

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/7/25

Title: Headquarters 1st Australian
Divisional Engineers

January 1918



AWM4-14/7/25

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~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1ST DIV. ENGINEER H.Q.

FOR

JANUARY 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

Sweeney Lt Col.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Sweeney Lt Col.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118. 18

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~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	JAN. 1918.	1st.	Went out in car at 9.30.a.m. picked up Lieut. DILWORTH at 2nd. Field Company and went on up to WYTSCHAETE. Walked from there via 2nd. Battalion H.Q. via Track E to Reserve Line meeting it at PIONEER Lane. Went along the Reserve Line to the left as far as DAMME STRASS and inspected the strong points. Satisfactory progress has been made on all points but more wire is needed.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE	2nd.		Office work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	3rd.		Office work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	4th.		Attended as member of Court of Enquiry at RAMILLES Camp to enquire into the burning of KEMMEL Chateau.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	5th.		Office work in morning. In afternoon drove up in car to KEMMEL and inspected work being done on improvements to the Cinema Hall. Adjutant in company with O.C. 2nd. Field Company inspected works in forward area of centre sector including all R.E. Dumps and Support Line.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	6th.		Office work.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	7th.		Went out in car at 9.30.a.m. to 2nd. Field Company, picked up Major GOULD there and went up to WYTSCHAETE and walked down to VERNE Road Dump and sited a new strong point in the Reserve Line. Met G.O.C., 1st. Infantry Brigade on the way back and informed him of the intentions. Inspected 2nd. Field Company horses and stables and found everything in very good condition.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE	9th.		Major LAWSON, Corps Water Supply Officer, came in in the morning and we went up to CURRIE Dump, picked up Major SAVAGE and went on up to 10th. Battalion H.Q. and inspected a spring with a view to laying on pipes and a tank to collect the water and enable it to be chlorinated. Snow thick on ground all day.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DRANOUTRE.	9th.		Another heavy fall of snow last night making movement and work very difficult. Office work.	<i>[Signature]</i>

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

H. Q., 1st AUSTRALIAN DIVL. ENGINEERS.
No. <u>1062101</u>
Date <u>Jan 1918.</u>

Army Form C. 2118. ¹⁸
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~~Duplicate.~~
~~TRIBUTE.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	10th.		Went out in car at 9.30.a.m. to 2nd. Field Company where I picked up Lieut. HAMMEL and went on up to WYTSCHAETE where I met Major HILL, O.C. 177th. Tunnelling Company R.E., and we inspected the dugouts being made for Brigade Headquarters. They are fairly good but have only 14 or 15 feet of overhead cover so that a burster course will be necessary on the surface. Also inspected dugouts near old church. They are now complete and only need bunking. Went on up to VERNE Dump, along MANCHESTER Street had a look at the deep dugout being put down near MAHIEU Farm. Went on up to support line and inspected several posts which are in pretty good condition in spite of bad ground. Also inspected a big German pill box called POLKA Estaminet which has been fully bunked.	
DRANOUTRE.	11th.		Office work in morning. Attended lecture in afternoon by Mr. BENNETT in the ULSTER Hall (Dranoutre) on the Work of the Navy. A very interesting and instructive lecture. Engineer Instructions No. 5 issued.	Appendix.
DRANOUTRE	12th.		Office work. Snow has now all disappeared. Bi-monthly works report submitted. Adjutant visited Lindenhoek, De KENNEBAK and CURRIE R.E. Dumps.	Appendix.
DRANOUTRE.	13th.		Started out with G.S.O.I in car at 9.a.m. and went up to 2nd. Field Company where we picked up Lieut. DILWORTH and then went on to VERNE Road and inspected the new strong point which has been laid out there and corrected the lay-out etc. Went up MANCHESTER St. to Support Line and inspected a couple of posts. Too clear to go further. Went across along RESERVE Line to PIONEER Lane and back via 2nd. Battalion H.Q. to WYTSCHAETE and inspected the deep dugouts there.	
DRANOUTRE.	14th.		Office work. Adjutant visited 1st. Field Coy. and inspected PARMA and CLARK Dumps, also inspected gumboot drying room built by 5th. Division in ONRAET Wood in view of building another of same pattern in centre sector.	
DRANOUTRE	15th.		Office work.	
do	16th.		Very strong wind all day developing into a gale in the evening. Ground white with snow in morning but rain and wind soon cleared it all off. Rained a lot in evening. Office work.	

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

H. Q.,
1st AUSTRALIAN DIV. ENGINEERS,
No. 105310
Date Jan 19 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	17th.		Lot of rain last night causing floods and much damage to trenches, dugouts etc. Went out in car to WYTSCHAETE with A.A.&Q.M.G. and D.A.Q.M.G. and walked across to PETIT BOIS to see about getting a tramway in to get wood for burning purposes. Picked up car at PARMA Dump and drove up to 1st. Field Company and told them to get on with the tramway.	
DRANOUTRE.	18th.		Spent morning in office. Wet day after snow last night. Weather very bad for engineer work as the trenches are all falling in. Adjutant visited 3rd. Field Company, Lindenhoek, and De Kennebak Dump, also 2nd. Field Company and inspected their horse lines.	
DRANOUTRE	19th.		Office work. Adjutant visited 2nd. Field Company and in company with Lieut. DILWORTH went up to RAILWAY R.E. Dump and also inspected new tram being constructed from RAILWAY Dump to VERNE Dump.	
DRANOUTRE.	20th.		Went out in car to 1st. Field Company H.Q., picked up Major MURDOCH and walked up to Pioneer Lane and walked along the Reserve Line to the left and inspected the posts etc. Good progress has been made. Inspected the sites for two new strong points, went forward to Support Line and back to RAVINE Wood. Inspected deep dugouts there. Very deep but extremely wet and sloppy.	
DRANOUTRE	21st.		Office work.	
DRANOUTRE.	22nd.		Rode out on horseback and picked up Major SAVAGE of 3rd. Field Company and went on up past CURRIE Dump to end of plank road. Then walked up New Cross Communication trench to RESERVE Line and along the line to the left inspecting the posts as we went. Good progress has been made. Inspected right hand post of 2nd. Field Company sector. This either needs re-siting or another one put in on its right to connect with the left of 3rd. Field Company posts. Walked back via BELL Farm Dump to Brigade H.Q. where we picked up horses again and rode home.	
DRANOUTRE	23rd.		Office work.	
DRANOUTRE	24th.		Office work. Adjutant visited 2nd. and 3rd. Field Companies re stores also LINDENHOEK Dump.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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H. Q.,
1st AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. ENGINEERS.

No. *10 to 30*

Date. *Jan 1918*

Army Form C. 2118.

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18

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	JAN.			
DRANOUTRE	25th.		Rode out to 2nd. Field Company, picked up Major GOULD and went on via WULVERGHEM - WYTSCHAETE Road to new duckwalk track. Went along track to LUMM Farm then up to RESERVE Line and up BOB Street, which is now in good condition. Returned via DORSET Street to WYTSCHAETE and inspected dugouts there.	
do	26th.		Major BACHTOLD Acting C.R.E., 5th. Australian Division came up in morning and we made preliminary arrangements for handing over.	
do	27th.		Went in car at 10.a.m. to METEREN and inspected CINEMA Hall there. Then down to WATTS Lines and saw 9th. and 10th. Field Companies and arranged about relief. Also saw Major WILLIAMS, Acting C.R.E., 3rd. Australian Division, re taking over billets etc. from his Field Companies. Bi-monthly report submitted. <i>See longer instructions No 6 issued.</i>	Appendix
do	28th.		Office work. Preparing for hand-over.	
do	29th.		Office work. Major BACHTOLD arrived.	
do	30th.		Went out in car with Major BACHTOLD, picked up Major GOULD at 2nd. Field Company and went on to WULVERGHEM - WYTSCHAETE Road to duckwalk track. Walked along the track to the MESSINES - WYTSCHAETE Road. Along the road to RAILWAY Dump and inspected the VERNE Dump tramway which is being constructed. Inspected dugouts at WYTSCHAETE.	
do	31st.		C.E., Australian Corps came up at 10.30.a.m. and we went drove out to KEMMEL and walked along the Army Line back to LINDENHOEK and down to WULVERGHEM Road. Failed to connect with car and got lorry back to De KENNEBAK and picked up a car there. Making out handing over notes etc. preparatory to handing over to 5th. Aust. Division to-morrow. I have been placed in charge of work on Army System of Trenches.	Appendix.

Sullivan Lieut. Colonel,
C.R.E., 1st. Australian Division.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st. Australian Divisional Engineer Headquarters.

FOR

JANUARY

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LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I ✓	Particulars of Strength. Reinforcements casualties etc. Statement of Strength of Field Coys. 8/1/18.
II ✓	Divisional Engineer Instructions No.5.
III ✓	Bi-monthly Works Report 12/1/18.
IV ✓	Engineer Instructions No.6.
V ✓	Bi-monthly Works Report 27/1/18.
VI ✓	Field Company Handing Over Reports. (Copies).

DAILY STRENGTH REPORT.

Appendix I 18

1st. Aust. Divisional Engineers.

1st. January, 1918.

STRENGTH

ATTACHED.

Unit.	Personnel.				Personnel.				Remarks.
	Off.	O.R.	Total.	Horses.	Off.	O.R.	Total.	Horses.	
1st. D.E.H.Q.	3	10	13	6	-	10	10	4	
1st. Field Coy.	5	189	194	73	-	8	8	-	
2nd. Field Coy.	7	183	190	74	-	23	23	2	
3rd. Field Coy.	5	184	189	74	2	43	45	-	
Total.	20	576	596	227	2	84	86	6	
1st. Div. Sig. Coy.	15	323	338	133	1	60	61	-	

Attached.

Officers.	<u>35</u>	<u>3</u>
Other Ranks.	<u>899</u>	<u>144</u>
Total.	<u>934</u>	<u>147</u>
Horses.	<u>360</u>	<u>6</u>

Capt. & Adjt.,
1st. Aust. Div. Engineers.

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DAILY STRENGTH REPORT.

1st.Aust.Divisional Engineers.

31st. January, 1918.

STRENGTH

ATTACHED.

Unit.	Personnel.				Personnel.				Remarks.
	Off.	O.R.	Total.	Horses.	Off.	O.R.	Total.	Horses.	
1st.D.E.H.Q.	3	10	13	6	2	10	12	4	
1st.Field Coy.	7	175	182	73	-	2	2	-	
2nd.Field Coy.	5	175	180	72	3	32	35	-	
3rd.Field Coy.	7	171	178	72	1	27	28	-	
Total.	22	531	553	223	6	71	77	4	
1st.Div.sig.Coy.	15	326	341	131	1	84	85	-	

Attached.

Officers.	<u>37</u>	<u>7</u>
Other Ranks.	<u>857</u>	<u>155</u>
Total.	<u>894</u>	<u>162</u>
Horses.	<u>354</u>	<u>4</u>

Capt. & Adjt.,
1st.Aust.Div.Engineers.

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STATEMENT OF CASUALTIES, EVACUATIONS, REINFORCEMENTS ETC.

18

January, 1918.

Casualties.

Unit.	Killed.		Wounded.		Evacuated sick.		Rejoined from Hospital.		Reinforcements.		Remarks.
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	
1st.F.Coy.	-	1	-	2	-	9	1	5	-	7	Transfers - 3 O.R. 1 O.R. rejoined from BRIGHTLINGSEA
2nd.F.Coy.	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	8	-	3	
3rd.F.Coy.	-	1	-	3	-	8	-	10	1	6	
T o t a l.	-	2	-	6	-	21	1	23	1	16	

Officers - - - - - Rejoined.

Captain STEVENSON, J.E.G. 1st.Field Company, from BRIGHTLINGSEA, 12/1/18.
 Lieut. McCONNEL, S. " " " " " " 18/1/18.

Officers - - - - - Joined.

2/Lieut.FRASER, H. 3rd.Field Company, taken on strength from reinforcement depot, 18/1/18.

Officers - - - - - Gone.

N i l.

Sullivan
 Lieut.Colonel.,
 C. R. E.,
 1st.Australian Division.

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81
PARTICULARS OF STRENGTH OF DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS.



ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD COMPANY.

	<u>Dismounted</u>	<u>Mounted</u>	<u>Total.</u>
6 Officers	157	51	208

1 Officer Supernumerary A.I.F. Order 316.

7 Officers.	157	51	208
-------------	-----	----	-----

In accordance with D.A.G. A.I.F. 31/358 of 19/10/17 the number of Sappers was increased by 10 making:-

7 Officers.	167	51	218
-------------	-----	----	-----

In accordance with D.A.G. A.I.F. 31/358 of 22/12/17 the strength of Field Company was increased by an additional 10 making a total increase of 20.

Thus making the establishment:-

7 Officers	177	51	228
------------	-----	----	-----

The strength of the Field Companies on 5/1/1918 was:-

1st. Field Company	6 Officers.	225 Other Ranks.
2nd. " "	7 Officers.	220 " "
3rd. " "	6 Officers.	214 " "

Men permanently detached are:-

1st. Field Company.	9 Other Ranks.	Corps Workshops.
2nd. " "	9 " "	Corps Workshops.
3rd. " "	9 " "	do do Includes:-
1 O.R. C.E. Draftsman, 1 O.R. 4th. Army R.E. Workshops.		

This reduces strength of Field Companies to :-

1st. Field Company	6 Officers	216 Other Ranks.
2nd. Field Company.	7 Officers	211 Other Ranks.
3rd. Field Company	6 Officers	205 Other Ranks.

Including 9 O.R. from each Company on detached duty who could be replaced by A.T. Company. The deficiencies are therefore:-

1st. Field Company	1 Officer	12 Other Ranks.
2nd. Field Company	-	17 Other Ranks.
3rd. Field Company	1 Officer	23 Other Ranks.

In the memos from D.A.G. A.I.F. quoted above no mention was made of the increase being intended to provide for replacing men at Corps Workshops etc.

M. Cunningham
 Capt. R.E.
 Lieut. Colonel.,
 C. R. E.,
 1st. Australian Division.

DIVISIONAL ENGINEER INSTRUCTION No. 5.

1. BRIGADE CHANGES.

A change of Brigades will shortly take place. The 1st. Infantry Brigade will take over the Left area in which the 1st. Field Company are now working.

The 2nd. Infantry Brigade will relieve the 3rd. Infantry Brigade and will take over the whole of the area in which the 2nd. and 3rd. Field Companies are now working.

2. LIAISON OFFICERS.

When the change takes place the 1st. Field Company will arrange for a Liaison Officer to be with 1st. Infantry Brigade.

2nd. Field Company will arrange for liaison with 2nd. Infantry Brigade and the Liaison Officer will act for both 2nd. and 3rd. Field Companies.

(Sgd.) A.M. Martyn, Lieut. Colonel
C. R. E.,
1st. Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION:-

Copy No. 1 C. R. E.
" No. 2 1st. Field Company,
" No. 3 2nd. Field Company,
" No. 4 3rd. Field Company,
" No. 5 1st. Australian Division.

Bi-Monthly Report on Works - 1st. Aust. Div. Area.

(a) DEFENSIVE WORKS.

Left Field Company Area.

Work on all three lines has been pushed forward and considerable progress made, though work was at times slow on account of the frozen nature of the ground.

A new post (13) was constructed at O.17.d.05.90 in place of old post at O.17.c.15.10. A new post at O.17.c.9.4. constructed to take place of old No.12., it is completed with good parapet, revetting and duckwalks. New picquet line commenced at O.23.a.6.9 10 yards of which is complete. The picquet line right of VERNE Road has been considerably improved, 30 yds excavated to 2'6" sandbagged, duckwalked with 48 shelters erected.

S.P. 1.0.9. is well strengthened 900 sandbags, 16 panels 9 A frames and 12 cupolas put in, also 30 duckwalks. All A frames have been wired back. The strengthening of S.P. 5.0.15 has been continued and the following stores used on post 2000 sandbags, 11 panels, 11 A frames, 6 cupolas and 35 duckwalks. Parapet has been thickened and trench much improved.

On S.P. 4.0.15 the following stores were used, 1575 sandbags, 3 panels, 6 cupolas, 6 duckwalks. Parapet sandbagged and thickened.

Spitlocking has been completed from S.P. 1.0.9. to S.P. 3.0.15 at 15.b.1.2.

S.P.2.0.9. consists of 4 fire bays 24' long and two traverses 12' each. Excavation to 2'6" completed. A framed and duckwalked to 80' parapet thickened.

S.P. 3.0.9. (sketch attached) total length 240', six fire bays Work completed with exception of one fire bay to be excavated and revetted. Parados levelled off. A frames wired. Duckwalks throughout. Drainage good. Provision for 5 trench shelters.

S.P. 4.0.9. (sketch attached) Total length 240'. Parapet complete Parados ready for sandbagging. Duckwalks 150'. Drainage good. Provision for 2 trench shelters and good accommodation handy in dugouts on sunken road (Damm Strasse) on left flank of S.P. All three posts connected up by continuous fire trench. So far trench taped out.

B.P. 2.0.11. Length 40 yds. 15 yds of which revetting and parapet built up to required thickness. Remained partly revetted and parapet needs building up. Drainage - Drain 15 yds) 3' x 3'6" affords good drainage. No dugouts yet constructed but provision will be made for garrison when revetment is complete.

S.P. 4.0.11. Improved sentry posts with sandbag breastwork. Parados is partly completed. Total length 15 yds. Drainage good. Accommodation - 2 dugouts to hold 6 men good condition. Pill box is used by garrison 100 yds behind S.P. Wiring complete.

S.P. 6.0.11. Total length 50 yds has been A frames and revetted Parapet built up along half length. Parados needs sandbagging along top of A panels and building up. No accommodation in trench but pill boxes to rear could take garrison if needed. Work has ceased on this S.P. by orders O.C. 1st. Bn. No wiring done. Drainage good.

S.P. 7.0.11. 45 yds length. 12 yds deep living trench and timbered with heavy rough timber. Whole length A framed and revetted and complete with exception of 6 yards. Drainage good. Accommodation for garrison in pill boxes in trench.

S.P.s. 1.0.9. 5.0.15. 4.0.15. Work on these posts by previous section included 45 yds completed - duckwalked, A framed and revetted on 1.0.9. 75 yds on 5.0.15. and 90 yds on 4.0.15 ~~xxxx~~ A good deal of repairs to revetment was also done on each of these posts.

S.P. 2.0.15. 30% equalling 35 yds of finished trench. 9 hurdles used. All old revetment repaired. Breastworks 40 yds for parados completed.

At O.23.a.6.9. new picquet line constructed 54 yds in length. 80% completed, duckwalks, A framed and revetted.

(a) DEFENSIVE WORKS. Left Field Coy. Area Contd.)

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At 0.17.a.9.4. new picquet line constructed 50 yds in length. This has all been completed. Sentry post at 0.17.a.9.3. Sentry group constructed at 0.17.a.85.55. About 60% complete with sandbag revettment and wire.

CENTRE Field Company Area.

Front Line Picquet Posts. A start has been made constructing cupola splinter proof shelters in 1.0.29. and 2.0.29. One dugout has been constructed in each post and in 2.0.29 a traverse has been revetted.

On right of this area all picquet posts have been withdrawn to 50 yards of OLGA Trench. They have been revetted and are in good condition. The right of OLGA Trench has been continued towards 1.0.23. Work is still in progress with the maximum number of men possible. A new post has been established at WALL Farm - 6.0.23.

SUPPORT Line.

- S.P. 5.0.34. 3 splinter proof cupola dugouts constructed. Parapet and parados revetted with sand bags and levelled off for half length of S.P. Pill box in rear of S.P. cleaned out to accommodate 12 men and trench from S.P. to pill box partly excavated and revetted.
- S.P. 1.0.28. This new S.P. excavated throughout. 4 cupola dugouts constructed. Revetted with screens in places. Parapet and parados revetted with sandbags. 25% completed. Connection with BOB St. started.
- S.P. 3.0.28. Duckboarding completed. 4 dugouts constructed. Parapet and parados revetted with sandbags for one fire bay.
- S.P. 4.0.28. Six cupola dugouts constructed. Extension of S.P. started. Parapet partly revetted with sandbags.
- S.P. 1.0.22. is completed with 6 shelters. Revetted and sandbagged throughout. A little filling in is required behind the frames and a small sap requires to be cut to give communication into MANCHESTER Trench.
- S.P. 3.0.22. Drainage troubles were experienced on work. This has now been overcome by cutting two long drains 40 yds long. This post is now revetted throughout but no shelters at present have been erected.

RESERVE LINE.

- S.P. 1.0.27. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked throughout. Accommodation for 30 men. Work done: 2 shelters constructed. Post extended to left 7 yds. Fire stepped throughout. Parapet sandbagged and formed over two bays.
- S.P. 2.0.27.a. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked. Accommodation for 20 men. Work done: Parapet revetted and partially formed throughout. Firestepped.
- S.P. 3.0.27. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked. Accommodation for 29 men. Work done: Revetting and forming parapet. Firestep constructed.
- S.P. 4.0.27. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked. Accommodation for 20 men. Work done: Forming parapet. Firestep constructed.
- S.P. 5.0.27. Revetted and duckwalked throughout. Accommodation for 20 men. Work done: 15 yds revetted where destroyed by shell fire. Fire step constructed.
- S.P. 1.0.21. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked throughout. Accommodation for 20 men. Work done: Parapet revetted throughout and parapet formed for distance of 32 yds.
- S.P. 2.0.21. Platoon post revetted and duckboarded throughout. Accommodation for 27 men. Work done: Parapet revetted and formed throughout. Paradoss for length of 20 yds.
- S.P. 3.0.21. Platoon post revetted and duckwalked. Accommodation for 24 men. Work done: Two dugouts completed. Parapet revetted and formed throughout. Paradoss revetted and formed for length of 18 yds.
- S.P. 4.0.21. Platoon post revetted and duckboarded. Accommodation for 21 men. Work done: Parapet revetted and formed for distance of 45 yds. Paradoss revetted for 45 yds.

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(a) DEFENSIVE Works.
Right Field Company Area.

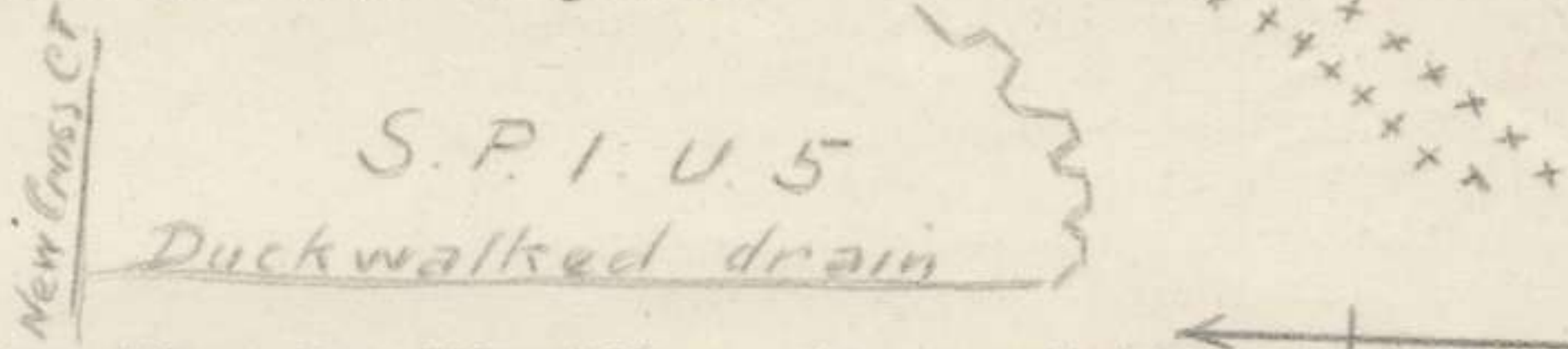
Work has been done on three lines of defence:

Work on the outpost line has been done wholly by the garrison without engineer assistance and has consisted mainly in connecting up one and two man posts so as to make them into strong defensible posts.

Front Line.

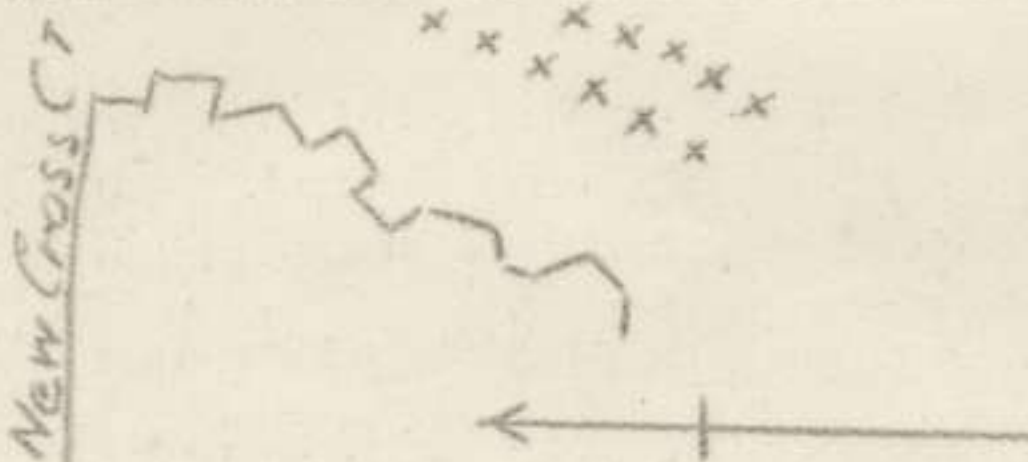
S.P.1.U.5. Firing line for 40 rifles. Accommodation for 15 men. Old drain 240 yds has been made into a C.T. Wiring has been done in front of post.

Sketch:-



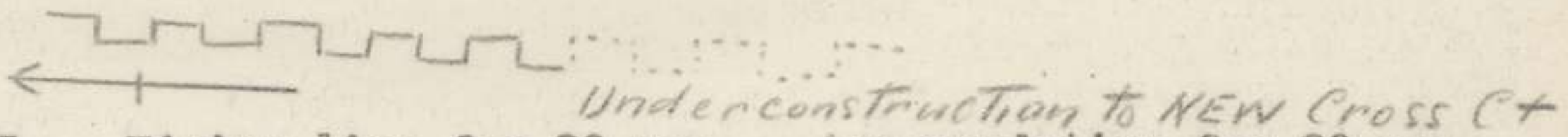
S.P. 2.U.5. Firing line for 20 rifles. Accommodation for 12 men. Defensive wire in front has been slightly thickened.

Sketch:-



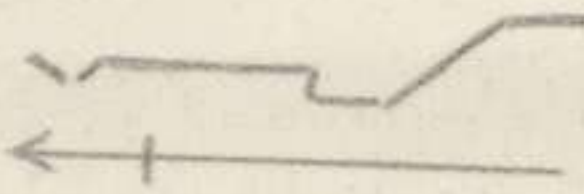
S.P. 4.U.5. Firing line for 50 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men.

Sketch:-



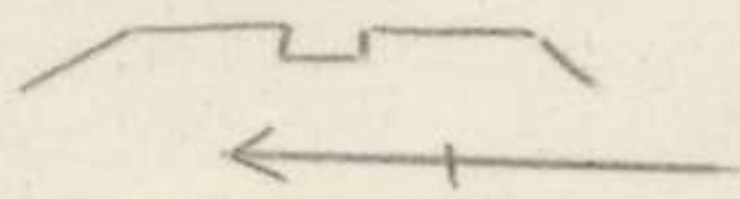
S.P. 5.U.5. Firing line for 20 men. Accommodation for 20 men.

Sketch:-



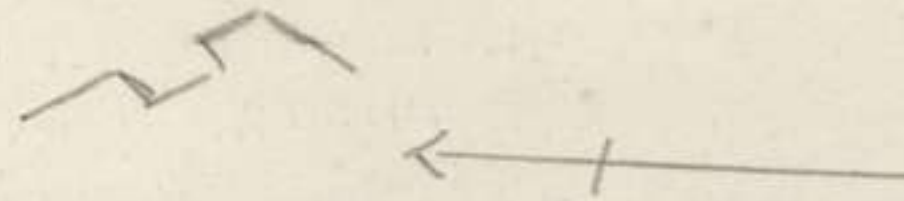
S.P. 1.0.35. Firing line for 20 rifles. Accommodation for 20 men.

Sketch:-



2.0.35. Firing line for 20 rifles. Accommodation for 20 men.

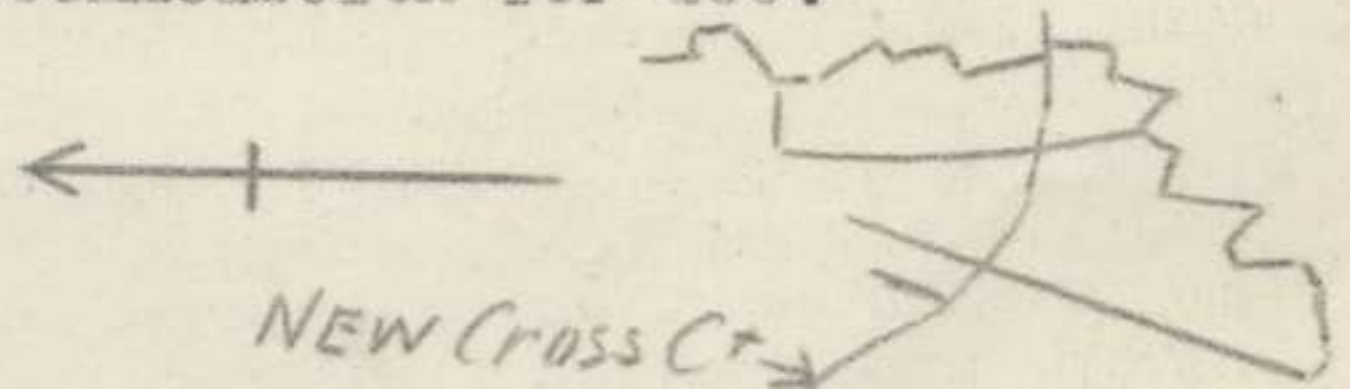
Sketch:-



S.P. 4.0.35. Firing line for 30 rifles. Accommodation for 20 men.

SUPPORT LINE.

S.P. 3.U.5. Firing line for 100. Accommodation for 100.

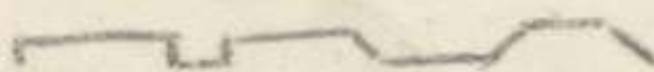


S.P. 4.U.4. Firing line for 30. Accommodation for 15. Wiring - defensive wire in front thickened.



S.P. 1.0.34. Firing line for 30 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men.

Sketch:-



(a) DEFENSIVE Works contd.

S.P. 2.0.34. Firing line for 30 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men. Sketch:-



RESERVE LINE.

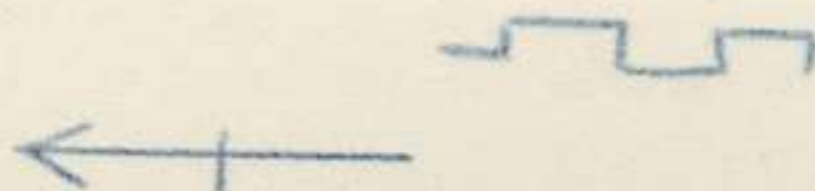
S.P. 1.U.4. Firing line for 30 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men. Wiring in front of and on right of post. Sketch:-



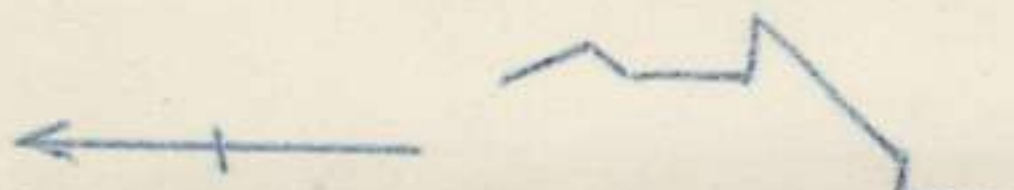
S.P. 2.U.4. Firing line for 30 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men. Wiring in front of post on the defensive wire. Sketch:-



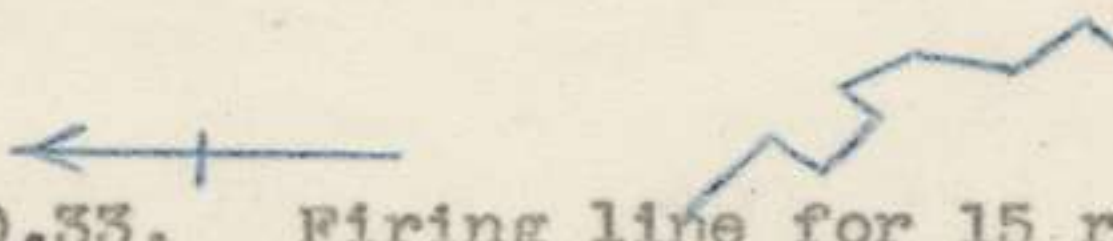
S.P. 3.U.4. Firing line for 15 rifles. Accommodation for 20 men. Sketch:-



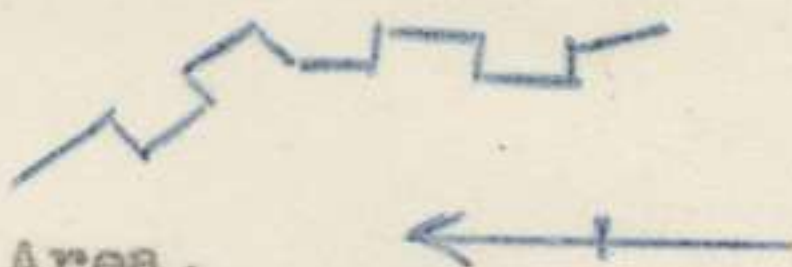
S.P. 5.U.4. Firing line for 15 rifles. Accommodation nil. Sketch:-



S.P. 4.0.34. Firing line for 15 rifles. Accommodation nil. Sketch:-



S.P. 3.0.33. Firing line for 15 rifles. Accommodation nil. Sketch:-



(b) Wire.
Left Field Company Area.

The front of new post 13 was completed on 29/30 Dec. 295 yds laid out and old post 13 demolished and filled in with wire. Good belt of wire has been run from 0.17.a.9.1. to a point approximate 0.17.b.0.7. This consists of row of French wire with an apron of barb wire back and front. Wire in Reserve Line from 0.9.d.9.3. to 0.15.b.3.7. similar to former. Strong double apron has been erected from S.P. 4.0.9. at 0.9.b.5.6. to S.P. 1.0.9. at 0.9.d.7.2 There still remains 70 yards of wiring to be done from Damm Strasse at 0.9.b.7.3. north to connect with work on Corps Line. Total length of wire erected is about 800 yds. Front wired from WALL Farm (0.23.a.3.6.) to a point 180 yds to left. Wire near Wall Farm connected to that of Bn. on right.

Centre Field Company Area.

Front Line. On left existing wire thickened with barbed and French concertina = 300 yds. On right wire has been thickened each night by parties from the front line garrison. An additional party of 15 men with engineer supervision has been working on front line wire. When the ground was too hard for corkscrews

18
(b) Wire. contd. Centre Field Coy.

concertinas made from German wire were used.

Support Line. On left apron fence constructed in front of French concertina and 75 % of rear apron completed. On right the tactical wire now consists of a 3 - 4 belt throughout the whole sector and runs across the WAMBEEK and connects up with the sector on right. In the WAMBEEK it needs thickening with more concertina. All wire is concertina and apron with barb. A defensive belt runs across in front of S.P's. 1.0.22. 2.0.22 3.0.22. and 5.0.22. This is completed except in front of S.P. 3.0.22 where only 4 rows of concertina & apron exists. This wire is continued down to the WAMBEEK from S.P. 1.0.22. Appendix(11) 4

Reserve Line. Tactical wire from right of S.P. 1.0.27 to VERNE Road, now consists of three rows of French concertina wire with apron front and rear. From VERNE Road to right of S.P. 4.0.21. apron has been completed. From S.P. 1.0.21 to S.P. 1.0.27. apron is not more than 20% completed. From VERNE Road to S.P. 4.0.21 wire consists of two rows French concertina and apron. Front and rear aprons are only 35% completed.

Defensive wire. From left of S.P. 4.0.21 to VERNE Road wire consists of three rows French concertina with apron front and rear 80% completed. From left of S.P. 5.0.27. to DORSET St. wire consists of one row concertina with apron in front. From left of S.P. 3.0.27 to S.P. 1.0.27. wire consists of one row concertina with apron in front.

Right Field Company Area.

In addition to wiring shown on report on posts a good deal of thickening has been done on the three systems between the posts.

(c) Machine Gun Emplacements.

Left Field Coy. not engaged on M.G. positions.
Centre Field Company Area.

An emplacement for Lewis Gun was constructed at S.P. 5.0.34 M.G. Post at 0.22.c.5.7. has been completed and garrison are in possession. Post consists of gun pit and shelter for 5 men, with communication into MANCHESTER Trench by a sap which is duckboarded and revetted.

Two M.G. positions have been made at S.P. 2.0.27 Two at S.P. 4.0.21. and two at 1.0.27. These posts consist of revetted parapet 18" high and stand erected for tripod of M.G.

No M.G. ~~posts~~ emplacements have been completed in Right Field Company Sector.

(d) Shelters. Left Field Company Area.

A start has been made erecting gas proof doors at Left. Bn. H.Q ONRAET Wood.

Centre Field Company Area.

Pill box at 0.34.c.6.9. cleaned out to accommodate 12 men. Pill box at rear of S.P. 3.0.38. cleaned out for officers and three o.Rs.

POLKA Estaminet 0.22.a.2.3. This pill box which is in very good condition except for drainage trouble, has been bunked and at present 30 bunks have been erected. A fair number can still be erected but at present drainage is causing trouble.

Shelter at 0.21.a.7.2. One large elephant cupola shelter completed. Three English shelters erected.

Shelters in L'Enfer Wood 0.25.d.75.05. Tunnel cleaned drained and duckwalked. 8 bunks erected. Roof repaired.

Shelter at Battery Position 0.19.d.95.15. Excavation for over 9 men shelter completed and structure 20% completed. Appendix 3 Advanced dressing station 0.19.d.25.60 Filling in borrow pit at sides and forming burster course on roof.

Right Field Coy. no shelters completed other than those in ~~the~~ posts.

(e) Communications.

Left

Rixxx Field Company Area.

Tracks. Work has been continued on duckboard track known as "F" Track, running from CLARKE Dump to OLIVE Trench. Duckboards have been re-wired with netting the total distance.

Centre Field Company Area.

Trenches. A daily working party of 10 Infantry and 1 sapper have been revetting and repairing MANCHESTER St. between VERNE and MAHIEU Farm.

Another party of 10 Infantry and one sapper have been working at revetting MANCHESTER trench each side of the WAMBEEK Rd. as preparatory to cutting the road through. Machine gunners have been making this part of communications lively.

Tracks. Strong points have been ~~marked out by white pickets or tapes~~ marked out by white pickets or tapes. Notice boards have been erected to Strong Points.

Tramways. A tramway route has been surveyed and pegged out from RAILWAY DUMP to VERNE Dump.

Right Field Company Area.Trenches.

FANNY'S C.T. has been improved between the Support Line and the Outpost System. Total trench now re-constructed is about 500 yds.

(f) Trench Tramways. A tramway route has been surveyed and pegged out from RAILWAY Dump to VERNE Dump.

(g) Observation Posts etc.

Nil. No work carried out.

(h) Sleeping accommodation.

RAVINE Tunnel. Completed. At present constructing gas proof entrances : 2 complete 3 partly complete. Dugout is very wet and requires permanent pumping party. Bunks for 150 men.

At O.25.d.75.05. Dugout has sleeping accommodation for 42 O.R.

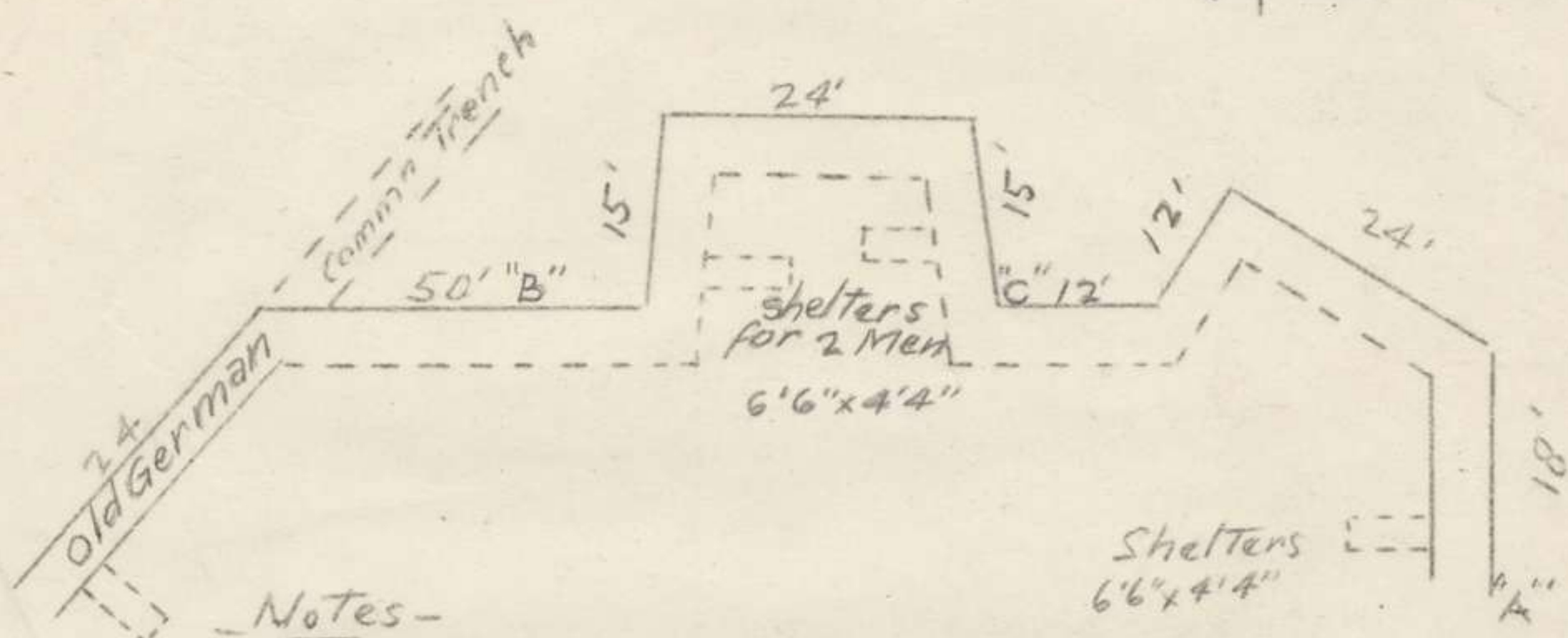
(i) Nil.

12/1/18.

Lieut.Colonel,
C.R.E., 1st Australian Division.

Scale: 20 = 1 inch

← True North



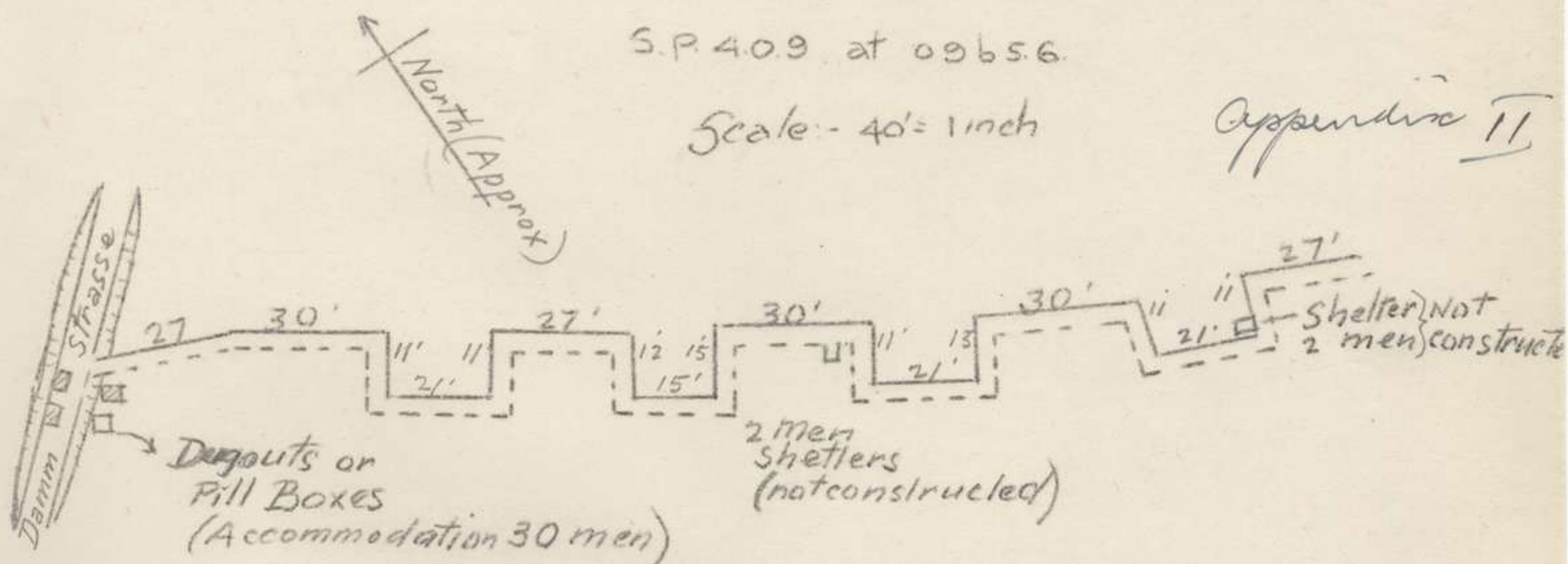
Notes-

A Framed Throughout - Parapet reveted with corrugated iron & A Pennels Throughout and wired back from "A" to "B" - Earth thrown up on parapet to average depth of 6' from "A" to C - No work done on parados. - Trench excavated throughout to depth of 2'6" - Drainage - Fair
 Firestepping not yet commenced - No material available

S.P. 409 at 09b5.6

Scale - 40' = 1 inch

Appendix II



Remarks: Parapet: - complete

Parados: - Frames wired back & earth Levelled off ready for Sandbagging

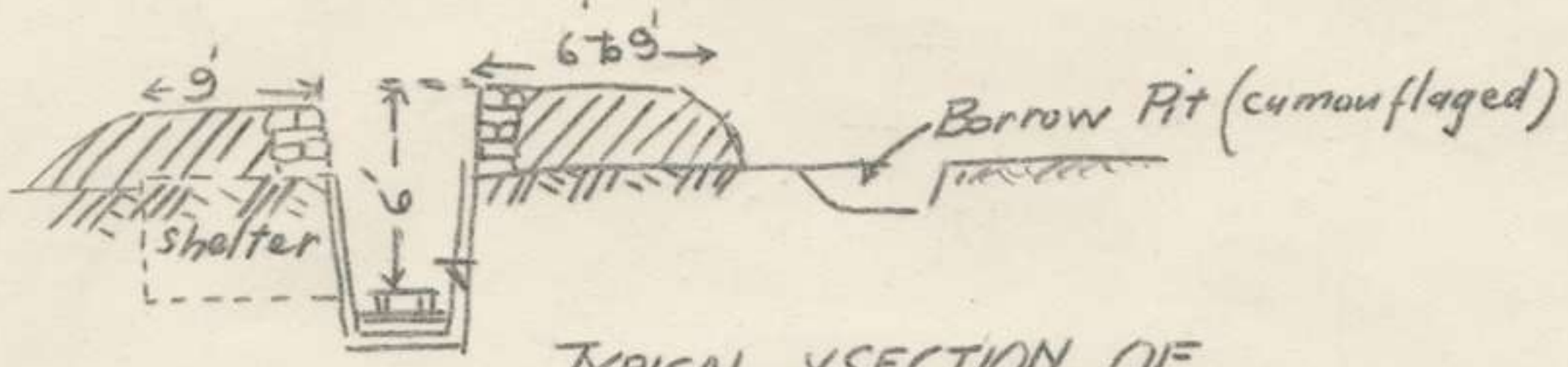
Duckboarding: - 150 Completed

Firestepping: - Not commenced (No material available)

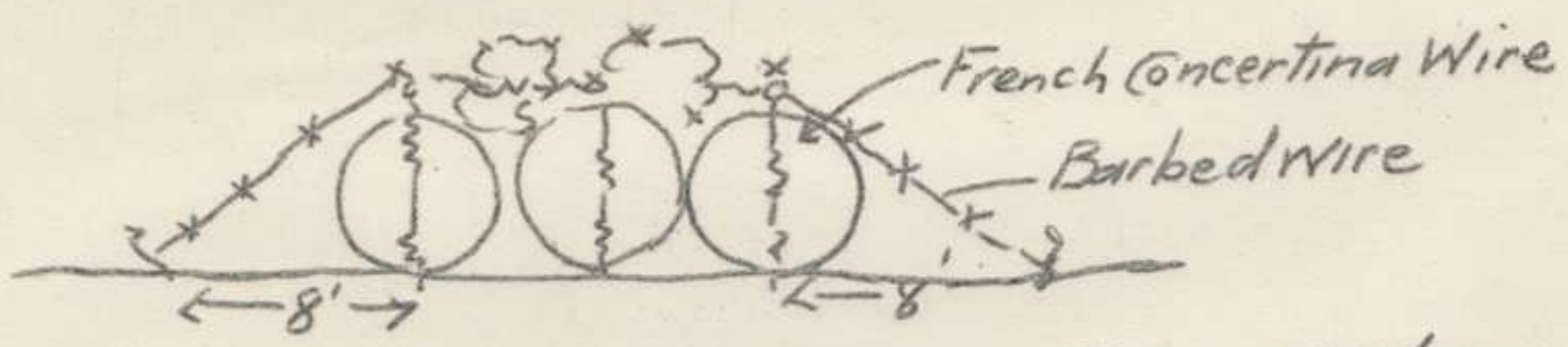
Drainage: - Good

Excavation: - Excavated to a depth of 4'6" throughout

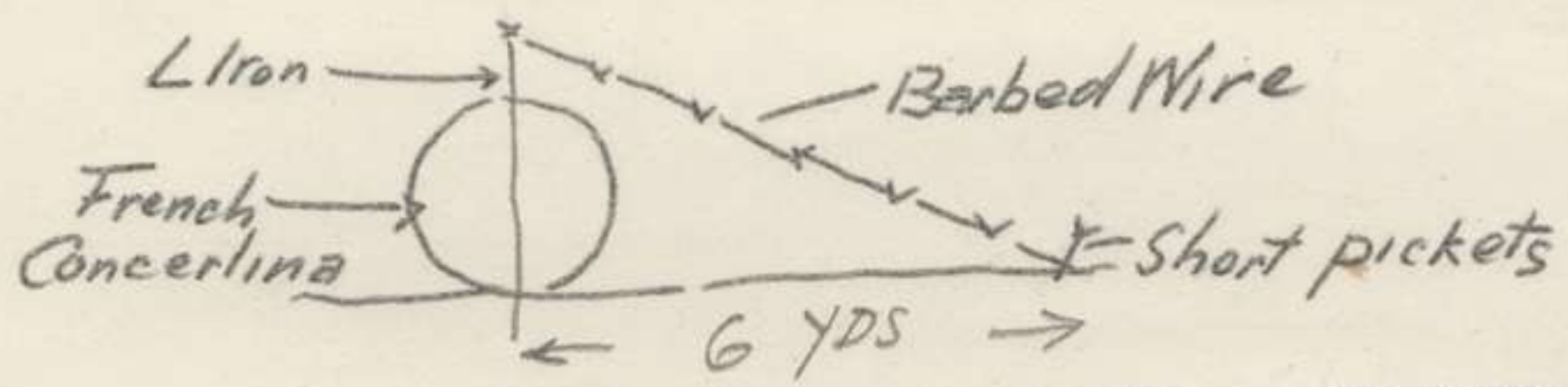
RESERVE LINE



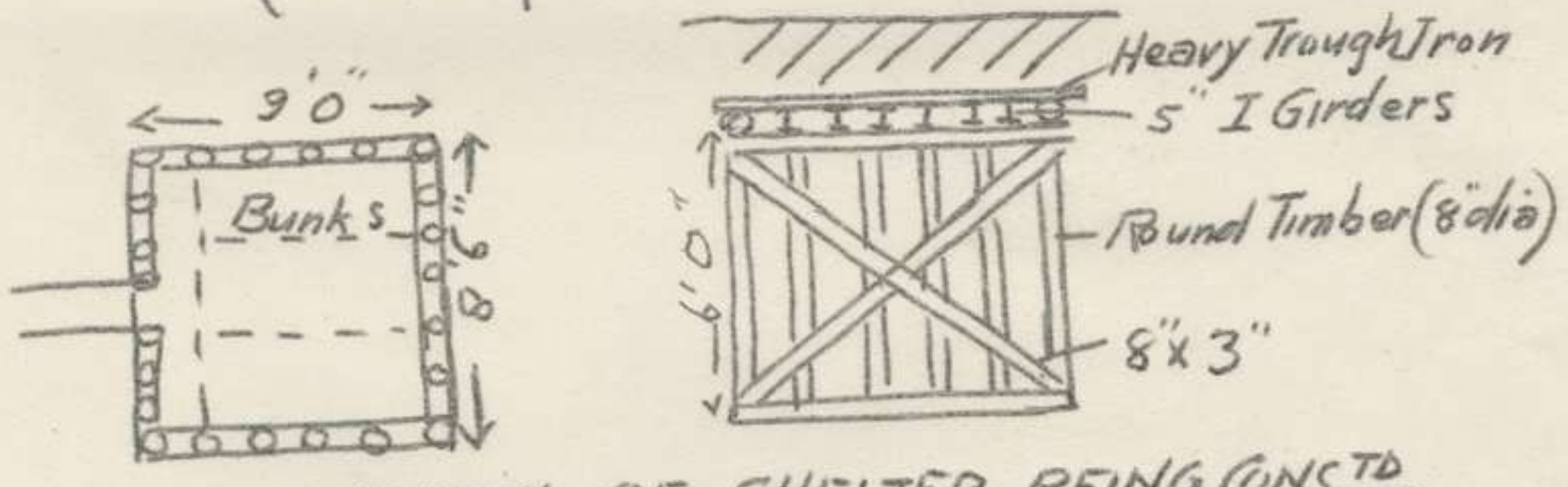
TYPICAL XSECTION OF COMPLETED STRONG POINT.



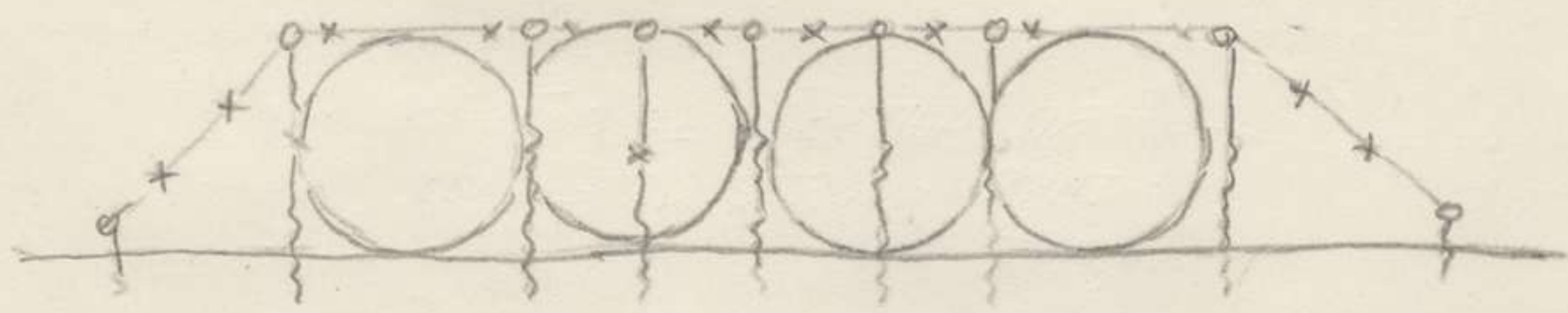
CROSS SECTION OF TACTICAL WIRE



CROSS SECTION OF PROTECTIVE WIRE (When Completed will have similar apron at rear)



SKETCH OF SHELTER BEING CONSTD FOR 4th BATTY A.F.A



Sketch of Tactical Wire in left area of Support Line

DIVISIONAL ENGINEER INSTRUCTIONS No. 6.

1. RELIEF OF FIELD COMPANIES. (1) On 29/1/18 the 1st. Field Company will be relieved by the 14th. Field Company and will take over work and billets of 10th. Field Company at WATTS LINES, Sheet 36 N.W. B.1.d.8.5.
(2) On 30/1/18 the 3rd. Field Company will be relieved by the 8th. Field Company and will take over work and billets of 9th. Field Company at WATTS LINES, Sheet 36 N.W. B.1.d.6.5.
(3) On 31/1/18 the 2nd. Field Company will be relieved by the 15th. Field Company and will take over the Billets of the 11th. Field Company at Sheet 28 S.W. T.19.b.8.4.
2. CORPS WORK. On taking over from 10th. and 9th. Field Companies the 1st. and 3rd. Field Companies will carry on Corps work under the direction of C.R.E. Corps Troops.
3. ADVANCED PARTIES. On 28/1/18 the 1st. and 3rd. Field Companies will send an advanced party of 1 Officer and 2 N.C.O's to the 10th. and 9th. Field Companies respectively to take over the work in hand, billets etc. and will remain there till their own Companies arrive.
On 30/1/18 2nd. Field Company will send an Officer to take over Billets of 11th. Field Company.
4. TIME OF MOVES. With reference to para. 1. all Companies will be clear of their billets by 10 a.m.
5. REAR PARTIES. The usual Rear Parties will remain behind to see that all camps are left in a thoroughly clean condition and they will hand over to the advanced parties of the relieving Field Companies.

S. M. Smith Lieut. Colonel.,
C. R. E.,
1st. Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION:-

- Copy No. 1. to C. R. E.,
" No. 2. to 1st. Field Company,
" No. 3. to 2nd. Field Company,
" No. 4. to 3rd. Field Company,
" No. 5. to 1st. Australian Division,
" No. 6. to S.S.O., 1st. Aust. Division.
- War Diary* ✓

18

H.Q., Divisional Engineers,
1st. Australian Division,
27th. January 1918.

SECRET

Bi-Monthly Report on Works.

H. Q. 1st AUSTRALIAN DIVL. ENGINEERS.
No.....
Date.....

(a) DEFENSIVE WORKS.
Left Field Company Area.

S.P. 1.0.9. Work on this post was carried on when the following material was used on the post: 500 sandbags, 21 A Panels, 116 pickets, 4 A frames and 5 sheets C.I. The parapet and parados were improved approximately 2000 c.ft. of earth having been banked up. 40 yds of the parapet was lowered to enable the garrison to fire from the duckwalks. 5 shelters are almost complete. Drains have been dug and these in places revetted.

S.P. 2.0.9. This post is A framed and duckwalked throughout its total length and the parapet thickened and sandbagged. Requires another layer of sandbags throughout to complete. Shelters to accommodate 25 men now being constructed. Drainage - wet.

S.P. 1.0.10. Total length 50 yds half of which has been revetted - also 15 yds of drain revetted with small A frames and iron. Drainage good. Accommodation nil. Shelters will have to be erected in trench.

S.P. 4.0.10. Fire step has been completed in this S.P. to enable it to be used if needed. Parapet needs thickening and parados building up, but it was decided to leave it for more important work in front. Drainage fair. Accommodation in Pill boxes in rear.

S.P. 5.0.10. This is a new work in place of 3.0.9. and has now been excavated throughout to a depth of 3'6". A framed and revetted ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ and parapet sandbagged and banked up to required thickness. Accommodation for 25 men in trench shelters now under construction. Drainage good.

S.P. 6.0.10. New work in place of 4.0.9. So far only taped out and drainage commenced. It is necessary to have this point thoroughly drained before excavation can be commenced.

S.P. 7.0.10. Is taped out and work is being commenced on excavation as soon as possible. No wiring has yet been commenced in front of 5.0.10. 6.0.10 S.P. 7.0.10.

S.P. 2.0.11. Post has been extended 10 yds making a total length of 50 yds. Revetting complete. Two trench shelters to hold 4 men each have been placed in parados. 35 yds of parapet has been built up and revetted. Drainage good. Proposed to erect 4 more shelters.

S.P. 3.0.11. 15 yds excavated and revetted. Work has been very slow owing to wet nature of ground and a considerable amount of drainage has been done. Drainage fair. Proceeding to improve existing wire. Pill boxes in rear to hold garrison.

S.P. 4.0.11. A breastwork parapet and parados has been built between two old pill boxes and it has been proposed that garrison make any improvements needed. It is not intended to make this S.P. any larger as it would mean all breastwork without any chance of concealment. Present work is concealed behind debris of Pill boxes. Accommodation = Pill boxes in rear, to hold garrison with two dug outs in S.P. Drainage poor. Wire - One belt of good double apron.

S.P. 7.0.11. Total length 45 yds has been completed. 12 yds of S.P. is a deep living trench. Accommodation for garrison in pill boxes in trench. Drainage good. Wire nil. Proceeding to erect at once.

S.P. 3.0.15. Construction continued, large amount of drainage necessary before much could be done. 18 yds of trench excavated and revetted. Duckwalks laid. This work camouflaged. Following material used: 250 sandbags, 13 A frames, 11 sheets C.I. 10 A panels.

Thaw and frost caused a considerable amount of damage in S.Ps.

/ This.

(a) Defensive Works. Contd.

This as far as possible has been repaired, necessitating in places the removal of A frames, panels and almost completely renewing portions of the trench.

S.P. 5.0.15. The work of reclaiming this trench has been continued the following materials being used: 29 A frames 21 panels, 24 sheets of C.I. Excavation for 5 dugouts commenced, 2 being completed. In addition this trench has been drained and 600 c Ft. of earth placed on parapet.

S.P. 4.0.15. Reclamation continued. Parapet is now sandbagged to the road at GOUDEZEUNE Farm. 1100 sandbags placed on parados. Shell holes and old trenches in rear have been drained, 9 duckwalks laid, 4 A frames and 5 panels put in. 1 cupola dugout completed and parapet thickened.

S.P. 1.0.17. 22 yds excavated. 19 A frames put in also 16 sheets of C.I., 6 A panels and 5 duckwalks. Parapet has been built up.

S.P. 2.0.17. Parapet thickened and large shell holes adjacent to post drained. 3 dugouts have been commenced and 2 60% completed.

S.P. 3.0.17. 30 yds trench excavated to 3' x 2'6" 18 A frames, 18 sheets C.I. and 7 duckwalks put in. Dugout excavated.

S.P. 5.0.23. (0.23.a.6.9.) Two shelter dugouts were erected, two listening posts dug and completed. Rebuilding of S.P. was commenced. 6 A frames 7 sheets C.I. 1175 sandbags, 2 duckwalks and 7 cupolas used. Work about 30% completed.

A new S.P. was constructed at 0.17.c.6.8. 25 yds long. 25 A frames, 24 sheets C.I. 1225 sandbags, 12 duckwalks used. Work 95% completed.

Post No.13. Parados was built, later a new S.P. was commenced 75% ~~completed~~ completed and camouflaged. 9 A frames 8 sheets G.Iron and 1100 sandbags being used.

At the left sentry post of No.14 a S.P. was commenced around the pill box. A shed in vicinity was demolished and the S.P. about 60% completed.

Centre Field Company Area.

S.P. 1.0.28. 0.28.c.7.7. Good progress made. Drainage and revetting strong point, which will be completed in a few days.

Picquet Post. 1.0.29. (0.29.a.2.7.) Two cupola dugouts provided. Parapet and parados revetted to give more cover. Post is in good order.

Picquet Post 2.0.29. (0.29.a.2.11) Two cupola dugouts provided Parapet revetted to give additional cover. Also a start has been made to construct parados.

Picquet Post. 3.0.29. (0.29.a.3.5.) One cupola dugout provided and portion of trench revetted. Proposed to use this as a Lewis gun post instead of picquet post.

Picquet Post. 4.0.29. (0.29.a.1.6.) Three cupola dugouts constructed. S.P. drained and cleaned out and revetted in parts. Post in fair condition.

Posts. With the exception of posts No.7. and 5 all posts in right portion of this area have been withdrawn to picquet line.

S.P. 1.0.22. Completed. Covered in splinter proof latrine added. Sap from S.P. to MANCHESTER Trench under construction.

S.P. 3.0.22. Now revetted and drained throughout. 4 shelters constructed.

S.P. 1.0.27. Work done: Parapet and parados have been sandbagged and formed over length of three bays. Latrine 60% completed.

S.P. 2.0.27. Parapet built over length of 18 yds. Latrine constructed in communication trench to left 55% completed.

S.P. 3.0.27. Latrine 35% completed. Firestep completed.

S.P. 4.0.27. 24 yds revetted with screens where falling in.

18

(a) Defensive Works (Contd.)

- S.P. 5.0.27. Latrine 45% completed. To left of S.P. ~~xxxxxx~~ Trench cleaned out and revetted for distance of 18 yds. Drains cleared.
- S.P. 1.0.21. Parapet reformed for distance of 24 yds. Latrine completed.
- S.P. 2.0.21. Cleaned and revetted 10 yds where fallen in.
- S.P. 3.0.21. In good condition.
- S.P. 4.0.21. Three men dugout constructed. Post drained.
- S.P. 5.0.21. (O.21.central.) Has been excavated for 75%. 30 yds revetted and A framed. 1 excavation for new shelter.

Right Field Company Area.

Very little work was done on the outpost line under sapper supervision until the thaw set in about the 18th. but since then sappers have been distributed along the front line assisting in drainage and revetting of the posts thought necessary.

Work on front line (Regimental support) was stopped when the thaw set in. Posts are in fairly good condition.

- S.P. 3.U.5. No new work has been done but post has been repaired having been damaged by shell fire and the thaw.
- S.P. 4.U.4. New fire trench for 40 rifles. Accommodation for 5 men completed. Wire nil.
- S.P. 1.0.34. No new work.
- S.P. 2.0.34. No new work.
- S.P. 3.0.34. New fire trench for 40 rifles. Accommodation installed for 16 men. One row of defensive wire round post.
- S.P. 1.U.4. New fire trench for 10 rifles. One ~~wire~~ row defensive and one row tactical wire put out.
- S.P. 2.U.4. New fire trench for 10 rifles. One row defensive wire put out.
- S.P. 6.U.4. (U.4.c.65.55.) New post 3' deep for about 50 yds. Drain revetted for 30 yards.
- S.P. 3.U.4. New fire trench for 10 rifles. One row defensive wire put out.
- S.P. 5.U.4. New fire trench for 20 rifles. Accommodation for 20.
- S.P. 6.0.34. at O. 34. C.45.25. New post 40 yds trench dug 3'6" deep.
- S.P. 4.0.34. New fire trench 46 rifles. Accommodation for 20 men. 2 rows double apron defensive wire put out.
- S.P. 4.0.33. New fire trench for 35 rifles. Accommodation for 15 men. 2 rows double apron defensive wire put out.

(b) WIRE. Left Field Coy. Area.

A belt of wire consisting of 2 rows French and an apron of barb back and front has been completed along the whole length of the Reserve Line, running 50 yds in front of S.Ps.

From approx. 150 yds S.W. of JACK FARM (O.23.a.4.7.) to O.17.a.95.70. 1215 yds of entanglements was strengthened. 320 yds new wire erected.

210 yds of new entanglement erected in front of support line and 165 yds old entanglements strengthened.

Centre Field Coy. Area.

Front Line.

One left of this area existing wire strengthened by addition of concertina barbed. A start has been made putting in two rows French concertina with apron in front and rear, behind existing wire. On right a new belt of wire has been erected along whole of sector front from WALL FARM-O.23.a.4.4. and consists of 3 rows concertina and apron. From road at O.23.a.4.4 the wire runs forward of old trench. New belt commenced on 24th. in front of posts 7 and 8 consisting of 3 rows concertina with apron back and front.

Support.

(b) WIRE (Contd.)Centre Field Company Area contd.

Support Line. On left a belt of tactical wire apron front and rear has been completed from WAMBEEK to BLAUWESPOORTABEEK. On right. Defensive wire completed from WAMBEEK Rd. to POLKA Estaminet to 0.22.a.3.0. where 4 rows exist without apron. From 0.22.c.0.9. belt of 70 yds in front of S.P. 3.P.22. (4 rows concertina and apron) completed. From 0.22.c.5.6. to c.3.5. and to culvert on WAMBEEK at 0.22.c.2.3. 2 rows concertina and apron. From 0.22.c.5.7. to MANCHESTER Trench about 70 yds in advance of coy. H.Q. at 0.22.c.2.8. another belt exists. In front S.P. 4.0.28. belt of defensive wire consisting of 2 rows french with apron back and front.

RESERVE Line. Tactical. Generally, this consists of 3 rows French concertina with barbed apron rear and front. From 0.33.b.8.8 to 0.27.d.32.05. wire consists of 3 rows French with apron front and rear. Apron 30% completed. From 0.27.d.32.05 to 0.21.d.35.20 wire consists of 3 rows French with apron front and rear. Apron 35% From 0.21.d.35.20 to 0.21.b.20.45 three rows concertina with apron back and front completed. From 0.21.b.20.45. to 0.21.b.35.75 consists of 2 rows concertina with apron 20% completed.

Defensive. Generally to consist of three rows concertina with barbed apron back and front. To be 60 yds in front of posts. From S.P. 1.0.27 to BOB Street wire consists of 2 rows concertina with wide apron (6yds) in front. From BOB Street to right of S.P. 1.0.21. one row concertina with wide apron in front. From right of S.P. 1.0.21. ~~XX~~ to right of 2.0.21. wire is completed: three rows concertina and apron back and front. Completed from VERNE Road to left of sector at 0.21.a.8.8.

Right Field Company Area.

Reserve Line. Tactical and defensive wire as shown in report on S.Ps.

(c) Machine Gun emplacements. No work under sapper supervision.

(d) Shelters for troops and Headquarters etc.

Left Field Coy. Area. Dugouts of the large and small British cupola type have been constructed in ONRAET Wood (0.14.c.5.5 and 0.13.d.7.1. and existing shelters and pill boxes repaired. There is now accommodation for 300 men. Cupola dugouts to accommodate 80 men have also been constructed at 0.14.a.7.7.

Gas proof doors have been erected in RAVINE Tunnel and advanced Bn.H.Q. Ravine and the work is proceeding with A.M.C. dugout in RAVINE.

New Bn.H.Q. 80 yds duckwalk track laid to job and camouflaged. Camouflage erected onsite. Excavation almost complete for 2 dugouts. Drainage of site completed.

OOSTAVERNE Wood. Pill box in Oostaverne Wood pumped out and cleaned. Kitchen constructed for advanced companies.

Centre Field Coy. Area.

In rear of picquet post 1.0.29. pillbox cleaned out and accommodation for 3 men provided.

0.22.a.3.3. POLKA Est. 40 bunks now constructed. Drainage difficulties overcome. An A framed and revetted drain with duckwalk track constructed to lead to WAMBEEK Road. Inside of pill box cleaned out and does not smell.

0.21.a.65.20. Two cookhouses constructed. Drain excavated in front for distance of 40 yds. Prince Ruperts dugout at 0.20.b.1.2. doors and windows made gasproof. R.A.P. at 0.21.c.90.92
Gas proof door made and floored.

(e) Communications.

18(e) Communications.

DORSET St has been drained, cleaned out and revetted in parts thus forming a dry route to front line via KILP track . MANCHESTER Trench since the wet weather set in, this trench has fallen in in many places. The maximum number of sappers from other jobs have been put on this work with Infantry parties. Great difficulty has been experienced with drainage. New drains dug. Work progressing slowly.

DORSET St. at 0.27.a.9.5. revetted for length of 22 yds. Stayed back with long stakes for distance of 30 yds. At 0.27.a.4.6. cleared and revetted for length of 25 yds.

Tracks. Duckwalk track to DELBSKE Farm. 600 yds track completed. Track to GREEN Wood. 220 yds of track laid. Track from RIN Pioneer Lane was improved.

KILO Track has been repaired where destroyed by shell fire and new duckboards provided.

"C" Overland track from 0.25.c.0.9. to 0.26.a.6.0. and is completed from LUMM Farm to just over crest of Hill and from Pill Rd. to point near L'ENFER Wood, leaving about 1000 yds to be completed, which will be carried out during the next few days. After this has been completed it is proposed to extend track from Pill Road towards Gordon Road.

(f) Trench Tramways.Light Railway to PETIT BOIS.

Light Railway commenced to link up existing track with PETIT BOIS 135 yds of Decauville salvaged. 18 heavy timber trestles have been salvaged and made, and placed in position. 125 yds track completed to edge of PETIT BOIS. Double duckwalks laid.

From RAILWAY Dump to VETNE Dump. Formation completed over length of 400 yds. Track laid for 80 yds.

(g) Observation posts etc. nil.(h) Deep Dugouts.

At 0.19.d.95.15. One shelter for 9 men completed and bunked.

0.19.c.95.55. Trench from entrance to GORDON Road 55 yds revetted. 30' dug, not revetted. One entrance fitted with gas proof doors. 95 bunks constructed.

(i) Other work. Nil.

Lieut.Colonel,
C.R.E., 1st. Australian Division.

Left Field Company Area.

DEFENCES FRONT LINE. The sector over which this Company is operating is divided into two Battalion fronts with one Company from each Battalion in the front line, the boundary being the ROUZEBECK.

What has been aimed at is to provide four picquet posts for each battalion front, to be occupied by a platoon, each with accommodation for at least 50% in the picquet post and for the remainder either in the post or within 20 yards.

On the right battalion front the posts are numbered 5.0.23, 1.0.17, 2.0.17, & 3.0.17. Work is well advanced on all these posts, but improvements are necessary on the left Battalion front, the posts are numbered 1.0.11, 2.0.11, 3.0.11, & 4.0.11.

Post 1.0.11 consists of two separate parts and requires to be completed by linking up. Post 2.0.11 requires additional accommodation and general improvements.

Post 3.0.11 is only 50% completed.

Post 4.0.11 requires extension to the right to accommodate a platoon.

The wiring across the front is fair but will require to be thickened.

SUPPORT LINE. The left flank of support line has by Corps Order been advanced and two new posts 6.0.11 & 7.0.11 have been constructed. Post 6.0.11 is not yet completed and wiring is required in front of these posts.

Post 3.0.16 also requires completing. No work has been done by this company on this post.

A new post 1.0.10 has been commenced and about half completed in lieu of a post further down the spur.

RESERVE LINE. The left flank of the Reserve line has been advanced to agree with the general direction of the front by orders from Corps., and these new posts have become necessary.

One of these has been completed, viz 5.0.10. Post 6.0.10 is about 50% completed and post 7.0.11 has not been commenced.

The remainder of the line is in fair condition, but will require improvements.

The present Battalion Headquarters for the Battalion on the left flank is at ONRAET FARM.

A new battalion headquarters has been commenced at O.9.d.30. Splinter proofs are being erected but it is considered that a certain amount of shell proof accommodation should be provided.

COMMUNICATIONS. A new duckwalk track is being constructed, commencing from CATTEAU FARM, O.8.c.8.5. through IN DEN JAGER CABI, DELBEHE FARM and along a ravine near northern boundary of this sector past Strong Point 7.0.11 and finishing at duckwalk track running from 1.0.11 to 3.0.11 and 4.0.11.

The attached plan shows the amount now completed, and duckwalk track is required to Strong Point 2.0.11. No work has been done on this track.

COMMUNICATION TRENCHES. There are two communication trenches on this sector, viz OLIVE TRENCH and PIONEER LANE. Small maintenance parties are required for these trenches.

TRAMWAYS. A short length of tramway, 125 yards has been laid to PETIT BOIS, N.24.b.4.9. for the purpose of trucking firewood to the light railway. This track may require to be extended.

/Accommodation.

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ACCOMMODATION. Additional accommodation for infantry companies has been erected at O.14.c.1.0., O.14.c.5.9., O.14.a.8.9., giving accommodation for three companies (140 men each) in this area. It is considered that the accommodation should be extended in this vicinity and northwards, so as to accommodate a full battalion.

ACCOMMODATION FOR FIELD COMPANY. Headquarters and 4 sections at O.13.c.3.9.

Mounted section and transport at N.28.a.8.4.

Headquarters are connected by telephone through Brigade to Division Headquarters.

DUMPS. Divisional, DE KENNEBAK, T.3.b.3.3. LINDENHOEK N.27.c.8.7.

Company, PARMA, N.12.c.5.0., CLARK, O.15.a.4.2. ROSE, O.10.c.4.3.

The system of supplies has been to demand before 10 a.m. daily stores required at PARMA DUMP. These stores are delivered by rail each night direct from CORPS DUMP at STEENWERCK.

Any stores required from Divisional dumps are collected by company transport on the authority of the C.R.E. Any large consignment can be delivered direct by light railway to CLARE DUMP.

Ordinary requirements at CLARE DUMP are supplied by tramway from PARMA DUMP. For this purpose a tractor is kept at PARMA DUMP under the control of A.L.R.O. Company. As the tractor can only make two trips, it has to be supplemented by mule haulage. ~~is~~

Accommodation exists for 4 mules and drivers at PARMA DUMP.

Two mules are used for transport from PARMA to CLARK and from CLARK to ROSE DUMP.

The remaining two mules take timber from PARMA to an advanced dump at any convenient point on the VERNE ROAD and then cart from CLARKE DUMP as may be necessary.

I keep an N.C.O. in charge of each of the 3 dumps and have ~~is~~ 6 attached infantry at PARMA for loading and unloading.

HANDING OVER REPORT.Centre Field Company Area.

WIRE FRONT LINE. At extreme right of sector from to S.P. 1.0.29 wire consists of one row French concertina with a row of barbed concertina in rear. In front of S.P. 1.0.29 (0.29.c.2.6.) is a double barbed wire apron, extending for about 40 yards to right of Strong Point, whilst patches of low German trip wire, are met with long aprons.. This row of French concertina extends across whole of front as shown on plan, and in places additions have been made.

From S.P. 2.0.29 (0.29.a.20.) to extreme left an additional belt of concertina with apron and festooned with barbed wire has been constructed about 70 yards in front of post. From 3.0.29 (0.29.a.2.4.) to WAMBEEK there are three distinct lines of wire. A start has been made in front of S.P. 1.0.29 (0.29.c.2.6.) to provide a separate belt consisting of two rows of French Concertina with apron back and front in rear of existing belt and work is being rapidly pushed on.

In left sector the wire at present runs in one continuous belt from WALL FARM ~~xxxxxxx~~ on the left (0.23.a.2.7.) to the WAMBEEK on the right (0.23.c.3.2.) From WALL FARM to the road at (0.23.a.2.7.) the wire consists of 3 rows of concertina and apron. From the road to WAMBEEK wire is two rows of concertina and apron. In front of this wire there are many belts of discontinuous wire but not a definite line. At present a new belt of wire consisting of 3 rows concertina and apron is being constructed in front of posts 3.0.23, & 4.0.23 in OLGA Trench at 0.23.c.2.5. and 0.23.c.2.8. This will make the wire about 50 - 60 yards out. The wire has been run out as far as the marshy ground will permit in the WAMBEEK valley.

POSTS. 1.0.29 at 0.29.c.2.6. approx. 22 yards, 14 yards fire trench sleeping accommodation 25 men. Trench accommodation 14 men. Trench revetted, duckwalked and in good condition. Pill box in rear accommodates 3 men of lateral patrol.

2.0.29., 0.29.a.20.05 approximate length 26 yards. Fire trench 14 yds. Sleeping accommodation 25. Trench accommodates 14 men. Trench revetted, duckwalked. Good condition.

3.0.29, 0.29.a.10.55. Post is manned by Lewis Gun crew only. Duckwalked and revetted, sleeping accommodation 5 men. Approximate length 12 yards. Garrison 7 men.

4.0.29., 0.29.a.15.65. Approximate length 20 yards, 14 yds. fire ~~xxxx~~ trench, sleeping accommodation 27 men. Fair condition. Duckboarded revetted. Accommodation 14 men.

Left sector. Posts are as per sketch. Draining of Front Line is bad in places, especially on the right of OLGA Trench. Work is being carried on at present time.

A platoon, ^{garrison} is at present at ALL FARM at 0.23.a.2.7. All the small posts have been withdrawn with the exception of Nos. 3.0.23 & 4.0.23 as after wet weather all posts forward were flooded and could not be used except ones above mentioned. Garrison of 6 men in each post. Sleeping accommodation for Garrison is in OLGA Trench. Duckboarded and 'A' framed.

OLDHAM trench. Extending from S.P. 2.0.29 to left of 0.29.a.20.35. has been duckwalked and revetted where necessary to serve as communication to S.P. 3.0.29 & 4.0.29. This trench is revetted with small 'A' frames, galvanised iron and duckboards.

OXFORD Trench. Approximate length 36 yards. Fire trench 21 yards. Sleeping accommodation 20 men. This trench is occupied by fighting patrols. Condition fair.

PILL BOXES, etc. Right Company H.Q. KILO FARM 0.28.d.5.9. accommodation 20 men. Bde. Machine Gunners 0.28.b.1.6. 6 men. Light T.M.B. 0.29.a.1.4. 7 men Rear of S.P. 1.0.29 -(0.29.c.2.7.) 3 men of Lateral patrol.

Left Sector. These are in OLGA Trench - 17 shelters for 4 men each giving accommodation for 68 men. 7 shelters for 2 men each = 14 men and Company H.Q. for 8 men, giving accommodation for total of 90 men. WALL and DRUID Farms are also occupied with platoon and

WALL FARM Company H.Q. consists of 2 English Cupola H.Q. built at the back

/of

of an old pill box to the right, about 50 yards from entrance to MANCHESTER Trench.

WIRE Right Sector. Tactical wire consists of four rows of French concertina with apron Front and Rear extending across whole of Sector and connecting with wire in adjacent sectors. From 0.28.c.9.7. to 0.28.b.1.3. a belt of two rows concertina and front and rear has been provided across angle. Length 125 yards.

LEFT Sector. Tactical wire commences at 0.22.a.7.8. runs down to 0.22.a.4.4. along the WAMBEEK road to 0.22.a.6.0. across road to 0.22.c.5.6. alongside road to 0.22.c.5.5. and to WAMBEEK at 0.22.c.9.3. Wire from other sector joins up with this belt north of front of S.P. 2.0.22. (0.22.a.5.8.) and within 50 yards of WAMBEEK. The remaining wire is two concertinas and apron. A further thickening is required on belt on WAMBEEK.

PROTECTIVE. Right Sector. S.P. 5.0.34. Tactical wire is protective in front of posts. Belt of three rows concertina and apron front and rear extends from tactical wire to a distance of 50 yards along road to rear of post on Left Flank. S.P. 2.0.28. and 3.0.28 Tactical wire ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ forms protective belt in front. S.P. 3.0.28. has protective belt 3 concertina and rear and front apron, extending from tactical wire parallel to KILO Track to left flank of S.P. Length 60 yards. S.P. 4.0.28. protective belt of two rows of concertina with apron front and rear extends across whole of front of S.P.

LEFT SECTOR. Defensive wire runs in front of S.P. 5.0.22., thence behind POLKA Estaminet to meet MANCHESTER Trench at 0.22.c.3.8.. (Four concertinas and apron back and front) From 0.22.a.3.3. to 0.22.a.3.0z there are 4 rows of concertina without apron. From 0.23.a.3.0. to 0.22.c.0.9. another strong belt of wire 70 yards in front of S.P. 3.0.22., has been put in (4 rows concertina and apron back and front) From 0.22.c.5.6. along the road to culvert on WAMBEEK at 0.22.c.2.3. another belt of two concertinas and apron back and front.

From 0.22.c.5.7. in front of S.P. 2.0.22. another run of wire continues towards MANCHESTER Trench (3 rows of concertina with apron).

POSTS. 5.0.34 - 0.34.a.6.9. approximate length 21 yards. Accommodation 40 men. Sleeping accommodation 20 men in post. Trench revetted with 'A' frames, screens and duckboarded. 1.0.28 - 0.28.c.9.7. approximate length 44 yards. Fire bays 32 ^{4/5}. Trench revetted and duckboarded but not occupied. S.P. 2.0.28 - c.80.80. approximate length 46 yards. Fire trench 31 yards. Sleeping accommodation 30 men. Trench revetted & duckboarded. Good condition.

S.P. 3.0.28 - 0.28.a.9.3. approximate length 51 yards. 35 yds. fire trench. Sleeping accommodation 30 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. S.P. 4.0.28 - 0.28.a.7.9. Length 50 yards. 30 yards fire trench. Sleeping accommodation 40 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. Condition good.

S.P. 1.0.22. - 0.22.c.2.6. Approximate length 42 yards. Sleeping accommodation 30 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. Condition good. Trench accommodation 30 men. New post. Dug since Division took over. Sap to connect post with MANCHESTER Trench and latrines are under construction.

S.P. 2.0.22. - 0.22.c.5.7. Approximate length 46 yards. Sleeping accommodation 20 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. Condition good. Trench accommodation 30 men. Latrines under construction.

S.P. 3.0.22. - 0.22.c.1.9. Approximate length 44 yards. Sleeping accommodation 20 men. Shelter under construction. Post partially completed. Sandbag revetting needed to complete S.P. Latrine under construction. Drain to be revetted. Post accommodates 30 men. Post dug since Division took over.

S.P. 4.0.22. - 0.22.a.4.0. Approximate length 93 yards. Sleeping accommodation 40 men. Post accommodates 50 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. Condition good. Latrine under construction.

/ S.P. 5.0.22.

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S.P. 5.0.22. - 0.22.a.4.5. Approximate length 80 yards. Sleeping accommodation 35 men. Post accommodates 40 men. Trench revetted and duckboarded. Condition good. Latrine under construction.

PILL BOXES etc. Right Sector. Company H.Q. at 5.0.34 in 2 P.B's. at 0.34.a.5.9. Accommodation 28 men. At rear of S.P. 3.0.28. at 0.28.a.8.3. accommodates and is occupied by 1 Officer, 30 O.R.

Left Sector. POLKA Estaminet 0.22.a.3.3. has been cleaned and drained and 40 bunks built. Revetted drain at present under construction with duckboard track from WAMBEEK Road.

Company H.Q. is situated in a pill box at 0.22.c.2.7. This was bunked by Pioneers.

Brigade Artillery O.P. is at 0.21.d.8.8. Men are also living in dugout at MAHIEU Farm.

M.G. post was also dug at 0.22.c.6.8. which connects with MANCHESTER Trench by a small duckboarded ~~xxxx~~ sap. Accommodation for Gun crew (4 men).

RESERVE ZONE. Wire tactical. To consist of three rows French concertina wire with barbed wire apron back and front. (0.33.b.2.8)

Condition (see sketch) From A to B. Consists of two rows concertina with apron each side. Aprons (0.33.b.2.8.) only 30% completed. From "B" 0.27.d.3.8. to "C" 0.21.d.4.2. wire consists of three rows concertina with apron back and front. Aprons 30% completed. From "C" 0.21.d.4.2. to "D" 0.21.b.2.5. completed. "D" 0.21.b.2.5. to "E" 0.21.b.3.8. consists of two rows concertina with aprons 20% completed.

PROTECTIVE. (see sketch). From "A" 0.33.b.2.8. to "B" 0.27.d.6.9. consists of two rows concertina with apron in front. From "B" 0.27.d.6.9. to "C" 0.27.b.1.9. one row concertina with apron in front. From "C" 0.27.b.1.9. to "D" 0.21.c.9.5. consists three rows concertina with apron back and front. "D" 0.21.c.9.5. to "E" 0.21.c.7.8. not wired. "E" 0.21.c.7.8. to "F" 0.21.a.9.8. three rows concertina with apron back and front.

POSTS. Reserve Line consists of series of 10 Strong Points, numbered 1.0.27 to 5.0.27 and 1.0.21. to 5.0.21. each post being capable of holding platoon. Several of these posts are connected forming continuous firing line. Posts are self contained. Sufficient accommodation being provided for garrison in each post.

S.P. 1.0.27. at 0.27.a.3.2. Revetted and duckboarded throughout. Well drained and has accommodation for 20 men. Post is camouflaged. Approximate length 59 yards.

S.P. 2.0.27 at 0.27.d.5.5. Revetted and duckwalked. In good condition. Accommodation for 20 men in shelters. Connected with S.P. 3.0.27. Approximate length 46 yards.

S.P. 3.0.27 at 0.27.d.5.8. revetted and duckwalked. In fair condition. Sleeping accommodation for 50 men in post and in communications Trench between S.P.'s. connects with S.P. 4.0.27. Approximate length of trench 78 yards.

S.P. 4.0.27 at 0.27.b.1.2. Approximate length 62 yards. Revetted and duckboarded. Well drained. Accommodation for 40 men in post, and in communication trench between S.P.'s. connects with DORSET Street.

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S.P. 5.0.27. - at 0.27.b.1.7. Revetted and duckboarded
Fair condition. Accommodation for 20 men in post and for 10 in
Communication trench to left. Connects with S.P. 1.0.21.
approximate length 64 yards.

S.P. 1.0.21 at 0.21.d.0.0. Revetted and duckwalked.
Condition good. Accommodation for 25 men. Communication trench
to S.P. 2.0.21 not completed. Approximate length of trench 95 yds.

trench S.P. 2.0.21. at 0.21.c.9.4. Revetted and duckboarded.
Condition fair. Accommodation for 50 men in post and in Communication
trench to right. Length 60 yards.

S.P. 3.0.21. at 0.21.c.4. Revetted and duckboarded. Well
drained and in good condition. Accommodation for 25 men. Post is
camouflaged and is not connected with S.P.'s. on flanks. Approximate
length 78 yards.

S.P. 4.0.21. at 0.21.a.5.6. Revetted and duckboarded.
Well drained and in good condition. Accommodates 25 men. Is not
connected with posts on flanks. Approximate length 86 yards.

S.P. 5.0.21. at 0.21. cent. Post was partly dug on
14th. January. About 40 yards being completed and revetted with 'A'
frames and screens. Revetted drain put in towards VERNE Road.
One shelter has been completed; also two fire bays. Approximate length
100 total.

PILL BOXES. etc. At 0.27.d.22.95. Right Battalion Reserve Company
H.Q. At 0.21.c.92.32. Left Battalion Reserve Company H.Q.

0.19.c.9.5. Deep dugout. Constructing bunks and gas proof
doors. Accommodation 12 Officers, 120 O.R. Communication trench
being dug from entrance of dugouts to GORDON Road.

At 0.19.d.2.9. Constructing bunks and gas proof doors in
deep dugouts. Accommodation for 60 O.R. in bunks.

DUCKWALKS TRACKS. "ZEBRA TRACK." From ANZAC House 0.28.c.3.8. to
Support Company Headquarters at 0.34.a.5.9. single track. Wired.
Good condition.

"KILO TRACK" From DORSET Street at 0.27.b.8.5. to Front Line
Company Headquarters at KILO Farm at 0.28.d.5.9. Single duckboard
track, unwired, condition good.

"C" OVERLAND TRACK. from 0.25.c.0.9. to LUMM Farm at
0.26.d.1.7. Double duckwalk track. Approximately 1371 yards
completed, leaving about 600 yards to be completed. Duckboard
wired with plain wire placed diagonally across boards. Unfinished
portion is in centre of track.

COMMUNICATIONS. *BOB Street from Reserve Line to ANZAC House at
0.28.c.3.8. in fair condition. From ANZAC House this condition
continues for 200 yards then condition is bad. A proposed
deviation to do away with a low lying position of trench has been
marked out. This trench is dug but not revetted as far as KILO Farm.

DORSET STREET. From Reserve Line to KILO Farm is in fair
condition and work of revetting is being pushed on. Beyond KILO
Track trench is dug but not revetted. From 0.26.b.1.8. to Reserve
Line Duckboarded and partly revetted to Reserve Line. In fair condit-
ion. Drainage good. Duckwalk track from RAILWAY Dump at
0.20.c.2.3. leads to DORSET Street at 0.26.b.1.8.

*BOB STREET. Commencing at 0.26.d.6.6. to Reserve Line.
Duckwalked and partly revetted. Condition fair. Duckwalk track
leads from MESSINES Road at 0.26.c.7.8. to BOB Street 0.26.d.6.6.

MANCHESTER TRENCH. Runs from VERNE Road Dump 0.21.c.9.9. to
Front Line. As this trench was improperly revetted after the heavy
rains, considerable difficulty ~~has~~ has been experienced as regards
falling in and drainage. Parties have been working day and night
on repair work. Forward of the WAMBEKE Road, and Sunken Road at
0.22.d.3.9. the trench was flooded and new drains are being cut.
This is an excellent trench but wants thorough repairing throughout.

/DECAUVILLE TRAMWAY.

DECAUVILLE TRAMWAY. From RAILWAY Dump at O.20.c.2.4. to VERNE Road Dump at O.21.c.9.9.

Formation has been completed near RAILWAY Dump.
Complete track has been sited and pegged out.

ROADS. In fair condition. VERNE Road from RAILWAY Dump to VERNE Dump, BAY Road, ANTRIM Road and GUN Road as far as ANZAC House.

COMPANY H.Q. Located at N.28.c.2.6.

All sections were located at Company Headquarters.

18
HANDING OVER REPORT.

APPENDIX

32

Right Field Company Area.

FRONT ZONE. Wire.:- One belt, continuous except for a few gaps caused by shells.

Fairly good as a rule but requires thickening on Left of sector.

POSTS. Post No.1. at U.11.b.6.7. Garrison 1 Officer, 2 N.C.O's., 12 men. Trenches bad after recent flood.

Accommodation - One shelter to accommodate 4 men. 25 yards of trench.

Post No.2. - U.5.d.6.0. Garrison 1 Officer, 2 N.C.O's. & 12 men. Trenches - Fair, improvements being carried out at present. Accommodation:- 3 shelters accommodates 1 Officer, 8 O.R. Length of trench 50 yards. One Lewis Gun Position well drained and 14 yards of trench completely revetted.

Post No. 3.- U.5.d.6.3. Garrison 1 N.C.O. & 9 O.R. Trench fair. Accommodation - 2 shelters for 8 men. Length of post 14 yards.

Post No. 4.- U.5.d.6.5. Garrison 3 N.C.O's. & 8 men. Trench fair. Accommodation 1 shelter for 5 men. Length of trench 18 yards.

Post No. 5.- U.5.d.6.7.- Garrison 1 Officer, 3 N.C.O's. & 10 men. Trench good. Accommodation 3 shelters for 9 men. Length 25 yards.

Post No. 6.- U.5.d.7.8. Garrison 2 N.C.O's. & 7 men. Trench bad and wet. Accommodation 1 shelter. Length 14 yards.

Post No. 7. -U.5.d.7.0.8.5. Garrison 3 N.C.O's. & 7 men. Trench - Fair and almost dry. Accommodation 2 shelters for 4 men each. Length of post 20 yards.

Post No. 8.- U.5.d.8.9. Garrison 1 N.C.O. & 8 men. Trench - Good in places but wet in others. Accommodation - 2 shelters. Length of trench 15 yards.

Post No. 9.- U.5.b.80.25. Garrison 2 N.C.O's. & 7 men. Trench fairly good and dry. Accommodation- 3 shelters of 2 men each. Length of trench 28 yards. 10 yards new work, well revetted and sandbagged.

Post. No.10- U.5.b.80.40. Garrison 1 Officer, 3 N.C.O's. & 10 men. Trench fair but a little wet. Accommodation-2 shelters for 8 men. Length of trench 28 yards.

Post No.11.- U.5.b.8.6. Garrison 1 N.C.O. & 6 O.R. Trench Good. Accommodation- 6 shelters of 2 men each (12 men). Length of post 22 yards.

Post No.12.- U.5.b.8.7. Garrison 1 Officer, 6 O.R. Platoon H.Q. Trench in fair condition. Accommodation-6 shelters for 3 men each (18 men). Length of post 18 yards.

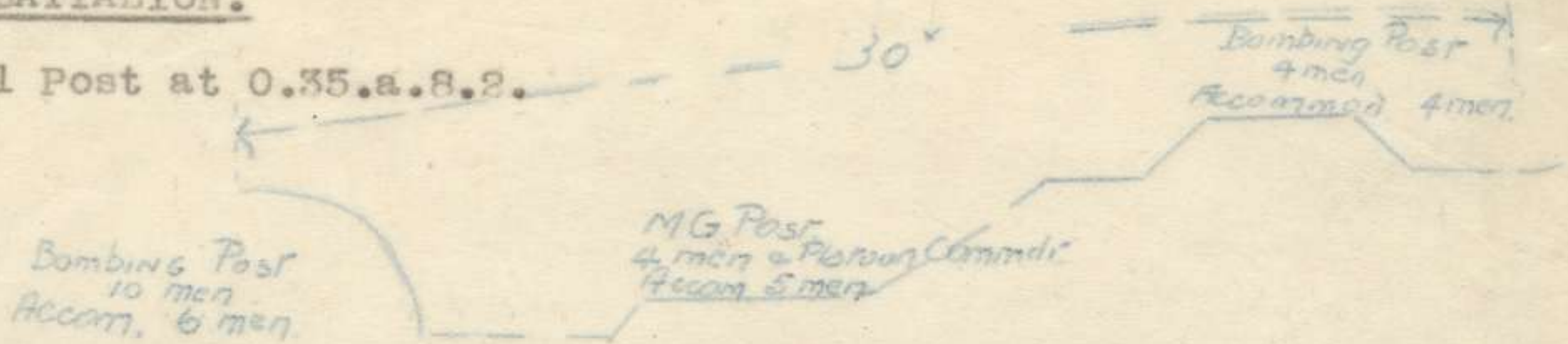
Post No.13.- U.5.b.8.8. Garrison 1 N.C.O. & 5 men. Accommodation - 1 shelter large and good. Trench good for 8 yards; remainder in bad condition. Length 18 yards. Improving every night but requires draining.

Post No.14.- U.5.b.8.9. Garrison 1 N.C.O. & 6 men. Trench bad and wet. Accommodation - 1 shelter for 4 men. Length of trench 15 yards.

/No.11 Post.

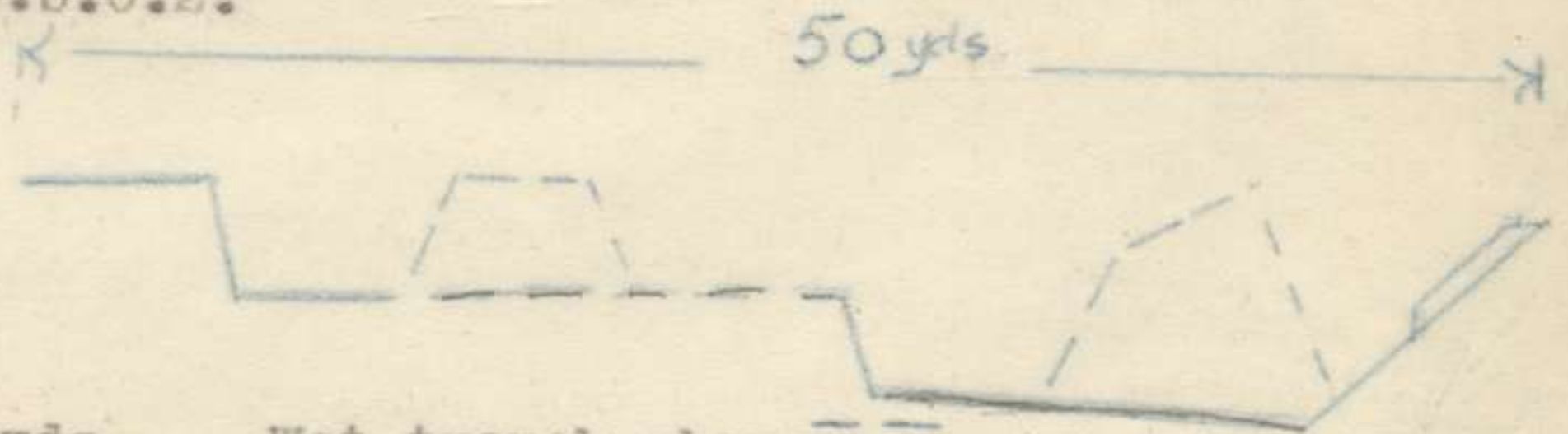
LEFT BATTALION.

No. 11 Post at 0.35.a.8.2.



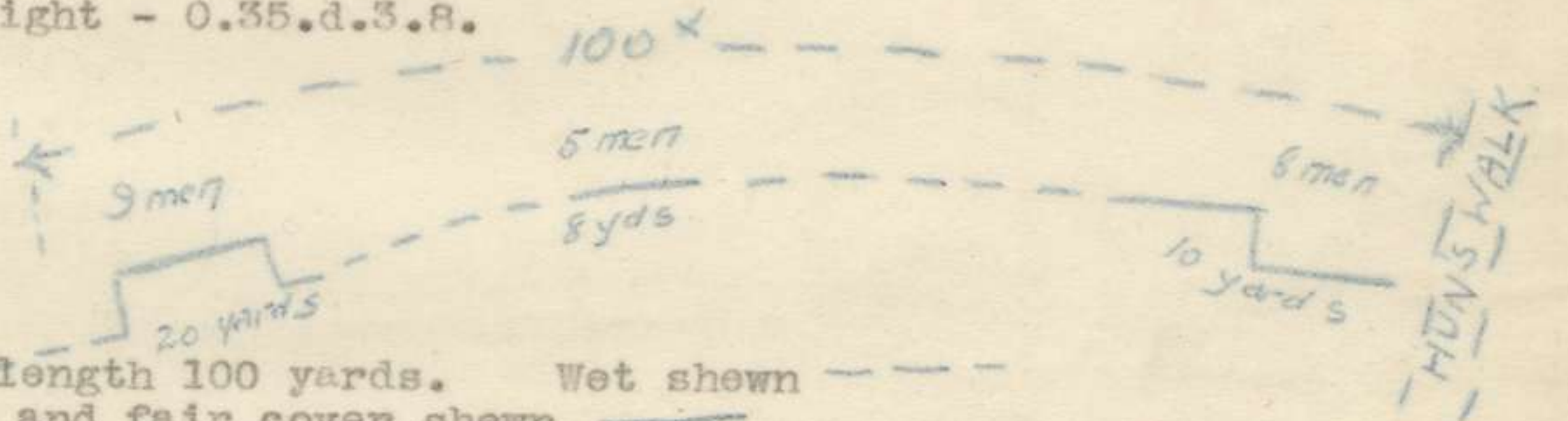
Approximate length 30 yards. Wet where shown
Fair standing and cover where shown
Accomodate 19 men and improvised shelter for same. Dugouts weather proof only.

No. 9. Post Left at 0.35.b.0.2.



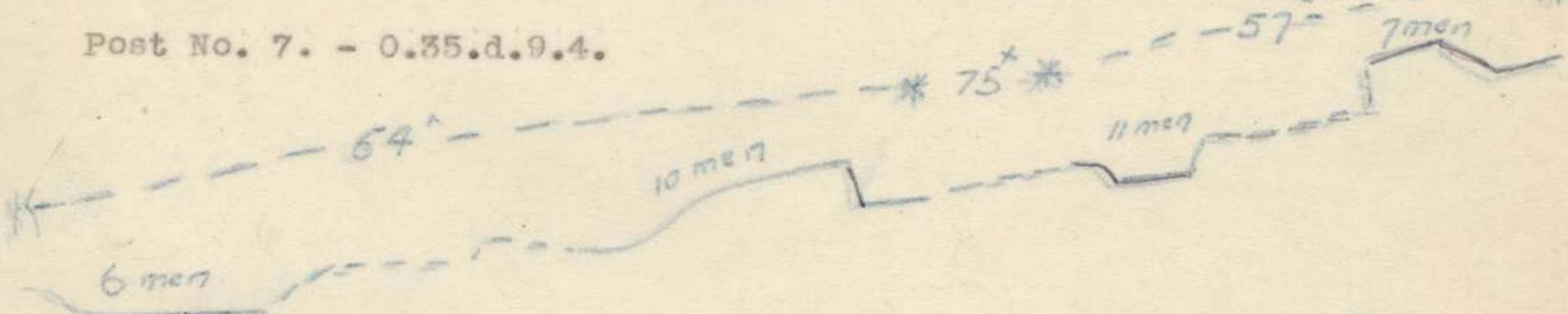
Approximate length 50 yards. Wet trench shown
Dry standing and fair cover shown
Accommodates 16 men. Good dugouts for 9 men, remainder in improvised shelters.

No. 9 Post Right - 0.35.d.3.8.



Approximate length 100 yards. Wet shown
Dry standing and fair cover shown
Number of men in post 22. Improved shelter for 22 men.

Post No. 7. - 0.35.d.9.4.



Approximate length 190 yards. Dry trench shown thus
Wet trench thus
Number of men in post 34. Improved shelter for 34 men.

S.P. 4.U.5. about U.5.b.4.3. Firing line for 50 rifles -
About 50 yards. Accommodation for 30 men.

Rough sketch



S.P.5.U.5. at 5.b.5.6. Firing line for 20 men. About 80 yards of trench. Accommodation for 20 men.



/S.P.1.0.35.

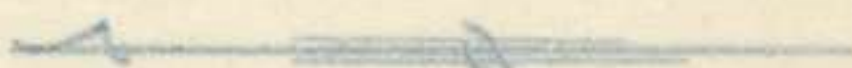
S.P. 1.0.35 at 0.35.d.3.0. Firing line for 20 men. About 70 yards of trench. Accommodation for 20 men.



S.P. 2.0.35 at 0.35.c.9.4. Firing line for 20 rifles. About 70 yards of trench. Accommodation for 20 men.



S.P. 4.0.35 at 0.35.a.3.0. Firing line for 30 rifles. 70 yds. of trench. Accommodation for 20 men.



S.P. 5.0.34 at 0.34.b.9.5. Firing line for 30 rifles. 70 yards of trench. Accommodation for 20 men.



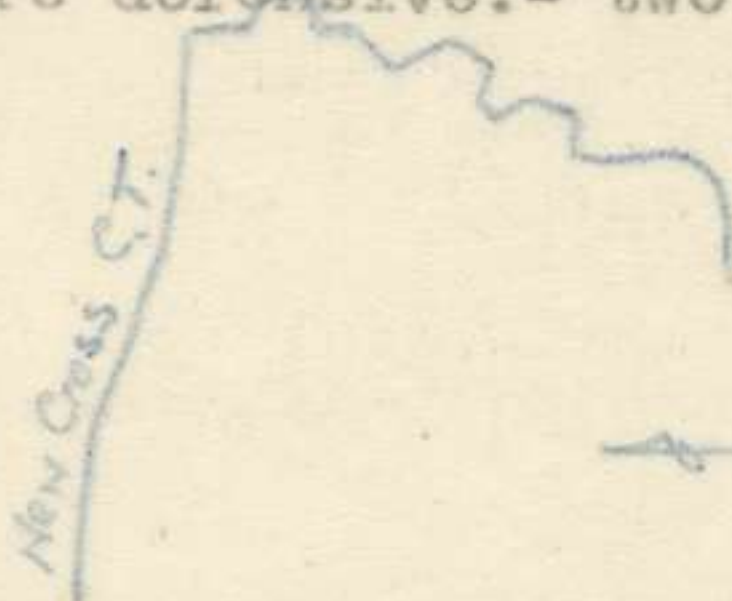
S.P. 1.U.5. at U.5.c.65.30. Accommodation for 18 men. with double apron of barb.

Firing line for 40 rifles. Wire defensive two rows French



S.P. 2.U.5. at about U.5.d.4.8. Accommodation for 12 men. Fire trench for 20 rifles. Wire defensive:- two rows.

Rough sketch:-



/ACCOMMODATION.

ACCOMMODATION.

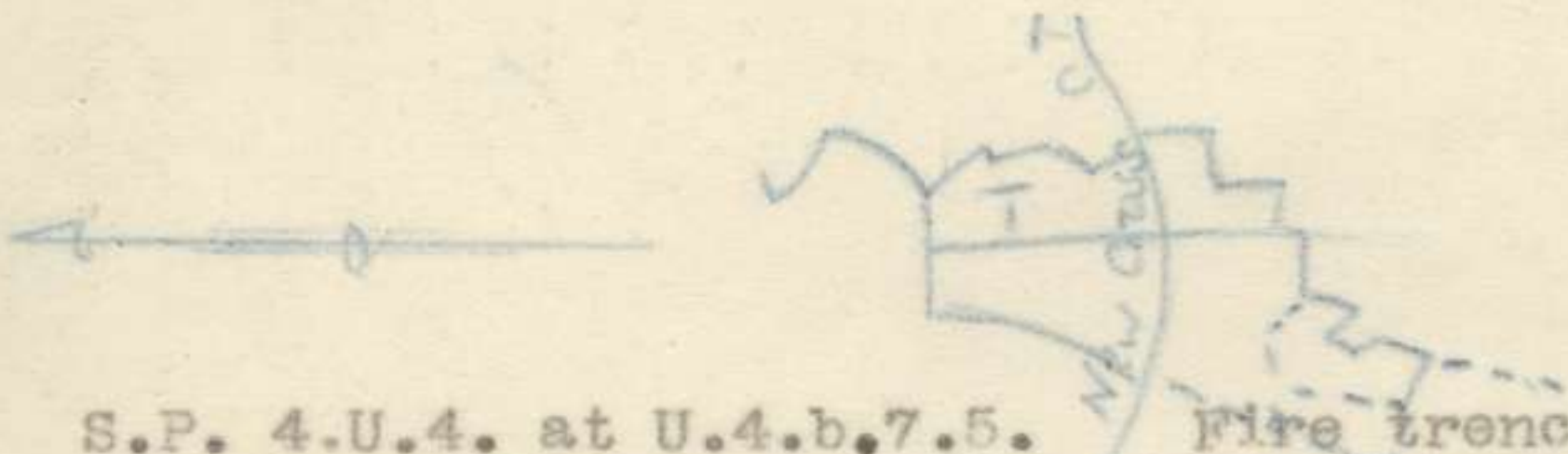
Pill box No. 2. 0.35.c.68.40. Badly damaged.
 4 0.35.c.65.60 do
 6. 0.35.c.58.85. Requires pumping out. Hold 3 men.
 8. 0.35.c.58.90. Good condition. Hold 8 men.
 10. 0.35.a.49.14. Runied building splinter proof and dry.
 Hold 8 men.
 12. 0.35.a.55.22. Good condition. Hold 16 men.
 14. 0.35.a.32.62. Good condition. Hold 15 men.
 16. 0.34.b.82.88. Gun position badly damaged.
 18. 0.34.b.70.72. Bad condition.
 20. DECONINCK FARM. Bad condition.

SUPPORT LINE.

Wire:- Defensive. All posts have Defensive wire consisting of two or three rows of double apron fence.

Tactical. There are belts of tactical wire between posts, consisting of three rows of double apron fence in some places and in other posts it is French wire with a double apron of barb. The general condition of the wire on this line is very good.

POSTS. S.P. 3.U.5. at U.5.c.15.65. Fire trench for 100 men. Accommodation for about 100 men. Wire:- Double Row of double apron (defensive) 3 rows double apron, oh left flank (tactical) 285 yards of Trench.



S.P. 4.U.4. at U.4.b.7.5. Fire trench for 70 men. Accommodation for about 20 men. Wire:- Defensive. 3 rows double apron on French wire. Tactical 3 rows double apron on French wire. 153 yards of trench.

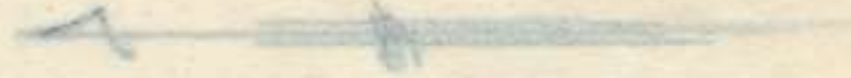


S.P. 1.O.34. at O.34.c.95.00. Fire trench for 40 men. Accommodation for 30 men. Wire defensive:- 2 rows of very low wire. Tactical 3 rows double apron on right flank. 5 rows double apron on Left flank. 75 yards of trench.



/S.P. 2.O.34.

S.P. 2.0.34. at O.34.d.1.7. Fire trench for 35 men. Accommodation for 30 men. Wire. Defensive:- 2 rows low double apron trip wire. 2 rows double apron 75 yards out. (tactical) 3 rows on right flank. 2 rows left flank. 90 yards of trench.



S.P. 3.0.34. at O.34.b.00.15. Fire trench for 50 men. Accommodation for 16 men. 110 yards of trench.



- ACCOMMODATION. Pill box No. 1. at U.5.a.2.7. STEIGNAST FARM. Good condition would hold 40 men.
3. at U.4.d.50.72. Good condition. Hold 6 men.
22. at O.34.d.60.68. Two pill boxes require draining. Hold 20 men.
54. at U.2.d.35.65. Require pumping out. Would hold 3 men.
58. at U.3.c.10.95. Good condition. Hold 3 men.
24. at O.34.b.20.22. Good condition. Hold 16 men
26. at O.34.b.17.27. Good condition. Hold 20 men
28. at O.34.b.21.20. Beyond repair.
30. at O.34.b.19.40. Cellar with reinforced concrete outside. Would hold 20 men.
32. at O.34.b.09.31. Badly damaged.
34. at O.34.b.08.29. Good condition. Hold 20 men
36. at O.34.a.95.20. R.A.P. Good condition. Hold 20 men.
38. at O.34.a.92.47. Good condition. Hold 30 men

RESERVE LINE. Wire :- From river DOUVE to HUNS walk. There is a continuous belt of defensive wire consisting of 3 rows at varying distances apart. In some places this is composed of French wire with a double apron of barbed and in other places a double apron fence. On the Right it is thickened between the rows. From HUNS walk to O.34.a.1.5.

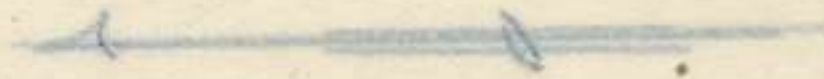
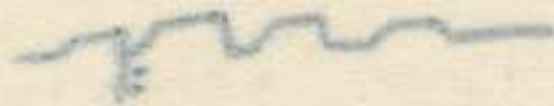
Defensive wire. Posts are protected by two rows of double apron fence.

Tactical wire. Between posts there is a belt of tactical wire consisting of two rows. In some places this is double apron and in other places French wire with a double apron of barb. The general condition of the wire on this line is good.

/POSTS.

POSTS.

S.P.3.U.4. - U.4.c.95.95. Fire trench for 30 rifles Accommodation for 20 men. Wire defensive 3 rows. 42 yards of trench.



S.P.5.U.4. at U.4.a.6.8. Fire trench for 35 rifles. Accommodation for 18 to 24 men. Wire defensive, 2 belts double apron. Tactical 2 belts French wire with barbed. 70 yards trench.



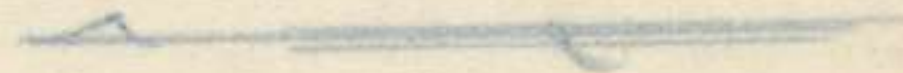
S.P. 5.0.34. at U.34.c.45.25. New post. 40 yards of trench dug 3'6" deep. Fire trench (when completed) for 60 men. Accommodation nil. Wire:- defensive. Double row French with barb. 73 yards of trench.



S.P.4.0.34. at 0.34.c.2.5. Fire trench for 46 men. Accommodation for 18 to 24 men. Wire defensive, 2 rows double apron. Tactical 2 rows French with barb. 70 yards of trench.



S.P. 4.0.33. at 0.33.b.8.0. Fire trench for 35 men (when completed will take 60 men) Accommodation for 15 to 20 men. Wire defensive:- 2 rows double apron. Tactical 2 rows French wire with barb. 101 yards of trench.



S.P.1.U.4. at U.4.d.1.2. Fire trench for 40 men. Accommodation for 30 men. Wire defensive, 3 rows. Tactical:- 2 rows on left flank. 34 yards of trench.



S.P. 2.U.4. at U.4.c.9.5. Fire trench for 40 rifles. Accommodation for 30 men. Wire:- Defensive 3 rows double apron. 64 yards trench.



S.P. 6.U.4. at U.4.c.65.55. New post 3' deep for about 50 yards. Drain revetted for about 30 yards. Wire:- Defensive 2 rows double apron. 52 yards of trench.



/ACCOMMODATION.

ACCOMMODATION.

Pill box No. 5. at U.4.b.10.19. Large Pill box will require draining.
Hold 30 men.
9. at U.4.a.73.25. Good condition. Hold 6 men.
7. at U.4.c.95.08. " " " 6 "
33. at U.4.a.47.70. " " " 8 "
40 at O.34.d.10.55. " " " 8 "

DUCKBOARD TRACKS.

1. From T.6.d.7.9. on the WULVERGHEN - MESSINES Road a single duckwalk runs to GOOSEBERRY Farm then to end of NEW Cross Communication Trench and meets Tramway at U.9.a.3.9. which it follows to rail head then continues onto U.5.d.5.9.
This duckwalk is in good repair.
2. From Road Junction at O.32.c.70.05. a single duckwalk runs to Tramline at O.32.d.5.7. which it follows to O.33.b.2.2.
This duckwalk is in a fairly good state of repair.
3. From GOOSEBERRY FARM to road at U.3.a.8.2. there is a single duckwalk in fairly good repair.
4. From road at BETHLEEM FARM to HUNS Walk at U.4.a.9.6. there is a single duckwalk in fairly good repair.
None of these tracks have a name.

TRAMWAYS.

1. From CURRIE Dump a tramway runs to U.4.c.3.4.
2. From BELL FARM Dump a tramway runs to O.34.b.0.1.

Both the tramways are in a fairly good state of repair.
Neither of these tracks have names.

RIGHT BATTALION SECTOR.COMMUNICATION TRENCHES.

NEW CROSS Communication Trench. From Road at U.8.b.0.2. to POLLARD Support (S.P.3.U.6.) this trench is in a good condition.

In front of POLLARD Support it is very poor to the end at U.5.d.5.7.

LEFT BATTALION SECTOR.

FANNY COMMUNICATION TRENCH. From Road at O.32.d.50.55. it is in good repair as far as O.35.c.0.8. from there forward it is in a very poor condition.

DISPOSITION OF COMPANY.

Company H.Q. are situated at DAYLIGHT CORNER (N.33.c.85.85.) also one section.

2 sections are at BELL FARM Dump (O.31.c.2.5.)

1 section is at CURRIE Dump (T.12.b.6.3.)

At CURRIE Dump there is accommodation for 2 sections, but one sections huts were rendered untenable during a recent flood.