

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/30/36

**Title:** 13th Infantry Battalion

October 1917



AWM4-23/30/36

Original  
 Confidential

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 *13th Bn*  
 or  
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
 (Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118. 99

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEENVORDE	1/10/17	-	Refitting and reorganization of Companies and H.Q. Details.	
do	2/10/17	-	Parade hours - 9.30 am to 11.30 am and 2 pm to 3.30 pm. - Work laid down - Lewis Gunners and Riflemen on range, Basketball for all parts of the Platoon - Bombing - Close order work - Bayonet Fighting - Saluting Drill - Specialist training. - Lecture to all officers by R.M.O. on "Trench Feet".	
do	3/10/17	-	Work as laid down for 2/10/17 - Daily inspection of feet and boots by Platoon Commanders. - Battalion put through Gas by Div. Gas Officer.	
do	4/10/17	-	Battalion Exercise - (See APPENDIX 99.)	
do	5/10/17	-	Brigade Signal Exercise (skatton) - See Appendix 100.	
do	6/10/17	-	Company and Specialist Training.	
do	7/10/17	-	Brigade Church Parade and march past - G.O.C. Division (Major - Gen. E.S. Miller-Maclean) and G.O.C. Bde. (Brig. Gen. C.H. Prand) on parade.	
do	8/10/17	-	Company and Specialist Training.	
do	9/10/17	-	do do - Pom. Route March (5 miles).	
do	10/10/17	-	Work in billets and preparing for move.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form 2118.

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

OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Stenwoude	10/10/17	-	Formation of two Platoons per company.	
do	11/10/17	-	Move of Battalion to HALIFAX Camp Area (See Appendix 101).	
HALIFAX CAMP	12/10/17	-	Move to INFANTRY BARRACKS, YPRES (Divisional Reserve) (See Appendix 102).	
YPRES	14/10/17	-	Move to Reserve Line WESTHOEK RIDGE (See Appendix 103).	
WESTHOEK	15/10/17	-	Battalion in Reserve - Fatigues.	
do	16/10/17	-	Relief of 15th Battalion in SUPPORT LINE (See Appendix 104)	
ZONNEBEKE	17/10/17	-	SUPPORT LINE - Fatigues	
do	18/10/17	-	Relief of 15th Battalion - Front line.	
do	19/10/17	-	} Front line - See Intelligence Summaries (Appendix 105).	
	to			
do	21/10/17		Relief of Battalion by 14th Battalion (Appendix 106)	
	21/10/17		Battalion moved to RAILWAY WOOD DUGOUTS.	
-	22/10/17		Railway Wood Dugouts.	
-	23/10/17		Battalion moved back to INFANTRY BARRACKS, YPRES.	
-	24/10/17		Battalion moved by bus to RENINGHELST Area (Appendix 107).	
RENINGHELST	25/10/17		Per. resting - 9 Officers + 1930 R <sup>1</sup> rejoined Pn. from Reinforcement Camp, CAESTRE.	

*Original*  
*Confidential*

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RENINGHELST	26/10/17	-	Battalion resting	
do	27/10/17	4 am	Battalion entrained at BRANDHOEK for WIZERNES and thence proceeded by bus to FONTAINE-LES-BOULAINS. (See Appendix 108).	
FONTAINE-				
LES-BOULAINS	28/10/17		Battalion resting - no Church Parade.	
	29/10/17		Elementary Training - (See Appendix 109)	
	30/10/17		do. do.	
	31/10/17		do do	
			See Appendix 110 for Statement of Casualties, reinforcements etc. etc.	
			A. Murray Major Commanding, 13th Pwd. A.I.F.	

199

SECRET.

Appendix 99  
15th BATTALION ORDER No. 10


Copy No.....

4

Ref. Map, Sheet 27, 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
4th October, 1917.

1. At 10 a.m. on the 5-10-1917 the 15th Battalion, in conjunction with the 16th Battalion on the Right and 12th Brigade (48th Bn.) on the Left, will assume offensive operations in two stages, on a frontage of 400 yards as shown on attached map.
2. 1st Stage (Red Line) "A" Company on Right, "B" Company on Left  
2nd Stage (Blue Line) "C" Company on Right, "D" Company on Left.
3. The Battalion boundaries are as shown on attached map.
4. C.O. 4th Machine Gun Company will detail one sub-section to each of "C" and "D" Companies.
5. "A" and "B" Companies are at present holding the front line; "C" and "D" Companies in Support on the line from J.22.b.58 to J.22.c.6.8
6. Tapes will be put out by Battalion I.O., and all troops to be in position half an hour before Zero hour.
7. (a) The barrage will be put down 150 yards in front of our forming up line at Zero.  
(b) It will begin to advance at Zero plus 3 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 barrage will rest on its protective position in front of Red Line for 40 minutes (actually 10 minutes in the exercise). 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 ~~possibly~~ be 100 yards in 6 minutes.  
(e) Sacks will be fired by each Battery as it arrives on its protective barrage in front of the RED LINE and BLUE LINE so as to indicate the position to the troops.
8. Special parties for gaining touch with Units of Flank Brigades will be told off to do so at specified points (mutually arranged) in each objective.
9. Watches will be synchronised as already arranged with the Adjutant.
10. Battalion Headquarters will be at J.22.c.00.10
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.
12. Issued by Runner at

  
 Adjutant, 15th Battalion, A.I.F. Capt.

- 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.  
 9 R.M.O. & I.O.  
 10 R.S.M. & Details  
 11 Transport Officer  
 12 C.O. & File

Original  
 War Diary

NOTES.

1. During the Exercise all troops must stand fast on the sounding of a long drawn out whistle blast. This is in order that faults may be pointed out on the ground.
2. Barrage will be represented by a line of fatigue men carrying blue flags, and controlled by an Officer.
3. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be at J.28.b.6.9.
4. Mobile echelon of tools and a few boxes of ammunition and bombs will be placed at Battalion Dump near Bn. Headquarters.- This will be issued to Companies before the advance commences.
5. Skeleton carrying parties will be detailed and the N.C.O. in charge must make a preliminary reconnaissance of rear dumps and have an idea as to the proper location of forward dumps after the advance.
6. Messengers up to be detailed and to wear white bands.
7. Bandmen, under Major H.W. Murray, V.C., D.S.O., will represent the enemy.
8. Test messages will be handed to Company and Platoon Commanders at stages during the attack.
9. R.A.P. will be near Battalion Headquarters and casualty slips will be handed to two men per Company during the attack.

*W. Davis*  
 Adjutant, 10th Battalion, A.I.F.      Capt.

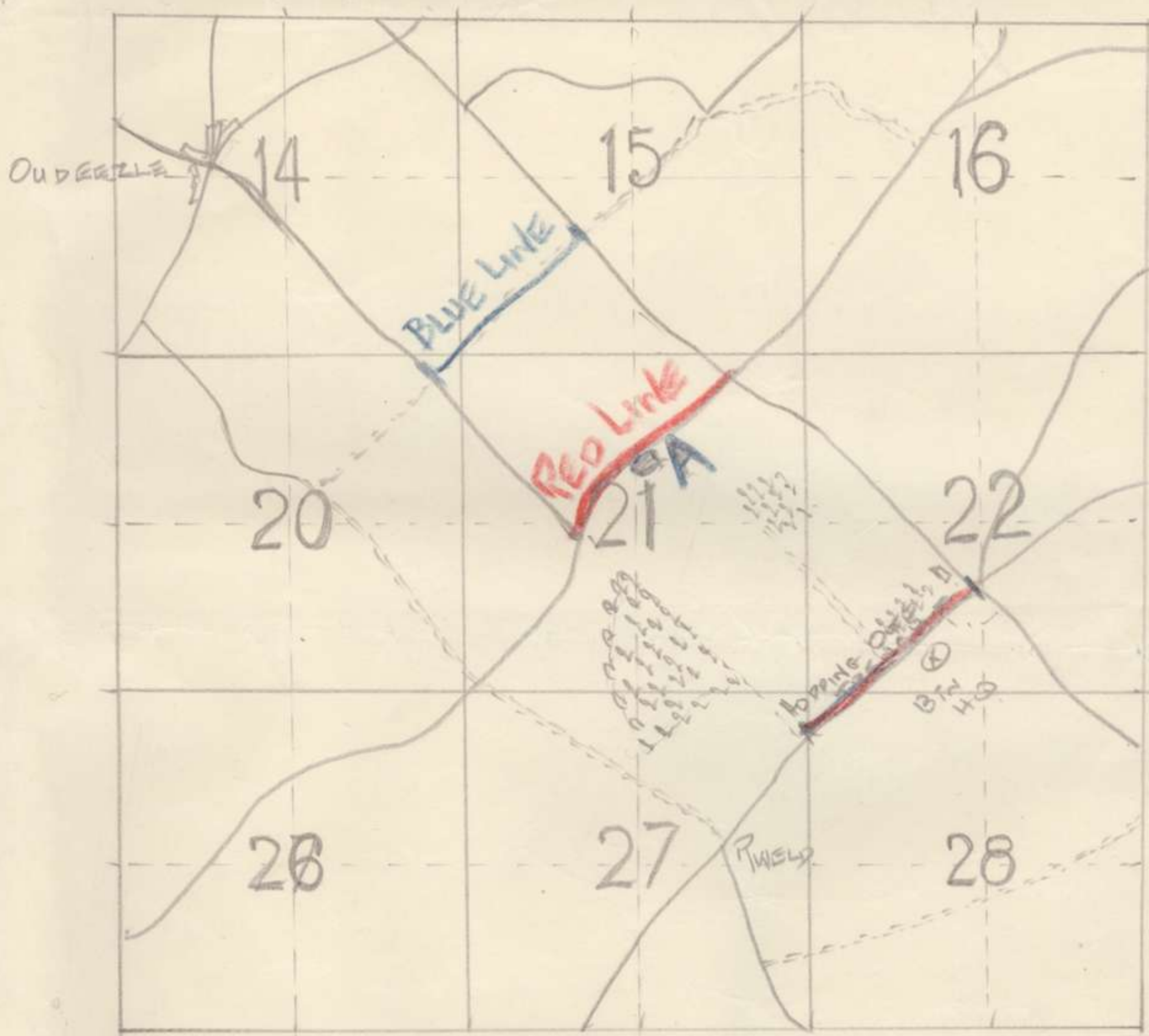
*Original*  
*Confidential*

BELGIUM AND FRANCE.

SHEET 27.

**J**

*Duplicate  
Confidential*



NOTE **A** - REPRESENTS DUG OUT SUPPOSED TO BE OCCUPIED BY ENEMY.

SCALE 500 750 1000 1500 YARDS.

199

Appendix 100

7

SECRET.

APPENDIX Copy No.....

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TRAINING ORDER No. 2

Reference Sheet 27 1/40,000

4/10/1917.

1. In conjunction with the 1st Brigade on Right and 12th Brigade on Left the 4th Brigade will advance towards GURZELLE ridge on Saturday 6th October. Zero hour later.
2. Units half hour before Zero will be on jumping off line, approximately our Front Line which is the road from J.22.c. to J.27.central.
3. Right Boundary the road from J.22.c. - X roads in J.21.b. - X roads in J.15.c.  
Left Boundary 3 houses near J.27.b.8.8. - east edge of wood - to X roads at J.20.b.
4. The 14th Battalion (Right) and 15th Battalion (Left) will consolidate on the Red Line (1st Objective) from X roads in J.21.b. to road junction J.21.a.5.0.  
The 15th Battalion (Right) and 13th Battalion (Left) will consolidate on the BLUE Line (2nd Objective) X roads J.15.c. to X roads J.20.b.
5. The Left of 14th Battalion directs then left of 15th Battalion. Compass bearings to be taken.
6. (a) The barrage will be put down 150 yards in front of our forming up line at Zero.  
(b) It will begin to advance at Zero plus 3 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 barrage will remain on its protective position in front of RED Line for 30 minutes. 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 protective barrage in front of the RED Line and BLUE LINE so as to indicate the position to the troops.
7. Advanced Brigade Headquarters in Pill Box at J.28.b.6.9. (present Headquarters 15th Battalion).
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) R. TROVILL, Capt.  
for Brigade Major.  
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued by Runner at

P.T.O.

*Original Confidential*



1. No troops will take part.
2. 6 Signallers and 6 Pioneers will report to Lieut. Davis at 9.15 a.m. near Transport lines. - To carry Blue Flags to indicate the barrage.
3. C.C. Battalions will arrange for a man (Sgt. Wearre) with a Blue and White Flag to represent the Battalion on their flanks which are as follows:-
  - 4th Battalion on right of 16th Battalion
  - 48th Battalion on left of 15th Battalion
  - 2nd Battalion on right of 14th Battalion
  - 47th Battalion on left of 15th Battalion
4. The 14th and 16th Battalions will provide directing personnel with compasses.
5. The Brigade Forward Party under (Lieut. BEAR 14th Battalion) will establish themselves at cable head J.22.c.5.1. half an hour before Zero and eventually at Pill Box J.21.b.1.4. in RED Line.
6. Battalion Headquarters will be represented by C.O. or Senior Major with Signal personnel and Runners.
7. Company Headquarters will be represented by an Officer (Company Commander) and Company Runners.
8. Special Service messages will be handed to Company Commanders by a Staff Officer detailed from Brigade.
9. If occasion demands Battalions may send forward a Battalion Forward Party which will connect with the Brigade Forward Party. No wires are to be laid from Battalion Headquarters to Battalion Forward Party.
10. Brigade Signal Officer will arrange for Power Buzzer and Amplifier to be established with Brigade Forward Party.
11. Brigade Signal Officer will arrange for Power-Buzzer-and-Amplifier to be established with Brigade Forward Party. the synchronization of watches at 7 a.m. and 9 a.m.
12. Zero hour will be 10 a.m. Exercise will be completed about 11.30 p.m.

13. *All officers to carry compasses.*

(Sgd) H. ROVELL, Capt.  
For Brigade Major,  
4th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Reference Sheet 27 a BS 1/40,000

Headquarters,  
9-10-1917.

*Original  
Confidential*

1. The Battalion will move on the 11-10-1917 to HALIFAX Camp Area, passing the Starting Point (junction of main road to STEWARTSON and "C" & "D" Coys. billets) at 8 a.m. in the following order:-

- Band (without instruments)
- Signallers & Runners
- "C" & "D" Companies
- "A" & "B" Companies
- Pioneers.
- S.No.
- A.M.C. & H.Q. Details
- Transport.

2. Route - STEWARTSON - ABULIN - RONA INGHILT - OUBURNON, then HALIFAX Area. The Battalion will pass the Brigade Starting Point ( Church STEWARTSON) at 8.30 a.m. - Distances between Companies 100 yards; 400 yards between Transport and other troops; 500 yards between Battalions.

3. Move - 8 a.m. Breakfast - 9.30 a.m.

4. Dress - Full marching order without blankets; mid-day meal to be carried. A halt will be made for mid-day meal about one mile West of Rona Inghilt. Transport will not halt for mid-day meal but move direct to Camp.

5. Cookers will accompany Companies.

6. Baggage. Blankets, rolled in bundles of 10, and Officers' gear will be stacked outside Company billets by 8.30 a.m. Each Company will detail its own loading party. Lewis Gun gear to be loaded on raton ladders on afternoon of 10-10-17.

7. Personnel remaining out of the line will parade at Battalion Orderly Room at 7 a.m. on 11-10-17 - Dress, full marching order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried, also 48 hours rations. They will then proceed in charge of Capt. V.S. MOSE, H.C., and report to Capt. C. ANHARN, 15th Bn. along STEWARTSON - WICK Road at 9.1.4. at 7.45 a.m. "C" Company's cooker will proceed with this party, and Transport Officer will arrange for one lather to accompany the party.

8. All tents and shelters will be struck and placed outside Coys. billets, where they will be collected and returned to Area Commandant ~~WICK~~, STEWARTSON.

9. Marching Out status to be rendered to Battalion Orderly Room by 6 a.m. 11-10-17.

10. Billeting party, Lieut. G.S. MCNEILL, H.C., and 4 other ranks, will report to Staff Captain at Area Commandant's Office, HALIFAX Area, at 11 a.m. on the 11-10-17.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

12. Issued by Runner at 10 p.m.

Capt.  
Adjutant, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.

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

SECRET

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS issued in connection with  
15th Battalion Move Ord r No. 46.

1. LEWIS GUNS. During operations if Lewis Guns are knocked out in action, Companies will report same immediately to Br. H'qrs. by wire.
2. SUPPLIES. Railhead will be established at DICKBUSCH on the 11th instant. Q.M. will arrange with the Supply Officer, 4th Brigade, for delivery of all rations for consumption on 11th instant, at HALIFAX. After that period the A.S.C. will deliver automatically by H.T. to Br. Transport Lines.
3. Pack Troop is located at KRUMHOLTZ.
4. Battle Stoves, Extra Water Bottle, Petrol Type, Wire Cutters and solidified alcohol will be issued at a later date.
5. AREA STONES. All tents and shelters at present in possession of Companies will be returned by Q.M. to Area Commandant on the morning of the 11th instant. The Q.M. will obtain a receipt and hand same in to Br. Orderly Room.
6. AMMUNITION. S.A.A. to complete to 250 rounds per man, with the exception of Specialists, and Bombs to complete to two per man will be issued when the Battalion arrives in the CANAL Area.
7. QUARTERING. The Battalion will occupy MONTREAL Camp on arrival in new Area.
8. SOCKS. The Battalion is being issued with 600 pairs of socks. This will serve as a floating stock, and clean socks will be issued to Companies in exchange for an equivalent number of dirty socks.
9. EXTRA SUPPLIES. Ingredients for Trench Foot Preventative have been issued to the 4th Field Ambulance and the R.M.C. will at once demand for requirements of the Battalion.
10. REINFORCEMENT CAMP. Personnel for the Reinforcement Camp will proceed under Capt. EONE, M.C., on the 11th instant to CANSTRE (orders already issued). Tentage is provided at Reinforcement Camp at the rate of one tent for four Officers or 10 Other Ranks.

*A. Davis*  
Adjutant, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.      Capt.

199 ✓  
SECRET

Appendix 102

Copy No.

13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER 147.

Sheet 28, 1/40,000.

11th October, 1917.

(1) The Battalion will move on 12-10-1917 into Divisional Reserve at INFANTRY BARRACKS, YPRES, leaving present camp at 8.15 a.m. in following order:-

Signallers and Runners  
 "D" Company  
 "C" do  
 "B" do  
 "A" do  
 Pioneers  
 Stretcher Bearers  
 A.M.C. and H. Q. Details.  
 Transport.

(2) Route - Road Junction H. 14 b. - DEN GRONEN CABT. - YPRES. Companies will move in file with intervals of 50 yards.

(3) Reveille - 5 a.m. Breakfast, 6 a.m. Sick Parade 7 a.m.

(4) Dress - Fighting Order - Steel Helmets to be worn by all ranks. Greatcoat and W.P. Sheet to be carried. Packs will be dumped (with Felt Hats inside) near Q.M.'s Store by 7.30 a.m. Blankets rolled in bundles of 20, will be stacked near Q.M.'s Store by 7.30 a.m. also Officers valises and mess gear.

(5) Cookers will accompany companies.

(6) Personnel proceeding to Reinforcement Camp CAESTRE will parade near Q.M.'s Store at 7.40 a.m. under Lieut. White. This party will then embus at 8 a.m. and proceed to reinforcement camp. All gear to be carried. No cooking utensils.

(7) Battalion Transport Lines and Rear Battalion Headquarters will be in vicinity of H. 22.b.5.9.

(8) Companies and H.Q. Details will if necessary be ready to move forward from INFANTRY BARRACKS any time after 10 a.m. on 12th instant.

(9) Billeting party, Lieut. McDowell, Transport Cpl. and 4 O.R.'s will report to Staff Captain, Infantry Barracks, Ypres, at 9 a.m. to-morrow, 12-10-17.

(10). Marching Out States to be rendered to B.O.R. by 7 a.m.

(11) ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by Runner at 10 p.m.

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

Normal distribution.

199

SECRET.

*Appendix 103*

Copy No.....

12

13th Battalion Move Order No.48

Reference Map (1/40,000) Sheet  
1/20,000)

13-10-1917

1. The 13th Battalion will move to Reserve Line on WESTHOEK RIDGE to-morrow, 14th instant. Companies and H.Q. Details will be ready to move off as under:-

- "A" Company - 11.50 a.m.
- H.Q. Details - 12 noon
- "B" Company - 12.10 p.m.
- "C" Company - 12.30 p.m.
- "D" Company - 12.50 p.m.

Companies will move by Platoons at 50 yards interval.

2. Route - As pointed out to Os.C. Companies and H.Q. officers to-day.

- 3. Routine - Reveille - 7.30 a.m.
- Breakfast - 8 a.m.
- Sick Parade - 9 a.m.
- Mid-day Meal - 11 a.m.

4. Dress - Fighting order, Greatcoat and Waterproof sheet to be carried, three sandbags per man, also Iron Rations and unconsumed portion of to-morrow's ration to be carried on the man.

5. Blankets will be rolled in bundles of 20 and placed on Q.M's Dump near "C" Company's billets, by 11a.m.

6. Lewis Gun gear, & cooking utensils will also be placed on Dump by 11.45 a.m., and will be carried forward by limbers.

7. The undermentioned ~~personnel~~ will report to Bn. Intelligence Officer at 9.45 a.m. -

- Signallers
- Pioneers
- Observers
- Stretcher Bearers
- A.M.C.

with all gear.

8. Company and H.Q. Details will be settled down in reserve by 4 p.m., and on completion of relief will report all O.K. to Bn. Headquarters.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

10. Issued by Runner at.

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

- Cppy No.1 War Diary
- 2 " "
- 3 O.C. "A" Coy.
- 4 "B" "
- 5 "C" "
- 6 "D" "
- 7 R.S.M. & H.Q. Details & File.

MOVE ORDER

- Original Confidential*
- (1) Battalion will relieve FADE Bn in support on night 16/17.
  - (2) Advance party consisting of 1 Officer, 1 Coy Runner per Coy, 1 N.C.O. per Platoon, pioneers and half the Sigs, will leave at 12-30 p.m. 16th inst.
  - (3) Order of March: "C", "B", "A", "D". Leading Coy. will start at B. H'qrs at 4.15 p.m. Sections in single file, 50 yards between Sections and 10 minutes between platoons will be maintained.
  - (4) Cooks will serve all parties with hot meals before they leave. They will then proceed to KIT KAT and await pack troop with dixies, spare shelters and petrol tins. They will then proceed to Transport Lines with Pack Troop.
  - (5) Shelters. Coys will take what shelters they consider necessary and dump the remainder at KIT KAT before leaving.
  - (6) Rations will be dumped at Gasometer daily. Coy. Q.M. Sgts and ration parties of 5 per Coy will dig in in the vicinity of the gasometer after having ascertained the location of their respective Coys, and help to carry their Coys. rations.
  - (7) Water bottles will be filled before leaving area.
  - (8) Great care must be taken to keep down all movement. A.A. guards will be mounted immediately halts are made by Coys.
  - (9) Upon the completion of relief the word FELLAH will be sent to B H'qrs.

(Sgd) G.S. MC'DOWELL.  
A/Adjutant.

199 Appendix 105.  
*Original  
 Confidential*

APPENDIX. 105

## Patrol Report FACT

18th/19th Oct., 1917.

<u>Strength of Patrol</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Report.</u>
(1) 1 Off 1 N.C.O. 2 Men	D.17622 Time 7.45 to Returned 10.30 p.m.	Along Railway Line D.18.a.33. then half right to ASSYRIA then back through DECOY WOOD D.18.a.s. & came in at D.17.d.5.5.	Report no enemy seen but heard enemy at DECLINE COPSE D.18.a.3.6. Enemy flares were seen to rise from high ground N.E. of ASSYRIA. Ground swampy and <del>heavily</del> heavily shelled by enemy.

## Disposition Report. 19-10-17.

Ref. Map Sheet 28 1/40.000

## Front Line.

"B" Coy. (D Coy) D 23.b.30.60 to D.17.d.50.50 H.Q. D.17.d.10.40.  
 Lt. " (A " ) D.17.d.50.50. to D.17.b.30.20.

## Support Line.

Rt. Coy. ("C" Coy) D.17.d.10.30. to D.17.d.00.50.  
 " H.Q. D.17.c.60.90.  
 Lt. Coy. (B. Coy). D.17.d.00.80. to D.17.a.90.10.  
 " H.Q. D.17.c.60.90.

Bn. H.Q. D.16.d.80.10.  
 D.22.c.00.30

Patrols.  
Departure

<u>Patrols.</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Report.</u>
(2) 1 Off. 3 O/R.	D.17.0.3.2. time 7 p.m. returned D.17.d.50.50. 8 p.m.	Along Railway Line to D.17.b.94. then across Coy. front to D.17.d.9.5. then back to D.17.d.50.50.	Ground very wet No sign of enemy.

(3) 1 Off. 4 O/Rs.	D.177 & 4050 time 6.30 p.m. Return same place at 9 p.m.	Straight out to D.18.c.15 then back to N.E. cover of DAIRY WOOD D.23.b.5.9.	Ground very marshy; so bad at DAIRY WOOD that path had to be retraced in places. No enemy seen or heard.
-----------------------	--	---	---

## Intelligence Summary 19-10-17.

Our Operations.

- (1) The Bn. relieved FADE Bn. in FRONT and SUPPORT LINES. Relief complete at 8 p.m. No casualties.
- (2) Defences. A.A. Lewis Guns have been mounted by all Coys. Trenches and accommodation taken over improved during the night.
- (3) Artillery. Normal during the day but opened up in answer to enemy artillery at 10.30 p.m. and continued active until midnight.
- (4) Patrols. Active along whole front during night. Ground in all cases found untenable. Touch was maintained with units on flanks during the night by means of small visiting patrols (Patrol report attached)
- (5) Aerial Activity. Our observation and fighting machines abnormally active.

Contd.

Enemy Operations*Original  
Confidential*

- (1) Artillery Very active from 10 p.m. until midnight. A large proportion of shells in rear ~~xxxxxxx~~ area appeared to be gas. At the same time enemy sent over a gas wave which however was very weak when it reached our lines and only caused acute nasal and throat irritation. One of the first signs of its presence was a fit of sneezing. Do not know what gas this was.
- (2) Aerial Activity. Enemy aircraft very active from very early until very late and also after dark. At 2.30 p.m. about 17 Gothas flew slowly over our lines and some appeared to drop their bombs and come back immediately others appeared to go further behind our lines at 4.45 p.m. and continued to hover round until dark.

PATROLS.

Patrols 2 and 3 were repeated before and after midnight but no enemy seen or heard.

-----  
PATROL REPORT 20/10/17.

<u>Patrol Strength</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Report</u>
(1) 1 N.C.O.	Hourly	To and from Bn on Right	Report all well
(2) 1 Off. 4 O/R.	6 p.m. RETURN 10 p.m.	D.17.d.54. to D.8.d.5.4. and returned through DAIRY WOOD to D.23.b.28.	Two partly demolished brick houses at D.rd 5 4 cellars full of water. Enemy flares first from ridge. Ground in vicinity of houses and forward in good firm condition
No.4. 2 Off. 10 O/Rs.	8.45 p.m. Return 11 p.m.	D.17.b.22 to RHINE (D.18.c.54) then ASSYRIA then back through D.80.30.95 and entered our line at D.17.b.22	No sign of enemy seen. Enemy M.G. fired several bursts from approx E.13.c.54. At 10.30 p.m. our artillery shelled the vicinity of ASSYRIA. Shells fell to the N. and slightly E. of patrol.
No.3. 1 N.C.O. 3 Men	Intervals during night	D.17.b.22. along railway to D.17.b.95 across Coy. front and returned at D.17.d.66.	No sign of enemy.
No.6 1 N.C.O. 3 Men	Hourly	To and from Bn. on left	All quiet.

(Contd)



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 30/10/17.

*Original  
Tel. Report*

(1) (a) Our Operations:

Disposition. Left coy has right closed sufficiently to allow 2 L.G. from support Coy. to get in.

(b) Artillery. Quiet during morning. At 4 p.m. our heavy batteries heavily bombarded enemy's positions in front. A great deal of counter battery work was done and great clouds of smoke seen to rise from behind his line. At many points this continued until after dark.

(c) Aircraft. Very quiet during last 24 hours.

(d) Patrols. Very active along whole front. (See patrol report attached)

(2) Enemy Operations

(a) Artillery. Between 3.15 a.m. and 3.30 a.m. a lively fire was directed on to our front line. This was very erratic and no casualties resulted. This was repeated periodically during the day and night 77,42 and 59 shells being used. Enemy appears to be using more white shrapnel. Enemy counter battery work very active and apparently accurate at 4 p.m. in answer to our heavy shelling. ZONNEBEKE was heavily shelled with 4.2 at this time.

(b) Aerial Activity. Enemy plane flew low over our line in the early morning but was engaged by A.A. and Lewis Guns. Quiet during the day but very uneasy and active from 4 p.m. onward apparently on account of our heavy bombardment.

(c) Flares. At 4.14 p.m. one green which burst into 3 greens was fired on left front. During the early part of the night. One red bursting into 2 greens was fired frequently on front and right front.

(d) Enemy O.P. What appear to be two elevated O.P. were observed at E.13.c.7.3. and E.13.c.9.1. No movement about in the vicinity.

(e) Enemy movement. Working party of unknown strength was observed at E.19.b.28. Work could not be identified. Movement was observed but reserve left Coy in the vicinity of E.13.a.&.d. and also in the vicinity of D.18.b.92.

PATROL REPORT FACT 21/10/17.

<u>Strength</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Report.</u>
(1) 1 N.C.O. 3 Men	Hourly	To and from Bn on Right	Bn. on Right 56th Bn. touch maintained throughout the night
(2) 1 Off. 3 O/Rs.	9 p.m. ret'd. 11 p.m.	D.23 & 17 passing through D.23 & 89 to to D.24 c.58.	No enemy seen; ground in front in bad condition.
(3) 1 Off. 4 O/Rs.	6 p.m. ret'd. 8 p.m.	D.17.d.46 W. to D.18.c.45 to DAIRY WOOD round coming in at U.17.d.20	Ground very wet. Enemy artillery heavily shelled No-man's land with H.E. No enemy seen
(4) 1 N.C.O. 3 O/R	7 p.m. ret'd at 9 p.m. 11 p.m. ret'd. at 1 p.m.	D.17d.45.W. to D.8.c.15 then across Coy front and back at D.7.b.10.	No enemy seen or heard.

(Contd).

Strength	Time departure	Route &	Report.
5) 1 Off. 9 O/RS.	9 p.m. ret'd. 12.30 a.m.	D.17.b.12 to Bn on left then along N bank of Railway line to DECLINE COPSE D.18.a. 37 Returned same route.	No enemy seen until within 70 yards of wood when working party of 80 men (approx) were seen digging trenches and strengthening portion and also building a blockade across Railway Line. This party was watched for 2 hours Coming back 200 yards WEST of DECLINE COPSE 30 to 40 tons of German barbed wire was discovered in good con- dition. O.C. Patrol con- siders that a raid on the COPSE could be carried out.
6) 1 N.C.O. 3 Men	Hourly	To and from Bn. on right	Found all well

*Original  
Confidential*

-----  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FACT 21/10/17.

(1) OUR OPERATIONS.

- (a) Defence. 60 yards of single apron wire has been erected opposite left Coys. left. Constructed with a view to refusing the left flank.
- (b) Artillery. Occasional burst from 18 pounders during the day and night at 4.30 p.m.. Heavies active behind enemy line. 2 enemy dumps seen to go up one at 5 p.m. and the other at 6.15 p.m. opposite our front.
- (c) Aerial Activity. Active during the early morning and also at intervals during the day. At 4.25 p.m. various encounters took place high above our line. At 11.10 a.m. an encounter took place over our lines at a low altitude between one of our planes and two enemy. Apparently no one hurt.
- (d) Patrols. Our patrols active along whole front during the night Touch being maintained with Bns. on flanks (Report attached).
- (e) Miscellaneous. At 5.30 a.m. 20-10-17 S.O.S. seen to go up on left. Little reply by artillery. RIGHT support Coy relieved one Coy of 45th Bn and one Coy 46th Bn night 20/21st Oct. Relief complete 7.15 p.m. New dispositions attached.

(2) Enemy Operations.

- (a) Enemy artillery very active during whole period. No-man's land, front line, support line and Coy HQs were shelled frequently by all calibre on intervals reported 6 a.m., 9.5 a.m. 9.20 a.m. 11.20 a.m. 12 noon etc. when enemy fire directed against front line. Enemy counter battery working very active during day. Bn. on left heavily shelled during day especially between 3 and 5 p.m. with H.E. and shrapnel.
- (b) Aerial Activity. Activity above normal. At 6.30 a.m. enemy plane flew backwards and forwards across swampy ground in front firing occasional bursts apparently trying to cause movement there if occupied. Enemy scouts and observation planes crossed our lines at frequent intervals during the day when they were engaged by L.G. against which they seem to be proof. One hostile balloon seen opposite our front all day.
- (c) Defences. Enemy appears to be making DECLINE COPSE a strong point (see patrol report)
- (d) Movement. Considerable movement observed at DECLINE COPSE apparently working parties. Otherwise quiet along front.

- (e) Flares. Numerous red bursting into a-green two greens seen during night, always fired back towards enemy.

FRONT LINE

Right Coy "C" Coy D.23.d. 1055 to D.23.h.27. "G" Coy.  
H'qrs D.23.a.3.3.

Centre Coy. "D" Coy. D.23.b.2.7. to D.17.d.4.5. "D" Coy.  
H'qrs. D.17.c.5515.

Left Coy. "B" Coy. D.17.d.4.5. to D.17.b.2.3.  
" " H'qrs D.17.c.5690.

Support Coy. "B" Coy. D.17.b.1500 to D.17.a.60.05.  
No.3 Platoon D.17.g.6.8. (Dugout)  
H'qrs D.17.c.6590.

B. H'qrs D.16.d.8.1.  
R.A.P. D.22.c.0030

*Original  
Confidential*

199

Appendix 106

SECRET.

Copy No. 5.....

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 112

Reference ZONNEBEKE 1/10,000.  
WESTHOEK 1/10,000.

20/10/1917.

1. The following reliefs will take place on 21st instant and night 21st/22nd.
  - (a) The 14th Battalion will relieve the 13th Battalion and take over the Front Line from the YPRES - ROULERS Railway to but excluding the post at DAIRY WOOD.
  - (b) The 16th Battalion will hold the front Line from DAIRY WOOD to the BROODSEINDE - DROOGENBROODHOEK RD. at D.23.d.1.6.
  - (c) On relief the 13th Battalion will move back to RAILWAY WOOD dug-outs.
  - (d) The 15th Battalion will move to the area at present occupied by 14th Battalion.
2. The 4th and 24th Machine Gun Companies and 4th A.L.T.M. Battery will remain as at present.
3. Reliefs to be carried out as far as possible by day.
4. All details of relief will be arranged mutually between Commanding Officers concerned.
5. Completion of relief will be wired by Brigade Headquarters by Code Word MALISH.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 12 Noon through Signals.

*C. Johnston* Major.  
Brigade-Major.  
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Extra copies to -  
14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.  
148th Infantry Brigade.

*Ack. S.T. 120*  
*20/10/17*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten initials]*



199 SECRET.

13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No. 49

Copy No.....

Ref. Sheet 28/1,40,000

*Appendix 107*

Headquarters,  
23rd October, 1917.

*Original  
Confidential*

1. The Battalion will proceed by 'bus to RENINGHELST Area, to-morrow 24th inst.
2. Embussing will take place as follows:-  
Embussing point - YPRES - KRUISSTRAAT Road, head of column at ~~H.18.d.9.4.~~ H.18.d.9.4. facing South.  
Time of embussing - 12 noon. Coys. and H.Q. Units to be formed up ready to move off at 11 a.m.  
Lieut. G.S. MC'DOWELL, <sup>M.C.</sup> (Embussing Officer) will report to Asst. Brigade Major at head of column at 11.30 a.m. with notice boards.
3. (a) The Embussing Officer will be responsible for embussing and debussing of the Battalion.  
(b) Debussing point G.29.b.5.6.  
(c) Personnel will be drawn up in parties of 25, six parties to every 70 yards.  
(d) Dress - Fighting Order.  
(e) One Officer or Senior N.C.O. to be with each bus.
4. Reveille - 7.30 a.m.  
Breakfast - 8 a.m.  
Sick Parade - 9 a.m.
5. BAGGAGE. Lewis Gun gear, cooking utensils, etc., will be taken forward by transport and will be stacked outside Bn. H.Q. by 8.15 a.m. Officers' valises and mess gear will be stacked outside Br. H.Q. by 9.30 a.m.
6. Transport will proceed by road, brigaded, under command of Major H.W. MURRAY, V.C., D.S.O., passing the starting point Cross Roads in H.16.d. at 10 a.m. - 200 yards interval between units.
7. Billets will be inspected at 10.30 a.m.
8. Billeting party (Capt. R.H. BROWNING M.C.), and three (3) Signallers will report to Staff Captain at RENINGHELST Church at 9 a.m. on the 24th inst.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.
10. Issued by Runner at 10.15 p.m.

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

Copy No1	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.

13th BATTALION MOVE ORDER No.50

REFERENCE - HAZEBROUCK Map

*Appendix 108* 26-10-17.

*Original  
Confidential*

- (1) (a). The Battalion will move to LISBOURG Area to-morrow 27-10-17 entraining at BRANDHOEK at 6.35 a.m.
- (b) Transport will entrain at VLAMERTINGHE at 5 a.m. 27-10-17 in charge of 2/Lieut J. Watson, and will move from present billets at 2 a.m. 27-10-17.
- (2) The Battalion (less "B" Company) will pass starting point *Pm. Underby Room* at 4 a.m. in following order:-
  - Signallers & Runners
  - "A" Company
  - "C" Company
  - "D" Company
  - Pioneers & S.Bs.
  - A.M.C.
- (3) Dress - Full marching order. One blanket will be carried on transport.
- (4) Officers' valises, Lewis Gun gear and one blanket per man rolled in bundles of 20 and distinctly labelled, will be dumped near Q.M's Store to-day.  
Coys. will send one Lewis Gunner with Lewis Gun gear.
- (5) O.C. "B" Coy. will detail two working parties each 1 Officer and 50 O/Ranks to load and unload transport trains.  
The above parties in charge of Lieut. Turner will report to Lieut. G.S. McDowell, M.C., Brigade Entraining Officer at VLAMERTINGHE *Station* at 4.30 a.m. 27-10-17. To leave present ~~billets~~ billets at 4 p.m. to-day and billet at VLAMERTINGHE to-night.  
One party will leave by first Transport Train and remainder of party by second Transport Train.
- (6) The Bn. will detrain at WIZERNES and proceed by 'bus to new billets.
- (7) Capt. R. McKillop is detailed as Bn. Entraining Officer at BRANDHOEK and will report to Major D. THOMSON M.C., 14th Bn., at 5 a.m. 27-10-17.
- (8) Rations and forage as follows will be carried:-
  - 1 days rations on cookers
  - 1 day's rations in Supply Section of Divl. Train.
  - 1 day's forage with animals.
  - 1 day's forage with Supply Section of Divl. Train.
- (9) On arrival at entraining station O.C. "D" Company will detail party of 1 N.C.O. and eight (8) men to report to Q.M. for loading and off-loading Q.M's gear.
- (10) Q.M. will ensure that complete Mobile Echelon of S.A.A. etc. is taken to new billets. Water cart to be filled.
- (11) Marching out States and Billeting Certificates to be rendered to B.O.R. by 8 p.m. to-night.
- (12) DISCIPLINE - During both entraining and detraining operations strict discipline and quietness will be maintained, and during the journey Coy. officers will ensure that order is maintained.  
Signal to entrain and detrain will be one long "G" on bugle.  
O.C. "D" Coy. will detail a guard of 1 N.C.O. and four (4) men for the fore and rear part of the train, to prevent men leaving train at wayside stations.  
Coys. will arrange that N.C.O's are evenly distributed throughout the train.

(13) ACKNOWLEDGE.

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

Issued by Runner at 3 p.m.  
Normal distribution.

15th BATTALION, A.I.F.

TRAINING PROGRAMME for Monday 29-10-17 to Sunday 4-11-17.

Appendix 109

Original  
Confidential

- The period covered by this programme is devoted primarily to -  
(a) reorganisation and refitting;  
(b) getting the men into condition;  
(c) Close Order Drill and steady work generally.  
Training time is devoted to elementary training of units not larger than a platoon.
- The Band will be available for route marches in rotation as set out. Men still suffering from the effects of gas are not to be taken on route marches and will not be given any work entailing exertion until "passed" by the Medical Officer.
- Systematic specialist training will be put in hand as soon as accordance with detailed syllabus of Musketry, Lewis Gun and Bombing Officers and Signalling Bde., respectively.  
In the re-orientation of these programmes with the general training syllabus <sup>it</sup> must be borne in mind that specialists also require refitting and "steadying".
- Rifle ranges will be available in the next area. Allotment later.
- Coy. Commanders to meet the C.O. <sup>at 7 p.m.</sup> daily to confer on the following day's work.
- Each Company will select and train 11 men in rapid wiring.
- Stretcher Boreers will train under the R.M.O.

Monday  
29-10-17

- 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Foot inspection.
- 9. - 9.25 a.m. - Rolling in and inspection of Platoon.
- 9.30 - 10 a.m. - Bayonet Fighting & Muscle Exercises.
- 10.5 - 10.30 a.m. - Lecturette - Cause and prevention of Trench Feet.
- 10.30 - 10.35 a.m. - Inspection of Box Respirators.
- 10.35 - 11.30 a.m. - Specialist Training:-  
Lewis Gunners  
Wiring Squad  
Riflemen  
Boreers
- 11.35 - 12 noon - Close Order Drill - 5 minutes saluting
- 2.30 p.m. - Organized games.

Tuesday  
30-10-17

- 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Organized Games
- 9. - 9.30 a.m. - C.O.'s parade
- 9.30 - 10. a.m. - Guard and Sentry.
- 10.5 - 10.30 a.m. - Lecturette - "March Discipline".
- 10.30 - 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 - 3.30 p.m. - Coy. Route Marches.

Wednesday  
31-10-17

- 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Physical Drill and organized games.
- 9. - 9.15 a.m. - Rolling in and inspection of Platoon.
- 9.15 - 9.25 a.m. - Gas Helmet Drill.
- 9.25 - 9.45 a.m. - Bayonet Fighting & Muscle Exercises. *distance*
- 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 - 3.30 p.m. - Battalion Route March xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

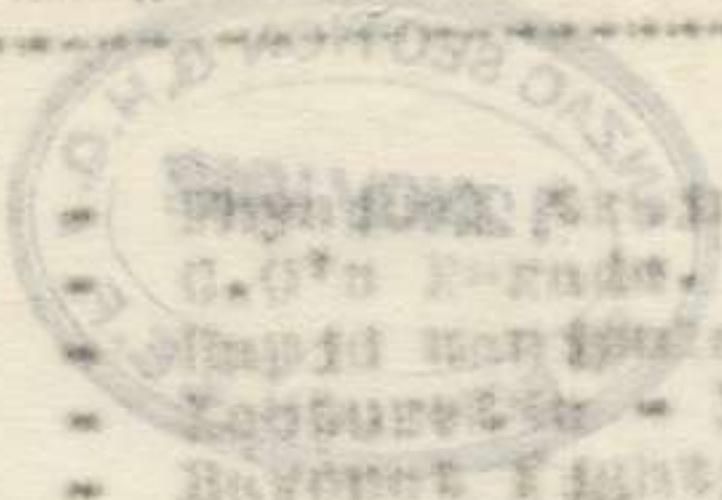
xx.

(Contd).



199

TRAINING PROGRAMME 29-10-17 - 4-11-17 Page 2.



Original  
Confidential

Thursday 1-11-17  
 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Physical Training and organized games.  
 9. - 9.30 a.m. - C.O.'s Parade.  
 9.30 - 9.40 a.m. - Rapid manipulation of belt and rapid unloading  
 9.45 - 10.5 a.m. - Lecturette - Fire direction and fire control  
 10.5 - 10.35 a.m. - Bayonet fighting and machine exercises.  
 10.35 - 11.30 a.m. - Specialist Training.  
 11.35 - 12 noon - Company Drill.  
 2.30 - 3 p.m. - Chelsea Drill for the Battalion.

Friday 2-11-17  
 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Physical Training and organized games.  
 9. - 9.15 a.m. - Valuing 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 Section.  
 10.10 - 10.30 a.m. - Lecturette - on Situation on the Western  
 Front.  
 10.30 - 11.30 a.m. - Close order drill.  
 2. - 4 p.m. - Company Route Marches.

Saturday 3-11-17  
 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. - Post inspection.  
 9. - 11.30 a.m. - Specialist Training.  
 11.30 - noon - Disposal of Platoon Commanders.  
 Afternoon - Inter Coy. Football Matches.

Sunday 4-11-17  
 CHURCH PARADE.

*W. Davis*  
 Adjutant, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.  
 Capt.

APPENDIX 109



Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a list or report, with some numbers and names visible.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Original  
Confidential*

Appendix No. TO WAR LIBRARY FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1917.

*Appendix 110*

199

Strength as at 1st October, 1917	Off.	O/Ranked
Attached do	do	do
Ration Strength	do	do
	36	762
	2	6
	28	487

IN										OUT				
Date	From Hos	O.T.C. Reinf. from Base	Rejd from Base	Reinf. From Cent. T.S.	On Trans	From Sec.	To Cent. T.S.	To 4th T.B.	Transf.	Hosp	Field Prison	Killed	Wounded	Allied H.Q.
Oct. 1.	2	2/Lt. East 1 Off.	65	27			Lt. Trim 1 Off 1.	Lt. H. Simpson 1 3.	2	1	1			
2.	3		4		1					2	8			
3.	6									1	1			
4.	2		1					Lt. R.L. Gowing		1	Off.			
5.										4				
6.	2					1			1	2				
7.	1		13	4						1				
8.	3								1	12		3	6	
9.										7				
10.										2				
11.													1	
12.										1				
13.			10	1						1				
14.										1				
15.	3						1 Off.	Lt. G. Marper			1		4	
16.										1			12	
17.	1									2			43	
18.										1			9	
19.														1 Off. Lt. H. B. Davis
20.										1			6	1
21.										2			4	
22.										3			6	
											2/Lt. J.H.J. Stewart			
23.										13				
24.	4		1 Off 34	1 Off.	2/Lt. J.F. Wadman					7				
			2/Lt. J.W. Watson	14										
25th	4									7				

APPENDIX. 110

25

*Original  
Confidential*

Date	IN			OUT							
	From Hosp	From Wnd.	On Transf.	Hosp.	Fld Prison	A.I.F.	H.Q.	To 4th A.D.B.D.	Wnd.	Trsfed.	Aust for Disc.

Oct. 26				9	3	1		1				
27				13					1			
28	1			2								
29		1 Off Lt-Col J.M.A. Durrant		1								
30				3						1	1	
31	1		2	4					3			Lt. 1 of 2
										B. Blythman		

Strength as at 31st October, 1917	Off.	O/Rs.
Attached	37	632
Ration Strength	2	6
	33	569

APPENDIX. 110