

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/11/13

Title: 11th Infantry Brigade

December 1917



AWM4-23/11/13

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

153

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.

11th Inf Bde

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TROIS ROIS CAMP Sheet 28 T20C44.	1.12.17		<p>Training continued. In view of the short days and the cold weather the principle of spending the afternoon in Recreational training is to be continued whilst the Bde is in its present area. The effects of this system are most marked. The men show a keener interest in the morning's training + the element of ^{competition} inter-platoon + Company matches + games of all kinds keeps the men interested and in good spirits.</p>	
do.	2.12.17		<p>Major W.A.S. DUNLOP 2nd ANZAC Mounted Regt Bde Major transfer went to 9th Bde to take up a similar position. Training on same lines as previously continued.</p>	
do.	3.12.17		<p>Capt J. H. GARD 40th Bⁿ A.I.F. an A and I Staff Officer arrived to take over the duties of Staff Captain vice Capt R.D. TYERS evacuated sick in October 1917. Capt R.L. BENNETT who, since Capt TYERS' evacuation had acted as Staff Captain took over the duties of Assistant Staff Captain. Formal training was continued.</p>	<p>Lavery Major</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trois Rois Camp Sheet 28 T20C44	4.12.17 5.12.17		<p>Normal training continued.</p> <p>A Bde. Officers School was assembled at Sheet 28 S15d b.4. Officers to attend were drawn from all units and a total of 38 reported. The school was assembled with the idea of again "smartening up" the junior officer as regards all points in turn out, drill + ceremonial, which he is so prone to forget + let slip. Also in view of all the time that has previously been spent in training in bombing + other trench methods of warfare great attention is being paid to Musketry the importance of which many officers had failed to appreciate. The school will also act as a refresher course in tactics, those used in recent operations being brought to the notice of students as examples.</p>	
	6.12.17		<p>Individual, Section or Platoon training continued.</p> <p>Capt M.H. CRUICKSHANK HQ Bⁿ an A and I Staff Officer reported to take over the duties of Bde Major training vice Major WTS LAVASNY Major</p> <p>DUNLOP to get Bde. units continued the normal training.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trois Rois CAMP Sheet 28 T.O.C. 44.	7.12.17		Normal training continued. 41 st B ⁿ attached 2 officers 8 NCO's and 100 OR. to the 184 th Tunnelling Coy. to work on dugout construction. It is regrettable that these parties have to be supplied as they considerably interfere with training.	
do.	any	9am.	25 off and 600 OR. 42 nd B ⁿ moved by bus to TILQUES for eight days training in musketry on the Ranges in that area. A certain amount of transport went by road.	
do	8.12.17		A conference of CO's was held at Bde. Hd. Qs to discuss training which the G.O.C. considered had not reached the Standard to be expected after about six weeks out of the line.	
			A scheme of inter-platoon competitions was agreed upon & it was decided that it should commence on Monday 24 th December.	
			This scheme aims at the perfection of the platoon in all respects by holding the platoon commander res- ponsible in all respects for the turn out of his platoon.	
			42 nd B ⁿ proceeded on a month's leave	A. W. Mayes
			Lt. Col. A. R. WOOLCOCK C.O. 42 nd B ⁿ to Longland.	W

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trois Rois Camp	9.12.17		Bde Church parade held at H3 rd B ⁿ lines (T26C52)	
Sheet 28	10.12.17		Reconnaissance of the Corps line commenced by Bde and B ⁿ Staffs with a view to the placing in that line a nucleus garrison.	
T70C44.			During Anti Aircraft practice with live ammunition with Stokes Mortars an accident occurred which killed Capt. R. G. Porter oc. 11 th L.T.M. Bty and 3 OR of the same unit and wounded Lieut W.T. JONES H1 st B ⁿ , attached 11 th L.T.M. Bty and 6 OR. of the T.M. Bty.	
	11.12.17		Reconnaissance of the Corps line continued. Taking on the Conception Refundum for Anstaya commenced.	Defence Scheme 12.12.17.
	12.12.17		Reserve Bde. 3 rd Austral. Div. Provisional defence scheme issued. Hostile aircraft passed over the Bde. area at a low altitude and dropped many bombs. Casualties 44 th B ⁿ 2 OR wounded.	44 th B ⁿ 17 OR wounded 44 th B ⁿ 6 OR wounded.
	13.12.17 9am.		At this hour a report was received that the 2 Coys plus 8 Lewis guns of 44 th B ⁿ providing the nucleus garrison for the Corps line were in position.	

L. A. Vasey. Major.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trois Rois Camp Sheet 28	14.12.17		Draining continued.	
TROC. H.H. FAIRY HOUSE Sheet 28 MISD Q.I.	15.12.17		<p>The Bde. moved to the LOCRE Area as per Bde Order No. 104.</p> <p>Owing to three other divisions moving on the same day and motor lorries being parked on the side of the road a certain amount of traffic congestion occurred but no serious blocks were incurred with the exception of that portion of the M.G. Coy. in the line, and the T.M. Bty all units were in their new Camps by 3pm.</p> <p>The 1st T.M. Bty (oc. Capt COUCHMAN HH ^{R-B}) embarked at STEENWERCK for VAUX-EN-AMENOIS to attend a T.M. School.</p>	Bde Order No 104
do.	16.12.17	10 am	<p>Church parade was held at LOCRE at which the CORPS Commander was present. At the conclusion of the service he presented D.C.M.'s and M.M.'s to N.C.O.'s & men who had earned them during the MESSINES offensive.</p>	L. A. W. Major

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAIRY HOUSE Sheet 28 M18d q.1.	17.12.17		Training on previous lines was commenced. The facilities in this area are poor.	
		5pm	Conference of CO's + adjutants at which units were informed that the Bde would be taking over the BOIS GRENIER Section of the front between the 19 th + 21 st incl.	
	18.12.17		Reconnaissance of the new front were carried out by Bde + B ^d Staffs.	
		9pm	Bde order N ^o 106 dealing with the move to the STEENWERCK Area + relief of the 113 th Bde issued.	Bde Order NO 106
		11pm	"Defence Policy whilst holding BOIS GRENIER Section" and "Distribution of Troops for Engineering Works" issued.	1154/3/2 1157/3/3.
	19.12.17		Units moved to the STEENWERCK Area as per Bde Order N ^o 106. Capt Taylor 11 th M.G. Coy went to Division to temporarily take over the duties of D.M.G.O.	
BLUE BALL VILLA Sheet 36 A17a q.1.		12 noon	Bde Hd. Qrs opened at BLUE BALL VILLA STEENWERCK. Reconnaissance by Bde + B ^d Staffs of the new area continued.	L. Avasy Major

December 1917

11th Inf Brigade
A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 36
Map Ref. 36 N.W. 4
Bois Grenier

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLUE BALL VILLA Sheet 36 A17a 01.	20.12.17	3pm	Bde Hd. Qrs. closed at BLUE BALL VILLA and opened at Sheet 36 H11a 44.	
Sheet 36 H11a 44.		4.30pm	During the morning and early afternoon, which were very misty advanced parties of the 42 nd , 43 rd + 44 th Bns went to their positions in the line.	
		4.30pm	42 nd Bn passed over ERQUINGHEM Bridge	
		5pm	do: do	
		5.30pm	44 th Bn do: do	
		5.30pm	43 rd Bn do: do	
do.	21.12.17	11.50pm	Relief of the 113 th Bde complete.	
			Reconnaissance of the new area continued. Working parties from 'B' + 'C' Bns commenced on the job.	
		10.30pm	Message received from 42 nd Bn that the enemy had established himself in our front line at I16 b12.20.	
22.12.17	12.15a		Artillery fired on our front line in I16 to dislodge the enemy. This was apparently successful as a patrol reconnoitering later found the area clear.	
			D. P. Graces Lt	

December 1914

11th Aus Light Brigade

WAR DIARY

Map Ref Sheet 36
(Broo Pannes)

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36 H 11a 44	23 rd	9 AM	<p>Brigade in the Line, disposed as follows</p> <p>41st Bⁿ "D" in billets at Waterlande B 21. c 0. y.</p> <p>42nd " A holding front line from I 166 3. 6 to I 20 d 50. 20 Heala Dbrs at I 14 d 53. 90.</p> <p>43rd " "C" Billets in Erquinghem H 10 d 35. 60 H La Rotanderie Fm H^o Dbrs H 4 d 35. 60</p> <p>44th " B. one Coy right flank of Subsidiary Line one Coy centre of " these two Coys under command of CO A Bⁿ for work, carrying defence & counter attack. One Coy. billets in 2nd Corps line Rue FLEURIE Switch running through I 7 2 b + d & I 13 6 + d one Coy in billets in H 18 c 3. 5 H^o Dbrs in H 18. c 3. 5</p> <p>11th M G Coy attached to Reserve Brigade (10th) at Trois Art res 11th L T M Bty at 4th Army Training Area VAUX AU AMENAIS and we have 10th M. G Coy replacing them. H^o Dbrs H 5 d 15. 90 also 10th L T M Bty H^o Dbrs H 3 d 95. 25 from guns in line & two (2) mobile guns at ORCHARD Two (2) reserve at H 3 d 75. 25</p>	

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D. L. Fraser Lt

December 1917

11 Aus Light Brigade

WAR DIARY

Map Ref Sheet 36
(Bois Grenier)

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36 Hna 4.4	24	9 am	<p>Brigade holding section of line as shown in yesterday's Diary. Units not in the trenches proceeding working parties for improvements to the sector.</p> <p>The enemy are very quiet and shows no aggressiveness. The Fourth Division (enemy) having 49 I.R., 14 I.R. + 140 I.R. units are reported to be on our front and this identification was proved by the 9th Aus Brigade occupying defenses on our right flank who ^{have} captured several prisoners during the last few days? Weather cold + clear.</p>	
	25	9 am	<p>Snow falling - enemy heard last night singing and "Coos"ing + generally making noise in Alma's celebration among the Lt Col Clark of 44 Bn sent his band up to play at Bqdn H^o Otr while Alma's dinner was on. "Excellent music" as a complete new set of instruments have been purchased recently. The courtesy was much appreciated by General Cannan + his staff.</p>	

J. P. Fraser, Lt

December 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Map Ref Sheet 36
"Bos. Greenes"

Army Form C. 2118.

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11 Quo D'by Bryade

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36 Ha 4.4	26	9 AM	<p>Extremely bright moonlight + ground covered with snow about 9 inches deep freezing hard - Patrolling no man land will be cold + dangerous work during this weather. As night is almost as bright as day Half reliefs of Baltn took place <u>last night</u> + will be completed <u>tonight</u></p> <p>Lieut Col Heron of 41 Bn and Bryade Major Casey of this Bde are going on leave to England tonight</p>	
	27	9 AM	<p>Baltn reliefs completed at 10 PM last night</p> <p>43 Bn took over line from 42 Bn and 44 Bn still hold portion of subsidiary line</p> <p>42 moved out to Waterland Map Ref B 21. c. o. y</p> <p>41 " " into Orquinglem " " H 4 d 35.60</p> <p>Everything very quiet in the line -</p> <p>General Birdwood our Corps Commander visited this sector today accompanied by Brig General Proenthat and they were taken round the trench system by General Cannon</p> <p>Authentic report states that our General was badly beaten in a spirit of dangerous ground by our Corps Commander</p> <p>General Proenthat + General Cannon finishing a dead heat for scene place of Green St</p>	

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December 1917

WAR DIARY

Map Ref Sheet 36

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Bow Grenades

11th Aus Light Brigade

(Phrase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36 Ha 4.4	28	9 AM	<p>Occasional snow falls interrupted unusually bright moonlight & night - Nothing unusual occurred - Conditions in the line are as quiet as we allow them to be as "Fritz" does not wish to have this quiet resting sector spoiled for relieving his own tired troops from the more active sectors - Our Artillery T.M. Pys and MG are already making things get too busy for him. He does not approve of the Australians habit of spoiling these quiet resting sectors by their aggressive patrols, Artillery, T.M., and Snipers. It has been whispered that a very small percentage of our front line infantry are also in favour of Fritz's quiet unaggressive methods.</p>	
	29	9 AM	<p>Clear frosty weather - yesterday was a much more active day in front line trenches also for enemy as our Heavy & Medium Trench mortars threw over a lot of H.Q. which did a lot of damage to enemy defenses - Enemy retaliated by wrecking our Brigade Signal Box O.P. getting 3 direct hits of tracer</p>	

W. W. 4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms C. 2118/12 (continued on next sheet)

33

11

December 1917

WAR DIARY

Map Ref. Sheet 36

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

11th Aust Inf Bn

11th Aust Inf Bn

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 36 Ha 4.4	29	9am	Continued from East Sheet General Monack our Divisional Commander visited this sector today accompanied by an American General - Major Gen Kennedy of American Army General Cannon showed them through our Trench System and a great interest was shown by our United States visitor	
	30	9am	Weather milder thawing during the day nothing unusual occurred - Enemy quiet - Observation at Brigade O.D. indicated a relief in progress during the day as over 100 men observed moving into trenches at one point near Artillery At night there a large increase in the use of very lights was also noticed See addendum attached.	
	31	9am	New Years eve - Snowing and windy - Enemy showed much nervousness during hours of darkness (before rise of moon) by much M.G. fire on German's land and by use of great number of very lights - Nothing of special occurred	Donald P. Tracer

WAR DIARY Addendum30th Dec.

At 11 am. a presentation of medals and ribbons to members of the 3rd Aust. Divⁿ, by the Corps Commander, took place at the Cinema Hall, Steenwerck.

The number of O.R. recipients from Units of this Brigade are as under:-

41 st Bn.	Nil
42 nd "	10
43 rd "	3
44 th "	1

Officers who received medals or ribbons are as under:-

44 th Bn.	Capt. BREMNER H.G.	Ribbon	M.C.
"	Capt. KENIHAN R.L.	Ribbon	M.C.
43 rd	Lt STYANT-BROWNE	"	"
42 nd	Lt. DIXON	"	D.C.M.
11 th M.G. Coy.	Lt. RAYNOR	Medal	

D. Fraser

153

File

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

115/2/1.

Brigade Headquarters.
12th. December, 1917.

.....
.....

Herewith one copy of Provisional Defence Scheme.

Appendices A and B
and Plans A, B and D.

will be forwarded later.

Please acknowledge receipt on form below.

G.A. Hasey

MAJOR.
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Bde. A.I.F.

Headquarters.
11th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Your Provisional Defence Scheme received.

Signature

Rank

Date

153

SECRET.

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

COPY NO.....

Brigade Headquarters.
12th. December, 1917.

PROVISIONAL DEFENCE SCHEME.

RESERVE BRIGADE OF THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION (PLOGSTREERT AREA)

REFERENCE MAPS. Sheet 28 S.W. 1/20,000,
Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20,000.

- DIVISIONAL FRONT. 1. The front extends from the River LYS on the South to the River DOUVE on the North, both exclusive. This front is held by two Infantry Brigades. Divisional and Brigade boundaries are shown on Plan "A"
- LINE OF DEFENCE. 2. There are three lines of defence.
(a) Front or Main Defensive System covered by a line of connected posts.
(b) Second or Corps Defensive System.
(c) Third or Army Defensive System.

The Main Defensive System is held by the two Brigades in the line.
A nucleus garrison for the Second or Corps System is provided by the Reserve Brigade.
- ARTILLERY. 3. The Divisional Artillery plus a certain number of heavies, cover the Divisional front.

The Right F.A. Group consists of :-
Headquarters.
1. 18 pdr. Battery.
1. 4.5 How. Battery.
The Left F.A. Group consists of :-
Headquarters.
5. 18 pdr Batteries.
1. 4.5 How. Battery.
- MACHINE GUNS. 4. 32 Vickers Guns cover the Divisional front. Their Defensive dispositions are shown on Plan "B"
- PRINCIPLES OF DEFENCE. 5. The principles of defence are :-
(a) That the defence of the Divisional Area is organised in depth the maximum use being made of Vickers and Lewis Guns and wire entanglements.
(b) The retention of the Main Defensive System.
(c) The responsibility of the Brigades in the line for this defence.
(d) The principle of counter-attacking and retaking ground lost, whether in front or on a flank.
(e) The employment of the Reserve Brigade offensively if possible, or defensively in the Second or Corps System.
(f) The plan of Nucleus garrisons.
Nucleus garrisons will never go forward to counter-attack, but will remain in their allotted positions as rallying points in case counter-attacks are unsuccessful.
- NOMENCLATURE OF BATTALIONS. 6. The Battalions of the Reserve Brigade are known as A, B, C and D, Battalions.
The locations of their Headquarters are shown in Plan "A"
- RESERVE M.G. COY & T.F. BATTERY. 7. Headquarters of these Units are shown on Plan "A"

P.T.O.

(2)

NUCLEOUS
GARRISON FOR
THE CORPS
SYSTEM.

8. A nucleous garrison for the Second or Corps System, of 2 Companies, plus eight Lewis Guns and teams, is supplied by "D" Battalion Reserve Brigade.

The distribution of this nucleous garrison is set out in Appendix "C"

Commanders of nucleous garrison Companies are under the orders of the G.O.C., of the Brigade in whose Area they are situated, unless and until the responsibility for the defence of the Corps line is passed to the G.O.C. Reserve Brigade.

POSITION OF
ASSEMBLY.

9. The positions of assembly of Units are their respective parade grounds, which in all cases are situated within 100 yards of their own Headquarters.

POSITIONS OF
READINESS.

10. There are two Positions of Readiness for the Brigade, in the forward Area.

The two positions are called, Position of Readiness "A" and Position of Readiness "B" respectively, the former being towards the Southern flank of the Divisional front, and the latter towards the Northern flank of the Divisional Front.

These positions are shown on Plan "D"

ACTION OF
RESERVE
BRIGADE.

11. (a) Should the Brigade be required to act either offensively or defensively owing to an enemy attack the warning order "Stand by to Assist" will be sent to all Units.

(b) Units, will be prepared to move in fighting order as per S.S.135, with the exception that one, and not two bombs per man will be carried, 20 minutes after receipt of the warning order referred to in Para 11 (a) above.

The Machine Gun Company will take forward 12 guns with 4000 rounds of ammunition per gun.

The Trench Mortar Battery will take forward 4 mortars with 25 rounds per mortar.

(c) Should units be required on the Southern flank of the Divisional front the message "Assist FRELINGHIE Pass" will be sent, the word "Pass" being followed by a clock time.

On receipt of this message Units will move in accordance with March Table 1 set out in Appendix "A"

(d) Should Units be required on the Northern flank of the Divisional front the message "Assist WARETON Pass", will be sent, the word "Pass" being followed by a clock time.

On receipt of this message Units will move in accordance with March Table 2 set out in Appendix "A"

(e) Should some units be required on the Southern and the remainder on the Northern flank of the Divisional front, the message "Assist Division Pass", will be sent, the word "Pass" being followed by a certain clock time.

On receipt of this message Units will move in accordance with March Table 3, set out in Appendix "A"

P.T.O.

(3)

FORMATIONS.

12. Units will move from their position of Assembly to the Position of Readiness, in file, without distances between detachments.

The formation and position of Units when at the position of Readiness is shown in Plan "D"

REPORTS.

13. (a) On receipt of the warning message referred to in Para 11 (a) above, a mounted officer from each Unit will report to Brigade Headquarters.
 (b) Whilst on the move from the Position of Assembly to the Position of Readiness, Units will arrange for their report centres to be at the heads of their respective columns.
 (c) On arrival at the Position of Readiness, Units will send an Officer to the Report Centre of that position as shown in Plan "D".

ADVANCED BRIGADE HEAD-QUARTERS.

14. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be established according to Plan "D"

TRANSPORT.

15. (a) Transport, except that necessary to carry the guns of the Machine Gun Company and the animals mentioned in (c) below, will not move from its present location until so ordered.
 On receipt of the warning order referred to in Para. 11 (a) above, all animals will be harnessed up but not hooked up.
 (b) Pack animals, including officers' rides, and spare animals, must be ready to move, under Brigade orders, 15 minutes after receipt of the warning order.
 (c) On receipt of the warning order "D" Battalion will despatch 10 pack animals, and "BC" Battalion 4, to report to Headquarters, Reserve Trench Mortar Battery, to carry stores of this Unit; these animals will be returned to the Transport lines when the C.C. Trench Mortar Battery cannot take them further.
 (d) Animals may be unharnessed on receipt of the order "Transport Stand Down"

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS.

16. Detailed instructions regarding the action of each Unit after its arrival at the Position of Readiness will be issued as they become available.

EMERGENCY ROADS.

17. All emergency roads are shown on Plan "E"

WORK OF THE CORPS LINE.

18. The nucleus garrison of the Corps Line will supply continuous working parties for the improvement of the Corps Line.
 The order of precedence of this work will be:-
 (a) Construction of accommodation for the nucleus garrison, and construction of defensible trenches 50 to 100 yards from the accommodation of such garrison and with wire entanglements protecting such works.
 (b) Construction of Strong Points in the Corps Line for the accommodation of the Lewis Guns and teams.
 (c) Wiring for the protection of the Corps Line.
 (d) Making the Corps Line trafficable throughout.
 (e) Making the Line defensible throughout.

P.T.O.

(4)

ANTI-AIR-
CRAFT.
DEFENCES.

19. Six Lewis Guns are mounted in the Brigade Area for the protection of the Camps. Their positions are shown in Plan "F" These guns will be dismantled and taken forward should Battalions be required to move forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE.

20. Administrative Arrangements are set out in Appendix "B"

COMMUNICATIONS.

21. Route Diagram of Communications is shown in Plan "C"

L. Casey

MAJOR.
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1.	G.O.C.	
2.	B.I.	
3.	S.C.	
4.	41st Battalion.	
5.	42nd Battalion.	
6.	43rd Battalion.	
7.	44th Battalion.	
8.	11th L. G. Coy.) Without Plan "C"
9.	11th P. L. Bty.	
10.	3rd. Aust. Division.) Without Plans A, B, C & E.
11.	9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.	
12.	10th. Aust. Inf. Bde.	
13.	C.R.A.	
14.	C.R.E.	
15.	A.D.I.S.	
16.	Signal Section.	
17/18.	War Diary.	
20.	File.	

APPENDIX "C"

1. DISTRIBUTION OF NUCLEOUS GARRISON.

(a) RIGHT BRIGADE AREA.

Company Headquarters. GRAND RABEQUE Fms. C.8.c.80.95.

<u>Platoon No.</u>	<u>Locality.</u>	<u>Strength.</u>
1.	LA FLENCQUE Fm. C.14.d.9.9.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.
2.	GRAND RABEQUE Fm. C.8.c.80.95.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks plus Company Headquarters.
3.	DELENELLE Fm. C.1.d.35.12.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.
4.	SUPPORT Fm. C.1.c.75.40.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.

(b) LEFT BRIGADE AREA.

Company Headquarters. ST. YVES TUNNELS. U.15.c.75.55.

5.	DEAD HORSE CORNER U.21.a.27.95.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.
6.	ST. YVES TUNNELS. U.15.c.75.55.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks. Plus Company Headquarters.
7.	PROUSE POINT TUNNELS. U.14.d.9.8.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.
8.	West of BARRICADE AVENUE. U.9.c.0.5.	1 Officer 25 Other Ranks.

2. LOCATION OF STRONG POINTS.

Strength of each Strong Point is 2 N.C.O's 12 men and 2 Lewis Guns.

(a) RIGHT BRIGADE AREA.

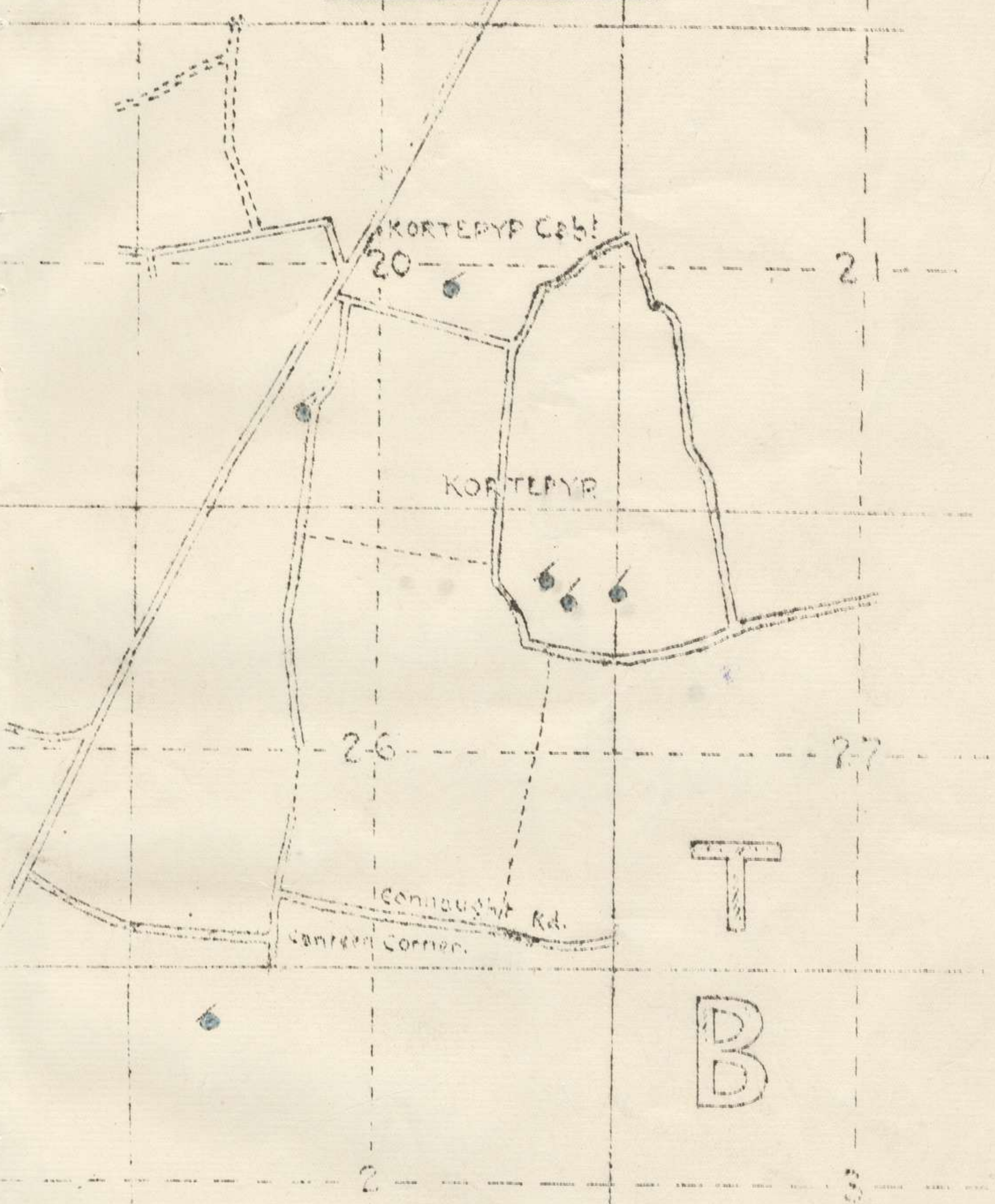
<u>NO.</u>	<u>LOCATION.</u>	<u>SUPERVISED BY PLATOON.</u> <u>NO.</u>
1.	AID POST C.9.c.10.15.	1
2.	GUNNERS FARM C.2.d.25.17.	2
3.	U.27.c.2.8.	3
4.	U.27.b.00.65.	4

(b) LEFT BRIGADE AREA.


5.	U.21.d.45.50.	5
6.	U.21.b.5.8.	6
7.	U.9.d.75.10.	7
8.	U.9.d.87.95.	8

PLAN "F"

Anti-Aircraft Lewis Guns.



REFERENCE.

A.A. Lewis Gun... 

Scale: 1:10,000

(I)

APPENDIX "A"
"ASSIST FREILINGHIEU"

MARCH TABLE 1

Units in order of march.	Starting Point.	Time of Passing Starting Point.	Route.
"B" Battalion.	Road Junction at T.28.c.20.37	Hour stated on message referred to in Para 11.C.	B.4.a.65.15. - B.4.b.65.55. - GOSTHOVE Fm. - B.18.a.60.37. - Position of Readiness "A"
"A" Battalion.	do.	10 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
"C" Battalion.	do.	20 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
"D" Battalion less 2 Coys. & 8 Lewis Guns and teams.	do.	30 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
Reserve T.F. Bty. less one half Battery.	do.	37 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
Reserve M.G. Coy. Less 1 Section.	do.	40 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.

APPENDIX "A" (Contd)
(II) "ASSIST WARNETCH"

MARCH TABLE 2.

"B" Battalion.	Road Junction at T.27.d.30.85.	Hour stated on message referred to in Para. 11.(d)	T.28.b.55.80. - T.22.d.25.40. - JOURTE DREVE Fm (T.24.a.40.55) - Position of Readiness "B"
"A" Battalion.	do.	10 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
"C" Battalion.	do.	20 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
"D" Battalion.	do.	30 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
less 2 Coys & 8 Lewis Gun Teams	do.	37 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
Res. T.F. Bty. less one half Bty.	do.	40 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.
Res. M.G. Coy less 1 Section.	do.		

APPENDIX.

21

APPENDIX "A" (Contd)

(III) "ASSIST DIVISION"

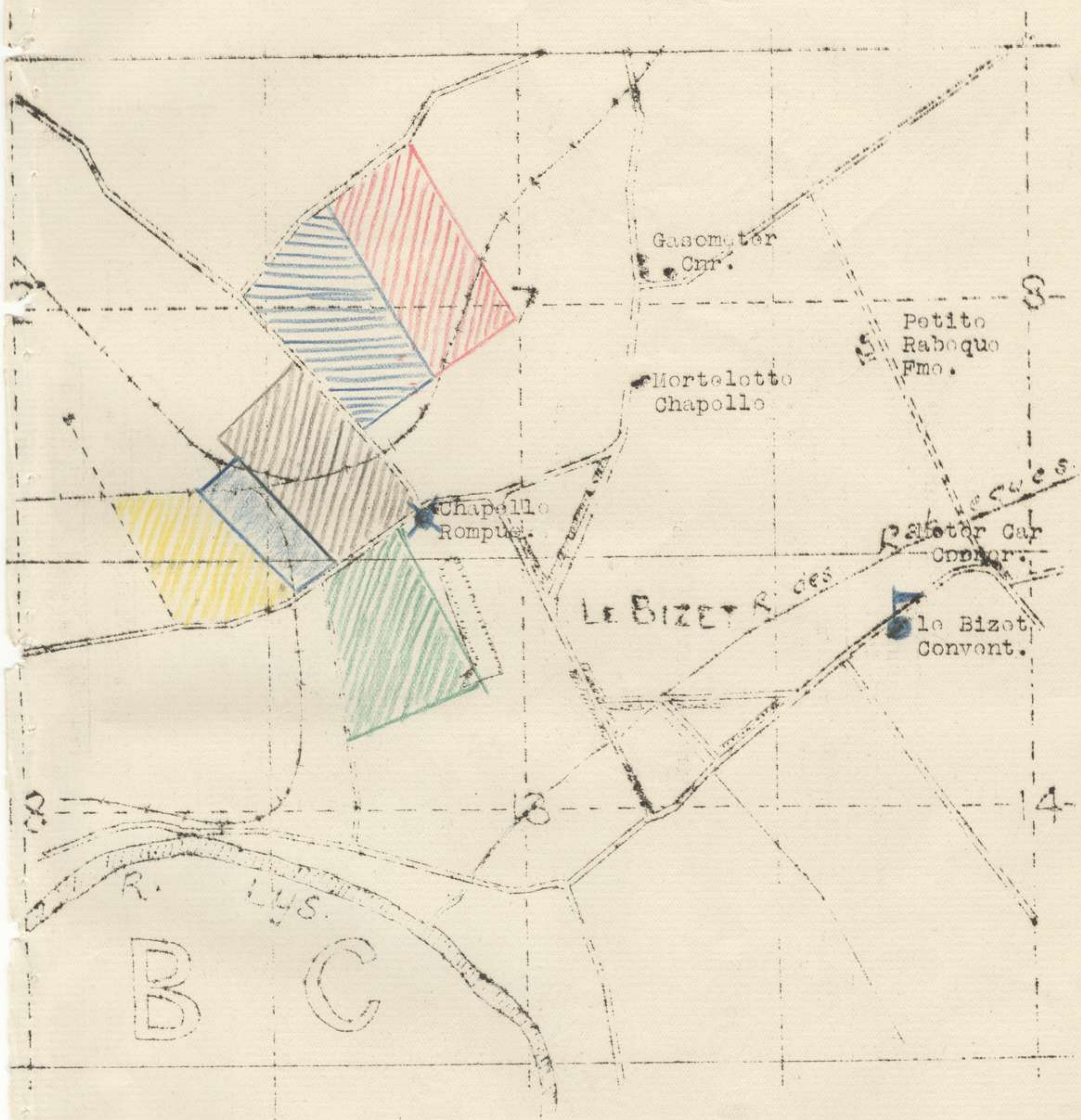
MARCH TABLE 3.

Units in order of march.	Starting Point.	Time of Passing starting Point.	Route.	Remarks.
"C" Battalion.	Road Junction at T.26.d.82.10.	Hour stated on message referred to in Para.11 (o)	T.28.c.20.37.-B.4.a.65.15. - B.4.b.85.55. - OOSTHOVE Fm.- B.18.a.60.37.- Position of Readiness "A"	
"D" Battalion less 2 Coys & 8 Lewis Guns.	do.	10 minutes after "C" Bn.	do.	Moves to starting point via T.25.d.55.37.
1 Section Res. M.G.Coy.	do.	17 minutes after "C" Bn.	do.	Do.
"B" Battalion.	Road Junction at T.27.d.90.85.	Hour stated on message referred to in Para.11 (o)	T.28.b.55.80. - T. ²² .d.25.40. DREVE Fm.- Position of Readiness "B"	
"A" Battalion.	do.	10 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.	
Reserve T.M. Bty. less one half Bty.	do.	20 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.	
Reserve M.G. Coy. (less 2 Sections.)	do.	24 minutes after "B" Bn.	do.	

— PLAN "D" —

1/10,000.

(I) POSITION OF READINESS. "A"



LEGEND.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------------|--|
| A' Bn | | Report Centre :- | |
| B' " | | Adv. Bde. H.Q. :- | |
| C' " | | | |
| D' " | | | |
| M.G. Coy. | | | |
| T.M. Bty | | | |

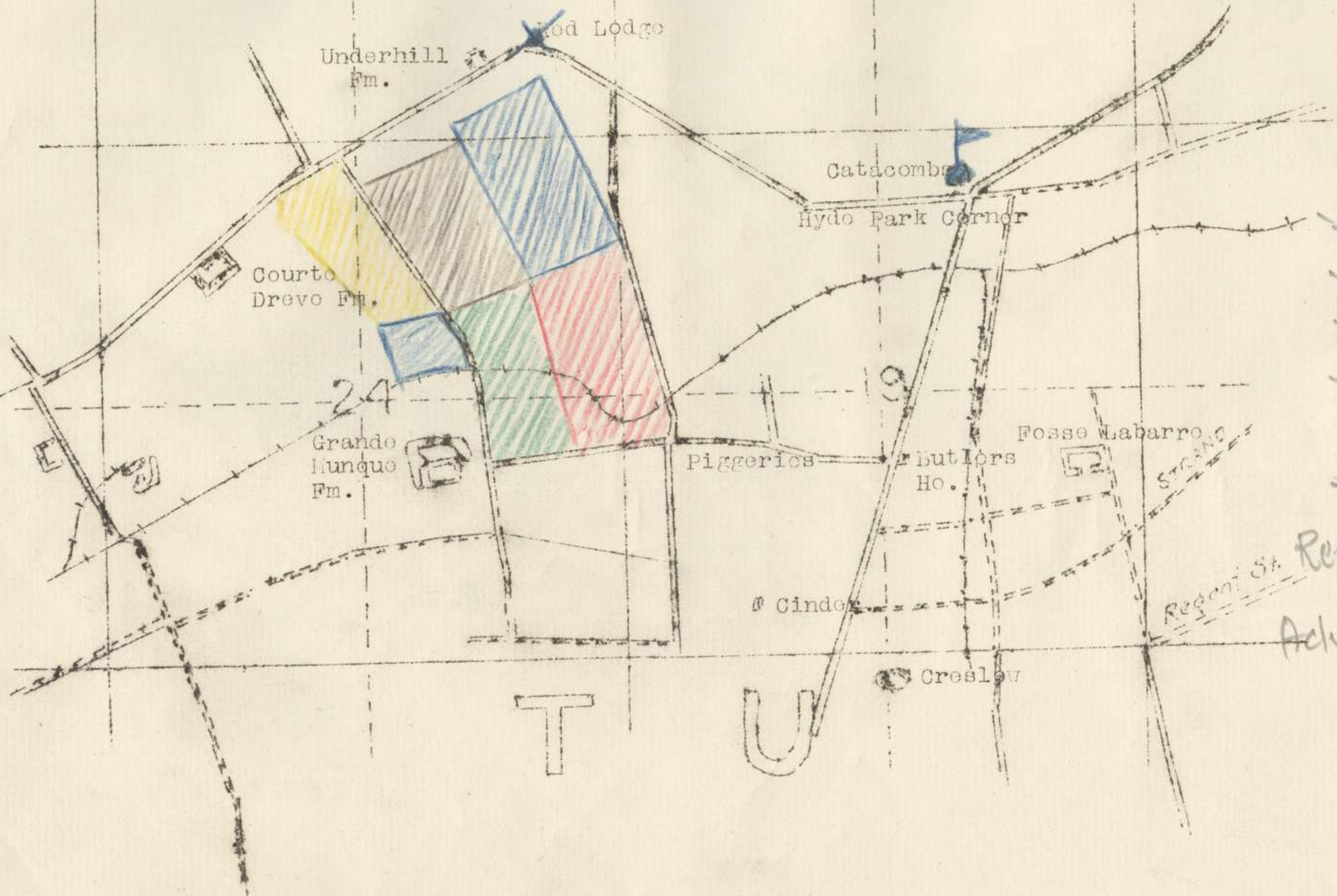
(III) Position of Readiness 'B'

153

PLAN

"D"

1/10,000



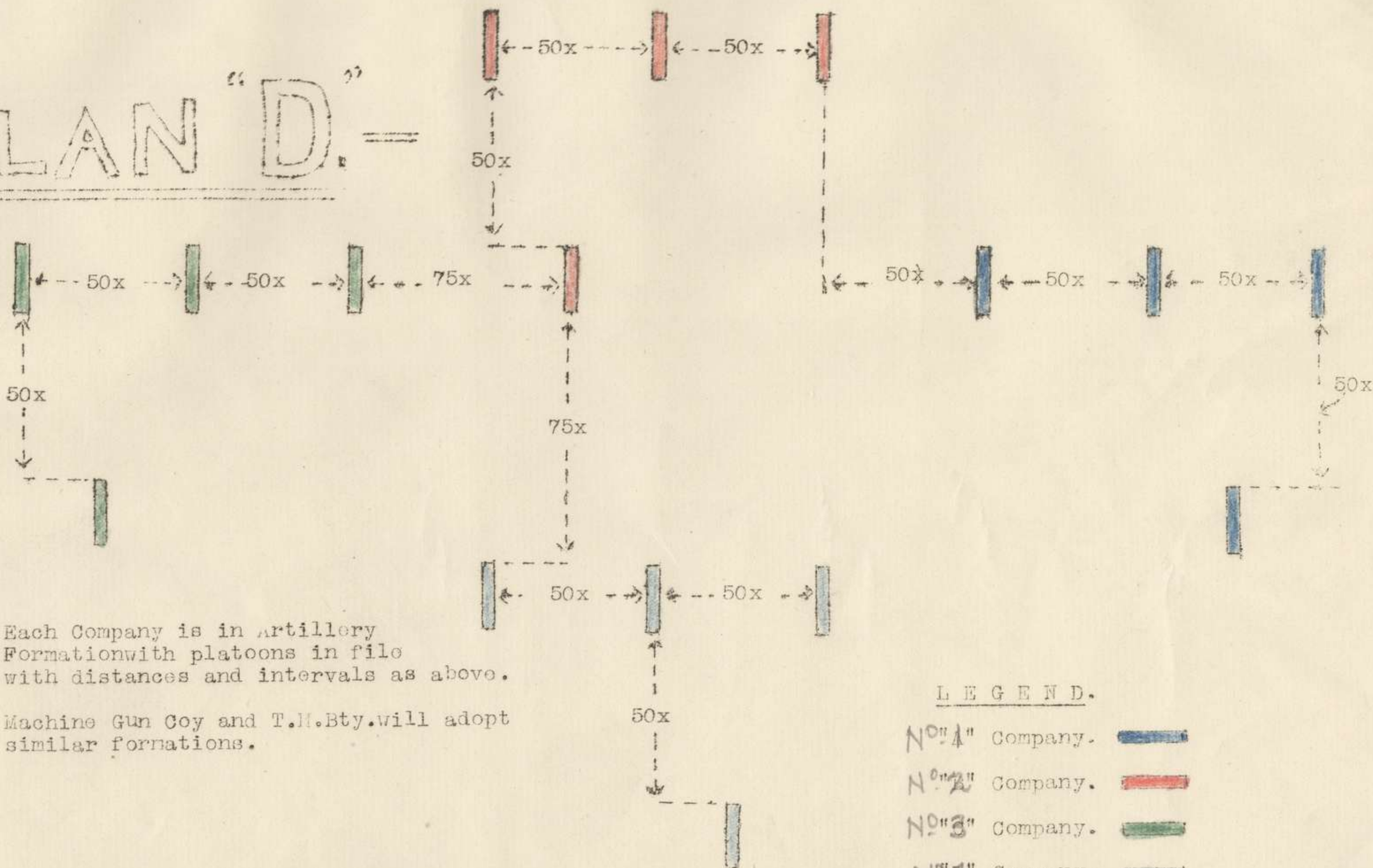
LEGEND

- 'A' Bn
- 'B' "
- 'C' "
- 'D' "
- M.G. Coy.
- T.M.B.
- Report Centre:
- Adv. Bae. H-Q.

APPENDIX.

(III) Formation of Battalion when at the Position of Readiness.

PLAN "D"



Each Company is in Artillery Formation with platoons in file with distances and intervals as above.

Machine Gun Coy and T.M.Bty. will adopt similar formations.

LEGEND.

- No. 1 Company. █
- No. 2 Company. █
- No. 3 Company. █
- No. 4 Company. █

APPENDIX

PLAN E
SHOWING APPROACH ROUTES

LEGEND
Roads
Tracks



153

SECRET.

COPY NO. *24*.....

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters.
13th. December, 1917.

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 104.
REFERENCE MAP. Sheet 28.S.W. 1/20,000.

1. The 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 6th Australian Infantry Brigade on 15th. December, and will move to the LOCRE AREA in accordance with the attached relief and march table.
2. Defence Schemes, Secret Maps of the Area and Aero-plane Photos, will be handed over to the relieving Units. Maps of the ordinary issue will not be handed over.
3. Completion of moves and relief will be reported to Brigade Headquarters.
4. Administrative instructions have been issued by the Staff Captain.
5. Brigade Headquarters will close at T.20.c.4.4. at 2 p.m. 15th December and re-open at FAIRY HOUSE H.18.d.5.1. at the same hour.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

G. A. Vasey.

MAJOR.
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

ISSUED AT 8 p.m. BY.

No.		ISSUED AT 8 p.m.	BY.
1	G.O.C.		Hand.
2	B.I.		Hand.
3	S.C.		Hand.
4	41st Battalion.		D.R.
5	42nd Battalion.		D.R.
6	43rd Battalion. Details.		D.R.
7	43rd Battalion.		D.R.
8	44th Battalion.		D.R.
9	11th Machine Gun Coy.		D.
10	11th Machine Gun Coy. Details.		D.R.
11	11th Trench Mortar Battery.		D.R.
12	Brigade Signal Section.		Hand.
13	3rd Aus. Division.		D.R.
14			
15	9th Aust Inf. Brigade.		D.R.
16	10th Aust Inf. Brigade.		D.R.
17	C.R.A.		D.
18	C.R.E.		D.R.
19	A.D.I.S.		D.R.
20	A.P.M.		D.R.
21	Area Commandant. STEENWERCK.		D.R.
22	Area Commandant. LOCRE.		D.R.
23/25	War Diary.		Hand.
23	File.		Hand.

RELIEF AND MARCH TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 104.

153

DATE.	UNIT.	RELIEVED BY.	MOVES FROM	TO.	VACATED BY.	PASSES CROSS ROADS AT T.15.a.05.35.	Via.	REMARKS.
Decr.14/15.	2 Coys 44th Battalion.	2 Coys 6th Brigade.	CORPS LINE	BULFORD CAMP.	-	-	-	Relief to be completed by 6-30 a.m.
Decr.15.	11th.M.G. Coy Details.	6th M.G.Coy.	PENZANCE LINES	PASTEUR CAMP M.23.c.3.8.	6th M.G.Coy.	9 a.m.	DRANOUTRE	
"	43rd Bn.	23rd Bn.	CANTERBURY CORNER	DONCASTER HUTS M.28.b.9.5.	21st Bn.	11 a.m.	do.	
"	44th Bn.	21st Bn.	BULFORD CAMP	WAKEFIELD CAMP M.29.c.8.5.	23rd Bn.	11-25 a.m.	do.	
"	41st Bn.	24th Bn.	KORTEPYP NO.1.	KEMMEL HUTS N.19.c.9.2.	22nd Bn.	12-30 p.m.	do.	
"	42nd Bn. Details	22nd Bn.	KORTEPYP NO.3.	BIRR BARRACKS M.29.a.6.9.	24th Bn.	1 p.m.	do.	
"	Bde N.C.C. School.	-	PENZANCE LINES	FAIRY HOUSE. M.18.d.5.1.	-	1-30 p.m.	do.	
Dec.15	Bde.H/Qs & Sig. Sec.	6th Aus.Inf. Bde H.Q & Sig Section.	TROIS ROIS CAMP	FAIRY HOUSE.	2nd Pioneer . H.Q. Bn.	1-40 p.m.	do.	
"	11th.M.G. Coy, less details.	5th. M.G.Coy.	LINE.	PASTEUR CAMP.	6th M.G.Coy.	-	-	

APPENDIX

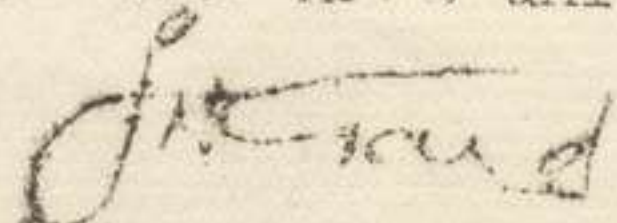
11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters.
13th. December, 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 1.
ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER NO.....

1. Brigade Area Boundary issued herewith.
2. Locations of Third Divisional Salvage Company will be at BIRR BARRACKS, LOCRE.
3. D.A.D.O.S. Store will be at Sheet 28. S.23.a.8.6., on and from 15th instant.
4. BATHS. LOCRE Baths will be taken over by this Brigade. C.O., 42nd Battalion will detail 1 N.C.O. and 9 men to relieve a similar number of the 6th Brigade on the morning of the 15th instant.
5. REINFORCEMENT DEPOT:- This will open at Sheet 28. S.16.c.5.7. on 14th instant and reinforcement railhead will change from CASTRE to BAILLEUL. Reinforcements will be held in this Depot for one night only, so that it will not be possible in many cases to give Units 48 hours notice of arrival of reinforcements.
6. AREA STORES:-
 - (a) Arrangements will be made to prepare all handing over lists, in duplicate, as per pro forma attached.
 - (d) Care to be taken to discriminate between trench and area stores, and mobilisation or Unit stores. Mobilisation or units stores on no account to be left in the Area.
 - (c) No Unit to vacate any Camp without giving 24 hours notice to the Area or Sub-Area Commandant, who will arrange for all stores to be checked before the Camp is vacated. The Area Commandant or his Deputy will give and take a receipt for all equipment handed over.
 - (d) Units having Working Parties using gum boots must obtain a receipt for all boots handed over.
 - (e) Billets, Camps and bivouacs will be left in a scrupulously clean condition, particular attention will be paid to all latrines, cookhouses, stables and manure dumps. Area Commandants or their Duputies' certificate must be obtained to this effect.
7. CLAIMS. Attention is drawn to G.R.O. 1146.
8. DUTIES, GUARDS ETC. The following duties will be handed over to incoming Brigade:-

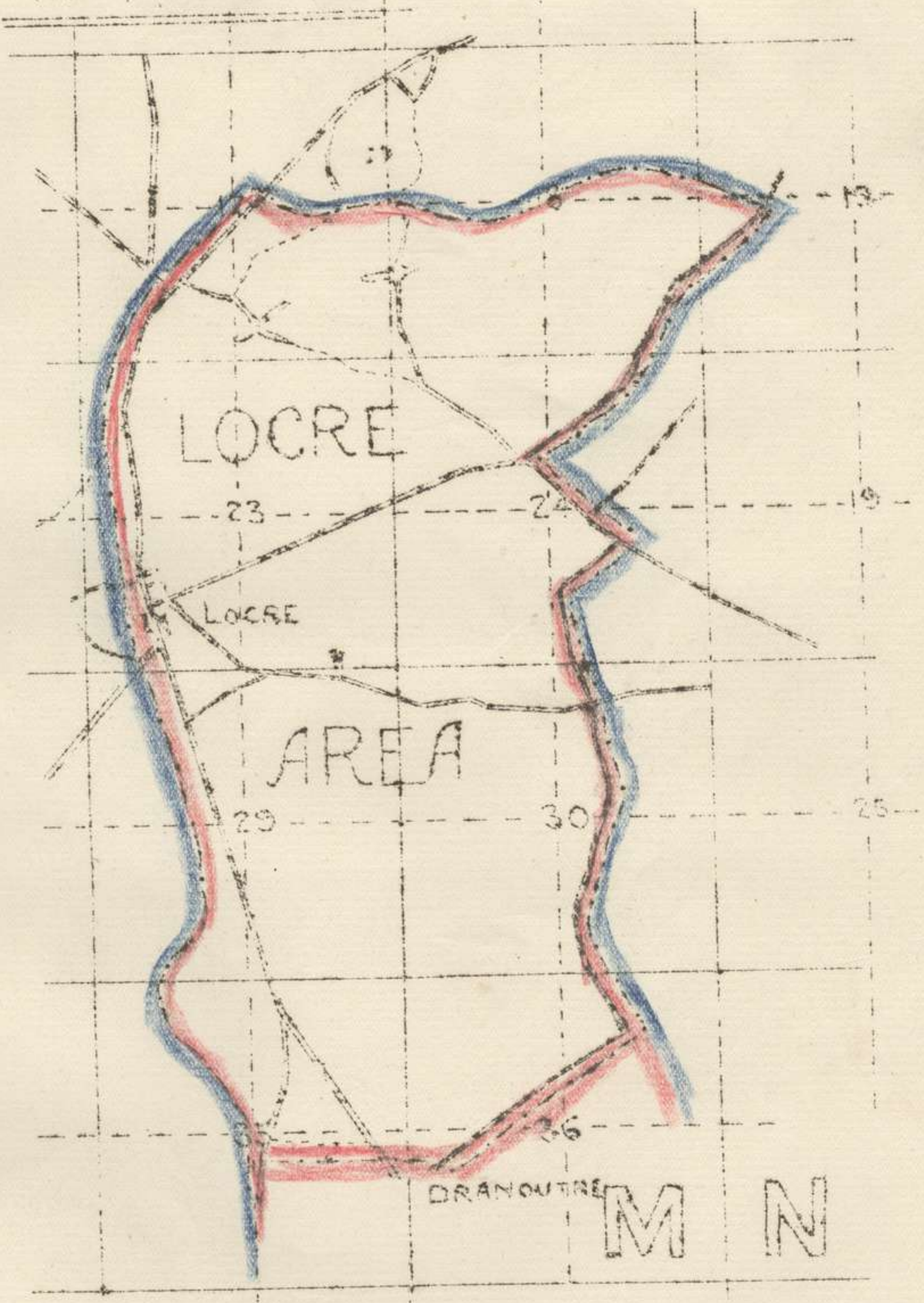
<u>44th Battalion.</u>	Guard R.E. dump. 1 N.C.O. and 3 men STEINWERCK. Picquet water tanks. 1 N.C.O. and 3 men KORTEPYP LINES.
<u>43rd Battalion.</u>	Guard. 3 N.C.O's and 23 men. LA CRECHE dump. A.A.Guard. 4 N.C.O's and 24 men. LA CRECHE.
<u>42nd Battalion.</u>	Sub-Area Commandant. STEINWERCK. 1 Officer. With Corps Light Railway. 1 Officer, 2 N.C.O's, 19 men. STEINWERCK R.E. Dump.
<u>41st Battalion.</u>	Sub-Area Commandant. 1 Officer 1 O/R. Pont de NIEPPE.
9. No personnel of Units are to be left in this Area unless so instructed by this Office.


 CAPTAIN.
 Staff Captain 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

— 11th Inf. Bde. Billeting AREA. —

Ref. Map 28 S.W.

1/20,000.



— LEGEND —

- Div. Bdy. —
- Bde. Bdy. —

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 106.

REFERENCE MAPS. Sheet 28 S.W. 1/20.000.
Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20.000.

1. (a) The 11th Australian Infantry Brigade, less 11th Machine Gun Coy and 11th Trench Mortar Battery plus 10th Machine Gun Company and 10th Trench Mortar Battery will relieve the 113th Brigade in the Area between I.20.d.50.30. and I.16.l.20.52. during the period 19th/21st December, 1917.
- (b) Moves and reliefs will be in accordance with the attached March and Relief Table.
2. The Right Brigade boundary is PARK ROW AVENUE (exclusive) I.20.a.0.5. the road running through I.19.b.32.15., I.13.c.0.4., H.24.a.30.70., H.17.d.55.35., a straight line to H.13.b.00.53., RUE DU MOULIN.
The Left Brigade boundary is I.16.b.20.52. in the front line to I.2.c.8.3. thence to the LYS at H.4.b.45.35.
3. (a) The Defence of the Area will be governed by the principles laid down in existing Defence Schemes, except as modified by instructions issued by this Office.
- (b) Defence Schemes, Maps, Aeroplane photos, Intelligence summaries Log books etc will be taken over.
4. (a) Until completion of relief all troops crossing the South bank of the river LYS will come under the orders of the G.O.C. 113 Brigade.
- (b) Command of the Area will pass to the G.O.C. 11th Australian Infantry Brigade on completion of relief.
5. The 11th Machine Gun Company will relieve A.A. Vickers Machine Guns mounted by the 6th and 19th Machine Gun Companies as from 19th December.
6. Subject to the provisions of this Order details of relief will be mutually arranged between C.O's concerned.
7. Brigade Headquarters will close at Fairy House H.10.d.5.1. at noon 19th instant and open at BLUE BALL VILLA A.17.a.0.1. at the same hour. Brigade H/qs will close at BLUE BALL VILLA at 3 p.m. 20th inst and open at H.11.a.40.35. at the same hour.
8. Completion of relief will be notified by wire in Code to Brigade Headquarters.
9. Administrative Instructions are issued herewith.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

G.A. Hoey

MAJOR.

Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

P.T.O.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. G.O.C.
2. B.I.
3. S.C.
4. 41st Bn.
5. 42nd Bn.
6. 43rd Bn.
7. 44th Bn.
8. 11th Machine Gun Coy.
9. 11th Trench Mortar Battery.
10. 10th Machine Gun Coy.
11. 10th Trench Mortar Battery.
- 12/13. 3rd Aus. Division.
14. 9th Aus. Inf. Brigade.
15. 10th Aus. Inf. Brigade.
16. 113th Infantry Brigade.
17. Right group 38th Div. Artillery.
18. C.R.A.
19. C.R.E.
20. A.D.S.
21. 11th Field Company.
22. 11th Field Ambulance.
23. 370th Coy. A.S.C.
24. Area Commandant LOCRE.
25. do. STEINWERCK.
26. A.P.M.
27. 3rd Aus. Div. Salvage Coy.
- 28/30. War Diary.
31. N.C.O.'s School.
32. Officers School.
33. Brigade Signals.
34. File.

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
RELIEF AND MARCH TABLE TO AC COMPANY 11TH AUSTRALIAN INF. BDE. ORDER NO. 106.

153

DATE.	UNIT.	FROM	MOVES	TO.	IN RELIEF OF.	ROUTE.	STARTING POINT.	TIME.
Dec. 19th.	Advanced parties 42nd Bn. Bde. H/Q 10th M.G. Coy. & 10th T.H. Bty.	Present locations.		LINE.	--	--	--	--
	44th Battalion.	WAKEFIELD CAMP	B.19.b.6.7.	36th Bn.		DRANOUTRE NEUVE EGLISE DE SEULE PAPOT LE VEAU.	DRANOUTRE CHURCH.	12-15 p.m.
	41st Battalion.	KEMEL HUTS.	B.21.c.3.2.	35th Bn.		Do.	Do.	12-35 p.m.
	43rd Battalion.	DONCASTER HUTS.	B.1.a.5.3.	34th Bn.		DRANOUTRE NEUVE EGLISE.	Do.	1-15 p.m.
	Bde. N.C.O's Schl.	FAIRY HOUSE.	B.1.a.5.3.	---		Do.	Do.	1-35 p.m.
	11th M.G. Coy.	PASTEUR CAMP.	T.14.d.6.4.	10th M.G. Coy.		Do.	Do.	1-45 p.m.
	42nd Battalion.	BIER BARRACKS.	B.19.a.4.1.	33rd Bn.		BAILLEUL STENNERCK.	M.28.b.6.1.	12-15 p.m.
	Bde. H/Q & Sig. Sec.	FAIRY HOUSE.	A.17.a.6.1.	9th Bde. H/Q & Sig. Sec.		BAILLEUL.	Do.	12-35 p.m.
	10th M.G. Coy.	T.14.d.6.4.	B.13.b.2.5.	9th M.G. Coy.		DE SEULE. PAPOT.	T.20.a.87.00.	2-5 p.m.
	10th T.H. Bty.	T.19.d.9.9.	A.18.d.6.3.	9th T.H. Bty.		TROIS ARBRES. Do.	Do.	2-15 p.m.

HALTS:- Halts will be observed from 10 minutes before the clock hour to the clock hour.

FOR MARCH TABLE FOR 20th/21st. SEE OVER.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

75

DATE	UNIT.	FROM.	TO.	IN RELIEF OF.	VIA.	REMARKS.
Dec.20/21st.	42nd Battalion.	B.19.a.4.1.	LINE.	16th R.W.Fus.	ERQUINGHEM.	To be clear of Camp at 3-30 p.m. Relief to be complete by 6 a.m.
	2 Companies 44th Battalion.	B.19.b.6.7.	SUBSIDIARY LINE.	2 Coys 13th. R.W. Fus.	Do.	Do.
	1 Coy. 44th Battalion.	Do.	RUE ALLEE LA VESEE Line.	---	ERQUINGHEM LA VESEE.	To be clear of Camp by 3-30 p.m.
	44th Battalion. Less 3 Coys.	Do.	H.18.c.3.6.	---	ERQUINGHEM.	Do.
	2 Coys.43rd Bn.	B.1.a.5.3.	H.11.c.60.50.	2 Coys 15th R.W. Fus.	Do.	To be clear of Camp by 3-30 p.m. Relief to be complete by 6 a.m.
	43rd Bn. Loss 2 Coys.	Do.	ERQUINGHEM.	15th R.W.Fus.Loss 2 Coys.	Do.	Do.
	10th M.G.Coy.	B.13.b.2.5.	LINE	M.G.Coy.with 113th Brigade.	Do.	Do.
	10th L.T.Bty.	A.18.d.6.3.	LINE	T. Bty with 113th Bde.	Do.	Do.
	Bde.H/Q & Sig. Soc.	A.17.a.0.1.	H.11.a.45.35.	113thBde.H/Q & Sig.Soc.	STEINWERCK ERQUINGHEM.	Do.
	Bde.H.C.O's School.	B.1.a.5.3.	ERQUINGHEM	---	ERQUINGHEM.	To be clear of Camp by 3-30 p.m.

SECRET.11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS NO. 2.
ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER NO. 106.

The following instructions are issued in connection with move set out in attached Order.

1. AREA STORES AND CAMPS.

All area stores taken over on coming into this Area will be handed over to Camps Wardens. Notice to be given at once to Area Commandant or his Deputy that Camp is being vacated on 19/12/17.

Area Commandant or his Deputy will give and take receipts for all stores handed over. Billets and camps must be left in a scrupulously clean condition, particular attention being paid to all latrines, cook houses, stables and manure dumps. Area Commandant or Camp Wardens Certificate must be obtained to this effect.

2. SUPPLIES.

Supplies for consumption on the 20th have been issued to Units.

Supplies for consumption on the 21st will be delivered to Q.M. Stores of Units on 20th by A.S.C. For this purpose Units must send a guide who will know the position of Q.M.'s Store on the night of 20th to the Headquarters of the 370th Company of the Train at Sheet 36. N. 7. B.15.b.4.7. not later than 11 a.m. on the 20th.

3. MOB. ESCHELON.

Units will move with Mobile Eschelons complete.

4. BILLETING.

Advance parties on horses or bicycles must proceed early on morning of 19th to allotted camp as set out in attached Brigade Order for nights 19/20th.

Advance parties will similarly be sent on on morning of 20th for units concerned to new locations.

5. BAGGAGE WAGONS.

Train baggage wagons will report to Units on 19th instant at 8 a.m.

6. No officers or soldiers are to be left behind in this Area by any Unit.

7. Particulars re Mobob lorries will be notified separately.

8. Distribution as per Brigade Order.

9. Advance parties going into the Line will carry rations for consumption on ~~20th~~ with them.

A.J.H.

[Signature]
Staff Captain 11th Infantry Brigade AIF.

CAPTAIN.

War Diary

11th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

DEFENCE POLICE

whilst holding BOLS GREENISH SECTION.



In accordance with Para. 4 (a) of Brigade Order No. 106 of 18th instant, existing Defence Schemes will be adopted with the following exceptions which may be inconsistent with principles of the present Scheme.

1. All Battalions will be organised in Battalion Headquarters, and 4 Companies, each Company consisting of 3 platoons of 4 Sections, and Company Headquarters, plus one Lewis Gun Section.
2. "A" Battalion will have:-
 - (a) 3 Companies in the Brigade or Front Line System, i.e. Posts or the old front line.
 - (b) One Company on the left flank of the subsidiary or First Corps Line.
3. "B" Battalion will have:-
 - (a) One Company on the right flank of the subsidiary line and one Company in the centre of the subsidiary line.
 - (b) One Company in the Second Corps Line running through I.7.b. and d. and I.13.b. and d.
 - (c) Battalion Headquarters plus One Company in huts H.18.c.3.6.
4. "C" Battalion will have:-
 - (a) 2 Companies in LA ROLANDERIE FR. (H.11.c.6.5.)
 - (b) Battalion Headquarters plus 2 Companies in ERQUINGHEM.
5. "D" Battalion will ~~xxxxx~~ be billeted in WATERLANDS CAMP (H.21.c.3.2.) or in ERQUINGHEM
6. The two Companies of "B" Battalion mentioned in 3 (a) are under the command of "A" Battalion for Works.
 - Carrying.
 - Defence.
 - Counter-attack.
7. C.O. "A" Battalion will detail the three Companies in the Subsidiary Line (Paras 2(b) and 3 (a).) to provide a nucleus garrison of 9 Lewis Gun Sections and guns for the Subsidiary Line.
8. C.O. "B" Battalion will provide a nucleus garrison of 4 Lewis Gun Sections and guns for the Second Corps Line in I.7.b. and d. and I.13.b. and d.
9. The nucleus garrisons referred to in Paras 7 and 8 will not take part in any counter-attack and will have continuous sentries posted as per Para 6 of Divisional Trench Standing Orders.
10. "C" Battalion will allocate 4 Lewis Gun Sections and Guns to the Third Corps Line in H.8.d., H.12.b. and c. and H.12.b. and c.

This nucleus garrison will not garrison this Line until ordered to do so by Brigade.

These sections will be drawn from one of the Companies in LA ROLANDERIE FR.

When in garrison of the Third Corps Line they will act as per Para 9 above.

(3)

11. The principles of defence are ^{an} active defence by:-

Patrols and
Observation and fighting posts

in order to provide protection to the Brigade or Front Line System.

12. Any post, trench or system lost must be immediately counter-attacked and regained without artillery preparation by the Section, Platoon or Company to the flank or in rear of any such position lost.

The artillery available will continue to fire on S.O.S. lines to prevent further enemy reinforcing

13. Counter-attack on a larger scale with:-

"B" Battalion, less 2 Companies and 4 Lewis Gun Sections.

"C" Battalion, less 4 Lewis Gun Sections

or/and "D" Battalion

with or without artillery preparation will only be undertaken by Brigade.

14. Reconnaissances of all roads, tracks, overland routes and gaps in our wire up to the front line posts must immediately be made by all Officers, N.C.O.'s ~~and~~ ^{and} Scouts of "A", "B", "C" and "D" Battalions.

15. When the enemy's artillery, trench mortars, machine guns or infantry are active, Officers commanding Companies in the front system or subsidiary line, must immediately report the situation on their front, and continue to do so until the situation is normal.

This will enable C.O. "A" Battalion to keep ^{every half hour} higher authority informed as to the General situation.

During the hours of darkness situation reports will be furnished by Company Commanders every two hours.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

C. A. Wasy
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

MAJOR.

Copies to:-

C.Os.

- 41st Battalion.
- 42nd Battalion.
- 43rd Battalion.
- 44th Battalion.
- 10th Machine Gun Coy.
- 10th Trench Mortar Battery.
- 3rd Australian Division.
- War Diary.

SECRET.

COPY NO. 78.....

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 107.REFERENCE MAP. Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20,000.

1. (a) The 43rd Battalion will relieve the 42nd Battalion in the Area between the front and Subsidiary lines during the 26th and the night 26/27th December; relief to be complete by 6 a.m. 27th December.
- (b) The 41st Battalion will move from WATERLANDS CAMP at B.21.c.3,2, to the area at present occupied by 43rd Battalion on the 26th December.
- (c) On relief the 42nd Battalion will move to WATERLANDS CAMP.
- (d) Advanced parties of Specialists of 43rd Battalion will go into the line on night 25/26th December.
- (e) The two companies of 44th Battalion in the Subsidiary line will be relieved by the other two of 44th Battalion on 26th and night 26/27th December. These Companies will come under tactical control of C.O. 43rd Battalion from completion of relief.
- (f) On completion of relief Battalions will be situated as follows:-

"A" Battalion.	43rd Battalion.
"B" Battalion.	44th Battalion.
"C" Battalion.	41st Battalion.
"D" Battalion.	42nd Battalion.
2. EAST of the River LYS all movement will be in parties not larger than a Platoon with distances of 100 yards between parties.
3. All trench maps, Trench Stores, Aeroplane photos and Log Books will be handed over on relief.
4. Continuity of policy re working parties will be maintained; reconnaissance by 41st Battalion Officers with those of 43rd Battalion will commence forthwith.
5. Subject to the provisions of this order details of relief will be arranged mutually between C.O.'s concerned.
6. Completion of reliefs will be reported in Code by wire to Brigade Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE.*G. A. Vasey*MAJOR.
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.DISTRIBUTION.

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. G.O.C. | 22. 11th Field Ambulance. |
| 2. B.H. | 23. 870th Coy. A.S.C. |
| 3. S.C. | 24. Brigade Signal Section. |
| 4. 41st Battalion. | 25. 3rd Aust. Div. Signals. |
| 5. 42nd Battalion. | 26. A.P.H. |
| 6. 43rd Battalion. | 27. Area Commandant. STEENWERCK. |
| 7. 44th Battalion. | 28. War Diary. |
| 8. 11th Machine Gun Coy. | 29. War Diary. |
| 9. 10th Machine Gun Coy. | 30th War Diary. |
| 10. 10th T.M. Battery. | 31. File. |
| 11. 3rd Australian Division. | |
| 12. 3rd Australian Division. | |
| 13. 113th Infantry Brigade. | |
| 14. 9th Aust. Inf. Brigade. | |
| 15. 7th Aust. F.A. Brigade. | |
| 16. 10th Aust. Inf. Brigade. | |
| 17. C.R.A. | |
| 18. C.R.E. | |
| 19. A.D.K.S. | |
| 20. 11th Field Company. | |
| 21. 10th Field Ambulance. | |

SECRET.

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

RIGHT BRIGADE. THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DEFENCE SCHEME.

REFERENCE MAP. SHEET 36. N.W. 1/20,000.

1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The sector consists of :-

(a) FRONT LINE breastworks from I.20.d.5.3. to I.16.b.20.52.
(PEAR TREE FARM exclusive)

The main features in the line are the RUE DU BOIS Salient in I.21.c. and a. and CHARDS FARM Salient in I.16.b. and c.

(b) A SUPPORT LINE of breastworks in rear varying at distances of 100 yards on the right and centre, to 80 yards in the left centre and 250 yards on the left.

Portions of both of the above lines are in bad repair necessitating their being used as a series of posts and short lengths.

(c) A SECOND SUPPORT LINE varying at distances from the first support line of 150 yards on the right to 250 yards in the centre and 500 yards on the left.

(d) A SUBSIDIARY LINE running parallel to the Second Support at a distance of about 600 yards.

(e) These lines are connected by five main communication trenches from the Subsidiary to the Second Support and six communication trenches from the Second support to the First Support and front line.

2. ORGANISATION.

"A" Battalion will be organised in Battalion Headquarters and four Companies, each Company consisting of three platoons of four sections and Company Headquarters, plus one Lewis Gun Section. Remaining Battalions of Brigade retaining their normal formation having regard to their various strengths.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF UNITS.

"A" BATTALION.

Headquarters. I.14.d.55.70.

3 Companies in Front Line System. Each Company having 2 platoons in Front Line and First Support Line, and 1 platoon as Company Reserve in Second Support Line.

1 Company on left flank of Subsidiary or 1st CORPS Line.

LEWIS GUNS. For positions see Appendix.

"B" BATTALION.

Headquarters. ~~H.18.c.3.5.~~ H.17.d.4.3.

1 Company. ~~H.18.c.3.5.~~ H.17.d.1.0.

1 Company on right flank of Subsidiary Line and

1 Company in centre of Subsidiary Line. These two companies are under the command of the C.O. "A" Battalion, for works, carrying, defence, and counter attack.

1 Company in Second CORPS Line. (RUE FLEURIE Switch) running through I.7.b and d. and I.13.b and d.

"C" BATTALION.

Headquarters and 2 Companies in BRUINGHEM. (H.4.d.35.60.)

2 Companies at LA ROLANDE. (H.11.c.0.5.)

"D" BATTALION.

In billets at B.21.c.0.7.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Headquarters. H.5.d.15.90.

3 Sections in line

1 Section in reserve at Company Headquarters.

P.T.O.

(2)

TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY.

Headquarters. H.3.d.95.25.
 Four guns in Line.
 Two mobile guns at ORCHARD.
 Two reserve at H.3.d.75.25.

4. SYSTEM OF DEFENCE. GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

The most likely form of attack is in the nature of raids and minor enterprises -

The main principle in the defence of the Sector is to hold the Front Line lightly and have supports and reserves in depth.

FRONT LINE is held by a series of Posts whose strength should ordinarily be from 1 M.C.O. and 3 men to 1 M.C.O. and 9 men each excluding Signallers, and Stretcher Bearers.

BY DAY, the Posts normally occupy portions of the Line other than those held by night. These positions are changed periodically.

BY NIGHT these Posts are in the vicinity of the junctions of the Front Line and communication trenches and each of them is wired round to keep enemy out of bombing range.

The First Support Line is similarly held by Posts, some of day Front Line Posts being withdrawn to this line by night.

The Second Support Line is held throughout its length and acts in the nature of a picquet line, with its sentry groups as detailed above.

This line (Second Support) is the "A" Battalion's line of resistance.

The Subsidiary Line is held throughout its length and is main defensive line.

MACHINE GUNS, from a series of Posts, cover the whole front and flanks, firing from the subsidiary line and from the line LILLE POST - PARADISE ALLEY - QUEENS STREET.

TRENCH MORTARS, are in the vicinity of I.21.a.15.60. and I.21.a.70.70.- H.15.c.70.50. and H.15.d.00.65. in readiness to assist in the defence of the Front Line by bombarding enemy parapet.

Two Mortars are held at the ORCHARD (I.15.c.9.5.) as a mobile reserve for employment as occasion may require under directions of C.O. "A" Battalion.

5. ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK.

The defence of the Line will be carried out under the following principles:-

(1) Division of the Line into three sub-sectors each held by one Company on the principles of an outpost Company.

The Company Commander will make plans, which he shall convey to his Platoon and Section Commanders for the immediate ejection of the enemy who may have obtained a lodgement in any portion of his sector as the result of a minor enterprise.

Such plan may or may not include his reserve platoon.

(2) Active defence by patrols, Observation and Fighting Posts.

(3) Maintenance of the Front Line System. No part of the Line is to be given up because of the enemy having carried out a successful minor enterprise on either flank.

(4) Recapture of the broken portion of the line by an immediate counter-attack without artillery preparation (except on its S.O.S. line to prevent reinforcements)

C.O. "A" Battalion will not use more than one platoon in plan as determined in sub-para 1 above, in the recapture of any one breach in the front line, nor more than a total of three platoons for the recapture of three or more breaches in the whole Front Line sector without reference to the Brigade Commander.

(5) The localisation of a breach, by forming defensive flanks, by blocking C.Ts. and by bombing attacks from the flanks, such attack being carried out by reinforcement troops from Platoon, Company or Battalion support - no troops in front line will be thrown back to form a flank.

The Front Line System should be held to the last with a view to breaking up the enemy attack.

(3)

(6) All C.Ts. are to be wired on both sides throughout their length and are also to be firestopped on both sides.

A defence of each C.T. in vicinity of each Second Support and Subsidiary Line is to be provided for and a garrison "oarmarked" for each.

These garrisons will each know what are the principles of defence of their respective C.T.

6. PROBABLE PLACES OF ATTACK.

The most probable places of attack are:-

RUE DU BOIS Salient.
CHARD'S FARM Salient.

7. NUCLEUS GARRISON.

(a) Each of the 3 Companies in the Support and Front Line System will provide a nucleus garrison of 1 Lewis Gun Section and gun in the Second Support Line.

(b) The C.O. "A" Battalion will detail the 3 Companies in the Subsidiary Line to provide a nucleus garrison of 9 Lewis Gun Sections and guns for the Subsidiary Line.

(c) The C.O. "B" Battalion will detail a nucleus garrison of 4 Lewis Gun Sections and guns for the Second CORPS Line in I.17.b and d. and I.13.b and d.

These three nucleus garrisons will NOT take part in any counter-attack. They will have continuous sentries posted.

The C.O. "C" Battalion will allot from the 3 Companies in LA ROLANDERIE, 4 Lewis Gun Sections and guns to the Third CORPS Line (L'ARMEE Switch) in H.6.d.- H.12.b and c. and H.18.b and c., but they will not actually garrison the line until ordered to do so by the Brigade.

When in garrison they will NOT take part in Counter-attack.

8. ACTION IN CASE OF BREACH OF FRONT LINE.

(a) In the case of a breach of the Front Line, the troops on either flank of the breach must hold their ground, and by fire directed into NO MAN'S LAND in front of the breach repel any attempt on the part of the enemy to enlarge it or directly support his troops who have succeeded in making the breach.

Defensive flanks will be formed by small parties manning the C.T., from reinforcing troops sent up and from the reserve section, platoon or company.

(b) In event of enemy obtaining a lodgement in Second Support Line (i.e. "A" Battalion's line of resistance) C.O. "A" Battalion will immediately counter-attack with troops available to him with whatever co-operation is available, such as artillery, machine guns and trench mortars. The former can most rapidly assist by continuing to fire on its S.O.S. lines to prevent enemy reinforcing.

(c) In event of the Brigade on our right being driven back a defensive flank will be formed by immediately reinforcing that Brigade with 2 platoons along PARK ROW AVENUE. Troops for this defence must be detailed and instructed as to their action.

(d) In the event of the Brigade on our left being driven back, a defensive line will be formed along the line of LEITH WALK. Troops for this defence will be detailed and instructed as to their action.

(e) The C.O. "B" Battalion, in the case of either of the Brigades on our flanks being driven in, will assemble in a position of readiness to occupy with either 1 or 2 companies the line RATION FARM - LA VESEE, or the line LEITH WALK (I.9. central) - LA CHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES respectively, when ordered by Brigade to do so.

P.T.O.

9. LIAISON POSTS.

Liaison between the Brigade on our right and that on our left is by interchange of runners in the Support and Subsidiary lines, and by patrols, at night, in the Front Line System.

10. S.O.S.

On the S.O.S. signal being sent up from the Front Line the posts in the Support Line and Machine Gun Company will direct Lewis and Machine Gun fire into the gaps between the Front Line posts.

The supply of S.O.S. rockets is to be kept serviceable and free from damp and dirt.

The S.O.S. signal will be repeated until the barrage falls.

Look out posts are established at Company and Battalion Headquarters.

These posts repeat the S.O.S. by rocket and/or telephone to artillery.

11. ALARM.

On the alarm sounding "B" Battalion (less 2 Companies and 4 Lewis Gun sections) "C" and "D" Battalions, Reserve Section of Machine Gun Company, Trench Mortar Battery, N.C.C.'s School and "Q" Echelon of "A" Battalion will fall in on their respective alarm posts, and be prepared to move in 20 minutes equipped in accordance with S.S.135 Para XXXI, less 1 bomb.

All Units will send a mounted Officer and mounted orderly to Brigade Headquarters.

All Unit schemes will include arrangements for turning out all troops at short notice.

12. POSITION OF READINESS.

The position of readiness is in I.7.c. and I.13.a.

On the Unit receiving a message to move to position of readiness, it will do so by the quickest and safest route, and form up with Companies in artillery formation at 100 yards interval and 200 yards distance.

In event of more than one Unit being ordered to the position of readiness, the first Unit to arrive will have the head of its leading Company on the RIVIERE des LAIES, at I.13.a.8.3.

All Units will have prepared orders for the approach march to the position of readiness.

13. ACTION OF UNITS.

(a) "B" "C" and "D" Battalions will be prepared to :-

- (1) Reinforce the Subsidiary Line.
- (2) Reinforce either or both of the defensive flanks.
- (3) Reinforce RUE FLEURIE Switch.
- (4) Make a counter-attack at any portion of the sector Eastwards to Second Support Line.

(b) Machine Gun Company:-

The reserve section of the Machine Gun Company will be prepared to occupy any of the emergency positions prepared in RUE FLEURIE and L'ARMEE Switches.

(c) Trench Mortar Battery:-

The Trench Mortar Battery Reserve section will be prepared to occupy any of the positions in the Subsidiary Line or RUE FLEURIE or L'ARMEE Switches.

(d) N.C.C.'s SCHOOL.

Instructions will be wired from Brigade to "C" Battalion as to the employment of the N.C.C.'s School.

The School will be considered a Company of which the Chief Instructor, Instructor and Assistant Instructors will be Company Officers and N.C.C.'s.

(5)

14. ENGINEERS.

The Field Company Engineers attached to the Brigade will, in the event of a serious attack being made by the enemy, revert to the command of C.R.E.

15. ARTILLERY.

The 7th Brigade 3rd Divisional Artillery covers this Sector frontage.

16. ANTI AIRCRAFT.

Anti-aircraft guns are placed at selected spots in the Sector and C.C. "A" Battalion is responsible for the manning of these guns.

17. TRANSPORT.

On the alarm being given the Transport will harness up and make ready to move, but not hook in until ordered by Brigade to move.

18. MEDICAL.

The Battalion Aid Post is at Battalion Headquarters (I.14.d.5.8.) The Advanced Dressing Station at I.8.b.3.8. thence by Motor Ambulance. to Dressing Station at H.4.d.7.7. and C.C.S. STEENWERCK.

19. DUMPS. S.A.A.. GRENADES. RATIONS and WATER.

See APPENDIX.

20. REPORTS.

Normally, reports will be sent to Brigade Headquarters at H.11.a.4.4.

In the event of enemy attack Battle Headquarters will be established at LA ROLANDERIE FARM, H.11.c.6.5.

Forward Battle Headquarters are at I.13.c.8.9.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. Crickshaw

CAPTAIN.
Asst. Brigade Major 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

Copies to:-

C.C. 41st Battalion.
42nd Battalion.
43rd Battalion.
44th Battalion.
113th Brigade.
9th Aust. Inf. Bde.
10th Machine Gun Coy.
10th Trench Mortar Battery.
3rd Australian Div.
10th Field Ambulance.
11th Field Ambulance.
C.R.A.
C.R.E.
11th Field Company.
3rd Division Artillery.
A.D.M.S.
11th Brigade Sig. Sec.

WATER IN LINE.

POSITION.	NATURE.	AMOUNT OF CHEMICAL REQUIRED PER 100 GALLONS.	FOR USE BY.
I.20.d. BURNT FARM. <i>c 95.25</i>	Pump.	Polluted.	Not fir for use.
I.15.a.s.3. WINE AVENUE.	Well and Pump. Also 2 (100 gall) tanks,	1 Scoopful.	Troops in Line & Bde Reserve
I.15.a.75.65. PARADISE ALLEY.	Well and Pump. Also 2 (100 gall) tanks.	1 Scoopful.	" " " " "
I.9.d.50.00. LILLE POST.	Well and Pump. Also 1 (200 gall) tank.	1 Scoopful.	" " " " "

APPENDIX

IRON RATIONS AND WATER. BRIGADE RESERVE DUMPS.

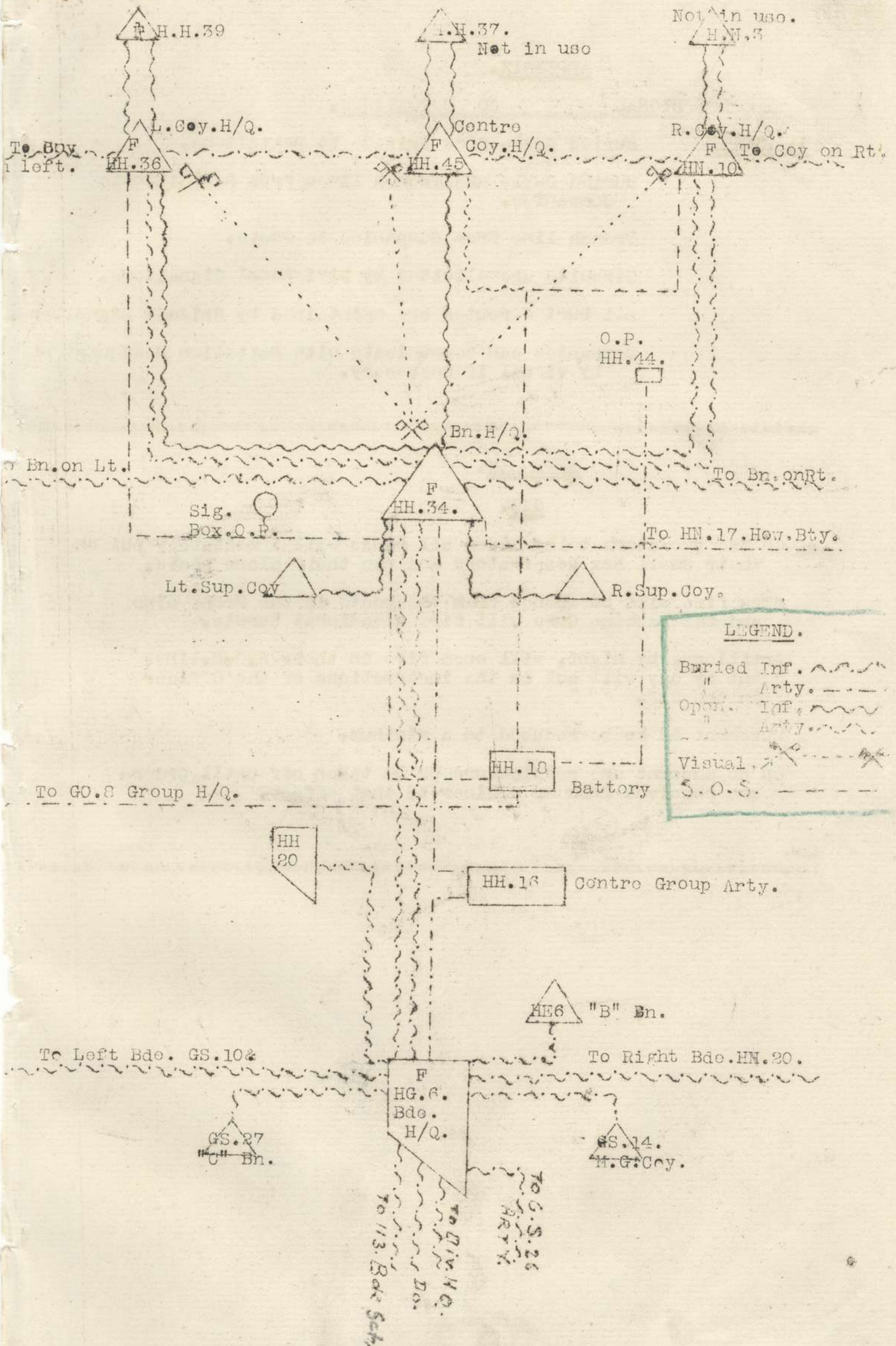
POSITION.	MAP REFERENCE.	NO. OF RATIONS.		WATER (gallons)
		IRON.	P.M. & BISCUITS.	
Junction of Wellington Ave. & Subsidiary Line.	I.14.d.6.7.	560		200
ORCHARD POST.	I.15.c.7.5.		150	25
LILLE POST.	I.9.d.5.2.		250	125
Junction of COWGATE AVE. & Subsidiary Line.	I.9.c.2.1.	500		250

APPENDIX

APPENDIX.

153

SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS. 11TH. INFANTRY BRIGADE. A.I.F.



LEGEND.

- Buried Inf. (wavy line)
- " Arty. (dashed wavy line)
- Open Inf. (solid wavy line)
- " Arty. (dashed solid wavy line)
- Visual (dashed line with arrows)
- S.O.S. (dotted line)

APPENDIX.SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS.1. SYSTEM

Buried Cable from Brigade to Battalions.

Buried Cable and Trench lines from Battalion to Companies.

Trench line from Companies to Posts.

Circuits are allotted by Divisional Signallers.

All buried routes are maintained by Brigade Signallers.

Companies can communicate with Battalion Headquarters by visual if necessary.

APPENDIX.GAS.

On the gas alarm being given all ranks will immediately put on their Small Box Respirators and man their alarm posts.

Slow fire will be opened from the posts in the Front Line and the Machine Guns will fire occasional bursts.

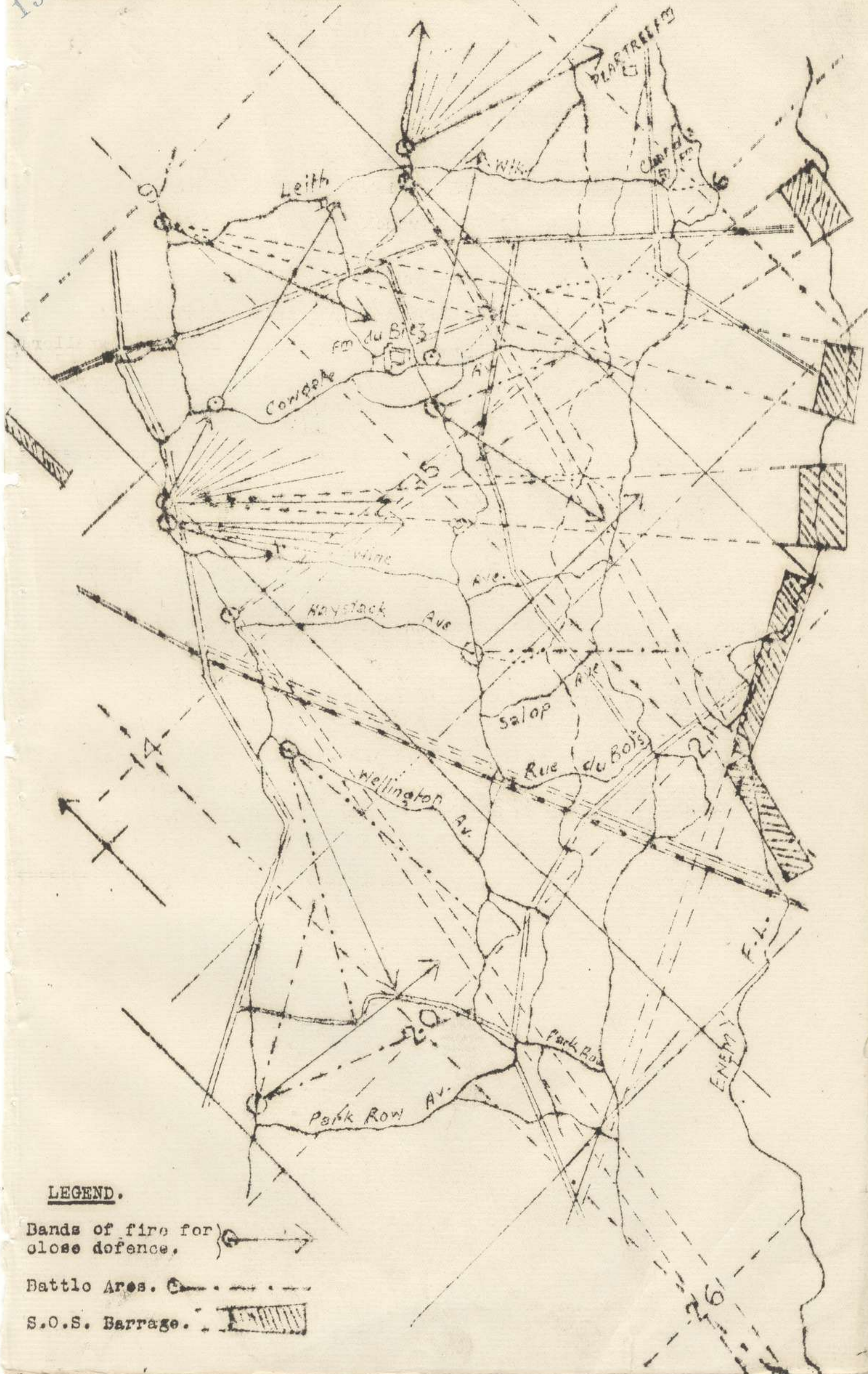
Artillery, by night, will open fire on their S.O.S. lines but by day will act on the instructions of the Officer in the O.P.

Movement is to be reduced to a minimum.

On no account are respirators to be taken off until orders are received from an Officer to that effect.

LLL

153 REFERENCE MAP. SOIS GRENIER. 1/10,000.

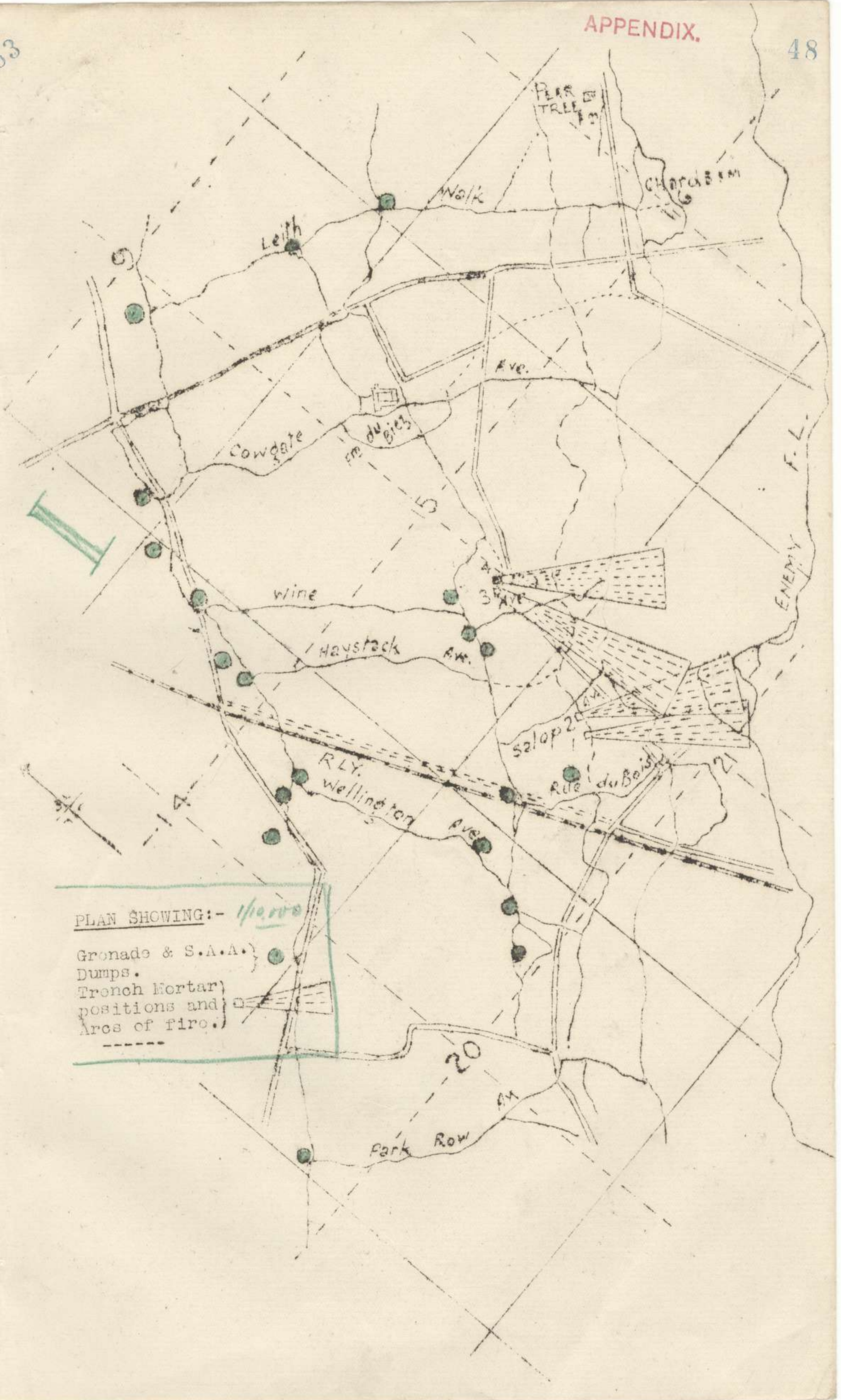


LEGEND.

Bands of fire for close defence.

Battle Areas.

S.O.S. Barrage.

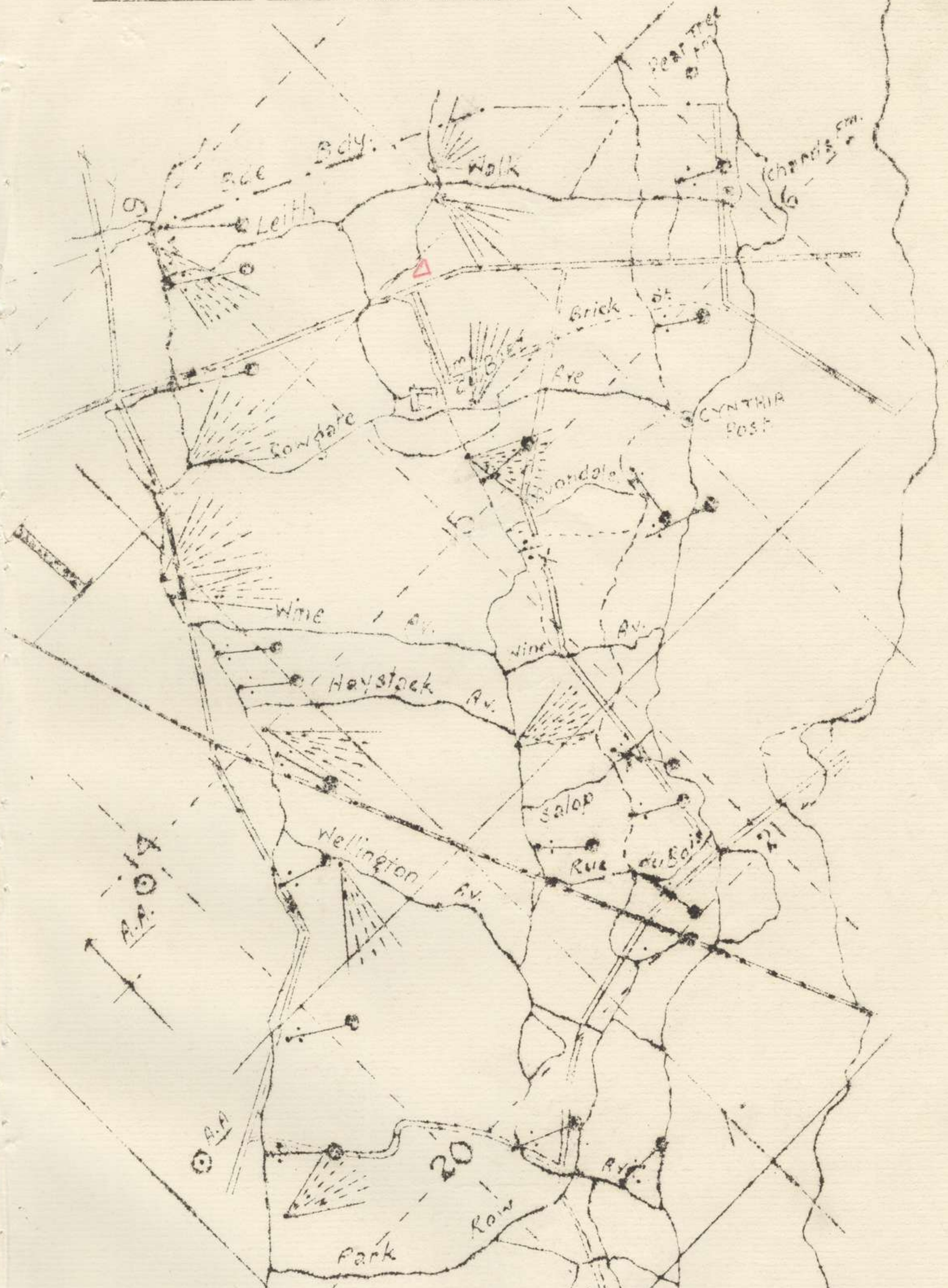


PLAN SHOWING:- 1/10,000

Grenade & S.A.A. }
 Dumps. }
 Trench Mortar }
 positions and }
 Arcs of fire. }

PLAN SHOWING POSITIONS OF LEWIS GUNS AND DIRECTION OF FIRE.

Reference Map BOIS GRENIER 1/10,000.



LEGEND.

Lewis Gun Positions:-

Anti-Aircraft L.G.'s:-

+ X Reserve Gun Taken occasionally to CYNTHIA Post for night firing.

Vickers Gun Positions and Areas of Fire :-

△ " AA Gun.

APPENDIX.

S.A.A. and GRENADE DUMPS.

DUMP.	Map Reference.	Quantity.				
		S.A.A. Boxes	No. 5. Boxes	No. 23. Boxes	Halos 20/24. Boxes	"P" Boxes
Battalion.	I.14.d.40.60	40	20	28	12	14
Right Coy.	E.20.b.85.65	10	10	24	2	4
Platoon.	I.21.a.45.50.	2	10	6		
do.	I.20.b.55.15	2	10	6		
Centre Coy.	I.15.c.75.60.	10	10	24	2	4
Platoon.	I.15.c.65.30.	2	10	6		
Left Coy.	I.9.d.60.40.	10	10	24	2	4
Each Post.		1	3	3		
Subsidiary Line Coy.	I.14.b.95.95.	10	10	10		

Junction C.T's
& Supp. Line

EMERGENCY DUMPS.

Leith Walk.	I.10.c.05.15.	15				
Wine Ave.	I.15.c.65.40.	15				
Rue de Bois.	I.21.a.15.70.	15				
Knights Bdg	I.20.b.75.30.	15				

Junction C.T's
and Subsidiary Line.

EMERGENCY DUMPS.

Leith Walk.	I.9.c.30.00.	15	15			
Cowgate.	I.9.c.10.15.	15	15			
Wine Ave.	I.14.b.90.60.	15	15			
Haystack.	I.14.b.75.15.	15	15			
Wellington.	I.14.d.50.60.	15	15			

SUPPORT BATTALION.

Support Batt.	I.20.a.05.30.	40	20	30	10	14
No. 1 Coy.	I.25.a.3.7.	10	20	10		
No. 2 Coy.	I.19.d.6.7.	14	14	10		
No. 3 Coy.	I.14.d.20.50.	10	10	10		
No. 4 Coy.	I.14.b.75.30.	10	10	10		
Brigade Dump.	H.11.a.4.4.	190	200	100	30	50

VERY LIGHTS AND ROCKETS

DUMP.	Map Reference.	VERY LIGHTS AND ROCKETS						Rockets.		
		Red.		White.		Green.		Red.	Green.	Blue
		1"	1 1/2"	1"	1 1/2"	1"	1 1/2"			
Battalion.	I.14.d.4.6.	35	190	1500	470	12	130	19	36	14
Right Company.	I.20.d.85.60.	16	8	240	90	9	10	2	2	2
Centre Coy.	I.15.c.75.60.	16	8	240	90	9	10	2	2	2
Left Coy.	I.9.d.60.40.	16	8	240	90	9	10	2	2	2
Each Post.) Front Line.)		6	6	6	6	6	6	2	2	2

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND
INTELLIGENCE NO. 1. From 6 p.m. 20th December to 6 a.m.
21st December. 1917.

1. OPERATIONS:- Patrols as per attached report.

Enemy appears to have a Post at I.21. Central from which he fires Very Lights. Number of lights and colour could not be ascertained from previous Battalion.

No enemy patrols were encountered or seen by our patrols, who report everything quiet along his front line. Enemy Machine guns fired at intervals during night, but were not directed towards our patrols.

Two Very Lights were fired from North end of INCLUDE HEIGHTS. No Machine gun fire or any movement whatever followed. Whole line generally quiet.

2 and 3. N I L.

4. HOSTILE SHELLING

As per report attached. Not active.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Very quiet along the whole of our Front. No movement in enemy lines being observed, nor any noise as of working parties could be heard.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Nil to report.

(a) His wire has not yet been examined.

(b) No Machine gun emplacements other than those already known have been located by us.

7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY. N I L.

8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINE. N I L.

9. ARMS AND EQUIPMENT.

(a) Shells. 17 shells passed over our sector to back area at a proximately 1.13.a.

(b) Calibre 10.5 cm. Four of the above shells did not explode.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Sector generally very quiet.

Donald Fraser LIEUT.
for MAJOR
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Bde. A.I.F.

A.J.

153
11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE NO. 2. From 6 p.m., 21st December to 6 a.m., 22nd December 1917.

1. OPERATIONS.

Patrols as per attached report in detail.

Report from "EUNICE" Post I.16.a.8.4. that enemy had occupied broken trenches in salient at "CHARDS FARM" I.16.b., having temporarily established position with machine gun and riflemen.

A battery 14th Brigade turned on 3. 18 pounders a few minutes after midnight firing 60 shells in all.

On examination of position after shelling no trace of enemy was seen in that particular point. Our patrol at 12-30 a.m. from I.16.d.3.9. sighted two enemy patrols, one making from I.16.d.50.90. and the other operating near I.16.b.40.10. The first enemy patrol being about 8 and the second 9 or 10 men. No offensive action was taken by our patrol owing to strength of enemy's patrols, our strength only being 1 officer 1 N.C.O. and 3 other ranks.

2. NIL.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE

Enemy front line occupied at night in following places:-
I.21.c.7.3., and I.21.c.30.50. also I.21.c.30.00.

4. HOSTILE SHELLING See attached report.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE

More active than previous 24 hours. Sniping and small bursts from machine guns took place along the whole of our Sector.

Guns could not be located. Enemy Very Lights were sent up at irregular intervals along their front line.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) New Work. Hammering heard at I.21.c.70.30. (approx) at 7 p.m. 10 p.m. and midnight.

(b) Not yet examined enemy wire owing to unfavourable weather conditions

(c) Machine Gun Emplacements. Distillery I.27.b.42.85. (approx) firing in direction of "ANNIE" (I.21.c.00.75.) between 5 and 6 p.m. another firing into salient from I.21.d.2.8. at 7 p.m. Machine Gun firing on "CAROLINE" (I.15.d.65.50.) from I.21.b.5.2. (approx) Machine Gun firing in direction of "CYNTHIA" (I.16.c.06.62.) from I.22.a.1.4. (approx) Machine Gun firing in direction of "RUE DU BOIS" (I.21.a.) from I.22.a.4.6. (approx)

Divisional Trench Mortar Nil to Report.

7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

At 1-30 p.m. hostile aeroplanes flew over our sector and returned a few minutes later making in a North Easterly direction.

Mist prevailed throughout preventing observation.

8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND THE LINES

Men heard on duckboards at about "INCLUDE TRENCH" (I.21.a.10.50.)
Railways. Trench trains heard at 10 a.m. about I.21.a.4.6.

9. NIL.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

One man in right sector states he heard bugle sounds immediately after Artillery opened on "CHARD FARM" This could not be confirmed by others.

Vickers Guns fired on from I.22.d.10.65. to I.22.b.75.00. at intervals during the night.

Very Lights Two Very Lights were put up on our left front in succession immediately followed by bursts from machine gun.

Numerous bursts of machine gun fire were directed on roadway I.14.d.

A. J. J. J. J. J. LIEUT.
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 3. From 6 a.m. 22nd December to 6 a.m. 23rd December, 1917.

1. OUR OPERATIONS. Our artillery showed normal activity. Registration was carried out during the period. At 10-30 a.m. 18 pdrs. fired in relation on suspected T.H. at I.37. Central. At 2.40 p.m. 18 pdrs. engaged I.31.d.9.2.

MACHINE GUNS

During night Machine Guns engaged enemy parapet and wire.

SNIPERS.

No hits claimed.

OUR DEFENCES.

Parapet at LIXIE Post I.15.c.4.2. slightly damaged by 77mm H.E.

PATROLS.

Six patrols operated on our front during hours of darkness. Small wiring party was located near I.31.b.1.3. Railway at I.31.c.5.9. much shell torn and hard to recognise. Much talking and movement was heard behind enemy lines. Working parties were heard at I.17.a.4.7. and I.16.d.3.4.

AIRCRAFT.

Our planes crossed Hun lines at 8 a.m. and were engaged by H.Gs. situated in I.21.d. INCLUDE and INCLINE trenches.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Enemy artillery showed increased activity, greatest attention being paid to the Divisional Sector on our right.

10.45 to 11 a.m. 15 rounds 77mm on Support line in I.13.d.

12.15 to 12.45 p.m. 30 rounds 10.5 cm. fell I.9.d.

During the whole afternoon enemy heavily shelled ARMENTIERS with 21 cm How. (T.B. 36 degrees from I.25.a.11.25.)

TRENCH MORTARS.

Showed slight activity. At 5 p.m. 3 L.T.H. shells fell in I.21.a. Mortar position not located. From about I.31.b.9.3. Pineapples were fired on to CISSIE Post (I.15.d.30.05.) and on I.15.d.45.50. NO damage. At 6 p.m. enemy H.P.i. at I.17.a.4.6. fired 8 rounds on CHARLES FARM, 2 rounds reached the post.

MACHINE GUNS.

Fired intermittently during the night, paying particular attention to CHARLES FARM, which was engaged from both flanks.

H.Gs. were noticed firing from about I.22.a.52.72. and I.31.b.45.25.

SNIPERS. Inactive.

ENEMY DEFENCES. Post located at I.31.b.2.2. Wiring was carried out carried out in the vicinity of this Post.

PATROLS. None encountered.

AIRCRAFT. During the morning enemy planes were active over our front.

At 1.55 p.m. 12 E Planes passed over our lines flying N.N.W. 4 of which returned to our sector. At 2-30 p.m. enemy plane was seen to crash in I.31.d.

MOVEMENT.

7.30 a.m. Four enemy wearing dull gray uniform, caps without peaks seen at I.22.b.90.50.

8.30 a.m. Two men with picks and shovels seen at I.22.d.3.9.

9 a.m. Working party of about 25 men seen at I.22.b.10.30. (PARADISE ROAD) Defective telephone prevented prompt action being taken and they disappeared. At 11.30 a.m. 2 men were seen walking towards LE PARADISE.

D. P. Fraser LIEUT.
for MAJOR.

Brigade Major 11th Infantry Bde. A.I.F.

A.J. .

153 G.P.C.

11TH AUS RAILWAY INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 4 From 6 a.m. 23rd December to 6 a.m. 24th December, 1917.

No. 1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. At 11 a.m. 13 pdrs. registered on I.32.b.20.05.

MACHINE GUNS. During the day our Machine Guns engaged enemy aircraft.

During the hours of darkness the enemy wire and parapet were swept, at intervals.

SNIPERS. One hit claimed at I.21.b.15.10.

PATROLS. Nine patrols operated on our front during the night. Wire in front of EILEEN Post (I.16.a.78.02.) was examined and found to be very thin and poor. Transport heard to be very busy towards WEZ MACQUART. Much talking and wood chopping heard about I.21.b.3.2. No enemy patrols were encountered.

AIRCRAFT.

At 3 p.m. one of our planes flew very low and turned his machine gun on enemy trenches in I.21.a. and I.21.d.

No. 2. IDENTIFICATIONS. NIL.

No. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING. 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. 12 rounds 10.5 cm, H.E.

on I.16.b.15.71. (PEARTREE FARM)

7.15 p.m. 12 rounds 15 cm, H.E. on CHAPELLE d'ARMENTIERES.

9.30 p.m. 15 rounds 10.5 cm, H.E. near battery position between ARMENTIERES and CHAPELLE d'ARMENTIERES.

No. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Passive.

No. 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) New work noticed at I.22.b.65.35. New duckboards seen lying on top of trench at this point.

(b) Wiring party heard at I.21.b.25.40. Wiring heard near INCLINE Support in I.21.d.

(c) M.G. emplacement located at I.16.d.40.60., this gun swept our parapet from I.16.a.20.00. to I.16.a.37.31. EILEEN Post I.16.a.78.02. was engaged by M.G. firing from I.22.a.3.6. M.G. firing from approx. I.22.a.2.4. engaged one of our patrols. M.G. located at I.21.b.15.05. in N.L.L.

(d) 4 Pineapples were fired into gap near CISSIE Post (I.15.d.4.2.) location of T.I. unknown.

No. 7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

At 3 p.m. 6 F. aeroplanes coming from southerly direction, five making in direction of PERENCHIES the other remaining over our sector for a time, afterwards making in direction of PONT de NIEPPE.

No. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Transport heard on road at I.22.b.3.0. Trains busy on ARMENTIERES LILLE Railway. Enemy trenches from about I.21.c.40.02. to I.21.c.50.15. were kept under close observation but no sign of occupation was observed. Trench from I.21.d.00.70. to I.21.b.13.02. was observed to be garrisoned day and night. At 3 p.m. a man with rifle slung and wearing soft cap was observed at I.21.b.60.25. apparently patrolling trench. At 3.45 p.m. working party of 5 or 6 men were observed at I.22.c.70.16.

No. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Owing to mist visibility was not good.

D. P. Fraser, LIEUT
FOR MAJOR
Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

153
 11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE
 REPORT NO. 5 From 6 a.m. 24th December to 6 a.m. 25th December, 1917.

NO. 1 OPERATIONS

ARTILLERY. During the period our 16 pdrs and 4.5 Hows. carried out calibration opposite flank units defences.

MACHINE GUNS.

No targets engaged during the night. Two new guns were installed at I.10.c.05.20. and I.15.b.25.25.

SNIPERS.

Snipers in salient about I.21.a.8.8. report three hits, two were fired at men standing broad high over parapet at I.21.b.3.0. at range of 200 yards. The other shot fired at man in trench at I.21.c.99.70.

PATROLS.

Seven patrols operated on our front during the night. Enemy patrol seen at I.21.b.05.73. by a covering party to wirens and was dispersed by rifle fire from CISSIE POST I.15.d.35.10. Picket driving was heard at I.21.b.95.25.

WIRING.

Wiring was carried out at I.21.b.4.9. the party sustained one casualty slightly wounded from machine gun firing from I.22.d.20.46.

NO. 2. IDENTIFICATION. NIL.

NO. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING. About 9-30 p.m. a few rounds slow fire 10.5 cm. directed on back area about I.C. (CHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES)

NO. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Very quiet. Signing and laughing heard at various points along his front.

NO. 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) NEW WORK. Hammering of stakes heard at I.21.b.9.2.

(b) WIRE. Nil.

(c) H.G. EMPLACEMENTS. Enemy H.G. located at approx. C.16.d.3.6. This gun swept our parapet at I.16.c.05.51. H.G. Located at approx. I.21.d.0.6. firing in direction of I.15.d.4.1.

(d) TRENCH MORTARS Three pineapple grenades fired from INCLUDE AVENUE. I.27. central, fell near our parapet at I.20.d.6.3.

NO. 7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. NIL.

NO. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Nothing special to report other than sounds of laughter and music of Christmas Eve celebrations. No movement of trains or transport was heard during the night.

NO. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

"Cooees" from enemy trenches were heard between 8 and 10 p.m. This indicates a knowledge of our identity.

Visibility was poor throughout the period.

A. L. Fraser LIEUT.
 for MAJOR.
 Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND
INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 8 From 6 a.m. 25th. December to 6 a.m.
26th December, 1917.

NO. 1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Nothing to report.

PATROLS. Owing to extreme brightness of night and snow covered ground patrols were unable to go out in N.M.L. and perform duties of special observation within our lines.

AIRCRAFT. At 2 p.m. one of our planes flew low over our lines at about I.9.c. and discharged a burst of H.G. fire which was evidently a signal, the plane then made in a northerly direction.

NO. 2. IDENTIFICATIONS. NIL.

NO. 3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

A fixed periscope observed on enemy parapet at I.21.c.66.57. The periscope is not camouflaged (apparently a dummy post.)

NO. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING.

8.55. a.m. 2 rounds 10.5. cm. on I.8.b.3.2.
9.50 to 10.45 p.m. 30 rounds 10.5 and 15 cm. on I.19.c.3.6. (intermt)
10.30 a.m. 6 rounds 10.5 cm. on I.15.b.1.5.
A few odd shells 10.5 cm. fell in locality of
CHARDS FARM (I.16.a.9.2.) and support line, during the day.

NO. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Passive.

NO. 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Machine Gun Emplacements. A Machine Gun reported at I.22.b.2.8.
Trench Mortars. Inactive.

NO. 7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. NIL.

NO. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Working party heard at I.21.b. Lamp Signalling from locality of LARGES FARM (I.22.c.60.90) This was directed towards our trenches, and observed from EILEEN POST (I.16.a.78.02) Railway traffic between LILLE and LENS very active.

Between 7.10 a.m. and 9.5 a.m. smoke was seen rising from the following locations:-

Trench at I.22.a.76.65.
Old building at I.17.c.46.24.
Trench at I.22.a.25.20.
do. I.22.a.55.10.
do. I.22.a.45.10.

Old building at I.17.d.88.58. Man wearing dark grey overcoat was seen to enter building at this point, returning five minutes later and proceeded on road towards PRUNESQUES. (Time 9.45 a.m.)

During the hours of daylight movement of individuals was noticed at the following points:- I.22.b.8.8., I.22.a.55.10 I.22.a.8.05. I.17.d.88.58.

NO. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy O.P. observed in tree at I.36.c.36.15., platform built up 30 feet from ground, no sign of being used at present, but is being kept under close observation.

Visibility was poor during the day, but the night proved so bright that active operations in N.M.L. were impracticable.

D. P. Fraser LIEUT.
for MAJOR.

Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

153
11TH AUS RAILHEAD INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE
REPORT NO. 7. From 6 a.m. 26th December, to 6 a.m. 27th December, 1917.

NO. 1 OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Registration on I.22.c.32.35. and I.22.b.10.10. At 11.30 a.m. our 18 pdrs. gave covering fire on I.22.c.70.00. for our Trench mortar shoot.

2 p.m. 50 rounds 18 pdr. covering fire on I.31.d. (INDEX TRENCH) Gap cut in wire at I.31.d.15.15. Wire damaged at I.31.c.95.15.

PATROLS. Owing to extreme brightness of night and snow covered ground patrolling was impossible, and the scouts were used on listening and observation duties.

TRENCH MORTARS. At 10 a.m. 200 rounds were fired from our Stokes Guns (I.21.a.65.68. and I.15.d.25.05.) At I.21.b.40.10. and I.21.b.56.22. direct hits were obtained on both targets.

MACHINE GUNS. During period the following targets were engaged. 200 rounds fired on PARADISE ROAD from I.22.d.10.65. to I.22.b.20.50. and a 1000 rounds on building at I.22.b.40.10 and INCLINE TRENCH from I.21.b.20.05. to I.21.d.00.70.

NO. 4-HOSTILE FIRE.

10.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. 20 rounds 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. fired on COWGATE AVENUE and LEITH WALK locality.

11 to 11.15 a.m. 12 rounds 10.5 cm. on JHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES.

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. COWGATE AVENUE and LEITH WALK again shelled by 10.5 cm. Howa (10 rounds) Slight damage to Trench.

2.30 p.m. 10 rounds 10.5 cm. on PARK ROW and BURNT FARM All the above shells fired from direction of VEZ.

MACQUART.

5 p.m. 50 rounds 15 cm. coming from direction of PERENCHIES fell in H.12.d. slightly disturbing traffic and causing one casualty.

NO. 5 ENEMY ATTITUDE. Generally quiet but our T. Shoot brought some retaliation.

NO. 6 ENEMY DEFENCES. No new work observed. At intervals during the night machine gun swept our parapet in I.16.b. Unable to locate position of M.G.

NO. 7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. At 3 p.m. enemy plane flying low over our Front Line at I.16.b. circled round LEITH WALK area, a camera was observed to be hung over the side on four occasions. Our M.G.'s engaged it without success.

NO. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINE.

Men were observed moving in the following places during the day. I.21.b.55.12., I.22.a.35.55., I.22.a.30.10. About 12 men seen moving about at I.36.d.10.10. At 3 p.m. two men were observed moving along holding dummy figures over parapet at I.22.a.35.50.

NO. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Battalion reliefs successfully completed by 10 p.m. Weather fine with clear bright moon.

A. P. Fraser LIEUT.
for MAJOR.

Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

A.J.J.

11TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 3 From 6 a.m. 27th December, to 6 a.m. 28th December, 1917.

NO. 1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. and again at 3.30 p.m. registration was carried out by our 18 pdrs.

At 9 p.m. artillery dispersed wiring party reported by patrol at I.21.b.30.40.

MACHINE GUNS.

During night Machine Guns fired on (1) PARADISE ROAD from I.20.b.72.93. to I.21.b.05.45. (2) Road Junction at I.22.b.35.03.

LIGHT TRENCH MORTARS.

At 4 p.m. guns in I.21.a.b. fired 50 rounds on enemy front line trench from I.21.b.12.02. to I.21.c.00.70.

At 12.30 p.m. guns in PARK ROW locality fired 100 rounds on enemy M.G. position at I.21.b.40.02. and INCLUDE AVENUE from INCOPE SUPPORT to Front Line. Many direct hits on both targets.

WIRING.

Wiring was carried out in vicinity of CHARD'S FARM.

PATROLS.

Brightness again effected active patrol work. But wire in front of AUDREY POST I.21.a.30.30. was examined and found to be in fair condition, but flank wire poor.

At 9 p.m. patrol reported wiring party, and Artillery were advised and dispersed it.

NO. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING.

- 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. 30 rounds of 77 mm. fired from direction of LA HOUSSORIE in retaliation for T.L. Shoot, the shells fell in I.21.a. and c., No damage.
- 3.30 to 4 p.m. 10 rounds 10.5 cm. fired from direction of LA HOUSSORIE fell in vicinity of ALICE POST. I.21.a. 40.50. No damage.
- 8 p.m. 5 rounds 10.5 cm fired from direction of WES MACQUART, and at 6 a.m. a further 5 rounds from same direction, These were scattered over our back areas.

NO. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Passive.

NO. 6 ENEMY DEFENCES. Revetted wall with two loopholes observed at I.22 a.20.10. (From our White House O.P.)

MACHINE GUNS. M.G.'s were firing in bursts during the night on our parapet. Guns at German House (I.21.b) and I.22.a.25.60 were active.

TRENCH MORTARS. At 1 p.m. 30 Pineapples fell in I.21.a. and c. in retaliation for our L.T.M. Shoot.

ENEMY AIR CRAFT. At 8.5 a.m. plane flew low over our lines and our M.G.'s engaged it without success.

At 10.30 p.m. plane again flew over our line, at this time a white light bursting into a string of four or five lights was put up in enemy line, apparently signalling to plane.

At 12.30 a.m. plane, nationality unknown, flew along our line and dropped three white, one red and two white lights, no action followed.

At 1.30 a.m. enemy again flew along our line.

NO. 7. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

TRAIN MOVEMENT. Trains moving and whistles heard early in morning and also in evening, but quiet during mid-day. Apparently traffic on Lille-Lens Railway, but unable to determine No. of trains. Observers further report that much noise of rail traffic is heard S.E. of BLANC COULON (I.35.b.8.1., possibly trench tramway in I.36. Observation only by whistle and sound, no smoke or direct observation.

Small parties of enemy seen in the following localities: I.22.a. 50.80., I.20.b.00.60. and I.35.b.16.90. (Eight men)

At midnight patrol report talking and hammering in enemy front line in I.21.b.

[Signature] LIEUT.
FOR MAJOR.

Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATION AND INTELLIGENCE
SUMMARY NO. 9 FROM 6 a.m. 28th December, to 6 a.m. 29th December, 1917.

NO. 1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. 18 pdrs fired at intervals during the day.

Between 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. 43 rounds were fired at I.22.a.72.65.
(SNIPERS HOUSE) Several direct hits were observed.

HEAVY TRENCH MORTARS.

H.T.M.'s fired 30 rounds into the vicinity of INCLINE SUPPORT
(I.21.d.) with good results.

MACHINE GUNS.

New gun installed in COWGATE AVENUE at I.15.b.45.36;

LIGHT TRENCH MORTARS.

At 4 p.m. our L.T.Ms. in I.21.a. & b. fired 200 rounds on enemy
trench from I.21.b.12.02. to I.21.d.00.65. Many direct hits
obtained.

PATROLS.

7 patrols operated, but owing to snow were easily observed
by enemy who engaged them with rifle and machine gun fire.
Wire at I.15.d.6.2. was examined and found to be poor.
Enemy heard working at several points in his F.L.

WIRING.

Wiring was carried out in front of CARRIE POST (I.21.a.95.80.)
and in front of CHARD'S FARM locality.

NO. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING.

at 10.30 a.m. 4 Gas shells fell in vicinity of BURNT FARM (I.21.d.)

11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. several rounds of 10.5 cm. H.E. and shrap.

(intermittent fire) on I.14.b.50.20. from direction of WES
MACQUART. Three direct hits on Brigade O.P.

1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. 10.5 cm and 77 mm. H.E. and Shrap. scattered
over whole sector. (Relatiation fire) from WES MACQUART.

2.15 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. 30 rounds 77mm. in vicinity of BURNT FARM
(I.21.d.) four bays damaged.

4.15 to 4.20 p.m. short bursts of eight rounds 10.5 cm. H.E. in the
vicinity of I.14.b.50.20.

4 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. 77 mm. scattered fire on Support Lines in
relatiation to our T.L. Shoot.

3 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. 3 bursts of 15 cm shrap. on back area and roads
from direction of PRENEQUES.

10 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. intermittent 10.5 cm. fire on ARMENTIERS from
direction of WES MACQUART.

NO. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Artillery active during day probably due to good observation,
otherwise enemy quiet.

NO. 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Work heard opposite RUE DU BOIS Salient.

Machine Guns. Usual night firing swept parapets and engaged roads.

Trench Mortars. Few Pineapple grenades fell in vicinity of AUDREY POST.
(I.21.a.65.05) otherwise inactive.

Snipers. Active at night and daybreak.

NO. 7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

active throughout day. At 10.30 a.m. plane flew over our line
and shortly after returning enemy opened fire.

During the morning three hostile planes were high up over our lines,
one was apparently observing artillery shoot.

NO. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Little movement was noticed during the period. At 9.10 a.m.

a thin column of smoke was observed at I.16.d.5.7. this
moved along trench and halted at I.16.d.29.60. where it then
disappeared. At 9.50 a.m. a party of three men wearing steel

helmets were observed to enter dugout at I.21.b.90.17.

at 11 a.m. two men observed going into house at I.36.a.7.4, and
3 enemy seen moving about at I.22.b.00.10.

(2)

MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES (Continued)

Railway Activity, 10.45 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. train whistles heard on Railway apparently going in northerly direction.

NO. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Brigade O.P. at I.14.b. 50.20. being totally destroyed at 1 p.m. observation operations were largely interfered with.

D.P. Fraser LIEUT.

for CAPTAIN.
Aust. Brigade Major 11th Infantry Bde. A.I.F.

153
11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE
REPORT NO. 10. From 6 a.m. 29th December, to 6 a.m. 30th. December, 1917.

NO. 1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our artillery active intermittently throughout the day.
At 11 p.m. 4.5 Hows. and 13 pdrs. engaged Machine Gun
emplacement at I.21.b.46.05.
At 1.45 a.m. and again at 3 a.m. our artillery opened on
targets behind enemy lines.

LIGHT TRENCH MORTARS.

At 3.30 p.m. 200 rounds were fired on enemy F.L. from
I.11.c.74.30. to I.21.c.50.11. Four guns were operating and
many direct hits were observed.

WIRING. Wiring was carried out along the whole front of our
sector.

PATROLS. 7 patrols were sent out during the night. No enemy
patrols were encountered, but wiring was heard behind his front
line in I.21.b. Except for sounds of talking and coughing in
enemy lines there is nothing of importance to report.

NO. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING.

10.15 to 10.30 a.m. 8 rounds 10.5 cm. in the vicinity of BURNT
FARM (I.20.d. from direction of PREMESQUES.

2.30 to 3 p.m. 11 rounds of 10.5 cm. on WELLINGTON AVENUE
(I.20.b. from direction of PREMESQUES. Slight damage to
trench.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 10 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in H.24.b.

4 p.m. to 9 p.m. 200 rounds 10.5 cm. in vicinity of FME. DU BIEZ
(I.15.b.) from direction of RUELLE DE LA NOIX.

6 p.m. to 7 p.m. 20 rounds 77 mm. on LILLE ROAD (I.16.a.) from
direction of WESMACQUART.

NO. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet throughout the day, but during hours of
darkness enemy artillery showed some activity.

NO. 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

MACHINE GUNS. Enemy machine guns showed slightly more activity
than usual and engaged one of our patrols at I.21.b.70.40.

TRENCH MORTARS. At 3.45 p.m. several light minenwerfers were
scattered over our front area in retaliation for our L.T.M. Shoot.
Trench Mortar position located at I.16.d.42.20.

NO. 7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. At 8.30 a.m. 1 low flying plane passed over our
lines and later in the day several other operated but at a high
altitude.

NO. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

At 10.30 a.m. enemy working party was observed in trench at I.21.
b.50.20.

At 3 p.m. 4 enemy motor lorries were observed to turn off
DISTILLERY ROAD at I.27.b.90.55. and proceed towards line.

At 4 p.m. another lorry was seen at this same point.

Between 3.50 p.m. and 4 p.m. Parties of enemy troops (about 100
in all) were observed to turn off road towards line at I.27.b.
90.55. This appears like a relief. No outward movement of
troops was noticed. Before action could be taken, enemy disappeared.

During the day trains were heard going in the direction of LILLE.

At 12.45 a.m. and on three other occasions bright lights similar
to signal lights flashing three times on each occasion were
observed but could not be located.

Between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. transport was heard moving along
DISTILLERY ROAD in I.27.b.

Singing and whistling heard during night in I.21.c.

NO. 9. MISCELLANEOUS.

The increase in use of Very Lights was noticeable.

A. J. Taylor LIEUT.

for 1st. Brigade Major 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

CONFIDENTIAL.

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE
 PART NO. 12 from 6 a.m. 31st December 1917 to 6 a.m. 1st January 1918.

1. OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery fired intermittently during the day, chiefly on targets in VEZ MACQUART.

HEAVY TRENCH MORTARS. H.T.M.'s were operating from our sector and engaging targets opposite left Brigade front. Result of fire could not be observed and no report from Artillery to hand regarding this shoot.

MACHINE GUNS. Fired 1000 rounds on enemy M.G. position at I.22.b.20.80., 500 rounds on junction of Tramline and INCIDENT ALLEY I.22.b.65.30. The following targets were also engaged PARADISE ROAD from I.22.d.36.42 to I.22.b.70.96 and again from I.22.b.70.96 to I.22.b.65.45. Tramline and vicinity of buildings in I.29.a. Cross Roads at I.22.b.65.15.

LIGHT TRENCH MORTARS. At 2.30 p.m. 200 rounds were fired on enemy F.L. from I.21.c.74.26 to I.21.d.00.70., many direct hits were observed.

PATROLS. 7 Patrols operated on our front between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. No indications of enemy patrolling were observed. Enemy heavily bombed his own wire for 20 minutes opposite CHARDS FARM in front of INCH TRENCH. Frozen snow increased patrolling difficulties.

P. 4. HOSTILE SHELLING. 2.45 to 3.45 p.m. 30 rds 10.5 cm and 12 rds 77 mm fell in vicinity of SALOP AVENUE I.21.a., coming from direction of PREMESQUES and wood near LARGES FARM respectively. During the day a few scattered 10.5 cm H.E. from direction of PREMESQUES fell within our sector in the vicinity of LA VESEVA.

P. 5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Generally quiet but give light retaliation for our T.M. shoot. Showed much nervousness during hours of darkness (4.30 to 9 p.m.) by excessive use of Very Lights and intermittent bombing of his own wire. This common habit on other fronts has not previously been noticed on this sector during our occupation.

P. 6 ENEMY DEFENCES. At 6 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. enemy working parties near INCLUDE TRENCH in I.21.c. were dispersed by L.G. fire, cries were heard but no result observed.

MACHINE GUNS. Showed great activity between 10.30 and 11 p.m.

TRENCH MORTARS. Very quiet.

P. 7 ENEMY AIRCRAFT. One plane flew over our lines travelling towards PLUM BAIX.

P. 8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Trench at I.22.a.02.79. is apparently held during the day. Smoke frequently seen at this point. New earth noticed on parapet at I.22.a.93.95. 5.30 to 6 p.m. heavy vehicular traffic heard near WESHACQUART. At 11 a.m. two parties of 4 men wearing soft caps and with full packs seen to enter trench at I.22.a.02.15.

J. P. Fraser

LIEUT.
 for CAPTAIN.
 Asst. Brigade Major 11th Infantry Brigade A.I.F.