

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/29/43

Title: 12th Infantry Battalion

September 1918



AWM4-23/29/43

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~~TRIPLICATE.~~

37

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF



12TH BATTALION

FOR

SEPTEMBER

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

C.M. Newton

Lieut. & Adjt.

12th Battalion.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Pullock

Captain,

T/Commanding 12th Battalion.

5

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.

12th BATTALION,
3rd Aust. Inf. Bgde.
A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

VOLUME 3,
Page 30.

Army Form C. 2118.

37

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
ERGNIES	Sept.	27	Wet day, billets very poor and insanitary. The village appears to have a very depressing tone.	<i>Chm</i> <i>Chm</i> <i>Chm</i> <i>Chm</i>
		28	More rain. Capt. E.W.Tulloch reported from 11th Battalion to take temporary command of the Battalion.	
		29	Showery day. Church Parade at BRUCAMPS.	
		30	Major H.A.MacPherson left for 6 months furlough to Australia. Capt. W.R.Jorgensen evacuated to hospital. Strength 30 Officers 592 Other Ranks.	
<div><i>E. W. Tulloch</i>Captain, T/Commanding 12th Battalion.</div>				APPENDIX

37

WAR DIARY

OF

12TH BATTALION.
FOR

SEPTEMBER

191

8

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. Battalion Operation No. 45.
2. Battalion Operation Order No. 46.
3. Report on Operations, Sept. 18th, east of JEANCOURT.
4. Map illustrating above operations.
5. Syllabus of Training for w/e 6/10/18.
6. Seniority List of Officers for Month of September 1918.

C. M. Newton
.....Lieut. & Adjt.
12th Battalion.

Secret.18th. BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No. 45.Copy No. 5Battalion Headquarters
6th. Sept. 1918.

1. The 18th. Battalion will move by bus to CLERY area tomorrow 7th inst.
2. Breakfast will be at 7 a.m. Cookers to be ready to move by 7.45 a.m. All tents and trench shelters will be stacked in front of B.O.R. by 8.30 a.m. Valices and Orderly Room gear by 7.50 a.m. "A" Coy. will detail 1 officer and 1 N.C.O. to report to embussing officer, Lieut. HOLLEY at Brigade Headquarters by 8.30 a.m.
3. Boys will parade in front of B.O.R. at 8.30 a.m. and will there be divided into bus parties of 25.
Dress:- Full marching order with blankets.
4. At embussing point all troops will be kept well to left of road, leaving RIGHT of road clear for motors.
5. "Y" & "Z" Coys will each detail 1 officer to report mounted to Staff Captain at Church, MONT St. QUENTIN I. 18.8.7. at 12 noon as billeting party. Horses will be available at 8 a.m. Officers will report at B.O.R. at 9 a.m.
6. Each company will submit an accurate marching out state to B.O.R. before leaving this camp.
7. Acknowledge.

Geor Vaughan

Lieut. A Adj.

18th. Battalion.

Issued at 11.3 p.m. by runner.Distribution:-

Copy No.	1.	File.
" "	2.	"X" Coy.
" "	3.	"Y" "
" "	4.	"Z" "
" "	5/7.	War Diary.

Secret.

37

18th. Battalion OPERATION ORDER No. 46.

Ref. 880. N.E. 885. N.W. and

Special Map.

Battalion Headquarters.

17th. September 1918.

APPENDIX 2

1. (1) INFORMATION:-

The 4th Army in conjunction with the 1st. French Army on the Right and the 3rd. Army on the Left is to attack the enemy's defensive positions in front of the HINDENBURG LINE.

(ii) The Australian Corps is to attack in the centre of the 4th. Army front. the IX Corps is attacking on the Right and the III Corps on the Left.

(iii) The 1st. Australian Division is to attack on the Left of the Australian Corps. The 4th. Australian Division will be attacking on the Right, and the 7th. Division on the Left of 1st. Aust. Division.

2. INTENTION:-

(1) The 1st. Australian Division is to attack on a 2 Brigade Front. The 3rd. A.I. Bde. on Right and the 1st. A.I. Bde on Left.

(ii) Objectives and Boundaries are shown on map already issued. A back inter-Brigade boundary has been drawn defining Brigade areas for approach and assembly.

Date of attack and Zero hour to be notified later.

3. DETAIL OF TROOPS.

(1) The 3rd. A.I. Bde. will attack on the Right of Divisional Sector.

(ii) One half section (3 tanks) is allotted to the Brigade.

(iii) One Troop of the 13th. Light Horse ~~REGIMENT~~ Regiment is allotted to the Brigade. (Field)

4. ARTILLERY:- 8 Artillery Brigades will be available to cover the Divisional Front.

5. Battalion will move to tape line as follows:- Battalion Headquarters Z Coy., and half section of 3rd. M.G. Coy. X Coy., and half section of M.G. Coy. Companies will move platoons in file with 100 yds. between platoons, connecting files being used if necessary.

Route:- From Battalion Bivouac via NOBLESCURE FM in K.32.C.9.9 Level crossing at K.28.D.6.5.-K.30.C.0.1.-SOUTH of CROSS WOOD-through trench system in L.28.D. and North of JEANCOURT to position on tape line. Coys will be at tape line by 6/0 and 1/0 and placed in position.

6. ORDER of BATTLE:- Z Coy., on Right from L.28.D.6.5. to L.28.B.4.5. exclusive, Y Coy., on Left from L.28.B.4.5. inclusive to L.20.D.0.0. inclusive. X Coy., will form up immediately in rear of same line and follow on at 100 yds. distance on barrage moving forward at Zero plus 3 Minutes.

Line Coys will move in following formation. Two platoons in front line each providing a screen on one rifle section which will precede platoon by 25 yds.. the remainder of these two platoons will join the first line moving in lines of half sections in single file. The third platoon will follow at 50 yds distance in line of sections in single file. X Coy., will move in line of sections in single file, one platoon at 100 yds in rear of Z Coy, one platoon in rear of Y Coy 100 yds. one platoon under direct command of O.C. Coy. close up but in rear of leading two platoons.. The two platoons of X Coy. following line Coys will "mop up" the area passed over by their respective Coys. The third platoon of X Coy will assist in mopping up and reinforcing the line Coys, as the situation at any time dictates.

VICKERS MACHINE GUNS:- One half section (3 guns) will move immediately behind left of front line of Z Coy., and will cover with direct fire the front of either Z or Y Coy. as may be required. The N.C.O. in charge of half sections will select positions from time to time as may be best suited for their purpose. He will keep touch with and carry our orders, which he may receive from time to time, from Capt HOUGHTON O/C Z Coy..

One half section (3 guns) under Lieut ARCHER M.G. Coy. will move with O/C X Coy., & Capt BURT) and will be Battalion Reserve Guns, to be used from any position as may be required. On reaching Battalion Objective these guns will become Brigade reserve for use with the 9th. and 10th. Battalions if required.

2.

STOKES MORTARS: - Two guns will move with O/C X Coy. and will be prepared to deal with any M.G. or Strong-point holding up the advance of the line Coys. On receipt of such advice from O/C of either Z or Y Coys these guns will go forward to a position from which they can deal effectively with opposing points.

7. **Lieut. RADFORD** of X Coy. will move with Left flank of Z Coy. and will be responsible for direction. Special orders issued to Lieut. RADFORD.

8. **METHOD OF ATTACK:** - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th and 12th Battalions (12th. on Right) will capture first Objective, 9th and 10th. (10th. on Right) will capture 2nd Objective and exploit the line of exploitation, as shown on map already issued. Each Battalion will detail one company for mopping up. Barrage Map showing Barrage Lines and times of moving forward will be issued separately.

Units will be on tape line at Zero minus 60 minutes.

At Zero hour Artillery ~~will~~ and M.G. Barrages open 200 yds. forward of Brigade tape line, while attackers move forward as close as possible.

The 1st Barrage lift will be at Zero plus 3 minutes. The second lift will be at Zero plus 5 minutes. The next and succeeding lifts up to and including the 11th. lift, will be at intervals of 3 minutes. The 12th. and following lifts will be made at intervals of 4 minutes.

All lifts will be of 100 yds., measured along inter-corps Boundary.

Halt Line. The attacking Battalions for the second Objective (9th. & 10th.) will remain at Halt Line (1st Objective) until Zero plus 3 hours 10 minutes, when the advance will continue to the RED LINE.

On Barrage lifting at Zero plus 3 minutes, the whole Brigade will move forward. Each Battalion having two Companies deployed for attack and one Company for mopping up.

The 2nd. Objective Troops will keep close to 1st Objective Troops and help if necessary. At the first objective the 11th. and 12th. Battalions will consolidate approx. on line, but NOT in old trench system. 9th and 10th Battalions move up ready to follow Barrage closely when it lifts. On reaching the second Objective 9th and 10th Battalions consolidate, and at once send out patrols to line of exploitation, following them up with supports.

Unless the enemy opposition is very strong, the line of exploitation will be occupied by 9th and 10th. Battalions and consolidated.

The 11th. and 12th. Battalions will in this case move to the line of second objective.

During the advance first waves must "Keep Going" and leave the mopping up to the troops moving in rear that have been specially detailed for the work.

Battalions will adhere to the principle of advancing along the high ground and avoiding valleys as far as possible, but must take steps to deal with enemy pockets left in gaps as soon as possible.

Vickers and Lewis Guns implaced on the high ground will command enemy positions in the valleys and on the lower slopes of the hills. The Lewis and Vickers M.G. will assist the moppers up by giving covering fire from these commanding positions.

The 11th. Battalion will make good the ridge in L. 15.C. & D. - L. 16.C. & B. - L. 17.A.

The 12th. Battalion will make good the ridge in L. 21.D. - L. 22.C. & D. and L. 23.A.

Lieut. FLETCHER and two men of Z Coy. will maintain liaison with 15th. Battalion on Right. Lieut. SIMMONS and two men from X Coy will maintain liaison with 11th Battalion on Right.

Special orders issued to these Officers.

9. **TANKS.** Two Tanks will assist in attack and will move under the Barrage on the following Routes:-

"A" Tank South of trench in L. 21.A. & L. 25.D. thence by FERVAQUE trench - to sunken road in L. 16.B. - KAFFIR COPSE & ZULU COPSE and sunken road in L. 11.C. - hence through VILLERET and will specially deal with the following points:-

Sunken Road L. 16.B.
VILLERET.

"B" Tank L. 21.C. 7.3. - L. 21.D. 6.4. - along trenches in L. 22.A. skirting northern edge of GRAND FRIEL WOOD in L. 22.B. - Sunken Road in L. 17.D. and thence back along trenches in L. 18.C. and 24.A.

Signals for use with Tanks will be as laid down in S.S. 214 of August 1918.

10. PRISONERS OF WAR:- The 1st. Aust. Div. P.O.W. Cage will be established on forward slope of hill in K.27.B.
The D.A.P.M. will have a screen of M.M. Policemen stationed along the Divisional front at an approximate distance of 1 mile from the front line. This screen will cover all routes from the front line in the Divisional area. Adjacent Routes in flank areas will also be watched.
Battalion escorts will take prisoners of war to the rear and deliver them to the first 1st. Aust. Div. M.M. Policeman they meet, who will hand the escort a typed receipt. Escort will in the unlikely event of missing members of the M.M.P. proceed to the Divisional P.O.W. Cage in K.27.B.
The D.A.P.M. will keep a close check of the number of prisoners taken by particular units.
11. Tape line will be laid down as per instructions contained in para. 6 of this order.
12. BATTLE HEADQUARTERS:- Battle Headquarters will be prepared as follows:-
19th. Battalion. L.26.C.
Brigade H.Q. L.26.C.5.2.
13. COMMUNICATION:- The Brigade signalling officer will be responsible for the maintaining of communication between Brigade and Batt. Headquarters throughout the operation. Two signallers from B.H.Q. Section will move forward with Lucas Lamps and telephone with O/C. Z. Coy laying wire as they go. Special instructions issued on this matter to all concerned.
14. O.P.:- Cpl. GAFFYN and two men of the Intelligence personnel will move forward with party mentioned in para. 13 to establish a forward O.P. at or about L.28 central, using phone for conveying information. A runner will be attached to this party.
15. No man will neglect his duty for the purpose of souveniring. All ranks will be particularly careful of "Booby-traps".
16. GROUND FLARES:-DISCS, WIRE CUTTERS will be issued as already directed.
17. Battalion dump for S.A.A. Water, Grenades, Stokes shells etc., will be established at L.25.B.7.1.
18. Instructions re dress, battons etc., as per instructions already issued.
19. Ration supply in line- Breakfast will be brought up as early as possible. Special instructions to R.Q.M. on this subject. Parties required will be notified later.
20. GENERAL:- O/C. X. Coy. will arrange to carry 20 picks and 40 shovels for use in consolidating line. These will be dumped on line of advance where they can be found if X. Coy. is required to help carry the objective.
A tape line with notice boards printed to Right Battalion will be laid from K.30.C.P.1. forward to jumping off line.

Geoffrey
Major
T/Commanding 19th. Battalion

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Handwritten signature and date: 12/10/50

1. The purpose of this document is to provide a summary of the information received from the source regarding the activities of the group in the area of the Pacific coast of the United States.

2. The source has provided information regarding the activities of the group in the area of the Pacific coast of the United States, and the information is being provided to you for your information.

3. The source has provided information regarding the activities of the group in the area of the Pacific coast of the United States, and the information is being provided to you for your information.

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9. The source has provided information regarding the activities of the group in the area of the Pacific coast of the United States, and the information is being provided to you for your information.

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APPENDIX

Ref. 68 C. N.E. 62B. N.W. and
Special Map.

Battalion Headquarters
17th. September 1918.

1. (i) INFORMATION:- The 4th Army in conjunction with the 1st. French Army on the Right and the 3rd Army on the Left is to attack the enemy's defensive positions in front of the HINDENBURG LINE.
(ii). The Australian Corps is to attack in the centre of the 4th. Army front, the IX Corps is attacking on the Right and the III Corps on the Left.
(iii). The 1st. Australian Division is to attack on the Left of the Australian Corps. The 4th. Australian Division will be attacking on the Right, and the 74th. Division on the Left of 1st. Australian Division.
2. INTENTION:-
(i). The 1st. Australian Division is to attack on a 3 Brigade Front. The 3rd. A.I. Bde. on Right and the 1st. A.I. Bde. on Left.
(ii). Objectives and Boundaries are shown on map already issued.
• A back inter-brigade boundary has been drawn defining Brigade areas for approach and assembly.
Date of attack and zero hour will be notified later.
3. DETAIL OF TROOPS:-
(i). The 3rd. A.I. Bde. will attack on the Right of Divisional Sector.
(ii). One half section (3 tanks) is allotted to the Brigade.
(iii). One troop of the 13th. Light Horse Regiment is allotted to the Brigade.
4. ARTILLERY:-
3 Field Artillery Brigades will be available to cover the Divisional Front.
5. Battalion will move to tape line as follows:- Battalion Headquarters Z Coy. and half section of 3rd. M.G. Coy. Y. Coy. X Coy. and half section of M.G. Coy. Companies will move platoons in file with 100 yds. between platoons, connecting files being used if necessary.
ROUTE:- From Battalion Bivouac via NOBLESQUIRE FM in K.38.C.9.0.- Level crossing at K.23.D.5.8. -K.30.C.0.1.- SOUTH of CROSS WOOD- through trench system in L.25.D. and North of JEANCOURT to position on tape line. Coys' will be met at tape line by C.O. and I.O. and placed in position.
6. ORDER OF BATTLE:- Z Coy. on Right from L.26.D.6.5 to L.26.B.4.5. exclusive, Y Coy. on Left from L.26.B.4.5. inclusive to L.20.D.0.0. inclusive. X Coy. will form up immediately in rear of same line and follow on at ~~distance~~ 100 yds. distance on barrage moving forward at Zero plus 3 minutes.
Line Coys' will move in following formation. Two platoons in front line each providing a screen of one rifle section which will precede platoon by 25 yds. The remainder of these two platoons will join the first line moving in lines of half sections in single file. The Third platoon will follow at 50 yds. distance in lines of sections in single file. X Coy will move in lines of sections in single file, one platoon 100 yds in rear of Z Coy, one platoon 100 yds in rear of Y Coy. one platoon under direct command of O/C Coy. close up but in rear of leading two platoons. The two platoons of X Coy. following line Coys will "mop up" the area passed over by their respective Coys. The third platoon of X Coy. will assist in mopping up and reinforcing the line coys, as the situation/ at any time dictates.
VICKERS MACHINE GUNS:- One half section (2 guns) will move immediately behind left of front line of Z Coy, and will cover with direct fire the front of either Z or Y Coy. as may be required. The N.C.O. in charge of half section will select positions from time to time as may be best suited for this purpose. He will keep touch with, and carry out orders, which he may receive from time to time, from Capt. HOUGHTON O/C Z Coy.
One half section (2 guns) under Lieut. ARCHER M.G. Coy. will move with O/C X Coy. (Capt. BURT) and will be Battalion Reserve Guns, to be used from any position as may be required. On reaching Battalion objective these guns will become Brigade Reserve for use with 9th. and 10th. Battalions if required.

STOKES MORTARS:- Two guns will move with O/C X. Coy and will be prepared to deal with any M.G. or Strong-point holding up the advance of the line Coys. On receipt of such advice from O/C of either Z or Y Coys these guns will go forward to a position from which they can deal effectively with opposing points.

7. Lieut. RADFORD of X Coy. will move with Left flank of Z Coy and will be responsible for direction. Special orders issued to Lieut. RADFORD.

8. METHOD OF ATTACK:- The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th. and 12th. Battalions (12th. on Right) will capture 1st. Objective. 9th. and 10th. Battalions (10th. on Right) will capture 2nd. Objective and exploit the line of exploitation, as shown on map already issued. Each Battalion will detail one company for Mopping Up.

Barrage Map showing Barrage lines and times of moving forward will be issued separately.

Units will be on tape line at Zero minus 60 minutes.

At Zero hour Artillery and M.G. Barrages open on line 300 yards forward of Brigade Tape line, while attackers move forward as close as possible.

The 1st barrage lift will be at Zero plus 3 minutes. The second lift will be at Zero plus 5 minutes. The next and succeeding lifts up to and including the 11th. lift, will be at intervals of 3 minutes. The 12th. and following lifts will be made at intervals of 4 minutes.

All lifts will be of 100 yds, measured along the inter-Copps Boundary.

Halt Line :- The attacking Battalions for the second objective (9th. and 10th.) will remain at Halt Line (1st objective), until Zero plus 3 hours 10 minutes, when the advance will continue to the RED LINE.

On Barrage lifting at Zero plus 3 minutes, the whole Brigade will move forward. Each Battalion having two companies deployed for attack and one Company for mopping up.

The 2nd Objective troops will keep close to 1st. Objective troops, and help if necessary. At the first objective the 11th. and 12th. Battalions will consolidate approx. on line, but NOT in old trench system. 9th. and 10th. Battalions move up ready to follow barrage closely when it lifts. On reaching the 2nd. Objective 9th. and 10th. Battalions consolidate, and at once send out patrols to line of exploitation, following them up with support. Unless the enemy opposition is very strong, the line of exploitation will be occupied by 9th. and 10th. Battalions and consolidated.

The 11th. and 12th. Battalions will in this case move to the line of 2nd objective.

During the advance first waves must "Keep Going" and leave the mopping up to the troops moving in rear that have been specially detailed for the work.

Battalions will adhere to the principle of advancing along the high ground and avoiding valleys as far as possible, but must take steps to deal with enemy pockets left in gaps as soon as possible.

Vickers and Lewis Guns emplaced on the high ground will command enemy positions in the valleys and on the lower slopes of the hills.

The Lewis and Vickers Machine Guns will assist the Moppers Up by giving covering fire from these commanding positions.

The 11th. Battalion will make good the ridge in L. 15. C. & D. L. 16. C. & B. - ~~L. 17. A.~~ L. 17. A.

The 12th. Battalion will make good the ridge in L. 21. D. - L. 22. C. and D. and L. 23. A.

Lieut. FLETCHER and 2 men of Z Coy. will maintain liaison with 12th. Battalion on right; Lt. SIMMONS and 2 men from X Coy will maintain liaison with 11th. Battalion on right. Special orders issued to these officers.

9. TANKS:- Two Tanks will assist in attack and will move under the barrage on the following routes:-

"A" Tank. South of Trench in L. 21. A. and L. 15. D. thence by FERVAQUE Trench - to sunken road in L. 16. B. - KAFFIR COPSE & ZULU COPSE and sunken road in L. 11. C. - thence through VILLERET and will specially deal with the following points-

STANDARD WORKING: Two teams will move with O/C Coy and will be
ordered to deal with any M.C. or strong-point holding up the
at the line Coy. On receipt of such orders from O/C of either
X or Y Coy, these teams will be ordered to a position from which
they can deal effectively with opposing points.

1. Plans: Movement of X Coy will move with left flank of Y Coy and
will be responsible for direction. Special orders issued to them.

2. METHOD OF ATTACK: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

3. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

4. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

5. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

6. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

7. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

8. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

9. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

10. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

11. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

12. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

13. Details: - The attack will be made by "Leap-frog" method. 11th
and 12th Battalions (11th on right) will capture 1st Objective.
7th and 10th Battalions (7th on right) will capture 2nd Objective
and exploit the line of exploitation as shown on map already issued.
Each Battalion will detail one company for working up.

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TANKS. (Contd). specially deal with the following points:-

Sunken Road L.16.B.

VILLERST.

"B" Tank. L.21.C.7.3. - L.21.D.6.4. - along trenches in L.22. A skirting northern edge of GRAND FRIEL WOOD in L.22.B. - Sunken Road in L.17.D. and thence back along trenches in L.18.C. and 24.A.

Signals for use with Tanks will be as laid down in S.S. 214 of August 1918.

10. PRISONERS OF WAR:- The 1st. Aust. Div. P.O.W. Cage will be established on forward slopes of Hill in K.27.B.

The D.A.P.M. will have a screen of M.M. Policemen stationed along the Divisional Front, at an approximate distance of 1 mile from the front line. This screen will cover all routes from the front line in the Divisional Area. Adjacent Routes in flank areas will also be watched.

Battalion escorts will take prisoners of war to the rear and deliver them to the first 1st. Aust. Div. M.M. Policeman they meet who will hand the escort a typed receipt. Escorts will, in the unlikely event of missing members of the M.M.P. proceed to the Divisional P.O.W. Cage in K.27.B.

The D.A.P.M. will keep a close check of the number of prisoners taken by particular Units.

11. Tape Line will be laid down as per instructions contained in para 6 of this order.

12. BATTLE HEADQUARTERS:- Battle Headquarter } will be prepared as follows:-

18th. Battalion. L.26.E. C

Brigade .H.Q. L.26.C.5.9.

13. COMMUNICATION:- The Brigade Signalling Officer will be responsible for the maintaining of communication between Brigade and Batt. Headquarters throughout the operation. Two signallers from B.H.Q. section will move forward with Lucas Lamp and telephone with O/C Z Coy laying wire as they go. Special instructions issued on this matter to all concerned.

14. O. P. Cpl. CAFFYN and 8 men of the Intelligence personnel will move forward with party mentioned in para 13 to establish a forward O.P. at or about L.22. central using phone for conveying information. A runner will be attached to this party.

15. No man will neglect his duty for the purpose of souveniring. All ranks will be particularly careful of "Booby-traps".

16. GROUND PLANES:- DISCS, WIRE CUTTERS :- Will be issued as already directed.

17. Battalion dump of S.A. Water. Grenades. stoked shells etc. will be established at L.26.B.7.1.

18. Instructions re dress, latrines etc. as per instructions already issued.

19. Ration supply in line - Breakfast will be brought up as early as possible. Special instructions to R.Q.M. on this subject. Parties required will be notified later.

20. GENERAL:- O/C. X. Coy. will arrange to carry 20 picks and 40 Shovels for use in consolidating line. These will be dumped on-line of advance where they can be found if X. Coy. is required to help carry the objective.

A tape line with notice boards printed to Right Bn. will be laid from 18th. Battalion. K.30.C.P.1. forward to jumping off line.

Georgie Hamilton
Major.

T/Commanding 18th. Battalion.

BATTLE HEADQUARTERS - Mobile Headquarters will be organized

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REPORT OF OPERATIONS EAST of JEANCOURT, 18th. September 1918.

At 1.45.a.m. on the above date the Battalion fell in at their bivouac position in K.31.D. (maps 62B. N.W.) and moved off in order, Battalion Headquarters, "Z", "Y", and "X". Companies, in platoons in file at 100 yds., distance using the following route to their assembly position on the Tape Line:- NOBLESURE FARM K.32.C.9.0.-Level CROSSING at K28.D.5.8.-K.30. C.O.I.-South of CROSS WOOD-through trench system in L.25.D. and North of JEANCOURT to position on tape line.

To ensure the safe arrival of Companies a tape was laid from CROSS WOOD onwards. As the night turned out dark and rainy this precaution proved most useful as it enabled the march to be continued without hesitation. On the head of column reaching tape line it was met by Commanding Officer and Intelligence Officer and each Company placed exactly in position. The forming up was carried out unnoticed by the enemy, and without interruption. The line selected for forming up on was the old trench system running from L.26.D.6.5. to L.26.B.2.8. This line was selected as it approximately coincided with the line laid down by Brigade as the pumping off line and because it afforded shelter for the troops had the enemy heard the forming up and shelled the line. Gaps were cut in the wire for each platoon and at 10 minutes to Zero the platoons filed out through these gaps and got into the formation laid down for the attack. This movement was completed a few minutes before ZERO and on the Barrage opening the whole Battalion pressed forward.

The order of Battle was :- "Z" Coy on Right from L.26.D.6.5. to L.26.B.4.5. exclusive, "Y" Coy. on Left from L.26.B.4.5. inclusive to L.26.B.2.8; "X" Coy. one platoon following "Z" Coy. to mop up area passed over by Coy., one platoon following "Y" Coy. to mop up area passed over by Coy., one platoon under O/C Coy. (Capt. Burt) to move in rear of Left flank of Right line Coy. to aid in either mopping up or reinforcing the line Coys., as required. This platoon carried 50 shells for the Stokes Mortars and a proportion of picks and shovels. The Stokes Mortars moved with this platoon.

The section of the 3rd. M.G. Coy. under Lieut. ARCHER were disposed as follows :- Half section (2 guns) with Right Line "Z" Coy, Half section (2 guns) with Capt BURT's Headquarters. This latter half section was looked upon as a Battalion Reserve. The formation of line Coys. was in each case two platoons on front line in lines of half sections in single file preceded by a screen of two rifle sections extended across the two platoons' front at 25 yds. distance. The third platoon of each line Coy. followed in line of sections in single file at 50 yds. distance. The mopping up platoons of "X" Coy. followed their respective line Coys. in line of sections in single file at 100 yds. distance.

The Battalion pressed on closely under the Barrage keeping so close that they suffered several casualties from short falling shells. The barrage was good but, as the morning turned out, too much smoke was used. This smoke accentuated the difficulty of keeping direction already caused by the fog. Immediately the Battalion started to move forward at Zero, Capt. BURT O/C "X" Coy. was severely wounded, opinion being divided as to whether this was a hostile shell or a short one of our own. This casualty to their O/C threw "X" Coy. into momentary confusion from which they were quickly extracted by the energetic action of Lt. RADFORD (who then assumed Command) and Lt. FACEY.

The first opposition was encountered at L.27.A.5.3. The small wood there contained at least three M.Gs. These guns fired vigorously and for a time held up the Right of "Z" Coy. Lieut. B. BUTLER O/C Right Platoon of "Z" Coy. and five men were killed together by one of these guns during an attempt by the platoon to rush the wood. The remainder of the Coy. pressing on entered the wood from the NORTH AND EAST and captured about 20 prisoners. The Left Coy. "Y" during this time encountered little opposition. Keeping close to the Barrage they rushed the enemy as he emerged from cover. During this period of the advance considerable M.G. fire was directed at our troops from the enemy's positions in L.22.A. and C. This died down as our barrage passed over these squares. "Y" Coy. (Left line) experienced a sharp resistance from the Southern edge of BROSE Wood, but the mopping up platoon of "X" Coy. who were following "Y" entered the wood on the Western side and working through the wood drove the enemy into the open where some were shot by "Y" Coy and the rest surrendered. Still keeping close to the Barrage, although the pace was now beginning to tell owing

to the heavy going. Our troops attacked the enemys' trench in L.22.A & C. These trenches were strongly held and the fighting was sharp. Nevertheless our men however prevailed but lost touch with barrage which was then passing on through GRAND PRIEL Woods. At this stage in view of the state of the ground, the rate of travelling by the barrage was too fast. In the trench in L.22.A and C. we captured numerous M.Guns and two 7.7 c.m. Field guns killing or capturing the crew in each case. These Machine Gunners and Artillery Men made a determined resistance but our troops rushed them on sight. We took numerous prisoners hereabouts. The Battalion then moved on through GRAND PRIEL Wood without the assistance of the barrage and had one or two sharp encounters in the passage of the Wood, in which we suffered several casualties. The sharpest fight occurred round the grounds of the CHATEAU in L.23.A. Here Capt. HOUGHTON O/C. "Z" Coy. was wounded, and we inflicted numerous casualties on the enemy and captured them in large numbers, including the M.G. Battalion Commander, a Capt. Von STRESEMAN. This Officer was taken in a dugout of large size near the CHATEAU. Our line was now established on the BROWN LINE and we were subjected to very severe M.G. Fire and some shelling. The M.G. fire came from L.18.C. and L.24.A. mostly. The line was occupied by 7.55 a.m. and on the 10th. Battalion passing over to attack the RED Line at 8.45 a.m. we were able to give them very effective overhead covering fire from Lewis Guns, Rifles and Vickers M.Gs. and from four Heavy German Machine Guns. This, I feel sure, materially assisted in their attack up the slopes towards the RED line. During the operation Lieut. WALDUCK Battalion I.O. and the Acting Adjutant Lieut. VAUGHAN, rendered conspicuous service in obtaining by reconnaissance information as to the progress of our troops. I estimate, during the operation, the total prisoners taken at 300 of all ranks including a Battalion Commander. We also took 2, 7.7 c.m. guns, 2 medium Minen Werfers and 38 M.guns as well as rifles in large numbers, and a lot of miscellaneous equipment. Our casualties were 1 Officer killed, 1 Officer died of wounds, 6 Officers Wounded and 130 Ranks killed 60 wounded 2 missing. I would especially wish to draw attention to the work of Lieut. FLETCHER who started in the attack as Liaison Officer with the 15th. Battalion and on Capt. HOUGHTON becoming a casualty assumed command of "Z" Coy. rapidly reorganising the Coy. and consolidating on the Brown Line. The O/C. "Y" Coy. Capt. HOLYMAN also did conspicuously good work, handling his company with skill and judgment. I regret to state some of our M.Guns captured were removed by men of the 8th. Battalion. How many or where they were taken to I am unable to state.

(signed) H. A. MacPherson Major.

 T/Commanding 12th. Battalion.

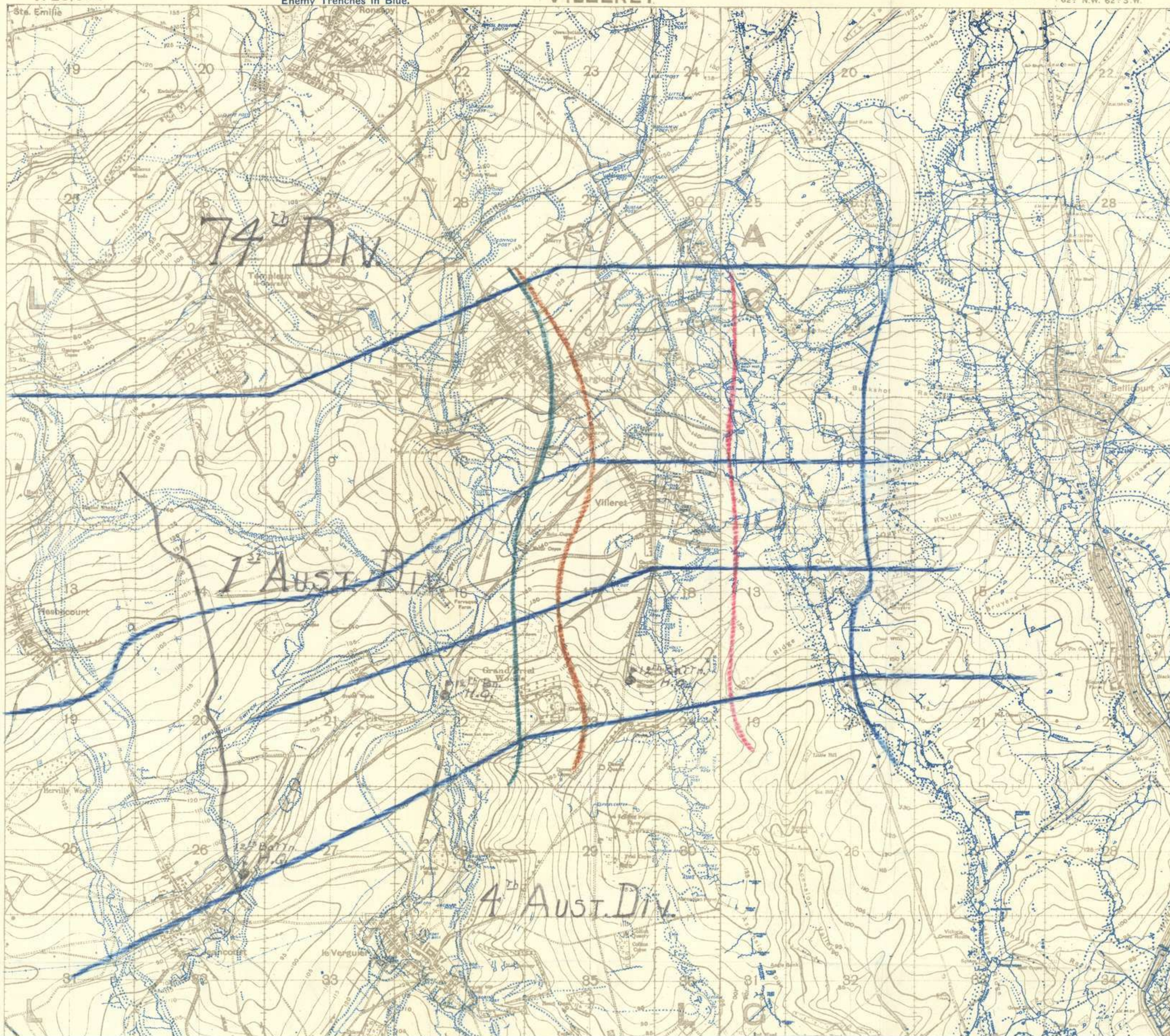
1: 20,000

NOTE CHANGE OF COLOUR.
Enemy Trenches in Blue.

VILLERET

PARTS OF 62° N.E. 62° S.E.
62° N.W. 62° S.W.

10



1:50,000

VOLUME CHANGE OF COLOUR

VILLERET

10

12th. BATTALION SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 6th. OCTOBER 1918 .

MONDAY 30th. Sept. 9 a.m.-12.0 Kit inspection. A complete list of all deficiencies in equipment etc. to be made. Puttees and clothing brushed and cleaned; equipment washed and blanched.

TUESDAY. 1st. Oct. 9 a.m.-11.0 Equipment to be taken to pieces and carefully fitted to each man.
11.0 -12.0 Squad drill without arms, falling in, turning on the march; halted; forming fours; marking time.

WED'DAY. 2nd. " 9 a.m.-10.0 Squad drill without arms under selected N.C.O's. great care being taken to ensure proper positions and clean cut movements.
10 a.m.-11.0 As above, with arms.
11 a.m.-12.0 Rifle exercises and detail of piling arms.

THU'DAY. 3rd. " 9 a.m.-12.0 As for Wednesday.

FRIDAY .4th. " 9 a.m.-12.0 Guards and Sentries. Parading for Guard; telling off a guard; duties of N.C.O's and men; duties of a sentry; compliments, to whom paid and how.

SAT'DAY. 5th. " 9 a.m.-12.0 Route march seven miles.:-ERGNIES-COENFLOS-DOUART-BRUGAMPS-ERGNIES.

Recreational training will be carried out every afternoon from 2.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. and will include football matches between platoons and companies; tug of war etc.

NOTE. i. O/Coy. will give short lecturette to his company daily at end of morning parade on "Esprit de corps, smartness on parade etc.
ii. O/C coy. will also arrange lectures for his N.C.O's.
iii. Attached special syllabus of lectures arranged by Batt. H'q'trs.

LECTURES IN CONNECTION WITH 12th. BATTALION SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

TUESDAY. 1st. Oct. "Esprit de Corps" by C.O.
THU'DAY. 3rd. " "Duties of a platoon commander while in billets". by Capt. JORGENSEN.
SAT'DAY. 5th. " "Regimental Duties" by Adjutant.

W. J. J. J.
Major
T/Commanding 12th. Batt.

OF OFFICERS OF 12th. BATTALION, 3rd. Inf. Brigade.

Rank.	Name.	Date of Appointment.	How Employed.
Lt. Col.	C. H. ELLIOTT.	1/3/16.	Wounded 10/8/18.
Major.	F. J. PAGE.	1/7/16.	A.A.C. Seconded 23/12/17.
Capt.	L. H. TULLOCK.	1/7/16.	T/Commanding 12th. Battalion.
"	L. E. BURT.	22/5/16.	Wounded 18/9/18.
"	B. Y. BUTLER.	20/2/16.	Evac. to Hospital 13/8/18.
"	R. A. J. MCILWEE.	1/3/16.	1st. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
"	B. J. ANDREW.	26/7/16.	Evac. to Hospital 4/9/18.
"	S. R. ROUGHTON.	19/9/16.	Wounded 18/9/18.
"	G. R. JORDENSON.	3/12/16.	Evac. to Hospital 30/9/18.
"	G. PETERSON.	16/5/17.	Aust. Corps Salvage Officer Seconded.
"	I. H. HOLYMAN.	16/5/17.	C/O Y Coy.
"	H. M. W. THIRRELL.	23/5/17.	Staff Capt. 1st Tng. Bde. Seconded.
Hon. Capt.	F. A. TEAKIS.	31/5/17.	1st. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
"	H. S. SPURWOOD.	19/12/17.	A.A.C.
Lieut.	E. A. SHEPHERD.	23/4/16.	C/Secs. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
"	G. F. GOULD.	25/5/16.	2nd. in Command X. Coy.
"	L. DAWSON.	25/5/16.	P/C Y Coy.
"	P. F. WELICK.	12/6/16.	2nd. in Command Z Coy.
"	L. M. WELTON.	12/6/16.	Adjutant.
"	G. T. GANNY.	31/7/16.	P/C Y Coy.
"	G. VAUGHAN.	5/11/16.	P/C X Coy.
"	B. W. MITCHELL.	5/11/16.	Evac. to Hospital 23/5/18. Seconded.
"	A. D. TYMAN.	5/11/16.	Evac. to Hospital 17/5/18. Seconded.
"	L. T. BUTLER.	24/12/16.	Staff Trainee. Seconded.
"	A. S. WEDS.	24/12/16.	P/C Z Coy.
"	R. D. RADFORD.	7/4/17.	P/C K Coy.
"	R. J. L. LINES.	7/4/17.	P/C Y Coy.
"	A. L. WARDLAN.	7/4/17.	Wounded 23/8/18.
"	P. E. FRIDY.	20/6/17.	Intelligence Officer.
"	W. J. KELLY.	20/6/17.	Evac. Wounded 23/8/18.
"	H. BRANNIN.	20/6/17.	A/-Sig. Officer.
"	L. H. B. MACLEOD.	22/7/17.	Wounded 10/8/18.
"	J. J. KEEN.	22/7/17.	C.T.B. 30/7/18. Seconded.
"	J. R. TAYLOR.	16/8/17.	Evac. to Hosp. from Base 4. S. 1.
"	W. R. GILL.	16/8/17.	Evac. Wounded 23/8/18.
"	J. S. SKIRLSON.	16/8/17.	Div. Gas Officer. Seconded.
"	T. A. MILLS.	16/8/17.	3rd. A.L.T.M.B. Seconded.
"	W. A. L. WHEAT.	16/8/17.	Evac. Wounded 18/9/18.
"	R. B. JAMES.	19/9/17.	Training with A.P.C. Seconded.
"	R. G. WALDUCK.	19/9/17.	Wounded 18/9/18.
"	A. E. POTTS.	19/9/17.	Transport Officer.
"	R. S. FLETCHER.	19/9/17.	C/Secs Training. Bde.
"	L. D. RAPPARTY.	19/9/17.	P/C X Coy.
"	H. M. SANDY.	19/9/17.	P/C Z Coy.
"	J. B. CATERRAIL.	19/9/17.	C.T.B.
"	C. H. MCKAY.	19/9/17.	Evac. Wounded 11/8/18.
"	W. J. BACHER.	19/9/17.	Evac. to Hospital 20/8/18.
"	S. V. GIBSON.	17/10/17.	Evac. to Hospital 17/4/18. Seconded.
"	A. L. S. DAVEY.	7/11/17.	1st. Tng. Bde. Seconded.
"	T. A. LAY.	7/11/17.	3rd. A.L.T.M.B. Seconded.
"	A. R. MACDONALD.	7/11/17.	P/C B Coy.
"	W. C. B. DALRY.	7/11/17.	Evac. Wounded 28/5/18.
"	B. R. PAGEY.	16/12/17.	Evac. Wounded Hospital 22/9/18.
"	T. S. C. BRIDGER.	16/12/17.	Evac. Wounded 11/8/18.
"	A. J. CLINES.	1/4/18.	Evac. Wounded 18/7/18.
"	R. B. COYNE.	6/4/18.	Evac. Wounded 23/8/18.
"	C. W. COOKE.	6/4/18.	3rd. A.L.T.M.B. Seconded.
"	A. H. GORRE.	6/4/18.	P/C Z Coy.

Rank.	Name.	Date of Appointment.	How Employed.
Lieut.	A.T. PAYNE.	8/4/18.	Wounded.
"	G.V. HUIR.	8/4/18.	P/C. X Coy.
"	A.D. COOPER.	1/5/18.	Evac. to Hospital 12/6/18.
"	E.M. DOLLERY.	1/5/18.	P/C. X Coy.
"	E.A. GLOVER.	8/2/18.	P/C. X Coy.
2nd. Lieut.	E.R. I. DODSON.	4/10/17.	P/C. Y Coy.
"	A. MONTGOMERY.	1/6/18.	Accidentally Wounded 13/8/18.
"	J. WARRIL.	8/7/18.	P/C. Z Coy.
"	F.S. STOTT.	1/8/18.	Wounded 12/8/18.
"	F.D. NICHOLAS.	1/8/18.	Wounded 18/9/18.
"	W. COLLIER.	1/8/18.	P/C. Z Coy.

ATTACHED.

Capt.
Rev. J.R. HENDERSON.
J.A. BAYDEN.

H.M.O.
C. of R. Chaplin.

..... Captain.
C/Commanding 12th. Battalion.

30th. September 1918.