

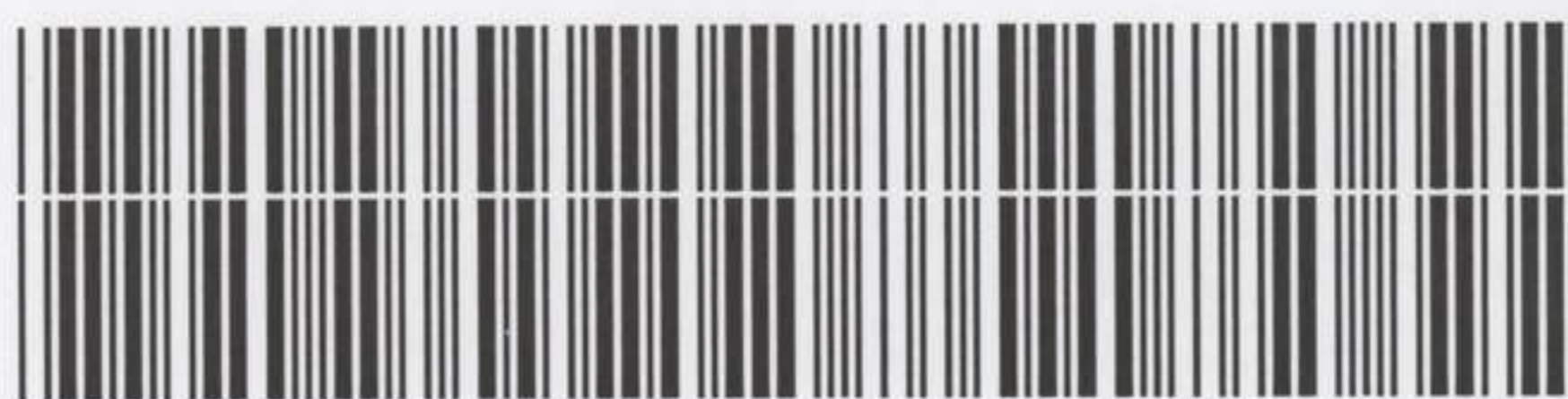
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/46/37

Title: 29th Infantry Battalion

August 1918



AWM4-23/46/37

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

29th Battalion A.I.F.

FOR

August 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

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Signature of Officer Commanding

[Handwritten signature: P. Charles Major]

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MORLANCOURT CARDONETTE	1/8/18	24	<p>Bn. was relieved in Line (C. Div. Area, Left Subsector) by 7th BUFFS. and marched to embussing point at LAHOUSOYE where hot meal was partaken of. and journey continued by motor Busses to <u>CARDONETTE</u>, which was reached in the afternoon. It had been arranged to embuss in the vicinity of BONNAY but owing to the lateness of the relief, approaching daylight and enemy aeroplane bombing, the busses found it necessary to move further back to LAHOUSOYE. The men were very tired after the recent attacks and the journey out and were very glad to rest in their new billets in the afternoon. <u>Weather was fine.</u></p>	
<u>CARDONETTE</u>	2/8/18	24	<p>The day was devoted to reorganisation, clearing arms, ammunition, equipment etc. Shortages of kit indentated for. Men rested. All ranks were paid. C.O. attended C.O.'s meeting at Bde. HQ. <u>Weather.</u> Heavy rain set in in the early morning and continued during the day</p>	
do	3/8/18	"	<p>C.O. held a meeting of Coy. Comdres. in the local Schoolroom I.O. & Coy. Comdres. made a forward reconnaissance. C.O. & Adj. also made same. Billets were improved & cleaned up. Men rested. <u>Weather improved considerably</u></p>	

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Place	Date	Hours	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CARDONETTE	4/8/18	24	<p>Orders having been received to move forward to positions N.W. of village of <u>VILLERS BRETONNEUX</u>; the advance party consisted of 1 Officer and 4 NCO's per Coy & the L.O., and they moved out during the day to the new positions. <u>Weather fine.</u></p> <p>The Bn. left <u>CARDONETTE</u> at 8.45 pm. by march route via <u>ALLONVILLE-BUSSY-DADURS</u> to Railway W. of <u>AUBIGNY</u> where guides met the Coys. and placed same in their new positions. All Coys. reported in position at 12.45 AM.</p> <p>Hot meal was served at 2 AM.</p>	<p>ORDERS ATTACHED</p>
N.W. of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX	5/8/18		<p>Orders received in connection with the <u>attacks</u> by the Australian Corps from <u>VILLERS-BRETONNEUX-CHAULNES</u> Railway exclusive to the <u>River SOMME</u>. Bn. order issued. <u>Weather fine.</u></p>	<p>Order attached, (BATTLE-INSTNS. NO. 1)</p>
do	6/8/18		<p>Bn. resting but men busy making shelters for their positions. L.O. met Capt. White at Advanced Bde. H.Q. and made <u>reconnaissance</u> forward.</p> <p>C.O. attended <u>conference</u> at Advanced Bde. H.Q. in the afternoon, and in the evening he held a Coy. Comdr's meeting in a Mess Room loaned by an Artillery unit. <u>Battle Instructions no 2 issued.</u></p> <p><u>Weather fine</u></p>	<p>Battle Instructions no 2 issued, attached.</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N.W. VILLERS-BRETONNEUX	7/8/18	9 A.M.	<p>I.O. and 1 Officer per Coy reported to Bde. H.Q. and made reconnaissance forward Coys & Platoons were allotted final <u>Assembly Positions</u> & shown routes to be taken C.O. attended conference at Bde. H.Q., afterwards visited starting position and inspected routes forward. C.O. held a meeting of Coy. Commanders in the afternoon All Coys. reported "<u>Ready to Move</u>" at midnight.</p>	
NORTH VILLERS-BRETONNEUX	8/8/18	12.15 AM	<p>Bn. moved forward to <u>Assembly Positions</u> as laid down in Battle Instructions no. 2. Coys. moving at intervals of 5 minutes 1.30 AM All Coys reported in correct positions. 2 AM Fog first noticed. 3.30 am. Run was issued. 4 AM Fog very thick. do I.O. visited positions & pointed out direction. 4.20 AM Our artillery <u>barrage commenced</u> Men in excellent spirits and anxious for order to push on. 5.35 AM Bn. moved forward in diamond formation from Assembly positions in heavy fog, being in touch with 32nd Bn. in front. 6.25 AM Bn. H.Q. advised by runner that "C" Coy were about to move and Bn. H.Q. took up a position in front of trench. Visibility at this time was not more than 15' and it was therefore impossible to move in formation as laid down and keep touch.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Advancing	8/5/18		<p>(continued)</p> <p>It was necessary for Coys. to act independently marching on compass bearings. When the advance had reached a distance of 2000⁺ the fog lifted and the Coys. were all found to be in correct positions, and well up to time.</p> <p>Prisoners were seen coming back at this stage and the visibility con- tinued to improve although there were many low clouds which made flying almost impossible. A few aeroplanes were heard and occasion- ally seen.</p> <p>7.20 a.m. Bn. held up by tanks in front.</p> <p>7.30 a.m. Bn. moved into position in rear of "Green Line" in the valley N. of <u>WARFUSÉE and LAMOTTE</u>. Bde. advised "all ready" to continue.</p> <p>8.40 a.m. Bde. advised "all ready" for 5th DIV. to move through 2nd DIV. at time and place laid down.</p> <p>Bn. moved forward in diamond formation in rear of the 32nd Bn.</p> <p>10.35 a.m. Objective reached and Bn. distributed and positions established <u>N of HARBONNIERES</u>. Our casualties up to this stage were 2 officers and 3 other ranks. C.O. previously made a reconnaissance and decided & allotted the positions of the Coys.</p> <p>The afternoon was most interesting on account of the many tanks and armoured cars moving in front and the large number of prisoners being marched back. A large quantity of enemy material of all descriptions was collected. <u>Weather</u> now fine and all ranks in excellent spirits. C.O. visited 32nd Bn. on left.</p> <p>Bn. remained in this position for the night.</p>	

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N of HARBONNIERES	9/8/18	8 am	C.O. attended conference at Bde. H.Q. and received verbal instructions re advance from "Blue Line" to "Green Line", an average distance of <u>800*</u> .	C.O.'s Rpt. attached
		9.50 a.m.	Message was received from C.O. (who was then at Bde. H.Q.) "Bn. to be ready to move at 10 a.m. Fighting Order. Meal to be served at once".	
		(11.45 a.m.)	C.O.'s Operation Order which was handed to a mounted D. Rider at Bde. H.Q. was not received by the Adj. until 11.45 a.m.	
		10.10 a.m.	C.O. returned from Bde. and gave verbal instructions to Coy. Comdrs. who had been assembled in anticipation of immediate action.	
		10.42 a.m.	Bn. moved forward to attack via left edge of <u>HARBONNIERES</u> . From this position onwards the Bn. was under heavy M.G. fire from and around <u>YAUVILLERS</u> .	
		11.00 a.m.	<u>Barrage</u> came down (protective)	
		11.40 a.m.	Bn. H.Q. was established immediately E. of <u>HARBONNIERES</u> and the <u>attack</u> was <u>launched</u> from the "Blue Line". Positions of Coys: - "A" Coy on Right, Lt. C.E. Davis in command. "C" " in Centre Capt. C.A. Denton M.C. do "B" " on Left Lt. W.S. Coleman do "D" " in Support Lt. R. Thomas do.	
		11.45 am	Bn. H.Q. moved forward 300*.	
		NOON	Bn. H.Q. moved forward to "Blue Line" near <u>Railway</u> E. of <u>HARBONNIERES</u> owing to reports being received to effect that Coys. were held up by M.G. fire.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	9/8/18	NOON	(continued) From this position the whole operation was under direct observation. No troops moved on our Right Flank thus leaving same open to heavy M.G. fire. The <u>TANKS</u> supporting the operation were put out of action by enemy fire immediately after commencement.	
YAUVILLERS		12.20 pm	Heavy casualties being caused by M.G. firing from in and around YAUVILLERS, and the Coy. being midway between "Blue Line" & Objective, they were ordered to stay in that position until possible to move without heavy casualties.	
		12.30 pm	The C.O. (Lieut. Col. J. McArthur) was wounded by a M.G. bullet in the neck, and the command of the Bn. passed to Capt. C.A.M. Zerkham M.C.	
		1 pm	Coy. moved by short rushes towards Objective and engaged enemy M.G.'s with Lewis Gun & Rifle fire.	
		2.15 pm	After a series of short rushes and by means of crawling, all three Coys were on the objective. The Left Coy. was in touch with 31 st Bn on left. There were no troops on the Right Flank.	
		2.30 pm	The Right Coy. (A) advanced through and beyond YAUVILLERS and by magnificent work succeeded in establishing L.G. posts to cover the village.	
		3 pm	New Line ran NE and E. of YAUVILLERS and one platoon from Support Coy. to fill gap between centre & Left Coy., caused by Left Coy. moving slightly too far to left. The front line is a series of posts.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
VAUVILLERS	9/8/18	3pm	<p>No troops move forward on Right Flank until objective was taken. Great bravery was exhibited by all ranks in advancing against extremely heavy enemy M.G. fire and ultimately silencing all opposition. Our casualties in this operation were :- Killed, 3 Officers, 14 O.R. Wounded, 9 do 69 "</p>									
			<p>In this action we captured :-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 motor Car</td> <td>10 boxes of Signalling Apparatus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 H.M.G.</td> <td>1 First Aid Pack</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 L.M.G.</td> <td>1 box Electric bulbs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Sword</td> <td>1 Rifle</td> </tr> </table>	1 motor Car	10 boxes of Signalling Apparatus	2 H.M.G.	1 First Aid Pack	5 L.M.G.	1 box Electric bulbs	1 Sword	1 Rifle	
1 motor Car	10 boxes of Signalling Apparatus											
2 H.M.G.	1 First Aid Pack											
5 L.M.G.	1 box Electric bulbs											
1 Sword	1 Rifle											
	10/8/18	5pm 5 AM	<p>Major P. Charlton who had been sent for now took <u>Command of the Bn.</u> Movement & Relief Order received.</p>									
		9 AM	<p>Meeting of Coy. Comd. held. I.O. and 1 MCO per Coy, moved out as Advance Party. Bn. moved out in the morning by cross country track to WARFUSEE then by shortest route to the first Assembly positions in the AUBIGNY Line. - NW. of VILLERS - BRETONNEUX. Hot meal was served on arrival HQ staff busy on recommendations. Men busy building shelters for themselves.</p>									
		9pm	<p>Coy. Comd. meeting <u>Weather fine</u></p>									
N. W VILLERS- BRETONNEUX												

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N.W. YILLERS- BRETONNEUX	11/8/18	8.30 AM	<p>Day devoted to reorganisation. I.O. attended meeting at AUBIGNY. Meeting of Coy. Command re further operations. Brigadier & Bde. Major visited the men of the Bn. and the former expressed his appreciation of the splendid work performed by all ranks during the operation and his satisfaction in finding them in such excellent spirits. Weather Very fine.</p>	
do	12/8/18		<p>G. O. C. visited the Bn. and addressed all ranks and thanked them for the very excellent work recently performed. He was most complimentary in his remarks. I. O. met Capt. White of Bde. Staff at proposed Bde. advanced position and Bn. areas allotted. 9 PM Meeting of Coy. Command. Move orders issued for forward move on 14th inst. Weather fine.</p>	order here with.
do	13/8/18		<p>C.O. attended conference at Advance Bde. HQ. Staff Capt. called on Bn. Companies paraded for inspection and carried out training in Close Order Drill, Physical training, and Open Warfare attacks. Move order postponed for 24 hrs. Weather fine</p>	8

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N.W. VILLERS - BRETONNEUX	14/8/18		Coy. continued training: Physical training, Close Order Drill and Coy. in attack Bn. "standing by" ready for move at short notice. <u>Weather fine.</u>	
<u>do</u>	15/8/18		Coy. continue the same training. CO attended conference re move forward. <u>Weather fine.</u>	
<u>do</u> S.W. of MORCOURT	16/8/18	9 AM 10.4 AM 3.30 PM 7.30 PM	Coy. Comdus. meeting Advance Party consisting of J.O. and 4 NCO's moved out to take over new positions. Bn. areas allotted. Bn. moved out by cross country tracks N. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX and WARFUSIE to positions S.W. of MORCOURT. Arrived in new positions Hot meal served on arrival. Men very crowded and very little shelter. <u>Weather fine</u>	Order attached.
	17/8/18		The Brigadier accompanied by Staff Capt. visited the Bn. Men busy making new and improving existing shelters. Very few enemy shells fell in the vicinity. <u>Weather continued fine.</u>	

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S. W. MORCOURT	18/8/18		Coy. Comdr. and 4 WCO's per Coy. went forward to make reconnaissance. CO visited Bde HQ.	
W. MORCOURT		2pm	Bn. received orders to move to a position to the valley S. of CERISY, but at 2 pm these orders were cancelled, and instructions received to take over positions from 32 nd Bn. W. of MORCOURT.	
		5pm	This move complete, and new positions found more comfortable. Works of constructing and digging deep dug outs was commenced in the morning, the work being carried out continuously in 3 shifts of 8 hours each. Weather fine	
do	19/8/18		During early hours of the morning there was considerable enemy bombing in this vicinity, 1 Officer & 2 OR. being slightly wounded, whilst 3 officers of "A" Coy had all their belongings destroyed although they themselves escaped injury. Works on deep dug outs continued as well as the work of improving shelters which were made comfortable Weather fine and men in good spirits.	
do	20/8/18		Enemy 4.2 gun has been harassing us all the morning. No enemy balloons to be seen. As a result of enemy shelling, "C" Coy. moved to valley S. of CERISY and commenced making their shelters comfortable. Work on deep dug outs continued. Weather continued fine.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SW. MORCOURT	21/8/18	10 AM	Brig. Gen. Finny visited the Bn. and inspected the men's quarters with C.O. Works on deep dug outs continued Weather still continued fine & dry.	
do	22/8/18		Works on deep dug outs continued Coys. reorganised again into 4 platoons each. Casualties steadily rejoining and Coys. now average 100. Good news from all fronts and men in good spirits. Swimming largely indulged in, in the SOMME Canal. Weather very hot.	
do	23/8/18		Works on deep dug outs continued. Excellent news from all fronts. 2 Officers and Nucleus from Bde. School also Corps Guard join up. Cricket material brought up from rear and matches played. Considerable enemy bombing at night. Weather hot; cool change in evening.	
do	24/8/18		Works on deep dug outs continued until 4 pm, when orders were received to the effect that this work would cease, all men to rest, and the Bn. "stand by" and await orders. There was again enemy bombing at night, but the long range guns which had been firing on this area were silent - probably moved back. C.O. attended conference at Bde. HQ. at AUBIGNY and returned at 6.20 pm.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SW. MORCOURT	25/8/18	8pm	<p>(contd.) A meeting of Coy. Comdr. was held and instructions issued re the attacks to be carried out by our Division on the sector on line 1200' S. of EAST and WEST Road to a point 2800' N. of this road. Direction to be due E. attacks to be on a one Bde. front - 14th Bde leading and when tired 8th Bde. to leap frog and continue the advance followed by 15th Bde. No objectives given and the advance to continue as far as possible. Date 27th inst. 2nd DIV. A.I.F. on left and 32nd English Div. on right - to advance simultaneously. Weather was cool on evening of 24th but no rain, but on 25th it became slightly warmer.</p>	
do.	26/8/18	10.30 am	<p>I.O. & 2 NCOs per Coy. met Bde. I.O. South of CERIST valley. Bn. & Coy. areas allotted.</p>	
S. of MORCOURT.		1/5pm	<p>All Coys. had a hot bath & change of underclothes at MORCOURT Baths after which they moved independently to the new positions N.W. of HERLEVILLE. and S. of MORCOURT, - north of main road.</p>	
		3pm	<p>Bde. Staff Capt. visited the Bn. and with C.O. attended conference at 14th Bde. 14 B. I.O. and advance parties again met, but at completion of conference the C.O. decided that there was not sufficient time for advance party to reconnoitre. C.O. and I.O. made reconnaissance of support positions and returned Bn. 14 B. 6.50 pm.</p>	
		7.20p	<p>Coy. Comdr. conference when instructions were issued for the relief</p>	
		8.0p	<p>I.O. & 1 NCO. per Coy. left as advance party.</p>	
		9.30	<p>Bn. left for new positions.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S. E. CHUIGNOLLES	26/8/18	10 pm 11 pm	Bn. arrived in new area and occupied trench system S.E. of CHUIGNOLLES all Coys. reported in position without a casualty. Bn. now in support to Left line Bn. (32 nd). Enemy attitude quiet - few flares on Right flank. Weather continued fine	
	27/8/18	12.30 a.m. 3.30 to 4.30 am 6 am	C.O. visited 32 nd Bn. H.Q. gives receiver Bn. dispositions Scattered enemy shelling of whole front. Enemy retaliated to heavy bombardment of our guns on FOUCAUCOURT and to subsequent advances of 30 th Bn. on Right and 32 nd Bn. on Left. His 4.2 & 5.9 guns were particularly active on to our forward Coys (B & D) Owing to advances of 32 nd Bn. of 1000', "A. & C" Coys. who were in rear moved forward after dark to positions in front of B & D Coys. S.E. of CHUIGNES. One of our officers who had been with 32 nd Bn. all the afternoon, kept the C.O. advised of all that Bn's movements. Reported that 30 th Bn. on Right have gone beyond FOUCAUCOURT. Meeting of Coy. Comdrs. held. Ponig. Gen. Tucey visited the Bn. and spoke re position and general development of the operation. Weather has been stormy - very dark in early part of night.	
S.E. CHUIGNES		11 am 11.30 am		

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S. of FONTAINE-LES-CAPPY	28/8/18		<p>Morning very quiet, <u>weather</u> promises to be fine again and strong winds is rapidly drying the ground.</p> <p>We now have 2 hot meals per night brought up from rear - good work being done in this direction.</p>	
S. of ASSEVILLERS		1.30pm	<p>Bn. moving in Artillery formation moved to position S. of FONTAINE-LES-CAPPY.</p> <p>Whilst in this position we received instructions to get in touch with 32nd Bn. and move through to maintain pressure on the enemy.</p>	
		8pm	<p>The C.O., after 2 or 3 attempts to find 32nd HQ., moved the Bn. to the Assembly position, S. of ASSEVILLERS.</p> <p>The country was exceptionally rough and the night very dark and direction was only kept by moving on compass bearings.</p>	
Advancing	29/8/18	2AM	<p>Operation Order for the <u>attack</u> issued to Coy.</p> <p>5AM Bn. formed up in 2 waves of 2 Coys each on a line running N. and S. immediately S.E. of ASSEVILLERS.</p> <p>First wave - A on right, C on left. Second do B do D do.</p> <p>5.30 a.m. Passed through 32nd Bn. Bn. HQ. moved with two rear Coys. and communication was maintained with Bde. throughout the whole operation. The Sig. Officer, (Lt. L. Walter) did splendid work in connection with this.</p> <p>(contd.)</p>	

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<u>Advancing</u>	29/8/18	6 AM	Line at this time was 2000' E of ASSEVILLERS, and progress was steadily continuing.	
		7 AM	Train whistles and steam heard and observed in the vicinity of ETERPIGNY on line running W. bank of SOMME Canal	
		7.10 AM	First objective reached - trench system running immediately S.W. of BARLEUX and line continued to push on. Left flank encountered M.G. fire from vicinity BARLEUX.	
<u>BARLEUX</u>		7.40 AM	Village of BARLEUX captured and line established 500' due E.	
		7.45 AM	Heavy M.G. fire encountered from high ground N.E. - left flank held up. In touch with 31 st BN. on Right - not in touch with Left Flank.	
		7.50 AM	Right Coy. continued to press forward to SOMME CANAL. Left Coy. began to dribble forward in twos & threes. Heavy M.G. fire from ETERPIGNY.	
		8 AM	One platoon of left Coy. began to work round enemy M.G.'s N.E. of BARLEUX and outflank them.	
		8.30 AM	Two Right Coys. won the high ground overlooking ETERPIGNY	
		8.40 AM	Left Support Coy. advanced through front line and made rapid progress across ground swept by M.G. fire and succeeding in reaching a point 800' W. of SOMME.	
<u>ETERPIGNY</u>		9 AM	Two Right Coys established a line in trenches immediately S.W. ETERPIGNY with posts on W Side of CANAL. Bridge 100' S. ETERPIGNY blown up.	

256

15

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

256

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ETERPIGNY	29/8/15	9-20 AM	Enemy driven out of high ground N.W. ETERPIGNY and retreating across Canal N. of this village. Left of line rushed forward to Canal and L.G. fire brought to bear on retreating enemy. Heavy casualties inflicted.	
		9.30 AM	"D" Coy. crossed Canal in rear of enemy N. of the village but were unable to cross the marshes E. of Canal as enemy had destroyed foot bridges. "C" Coy captured 20 prisoners and one L.M.G. near footbridge just N. of village.	
		10 AM	"D" Coy under heavy M.G. fire and point blank Artillery fire retired to W. bank of Canal. The line was established along W. bank of Canal with Support Line 500' in rear. In touch with 31 st Bn. on Right and 2 nd Aust. Div. on L.	
		10.30 AM	Bridge across Canal 700' N. of village destroyed by enemy fire.	
		10.30 AM	Heavy enemy artillery & M.G. fire on our positions on W. bank of Canal.	
		1 PM	Railway line on W. bank of Canal intact.	
			Splendid work was performed by all ranks in this operation and the enemy was harassed and heavy casualties inflicted throughout.	
			Weather fine - cold night.	

H. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A10266) Wt W5309/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

256

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ETERPIGNY	30/8/18	1.10 4.11	Bn. relieved by a Coy of the DORSETS (32 ND DIVISION) Coy. moved independently - tea being provided en route at ASSEVILLERS	
NE FOUCAUCOURT. (BOIS TOUFFA)		5.30 AM	All Coys. reported "all in" in new positions. Hot meal provided on arrival. Men spent the remainder of the day enjoying a well earned rest. There were very few shelters and they were mostly in the open. <u>Weather fine - cold at night.</u>	
	31/8/18		30 th & 32 nd Bns. moved forward to Reserve Bde. positions - 29 th & 31 st Bns. remained until following day. Advance party made reconnaissance of next position allotted SE FLAUCOURT. and areas were allotted. C.O. attended conference at Bde. in the morning. <u>Weather still fine - cold at night.</u>	

14

WAR DIARY

OF

29TH Battalion

FOR

August 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	<u>Orders Issued.</u>
<u>5/6</u>	<u>Battle Instructions Issued.</u>
	<u>Reports on Operations :-</u>
* <u>7</u>	8 th Aug.
* <u>8</u>	9 th Aug.
<u>9</u>	29 th Aug.
<u>10</u>	<u>Evacuations, Reinforcements etc.</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>Decorations</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>Salvage.</u>

* With original only.

①

256

29th BATTALION, A.I.F.

ORDER NO. 10

Ref. Map : 62D 1/40:000.

4th August 1918.

1. 29th Battalion will move from present Area to O 21 to-night, 4/5th August 1918.
2. The Battalion, marching as under :-
 Hqrs. Details.
 'A' Coy.
 'B' Coy.
 'C' Coy.
 'D' Coy. at
 will pass starting point, C.O.'s Billet No. 7455 at 8.45 p.m. and march to new position.
3. ROUTE. ALLONVILLE - H 25 a - BUSBY - DACURS to Railway Crossing at O 7 b 25 95. At this point Advance Party will meet Battalion and guide Coys. independently by shortest route to their positions.
4. Strict March Discipline will be observed and the following distances maintained :-
 100 Yards between Platoons.
 200 Yards between Coys.
 1000 Yards between Battalions.
5. Preceding Unit will drop sufficient connecting files to ensure that touch is maintained.
6. Lewis Gun Limbers will report to Coys. at 8 p.m. and will move with Coys. to their new positions. 1 Lewis Gun per Coy. will be immediately available on the march as anti-aircraft defence.
7. Special Police will be detailed by Coys. to ensure that there is no unnecessary movement by day. Any offenders will be severely dealt with.
8. Two Runners per Coy. will report to Bn. Hqrs. for attachment as soon as Coys. are in position. Coy. Commanders will forward advice to this effect by these runners.
9. Remainder of Transport will move independently.
10. Coy. Commanders will ensure that Billets vacated are left in a clean and sanitary condition. All Cleaning, burning of refuse etc. is to be finished by 8 p.m.
11. A halt will be made for ten minutes every half hour. First halt 9.30 p.m.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Baird
 Lieutenant.
 Adjutant, 29th Battalion.

Distribution :-

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| Copy No. 1 | 'A' Coy. |
| 2 | 'B' Coy. |
| 3 | 'C' Coy. |
| 4 | 'D' Coy. |
| 5 | C.O. |
| 6 | 8th A.I. Bde. |
| 7) | War Diary. |
| 8) | |
| 9) | |
| 10 | File. |

256

SECRET

②

39th BATTALION, A.I.F.

Reference Order No. 154.

Move to Forward Areas is postponed for 24 Hours.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued to all Recipients Order No. 154.

Booth

Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 39th Battalion.

2.p.m. 14th August 1918

89TH BATTALION.

ORDER NO. 184.

256

Ref.:-

1/40,000

Sheets 651, 62c, 66d, 66d
and ROULETTES combined sheet.2nd August 1918.

1. (a) The 8th A.I. Bde. will move from the AMBIGHT System to the vicinity of Squares W 22 & W 23 on 14th inst.
(b) 89th Battalion will move to Squares W 25 and part of W 27 d, and take over positions to be vacated by 60th Battalion.
2. Lieut. W.F. PRYOR and 2 Hqrs. Runners will move to new area tonight P/14th inst. and take over positions. They will meet the Battalion at W25, W22 & 2.2. and guide units to their bivouacs.
3. 89th Battalion, marching in the following order, :-
Hqrs.
'A' Coy.
'B' Coy.
'C' Coy.
'D' Coy.
will pass the starting point, CROSS ROADS O 21 b U.S. at 6.20 a.m. and will proceed by Route March to destination, via Cross-country Tracks to right of VILLIERS-BRESTONNEUX - MARCELLEAVE - GUILLANCOURT.
DISANCES.
(a) As far as MARCELLEAVE :-
50 yards between Platoons.
100 yards between Companies.
(b) After MARCELLEAVE:-
By parties of 10 in file with 50 yards between parties.
1 Officer will march in rear of each Coy.
Halts will be made at 10 minutes to Clock Hour and the march resumed at the Clock Hour.
1 Lewis Gun per Coy. and 1 for Bn. Hqrs. with 4 Magazines per Gun, will be carried on the march as Anti-Aircraft Defence.
4. All surplus Lewis Gun material, Coy. Orderly Room Gear, Blankets, Felt Hats and Coy. surplus material will be lodged at Bn. Dump by 6 p.m. today.
Officers' Valises are to be at Bn. Dump at 6.0 a.m. 14th inst.
All Trench Shelters issued since arrival in this area are to be lodged at Bn. Dump by 6.0 a.m. 14th inst.
5. Dress - Fighting Order, remainder of days rations plus Emergency Rations and 24 hours Battle Rations. Each man will carry 2 filled Water Bottles. S.B.Rs. will be worn at the 'Alert'.
Each man will carry 120 Rounds S.A.A. plus 1 bandolier. Great Coats will be carried in such a fashion so as not to interfere with wearing of S.B.Rs.
6. Coy. Cookers and 2 Water Carts will proceed to new area immediately after breakfast, 14th inst. The Sergeant Cook will arrange to have a hot meal ready for the Battalion on arrival.
Remainder of Transport, Lewis Gun Limbers, etc. will move independently under Bde. arrangements.
Lewis Guns, Magazines, Spare Parts etc. to be carried forward, and Coy. Signalling Gear, will be collected by Limbers from Coys. at 6.0 a.m. 14th inst.
7. Bn. Hqrs. and M.A.V. will be established at W 27 d 98.60.
8. On arrival in new area Coys. will notify Bn. Hqrs.

After arrival each Coy. will immediately mount 1 Lewis Gun as Anti-Aircraft Defence, and advise Bn. Mgrs. as to location of same. At least 1 Gas Picquet per Coy. is to be mounted and if Platoons are separated more will be necessary.

10.

Routine 14th inst. :-

WAKE-UP.....5.30 a.m.
BREAKFAST.....6.30 a.m.

Camp to be thoroughly clean before leaving. All refuse to be buried, and open latrines to be covered with a thick layer of fresh earth.

11.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

L. Bouish

Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 29th Battalion.

Distribution :-

- Coy No. 1 *A* Coy.
- 2 *B* Coy.
- 3 *C* Coy.
- 4 *D* Coy.
- 5 C.O.
- 6 6th A.I. Bde.
- 7)
- 8) War Diary.
- 9)
- 10 File.

Ref: Hqs parts of ORDER NO. 155.
62d, 62c, 66c, 66d, 1/40, 000.

August 16th 1918.

1. (a) The 5th Aust. Div. is relieving the 17th Div. in 'C' Divisional Sector on night 16/17th August 1918.
(b) The 3th Aust. Inf. Brigade will move into the area Q14, 15 and 21 today 16th August 1918.
2. Lieut. G.A. Sheehan, Hqs runner, and 1 N.C.O. per Company will move to new area at 9a.m. They will meet the Battalion at Q19 Central about 4p.m. and guide units to bivouacs.
3. 29th Battalion, marching in the following order, :-
 'Hqs.
 'A' Coy.
 'B' Coy.
 'C' Coy.
 'D' Coy.
 will pass the starting point, CROSS ROADS O 21 b O.5. at 2.3 Op.m. and will proceed by Route Larch to destination, via cross country tracks to north of VILLIERS BRETONNEUX-WARFUSSEE-ABANCOURT.
DISTANCES.
 100yards between Platoons.
 200yards between Companies.
 1000yards between Battalions.
 1 Officer will march in rear of each Company.
 Halts will be made at 10 minutes to clock hour and the march resumed at clock hour.
 1 Lewis Gun per Company and 1 from Bn. Hqs. and 4 magazines per gun will be carried on the march as Anti-Aircraft defence.
4. All trench shelters issued since arrival in this area and all Officers Valises which are being taken forward are to be lodged at the Bn. Dump by 9.3 Ca.m. on 16th inst.
5. Dress- Fighting Order, remainder of days rations plus emergency rations and 24 hours battle rations. Each man will carry 2 filled water bottles. S.B.Rs. will be worn at the 'Alert'. Each man will carry 120 rounds S. A.A. plus one bandolier. Great coats will be carried in such a fashion so as not to interfere with the wearing of S.B.Rs.
6. Company Cookers and 2 Water Carts will proceed to the new area immediately after the midday meal on 16th inst. Lewis Gun limbers, Mess Cart and Maltose Cart will move with the Bn. Remainder of transport will move under Brigade arrangements to Squares P24 and P3 O.
7. All Company mess gear to be ready for collection at 1p.m. Lewis Guns, Magazines, Spare Parts etc. and Company Signalling gear to be taken forward will be collected by limbers from Companies at 1.3 Op.m. on 16th inst.
8. Companies will notify Battalion Hqs. on arrival in new area.
9. After arrival each Company will immediately mount 1 Lewis Gun as Anti-Aircraft Defence, and advise Bn. Hqs. as to location of same. At least 1 Gas Piguet per Company is to be mounted and if platoons are separated more will be necessary. The new area is frequently subjected to Gas Shelling.
10. Routine 16th inst:- Midday Meal at 12 Noon. Camp to be thoroughly cleaned by 1.3 Op.m. All refuse to be burnt or buried and latrines to be filled in with earth.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Booth
Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 29th Battalion.

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APPENDIX

25-6

ORDER NO. 112

1,40,000

August 1918

- 1. (c) The 2nd Div. to relieve the 1st Div. on the night of 13/14th August 1918. (d) The 2nd Div. to be relieved by the 1st Div. on the night of 14/15th August 1918.
- 2. The 2nd Div. to be relieved by the 1st Div. on the night of 15/16th August 1918. The 2nd Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 1st Div. at 0100 hours on 15th August 1918. The 1st Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 2nd Div. at 0200 hours on 15th August 1918.
- 3. The 2nd Div. to be relieved by the 1st Div. on the night of 16/17th August 1918. The 2nd Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 1st Div. at 0100 hours on 16th August 1918. The 1st Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 2nd Div. at 0200 hours on 16th August 1918.

1000 yds. S. of the 1st Div. at 0100 hours on 15th August 1918. The 1st Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 2nd Div. at 0200 hours on 15th August 1918.

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1000 yds. S. of the 1st Div. at 0100 hours on 15th August 1918. The 1st Div. will move to new area 1000 yds. S. of the 2nd Div. at 0200 hours on 15th August 1918.

29th BATTALION.

ORDER No. 156.

Ref. Maps
62D, 62C 1/40,000.

26/8/18.

1. (a) The 8th Aust? Inf. Bde. will move to the vicinity of Squares Q29 ~~and~~ c & d and Q35 a & b on 26th August 1918.
(b) The 29th Battalion will move to new area on afternoon of 26th inst.
2. Coys. will report at baths at MORCOURT and obtain a hot bath and a change of clothing, at the following times:-
 - 'A' Coy.....1 p.m.
 - 'B' Coy.....2 p.m.
 - 'C' Coy.....3 p.m.
 - 'D' Coy.....4 p.m.
 - Bn. Hqrs.....5 p.m.
 from the baths Coys. will move to their area and will advise Bn. Hqrs. when move is complete.
Coys. will move in Platoons at 200 yards distance.
3. Battalion Headquarters will move to new area at 3 p.m.
4. Lieut G.A. Sheehan, 2 Hqrs. Observers and 2 Guides per Coy. will assemble at Bn. Hqrs. at 9 a.m. and will report to Lieut Gunning 8th Bde. Hqrs. at Cross Roads Q27 c at 10.30 a.m. They will be allotted positions.
1 Bn. Hqrs. Guide and 1 Guide per Coy. will report back to their Unit before leaving present area.
5. Cooker teams and Lewis Gun limbers will report to Coys. 1 hour before leaving present area and will proceed under Coy. Guides to new positions.
Maltese Cart, Mess Cart and Hqrs. Limber will report to Bn. Hqrs. at 3 p.m.
Water Carts will move independently to new area.
Remainder of Transport will move under orders to be issued by Brigade Transport Officer.
6. All Officers valises, packs, surplus stores etc. will be collected from Coys. at 9 a.m. and will be stored under guard at HAMELLET. All trench shelters, tents etc. will be struck and collected by limbers at 9 a.m. These will be stacked at Bn. Hqrs.
7. Nucleus will report to Bn. Hqrs. at 2 p.m. ready to proceed.
8. Lewis Guns (with the exception of 1 Gun per Coy.) Magazines etc. will be placed on Lewis Gun limbers and taken to new area.
1 N.C.O. per Coy. will proceed with L.G. Limber.
1 Lewis Gun and 4 Magazines per Gun will be carried by Coys. on the march as Anti-Aircraft protection.
9. On arrival in new area Coys. will immediately dig in to provide protection from enemy shelling and bombs. The usual Gas Picquets and Anti-Aircraft Lewis Guns will be mounted.
10. Coys. will see that their areas are left in a clean and sanitary condition and that all open latrines are covered with a thick layer of fresh earth.
11. DRESS, Fighting Order. Each man will carry 100 rounds S.A.A. plus 1 bandolier. 24 No. 6 Grenades will be distributed amongst Rifle Grenade Sections.
Greatcoats and Waterproof Sheets will be carried.
2 filled Water Bottles per man, and Emergency Rations plus remainder of days rations will be carried.
24 hours rations will be carried in bulk by Q. M.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Baithy L
Adj 29th Battalion A.I.F.*

Distribution:-

- Copy No. 1. 'A' Coy.
- 2. 'B' Coy.
- 3. 'C' Coy.
- 4. 'D' Coy.
- 5. C.O.
- 6. Bde. Hqrs.
- 7.)
- 8.) War Diary.
- 9.)
- 10. File.

1. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

2. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

3. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

4. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

5. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

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8. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

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10. The 8th Battalion, 1300, will move to the new area at 3 p.m. and will report to the Bde. Hqrs. at 3.30 p.m. and will report to the 8th Battalion at 4.00 p.m. They will be allocated positions.

29th BATTALION.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

Map Ref.: SHEET 62D. 1/20,000.

5th August 1918.

1. The Australian Corps is to attack the enemy from the VILLERS BRETONNEUX - CHAUMES Railway exclusive to the River SOMME. The day and hour will be notified later. The 5th Australian Division will attack within the Boundary shown on the attached map No. 1. The 2nd Canadian Division is to co-operate on the right (South of the Railway) inclusive, and the 6th Australian Division on the left.
2. GENERAL METHOD OF ATTACK. Division will attack on a 2 Brigade front. The attack will be carried out in 2 phases. Brigade Boundaries and objectives are as shown on Map No. 1.
- i. First Phase - The Division, organised in Brigade Groups - 15th A.I. Bde. on the right and 8th A.I. Bde. Group on the left, will advance in open warfare formation on the first objective passing through the 2nd Aust. Div. their objective is shown in red on the Map No. 1.
 - ii. Second Phase. - 15th and 8th A.I. Bde. Groups will exploit their success and seize old British lines of defence marked BLUE on the Map and establish themselves defensively in this line.
 - iii. The 14th A.I. Bde. Group will be in Div. Reserve.
 - iv. The composition of the 8th A.I. Bde. Group will be as under
1 Inf. Bde.: 1 M.G. Coy.: 1 Bde. Field Arty.: 5 Sections
Light Horse: Half Platoon Cyclists: Detachment of Engrs.:
Detachment of Tunnellers:
 - v. Exploiting Detachments - 6 Officers 210 Other Ranks, 16 Vickers Machine Guns, 16 Lewis Guns.
3. FORMATIONS. The 8th A.I. Bde. will move from assembly positions in suitable formation for engaging in open warfare with advanced and flank guards and special provision for maintaining touch with adjoining bodies on the flank. It may at any time, particularly after passing the GREEN Line, be necessary for Units to deploy into artillery formation, but the guiding principle will be to avoid premature and over dispersion and consequent loss of control. The Battalion and Company formation to be adopted will be notified later.
4. PROGRAMME. (a) The line O³ 6 central - Cross Roads P 25 c - thence along Road N.E. to QUARRY CROSSING - HAMEL is taken as a starting line for the 15th and 8th A.I. Bde. ~~GROUPS~~ GROUPS.
- (b) The rate of march is taken at 1 mile per hour, including halts.
 - (c) The distance from the 8th A.I. Bde. start line to the GREEN Line is 5050 Yards - 2.9 miles.
 - (d) Therefore, to reach the GREEN Line at zero plus 4 hours the Bde. will leave start line at zero plus 1 hour.
5. in the
The exploiting detachments ~~EXPLOITING DETACHMENTS~~ Mark V* Tanks will move behind the 8th A.I. Bde. Group at a distance of 300 Yards until the RED Line is reached when they will pass through the Bde. and advance to the BLUE Line where detachments will disembark and act in accordance with orders previously issued.

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6. INFORMATION REQUIRED. The following information is required by the Battalion during the operation :-
 (a) The position of our troops.
 (b) Positions and strength of the enemy.
 (c) The nature and position of enemy defences.
 (d) The nature and direction of hostile shelling.
 (e) Identification of German Units.
7. A German speaker will be at Bn. Hqrs. and any documents captured or taken from prisoners should be forwarded to Bn. Hqrs. together with prisoners taken from at once. Pay Books and Identification Discs are NOT to be taken from prisoners. Special care should be taken that no documents are destroyed by prisoners;
8. MEDICAL. Arrangements will be made for clearing of all wounded from R.A.P. Special measures will be taken to clear the battlefield. Wounded will be conveyed to the nearest road. Corps will be specially searched. All ranks should be advised that if they are wounded or are waiting to be picked up, they should drive their rifle with bayonet fixed in to the ground and tie a small piece of bandage on the butt. This is a precaution against being run over by tanks. Supply Tanks (denoted by a yellow board affixed in rear) will carry back the slightly wounded whom they may pick up.
9. In moving forward Unit Commanders will use their discretion (whilst still maintaining direction) as to localities in which halts or detours will be made to avoid shelled areas.
10. FORMING UP AND ASSEMBLY. Assembly Types will be laid under the supervision of an Officer of the 8th Field Coy. A.E. Each Coy. will detail 1 Officer and 3 Other Ranks to assist in tape laying and this personnel will be used to guide Coys. into their positions. Time and place of reporting of above party will be notified later. The moves to the assembly position will be made in the following order :- 1st Bn., 5th Bn., 2nd Bn., 29th Bn. M.G. Sections attached will move with Bn.
11. COMMUNICATIONS. It is imperative that all information gained should be forwarded to Bn. Hqrs. at once. In sending a message map location at which the message is written must be included at the end of the message. Attention is directed to S.S.148. Every provision will be made for the use of alternate methods of communication.
12. DIRECTION. Special precautions will be taken to prevent loss of direction during the operation advance. Advanced Officers will be given a Compass Bearing on which to march regardless of the fact that there may be conspicuous land marks. A Bearing taken from Advanced Brigade Hqrs. in O 24 c to the VAUVILLERS Church will give the approx. boundary between Brigades.
13. Coy. Commanders will take all possible steps to prevent the scope or date of the operation becoming known except to those taking part. All movement of troops by day, except where absolutely necessary, is to be strictly curtailed.
14. LIAISON. Care must be taken that strict liaison is maintained with all units during the advance. O.C. 'A' Coy. will detail 1 Officer as Liaison Officer with 2nd Bn. A runner will accompany this Off.
15. TANKS. Tanks are allotted for employment with 8th A.I. Bde. as under
 'A' Coy. 2nd Tank Bn.
 1 Coy. of 8th Tank Bn. in Support. This Coy. will be specially employed to maintain the attack at the junction of 4th & 5th Aust. Div.
 5 Carrying Tanks. They will be employed for the transport of S.A.A., Rations, Water, etc.

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15. TANKS (contd.) 'A' Coy. 1st Tank Bn. consists of 4 Sections each of 5 Tanks. After passing the GREEN Line Nos. 1 & 2 Sections will operate on the right in front of 1st Bn. Nos. 3 & 4 Sections will operate on the left in front of 3rd Bn. Tanks will move 200 yards in front of foremost infantry and will carry notice boards affixed on the back showing the colours of the affiliated Bn. The 5 Supply Tanks will move in rear of the Infantry and will carry yellow notice board.
16. ARTILLERY. The 13th Aust. F.A. Bde. 3 18 pdr. Batteries and 1 4.5 How. Battery is allotted to the 8th Bde. for operation. To provide for emergency 'D' Coy. will be prepared to act as escort for the Guns.
17. MACHINE GUNS. The 25th M.G. Coy. is grouped with the 8th Bde. for the operation. 'B' & 'D' Sections will be with this Bn. and form part of Bde. Reserve. These Sections will for tactical purposes come under the orders of the C.O.
18. SANITATION. In view of the prevalence of dysentery, the greatest care must be taken regarding sanitation in the new area taken over. Particularly as regards latrines and the protection of food from flies.
19. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Precautions will be taken against low flying enemy aircraft. Each Coy. will detail at least 1 Lewis Gun to engage any that may attack the Bn. when on the move.
20. ACKNOWLEDGE.

L. Bourke

Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 29th Battalion.

Distribution :-

Copy No.	1	'A' Coy.
	2	'B' Coy.
	3	'C' Coy.
	4	'D' Coy.
	5	C.O.
	6	C.O. M.G. Sections attd.
	7)	
	8)	War Diary.
	9)	
	10	File.

29TH BATTALION, A.I.F.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS NO. 2.

Ref/ Map : SHEET 62B 1/20,000.

6th August 1918.

1. INFORMATION. Vide battle instructions No. 1
2. INTENTIONS. To capture RED & Blue Lines.
RED line from W 5 c 7 4 to Q³ 0 c 5 5.
BLUE line from W 12 b 90³ 0 to R 25 c 2 5.
29th Battalion in reserve ready for any emergency.
3. ASSEMBLY POSITION. Coys. will occupy following positions :-
'C' Coy. PIONEER SWITCH C.T. from O 24 b 1⁵ 5 to O 24 a³ 6.
'B' Coy. Trench from O 18 d 40 99 to O 18 d 5 2.
'A' Coy. Switch C.T. from O 24 a³ 6 to O 2³ b 5 6.
Bn. Hqs. Switch C.T. from O 2³ b 5 6 to O 2³ a 9 6.
'D' Coy. Trench from O 2³ a 9 7 to O 2³ a 9 1.
M.G. Sections Trench from O 18 d 05 85 to O 18 c 8 6.
Bn. will move out in the above order, commencing at 12.15 a.m. at 5 minute intervals and occupy positions as laid down, so as to be ready to move out in the order laid down in para. 5 at 45 minutes after zero.
All ranks will keep well down in the assembly trenches and each Platoon will have special sentries to watch tanks passing over so as to warn any man in the way.
Coys. will sort out in their proper formation as soon as possible.
4. TROOPS. 8th A.I. Bde. in centre, 15th A.I. Bde. on right, 12th A.I. Bde. on left and troops as shown in Battle Order No. 1. 12 Armoured Cars will also co-operate and will have red & white marked on them.
The Cavalry Corps will operate from valley of the LUCE R.R. across front.
3 Sections of 25th M.G. Coy. MINNEX is attached to the Bn. Up to the GREEN line 3rd Bn. and 2nd Bn. will be in advance with 2nd Bn. & 29th Bn. following in this order. From GREEN line (at zero plus 4 hours) 3rd Bn. will be on right and 2nd Bn. on left and will be the attacking troops.
2nd Bn. in Support at 400 Yards distance.
29th Bn. in Reserve at 400 yards distance.
5. FORMATION. The Battalion will advance in diamond formation. Each Coy. also in this formation with protecting scouts in front and on flanks.
'C' will be in front at 100 yards distance.
'A' Coy. on right with 100 yards interval from Section of Vickers Guns.
1 Section of Vickers Guns in centre covering 'C' Coy. at 100 yards distance and in diamond formation.
'B' Coy. on left with 100 yards interval from Vickers Guns Section.
Bn. Hqs. 50 yards in rear and covering the intervals of 'A' & 'B' Coys. moving in three parties in line.
Remaining sections of Vickers Guns will be divided.
3 Guns following 'A' Coy. & 2 Guns following 'B' Coy. each at 50 yards distance.
'D' Coy. will follow Bn. Hqs. at 100 yards distance.
Coys. moving in diamond formation, leading platoon 50 yards in front, flanking platoons 100 yards interval, rear Platoon 50 yards in rear of Coy. Hqs. who will march covering the interval between right and left Platoons and in rear of same. When it becomes necessary to further reduce Unit the same formation will be applied to Platoons, the interval and distance being 25 yards. Units should march in compact bodies as long as possible so as to ensure control, and should re-form from Sections as soon as possible.

5. **FORMATION.**
(continued). Extension formations will be only be adopted if coming under heavy M.G. or Rifle fire, or when developing an attack. Care must be taken that connection is maintained throughout, and in case of a diversion from general line of advance to regain that line as soon as possible. Each Unit will provide its own protection. Units in front keeping in touch with Units in rear. Liaison to be maintained throughout.
6. **DIRECTION AND FACE.** 'C' Coy. will direct and 2 Officers & 2 N.C.Os. will be detailed to watch this. The general direction will be centre of position to be attacked on a general true bearing of 99°. (Magnetic variation approx. 13.5°). Face will be regulated by those in front (see Battle Instruction No. 1). Distances must be maintained unless otherwise ordered.
7. **FINAL OBJECTIVES.** When final objective has been taken the Bn. will be distributed as follows :-
'C' Coy. on right. 'B' Coy. on left approx. between grid and road in Q 34 b & d and W 4 b & d.
'A' Coy. in Support in Q 34 c near to right boundary.
'D' Coy. in Reserve in Q 34 a central grid line to road in Q 23.
Bn. Hqrs. Q 33 b 7 3.
8. **MESSAGES & REPORTS.** To centre party of Bn. Details covering the interval and in rear of V.G. Section and in front of 'D' Coy. while advancing. When final objective reached to Bn. Hqrs. Q 33 b 7 3.
9. **COMMUNICATIONS.** Coys. will arrange for Signal Communication by telephone (where possible) and by visual and runners. 1 Bicycle, Lucas Lamp, Telephone & wire, Flappers & Flags will be carried forward by each Coy.
10. **DRESS.** **FIGHTING ORDER** - each man will carry one Bandolier of S.A.A 48 hours Rations, extra Water Bottle, Ground Sheet under flap of Haversack, 1 Ground Flare, 1 Tin Disc for Aeroplane Signal (to be carried under S.B.R.)
FLARES AND TIN DISCS WILL ONLY BE SHOWN IN ADVANCED POSITIONS.
Each Platoon will carry 6 No. 27 Grenades and 6 No. 36 Grenades. 1 Discharger to be carried off the Rifle. Each Coy. will carry 9 Picks and 32 Shovels.
Each Lewis Gun Team will carry forward 24 Magazines.
Each Coy. 1 Message Rocket. } These will be carried
Bn. Hqrs. 5 Message Rockets. } slung over the shoulder.
Each Officer will carry 1 S.O.S. Signal.
Each Coy. will carry 2 Success Rockets (white over white over white).
Coys. to arrange to carry forward Rifle Oil and Flannelette Great Coats to be rolled in bundles of 10 and dumped at Coy. Hqrs. at 10.a.m. 7th inst.
11. **GAS.** Full precautions will be taken against Gas in present position, assembly position and when on the move.
12. **SEARCHERS.** ~~SEARCHERS~~. I.C. will detail searchers to search prisoners & dug-outs and to give estimate of enemy killed. All documents captured will be put in a bag and labelled 'IMPORTANT' and 'UNIMPORTANT' and forwarded with prisoners.
13. **PACK ANIMALS.** 1 Pack animal is allotted to each Coy. and 2 to Bn. Hqrs. Each will carry 3 Lewis Gun Magazines. These animals will be under the charge of G.S.M. and will move forward in rear of Battalion.

14. **STRAGGLERS.** All stragglers will be collected by Coys. and attached. Only men who are wounded, runners and men with written messages or permits, prisoners escorts, will be allowed to move to the rear. Men must not go to the rear with prisoners, trophies etc. without a special permit signed by a responsible officer.
15. **WATER.** No water is to be drawn from wells in captured territory. Water carried in water bottles to be conserved as much as possible.
16. **TANK SIGNALS.**
 Green & White - 'Come on.'
 Red & Yellow - 'I am broken down.'
 Red, White & Blue - 'I am returning.'
 No. 27 Smoke Bombs fired in direction of S.P. or helmets placed on bayonets and pointed in direction of S.P. will indicate to the Tanks that help is required there.
17. **SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS.** Bn. Sig. Officer will make himself thoroughly conversant with all instructions issued in Bde. Battle Instructions.
18. **WAR TROPHIES.** War Trophies captured will be labelled. Trophies will not be carried forward.
19. **CONSOLIDATION.** As soon as the RED Line has been captured the position will be thoroughly consolidated. Arrangements have been made to ensure supply of engineering material for this. When the BLUE Line is attained it will be organised and consolidated as the main line of resistance. If the enemy is able to develop an immediate counter attack or if he has a definite plan, and the troops available in close reserve for the defence of the Blue Line & it may not be possible to reach the BLUE Line. In this case the RED Line will become the main line of resistance and will be consolidated and organised in depth accordingly. The Bn. must be prepared as early as possible to fight a stiff defensive battle on the main line of resistance.
20. **MEALS.** Hot Meal will be partaken of at 11 p.m. on 7th inst. All cooking utensils etc. will be returned to kitchen at once and kitchens will move back to new Transport Lines at 0 27 d 7 2.
21. **LEWIS GUN MAGAZINES.** All spare L.G. Magazines will be packed in L.G. Limbers and will remain at Transport Lines until sent for. They will be held in readiness to be moved forward at a moment's notice.
22. **EXPLOITATION.** All ranks will be prepared to exploit further success forward if necessary.
23. **SYNCHRONISATION.** Arrangements will be made to synchronise watches twice during the eight hours prior to zero.
24. **ACKNOWLEDGE.**

Lieutenant.
 Adjutant, 29th Battalion.

Distribution :-

Copy No. 1 'A' Coy.
 2 'B' Coy.
 3 'C' Coy.
 4 'D' Coy.
 5 V.M.C. Sections.
 6 C.O.
 7 Bth A.I. Bde.
 8 T.O.
 9 C.M.
 10 File.
 11; 12, 13 War Diary.

APPENDIX

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29th BATTALION THE 8 SECTIONS 25th M.G. COY.
1 SECTION HOTCHKISS GUN.

At 12 mid night 7/8th August 1918 the Bn. moved from bivouacs near AUBIGNY line and formed up in Assembly Position in DIGGER'S Support at 2 a.m. 8th inst.

At 4.20 a.m. MARRAGE fell.

At 5.05 a.m. The Battalion moved forward in diamond formation from Assembly Position in a heavy fog, being in touch with 2nd Battalion in front.

At 7.20 a.m. Battalion held up by tanks in front.

At 7.30 a.m. Battalion moved into position in rear of GIBSON LINE in valley at F^o C a.

At 8.40 a.m. Battalion moved forward in diamond formation in rear of 2nd Battalion.

At 10.35 a.m. Battalion distributed and establishing positions in W 4 b and W 5 a.

At 10.40 a.m. Battalion Pers. established at W 5 a 0 2. The Battalion remained in this position night 8/8th August 1918.

CASUALTIES. Killed. 1 Officer 1 Other Rank.
Wounded. 1 do 2 do

CAPTURED MONEY AND BELONGINGS. In accordance with list already submitted.

10/8/18.

R
Major.
A/C.C. 29th Battalion.

8/8/18

RUFA,

The following guns and material,
captured today, has been returned
to rear.

- 2 German Heavy M.G. guns.
- 2 " Light M.G. guns.
- 1 Lewis Gun, No. 20095.
- 2 Hotchkiss large M.G. spare parts
- 2 Pigeon guns
- 1 Periscope scope
- 2 Kettle drums
- 1 Complete uniform, cap, steel helmet
- 2 Packs
- 5 Rifles
- 1 featherweight pack saddle
- 1 Electric light outfit
- 1 Field pump
- 1 Bicycle with spring runs
- 1 "Pigeon" ear
- Telephone gear, M.G. stand, flares,
bayonets etc.

Booth to file
for file
L.O. 115

8/1/13

At 10.15

The following were sent out on 8/1/13

1. Mr. H. C. Jones

2. Mr. J. E. Jones

3. Mr. J. E. Jones

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100. Mr. J. E. Jones

REPORT ON OPERATION 9th August 1918.

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25TH BATTALION Plus 2 SECTIONS 25TH M.G. COY., 1 HORCHISS GUN SECTION.

Ref. 62D S.F.
1/40,000.

At 8 a.m. The Battalion distributed in positions in W 4 b & W 5 a.
Battalion Hqs. at W 5 a 0 2.

At 8.30 a.m. The C.O. attended a conference at Bde. Hqs. and received verbal instructions re the advance from BLUE LINE to GREEN LINE; an average distance of 800 yards.

At 9.50 a.m. The following message was received from the C.O. at Brigade Hqs. Battalion to be ready to move at 10 a.m. Fighting Order, men to have meal at once.
(The C.O.'s Operation Order was handed to a mounted D.M. at Bde. Hqs. but was not received by the Adjutant until 11.45 a.m. after Operation had commenced).

At 10.10 a.m. The C.O. returned from Bde. Hqs. and gave verbal instructions to Coy. Commanders, who had been assembled in anticipation of immediate action.

At 10.42 a.m. The Battalion moved forward to attack via left edge of MARCHONNIERS. From this village onwards the Battalion was under heavy enemy M.G. fire from and around VAUVILLERS.

At 11.40 a.m. Battalion Hqs. established at W 13 a 9 3.
At 11.40 a.m. The attack was launched from BLUE LINE :-
'A' Coy. on Right. Lieut. C.E. Davis in Command.
'C' Coy. in Centre. Capt. G.A. Derham M.C. in Command.
'B' Coy. on Left. Lieut. S.W. Coleman in Command.
'D' Coy. in Support Lieut. E. Thomas in Command.
in BLUE LINE. GREEN LINE.
OBJECTIVE

At 11.45 a.m. Battalion Hqs. moved to W 13 a 3 3.
At 12 noon Battalion Hqs. moved to BLUE LINE at X 7 a 0 owing to Reports being received that Coys. were held up by M.G. fire. From this position the whole attack was now under direct observation.

An Artillery Protective Barrage fell at 11 a.m., ZERO Hour. No troops moved on the Right Flank thus leaving this Flank open to heavy M.G. fire.
The Tanks supporting the Operation were put out of action by enemy fire immediately after commencement.

At 12.20 p.m. Heavy casualties being caused by M.G. firing in and around VAUVILLERS. Coys. were now mid way between BLUE LINE and OBJECTIVE and were ordered to stay in that position until it was possible to move without heavy casualties.

At 12.30 p.m. The C.O. (Lieut. Colonel J. McArthur) was wounded by a M.G. bullet in neck and evacuated the Command of the Battalion passing to Capt. G.A. Derham, M.C.

At 1 p.m. Coys. moving by short rushes towards objective, and engaging enemy M.G. with Lewis Gun and Rifle fire.

At 2.15 p.m. After series of short rushes and by means of crawling all three Coys. were on the Objective, the Left Coy. being in touch with 1st Battalion. No troops being on the Right Flank.

At 2.30 p.m. The Right Coy. advanced beyond VAUVILLERS, establishing Lewis Gun Posts to cover the Village.

- 2 -

At 3 p.m.

New line now runs :-
 X 1 d 6.9 - X 8 b 6.4 - X 8 d 6.4 -
 X 14 b 5.7.

1 Platoon of Support Coy. was sent forward to fill gap between Centre & Left Coy. caused by this latter Coy. moving slightly too far to the left. The front line was held by a series of posts.

No troops moved forward on Right Flank until after Objective was taken.

Great bravery was exhibited by all ranks in advancing against heavy enemy M.G. fire, and ultimately completely silencing all opposition.

Total Casualties. Killed :- 3 Officers 14 O.R.

Wounded :- 8 do 69 do

Captured enemy material in accordance with list already forwarded to Dde. Hqs.

10/8/18.

R. Major.
 A/C.O. 29th Battalion.

"D.O.H.O."

part on attack on morning 9-8-18
from A.2.

This company was warned at
9-45 a.m. & ~~moved~~ at 10. to
be ready to move at 10.

at 10-30 the O.C. gave orders that
the company would move forward
& occupy line X:1-c-00-~~9~~ to X:1-c-0-9
preparatory to an attack which
was to take place at 11 a.m.

This gave very little time ~~to~~
detail arrangements more especially
as the route laid down to the
start line was via Harbournes
There was a heavy enemy barrage
on this village when we were
passing through but company
pushed on & arrived at start
line at 11-25

We immediately went forward
with the 31st Bn on our left under

enemy machine-gun ~~fire~~ &
artillery fire which caused
several casualties early in
the operation.

The left half company - nos 5 &
6 platoons - reached their
objective & established a line
on road from X:1-d-6-9 to
X:1-d-7-3.

Our left was always in touch
with the 31st Bn.

After crossing railway the right
half-company found themselves
on flat ground commanded
by enemy machine guns & a
tank gun which put 4 tanks
out of action.

Communication with B. Coy on
right was extremely difficult.
In the course of half an hour so
a "stokes" gun succeeded in
silencing the enemy tank
gun. No 7 platoon Lewis
gunners silenced two enemy

machine guns. ~~the boys~~
~~the boys~~ of no 8 platoon
took prisoner the crew of two
other enemy machine guns
at 2-15 the right half company
went forward & dug in
under heavy shell fire
making the boy line
continuous to X-7-B-8-4 approx
& in communication with
C. Coy on right.

VADVILLERS

To The Commanding Officer 29th Bn

From Of C Coy 29th Bn

Report on Operations of C Coy at
VADVILLERS on the 9th August 1918.

at 10-15 am on the morning of the 9th
August, I received orders to be prepared
to move, & see that all ranks had a
meal at once.

at 10-30 am the Bn Intelligence Officer
informed me that the battalion were to
move forward from the blue line & take
up a new position from X1d00 to X8c00
The front allotted to C Coy being from
X7b35 to X7d78.

at 11-40 am the company advanced
through the blue line & immediately
met with heavy enemy machine gun
fire.

The company were then only able to
advance in short pushes, from cover
to cover, suffering heavy casualties
in doing so.

W^r Beamish was badly wounded
shortly after the advance commenced
& during the advance, the Colonel
being wounded, I took charge of

256

APPENDIX

8

38

the battalion.
Shortly after this, receiving information
that Lt Braden & Lt Klug had been
killed, I sent Lt Stanton to take
charge of G Coy.

10/8/18 Cameron
Capt

11-

256

Adjutant
29th Bn AIF.

10/8/18

At 10 AM on the morning
of the 9/8/18, I received an
order to get the boys ready
to move immediately. In
the meantime I reported to
BHQ where I was given
the details of an advance
we were to make in the
direction of Vauvillers. This
advance was to be in co-
operation with the 1st Div. who
were going to advance on our
right & was to conform to
their direction. Tanks were
to operate with us. 2 hrs
was to be 11 AM.

Due to the shortness of
notice we were a little late
in getting to the hopping off
line. Our tanks were already
out & were out of action.

APPENDIX

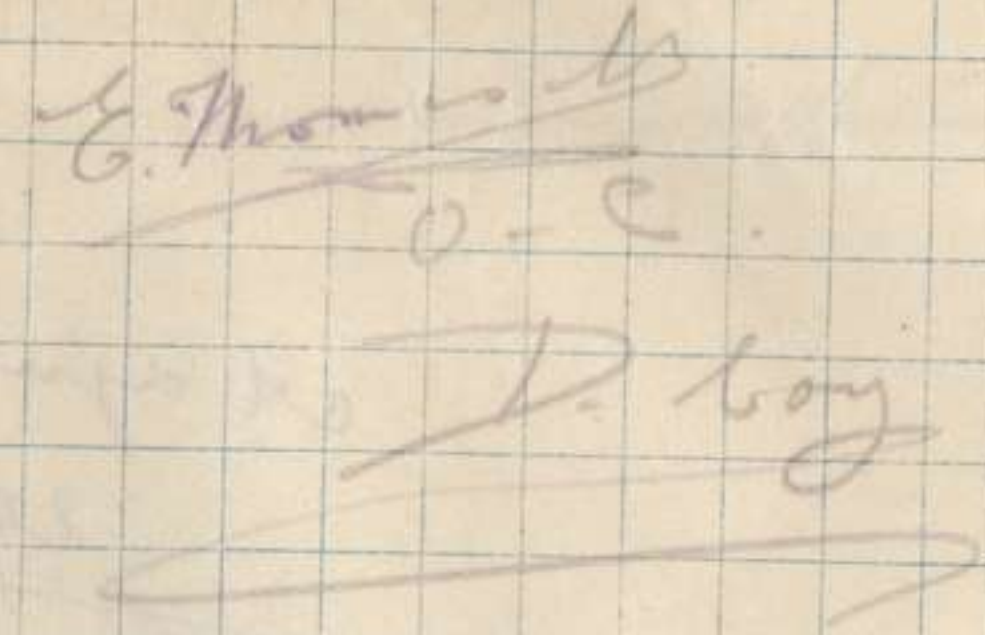
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There was no sign of the 1st line on our right. We advanced but were soon held up by M.G. fire. This Coy. (D) who were in reserve advanced to within 200 yds of C Coy who were held up in the centre. The position remained unchanged for about 3/4 of an hour when the 1st line were seen advancing on our right. With his ~~right~~ flanks threatened on the right our troops were able to advance & drive him right through the village which was beyond our objective. During the time being a gap between C & B Coys I sent forward a platoon under orders from the C.O. which filled up the gap.

Later on in the day the 2nd line passed through us & advanced some distance beyond Dammiers. Our advanced troops

on the right were then withdrawn to the line of their objective between X 8000 * + X 1 # C 805.



8

APPENDIX

et adjutant
 29th 30th

[Faint, illegible handwriting on a piece of lined paper]

29th Battalion
10. 8. 18.

Headquarters

8th Aust. Inf Bde.

Enclosed please find
list of captured enemy M.G.
& material, action VAUVILLERS.
9/8/18. -

- 1 Motor Car
- 1 Heavy M.G. stand No 2994.
- 1 do do do 3878
- 1 Light M.G. No. 5671.
- 1 do do " 1699.
- 1 do do " 3552.
- 1 do do " 1929.
- 1 do do " 5816
- 10 Wooden boxes containing
Telephones Wireless & other
Signal Equipment.
- 1 First Aid Pack containing
Medicine etc.
- 1 Wooden Box containing Steel
Arms
- 1 Knemng Rifle No 7397.
- 1 sword.

R
a/c.o. 2^d Battalion.
Major

Ref. SHEET 62C S.W. 1/20,000.

29th August 1918.

- 12 Midnight
28/29th. Battalion was located in Trenches in N 13 b & d. Bn. Hqrs. at N 13 a 60 00.
- 2.a.m. 29th. Operation Order for attack issued to Companies.
- 5.a.m. Formed up in two waves of two Coys. each along N & S grid line running through N 14 & 20 central.
- 5.30.a.m. Passed through 32nd Battalion. Forward Battalion Hqrs. moved with two rear Coys. and were connected by 'phone with Bde. throughout the whole operation. Lieut. Walter, the Bn. Sig. Officer did splendid work in this respect.
- 6.A.M. Line at this hour ran along N & S grid E of N 15 b & d. Steady progress continuing.
7ain → see page 2
- 7.10.a.m. First objective, Trench System from N 17 b 5 9 to N 23 a 0 0 reached. Line continued to press on. Left flank encountered slight M.G. fire from vicinity of BARLEUX.
~~XXXXXXXX~~
- 7.40.a.m. BARLEUX captured and line established 500 yards due E.
- 7.45.a.m. Heavy M.G. fire encountered from direction of O 8 c. Left flank held up. Line approx. N & S through O 13 central O 19 b, in touch with 31st Battalion on right, not in touch on left flank.
- 7.50.a.m. Right Coys. continue to press forward to SOMME CANAL. Left Coy. began to dribble forward in twos & threes. Heavy M.G. fire from O 8 c and village of BTERPIGNY.
- 8.a.m. One Platoon of left Coy. began to work round enemy in O 8 c and outflank him.
- 8.30.a.m. Two right Coys. won high ground in O 19 b overlooking BTERPIGNY.
- 8.40.a.m. Left Support Coy. advanced through front line and made rapid progress across ground swept by M.G. fire and succeeded in reaching O 14 central.
- 9.a.m. Two right Coys. established line in Trenches running through O 20 a with Posts on Canal. Bridge across Canal 100 yards S of BTERPIGNY blown up.
- 9.20.a.m. Enemy driven out of O 8 c and retiring across Canal at O 15 a 5 6. Left of Line rushed forward to CANAL and brought M.G. fire to bear on enemy as he crossed. Heavy casualties inflicted.
- 9.30.a.m. 'D' Coy. crossed Canal in rear of enemy by bridge at ~~XXXXXXXX~~ O 15 a 5 6 but were unable to cross marsh E of Canal. Enemy had destroyed foot bridges. 'C' Coy. captured approx. 20 prisoners and one Light M.G. near foot bridge over Canal just N of BTERPIGNY.
- 10.a.m. 'D' Coy. under very heavy M.G. fire and point blank Artillery fire retired to west bank of Canal. Line established along west Bank of Canal with Support line in Trenches running through O 14 and O 20 central. In touch with 31st Bn. on right and 2nd Aust. Div. on left. Bn. Hqrs. at N 24 b 8 8. Forward Bn. Hqrs. at O 14 d 1 5
- 10.30.a.m. Bridge across Canal at O 15 a 5 6 destroyed by enemy fire.

10.a.m.
to
1.p.m.

Heavy enemy artillery & M.G. fire on our positions on west bank of Canal. Railway line on west bank of Canal intact.

7.a.m.

Train whistles and steam heard and observed in vicinity of ETERPIGNY on line running along west bank of Canal. Train seemed to be proceeding in direction of PERONNE.

P. Leharde

Major.
A/C.O. 29th Battalion.

On the night of the 28/29 we moved forward from the valley in M-16 up to the South of ASSEVILLERS in an old system of trenches in N 13 d + 19 - about 1000 yds in rear of the 32nd Battalion who had been chasing the Hun for two days. We - A Coy - got in touch with C Coy on our left and the 30th Bn on our right but our patrol failed to get into touch with the 32nd.

At 4.30 A.M. we formed up in front of our bivouac. NOS 1 + 3 platoons in the firing line in lines of sections in file at 50 x interval - with two scouts ~~three~~ 300' behind of each platoon. NOS 2 + 4 platoons were in support in the same formation. 2 supporting 1 + 4 supporting 3. Coy. H. Bn in the centre between the two lines.

A Coy moved off 7 minutes late and had to hurry to catch C Coy. This however was accomplished soon after leaving the 32nd line - at the 32nd line I received word that the 32nd were about 700' ahead and a little later I received a verbal message from the left Coy (mid)

of the 31st that he was going round the South of the wood in N 16 - 17 - 21 - 22 so I decided to go round the North side and get in touch with the 31st on the East side - I sent three scout parties through the lower portion of the wood on the North side and during the halt when the left of the line was temporarily held - my scouts were able to report the wood clear and we pushed on - when clear of the wood my scouts signalled back all clear from the hill 500' ahead. When we reached this hill in N 23 - I was able to see the 31st to our right front and also to see with my glasses an enemy M.G. + crew about 2000' away in the main position - from this time onward we came under occasional bursts of M.G. fire - on coming up the bank towards ~~we came~~ JUNCTION TRENCH in N 17 C + d we came under heavy M.G. fire and then entered the trench and started to work round the system of trenches running to the South of BARLEUX and when in O-13-C. I sent one platoon - under Lt Williams - forward to clear the gap of any enemy opposition

Account of Operations. 28/29 August. 1918.

On 27 August. The Battalion were in Support to 32nd Batt. B. Company were occupying an old trench system, 1,500' North of FOUCHECOURT with Coy H.Q. in an enemy hut in CUISINES WOOD.

At 8.15. pm orders were received to the effect that the Batt. would advance, move through the 32nd Batt. & establish a line 500' in front of them.

At 8.30 pm the Company were on the move in artillery formation across broken country. After going a few hundred yards, the enemy commenced to shell heavily. The Company broke up into sections & only suffered one casualty.

The Company were to form up with the Batt. N.W. of FAY. but on arriving at the destination the rest of the Batt could not be found.

After waiting for about 5 minutes Capt HINSLEY decided to move forward on a Compass Bearing.

The Coy. moved through FAY & followed along an old trench running (approx) due EAST. until we reached ASSEVILLERS. ESTREES. Road Then moved NORTH. for 400 yds. arriving at our allotted positions. A platoon occupying an old trench system, with Coy. H.Q. in a Sunk R^a.

Considering that nobody knew the country & the night was so dark. Capt. HINSLEY deserves great credit for leading the Company to its correct position without losing direction.

The Company were in position before midnight.

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& tried to get in touch with H. Coy, who were supposed to be in front. Patrol failed to locate anybody. Afterwards it was discovered H. Coy were in rear.

At 4 am on morning of 28th August. order were received that the Battalion would attack at 5 am. H. & C. Coys in the front line. B. Coy. supporting H.

B. Company were formed up in line of Platoons in file, at 50 paces interval Left to Right. No. 8, 5. Coy H.Q. 6 & 7. Platoons.

The Batt. moved to the attack, about 5.15 am. moving due EAST. for 1000 yds. then N.E. passing to the NORTH. of GREAT. and SMALL WOODS.

When reaching FLAUCOURT - BELLOY. ASSEVILLERS. BARLEUX. Cross Roads word was received that the left flank. were being up.

The Company rested for 15 minutes then moved forward again. moving along ASSEVILLERS. BARLEUX Road. until reaching BOULOGNE WOOD. Here we changed direction to S.E. passing to the SOUTH. of BARLEUX just prior to reaching BARLEUX the enemy opened up. with machine gun fire from the village & from a ridge to the N.E. of it.

The advance continued. On reaching BARLEUX VILLERS-CARBONNE. R^a. machine gun fire increased but did not check the advance.

We continued another 700' when machine gun bullets began to cut the ground under our feet. so the Company. took to an old trench. & opened

3

upon enemy machine guns with Lewis Gun fire. At this point the enemy artillery opened up & appeared to be firing with open sights. The troops on the left flank appeared to be the chief target, but they continued their advance despite the M.G. & artillery fire.

The Company continued to move along the trench, although the M.G. fire was intense at times.

The determined advance of the left flank broke the enemy resistance & he fled. Fully 200 could be plainly seen running for the river. At this point the Company jumped out of the trench & continued the advance over the open in artillery formation until within 200' of "ETERPIGNY VILLER" - "CARBONNEL" Road when M.G. fire from ETERPIGNY forced us to keep to a trench.

The Company eventually reached a deep Sunkers R^o 200' due WEST of ETERPIGNY. & waited here ready to cross the SOMME RIVER. As the river could not be crossed we moved back to SOSTHENE TRENCH & remained in support to A. Coy. until relieved on night of 30th August.

~~W. B. Coy~~
B. Coy

Report on Operations on 29th & 30th
August 1918.

B Coy was formed up at 5 am, on the morning of the 29th ready to move through 32nd Div on an approximate line running through M 14 & 20 Centre. A Company was on our right. Two platoons, Nos 12 on right & No 11 on left formed skirmishing line, with two platoons in support in column of sections in file.

After advancing about 1000 yds, it was found that No 11 Platoon was not in line.

No 9 Platoon was pushed forward to take their place.

After passing BARLEUX, the Coy was held up by machine gun fire from left front & front.

A section with Lewis Gun was pushed up Sep to engage enemy & the advance continued in short pushes.

The Company arrived on banks of SOMME River about 9 am, but were unable to cross owing to bridges being blown up & heavy machine gun fire.

One machine gun & 20 prisoners

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(2)

were captured.

The Coy dug in on banks of Canal.

No 11 Platoon rejoined about 10.30am

They had moved too far to their left, & had been with 2nd Division.

During night of 29/30th, contact was kept with 2nd Division.

6 Coy moved back to trenches running through O 14 central.

Work being completed by 6am 30th inst.

Heavy shelling & machine gun fire was experienced during latter part of advance.

31/8/18

Monteban
Capt
of C Coy

T. C. O.
29th Bu

Attached please
find narrative
of D Coy's part in
Somme attack on
morning of 29th August
Thos. Taylor
of D Coy

31/8/18

Narrative D. Company's part
in attack on the Somme morning
29-8-1918. Ref Sheet 62 G.S.W

At 5.15 A.M. D Company moved
from a line east of Becvillers
in direct support of B Company.
Company moved forward in line
of platoons in file at 100 paces
200 yards distance from B Company.
Company moved without any
opposition as far as Barlauc,
just before entering Barlauc
at request of Cpl. B Company
13 platoon was sent forward
through Barlauc to cover C.
Company's left flank, which
was at this point in the air.
On reaching Barso trench N. 18
& d. C Coy was held up by
M.G. fire. This delay cost
about one hour.

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The second Austⁿ Division now came up into position on the left of C. Company.

C. Company attempted to push forward with small parties and engage No. 9 but were apparently unsuccessful.

At this juncture D/C B. & D Coy received orders to push forward, and if possible cross the Somme.

On receipt of these orders D/C B. Company moved remainder of his Company to right flank to ~~cross~~ avoid valley running from Gallanc to Eterpigny.

D. Company at this point came under No. 9 fire and extended second Div were observed to have gained high ground on left in 0.7, and engaged No. 9 which had been

3

delaying our advance.

D/C D. Company at once decided to push on and endeavour to use covering fire of 2nd Div & to pass through B. Company which appeared too scattered to take full advantage of this support. 2nd Div on D. Company led the advance moving half night and making Eterpigny the centre of their objective.

This was reached with one casualty although No. 9 and Field artillery were active; on reaching Eterpigny Company reorganized and pushed forward to bank of Somme Canal. On our advance to Canal enemy immediately blew up main bridge just right of Eterpigny leaving only small

25/10

4

footbridge on our sector.

On the left the Second Division had enemy on the river, a party of which were observed crossing canal by footbridge on our extreme left; Lewis gun and rifle fire was opened on these with fair effect, and 8/8 Coy decided to cross canal and try to cut off their retreat. On company reaching far bank of canal the marsh was found to be impassible.

After reconnoitering all possible routes forward with no avail company recrossed canal & dug in on canal bank.

First crossing took place at 10-10 A.M.

5

3 prisoners were taken and it is estimated that 25 to 30 casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Frank Taylor R
C. D. Coy

31/8/14

APPENDIX

10

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APPENDIX
 29th Battalion. A.I.F.

10

31st Aug. 1918. 53

	Off.	O.R.
Killed in Action	4	25.
Died of Wounds	1	12.
Wounded in Action	10	101.
Missing		3
Accidentally Injured	1	3
To Hospital	2	48.
To Other Units.		10.
To O.T.C.		1.
To Training Bn.	1	1.
Seconded	9	
Return to Australia	1	1.
	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 205.

From Hospital		53
From Training Bn.		5
From Seconded List	3	
From Reinforcements		2.
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 60.

With Bn.		Sick.		Detached Duties etc.		Total Strength.	
Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
20	517	8	12	12	128	40	657.

12/9/18.

P. Charles

Major.
 A/C.O. 29th Battalion.

DECORATIONS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST 1918.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Lieut. Colonel J. McArthur.

MILITARY CROSS.

Lieut. C.E. Davis.
Lieut. R.R.A. Downes.
Lieut. W.J. Lambden.
Lieut. W. Braden.
Lieut. E. Thomas.

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

785 Sgt. H.C. Clucas, M.M.
3257 L/Cpl. J.R.C. Hayward.
2871 Pte. Baulch E.E.
3761 Pte. Belger P.

MILITARY MEDAL.

5089 Pte. Olsen Oskar.	499 Pte. Catton J.
5100 Pte. Reed H.	2742 Pte. Rodger J.W.
1220 Sgt. Reedy J. T.	1288 Pte. Scotern B.
914 Cpl. Parker J.	2178 Pte. Farrar L.
27 L/Cpl. Amerson A.E.	2939 Pte. King G.L.
1982 Pte. Bye P.A.	299 Cpl. McFerran H.
94 L/Cpl. Rankin F. T.	165 L/Cpl. Barnes A.E.
297 L/Cpl. McDonald A.P.	370 Pte. Williams G.
1991 Pte. Crawford D.	454 Pte. Whitehead F.
653 Sgt. Woosnam F.W.	50 Cpl. Kimberley E.J.
210 Cpl. Collett C. T.	4879 Pte. Ashton W.G.
495 Pte. Coverdale J.A.V.	1675 Pte. Sturtevant J.R.
424 Pte. Logan J.C.	771 Cpl. Bagley C.L.
886 Sgt. McConnell J.	3601 Pte. Rawlings W.R.
3010 Sgt. Swaffield J.B.	1147 Pte. Humphries J.W.
3611 Cpl. Robinson C.C.	115 Pte. Bartlett H.S.
380 L/Cpl. Buckland F.J.	3006 Pte. Stevenson E.
343 Pte. Sturgess S.G.	4172 Pte. Giles G.J.
3665 Pte. Tucker C.H.	686 Cpl. Polkinghorn S.
3227 Pte. Deeker M.P.	857 Cpl. Love J.J.
906 L/Cpl. Pullybank W.C.	4996 Pte. Blake A.E.
4176 Pte. Bye A.J.	321 Pte. Higgle D.
3536 Pte. Feehan P.J.	3786 Pte. Featherston S.E.

BAR TO MILITARY MEDAL.

318 Sgt. D.P. Oliver, M.M.

CONGRATULATED IN CORPS ORDERS.

Capt. H.F. Mudsley, M.C. (R.M.O.)	Capt. A.J. Ainslie.
Lieut. J.S. Harris.	Lieut. L. Bolitho.
Lieut. J. Anderson.	Lieut. L. Walter.
2/Lt. L.C. Klug M.M.	1303 L/Cpl. R.M. Wakeling.
960 Pte. Simmons E.	4179 Pte. Bye A.J.
89 Sgt. McKenzie H.W.	3814 Pte. Lacey A.G.
6882 Pte. Newhouse F.	3791 Pte. Gilchrist C.B.
3788 Pte. Carter L.S.	515 Pte. Dawson A.L.
4817 Sgt. Hall R.L.	3837 Pte. Nelson W.
4096 Pte. Maclean A.R.	2534 Pte. Harris C.
1172 Pte. Mason S.J.	200 Pte. Cheeseman H.W.