started well in proper formation and made good progress. At 6.45 a.m. advice was received that the first batch of prisoners was coming in. These men afterwards proved to be part of the 49th R.I.R., the identification being normal.

7.0 a.m. 50th Battalion had mopped up concrete dugouts in J.3.b., and had captured 2 Machine Guns and 19 prisoners in them. Everything progressing satisfactorily, and the 13th Brigade commenced work on C.T. leading towards RED Line which was thought to be captured. This was afterwards confirmed.

7.15 a.m. The 16th Battalion reported having taken the RED Line and that they were in touch with the Brigade on their Right, which had met with equal success. Touch was kept with the progress of flanking Units throughout the advance, all Units having previously arranged for the closest liaison. The 5th Aus. Division on our Right were progressing well, and had captured 100 prisoners.

7.20 a.m. Further prisoners were identified from 2nd R.I.R. These also were POLKS.

7.25 a.m. RED line gained throughout the Sector with comparatively few casualties, and was being consolidated. Touch was maintained with both flanks. The first news received of the capture of the RED Line was timed 6.55 a.m.

8.4 a.m. Information received from Division on our Right that they had secured their RED Line and were consolidating. Our Brigades progressing satisfactorily. Left Brigade established Forward Station at TOKIO.

8.10 a.m. 13th Brigade had taken BLUE Line. Germans were then surrendering freely. Touch was kept with 76th Brigade on our Left.

8.46 a.m. 14th Battalion reported having reached BLUE Line and were then in touch with 15th Battalion on Right, and 49th Battalion on Left. This position was then being consolidated, but few prisoners were taken at this objective. This news was received by Pigeon service.

(Contd)



9.15 a.m. Contact aeroplane returned from the front and dropped map at D.M.Q. with position of our troops as shown by ground flares marked thereon.

10.4 a.m. The 14th Battalion reported by Pigeon that they were still consolidating, though troubled with heavy M.G. fire.

10.45 a.m. Our forward Amplifier picked up a message to the effect that the enemy was massing for counter attack along the Ridge, but the instrument jammed before anything very definite could be ascertained.

11.10 a.m. Encouraging reports were received from C.O.'s in the front line. A few hostile M.G.'s which were located within range of Stokes Mortars were dealt with. Brigade Dump was shifted forward to RED Line. Three M.G.'s were reported captured by 4th Brigade.

11.57 a.m. An S.O.S. was reported by 'phone on the Div. front on our right to which our Artillery replied.

12.15 p.m. Units were warned that our Artillery would test their new S.O.S. line on our front and asked for arrangements to be made so that a report as to its suitability might be rendered.

12.28 p.m. The Wireless Tank which had been ordered up to assist in maintaining communication was reported in position. This Tank was subsequently disabled, and proved of little value so far as this Division was concerned.

12.35 p.m. A written report with map attached was received from 51st Battalion showing dispositions, strong points constructed in advance of the BLUE Line, position of Vickers Guns (Mobile), and Stokes Mortars. Numerous enemy dead were lying about. 50 prisoners including 2 Officers were sent back.

12.50 p.m. 4th Brigade had placed 6 Vickers in position near BLUE Line. These combined with the aid of the Lewis Guns and Rifles, the Brigadier considered would stop any counter-attack that might develop against his front.

1.20 p.m. Aerial observation reported that about 1,000 hostile troops were seen on WATERDAMMOEK - POLYGON Road at 12.30 p.m. These troops disappeared in D.30., where Artillery fire was brought to bear.

3.0 p.m. 4th Brigade reported enemy to be massing in large numbers opposite their front, and asked Artillery to be ready to fire on their S.O.S. lines. Our guns apparently dispersed this force, as this counter-attack failed to develop.

Enemy aeroplanes were flying low over our RED and BLUE Lines, and were engaged throughout the day with M.G. and rifle fire. One K.A. was shot down by our fire at 11.30 a.m.

3.30 p.m. S.O.S. was sent up on our Right Brigade front at 3.25 p.m. to which our Artillery successfully responded. The enemy failed to reach our lines.

4.5 p.m. Report received from 13th Brigade that enemy were massing opposite their front line for a counter-attack. Our Artillery and M.G.'s took action, and the advance of the enemy failed to eventuate. The 13th Brigade reported later that this force was dispersed in disorder by our protective Artillery barrage.

6.0 p.m. The BLUE Line was consolidated, and posts established in advance. Hostile artillery was active along the whole front, and shelled the ridges in rear intermittently. An S.O.S. Signal was fired on 4th Brigade front and afterwards a report was received saying a counter-attack was in progress at that hour. This was easily beaten off with artillery, M.G. and Rifle fire.

P.T.O.



7.14 p.m. Reports from our front showed all to be quiet on our sector. The consolidation of the position and the forwarding of supplies and material was progressing.

10.30 p.m. Both 4th and 13th Brigades advised that all was well and that there was very little enemy shelling on the front.

No serious counter-attacks were attempted after this and the 13th Aust. Infantry Brigade relieved the 13th and 4th Infantry Brigades on the nights 27th/28th and 28/29 respectively.

#### GENERAL

#### Artillery.

Our Artillery Barrage was clear out, and inspired confidence throughout the operation. The support generally given was most satisfactory. F.O.O's went forward with H.Q. of the BLUE Line Battalions, and were of considerable assistance in controlling and directing fire.

#### Engineers.

The 4th and 13th Field Companies Engineers worked in close touch with their Brigades and were employed chiefly in laying out and marking tracks forward of Brigade H.Q., bridging swampy ground in the HANE BEEK Valley, assisting with the consolidation and with bringing forward R.X. material. Having the O.C. Field Company at Brigade H.Q. proved a suitable arrangement, and assisted in having work done expeditiously.

An Officer and Party of Sappers who accompanied the Infantry in the attack gave valuable technical assistance.

#### Machine Guns.

The whole of the Vickers Machine Guns were in action. The 4th and 13th Brigades each employed 8 Mobile Guns which advanced with the last attacking wave and occupied pre-arranged positions, which enabled them to render valuable assistance with covering fire. The remainder, together with the guns of the 12th, 24th Aus. M.G. Company and 8 guns from the 6th Aus. M.G. Company, were employed on barrage work, 24th carrying out the creeping barrage programme, while the other 32 guns were used on S.O.S. lines. (Special M.G. Report attached).

The M.G. barrage was successfully carried out and gave confidence to our troops. Prisoners captured state enemy were very reluctant to advance through it when ordered to counter-attack.

#### Stokes Mortars.

Six Stokes Mortars were allotted to the RED Line troops, and to the BLUE Line troops. These Mortars were not employed during the attack, but were subsequently brought into action from the rear of the BLUE Line against "pill boxes" containing M.G.'s which were within range of them.

#### Intercommunication.

(a) Communications generally were well maintained, though at times considerable difficulty was experienced by Divisional H.Q. in calling up Brigade H.Q.'s on the telephone. The 4th and 13th Brigades each had a Brigade Forward Party which advanced in rear of the attacking troops and established themselves near J.4.d.4.4. TOKOO respectively. Owing to lack of accommodation and heavy shell fire, the 13th Brigade Party withdrew to J.3.a.9.9., whence communication to Brigade H.Q. was kept continuously.

The Amplifiers again proved of great value.

The Pigeon service was most satisfactory, messages being delivered promptly by this means.

(b) During and after operations 2,350 yards of cable were buried 6 feet deep. (20 pairs from J.9.a.3.4. to J.2.d.9.8. and 42 pairs from J.2.d.9.8. to D.27.a.6.8.).

(Contd)



Medical.

Medical arrangements worked satisfactorily.

Prisoners.

The number of prisoners captured is estimated at 7 Officers, and about 540 other ranks. Trophies taken include 12 M.G.'s. and 6 T.M.'s.

Casualties.

Casualties up to September 30th were -

Killed 18 Officers 307 Other Ranks

Wounded 59 " 1294 "

Missing 1 " 55 "

D. The following points may be of interest. -

(a) Day and night reconnaissances of routes to forming up line and marking of routes by at least 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. per Platoon is essential if the ground is in any way difficult.

(b) Ground in front of jumping off line should be patrolled on at least one night prior to Zero night by patrols of strength similar to those to be used on Zero night, this to prevent raising suspicion.

(c) No definite line for "forming up" can be safely allotted the troops for the 2nd objective until it has been ascertained where the hostile barrage is likely to fall. If possible, there should be at least 100 yards distance between the troops for the 1st and those for the 2nd objective to avoid a mixture of units.

At the same time it is preferable, if it can be done, to form up all troops in front of the hostile barrage line, and for this reason, especially, Divisions if consulted could materially assist in fixing the best position for the "jumping off line".

(d) It was found useful to mark the jumping off line on the night prior to Zero, have careful sketches of forming up ground made showing exact position of units.

As early as possible on Zero night, lay the tapes along the whole front and mark flanks with notice boards, showing units and shaded lights - in addition tapes to be laid at right angles to jumping off tapes for about 50 yards, both to front and rear -

(e) Better training of Officers in guiding by compass was emphasised.

(f) When the barrage halts in front of the objective, the inner edge requires clearer definition to prevent parties going too far forward.

(g) The best use possible must be made of the time the barrage is covering the objective.

(i) To put out wire in front of the contemplated line of defence, it should be well in front (i.e. about 100 yards) to give defenders room to move forward out of their trench, should they be heavily shelled later.

(ii) To dig. -

(iii) To form advanced dumps of ammunition and R.E. Stores, Water, etc. -



199

(h) Importance of properly organised Runners was again emphasised - Battalion H.Q. should move well forward and establish early communication with the Brigade Forward Party.

(i) Engineers were made full use of with signal success, especially marking routes back with tapes and posts. Field Company Commanders were with advanced Brigade Headquarters and this arrangement proved very satisfactory. Tapes should be laid out as soon as possible right up to the front, and these should be replaced by posts with the tops painted white at the first opportunity, as the tapes soon get obliterated, especially in muddy weather.

(j) Stokes Mortars moving well up in rear of the leading waves were found very useful in overcoming machine guns which continued to fire from pill boxes and shell holes, after this last objective had been captured.

... (a) ... of routes of ... (b) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (c) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (d) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (e) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (f) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (g) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (h) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (i) ... of routes by at least 1 ... (j) ... of routes by at least 1 ...

(Sgd) E.G. Sinclair MacLagan, Brig Gen. Commanding the Australian Division.

... (a) ... (b) ... (c) ... (d) ... (e) ... (f) ... (g) ... (h) ... (i) ... (j) ...

... (a) ... (b) ... (c) ... (d) ... (e) ... (f) ... (g) ... (h) ... (i) ... (j) ...

... (a) ... (b) ... (c) ... (d) ... (e) ... (f) ... (g) ... (h) ... (i) ... (j) ...

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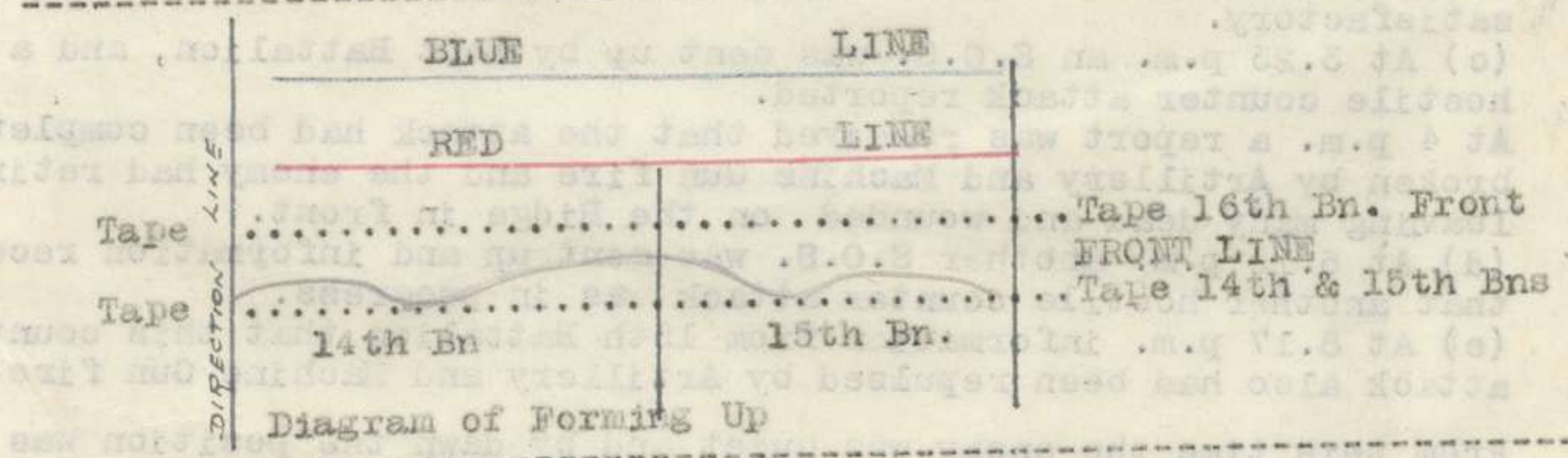


REPORT ON OPERATIONS NEAR ZONNEBEKE 26/9/1917.

G.236/8

199

1. On the morning of the 26th September, 1917, the 4th Aust. Infantry Brigade in conjunction with troops on the Right and Left, and under cover of an intense artillery barrage attacked and captured a Sector of Hostile territory.
2. The extent of the task allotted was as follows:-
  - (a) Northern boundary - Line drawn from J.3.d.1.6 to J.4.b.1.9,
  - (b) Southern boundary - Line drawn from J.3.d.3.3, to J.4.d.4.6.
  - (c) Extent of advance - Line drawn as per situation map from J.4.d.4.6. to J.4.b.1.9.
3. (a) The Operation was to be undertaken in two stages, the first objective being a line running from J.4.c.7.4. to J.4.a.2.5. and the final or Blue Line extending from J.4.d.4.6. to J.4.b.1.9.
  - (b) Artillery support as follows -  
A creeping barrage moving backwards at rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes for 200 yards, then at a 100 yards per 6 minutes till First objective reached in front of which it rests till Zero plus 100 minutes, thence at rate of 100 yards in 8 minutes till covering Final Objective.
4. The operation was carried out as follows -
  - (a) The 13th Battalion held the Front and Anzac Ridge Lines.
  - (b) The 16th Battalion was allotted the First Objective
  - (c) The 14th and 15th Battalions were allotted Final Objectives, 15th Battalion on Right 14th Battalion on Left. The Front being equally divided.
  - (d) Zero hour was 5.50 a.m.  
One hour before Zero time, Battalions were formed up as below, tape lines having been laid out by Battalion Intelligence Officers under supervision of Brigade Intelligence Officer by 12 midnight. Notice boards were placed on flanks of units to mark positions. Direction was by the left. Intelligence Officers of 16th and 14th Battalions had taken compass bearings of objectives and were directing on Left Flank. One Officer per Company with prismatic compass was told off to direct his Company in case of fog.



- (e) Routes were previously reconnoitred and guides told off for each Company. All troops reached forming up point without casualties and at Zero hour were in perfect readiness for the attack.
- (f) The night was exceptionally quiet till about 4.15 a.m. when the Back Areas were shelled. Fortunately all troops by this time were well forward and so escaped.
5. At 5.50 a.m. the barrage came down dead on time and the advance commenced.
6. Narrative.
  - (a) At 6.47 a.m. a message was received from C.O. 13th Battalion to the effect that the action was proceeding satisfactorily and that prisoners were passing through. The Advanced Signal Party whose duty it was to advance with the Rear Wave laying cable had unfortunately been heavily shelled and several casualties inflicted during including the Officer in Charge (Lieut. PERRAY 13th Battalion).



However Lieut. WARING 4th Signal Company (Brigade Signal Officer) grasped the situation and a series of relay posts was established to 13th Battalion Headquarters.

- (b) At 7.20 a.m. a report was received through 13th Battalion that the RED LINE had been captured and consolidation was in progress.
- (c) At 8 a.m. information was received that units on flanks had reached objectives and were consolidating. Touch was maintained with them by 16th Battalion.
- (d) At 8.10 a.m. a message was received from Lieut. WARING re Signals saying that communications were being pushed forward and despite heavy hostile barrage which came down on old Front Line at 6.15 a.m. things were going satisfactorily.
- (e) At 8.35 a.m. a message was received stating 14th and 15th Battalions were pushing forward beyond RED LINE.
- (f) At 9 a.m. a report received that BLUE LINE had been reached by Left Battalion (14th) and consolidation was in progress. Report by Pigeon.
- (g) At 9.40 a.m. Left Brigade reported BLUE LINE gained.
- (h) At 10.40 a.m. message received that 15th Battalion had consolidated BLUE LINE and giving locations. Touch with units on flanks.

From this till 3.25 p.m. normal messages dealing with prisoners, locations, etc., continued to come in.

Signal communications were excellently maintained despite the extremely heavy hostile fire which was distributed chiefly from Anzac Ridge forward to the BLUE LINE.

Great credit is due to the Signal Officer and Runners for this excellence. It was impossible to maintain wires from our Old Front Line forward and all had to be through Runner and Pigeon Service, both of which were excellent.

#### 7. Communications.

A communication trench was dug by 13th Battalion forward from old Front Line to RED LINE commencing at Zero Time, and this was completed and in use by 9 a.m.

#### 8. Counter Attacks.

(a) At 12.40 p.m. 15th Battalion reported enemy massing in D.29.a. and Gas shells were sent over.

(b) At 2.30 p.m. our S.O.S. line was registered and found to be satisfactory.

(c) At 3.25 p.m. an S.O.S. was sent up by Left Battalion, and a heavy hostile counter attack reported.

At 4 p.m. a report was received that the attack had been completely broken by Artillery and Machine Gun fire and the enemy had retired leaving many dead and wounded on the Ridge in front.

(d) At 6.15 p.m. another S.O.S. was sent up and information received that another hostile counter attack was in progress.

(e) At 8.17 p.m. information from 15th Battalion that this counter-attack also had been repulsed by Artillery and Machine Gun fire.

From this time the enemy was quiet and by dawn the position was strongly entrenched and consolidated.

#### 9. See attached.

#### 10. Casualties for period 23rd/28th September

	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
Killed	7	104	111
Wounded	17	448	465
Died of Wounds	3	6	9
Missing	-	9	9

(Sgd) C.H. BRAND, Brigadier-General.  
Commanding 4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.



29th September, 1917.

Headquarters,  
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

With reference to the attack on 26th September the following points are brought under notice:-

1. Day and night reconnaissance of routes up to forming up line by at least 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. or Man per Platoon.
2. Ascertain where the enemy barrage usually falls and form up troops before Zero inside that barrage and well closed up.
3. A Senior Officer representing the Brigade to be at the forming up line.
4. On the night before the attack mark off the jumping off line, next day make a local sketch of the forming up area, and on night of attack as early as possible lay out tape along whole front and mark flanks with notice boards (in addition to shaded lights) showing units. Tape also to be laid at right angles to forming up line and continue about 50 yards from front to rear.
5. More training in use of prismatic compass especially for night marching. The Brigade was fortunate in having a few Officers accustomed to this work. The night 25th/26th September was very foggy.
6. Use strong patrols on the night before the attack so as not to arouse suspicion when strong patrols are sent out on the night of attack.
7. Whilst units kept well up under the barrage several parties over shot it. This might be obviated if the inner edge of the barrage could be defined more regularly. For example parties saw the shrapnel forward bursts 100 to 200 yards ahead though really under the burst. They pushed on and were cut off by 4.5 Hows. No doubt it would be difficult to regulate this. Experience only will teach.
8. In no instance were the enemy machine guns in Pill boxes or shell holes able to do much execution. Our men were on them rapidly.
9. On account of the noise orders were inaudible. The laying out line of trench or construction of strong points was best accomplished by the officers and N.C.O.'s. securing a pick and tracing the work ~~rapidly~~ roughly.
10. The party told off to dig a C.T. from old front line to first objective to start digging at Zero. This was done on 26th September and a good C.T. was dug through a ridge under enemy observation.
11. The first two hours after Zero when the Hun is uncertain as to what amount of ground we have gained men on the C.T. must dig for all they are worth.
12. For the same reason as in (11) every available man not engaged in the attack should be employed establishing dumps as near to the first objective as possible. This was done and so saved casualties.
13. 3 or 4 hours after the final objective being reached it was found a good plan to fire 2 rounds per gun to test the Protective barrage or S.O.S. line. Units warned and were on the look out. There will often be time to adjust the barrage before the counter attack develops.
14. Some signal is yet to be invented to indicate to the Artillery when to reduce rate of fire after the S.O.S.. Too much valuable ammunition is wasted otherwise.

P.T.O.



15. Usually the C.O. of a Battalion attacking can state beforehand where his Headquarters are likely to be. If he finds that place untenable then establish a relay station to maintain touch with the Brigade Forward Party and with Company Commanders. Battalion Commanders must be well forward where he can handle his Battalion at the same time keeping touch with Brigade Headquarters.

16. An elaborate system of runner relays enabled me to maintain communication with units.

17. The cable which was reported to be buried proved a hindrance rather than a help. Cables are no use if only buried 2 or 3 feet better bury 500 yards thoroughly 6 or 7 feet than 1200 yards only 3 feet.

18. With each Battalion and Company was a small party of Engineers who laid tapes back to Battalion Headquarters. This proved very satisfactory.

19. Though infantry parties to carry ammunition for Stokes Guns and Machine Guns reduce the fighting strength of units it repays in the long run.

20. 8 Vickers guns were quite sufficient for the attack, 2 of which being in reserve. The Section Commanders kept in close co-operation with Battalion Commanders and were in position on the near and final objective as soon as the leading infantry.

21. 6 Stokes guns went forward with the second wave of Blue Line Battalions and were in action very quickly. 4 remained in until relieved on night 28th/29th September.

22. Far more night training is necessary. Many N.C.O.'s very inefficient in finding their way to places at night.

23. Pigeons were used and valuable information was transmitted through that medium.

24. Power Buzzers again proved their value.

25. The Brigade was credited with capturing about 50 prisoners whereas 150 to 200 would be nearer the mark. Escorts could not be spared from units to bring back every small party of prisoners who in all cases were eager to quickly get to the rear and so escape the Hun barrage. Many wandered over to the 5th Division Area. The question of sending M.P.'s up to Advanced Brigade Headquarters to take Prisoners back to Divisional Cage is worth considering and avoid depletion of fighting strength.

(Sgd) C.H. BRAND, Brigadier-General  
Commanding 4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.



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199

Summary of 13th Battalion operations in the ~~XXXX~~ ZONEBEKE AREA from 23rd September, 1917 to 27th September, 1917.

1. Relieved 23rd Battalion A.I.F. at 8 p.m. o'clock. Relief was carried out through heavy enemy barrage, which lasted from 7.15 p.m. to 9 o'clock. Seven casualties occurred during the relief.

2. The dispositions of the Battalion after the relief was completed were as follows:-

Headquarters J.8.b.7.2.  
R.A.P. J.2.d.o.25

Front Line.

Right Company ("D" Coy) J.9.b.5.7. to J.3.d.3.2.  
Left Company ("C" Coy) J.3.d.3.2. to J.3.d.o.7.

Support Line

Right Company ("B" Coy.) J.9.a.7.4. to J.9.a.7.7.  
Centre Company ("A" Coy.) J.9.a.7.7. to J.3.c.7.15.  
Left - 1 Section ("C" Coy) J.3.c.7.3. to J.3.b.7.45.

Battalion Dump, at J.9.a.5.5.5.5.

Observation Post. at J.9.a.5.5. - dugout occupied by "A" & "B" Coy. Headquarters.

- 3. At 5 a.m. on 24th Sept, 1917, occupied dugout that enemy had used as outpost until morning of 23-9-17.
- 4. No-man's Land was patrolled each night from 7.30 p.m. till 4.30 a.m.
- 5. Patrol parties got in touch with units on either flanks each night, and failed to come into contact with enemy 200 yards in advance of our front line.
- 6. On morning 24-9-17 a heavy fog set down over and around the area occupied by the Battalion. At 8.45 a.m. a fighting patrol consisting of 1 Officer and 12 other ranks left our front line at J.3.d. & 6. and advanced in a N.E. direction. A party of the enemy were observed collecting material apparently for the purpose of constructing shelters. The party was surprised and forced to surrender. - Nine prisoners were brought in, and stated that they belonged to the 49th Reserve Infantry Regiment.
- 7. The same patrol immediately went out again and after advancing about 250 yards encountered an enemy strong point. About 20 Huns were also observed scattered around in shell holes. After killing four of the enemy and having had two of our own party wounded the Officer in charge withdrew his men without further casualties.
- 8. On the night of 25-9-17 a Hun patrol encountered one of our outposts and the fight resulted in the enemy Patrol retiring and leaving 2 killed and one wounded behind.
- 9. The wounded man who was taken prisoner proved that the enemy had carried out a relief that night. The prisoner belonged to the 3rd Bn. 49th R.I.R.
- 10. Three enemy aeroplanes were brought down by our Lewis Guns - 1 on the 25th Sept. and the other on the 26th idem.
- 11. On the night 23/24 Sept. a communication trench was constructed from (a) the support line back to Bn. H'qrs and (b) from the Support Line to the Front Line.
- 12. On the night 24/25th Sept. a C.T. was constructed forward from our Front Line. - Over 100 yards of trench was completed. 3 outpost positions were also connected up with Front Line by C.T's.

(Contd).



- 13. During the "Stunt" the Battalion constructed a C.T. from the old front line forward to the RED LINE. They also made many trips to the new front line carrying ammunition forward. Very creditable work was done by our Stretcher Bearers.
- 14. Communication was kept up with ~~during the whole~~ Brigade and the forward Companies during the whole of the "Stunt".
- 15. On the night 26/27th the Battalion carried to the Front Line and at 3 a.m. moved back on to Westhoek Ridge into the Reserve trenches.
- 16. The 16th Battalion relieved the 13th Battalion in the Support Line.
- 17. On the night 27/28th the Battalion dug a trench 350 yards in length and six feet in depth, buried a cable and then covered in the trench. This was done in 2 hours by only 200 men.
- 18. The Battalion, on the completion of their work, moved back to Belgian Chateau at 10.30 p.m. on the night 27th/28th Sept.
- 19. The following is a daily list of casualties during the Battalion tour in the line:-

	Killed	Wounded
23-9-17	7	7
24-9-17	8	7
25-9-17	4	11
26-9-17	9	57
27-9-17	2	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>82</b>

- 20. The Officer in Charge of Brigade Forward Party (Lieut. PERRAY) was wounded before they reached the front line, and the party scattered. Thereafter, and until Brigade Forward Party could be re-established, all communications were dealt with by 13th Battalion. - From 12 midnight 25th to 12 midnight 26th the 13th Bn. Signal Section and Runners handled 111 messages containing a total of 4,475 words.
- On the night of 25-9-17 a Hun patrol encountered one of our outposts and the fight resulted in the enemy patrol retiring and leaving 2 killed and one wounded behind.
- The wounded man who was taken prisoner proved that the enemy had carried out a relief that night. The prisoner belonged to the 3rd Bn. 45th R.I.R.
- Three enemy aeroplanes were brought down by our Lewis Guns - 1 on the 25th Sept. and the other on the 26th Sept.
- On the night 23/24 Sept. a communication trench was constructed from (a) the support line back to H's and (b) from the support line to the front line.
- On the night 24/25th Sept. a C.T. was constructed forward from our front line. - Over 100 yards of trench was completed. 3 outpost positions were also connected up with front line by C.T's.

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