

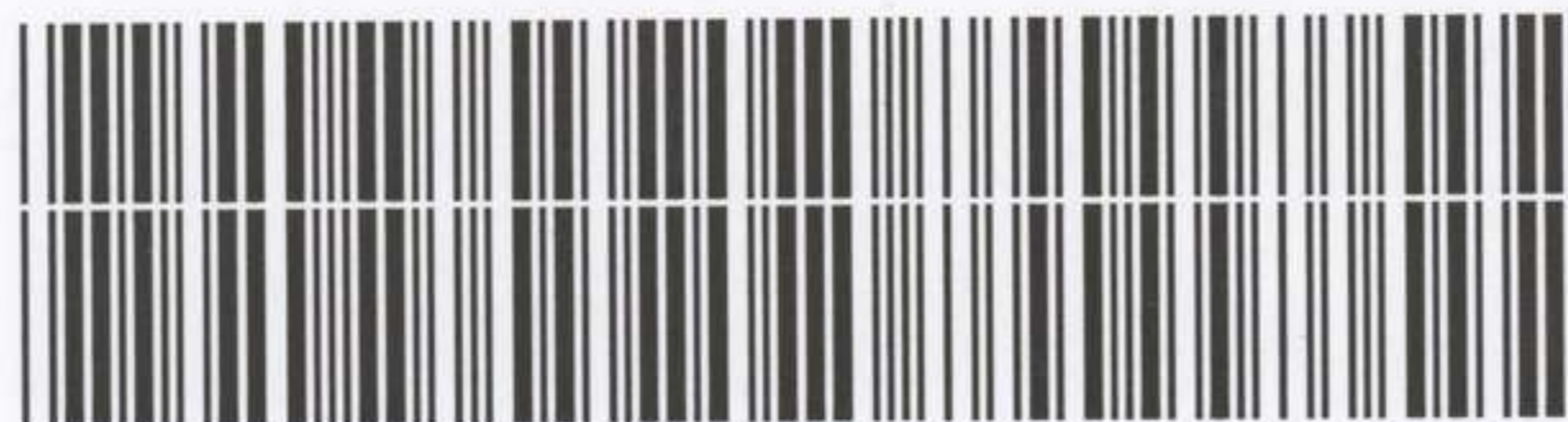
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/58/4

Title: 41st Infantry Battalion

February 1917



AWM4-23/58/4

41st Battalion A.I.F.

— WAR DIARY —

February 1917.

- 1st Battalion in the line, engaged in passive resistance, repairs to breastworks, communications trenches, and to dug-outs in subsidiary line, active sniping, ^{& patrolling} carried out, and frequent Artillery fire brought to bear on enemy working parties both by day & night.
- 2nd Bn relieved by 43rd Bn, relief completed by 8.30 a.m. 1 Bn marched to "C" Bn billets as on previous occasions.
- 2nd Bn raiding party consisting of 3 officers, 43 other ranks, sent to Pde School to undergo training for raid on enemy trenches.
- 4th Bn provided engineering parties (of 70% Bn strength) for day and night work in "A" Bn sector. Drainage, repairs to front-line system, & communication trenches.
- to. and construction of dug outs in subsidiary line. Also carrying parties for engineering materials from Reg. dumps.
- Raiding party provided scouting patrols who operated nightly over the sector on which they were to raid.
- 9th Bn relieved 43rd Bn in the line. Relief completed 8.30 a.m. Patrolling revealed fact that Bosche had rolled many large to knife-rests out into gap in his wire opposite No 1 Locality, which our Artillery had cut for an entry by our Raiders.
- Active breastworks repairs carried out and revetting frames secured in readiness
- 10th

for expected early thawing of our frozen parapets. Active patrolling and sniping maintained 11th. Taking advantage of a bombardment and raid by 10th Bde on our right flank a raiding party of 41st Bn composed of 3 officers & 38 O.R. made an attempt to raid enemy trenches opposite No. 1 Locality as per "Raid order" attached. Previous Artillery (trench mortar) action had partly cut enemy wire at 1.17. a 15.55 where our party proposed entering under cover of our Artillery barrage, and 3" trench mortars with machine guns covering enemy M.G. replacements & communication trenches. Party left trench in No. 1 Locality at 7.50 p.m. and lay up in No-man's-land pushing forward after a 1 min. art. bombardment of enemy wire. Art barrage continued for 3 mins. on enemy front trench & when lifting to support trench the party advanced to pass through supposed gap in wire. The wire was however found to be insufficiently cut & when they endeavoured to pass through it in small parties the enemy brought shrapnel & mine-thrower fire to bear on them. The party was forced to withdraw & took cover in shell holes, and detached small parties at a time for retiring to our lines. Enemy employed searchlights in conjunction with machine guns in bringing fire on our withdrawing parties. Most of our casualties occurred while at enemy wire and withdrawing to shell holes. The telephone wires were cut both in no-man's-land & behind our parapet, and

information had to be sent back by runner to nearest Coy. H.Q. (A. Coy) from whence it was transmitted to Bn H.Q. As soon as it was found that the Raid had failed & the party was returning, the Artillery fire was discontinued. & shortly afterwards the heavy fire ceased. Our casualties were 1 Officer (Lt Douglas) severely wounded, 1 other rank killed, & 8 o.r. wounded. Most of the wounds were caused by Shrapnel & fragments of H.E. shell.

12th } Bn in the line, active sniping and
to 14th } patrolling maintained, repairs to wire & erection of new wire behind gaps. etc.

15th Bn relieved by 43rd Bn. Relief completed by 8.30 a.m. Bn marched to "C" Bn Billets. Commenced improvements to kitchens, and construction of tables and seats for men's messing in Billets.

16th Bn provided engineering parties of 70% of strength for day & night work in "A" Bn to sector. Drainage, repairs to front-line system & communication trenches, also construction of dug-outs in subs. line.

Party of 2 officers 46 o.r. detached and sent to Bde School to practice for small raid. Patrols from this party did reconnaissance work each night 15th to 21st. While on

18th this patrol work, 1 officer (Lieut J. St. Leger) was killed ^{on 18th} in no-man's-land by enemy

20th machine-gun fire brought to bear on his patrol.

21st Bn relieved 43rd Bn in the line. Relief completed 8. a.m. Dispositions altered by Bde instructions. Garrison of front line system reduced from 4 Coys to three (3)

- the 4th Coy. (D. Coy) being placed as a Reserve Coy. in Subsidiary line. "Mushroom" salient abandoned except for 1 Lewis gun on each flank and at night, 1 platoon of Res. Coy. holding main line behind it.
- Night 21st/22nd Small party of enemy attempted to effect an entrance to our line at Mushroom salient, but were detected by Lewis gun crew who fired on them, wounding one, the party withdrew leaving a pistol, bayonet, Cap with badges, & pair of gloves in our wire (Identification obtained from the Cap proved normal).
- 22nd Wiring across "Mushroom" salient pushed on rapidly by Res. Coy. also wiring behind gaps, & in front of support line.
- 23rd Bombardment of enemy trenches in front of locality. 1. and wire cutting by Artillery preparing for entrance to enemy trenches by our Fighting Patrol.
- 24th Dummy bombardment opposite Locality. 1. as on night of 23rd enemy replied with shrapnel & few miners using searchlights & very lights freely on both nights.
- 25th No special Artillery action.
- ~~25th~~ Tel. wires laid and bridges constructed across ditches in readiness for small raid also small advanced dressing station constructed in Support line South of Lothian Avenue.
- 26th Final arrangements completed for small raid in front of N^o 1 Locality, Tel. lines tested. Forward aid-post completed and bridges across ditches. Raid party brought out

from 3rd School and fully equipped, bridging ladders and traverser-mats taken to front line in readiness for the raid.

Night 26th/27th Party of 3 officers, 6 N.C.O's and 40 O.Ranks crossed our parapet and reached point of assembly in no-man's-land at 12.25 a.m. (Zero - 5 mins), our scouts having previously been out to enemy wire & returned reporting wire cut & gap formed. This proved afterwards to be wrong. At 12.30 a.m. our Artillery barrage commenced on enemy front line remaining there for 1 minute during which raid party got forward closer to enemy wire, barrage then lifted to enemy support line for 2 mins. Then dropped back to his front line for 2 minutes causing considerable damage. At Zero + 5 mins. Artillery-box was formed behind enemy support line. When our Artillery barrage commenced. The enemy opened fire on no-man's-land with Shrapnel & Mixers, and on our front line with 77. H.E. & Shrapnel. At Zero + 5 mins the raid party advanced to enemy wire, but found that the gap only existed ^{in the outer wire}. The officers examined the wire for a distance of 100' to 150' but found that the wire at its narrowest part would take at least 15 mins. to cut a narrow gap by hand. The Ofc Parapet thereupon ordered a withdrawal of the party, who retired to our front line and regained it without any casualties. The enemy used 2 searchlights, but these were rendered almost useless by our smoke bombs which were fired from Stokes mortars and proved most effective in clouding the lights.

Our Artillery barrage was excellent and gave our men much confidence in this arm. The telephone system worked well and the 3 alternative lines remained intact throughout allowing information to be transmitted promptly from front parapet and of Assault back to Bn H.Q.

The heavy retaliation caused casualties in our front line of 3 killed (O.R.) and 8 O.R. wounded. (Raid order attached).

28th Bn relieved by 43rd Bn. Relief completed by 8 a.m. Bn marched to "C" Battalion Billets.

~~of~~ casualties for period 21st to 28th including those mentioned on night 26th/27th. Wounded 14 O.R. - Killed 4 O.R.

Weather Clear & cool, cold nights, with occasional light falls of snow. visibility poor. Days beginning to get warmer.

Health of Troops. Good, occasional cases of slight colds.

167th Bn.
28.2.17

APPENDIX

Copy No 17
J.A.M.

41st BATTALION FIGHTING PATROL ORDER No 2

Reference Trench Map Sheet 36 N.W.

February 8th 1917

1. INFORMATION On a date and hour to be fixed a raiding party will leave portion of trenches adjacent to "A" Battalion Sector, for the purpose of penetrating enemy lines.
2. INTENTION In sympathy with above a fighting patrol from 41st Battalion consisting of 3 Officers and 38 other ranks will -
 - (a) Reconnoitre enemy trenches in the vicinity of I.17.a.05.55
 - (b) Endeavour to secure prisoners in above trenches.
3. ZERO HOUR Date and hour to be notified later.
4. DISTRIBUTION O.C. Patrol.- Captain R. McIROY
 O.C. Assault - Lieut T.G. TAYLOR
 O.C. Parapet - Lieut R.C.S. DOUGLAS

 No 1 Party. (Scouts & Wire Cutters) 1 NCO, 4 Other Ranks, who will become parapet party when enemy wire has been reached, and will hold gap until return of raiders from enemy trench.
 No 2 Party. (Right Covering Party) 1 NCO, 2 Other Ranks with Lewis Gun.
 No 3 Party. (Left Covering Party) 1 NCO, 2 Other Ranks with Lewis Gun.
 No 4 Party. (Right Bombing & Blocking Party), 1 NCO 5 Other Ranks.
 No 5 Party. (Left Bombing & Blocking Party) 1 NCO 5 Other Ranks.
 No 6 Party. (Communication Trench Party) 1 NCO 8 Other Ranks.
 No 7 Party. 2 Telephonists, 2 Stretcher Bearers.
 No 8 Party. (Intelligence) 2 Other Ranks, 1 cash to act with Nos 4 and 5 parties, the other with No 6 party.
 Above parties will assemble in ~~at~~ Front Line at end of LOTHIAN Avenue at a time to be notified later.

Zero - 60
5. POINT OF EXIT I.10.d.80.10 (No 8 Bay Locality 1).
6. POINT OF RETURN I.10.d.80.10 (No 8 Bay Locality 1).
7. DIRECTION of ADVANCE 140 degrees Magnetic.
8. POSITION OF ASSEMBLY IN NO MANS LAND } *not less than 200* from Boosh wire, advance if Barrage permits it*
9. TASK AND LIMITS OF OPERATIONS Limits of operations of Infantry fighting patrol will be.-
 - (1) Not more than 30 yards North and South of point of entry in front line.
 - (2) Not more than 25 yards North and South of junction of Communication Trench and support line at I.17.a.25.37.
10. ACTION The patrol will dribble out into NO MANS LAND to point of assembly in twos and threes, and at Zero Hour will move up under barrage as close to enemy wire as possible, being ready to rush objective when Artillery lift to enemy support line taken place. On reaching objective right blocking party will move South 30 yards along enemy front line trench and block it, dealing with enemy dug-outs on the way. Left bombing and blocking party moving North 30 yards along enemy trench, blocking and dealing with dug-outs, No 8 Party

merged into Nos 4, 5, 9 & 6.



10. (cont)

will work cautiously down Communication trench to Support Line if possible, and deal with 25 yards on either side of Communication Trench as per Para 9. (2).

11. TIME OF RETIREMENT

Zero plus 20 minutes, at which time O.C. Parapet will fire not less than 1 Red Very Light, which will be the signal for the whole party to leave enemy trench, O.C. Parapet counting men as they emerge from trench. When the patrol has retired a distance of 150 yards from enemy wire O.C. Parapet will inform Officer on duty in No 1 Locality to that effect by runner ~~or~~ and or telephone. This Officer will then fire 4 Red Very Lights as signal to Machine and Lewis Gunners and Artillery that party has got out of danger zone from their fire. Parties will dribble back into point of return in twos and threes, handing in card to Officer on duty in Locality 1, who will report to O.C. Patrol when all are in.

12. CODE MESSAGES

The following code of signals will be used for communication from O.C. Assault to O.C. Patrol.-
 IN : Have entered Trench
 PRISONERS : Prisoners are being escorted back
 EMPTY : Trench not garrisoned.
 OUT : We have left enemy trench.
 Extra Code word:-
 ENOGERA : Patrol has left our trench, This will be sent to H.G.2 when patrol has left our trenches.

13. ARTILLERY BARRAGE MAP

Barrage Map will be inspected by all Officers and NCOs of fighting patrol at Battalion Headquarters, H.G.2 prior to Zero Hour.

14. ARTILLERY ACTION

Phase 1. Zero plus 1 minute, enemy wire.
 Phase 2. Zero plus 1 minute to plus 3 minutes, enemy Front Line.
 Phase 3. Zero plus 3 to plus 5 minutes, lift to enemy Support line.
 Phase 4. Zero plus 5 to plus 8 minutes, Box.
 Phase 5. Zero plus 8 to plus 20 minutes, reduce rate of fire, Box maintained.
 Phase 6 & 7. To plus 30 minutes, Box. Fire reduced during last 20 minutes to 1 round per gun per minute.

15. MACHINE GUN

First Stage. From Zero until firing of 4 Red Very Lights as per Para 11.

16. ACTION

O.C. 11th M.G. Coy will detail 1 Vickers Gun to fire from I.4.d.60.35 on to point I.11.c.48.10.
Second Stage. From firing of 4 Red Very Lights as per Para 11 until "cease fire" ordered.
 Action same as for first stage.

17. LEWIS GUNS

Lewis Gun Officer 41st Battalion will detail 3 guns to fire from following points.-
 "A" Gun from at ... I.16.b.30.60
 "B" " " " ... I.10.d.68.03
 "C" " " " ... I.10.d.95.32

18. ACTION

First Stage. From Zero until firing of 4 Red Very Lights as per Para 11.
 During this stage the following points will be fired on, but no fire, except specially ordered, will precede Zero Hour.-
 "A" Gun will cover from I.17.a.00.30 to K.K.K. I.16.b.50.00, and will be checked to ensure that no fire can be delivered ~~to~~ north of I.17.a.00.30.

P.T.O

APPENDIX

Patrol Order No 2 (cont) (3)

18. (cont)

"B" Gun will fire on I.11.e.48.10, and on any flash in that vicinity.
 "C" Gun will traverse from I.11.e.48.10 to I.17.a.28.85, and will be blocked to render fire to ~~right~~ of latter point impossible during first south stage.
Second Stage. From firing of 4 Red Very Lights per Para 11, until "cease fire" ordered.
 "A" Gun will be ready to switch on to any flash ~~as laid down~~ in sector already laid down in No 1 stage.
 "C" Gun will traverse as far south as I.17.a.15 and will be checked to prevent fire south of the point.
 "B" Gun To fire on any flash or sound in vicinity locality laid down in first stage.

19. MOUNTING OF LEWIS GUNS Lewis Guns will be mounted on Tripods or Adapter and limits of fire laid down herein to be checked by Lewis Gun Officer. During both stages Lewis Gun Officer will employ runners to ensure that action of Guns is correct & energetic.

20. 2" TRNGH MORTARS Are detailed to assist Artillery during barrage and to fire on known danger points.

21. WATCHES Watches will be synchronised at 11th Infantry Brigade Headquarters at 12 noon and again at 4 on Zero day.

22. MISCELLANEOUS Steel Helmets will be worn. Gas Respirators at "Wind Dangerous". Arms and equipment as directed by O.C. Patrol. A plain card will be issued to each member of patrol, the name of card to be entered opposite mans name in Nominal Roll of Patrol. No means of identification will be carried by a member of patrol. Faces will be blackened and bayonets dulled. The object of the patrol is to gain identification and every effort must be made with that end in view.

Signed C.W.S. French Captain

Adjutant 41st Battalion A.I.

Distribution.

- Copy No 1.....File
- 2.....11th Infantry Brigade
- 3.....O.C. Patrol
- 4.....O.C. 11th M.G. Coy
- 5.....O.C. 11th T.M. Battery
- 6.....Centre Group Artillery.

By Runner

Copy to [unclear] [unclear]
B Coy [unclear]
D [unclear]

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41st BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No 3

Copy No 30

Reference Map BOIS GRENIER, 1/10,000
Edition 6 (Redrawn) "C"

- 1. INFORMATION Enemy's wire has been cut at I.17.a.12.55.
- 2. INTENTION On a date and hour to be fixed, a raiding party composed of 3 Officers, 46 Other Ranks will raid enemy trench at I.17.a.15.55.
The objects of the raid are:-
 - (a) To secure prisoners.
 - (b) Inflict casualties on enemy.
 - (c) Capture enemy Machine Guns and Trench Mortars.
 - (d) To destroy M.G. emplacements & dug-outs.
 - (e) To secure identification and information regarding enemy defences.

- 3. DISTRIBUTION O.C. Raid - Lieut F.W. STRATFORD
O.C. Parapet - Lieut A.W. SKEWES
O.C. Assault - S/Lieut H.J. WILES.

	Off.	NCOs	O.R.	Total
<u>No 1 Party</u>				
O.C. Raid	1			
Telephonists			2	
Runners			2	5
<u>No 2 Party</u>				
Wire Cutters & Scouts				
(also escort to prisoners)	1		3	
Telephonists			2	6
<u>No 3 Party</u>				
(Right Covering Party)				
Lewis Gunners	1		1	
Bombers			1	3
<u>No 4 Party</u>				
(Left Covering Party)				
Lewis Gunners	1		1	
Bombers			1	3
<u>No 5 Party</u>				
(Right Bombing & Blocking)				
O.C. Assault	1			
Blocking Party		1	5	
Demolitions			1	
Intelligence			1	9
<u>No 6 Party</u>				
(Left Bombing & Blocking)				
Blocking Party		1	5	
Demolitions			1	
Intelligence			1	8
<u>No 7 Party</u>				
(Communication Trench Party)				
Blocking Party		1	5	
Demolitions			1	
Intelligence			1	8
<u>No 8 Party</u>				
(Parapet Party)				
O.C. Parapet	1			
Runners (Scouts)			3	
Stretcher Bearers			4	7
	3	0	40	40
<u>RESERVE PARTY</u>				
Scouts will supply reserve Party as follows:-				
	1		6	7
R.M.O. will detail Stretcher Bearers.....			4	4
	1		10	11

APPENDIX

(2)

4. POINT OF ASSEMBLY OUR TRENCHES
Intersection LOTHIAN Avenue and Front Line trenches in order as per Para 3. Route will be Via LOTHIAN Avenue, which will be kept clear for use of Raiders from minus 2 hours to plus 2 hours on ZERO day.
5. POINT OF EXIT
I.10.d.70.07 (No 1 Locality).
6. DIRECTION OF ADVANCE
150 degrees Magnetic.
7. POSITION OF ASSEMBLY NO MANS LAND
Ditch, approximately I.16.b.90.94.
8. POSITION OF ENTRY ENEMY TRENCH
I.17.a.15.5 5.
9. POINT OF RETURN TO OUR TRENCHES
I.16.b.40.74.
10. LIMIT OF OPERATIONS
(a) 50 yards N.E. along enemy F.L.Trench.
(b) 50 yards S.W. along enemy F.L.Trench.
(c) Up Communication Trench to I.17.a.48.47, approximately 50 yards from point of entry. ²²
11. ARTILLERY BARRAGE
Artillery Barrage Map will be inspected at Battalion Headquarters, H.G.2, by all Officers and NCOs of Raiders prior to ZERO hour.
The Centre Group Artillery, 11th L.T.M. Battery, and Right Group Artillery, will co-operate with (a) Preliminary bombardment, (b) Box Barrage.
12. DUMMY BOMBARDMENT
A dummy bombardment, commencing at minus 2 Hours 50 minutes, and lasting till minus 2 hours 30 minutes, will be carried out on ZERO day on the raid area. There will not be any Infantry action during this bombardment.
13. ARTILLERY ACTION
Phase 1. ZERO to ZERO plus 1 minute, bombardment of enemy Front Line.
Phase 2. ZERO plus 1 to ZERO plus 3 minutes, as for phase 1, but 18 pdrs lift from Front Line Trench from I.17.a.05.35 to I.17.a.28.70 to enemy Support Line I.17.a.42.60 to I.17.a.30.28.
Phase 3. ZERO plus 3 to Zero plus 5, as for Phase 1.
Phase 4. ZERO plus 5 to ZERO plus 15 minutes, Artillery lifts from Front Line Trench (from I.17.a.05.35 to I.17.a.28.70) to form Box. The inside of box is defined by the following points.- Front Line I.17.a.28.70, Support Line I.17.a.30.49, rear of Support Line I.17.a.38.40 XX X to I.17.a.28.29, Support Line I.17.a.20.31, Front Line I.17.a.05.35.
3" L.T.Ms cease fire and stand by for targets.
Phase 5. ZERO plus 15 to ZERO plus 25 minutes. As for Phase 4, but slower rate of fire.
Phase 6. ZERO plus 25 to ZERO plus 35. As for Phase 5, but slower rate of fire.
14. STOKES MORTARS
Twelve 3" L.T. Mortars will assist Artillery Barrage, and after phase 3 stand by for targets, and to cover retirement of Raiders.

(3)

15. MACHINE GUNS

The O.C. 11th M.G. Coy will detail 5 guns to fire on points detailed hereunder.-

First Stage.- From ZERO to orders O.C. Raid, as per Para 22.4.

"A" Gun, from I.4.b.2.2 on to point I.11.c.55.08.

"B" Gun, from I.4.c.00.90 to search Communication Trench at I.11.c.98.10 (covering junction of Trench)

"C" Gun, from I.3.d.70.52 on to Communication Trench from I.17.a.5.5 to I.17.a.68.25.

"D" Gun, from I.10.d.7 6.64 on to point I.17.b.27.57.

"E" Gun, from I.5.a.00.00 on to point I.17.b.32.65.

Second Stage.- To "Cease Fire", as for First Stage.

O.C. 11th M.G. Coy will detail one gun to fire from position to be decided by him on enemy searchlights at in the vicinity of I.17.c.66.40.

16. LEWIS GUNS

Lewis Gun Officer, 41st Battalion, will detail 3 guns to fire from the following points.-

"A" Gun from I.16.b.25.56.

"B" Gun from I.10.d.75.14.

"C" Gun from I.10.d.92.35.

First Stage.- From ZERO to receipt of instructions from O.C. Raid as per Para 22.9

"A" Gun, will traverse from I.17.a.00.30 to I.16.d.60.90, and will fire on any flash or M.G. sound in that sector, and checked to prevent fire north of I.17.a.89.30.

"B" Gun, will concentrate on point I.11.c.53.05 or on any M.Gun flash or sound in that vicinity.

"C" Gun, will traverse from I.17.a.30.7 5 to I.11.c.50.00, and will concentrate on any M.Gun flash or sound in that sector, and checked to prevent fire south of I.17.a.3 0.75.

Second Stage.- From receipt of instructions from O.C. Raid as per Para 22.4 till "Cease Fire".

"A" Gun as for first stage.

"B" Gun, will fire on any flash or sound of M.Gun, between I.11.c.50.00 and I.11.c.35.24.

"C" Gun, will traverse as far south as I.17.a.25.66, and checked to prevent fire south of that point. Lewis Gun north of MUSHROOM Salient will fire on enemys Railway Salient.

Guns will be mounted on tripods and adapters, and limits of fire checked by Lewis Gun Officer, During operation he will assure himself personally and by runner that action of guns is correct and energetic.

17. PRELIMINARY RECONNAISSANCE

After the dummy bombardment, which terminates at minus 3 hours 40 minutes, the Scout Officer will arrange for 2 Scouts and 1 Signallerx to leave Front Line Trench at I.16.b.40.74 and lay an alternative telephone wire to Tree in NO MANS LAND situated I.16.b.73.60. this telephone wire to be attached to butt of tree. The patrol will then continue on and reconnoitre the gap in enemy wire I.17.a.12.55, and ascertain whether it is sufficiently cut or not, reporting back to Scout Officer on their return.

18. ACTION OF RAIDERS

No. 1 Party will remain in our Front Line at I.16.b.4 0.74 (point of return of Raiders).

No 2 Party will leave our trenches at I.10.d.70.07 (No 1 Locality) at 45 minutes before ZERO time, and will move to a point approximately I.16.b.90.94. The two Signallers of this Party will lay cable as they go forward and will each carry a telephone, the telephone of the leading Signaller being connected up ready for use. The second Signaller will move to tree at I.16.b.73.60 and connect his telephone to the wire at foot of tree for emergency use.

As soon as Artillery Phase 3 ceases (or during phase 3

(4)

18. (cont)

if possible) No 3 Party will go forward and examine wire opposite point of entry, reporting to O.C.Raid by 'phone if it is cut (using the word "CUT"). This information will be signalled to O.C.Assault by torch thus,-

Red Light = Wire not Cut.

Green " = Wire Cut.

Parties 3 and 4 will leave our trenches immediately after No 2 party and will move out to right and left flanks respectively, taking up positions at X.XX.X.XX. I.16.b.79.57 and I.16.b.99.88 approximately respectively.

Parties 5, 6, 7, and 8 will leave our trenches in the order shown, going forward behind No 3 Party at a distance to be decided by O.C.Assault.

Parties 5, 6, and 7 will enter enemy trenches at ZERO plus 5 minutes in the order shown.

Party 5 moving along enemy F.L.trench south for a distance of 50 yards, Party 6 going north along F.L.Trench 50 yards, No 7 Party will proceed down Communication Trench 50 yards to a point I.17.a.22.47.

Men detailed for demolition work will carry previously prepared chargers of Gun Cotton.

All enemy dead, dug-outs and earthworks will be searched for shoulder straps, papers, identification marks, arms and equipment. Dug-outs will be destroyed, and Communication Trench blocked by a demolition charge at apparent dug-outs at point I.17.a.22.47.

At least one traverser mat will be carried by Nos 5, 6, and 7 parties, light ladders to bridge enemy's borrow ditch will also be carried, ladders and traverser mats will be taken to head of LOTHIAN Avenue on night before ZERO day.

Reserve Party will be at disposal of O.C.Raid.

19. POSITION OF OFFICERS

(a) O.C.Raid will remain in Front Line Trench at I.16.b.40.74.

(b) O.C.Parapet will direct operations from a point near the point of entry into enemy trenches.

(c) O.C.Assault will enter enemy trenches and be at point in enemy Front Line trench near junction with Communication Trench.

(d) Reserve Officer will assist in checking parties out of our front trench at I.16.d.70.07, and will then report to O.C.Raid and remain in close touch with him, taking over in the event of O.C.Raid becoming a casualty.

20. S. O. S.

On ZERO Day the S.O.S.Signal will be suspended on the front I.16.b.75.00 to I.17.a.45.95 from ZERO minus 3 hours 50 minutes until brought into operation by G.O.C. 11th Infantry Brigade.

21. SIGNALS

The following Code Messages will be used between O.C. parapet and O.C.Raid, also O.C.Raid to H.G.2.-

BUNDY.....Raiders have left our trench.

ASSEMBLY....Raiders have reached point of Assembly.

IN.....Raiders have entered enemy trench.

PRISONERS...Prisoners are being escorted back.

EMPTYTrench not garrisoned.

OUT.....All raiders have left enemy trench.

HOME.....All raiders have returned to our trench.

CUT..... Enemy wire is cut at I.17.a.12.55.

APPENDIX

(5)

22. WITHDRAWAL
- a. Raiders will remain in the enemy trenches not later than ZERO plus 25 minutes,
 - b. The order for withdrawal will be given by the O.C.Assault, the order for same being the word "OUT", this will be shouted and passed from man to man.
 - c. The above order will be duplicated by the firing of White Very Lights by the O.C.Assault towards enemy's rear, and by O.C.Parapet in the same direction.
 - d. No 7 Party will withdraw first, followed by Nos 6 . 5 . 8 and 2 in that order, Parties Nos 3 and 4 will cover the withdrawal of the above parties.
 - e. The O.C.Assault on leaving enemy trenches will decide (according to action of enemy) whether it is advisable for the parties to return to our lines at once, or whether they shall lie up and return to our line independently later.
 - f. No 2 Party will bring in with them the telephonist from NO MANS LAND at I.16.b.73.60.
 - g. When the last of the party has cleared enemy wire by at least 150 yards, O.C.Parapet will send word to O.C.Raid by 'phone or runner that all are out of danger zone. O.C.Raid will then instruct Lewis Guns and Stokes Mortars as to action to cover retirement.
 - h. Raiders will retire through our wire in twos and threes at point I.16.b.45.72. Officer (Reserve) establishing a checking post at this point, and Officer in charge of No 1 locality acting similarly at eastern end of LOTHIAN Avenue, where cards will be collected, rolls checked, and raiders instructed to return to Battalion Headquarters.
 - i. O.C.Raid will not delay in 'phoning through the word HOME to H.G.2 when all raiders are in our line.
23. WATCHWORD
- A watchword and countersign will be used by the Raiding party, and will be communicated to them and to the front line garrison of "A" Battalion one hour before Zero.
24. PRECAUTIONS
- (a) All ranks taking part in the raid must wear or carry nothing that will in any way give identification to the enemy.
 - (b) English issue of clothing will be worn by all ranks.
 - (c) Bayonets will be sharpened and darkened.
 - (d) Gas Helmets will be worn in the ALERT position
 - (e) Faces and hands will be blackened.
25. EQUIPMENT
- Equipment other than set out in para 24 will be decided by O.C.Raid.
26. MEDICAL
- The R.M.O. "A" Battalion will be in attendance at temporary Aid Post in Support Line immediately behind point of return to our trenches. From this point casualties will be taken overland to tramway at H. Q. ~~XXXX~~WALK, and thence to H.G.2. The R.M.O. "C" Battalion will be in attendance at Regimental Aid Post, SQUARE FARM.
27. PRISONERS
- Prisoners will be dealt with as follows.-
- (1) They will be separated from each other and not allowed to converse.
 - (2) They will be disarmed and searched at earliest possible moment, and relieved of all papers, books, badges, shoulder straps etc.
 - (3) Each mans papers etc will be kept separate and marked, so that he may be questioned concerning them.
 - (4) Our troops are to be prevented from crowding

APPENDIX

27. (cont) (6)
(5). All prisoners will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters as quickly as possible.
28. HOSTILE RETALIATION
During the "dummy" bombardment and the raid 41st Battalion front line garrison will be reduced according to instructions already issued.
29. RECONNAISSANCE
All Officers, NCOs and Scouts of Raiding Party will make personal reconnaissance of the actual ground to be traversed at least two nights prior to the raid.
All other ranks taking part in the raid will go out into NO MANS LAND over the ground to be traversed at least once before ZERO day.
30. PATROLLING
Normal patrolling will be maintained as far as possible up to ZERO minus one hour.
No patrols will be in NO MANS LAND during the "dummy" bombardment, the time of which will be advised later.
31. ZERO TIME AND DAY
ZERO time and day will be communicated later.
32. WATCHES
Watches will be synchronised at Brigade Headquarters at Minus 6 hours and Minus 3 hours on ZERO day.
33. COMMUNICATIONS
The O.C. Raid will take steps to have all information rapidly collected and forwarded per 'phone to Battalion Headquarters, and in the event of the wires being cut will utilise runners to convey information to H.G.3, who will convey it per 'phone to H.G.2.

Issued as follows.~

Copy No 1.....Filed
2.....Brigade Headquarters
3.....O.C. Raid
4.....O.C. 11th M.G. Coy
5.....O.C. 11th T.M. Battery
6.....Lewis Gun Officer
 (Scout Officer)
7.....(H. G. 3)) In Rotation
 (R. M. O.)