

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/22/7

Title: 22nd Australian Machine Gun
Company

January 1918



AWM4-24/22/7

CONFIDENTIAL.

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

104

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

22nd. A U S T . M . G . C O M P A N Y .

FOR

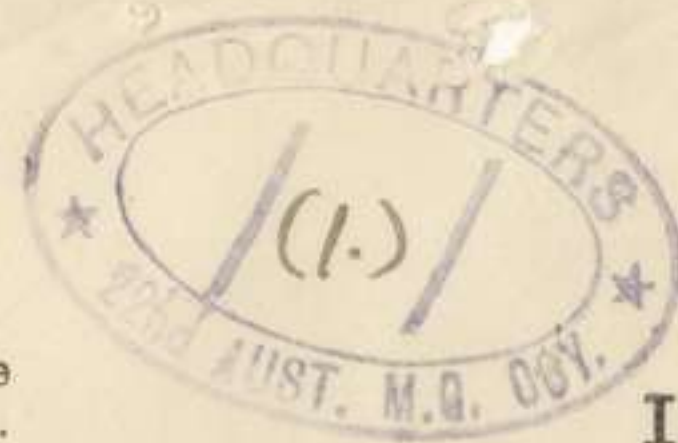
J A N U A R Y . 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

H. Shelly. Bient

Signature of Officer Commanding

Alvin Lemmon Capt.



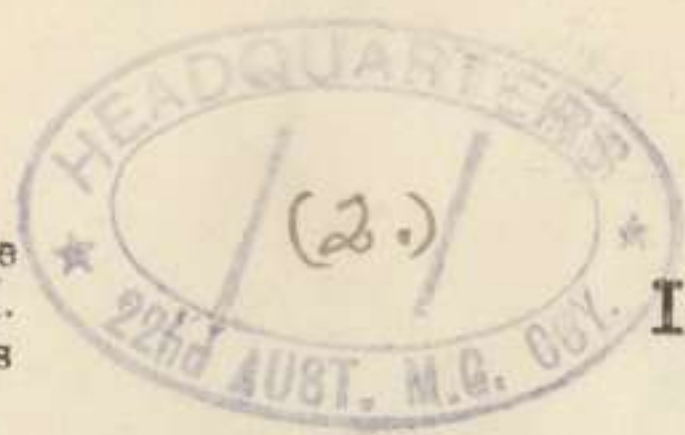
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Army Form C. 2118.

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

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Papot. Le Bizet."	Jan. 1st.	9 pm.	1 O.R. Evacuated Hospital struck off strength. 2 N.C.O.'S detached for relief of Personnel at A.M.G.T.D. Grantham. 1 O.R. returned from Paris leave. 1 O.R. left for Paris on leave. Disposition of Company same as in War Diary of December 1917 :- 8 guns arranged in two 4-gun batteries (called B1 & B2) providing a M.G. barrage in conjunction with A.M.G. Coy. on line. Brewery at C.17.a.20.60. to HALLOT'S FARM in C.23.d.10.80. These two batteries were under the command of one officer, the guns being manned by half crews so that an inter-section relief could be arranged. The battery positions were at C.9.d.10.20. and C.9.d.10.05. and accommodation for the crews was found in SURREY FARM C.9.d.15.25. The other 8 guns of the Company were arranged in an 8-gun battery (called A battery) at C.20.d.45.95. the crews living in houses at C.20.d.30.80. This battery provided a barrage on line C.22.b.50.00., this being a protective barrage on line C.22.a.20.90. to C.28.c.30.00. As this was behind the front line of the Div. on our right, communication by 'phone (direct line) was established to their left Batt. H.Q. and arrangements for notification of the abandonment of the front line to A battery were arranged. The two batteries were connected by direct wire & back through Rt. Battalion to group H.Q. at Brigade H.Q. (BRUNE GAYE Camp). From here Rear H.Q. at Green Jacket Camp could be reached by overhead wire. The object of the barrages being established on our flank was to protect the Rt. flank of the Div. being regarded as the weakest point.	Appendix A. See Map att.
Papot.	2nd.	9 pm.	2. O.R. admitted to Hospital.	
	5th.	9 pm.	Company Strength stands at 11 Officers 174 O.R. 1. O.R. admitted to Hospital.	
	7th.	9 pm.	1. O.R. detached for school M.G. Course Camiers.	
	8th.	9 pm.	1. O.R. returned from Paris leave. 1 O.R. evacuated Hospital, struck off strength. 2 O.R. discharged from Hospital. 1 O.R. admitted to Hospital. 5 O.R. rejoined Unit, and 10 O.R. arrived from re-inforcement camp and were taken on strength.	
Le.Bizet.		9 pm.	Owing to the continued presence of parties of the enemy being seen by daylight moving on road at C.9.d.85.25. for daylight switching fire. This was called B3 battery and was connected by telephone direct to observation tower at SURREY FARM from whence word could be transmitted sent straight to the battery. Owing to the poor visibility which prevailed for the next week no targets could be observed and while we occupied the position, at any rate, this battery did not fire. 4 Guns of "B" Battery were established by day only at C.9.d.85.25.	



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Army Form C. 2113.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Le Bizet.	Jan. 8th.	9.pm.	4 Guns of A battery were also mounted by day for A.A. defence. They were mounted close together and it was hoped that the larger volume of fire would have an appreciable effect on the enemy. areoplanes. <i>RR</i>	
	10th.	9.pm.	1. O.R. left for England on leave. Three enemy 'planes were fired on by the A.A. guns of A battery today. They immediately turned and made off hurriedly, evidently badly scared and possibly damaged and did not re-appear again. <i>RR</i>	
	11th.	9.pm.	2. O.R. left for England on leave. <i>RR</i>	
	12th.	9.pm.	Enemy planes were fired on again by A battery and were driven off. "A" battery position were moved to-day to railway embankment at C.21.a.10.10., new positions having been constructed. 1. O.R. died of wounds G.S.W. in back penetrating, received at "A" battery. 2. O.R. left for England on leave. 1.O.R. admitted to Hospital. Company strength stands at 11 Officers and 188 O.R's. <i>RRS</i>	
	13th.	9.pm.	Lieut. Johnson and 1.O.R. left for Aust. Army Corps School Aveluy. <i>RRS</i>	
	14th.	9.pm.	1. O.R. left for England on leave.	
	9.am.		Orders received to exchange positions with 5th. A.M.G.Coy. in line on night 14/15th.	
	9.pm.		Relief of 5th. A.M.G.Coy. completed. Disposition of Company as follows:- Advance Company H.Q. MMORTELLETTE CHAPELLE. C.7.d.40.70. Rear H.Q. Green Jacket Camp. Rt. group (No.4 sect. & 1 gun of No.3.) at C.15.a.85.25. Commanded by Lt. Stapleton. Centre Rt. group (No.3.sect. less 1 gun). at C.4.a.45.85. Commanded by Lt. Chalmers. " left " (No.2.sect. less 1 gun). at C.4.a.45.85. Commanded by Lt. Byatt. Left group. (No.1 sect. & 1 gun of No.2.)at U.21.b.75.65. Commanded by Lt. Everett. All group H.Q. connected by 'phone to advance H.Q. Diagram of Signal connections given in Appendix "C". Programme of indirect fire taken over from 5th. Coy. and being carried out. Samples of S.A.A. marked R.L.17. & R.W. have been examined and found to contain paper filling instead of lead inside the nickel envelope. <i>RRS</i>	Appendix B.
	15th.	9.pm.	1.O.R. left for England on leave. <i>RR</i>	Appendix C.
	16th.	9.am.	2.O.R. left for England on leave. 4.O.R. admitted to Hospital. <i>RRS</i>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8094) Wt. W1771/M2-31 750,000 5/17 Sch: 52 Forms/C2113/14



WAR DIARY

or

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Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Papot.	Jan. 9.p.m.		1. O.R. returned from English leave. <i>RRS</i>	
	17th.			
	18th.	"	2.O.R. left for England on leave. <i>RRS</i>	
	19th.	"	1.O.R. evacuated, Hospital. 1. Company strength now stands at 11 Officers, 186 O.R's. 2 O.R. returned from 2nd. Aust. Div. Sig. School. Weather very bad, raining continuously, trenches and dugouts flooded. No.15016 & 6 gun pits collapsed. No.11 gun's dugout flooded with 3'6" of water. 1.O.R. wounded in foot by M.G. bullet at No.5. gun. <i>RRS</i>	
	20th.	"	New indirect Night Firing programme made out. (Appendix D.) 1.O.R. wounded in shoulder by M.G.bullet. Weather improving. Drainage being carried out. River LYS now flowing about 200 yds. wide. Firing on enemy bridges dis-continued. New positions being constructed for 15 & 16 guns at (15) U.22.d.85.70. and (16) at U.23.a.05.55. in order to protect ridge above gap in front line at U.17.d.50.10. to U.23.b.25.35. more effectively. All R.L. & W.W. ammunition at guns being exchanged. Am of opinion that loss of weight of bullet would seriously effect indirect firing of M.G's. 2.O. R. left for England on leave. 1.O.R. discharged from Hosp. <i>RRS</i>	Appendix "D."
	21st.	"	2.O.R. detached to attend 2nd. Aust. Div. Sig. School. <i>RRS</i>	
	22nd.	"	1.O.R. left for England on leave. 2.O.R. evacuated Hospital. <i>RRS</i>	
	23rd.	"	Nos. 15 & 16 guns moved to new positions & occupied them. 1.O.R. admitted to Hospital. <i>RRS</i>	
	24th.	"	Enemy planes crossing our lines were engaged by our guns mounted for A.A. duties and were driven off. <i>RRS</i>	
	25th.	"	1. O.R. evacuated Hospital. 2.O.R. transferred on strength from attached. <i>RRS</i>	
	26th.		1.O.R. admitted to Hospital. 1.O.R. returned from leave from England. 2.O.R. returned from schools. <i>RRS</i>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PAPOT	27th.	9 pm.	5 O.R. rejoined the Unit. <i>RR</i>	
	28th.	9 pm.	Company relieved by the 11th. A.M.G. Coy. Relief took place at about the following times. Left Group 7.pm. Centre 5.pm. Right 5.pm. Relieving section sustained casualties owing to enemy shelling of roads at about hour intervals. On relief all men proceeded direct to Green-jacket Camp. 2. O.R. returned from leave. 1. O.R. admitted to hospital, 1.O.R. discharged. <i>RR</i>	
	29th.	9.pm.	2. O.R. departed on leave. <i>RR</i>	
	30th.	9.pm.	Transport of Company moved out of Camp en route to LUMBRES, 3 days journey, stopping at night at the following towns:- STRAZELLE and RENISCURE. <i>RR</i>	
SAMETTES.	31st.	9.pm.	Personnel of Company entrained at De KENNEBEK at 2.20.pm. for LUMBRES., arriving at 6.pm. and proceeded straight to SAMETTES where they are now billeted. <i>RR</i>	

James Leman Coph.

O.C. 22nd. Aust. M.G. Coy.

WAR DIARY

OF

22nd. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

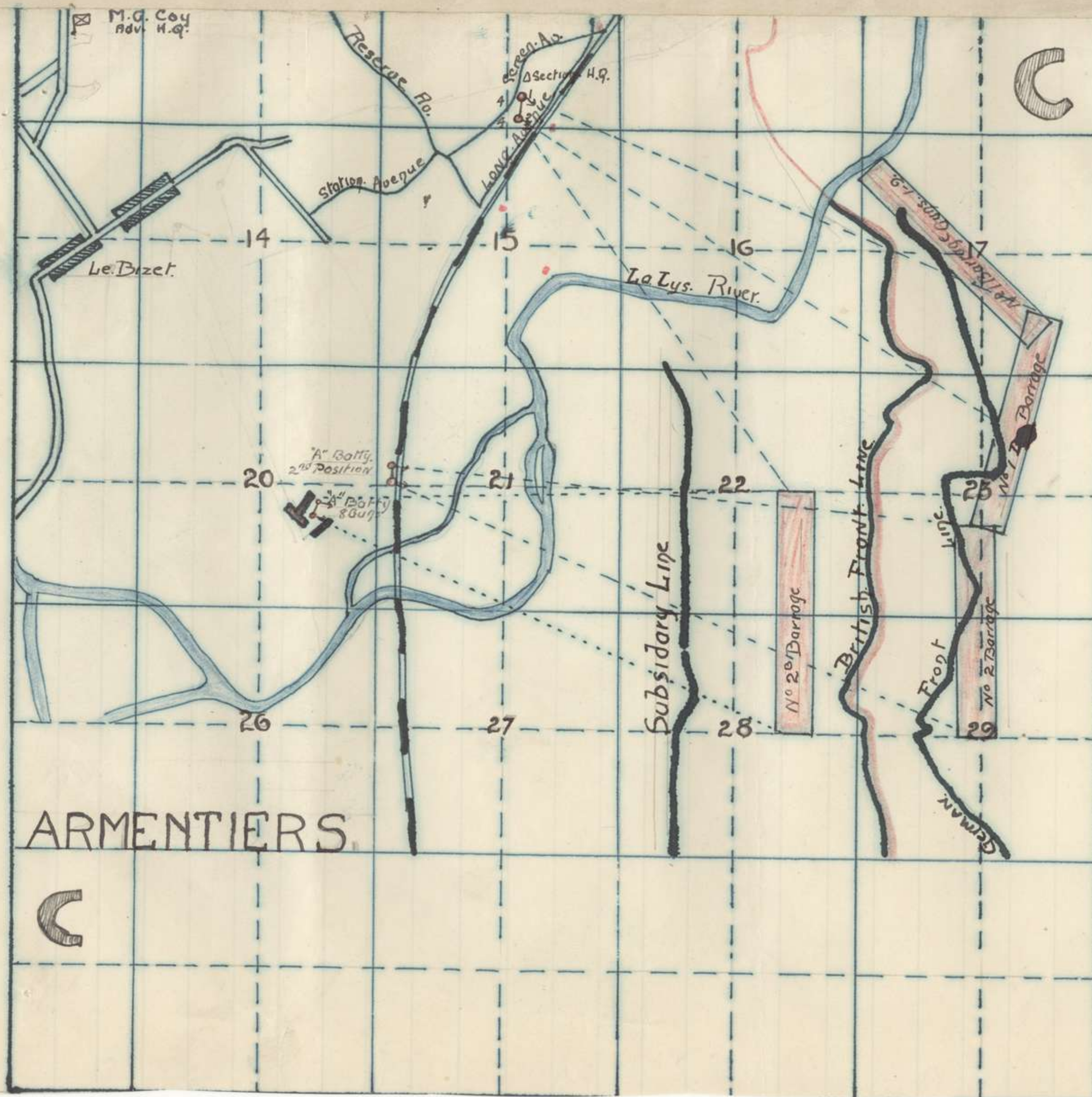
FOR

JANUARY.1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
"A"	Reference Map, S.O.S. Battery Positions, showing Barrage Lines.
"B".	Reference Map No. S 30 A/2. showing disposition of Batteries.
"C".	Diagram of Signal Connections.
"D".	Indirect Night Firing Programme.

O.C. 22nd. Aust. M.G. Coy.



References. 104
 Vickers Guns.
 S.O.S. Indirect fire
 S.O.S. Batty positions.
 Ref. Map. HOURLINES 20000

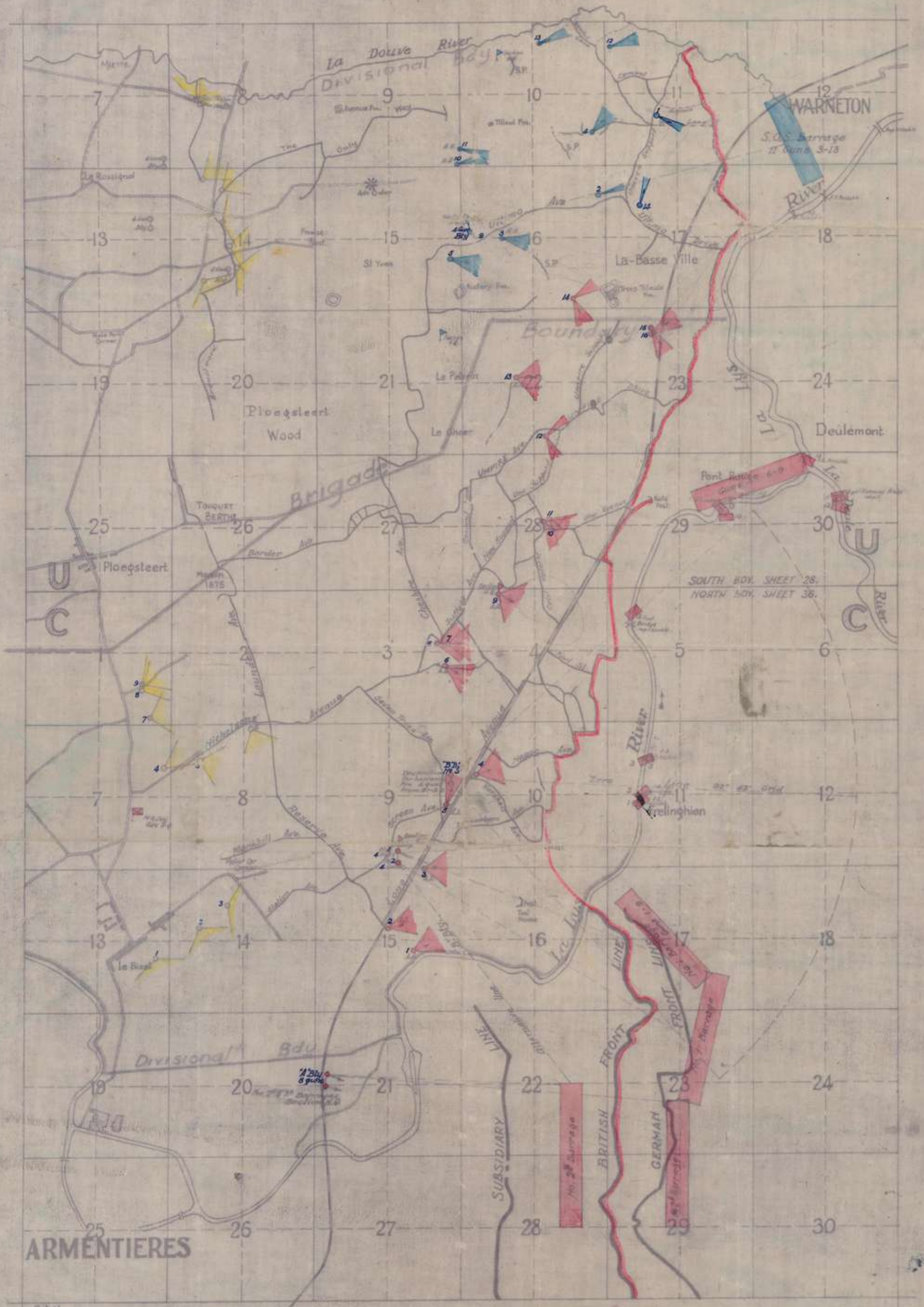


APPENDIX 6



Secret S 30^A/2

DISPOSITION OF VICKERS GUNS RIGHT DIVISIONAL SECTOR 11-1-18.



E.A.Y.

SCALE 1/20000

Reference

- Vickers Guns (direct fire) [Symbol]
- S.O.S. indirect fire [Symbol]
- Right Bde Guns in Red
- S.O.S. Bly pos [Symbol]
- Prepared gun pos not on [Symbol]
- Left Bde Guns in Blue

A circular purple ink stamp. The top arc contains the word "HEADQUARTERS". The center contains a large letter "C". The bottom arc contains the text "22nd AUST. M.G. CO." flanked by two small stars.

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AIR LINE.

BURIED LINE.

OVERLAND & TRENCH.

SIGNAL OFFICE

PANEL POINT.

= CALLS.

APPENDIX

22nd. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

SECRET.Night Firing Programme.Period. 20/21st to 29/30th.

1. Targets must be as in Night Firing Programme No.4. of 5th.

M.G. Coy., plus additional targets

R Road at Child 552 Dravens 1 each way
 S Houses Child 35 05 " " "
 T " Child 30 90 " " "
 U " U 30 a 20 05 " " "

2. Officers commanding Groups, will, by consultation with Battalion Commanders, ensure that when they are firing on Bridges over River LYS (Targets G H P 1 & task 2) their fire does not interfere with work of Patrols etc. operating in the vicinity of these Targets.

3. Guns will fire as in attached Table.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution:-

- 1/4 Group Commanders.
- 5 5th. A.I. Bgde.
- 6 Right Battln.
- 7 Left "
- 8 D.M.G.O.

Indubitably Capt.

O.C. 22nd. Aust. M.G. Coy.

9/10. File.

Date.	Gun to fire.	Targets.	Time at which to fire.	Rate of fire.
Jan 20/21	1-2	R	6 7.30 9 pm	300 Rounds per gun in bursts of 15 rounds, with 1 minute intervals between bursts at each of the times stated.
	3-5	S	4.30 6 am	
21/22	7-8	T	5.30 6.30 8 pm	
	6-9	B	4 6 am	
22/23	10-11	I	6.30 8 9.30 pm	
	12-13	L	4.30 5.30 am	
23/24	1-2	S	5.30 7.30 8.30 pm	
	3-5	A	3 5.30 am	
24/25	10-11	U	6.30 7.30 9 pm	
	12-13	Task II	2.30 4.30 am	
25/26	7-8	T	6.30 8 9.30 pm	
	6-9	F	3.30 5.30 am	
26/27	3-5	R & B	5.30 6.30 8 pm	
	1-2	A & S	4 6 am	
27/28	6-9	E	6.30 7.30 8.30 pm	
	7-8	F	3.30 5.30 am	
28/29	12-13	Q	6 7 8 pm	
	10-11	U	5 6 am	
29/30	1-2	H & G	6.30 7 9.30 pm	
	3-5	A	2.30 4.30 am	

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22nd. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Amendment to Night Firing Programme. I. Period 20/21st to 29/30th Jan.

- 1. Reference Night Firing Programme recently issued - Cancel Table and substitute as below :-
 - 2. Acknowledge.
- Distribution:- To all recipients of Night Firing Programme I.

Date.	Gun to Fire.	Target.	Time at which to fire.	Rate of Fire.
Jan. 20 & 21.	1. 2. 3. 5.	R. D. S. A.	6.8.9.PM. 5.6.AM. 5.30.7.8.30PM. 4.30.5.30.AM. 6.7.30.9.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM	
Jan. 21 & 22.	7. 8. 6. 9.	T. E. B. F.	5.30.6.30.8.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.7.8.PM. 5.6.AM. 6.7.30.9.P.M. 4.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM.	
Jan. 22 & 23.	10. 11. 12. 13.	K. U. L. Q.	5.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.8.10.PM. 4.30.5.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.30.PM. 5.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.PM. 5.6.AM.	
Jan 23 & 24.	1. 2. 3. 5.	C. D. A. B.	5.30.6.30.8.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.7.8.PM. 5.6.AM 6.7.30.9.PM. 4.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM	
Jan 24 & 25.	10. 11. 12. 13.	J. O. L. K.	6.8.9.PM. 5.6.AM. 5.30.7.8.30.PM. 4.30.5.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM.	
an. 25 & 26.	7. 8. 6.8. 9.	Q. T. N. M.	5.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.8.10.PM. 4.30.5.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.30. 5.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.PM. 5.6.AM.	
Jan. 26 & 27.	3. 5. 1. 2.	A. B. S. R.	5.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.8.10.PM. 4.30.5.30.AM 6.30.7.30.9.30.PM. 5.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.9.PM. 5.6.AM.	
Jan. 27 & 28.	6. 9. 7. 8.	N. M. Q. U.	6.8.9.PM. 5.6.AM. 5.30.7.8.30.PM. 4.30.5.30.AM. 6.7.30.9.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM.	
Jan. 28 & 29.	12. 13. 10. 11.	L. K. J. O.	5.30.6.30.8.PM. 4.6.AM. 6.7.8.PM. XXXXXXXXXXXX 5.6.AM. 6.730.9.PM. 4.30.6.30.AM. 6.30.7.30.8.30.PM. 5.30.6.30.AM.	

300 rounds per gun in bursts of 15 rounds with 1/2 minute intervals between bursts at each of the times stated.