

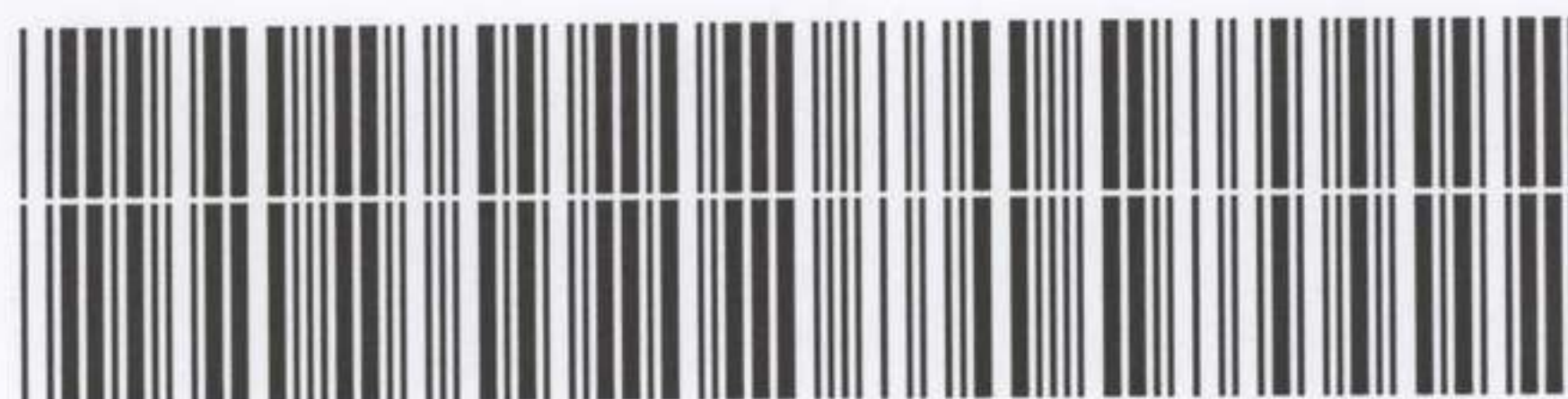
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/60/14

Title: 43rd Infantry Battalion

October 1917



AWM4-23/60/14

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

156

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.

43rd BATT A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1-10-17		Training for new offensive by boys + Church parade	
	2-10-17		" " " " " " left for YPRES by train at 2.45 p.m. arrived at Camp ground at 6 p.m. remained in camp during night.	
YPRES	3-10-17		Remained in camp during day Commenced approach march at 9 a.m.	
	4-10-17		Arrived at point of assembly and formed up in position in N.M.L. at 2 A.M. Zero hour 6 A.M. when this Battalion advanced and took up 1 st Line advance 800 yards. on arrival on line Battalion consolidated. this line: A.B.T.D Corps formed first line 8 Coy in Support	
	5-10-17		Battalion still on 1 st line and furnished carrying parties for the 41 st 42 nd + 44 th Batt. Battalion was relieved by 66 Division relief commenced at 3 p.m. all Batt clear at 5.30 p.m. Moved to Ypres at 10 p.m. camped for night	
			Our casualties during operation.	
			<div> <div>War Trophies</div> <div> <div>Killed</div> <div>Wounded</div> <div>Machine Guns</div> <div>4</div> </div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Officer</div> <div>4</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Other Rank & File</div> <div>33</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>9 Lewis</div> <div>2</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Periscopes</div> <div>2</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Telephones</div> <div>1</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Listening Sets</div> <div>1</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>Total</div> <div>37</div> </div>	
			<div> <div>104</div> </div>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TORONTO CAMP	6.10.17		Marched from YPRES to TORONTO CAMP remained in Camp. men resting	
	7.10.17		Church parades - men resting	
	8.10.17		Organization & Equipping for next Offensive.	
	9.10.17		Left TORONTO CAMP at 11.30 AM and proceeded by route march to front line. Battalion camped for night at junction of F track and old British line.	
YPRES SALIENT	10.10.17		Battalion furnished working parties, working on Railways. to 6.30 p.m. at 7 p.m. Battalion commenced approach march to take up position as close support to 44 th Batt. who were holding front line on left of Railway.	
	11.10.17		Battalion still in support of 44 th Batt except 100 men who were withdrawn to do duty as working Railway party. balance withdrawn from support line and Battalion moved on night 11/12/10/17 to BREMEN REDOUBT where base men dug in for night.	
	12.10.17		Still in camp at BREMEN REDOUBT. resting.	casualties from 9.10.17 to 6 p.m. on 13.10.17 1 Officer and 26 O.R. wounded 4 O.R. killed
	13.10.17		Battalion moved at 8 p.m. from " " to close support of 44 th Batt on left of Railway line Battalion in position at 1.30 A.M. on 14.10.17.	
	14.10.17		Still in close support to 44 th Batt.	

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

७७

Ypres Salient

A5834 Wt. W4973 M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

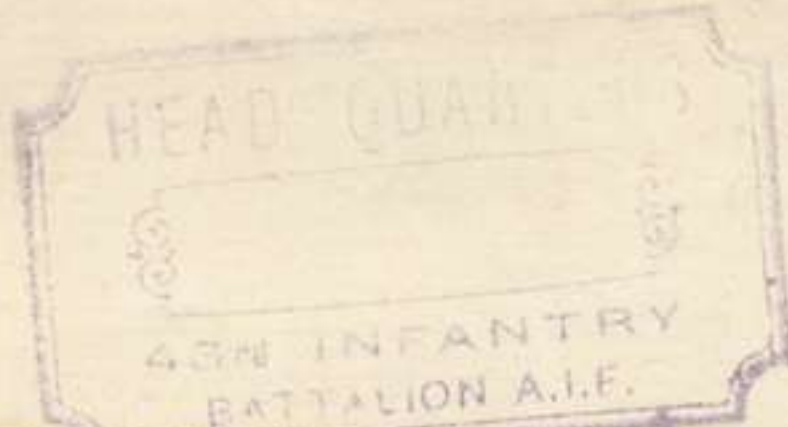
or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARVOULT	23.10.17		AT ARVOULT. Men res trip	
	24.10.17		do do Cleaning arms, Equipment & Ammunition.	
	25.10.17		Commenced training. Elementary stages. Bde School of instruction Commenced Batt	
			Sent 12 Candidates	
	26.10.17		Training continued as for 25.10.17	
	27.10.17		do do do	
	28.10.17		Sunday Church Parade	
	29.10.17		Company Training under Platoon Commanders.	Inoculation (T.A.B.) of members of Batt who came over to France on 24-11-17.
	30.10.17		do do do do	
	31.10.17		do do do do	

31/10/17

M Denniston Capt
Adj 43rd Batt



C.O.P.Y. No... 13..

APPROACH MARCH ORDER.

ADMIRAL. Headquarters, 2.10.17.

Reference sheet, BELGIUM. 28. 1/40,000.

On Q/R day the Battalion will move to a bivouac east of YPRES.

Battalion will entrain at siding A.3.d.30.18. and de-train at Asylum H.12.d. Central. *AT 2.1 P.M.*

The Battalion will move to entraining point and from detraining point to bivouac as per attached sketch. which order, with the exception that T.M.'s will move forward in rear of Coys to which they are attached, from bivouac to Jump Off Line, will be maintained up to Point of assembly.

Men will take on obblanket as far as bivouac, and Transport Officer will detail 1 N.C.O. and 2 men to collect and arrange with Brigade for their conveyance to Transport Lines.

ROUTE.

From G.15.a.1.0. to G.9.d.35.22. to G.9.d.10.70. to G.9.d.40.00. to G.9.b.00.40. to G.9.b.50.50. to

17.3.d.50.15.

(Sgd) M. Donniston. Captain.

Adjutant, ADMIRAL.

Copy.	No.	1.	Filed.
		2.	War Diary.
		3.	Anchor.
		4.	"A" Coy.
		5.	"B" Coy.
		6.	"C" Coy.
		7.	"D" Coy.
		8.	N. & M.
		9.	Assistant Adjutant.
		10.	Transport Officer.
		11.	Signalling Officer.
		12.	R. M. O.
		13.	Intelligence Office
		14.	R. Q. M.

177

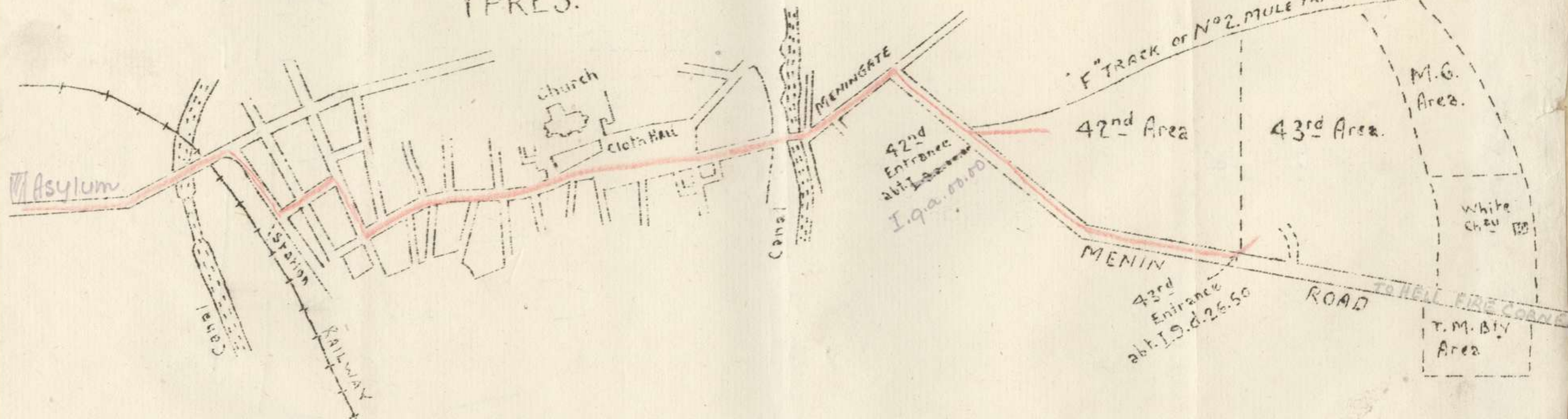
THE
LIBRARY
OF THE
BATTALION
ALFRED
BATTALION

Not to Scale.

Route Shewn Red

Route to Position of Rest
on 2nd Oct 1917

YPRES.





INFORMATION

RECEIVED

PT. LEE
BARRACKS

RECEIVED
BARRACKS

RECEIVED
BARRACKS

Handwritten notes and markings at the bottom of the page, including vertical lines, horizontal lines, and the letter 'W'.



COPY, No.....

Admiral Operation Order. No. 53.

Headquarters, 2.10.17.

Reference sheet. 28 BELGIUM. 1/40,000.
 GRAVENSTRAEL. 1/10,000.
 ZONNEBEKE. 1/10,000.

INFORMATION. 1. The 11th Infantry Brigade will attack on line D.21.d.2.1. to D.20.b.80.95. Our barrage will commence 150 yards in front of this line. The 9th Brigade, Third Australian Division are holding line. The 10th Brigade, 3rd Australian Division are operating on our left, and 2nd Australian Division on our right.

OBJECTIVES. 2. Admiral will capture 1st Objective, which is situated at a distance of 540 yards on right flank, 600 yards in centre and 525 yards on left flank, from Jump Off Line. At Zero plus 20 minutes ANVIL will leapfrog through ADMIRAL and attack 2nd Objective. Between Zero plus 30 minutes and Zero plus 110 minutes ARMOUR and AERIAL will pass ADMIRAL Objective.

ARTILLERY
BARRAGE.

3. From Zero to Zero plus 3 minutes, 150 yards in front of Jump Off Line.
 Zero plus 3 minutes to Zero plus 4 minutes. Lifts 50 yds.
 Zero plus 4 minutes to Zero plus 5 minutes. Lifts 50 yds.
 Zero plus 5 minutes to Zero plus 7 minutes. Lifts 50 yds.
 Zero plus 7 minutes to Zero plus 9 minutes. Lifts 50 yds.
 Zero plus 9 minutes to Zero plus 11 minutes. Lifts 50 yds.
 Zero plus 11 minutes to Zero plus 17 minutes. Lifts 100 yds.
 Zero plus 17 minutes to Zero plus 23 minutes. Lifts 100 yds.
 Zero plus 23 minutes to Zero plus 29 minutes. Lifts 100 yds.
 From Zero plus 29 minutes to Zero plus 41 minutes ---
 barrage halts for 12 minutes.

MACHINE GUN
BARRAGE.

4. Machine Gun barrage will be operating.

POSITION OF
ASSEMBLY.

5. (a) First line (D.21.d.2.1. - D.20.b.80.95) with the left boundary 550 yards N.N.W. of Railway Line. This will mark the first line or " Followers of the Barrage" of the ADMIRAL Battalion and will be recognised by having little wooden pegs tied to the tape.
 (b) Second line, which will be 20 yards behind (W.S.W.) of the 1st line, will mark the assembly of the leading line of the " Hoppers Up" of the ADMIRAL Battalion and will be recognised by having nails tied to the tape.
 (c) Third line, which will be 30 yards behind the second line, will mark the head of the leading platoon or platoons of the Reserve Coy of the ADMIRAL Battalion, and will be recognised by having rings tied on the tape.
 (d) 4th line, which will be fifty yards behind the third line, will mark the tail of the rearmost platoon or platoons of the Reserve Coy of ADMIRAL Battalion, and will also mark the line on which the " Followers of the Barrage" of the ANVIL Battalion will assemble. It will be recognised by having pieces of string tied to the tape.
 (e) Two T. Mortars will assemble with Right Coy, and 1 with Centre Coy.

P.T.O.

**ARTILLERY
BARRAGE. 5
(ctd) . .**

**FLANKS OF
COMPANIES.**

Page. (9)

(f) 2 reserve Trench mortars will be in position within ADMIRAL Area, and from Zero to Zero plus 3 minutes will engage Station and adjacent Buildings in D.21.b.

6. One plain tape will be placed running S.W. from the first line, Para 5. (a) above, to the seventh line, (rearmost platoon of Reserve Coy of ANVIL) to mark the left flank of the Right Coy, and the right flank of the Centre Coy.
Another similar tape will be placed to mark the left flank of the Centre Coy, and the right flank of the left Coy.
Another similar tape will be placed to mark the left flank of the left Coy and the right flank of the 10th Brigade.

CONSOLIDATION. 7. After other Battalions have leapfrogged through ADMIRAL, the captured line will be consolidated. The line selected must be one which will afford the best cover, consistent with a field of fire up to not less than 50 yards. Reserve Coy will consolidate the Western slopes of HILL 40.

No wiring will be done and when suitable cover has been provided troops will be rested as much as possible in view of the fact that they may be required (a) for counter attack (b) carrying parties.

COMMUNICATIONS. 8. Care must be taken that touch is gained with troops on flanks, and O.'s C Attacking Coys will detail 1 N.C.O. or 1 O.R. as Liaison to ANVIL. It is imperative that all information collected should be promptly sent to Battalion Headquarters.

DISPOSITIONS. 9. Right Attack Coy. "D" Coy.
Centre Attack Coy. "E" Coy.
Left Attack Coy. "A" Coy.
Reserve Coy. "C" Coy which will move in rear of Right Coy.
O. C. "G" Coy will be in close touch with Right and Centre Coys to render any assistance required.

FORMATIONS. 10. As per Brigade formation agreed upon.

EQUIPMENT. 11. As per S.S. 135, except that all rifle men will carry 2 bombs and 200 rounds of S.A.X.A. and that Bombers and Rifle Grenadiers will carry 5 bombs and 5 rifle grenades respectively and 150 rounds S.A.A. Followers of Barrage will not carry picks or shovels. Moppers Up carry a pick or shovel in proportion of 1 Pick to 3 shovels. Reserve Coy as for Moppers Up. Bayonets to be sharpened and darkened.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS. 12. Battalion Headquarters will be at D.27.a.20.20.

R. A. P. 13. R. A. P. will be established in D.26.b.

SALVAGE. 14. All ranks must be warned against leaving any of their arms or equipment in line when relieved. Any man doing so will be charged with article. Slightly wounded men (walking cases) must take their arms and equipment out with them.

P. E. O.

(3)

ENEMY M.G. 16. Any Enemy Machine Guns captured are to be brought out of line when troops are relieved unless orders are received to the contrary.

WATER. 16. All ranks are to be warned against drinking any water found on enemy territory until same has been tested.

ENEMY RULES. 17. Attention is directed to various circulars issued regarding these.

~~GROUND SHEET.~~ 18. Men will carry ground sheet.

RATIONS. 19. 2/3rd ration plus iron rations to be carried. Water bottles to be filled.

(Sgd) M. Dennistoun. Captain.

Adjutant, ADMIRAL.

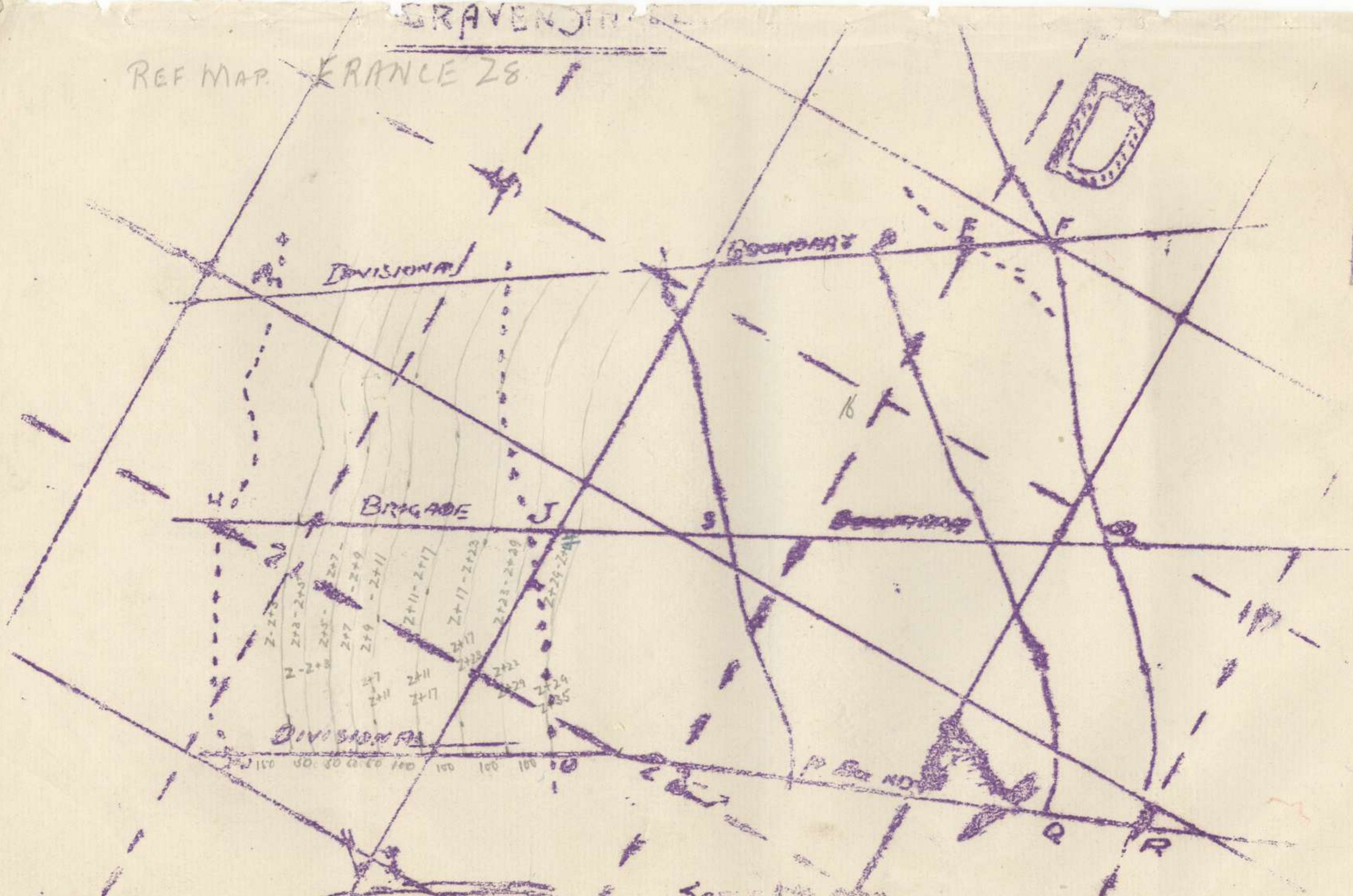
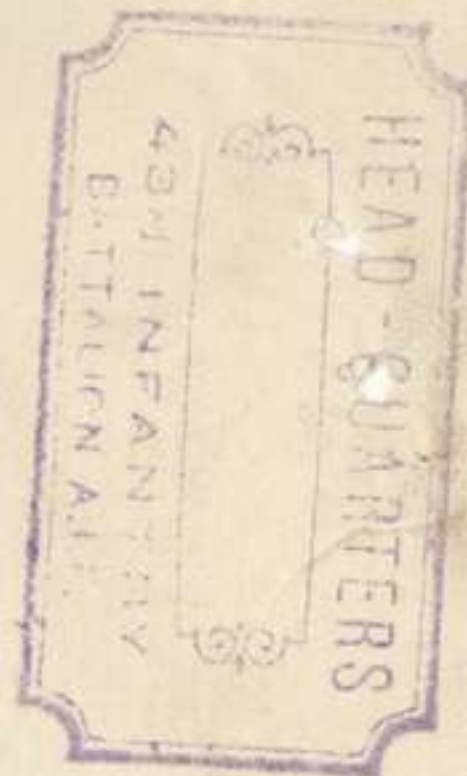
Issued at. 9/10/1917. at 130p M.

No. 1.	File.	Hand.
2.	War Diary.	Hand.
3.	Anchor.	Runner.
4.	ANVIL.	Runner.
5.6.7.	"A" Coy.	Runner.
8.9.10.	"B" Coy.	Runner.
11.12.13.	"C" Coy.	Runner.
14.15.16.	"D" Coy.	Runner.
17.	Lieut C.L. Herbert.	Runner.
18.	Lieut C.J. Oliver.	Runner.
19.	Q. M.	Runner.
20.	R. S. M.	Runner.
21.	R. M. O.	Runner.
22.	Transport Officer.	Runner.
23.	Signalling Officer.	Runner.



GRAVENHURST

REF MAP. FRANCE 28



MAP SHOWING BARRAGE LINES OF
4/10/1917

SCHEMATIC
C. L. S. H. A. P. E. L.
C. L. S. H. A. P. E. L.

30.4.17.

156

T.M

10

LEFT Coy.

A Coy.

183^x

CENTRE Coy.

B Coy.

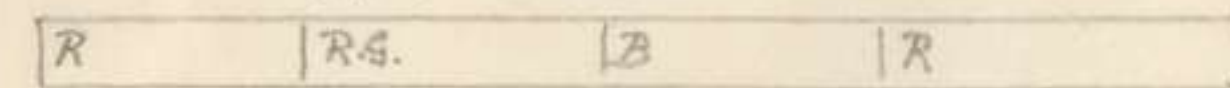
183^x

RIGHT Coy.

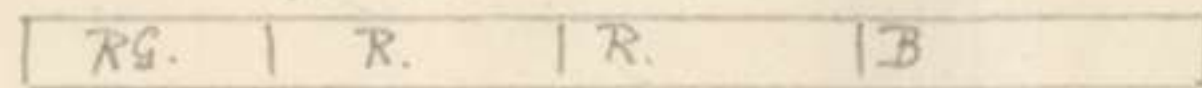
D Coy.

183^x

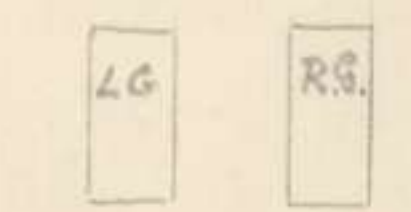
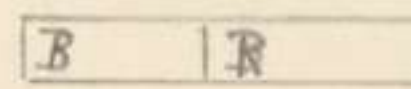
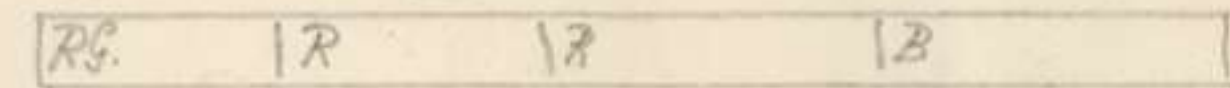
Nº 1 Platoon.



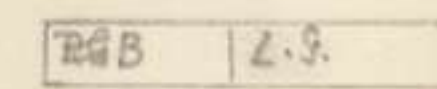
Nº 5 Platoon.



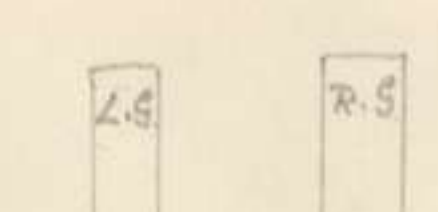
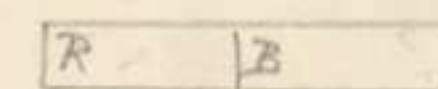
Nº 13 PLATOON.



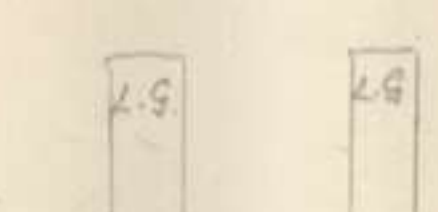
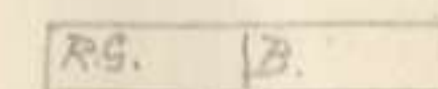
Nº 3 Pltn



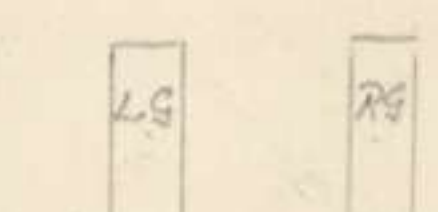
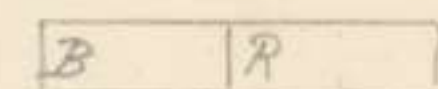
Nº 2 Pltn



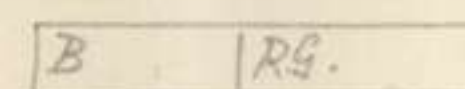
Nº 7 Pltn



Nº 6 Pltn



Nº 14 Pltn



Nº 15 Pltn

TM Coy Hq

Nº 9 PLTN

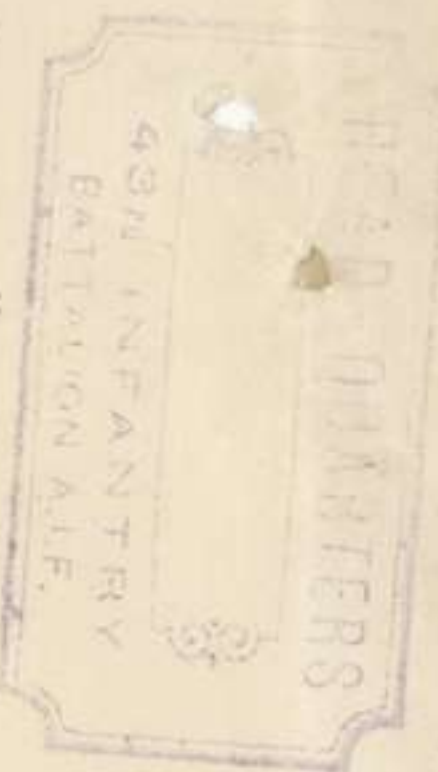
Nº 11 Pltn

RESERVE Coy
C. Coy

Nº 10 Pltn

Coy. Hdqrs.

Disposition of 43rd Batt on Jumping Off Line
at Zero on ~~the~~ Morning of 4th Oct 1917
Prior to the Zonnebeke Attack



30'
X
10'
X
6'
X
10'

Copy
1/10/17.

156

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

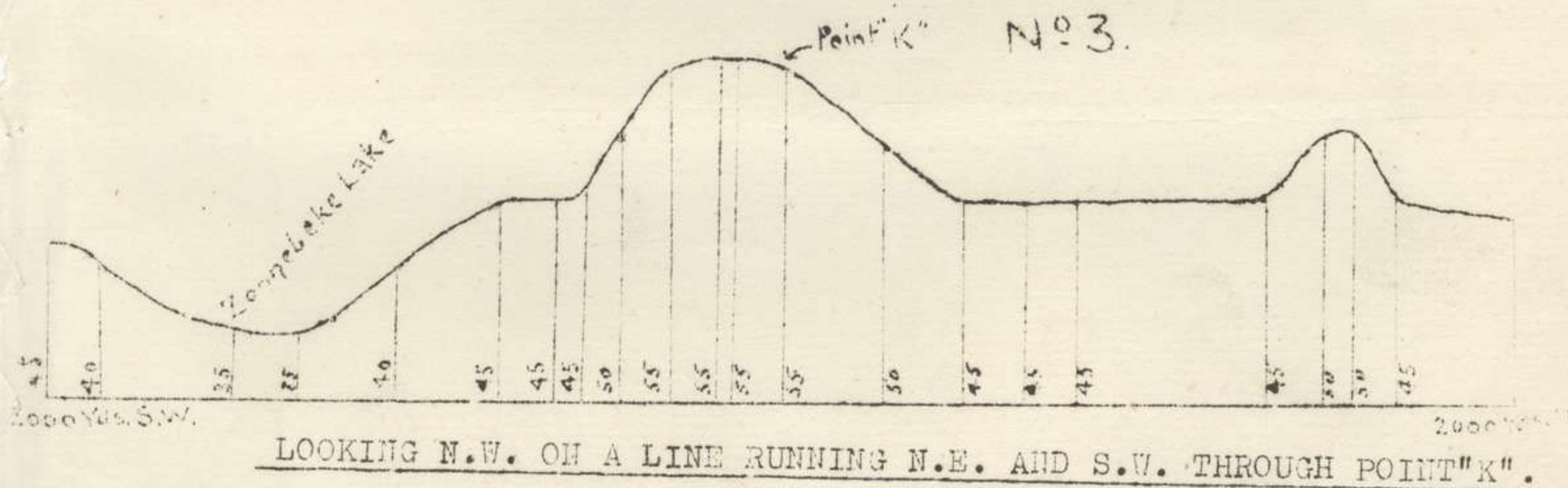
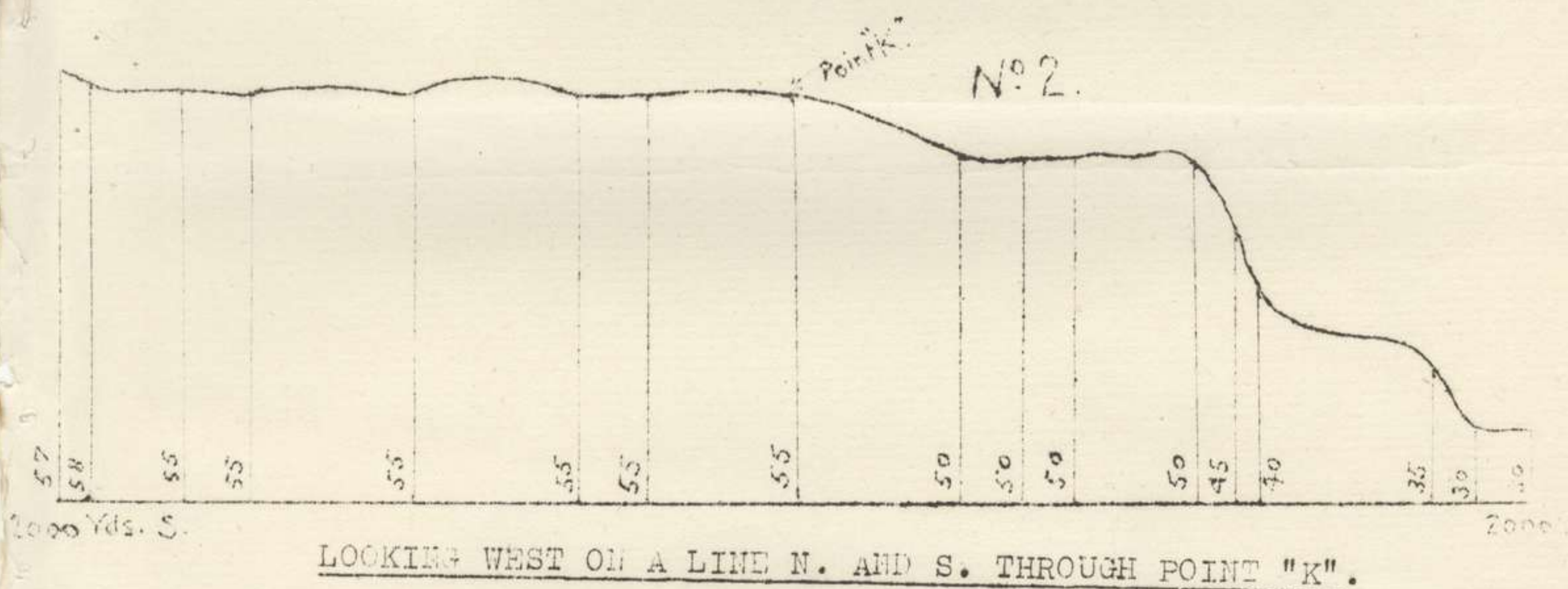
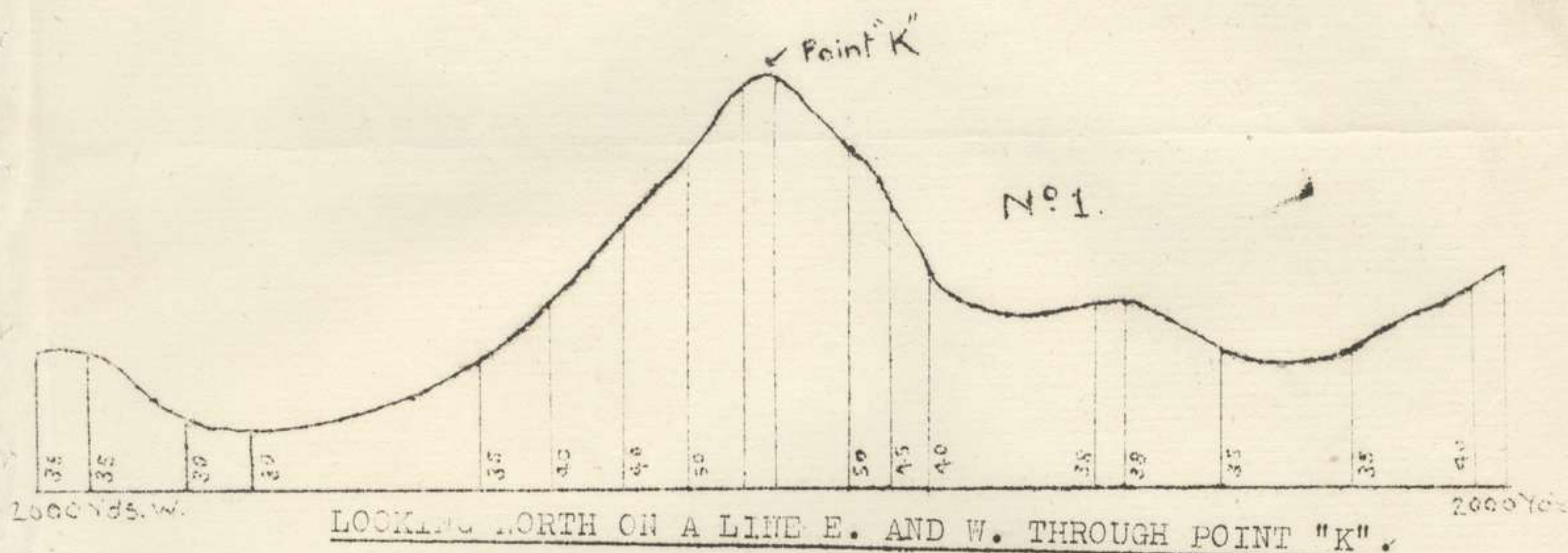
HEAD QUARTERS 12

SECTIONS OF PASSCHENDALE AND GRAVENSTAFEL RIDGES
TAKEN ON VARIOUS LINES AS INDICATED IN EACH CASE.

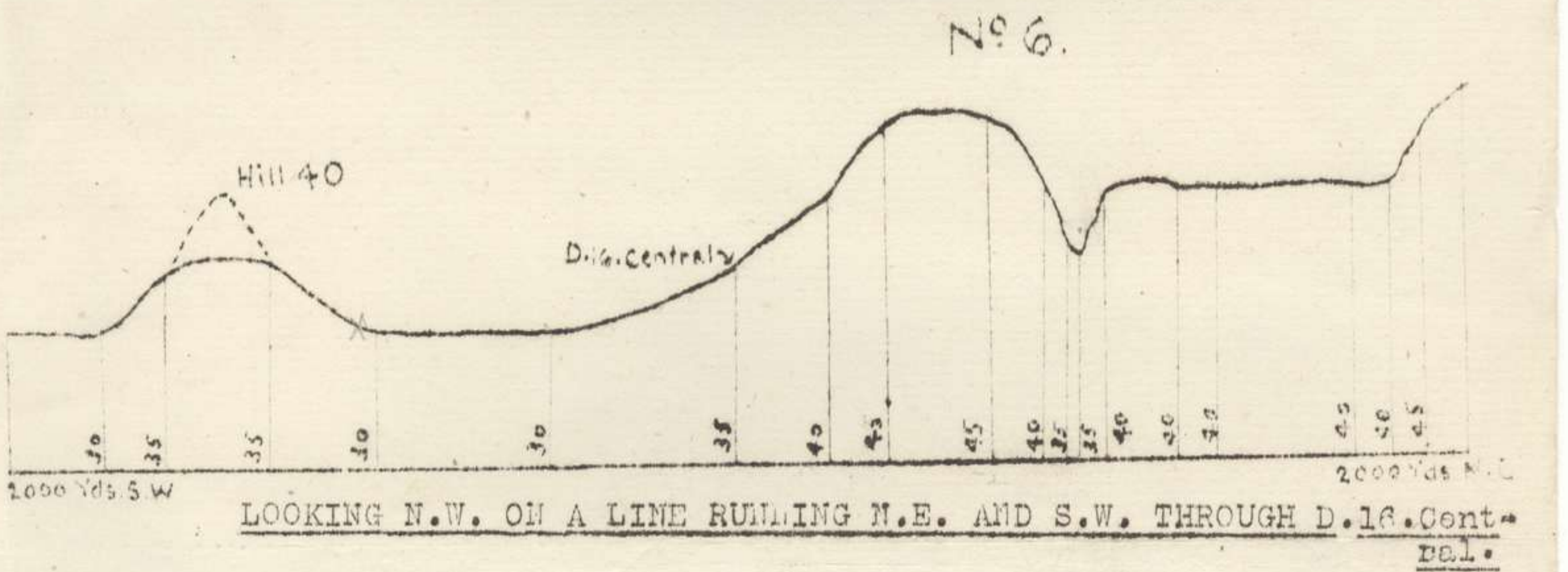
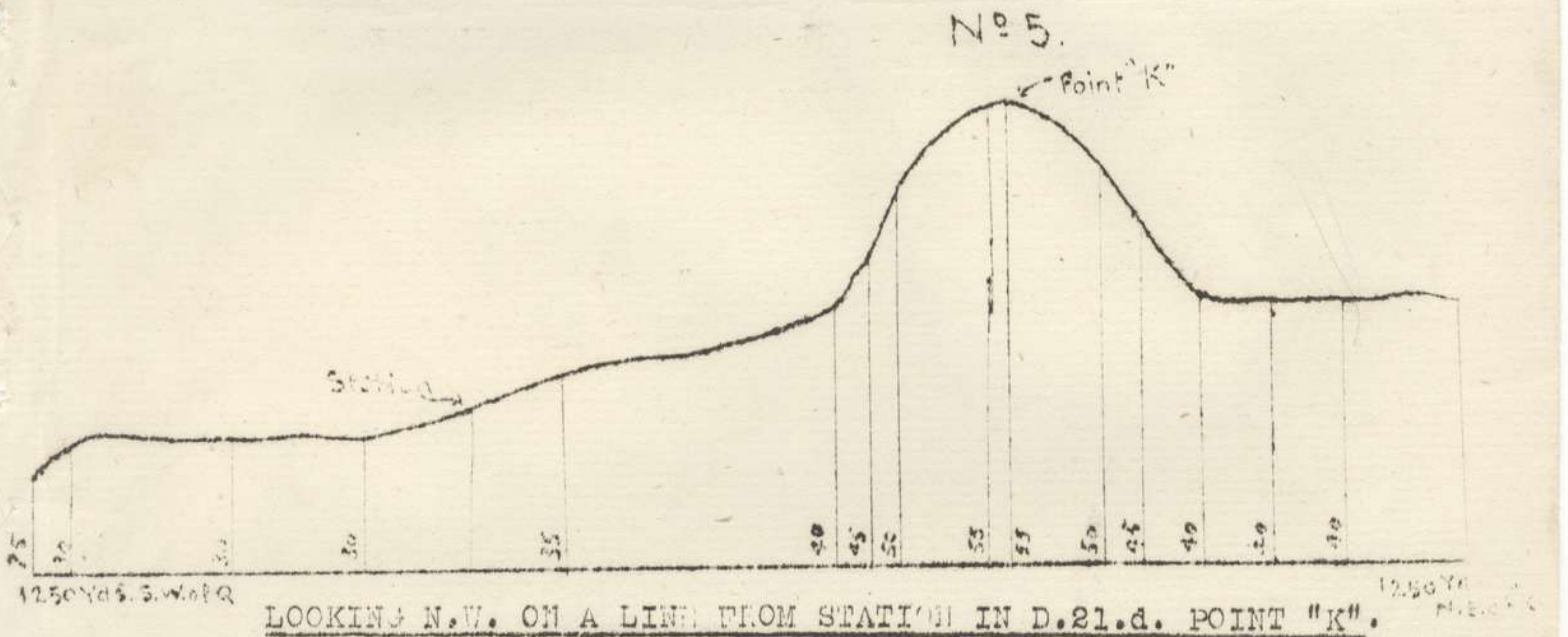
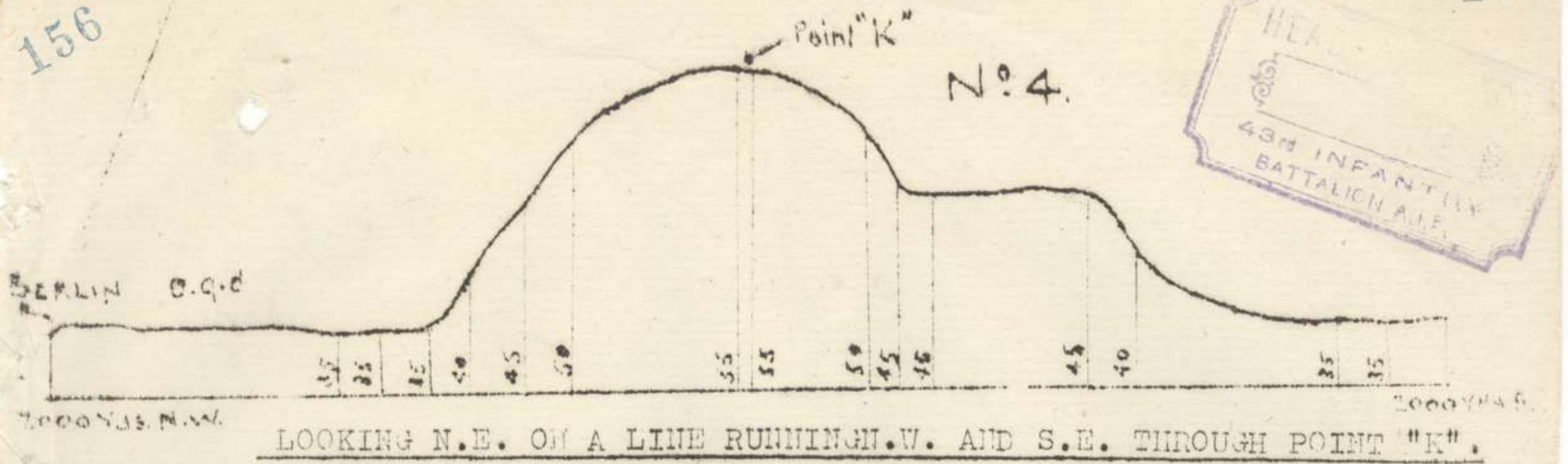
Note: Point "K" is the road junction at D.23.a.40.65.

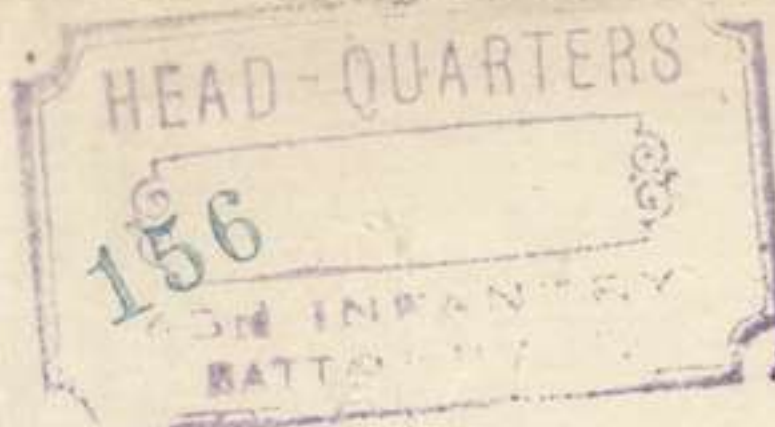
These Sections are prepared in order to enable visibility
and field of fire from various stations to be studied.

SCALES:- Horizontal 1/10,000.
Vertical 50' = 1".



156





C O P.Y. No.....

14

Admiral Operation Order, No. 53.

Headquarters, 9.10.17.

INFORMATION 1. The 11th Infantry Brigade will relieve the 63th Division on BLUE Line on Night, 10/11th Inst.
44th Battalion will be right Front Line Battalion.
43rd Battalion will be right Support Battalion, with
41st Battalion on left flank.

DISTRIBUTION. 2. "A" Company on right.
"B" Company on left.
Each Company will occupy a frontage of 425 yards, with the Railway as Right Flank of Battalion. *LEFT HAARLEM Wood (Cathedral)*
Position of Support Battalion will be from 200 to 300 yards in rear of Support Coy of Front Line Battalion.

RECONNAISSANCE. 3. O's C Coys will arrange for Officers, N.C.O's and *4 guides*
per platoon ~~runners~~ to make a careful reconnaissance of approach routes, R.E.Dumps and possible support line position as early as possible on 10.10.17.

ROUTES. 4. O's C Coys will employ their personnel while in support in making out approach routes for Battalion, who may relieve this Brigade, under instructions from Engineers and Pioneers.

LEWIS GUNS. 5. ³~~Two~~ extra Lewis Guns per Coy will be brought up to Bivouac by Transport on morning of the 10th Inst., O's C Coys will arrange to detail part of Lewis Gun Sections for these guns.

EQUIPMENT. 6. As per S.S. 155, except that all riflemen will carry 2 bombs and 200 rounds of S.A.A., and that Bombard and Rifle Grenades will carry 5 bombs and 5 rifle grenades respectively and 150 rounds S.A.A.
Every other man a shovel.

BATTALION, H.Q.s.
and R.A.P. 7. To be reconnoitred and notified later.

(Sgd) H. Donniston. Captain.
Adjutant, ADMIRAL.

COPY. No.		
1.	Filed.	Hand.
2.	War Diary.	"
3.	Anchor.	Runner.
4.	"A" Coy.	"
5.	"B" Coy.	"
6.	"C" Coy.	"
7.	"D" Coy.	"
8.	Intelligence Off.	"
9.	Assistant Adj.	"
10.	Q. M.	"
11.	R. S. M.	"
12.	R. M. O.	"
13.	Transport Off.	"
14.	Signalling Off.	"

Ref Sheet 25 Belgium 1/40000
Gravenstrafel 1/10000
Zonnebeke 1/10000
Parchendale 1/10000

HISTORY OF BATTALION'S MOVEMENTS from 25th September to 22nd October 1917.



(Including Operations at Ypres)

On 25th September 1917 at 7 a.m. the Battalion left AVROULT and proceeded by route march towards YPRES. arriving at BLARINGHAM at 2.30 p.m. after doing 12½ miles, where it billeted under canvas for the night. While there most of the men took advantage of the canal de NEUE FOSSE for a welcome swim.

The march was continued next morning 26th at 9.30 a.m. through LYNDE, WALLON CAPPEL HAZEBROUCK- and ST SYLVESTRE CAPPEL terminating after a distance of about 15½ miles in billets near ECCKE, and resuming the trip on 27th at 8.30 a.m. via STEENVOORDE ABEELE- to POPERINGHE.

The Battalion entered BELGIUM at 10.10 a.m. and reached its destination, No 31 camp, 1½ miles south of POPERINGHE. where it was billeted under canvas.

The first morning in camp the men were rested and re-organisation and equipping were commenced. During the afternoon a Battalion was held at which the C.O. bade farewell to the Padre Capt. Huthnance who left next day for duty in England.

Early next morning two Officers and 100 other ranks were detailed to work at YPRES and were away from the Battalion until the morning of October 3rd. Until the morning of October 2nd, the Battalion continued preparing for offensive action.

During the six days at Camp 31, hostile aircraft were very active at night, bombing towns and camps. Four dud bombs were dropped within 30 yards of the Camp, one passing through a limber in the Transport Lines. No Casualties were caused however.

On October 3rd the Battalion left Camp at 2 p.m. and entrained for YPRES, detraining at the Asylum at four p.m., then marched in single file through Ypres to File. MENIN HILL 1 kilo east of the town, where it bivouaced until the night of the 3rd October.

MAP

The men were rested all the day except for the final issue of equipment.

At 9 p.m. the approach march was commenced along F track, the Battalion moving up in single file in the order of D. Coy B. Coy A. Coy C. Coy. March continued at a steady pace until 10.30 p.m. when a halt was made for an hour west of POTSDAM. On resuming at 11.30 p.m. the pace was slower owing to enemy shell fire and need for more caution.

The assembly line was reached by the head of the column at 1.30 a.m. of October 4th. and all the Battalion was in position by 1.50 a.m. having suffered one casualty in the approach march.

The position of the Companies from right (railway line) to left were, D. Coy. B. Coy A. Coy, with C. Coy as reserve Coy in rear of D. Coy, where most trouble was expected. From 1.30 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. enemy shells were occasionally falling in our lines, one killing Captain F.G. Sims, another Lieut T.H. Howden, both of D. Coy.

MAP

p.t.o.

2/Lieut Roberts then took charge of the Company.

At about 2 a.m. the Brigade on our left notified our left Company that they had received notice of a possible enemy attack, and Lewis Guns were then pushed forward into our first wave.

At 5.30 a.m. the enemy opened heavy shell fire on our forward area and this was still continuing at zero. Several casualties occurred during this bombardment.

At 6 a.m. our Artillery Barrage opened and the Assault Companies moved forward, the reserve Company following up closely on the right. Resistance was temporarily made by the enemy from Hill 40 on the right by Machine Gun fire and on the left by bombs. The machine gun caused some casualties but was quickly quietened by the rapid opening of fire from our Lewis Guns, and the enemy machine gun surrounded and put out of action. The bombing on the left was easily overcome and the Strongpoint on the top of Hill 40 was surrounded. Moppers up did their work thoroughly, clearing this strong point and a line of trenches on the left. Other strong points were cleared by the advancing line who continued forward with the barrage. Very little further resistance was met as the enemy was only too anxious to surrender. At 6.30 a.m. our objective, about 700 yds from our jump off trench was captured, after a number of prisoners had been taken from dugouts along the Railway line. The Battalion ~~had~~ then lay in wait for the 42nd 44th and 41st Battalions to pass through and when these had all moved forward, the three assaulting Companies commenced consolidating their line. The right Coy had lost all its officers and was under the command of Sgt Cameron. As it had suffered a number of casualties it was reinforced by a portion of the reserve Company and continued its consolidation.

The balance of the reserve Coy then withdrew to the western slope of Hill 40, where it dug itself in.

Strong protective posts were pushed forward in front of the Battalion line and manned with Lewis Gunners.

When the right Coy had dug in and consolidated, the portion of the reserve Company assisting it withdrew and joined up with the rest of its Company and dug in.

On the afternoon of 4th and night of 4th and 5th the reserve Company was employed largely as stretcher bearers and carrying parties.

On the morning of the 5th the Battalion was used as stretcher bearers, burial parties and salvage parties. At midday, owing to heavy enemy shell fire on the consolidated line, the three assaulting Companies withdrew to the western slope of Hill 40 and dug in. At 4 p.m. the Battalion commenced withdrawing to the Western slope of Frezenberg Ridge where it took cover in shell holes until dusk and then moved back to the Asylum at Ypres.

A hot meal was served about 9 p.m. after which the men slept through the night breakfasting at 6.30 a.m. next morning. After breakfast the Battalion marched back to TORONTO CAMP, being met en route by the Regt Band. Here the men were billeted and reorganisation was commenced.

Our casualties up to this date, from 25th September to October 6th were:-

	Killed	Wounded
Officers	4	2
Other ranks	34	106

At night the Battalion Pierrots gave a concert in the Y.M.C.A. hut opposite the camp.

The 7th and 8th were given to reorganising and re-equipping the men who were also rested as much as possible. Rain fell repeatedly during both days and nights. The Battalion Pierrots gave another concert in the same hut.

At 11.30 a.m. on the 9th, the Battalion again moved from camp, and marched via POPERINGHE-YPRES road, p.t.o.

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through YPRES to a position between CAMBRIDGE ROAD and top of FREZENBERG RIDGE, where the Battalion bivouaced for the night. While marching through YPRES a halt was made at 12.45 p.m. opposite the CLOTH HALL for dinner.

At 5.30 a.m. on 10th, a party of 100 men was sent to carry on with railway repairing work near ZONNEBEKE. These men were relieved at 12.30 p.m. by a similar party who continued working on the railway until 6.30 p.m.

During the day, Officers, N.C.O's, and runners reconnoitred routes forward and at 6.30 p.m. the Battalion moved up to relieve portion of the 66th Division who were holding the support line East of road running from DARING CROSSING to BEECHAM. The approach march was very difficult owing to darkness, bad conditions of the ground and very heavy enemy shelling. Several casualties occurred but relief was completed by 11 p.m. Battalion Headquarters was not definitely established that night as no dugouts were available in the allotted area, and the night was therefore spent in shell holes between BEECHAM and BOETHOEK. The front line was held by 44th Battalion on right and 42nd Battalion on left with 43rd and 41st in support in same order.

Early on the morning of 11th Battalion Headquarters was established at Boston House. There were 100 men from Battalion withdrawn from support for the continuation of work on the railway and they continued until 6.30 p.m. when they moved to BREMEN REDOUBT and dug in for the night. The balance of the Battalion was relieved by the 9th Brigade A.I.F. during the night of 11th and 12th and withdrew along the railway line to shell holes about 100 150 yards in rear of Brigade Headquarters.

At 5.20 a.m. on 12th a general attack was launched against the enemy, the 9th Brigade A.I.F. attacking on the sector held by 11th Brigade the previous day. The 43rd Battalion rested in rear of Brigade Headquarters during the day, the railway working party having joined the balance of Battalion early in the morning.

About dusk, owing to enemy shell fire, the Battalion moved forward to BREMEN REDOUBT, where the men spent the next day. Owing to the heaviness of the ground and bad (night) weather conditions, men were all very unfit for hard work and every effort was made to rest them.

Some men were suffering from effects of gas, both internally and from gas blisters, and feet were bad throughout, but hot tea and dry socks helped to rectify this slightly.

At 5 p.m. on 13th the Battalion Headquarters were moved forward and established themselves at SEINE. The Battalion followed at 7.30 p.m. moving along the railway and relieved the 35th Battalion who were in support in front of road from running from DASH CROSSING to HAMBURG. Relief was complete about 3.30 a.m. The approach march was most arduous being undertaken in the rain and dark with the men in very poor condition. The railway was selected as being the best of bad tracks, and several casualties occurred on the march. Owing to heavy going and various blocks by out-going troops, the Battalion did not arrive at DASH CROSSING until 2 a.m. taking six hours to cover about two miles. Guides met them at the crossing and conducted the troops to the trenches.

Throughout the approach march and the relief the enemy was shelling consistently, and men dug in for shelter as best they could.

At daybreak, consolidation of a line running about 50-100 yds east of DASH CROSSING-HAMBURG ROAD was commenced and dry ground with a good field of fire was obtained. Our right flank was the railway line and left flank opposite HAMBURG. The 44th Battalion held the front line with 41st Battalion on its left. The 42nd was in support to 41st and on the left of 43rd Battalion. After consolidation was completed the men were able to rest as the enemy was not shelling that area. Until the evening of 15th the

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Battalion remained in Support without a casualty and mens conditions improved with the rest and beneficial sunshine. At dusk on 15th the Battalion withdrew after being relieved by 36th Battalion, to a position between the Railway Line and BEECHAM immediately south of SEINE.

Several casualties occurred during relief which was complete by 6 p.m. The men dug themselves in on their new positions. The Battalion was now in reserve with 42nd Battalion on the left and the remainder of the Brigade in rear.

For the next five days up to and including 20th there was no change in the situation. The Battalion was subjected to heavy shell fire both by day and by night, and suffered a number of casualties. Men were daily sent back to B. Echelon and others sent up to take their places. This was done to enable the men to have as much rest as possible. During the period in reserve the Battalion sent out Burial Parties daily and many Australians, English and German dead were buried from the Battalion and surrounding areas. Salvaging parties were also formed and much valuable material was collected and dumped at Cross roads near SEINE. Rations were brought up daily by Transport on Pack Mules and dumped at the same cross roads. These consisted chiefly of Bread, Jam, Butter, Tinned Meats and cooked Fresh meat. Milk tea and a few Tommy Cookers were also supplied and some braziers and charcoal ^{obtained} supplied. This enabled men to have hot tea to drink and their condition improved greatly during their 6 days in reserve. The Transport after delivering rations, reloaded with salvage.

During the 21st the Battalion made preparations for relief and on the evening the 10th Canadians relieved; the first party of the Battalion moving out at 6.45 p.m.

After careful reconnaissance it was decided to move out by K track which ran from 150 yds N.W. of BEECHAM to Brigade Headquarters. Except for the first 600 yds this track was in good condition, having been recently duckboarded.

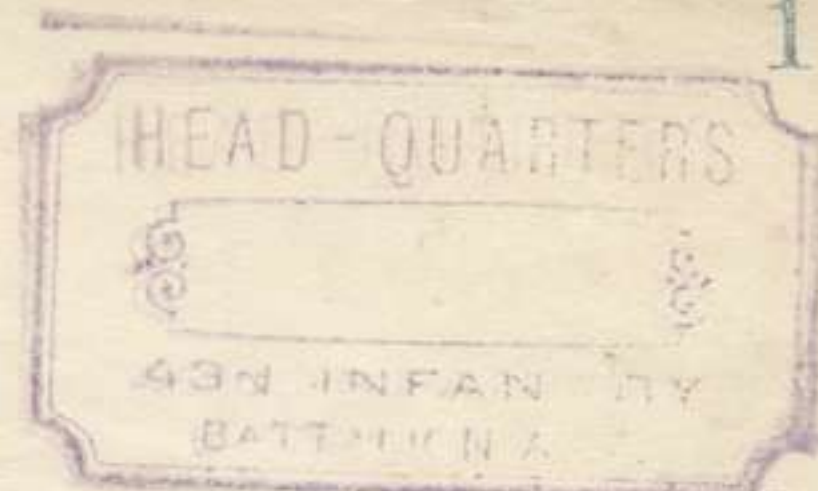
The Battalion was therefore able to move quickly along this route which met the YPRES-ZONNEBECK Road at Brigade Headquarters. The road was then followed through YPRES to the Asylum where guides were picked up and the Battalion taken to its camp at H.16 Central, two miles S.W. of YPRES, arriving there about midnight.

The relief march, aided in the early hours by a waning moon was most successful as no casualties occurred and there were no stragglers. Hot food was served as soon as the men arrived, after which they turned in under canvas for the night.

At 6 a.m. on the 22nd portion of the Battalion (B Echelon) less transport) moved away and entrained for WIZERNS. From there they marched to AVROULT arriving there at 5 p.m. The balance of the Battalion (less Transport) marched from camp at 9.30 a.m. to KRUSSTRAAT, 1 kilo south of YPRES where men embarked on buses and left for AVROULT at 11.30 a.m. passing through YPRES just touching POPERINGHE to STEENVOORDE, CASSEL, ARQUES, WIZERNS, and finishing the journey at CLETY. Progress through YPRES- POPERINGHE Road was exceptionally slow owing to very heavy traffic on the roads, but the rest of the journey was uneventful. The French border was crossed at 12.44 a.m. From CLETY the men were marched to AVROULT, about 2½ kilos arriving there at 4.30 p.m. Companies occupied the same billets vacated by them four weeks earlier.

Transport left camp the same day billeting that night near ECCKE, and proceeding next day to RENESCURE. The journey was completed on the 24th. Avroult being reached at 1.30 p.m.

p. t. o.



Casualties from 25/9/17 to 22/10/17.

	Killed	missing	Wounded
Officers	4		4
Other Ranks	58	3	180
Total Casualties			
8 officers			
241 other ranks.			

Estimate of prisoners Captured.	400
" " " Killed & Wounded	300

Trophies Captured.

6 Machine Guns
1 Telephone
1 Listening Set
2 Tripod Trench Periscopes.

Bob Richardson Lt
for L.O. 43rd Batt.
A.I.F.

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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HEAD QUARTERS
Oct 1917
43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Appendix 1

Summary of Events and Information			Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour	
Ypres	1917 October		<p><u>Honours & Rewards</u></p> <p><u>Military Medal</u></p> <p>No 3324 Pte Francis Connelly TORMAY</p> <p>On night of 9/10 October 1917 east of Ypres, when the batt moved into the line, he established communication to Batt H.Q. etc flank companies. All this was done under very heavy shell fire. He also voluntarily assisted in the evacuation of wounded & carrying rations</p> <p>No 240 Driver David DOWD</p> <p>On the afternoon of 12th October 1917 east of Ypres, he delivered water through a very heavy enemy shell fire. He then secured a second load of water and delivered that, on returning from which he dressed 2 men wounded by shells which were then falling a very quickly.</p>

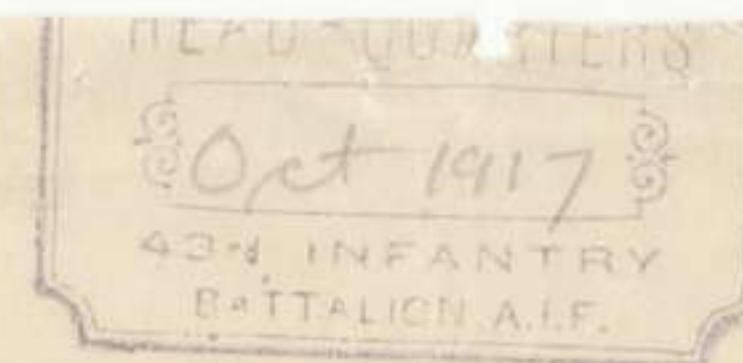
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Appendix 1

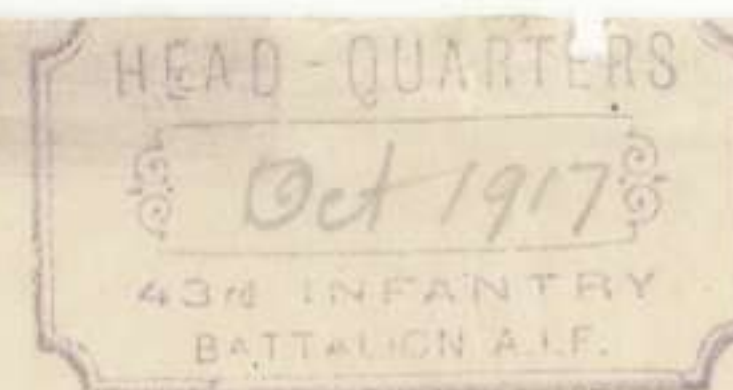
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres	1917 October		<p><u>Honours & Rewards (Ctd.)</u></p> <p><u>Military Medal.</u></p> <p><u>No 10 Cpl James Henry CLARKE</u></p> <p>He was in charge of a mule section east of Ypres in October 1917. On the afternoon of the 12th he was in charge of a mule train carrying food to the forward troops. On one of the mules being bogged, he personally made 2 trips to the line carrying the load on his shoulder.</p> <p><u>No 5851 Pte James ROACH</u></p> <p>On 9th October, east of Ypres, he set out under heavy shell fire to locate B.H.Q. which was situated in a shell hole. The night was exceptionally dark and the location of H.Q. unknown to him. By several hours diligent searching he located the spot & delivered a message he was carrying. On the 12th October he was again sent out on a similar message errand and under shell fire & gas succeeded in delivering an urgent message after several hours' search.</p>	

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Appendix 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres	1917 October		<p><u>Honours & Rewards (ctd)</u></p> <p><u>Military Medal</u></p> <p><u>13452 T/Cpl Norman James Frederick Thomas</u> <u>AAMC Details attached 43rd Bn.</u></p> <p>On the 4th & 5th October east of Ypres, he was instrumental in saving lives through his untiring & skilful tending of wounded and organising stretchers bearing parties at the RAP which was subjected to heavy enemy shell fire.</p> <p><u>1008 Sgt. George Mathias ADAMS</u></p> <p>On the 4th Oct. 1917 east of Ypres, he assisted valuably in keeping his men in hand during the assembly which was carried out under heavy shell fire. During the attack he surrounded with his platoon, & silenced, an enemy M.G. & allowed his company to continue the advance.</p> <p><u>696 L/Cpl John Conrad HAGEMAN</u></p> <p>On the 4th October, east of Ypres he performed valuable work in his mapping up party, and gave great assistance with keeping touch. On reaching the objective he materially assisted in reorganisation and in the evacuation of wounded under heavy shell fire.</p>	

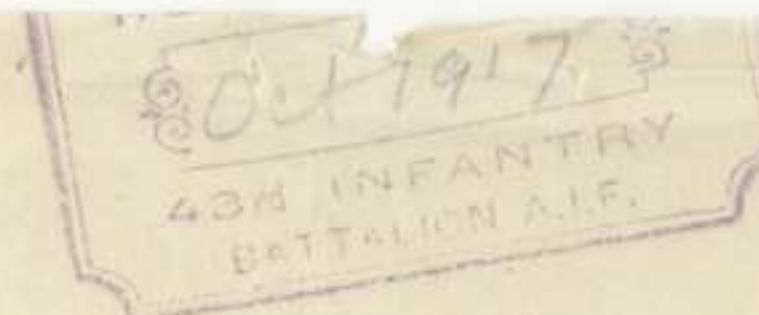
B.M.R.

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WAR DIARY
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Appendix 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres	1917 October		<p><u>Honours and Rewards (ctd)</u></p> <p><u>Military Medal</u></p> <p><u>No 1663 Hqtl Stanley King.</u></p> <p>On 4th & 5th October N. of Zonnebeke as a stretcher bearer he worked unceasingly under heavy shell fire & adverse weather conditions, dressing & assisting to carry wounded.</p> <p><u>No 732 Pte Harry RITCHIE</u></p> <p>During the advance N. of ZONNEBEKE on 4th Oct. 1917, when his platoon was held up by MG fire, he crawled forward & with his Lewis Gun silenced the enemy MG, and allowed the advance to continue.</p> <p><u>No 1130 Pte Andrew Anderson CLOTHIER.</u></p> <p>During 4th & 5th Oct. 1917 N. of Zonnebeke he worked unceasingly in bandaging and carrying wounded to the R.A.P. disregarding heavy enemy shell fire.</p>	

B.A.R.

Original

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Appendix 4

Oct 1917
434 INFANTRY
BATTALION AIF.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Honours & Rewards (ctd)

1/ptes

1917
OctoberMilitary Medal.No 105 L/Cpl William Albert KNIGHT

On 4th October N. of ZONNEBEKE by his determined and intelligent use of his Lewis Gun, he effectively silenced enemy MGs and facilitated the advance of his platoon.

No 2439 Pte Reginald Ralph ERRINGTON

On 4th October 1917 N. of ZONNEBEKE. he carried several important messages from his Coy H.Q. to Batt H.Q. during the day, having on each occasion to pass through heavy enemy barrage fire.

No 142 Pte Harry NEWELL.

On 4th & 5th October 1917 N. of ZONNEBEKE, he, as a stretcher bearer, continued without rest to dress & assist carry wounded. These operations were conducted under heavy enemy shell fire.

B.A.R.

Original

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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HEAD-QUARTERS
Oct 1917
43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.E.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Appendix 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>Honours & Rewards (ctd.)</u></p> <p><u>Distinguished Conduct Medal</u></p> <p><u>G39. Sgt William CAMERON</u></p> <p>On 4th Oct 1917 N. of Zonnebeke all his company officers became casualties before zero hour in the attack. He took charge of the bayonetted the men together by a splendid display of courage & selflessness. He led the company throughout the attack & on reaching the objective showed marked ability as an organiser and in making his dispositions for consolidation. The reports he sent back to B.H.Q. were remarkably accurate & complete.</p>	

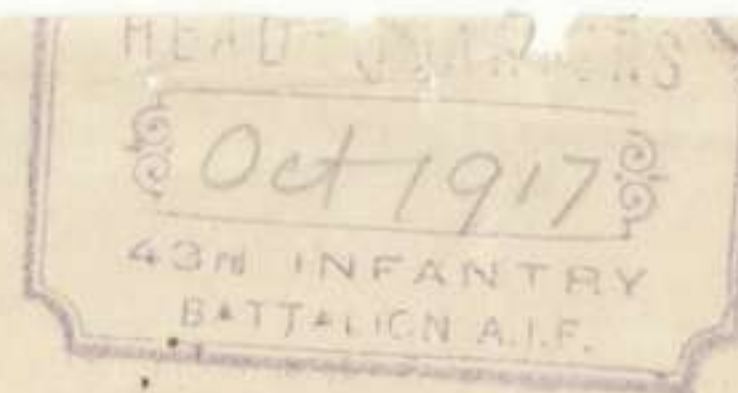
B.H.Q.

Original

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WAR DIARY
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Appendix 4

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Honours & Rewards (ctd)

Ypites

October

1917

Bar to Military Medal

No 2184 Pte George Lloyd Hampton M.M.

As a stretcher bearer in the attack N. of Zonnebeke on 4/10/17 he showed remarkable courage & cheerfulness while under heavy enemy shell fire, in bandaging & assisting wounded. He worked continuously for 2 days under adverse weather conditions, rendering valuable assistance throughout the operation.

No 343 Sgt James McDougall Mc INNES M.M.

On 4th October 1917 N. of Zonnebeke he was acting as C.S.M. During the attack all his sergeants became casualties. It was mainly due to his strength of character, initiative & efficiency that his company organisation was maintained. He constantly patrolled his company front, although it was under heavy shell fire; he also assisted in digging out and assisting wounded men to the R.A.P. His conduct throughout the operation was marked with great coolness.

B.A.R.

Attach to Battle of Ypres Appendix
Oct 1917 diary

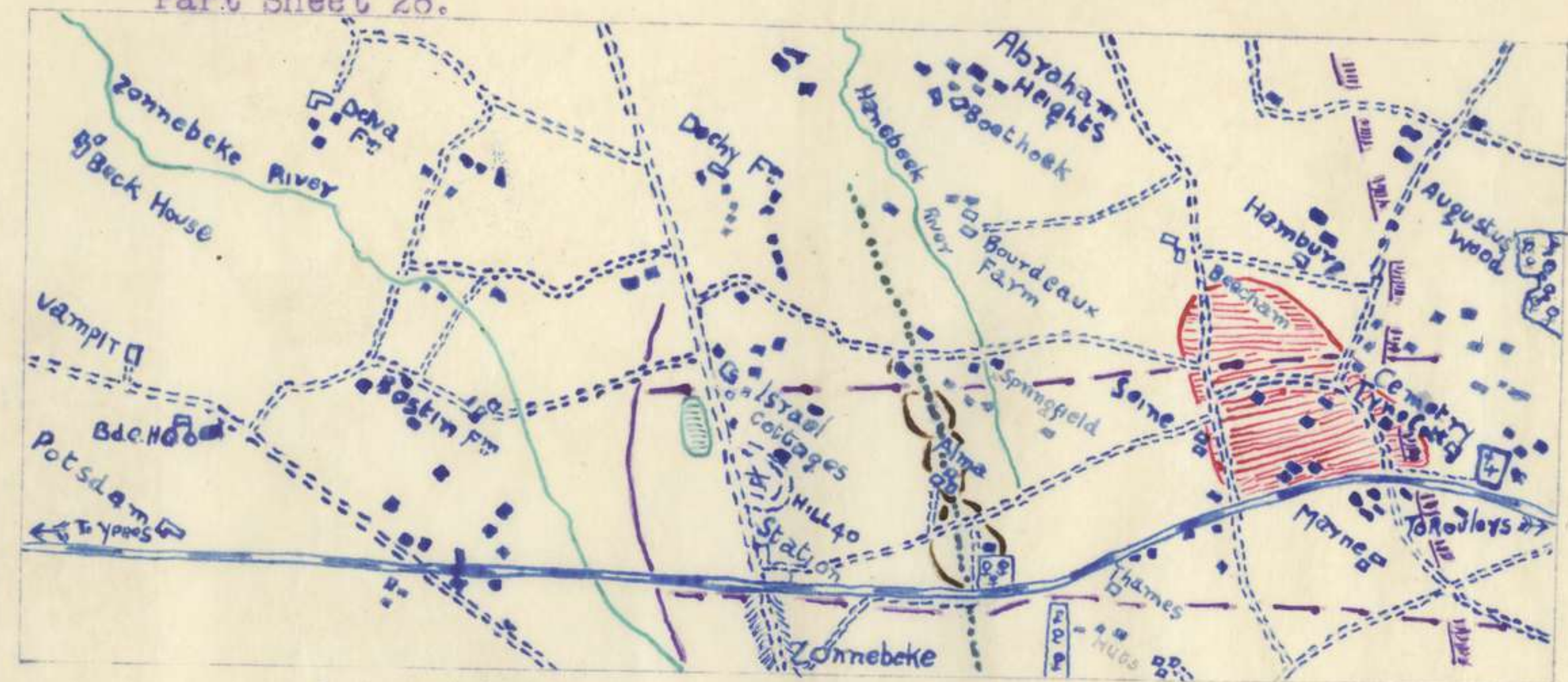
Chapter 12.

Ypres.

Oct 1917.

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Part Sheet 28.



SCALE 1:20,000

- Railway (single)
- Concrete Pillboxes
- Brigade Boundary
- Objective
- BN Support Area Oct 10th to 21st
- BN Objective
- Position of consolidated line
- Jump off line

Map showing area operated in by Battalion 4-10-17 to 27-10-17.

Place	Date	How	Summary of Events and Information	Appendices references to Remarks and
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will be prepared in manuscript and the Staff Manual respectively. The pages summaries are contained in E & B's Part II instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

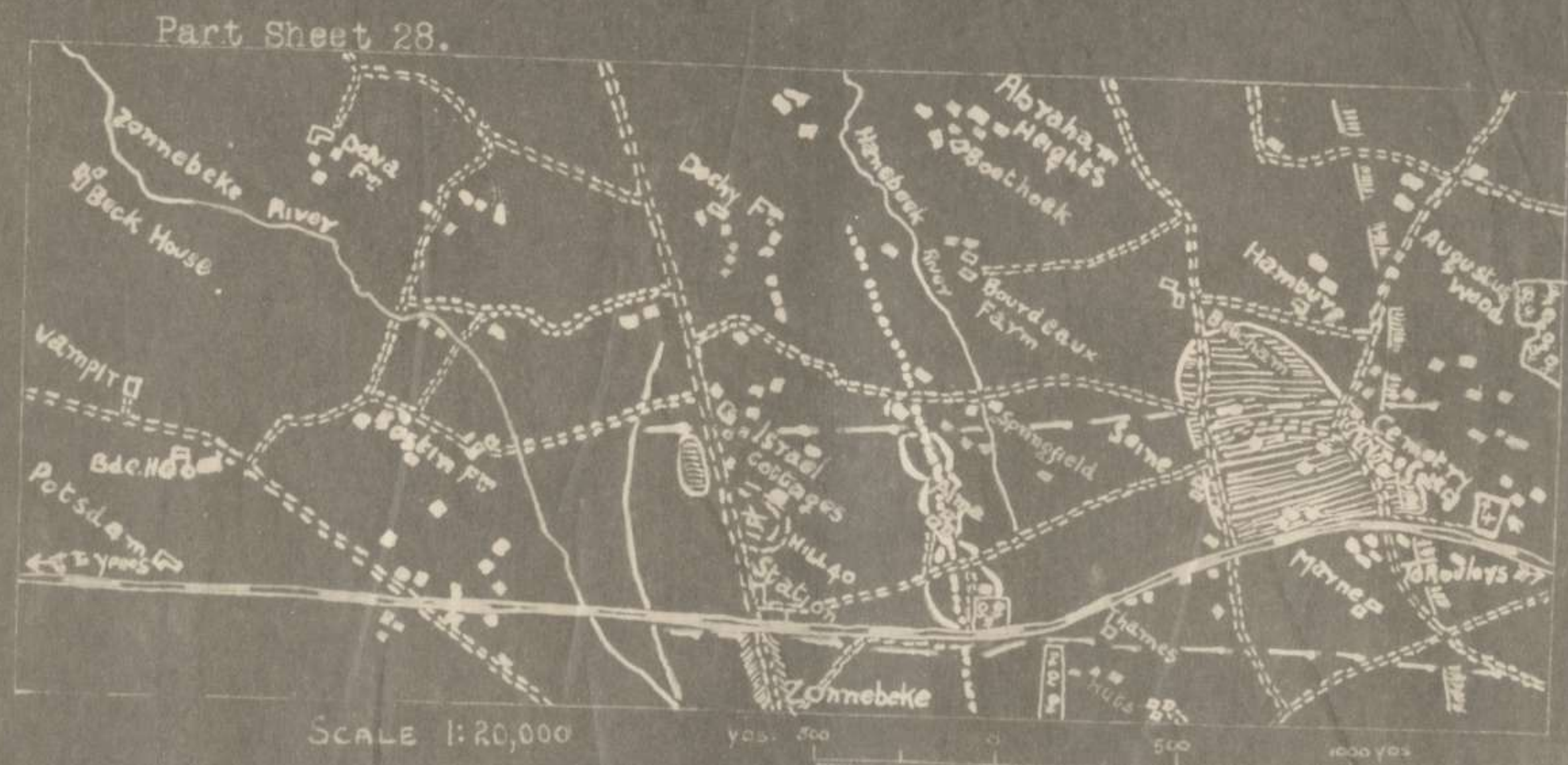
WAR DIARY

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APPENDIX

Attach to Battle of Ypres Appendix
Oct 1917 diary

Ypres. Oct 1917



Map showing area operated in by Battalion 4-10-17 to 27-10-17.

Place	Date	Notes
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY		
MVB DIVISION		

APPENDIX

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