

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/15/18

Title: 10th Australian Machine Gun
Company

March 1918



AWM4-24/15/18

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

10TH MACHINE GUN COY

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--|--------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| NEW EGLISE ROAD WARNETON. SECTOR | 2/3/18 | | Emplacements for machine guns were dug for the protection of the Corps line | |
| | 2/3/18 | | These emplacements were manned by skeleton teams to of anti-aircraft | |
| | | | Lient Byzack sgt Jenkins. Left company & proceeded to back areas to arrange billets. | |
| | 3/3/18 | | Proceeded to signalling school Lient A.E.V. Taylor | |
| | | | 14 guns relieved the 9th A.M.G. Coy held the line whilst the 9th Coy put down a covering barrage for raiding party. | |
| | 4/3/18 | | Still holding the line for a second raid on night 4/5. | |
| | 5/3/18 | | The Company were relieved by the 9th A.M.G. Coy at 5 am and proceeded by route march to billets. | |
| | | | The transport under Lient Youlden proceeded by route march to back area rest billets (Coy Orders appendix 1 attached) | R |

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10TH MACHINE GUN COMPT

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------------|---------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| NEUVE EGLISE RD. | 6/3/18 | 11am | The company proceeded by route march to Steenwerck station & entrained for Lottinghem, where they detrained & marched to billets at Bournonville | |
| BOURNONVILLE | 8/3/18 | | Transport rejoins unit. | |
| | 9/3/18 | | Lieut Drumble proceeded to England for medical examination for transfer to Aust Flying Corps. | |
| | 17/3/18 | | Rejoins from English leave Capt. S. R. Cleese | |
| | 23/3/18 | | Lieut E. G. Woods. | |
| | 18/3/18 | | On this date the 4 existing machine gun companies in 3rd Div were organised as the 3rd Divisional ^{Machine} Battalion under the command of Lieut Col. A. L. Blacklow. | |
| | 18/3/18 | | Capt A. R. Cleese proceeds to G. H. Q. 3rd Echelon to Aust section to check the company records. | |
| | 21/3/18 | | Capt A. R. Cleese rejoins the Coy. | J.L. |

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10th MACHINE GUN COMF

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------------|---------|---------|--|---------------------------------------|
| BOURNONVILLE | 22/3/18 | 2 PM | The Company less its transport reopened proceeds by route march to Lumbres coming under the orders of the Lt. Col. 10th Inf Brigade | by order of Lt. Col. 10th Inf Brigade |
| | 23/3/18 | 7:30 AM | The Company (less transport) entrains for Caestre but on arrival at Ebbleshem detrained & marched to billets at Bandringhem | appendix III |
| | | 8:30 | Transport under Lt. Youdden proceed by road to St. Martin-au-Laut join 10th 10th Brigade transport. | |
| BANDRINGHEM. | 24/3/18 | | Transport rejoins the Company at Bandringhem | AL |
| | 25/3/18 | 5 PM | The Company marched to St. Omer & entrained for DOULLENS but on arrival at the latter place were again sent forward & detrained at MONDICOURT. at 10 AM on 26th inst | |
| MONDICOURT. | 26th | 11 AM | At Mondicourt the Company supplied two patrols each of 1 officer & 4 men. A section of 4 guns were mounted to defend the village | |
| | | 4:30 PM | The Coy proceeded by route march to rest billets at Couin. which was reached at 9 PM. | |
| COUIN | 27th | 5 AM | The Company less transport marched to MARIEX & embussed moving forward to FRANVILLERS which was the debussing point | AL W |

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

10TH MACHINE GUN COMP

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------|------------------|--------|---|--------------------------------------|
| FRANVILLERS | 27 th | 11am | From Franvillers to HEILLY the marched & after the company marched to HEILLY & immediately went into the line relieving the 8 guns of the 11 th Aust M. B. Coy. | |
| HEILLY | 27 th | 7PM | The Coy established Headquarters at HEILLY. Whilst moving into position the company had 5 casualties two killed and 3 wounded Transport rejoins the company Killed Sergt Cairns D. No. 1176. L/Cpl Peden Co No. 280 Wounded Pte Tomkins E.W. No. 4240 Pte Harper Co. No. 269 " Myers L.L. No. 964 | |
| | 28 th | 7 P.M. | The 39 th 2 guns attached to 39 th Bn & 2 guns attached 40 th Bn moved forward & attacked the German position. whilst eight guns moved forward later to assist consolidation of new position whilst four guns were kept in reserve | |
| | 29 th | 9 P.M. | Two guns gave covering fire to a platoon of the 11 th Bn & 1 platoon of the 11 th brigade which attacked a small copse at 400 yards in front of our line. | RB |

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10TH MACHINE GUN COMP.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------|------------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| HEILLY | 30 th | 12 Noon 4 PM | <p>The Germans attacked the brigade on the the right of the tenth brigade front + two guns were able to assist in repelling the attack</p> <p>Rejoins from Paris Leane Lieut C L Wright</p> <p>7 guns were relieved by the 11th Am B Coy. 7 guns of this company relieved 38th Company on the left.</p> <p>Casualties . Killed No 119 Sgt Smith L.F. Wounded No 459 Pte Cook Frank 274 " Patton W. D.</p> <p>Missing No 221 Lt Col Brisbane R.B. believed to be taken prisoner of war.</p> | <p><u>RL</u></p> <p><u>RL</u></p> |
| | | | <p>I. Deane Capt. Commandg 10th Aust M G Coy.</p> | |

APPENDIX

10TH MACHINE GUN COMP

by orders of

In the Field
4-3-18.

By Lt. L. E. Inman

of command. 10th M.G. Coy.

Transport
Officers

Lt. Youlens L.S.

Move off.

Transport less Water Cart, book cart & 2 Hacks
will move off from Penzance Lines at 10 am 5/3/18
& proceed via Neuve Eglise, De Sente, Baelleul
Road to Bugabe Column.

Bugabe
Starting Point

1. Starting point Road Junction $\frac{1}{2}$ mile West of Baelleul
on Baelleul-Melireux Road passing this point at 12.17 pm.
2. After passing Starting Point Transport will move under
orders of O/C Bde Transport Column.

Parade State

3. Officers in charge of Unit Transport will furnish
a Parade State showing personnel, animals and
vehicles to O/C Bde Column.

Billeting

4. One other Tank mounted will report to O/C at
Starting Point.

Halt

5. Halt for 10 minutes before the hour each hour.

Ration

6. Ration & forage for consumption on 7th & 8th
March will be drawn at Ebbwingheim.

(Sgt) Inman Lieut.
10th M.G. Coy.

Coy. Orders 5. In the field
6/3/18 ~~4/4/18.~~
By Lieut W. Trumble By Commanding Officer.

N.B.O.
in charge.

Sgt.

2 Riding horse cook cart + Water together with the necessary Drivers + Grooms will leave present billets at 12.30pm + proceed to Bailliet West Station to enquire for Desvres.

N.B.O. in charge report to embarking officer (Lieut Hande) on arrival.

at Desvres

On arrival at Desvres will be met by guide but if not proceed to Bournonville 3 miles North from Desvres where the Unit will be billeted.

Rations

Unexpended portion of day rations to be carried.

Sgt. W. Trumble Lt
with A.G. Coy.

Order No. 6

In the Field
22/3/18

By Capt S. J. Cleve

Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.

10TH MACHINE GUN COMPANY

Intention

The company with A.S.B. Train (A.S.B. Wagon, Cooks cart & Water cart) will move to Lumber Area by route march & join 10th Inf Bde.

Starting Point:

The head of the column will pass the starting point at 2 pm sharp.
Starting point: T Road 100 yds W of Coy office.

March Discipline

Strict attention to be paid to March discipline.

Rations

Unexpended portions of the days rations to be carried.
48 hours rations will be carried on the A.S.B. Wagon which will accompany the Coy.

Billeting

Lt Woods & Sgt Floyd will move in advance of the company to arrange billets.

J. Reed Capt.
Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.

Coys. order No. 6^A

In the Field
23/3/18

By Capt. S. R. Cleave

Commanding

10TH MACHINE GUN COMPANY

Transport
Officer

Lt Youden L. I. will act as transport officer during the present move.

Intention

The Transport less Cook, Cart Water Cart & A.S. Co. waggon will proceed by road from its present billets at Bournonville and join the Brigade transport at St Martin-au-Laut.

Starting
Point

Head of the column to pass the starting point at 8 am sharp.
Starting point T. Road 100 yds W. of Coy office.

Riding on
Waggons

No man is to ride on any lumbered waggons

Rations

24 hours rations to be carried on Lumber on arrival at St Martin au Laut rations for coming day will be drawn.

S. R. Cleave Capt.
Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.

Boy Order No. 7. In the Field
 24-3-18
 By Capt. S. R. Blake Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.

Review Review will be at 4.0 am.

The Coy will proceed to Lumsden by Route March
 & entrain for Baske.

Starting Point The Company will March out of present
 billets at 5.30 am

Transport Cooks Cart & Water Cart & Ass. Wagon Under
 command of W. G. Little will proceed to
 Wiggins & entrain on embussing train at
 8 am.

A. R. Blake Capt
 Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.



After travelling for 6 days by route
 march train and buses the company
 arrived in Heilly on the 27th March
 1918 and immediately went into the
 line taking over from 11th MG Coy
 The disposition of guns were as follows:
 8 guns in the line, 4 guns in reserve
 and 4 guns detached, 2 of which
 the Brigadier allotted to 39th Battalion
 at Ribemont and 2 to 40th Battalion
 at Heilly, (4 guns on the left were
 able to give direct overhead fire
 covering the front line) disposition
 of guns are shown on sketch "A"
 herewith in red

At 5 p.m. on 28th March I
 was given instructions to cover an
 advance which was to take place
 at 4 p.m. and again at 7 p.m.
 8 guns were placed at my disposal
 4 " " Brigade reserve at
 2 " " attached to 39th Battalion
 2 " " " " 40th " "

The guns attached to the Battalions were sent into the attack under the following

N.C.O's :- Sergeant Kelly with 39th Battalion
 " Smith " 40th "

This had to be done as there were not sufficient officers to carry on

Lieut Woods had command of No 4 Section

" Youlden " " " " 3 "

" Little " " " " 1 "

No 2 Section was split up with Battalions

The sections in the line were assembled

to a central point ^{"A" No 3 Section} ^{"B" "4"} and the guns moved forward to cover the infantry

in their new line which ran as shown in attached map "A." (Disposition of Guns in "Blue")

All guns were

in position at 1 A.M. on the 29th

which under the circumstances of all guns being widely separated and had



to be assembled at a central point
to receive instructions, ~~was~~ ^{showed} very good
work on the part of the Section
Officers and N.C.O.'s

A dump of 20,000 S.A.A
was established at SE Corner of
MARRETT WOOD

The mules with S.A.A moved
in rear of No. 4 Section and the
dump was made at midnight 28/29/30
Dispositions of guns with their arcs
of fire as on the 29th March are
shown in blue on attached map
At 9 p.m. on 29/30 March two guns
under Lieut Little gave covering fire
to 2 platoons which attacked a small
copse at J 18. D. 90.40

Fire was to be
opened at 9 p.m. and continued until
9-5 p.m. when fire would cease and

the infantry attacked

The position was captured and our line advanced to hold this point

On the 29th the line was advanced slightly in J 18 b c to strengthen the line and hold copee in J. 18. d

The 10th Brigade front ran from x roads in in J. 17. a to copee in J 18. d. 18. 20.

On the night of 30th/31st the 15th Company relieved all guns in square J 18 and those guns relieved the 35th Coy on the left from x roads J 17. a. 90. 70 to D 50. a. 90. 20

Disposition of guns shown in Map. B

The 10th Machine Gun Coy were relieved on the night of 1/2 April by the 24th Machine Gun Coy and proceeded by route march to Ribemont taking



over the defences there, & guns being
 in position and & guns in billets
 The total casualties for the period
 being 27th March to 1st April inclusive being
 3 killed 6 wounded & one missing

| <u>Killed</u> | <u>Wounded</u> | <u>Missing</u> |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sgt Smith Lt | Mc Myers | Sgt Riebaue |
| " Cairns | Tomkins | |
| Lt Hill Jorden | Lock | |
| | Fallon | |
| | Harper | |
| | Brooks | |

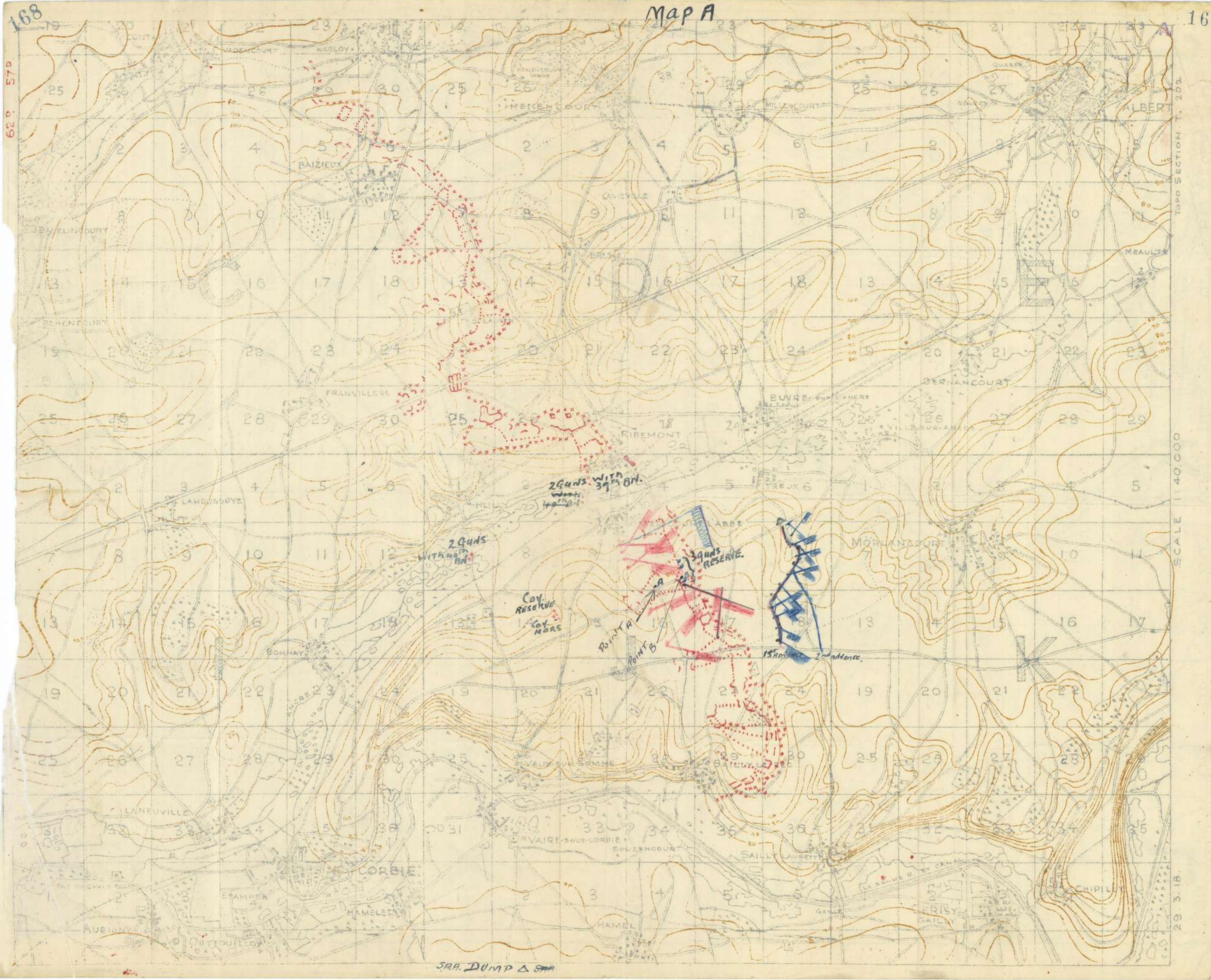
J. B. O'Connell
 Commanding 10th M.G. Coy.

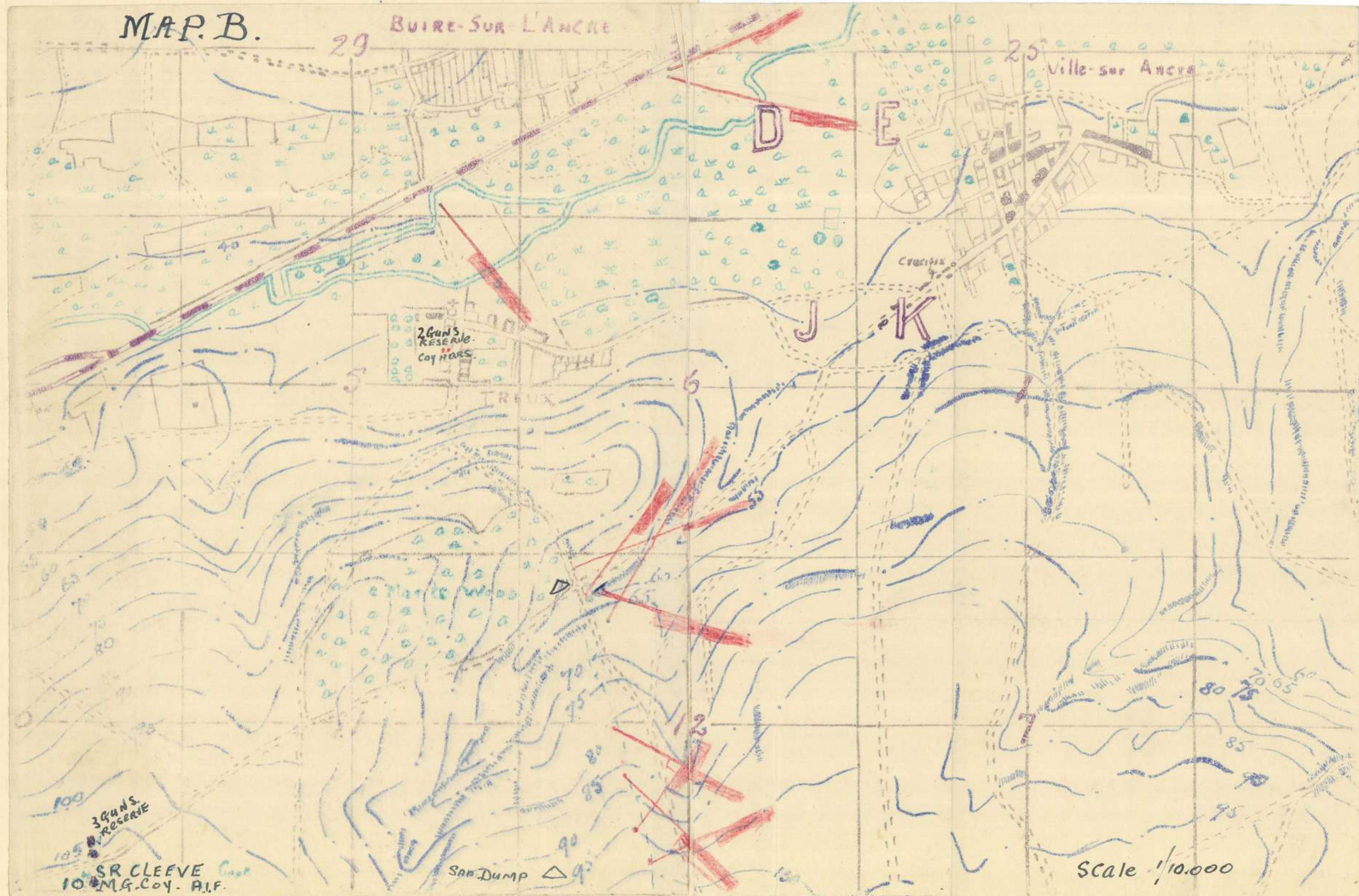
62 P. 57 D

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SCALE 1:40,000

29. 3. 16.





MAP. C.
RIBEMONT DEFENCES.
Machine Guns.

