

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/69/26 Part 1

Title: 52nd Infantry Battalion

May 1918 Appendices



AWM4-23/69/26PART1

224

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

52nd BATTN

FOR

MAY 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

J. Whitham Esq

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. Whitham Esq

52nd Battalion, A.I.F. WAR DIARY May 1918.

Sheet 1
Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Place | Date 1918 | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chateau in Bois l'Abbe for Bn. H Qrs. (map) Reference - Sheet 62 D. 026 c.g. 3) Companies in AUBIGNY Reserve Trench System West of VILLERS - BRETONNEUX. | May 1 st (Wednesday) | 11 am 1 pm 11.15 am 6.20 pm | <p>Weather fine. Situation quiet. Battalion still the forward battalion of Reserve Brigade Ath Aus. Divⁿ; 12th AUS/HC Bde in ^{the line.} Comm^d Officer, with Bn Int. Officer went round the trenches and saw Company Commanders. Also paid a visit to the Regimental Hdqrs of the left regiment of the French Division on our right flank. Reg^t Commander (1st Colonel VIBERT) (3rd TIRAILLEURS) * Note below.</p> <p>Div^l Commander called at Battⁿ HQrs. In afternoon the Brigadier (Brig Gen. GLASGOW) visited Battⁿ HQrs. and discussed the question of re-organization of companies in view of present strength of Battⁿ & no reinforcements expected to arrive immediately. Instructions issued to companies to reorganize 'C' & 'D' coys to amalgamate (Memo J2)</p> <p>9 Reinforcements arrived. 3 Company officers proceeded to Bn Reserve details.</p> <p>* Unit on our immediate right in AUBIGNY Line, 8th ZOUAVES.</p> <p>For information regarding Artillery & aerial activity, our own and enemy, see Appendix B(4) Intelligence Summary 4th Aus. Divⁿ</p> | Appendix 'A' (1) Dispositions and Sketch A(2) Appendix A(1) Memo J2 Re-organization Other appendices A(3) Defence Instrs A(4) Intelligence Summary A(5) Notes on Enemy Troops. A(6) Operation Memo |
| " | 2 nd | 2.45 pm | <p>Weather fine, bright. Companies engaged in various duties: salvage, sanitation, clearing & cleaning trenches, and in reconnaissance. Coy Officers with Bn Int. Officer reconnoitred CACHY Switch system in early morning in preparation for taking over from 48th Bn at night. Officers of 51st Battalion visited AUBIGNY Line and our HQrs during day.</p> <p>Corps Commander (General BIRDWOOD) and Brigadier (Brig Gen. GLASGOW) visited Battⁿ HQrs.</p> <p>Bn Int. Officer (Lieut JULIN) proceeded to Battⁿ Reserve Details in evening - being relieved by Lieut W H CONWELL. The latter had been detached for last fortnight of April whilst employed as Int. Officer to Lieut Col. PAUL'S composite force (Pioneers, Labour Battⁿ etc).</p> <p>During night, 52nd Battalion relieved 48th Bn (12th A.I. Bde) in CACHY Switch Trenches: 2 Coys 51st Battalion replacing 52nd Battⁿ and nucleus garrison in AUBIGNY Line. Bn HQrs (52nd & 51st Bns) did not move. Reliefs completed by 1.15 am 3rd April. Operation by 12th Bde in MONUMENT Wood carried out during night 2/3rd May: French troops co-operating on right flank.</p> | B(1) 13 th A.I. Bde Order No. 121 and message R. B. 452. B(2) Bn Operation memo J2, J3 B(3) Memos J6(a) and re Salvage collect B(4) |

52nd Battalion A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

May 1918

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Sheet (2)

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| Bois l'Abbe (Batt ⁿ HQs) CACHY Switch Trenches (Companies). between VILLERS BRETONNEUX and CACHY) | 1918 3 rd | 2 am and 4.30 am 9 am 3. pm Night | <p>Weather during day. Fine & clear. slight Easterly breeze in morning. Our aeroplanes very active all day. enemy planes inactive.</p> <p>Both our own & enemy artillery active during the time that operation in MONUMENT Wood was in progress. Our trenches in CACHY Switch received some attention from enemy artillery, gas shells were included in the ^{last} barrage. Enemy artillery quiet during day.</p> <p>Dispositions of Companies in CACHY Switch are shown in sketch - (Appendix A (2)) and also in Appendix C (A)</p> <p>Comm^{ds} Officer left, by car, to attend a General Court Martial at 4th ARMY HQs for the trial of a German who came into our lines on morning 25th April, carrying a flag of Truce and a message (verbal) for our surrender. Trial concluded & C.O. returned 8 pm</p> <p>Major FITZGERALD in command during the day. He attended a meeting of C.O.'s held at 12th A.I. Bde HQs.</p> <p>Companies visited during day by Adjutant & Intelligence Officer. Enemy used small balloons to drop propaganda (see Appendix D (3))</p> <p>Relief of 12th Aust Inf Bde carried out. 52nd Bn did not move (now in Bde Support). see Appendices C (1) and (2)</p> <p>French troops on our right altered their dispositions; their left flank in CACHY line now rests about Vq central; thus causing a gap of about 400* in front of CACHY village. (This gap would be covered by French troops in rear).</p> | <p>Appendices C(1) Bde Messags B 455 and Notes h/K.O. C(2) Battⁿ Memo J11. C(3) File re D(3) Flag of Truce C(4) Disposition Reports of Companies D(1) Memo J14 re Ammunition Bombs. Reserve Rations. D(2) Salvage Memo. J15. D(3) Enemy Propaganda.</p> |
| Batt ⁿ Rear HQs (Orderly room staff and Ass ^t . Adj ^t) at PETIT BLANGY Cabaret Cross Roads, in house. Cookers here also. Transport lines and R.Q.M. Sise. in Somme Valley just west of LAMOTTE | 4 th | | <p>Fine day. Nothing unusual occurred. See Appendices D(1) (2) and (3). Arrangements made with Y.M.C.A. - who opened a Canteen & Depot during the week in the yard of Chateau in Bois l'Abbe - for supply of tea & cocoa to all parties proceeding to or from the trenches; our carts brought up the water from BLANGY-TRONVILLE. Brigade Canteen also opened its Battalion Depot at Chateau on 3rd instant. Arrangements made for men to be bathed at LAMOTTE.</p> <p>Working parties provided for various jobs - see Appendix E (1).</p> <p>Major R.F. FITZGERALD proceeded from Battⁿ HQs to rejoin Battⁿ Reserve Details, now located at ALLONVILLE.</p> <p>Bde Major at Bn HQs in morning. Ass^t. Adj^t (Lieut BILSON) at Bn HQs during day. War Diary for April completed & despatched. - delay in despatch caused through various moves at end of month and large amount of clerical work.</p> | <p>E (1) Works Report. Memo J18 of 5.5.18</p> |
| | 5 th | | <p>Fine day. 80 men marched to LAMOTTE Baths - left 8 am, returned during afternoon; good clean underclothing issued which was much appreciated as, owing to mias vapouration, the battalion had not had a chance to visit baths for an unduly long period; batches of men continued going to LAMOTTE baths during the week until all completed.</p> <p>Divisional Commander (Major Gen. Macfagan) with Brigadier, visited Battalion HQs in morning.</p> <p>Trenches & ports on left of Battⁿ Sector continued, new ports not quite completed. (see Appendix F 2)</p> | |

52nd Battalion
A.I.F

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Sheet 3.

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| As per 3 rd , 4 th and 5 th - (vide sheet 2). | 1918 6 th | 1. pm afternoon | <p>Wet day. Nothing out of ordinary routine occurred. Brigadier visited Battalion in morning. 80 men to LAMOTTE Baths during day.</p> <p>G.S.O.I of 4th AmDut^s called at Bn HQs, with Bde Major, C.O., with I.O., went round all trenches & posts in afternoon. Movement by day, except in very small parties, along the CACHY Switch Trench was discouraged as much as possible. This area is under direct observation from MONUMENT Wood and therefore any unnecessary movements by day were prevented. Lewis Gun N.C.O. visited all posts during day.</p> <p>Commenced construction of dug-out for Bn HQs to be used in event of bombardment; the only cellar accommodation in the chateau being required for advanced Dressing Station. Several battalions using this chateau now as HQs. Working parties provided by Battalion - see appendix G(1).</p> | <p>Appendices:- F(1) Works Report 5/6 May. J18. F(2) Amended Dispositions and Intelligence Report. 6.5.18 F(3) Ammunition Return (J34)</p> |
| " | 7 th | 2.30 pm afternoon Night | <p>Dull, showery day. Brigadier visited Bn HQs about 1.30 pm; discussed probable relief of front line battalions.</p> <p>Corps Commander (General BIRDWOOD) visited Bn HQs. Bde Major & Staff Captain visited us in afternoon.</p> <p>Adjutant, Int. Officer & Sig. Officer visited 50th Bn HQs to discuss preliminary arrangements for relief.</p> <p>Coy Commanders (B and C Coys) went to front line Companies 50th Bn - preliminary reconnaissance.</p> <p>No operations during day. Enemy shelled CACHY & Southern edge of BOIS L'ABBE in afternoon.</p> <p>Trench (3rd ZOUAVES) now again occupying trenches on our immediate right flank.</p> <p>* Our dispositions unchanged except that one left post (N.9) was taken over on night 6/7th May by the left battalion (46th).</p> <p>Working parties again fully employed the battalion. (see Appendix H(1)).</p> <p>Comforts provided by Y.M.C.A. were very much appreciated. During this day they provided 2 boxes cigarettes per man in the trenches, 2 oranges per man, and hot cocoa twice: at 4 pm & 12 midnight. The cocoa etc was made by the Y.M.C.A. & carried in petrol tins by our own men to the trenches.</p> | <p>G(1) Works Report 6/7 May J40 G(2) Bde memo B1/386 of 7.5.18 re Bombardment of MONUMENT WOOD</p> |
| " | 8 th | Morning | <p>Fine weather. Bathing of battalion completed today at LAMOTTE baths. Working parties provided as usual.</p> <p>C.O., with I.O. visited 50th Bn HQs (re relief on 9th), & also observation posts in VILLERS-BRETONNEUX. (Appendix I(1)).</p> <p>Cocoa provided by Y.M.C.A. & supplied to companies at 4 am and 4 pm.</p> <p>C.O. visited Bde HQs in afternoon. C.O. 51/Bn also.</p> | <p>H(1) Works Report 7/8 May J44 H(2) Instructions to Companies memo F4 8.5.</p> |

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| Place | Date 1918 | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| as on Sheet 3) | 8 th | | During day no operations undertaken: a bombardment of MONUMENT Wood was carried out by our Artillery at 3. am. Enemy artillery activity normal - shelled CACHY line at intervals, including two periods 9 pm & midnight 8/9 th May. Two enemy planes flew low over our area at 1.30 pm. Demonstration to test S.O.S. signal being given from front line by flag call: apparently not satisfactory, unheard by our companies. | Appendices:- I (1) Works Report J48 I (2) Report on Casualty to Aeroplane |
| as before. | 9 th | 2pm | Fine day. Brigadier called at midday. Working parties provided as usual during day. (appendix I (1)). Received instructions for relief of 50 th BN. (appendix I (3)). Issued Batt ⁿ Instructions accordingly (appendix I (4)). Memo J50. | I (3) Reliefs for 9/10 th May. Memo B/478. |
| | | 1.50 pm | In morning one of our planes was brought down as result of enemy action - falling near CACHY (appendix I (2)). | I (4) Ditto. Biv memo J50 |
| | | 10.30 pm | Companies commenced to move from CACHY line to front line, slightly later than intended but due to necessity of completing issue of hot meal to all ranks, this could only be done after dark. Battalion HQs moved about 10 pm to 50 th BN HQs. - some details having gone earlier to take over stores & signal communications. | |
| Front line S.E. VILLERS BRET-NEUX. | 10 th | 12.30 am | Relief completed. by all arrangements proved satisfactory: no casualties. Bn Int. Officer visited all coys during relief. | J (1) Sketch, Dispositions - 9/10 May. 13/14/15 |
| N. HQs at 28. C. 8.5. (in carry on N. side road to AMIENS) see Appendix JW. | | 11 am | Adj ^t went round all coys & trenches between 1.30 & 4.30 am. Signalling officer also. Brigadier visited Batt ⁿ HQs. In afternoon, C.O., with Liaison Interpreter, visited HQ (Poste de Commandant) of the French Battalion on our right. (5 th BN, 2 nd ZOUAVES. & 37 th French Division). The 2 nd ZOUAVES had relieved the 3 rd Tirailleurs in the line on previous night. also visited 'A' Coy HQs - this was the only company which could be safely visited by daylight. For information re Enemy & our Artillery activity, work of patisols, stencors etc. see Appendix M (4), file of Intelligence Reports etc. Weather good. | J (2) Instructions to Companies Memo F46 A 10.5.18 |
| | | Night | Visits to front line posts made by Bn HQs: adj ^t from 9.30 pm to 11.30 pm. C.O. & S.O. midnight to 3. am., Sig officer also. | |
| | 10/11 | 3. am | Our artillery bombarded MONUMENT Wood & vicinity. Enemy reply reached us about 3.30 am when he fired on our rear positions, including neighbourhood of Bn HQs. | K (1) Salvage (memo J53) 11.5.18 |
| " | 11 th | | Fine day. In morning C.O. 5 th Batt ⁿ ZOUAVES (Capt. RODARY) visited us. Liaison with French very satisfactory: we maintained an officer at Regimental HQs., a runner at front line Bn HQs, and in the front line our right post was mutually held by Australians (B' Coy) and French (ZOUAVES). An Interpreter was also stationed at our Bn HQs. Each morning copies of Intelligence Reports for past 24 hours were exchanged between units (translated by Interpreters) and any orders regarding patisols etc for next night interchanged. Pass words also mutually arranged. For the front line posts we invariably selected an Arabic word or name, easy to pronounce & understood by the ZOUAVES. | J. Whitham J. L. C. |

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| As shown on Sheet 4 for 10 th and 11 th | 1918 11 th | midday afternoon Evening Night | <p>Brigadier & Bde Major called - discussed question of obtaining enemy identifications - fighting patrols to be sent out by both Battalions in the line; artillery co-operation would be arranged by Division, to consist of a shoot on MONUMENT Wood Sector.</p> <p>arrangements made for patrols. The officer to take out 52nd Bn patrol (Lieut W.J. HALL) was given his instructions verbally at Bn HQs.</p> <p>For further details re this minor operation, see Appendix K(2).</p> <p>C.O. 14th Bn (Lt Col CROWTHER) visited us regarding probable relief next week. arrangements mutually made for Coy Commanders of 14th Bn to visit their respective "opposite numbers" of 52nd Bn.</p> <p>Fighting patrols from 51st & 52nd Bns went out immediately after the artillery barrage went forward. No identifications gained.</p> | <p>Appendices - K(2) Minor Operation Night 11/12th May 1918 (File complete)</p> <p>L(1) Instructions re Lewis Guns J68</p> |
| " | 12 th | Night | <p>Weather in morning - light rain, bad visibility; clear in afternoon. Aeroplanes, enemy & ours, active in afternoon. artillery on both sides showed normal activity for most of day - enemy shelled our front line trenches in short bursts during afternoon, apparently registration shoot as several of his balloons were up at the time.</p> <p>Brigadier visited us about midday. & discussed question of further patrolling to confirm previous night's patrol reports as to enemy locations. Instructions were issued accordingly to left company - vide Appendix Ia(2).</p> <p>Our patrol carried out its instructions, & obtained further definite information re enemy locations in MONUMENT Wood area. One prisoner was captured during the night by a bit of smart work by Lieut BERTHELSEN of 'B' Coy whilst returning alone from visiting a listening post. Details regarding prisoner given in Appendix L(3).</p> | <p>L(2) Instructions re Special Patrol Night 12/13 May. memo's F52 & 52a</p> <p>L(3) Report on Capture Prisoner of War</p> <p>L(4) Relief by 14th Bn. (Message 559 memo J70)</p> |
| " | 13 th | 4.30 h 6.30 am 8 pm midnight | <p>Weather during day showery; cold change set in & towards evening weather was cold, ground became very muddy & slippery.</p> <p>Enemy shelled area West of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX: about 4.30 am a number of enemy planes returned to his lines - they were warmly engaged by our Anti-Aircraft guns & Machine Gun fire.</p> <p>Preparations for relief by 14th Bn were proceeded with during day. Enemy shelled front line with Gas in afternoon.</p> <p>14th Bn HQ staff (with Major JOHNSON in command) arrived at 52nd Bn HQs. and Companies went forward as soon as possible after dark: 14th Bn also relieved portion of 51st Bn in front line & 49th Bn in support area.</p> <p>Message sent at midnight 13/14th relaying Bde HQs that "Relief was completed".</p> | <p>M(1) Bde Order N^o 152 re Relief.</p> <p>M(2) Bn memo N^o J73 re Relief</p> <p>M(3) French Pass Words</p> <p>M(4) File of Bn Intelligence Reports etc 9th to 14th May</p> |

J. Whitham for

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| Reserve Brigade Area of Right Division of AUSTRALIAN CORPS. Sheet 62 D. map Squares N 34 and N 35.. with BN HQs at the Cross Roads at PETIT BLANGY Cabaret at N 28 d.o. A. Trenches occupied known as the BLANGY - NICOLAS System. | 1918 13/14 | (after midnight) | Companies marched independently westwards along AMIENS Road, calling in at Chateau in Bois l'Abbe en route, for Cocoa & tea supplied by the Y.M.C.A. The good work done by this organization cannot be too highly praised, for in addition to their stall & canteen in the Bois l'Abbe, they established a forward coffee & cocoa canteen close to the front line south of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, actually within 200 yards of our front line trenches. The two gentlemen working with 13 th A.I. Bde, Mr MASSEY and Mr GOULD, the latter a recent arrival with us, have been always of the greatest help to all ranks & have ensured their comfort in many ways & under difficult & trying circumstances a hot meal was issued to Battalion on arrival near PETIT BLANGY, and all ranks were then glad to get a few hours sleep. Some casualties amongst men of 'B' Coy were evacuated during the march out. - These were the result of the enemy gas shelling of previous afternoon, though all precautions possible were taken to neutralize the gas & masks were worn, sufficient damage to eyes & stomachs was done to necessitate men going sick. Report by Bde Gas Officer is attached as an appendix. (M(5). | M(5) Report by Bde Gas officer N(1) Sketch Showing Dispos- itions. 14 th May. N(2) Several Instructions to Companies & J 74 of 14 th 18 N(3) Bde Memo re Baths. m5/333 |
| " | 14 th | | Fine sunny day, weather getting decently warm & much appreciated by resting troops. Troops engaged in cleaning themselves, their clothes & equipment and in resting. Officers busy with checking of rolls etc. No operations engaged in on Divisional front. The area occupied by Battalion is within 7,000 yards of front line & therefore within enemy shelling range: enemy shells these areas periodically by day & night, mainly no doubt as part of his counter-battery work. Enemy aerial activity also requires that movement by day should be restricted in any exposed areas. The back areas are also visited each night by enemy bombing aeroplanes: all units maintain anti-aircraft machine & Lewis Guns. | O(1) Memo J 80 Lewis Guns for Anti-Aircraft O(2) Bde Return of Casualties 3-15 th May. O(3) Message to Corps re the "breaking-up" |
| " | 15 th | 4 pm | Fine bright day. No operations or special incidents occurred. Preliminary preparations for "break up" in progress. Meeting of Commanding Officers held at 13 th Aust. Inf Bde HQs at GLISY, at which the Brigadier announced the decision of the Corps & Divisional Commanders for the formation of 3 Battalion Brigades & its adoption by the immediate withdrawal of the 52 nd Battalion by demobilizing it & transferring personnel to other units within the Brigade. | O(4) Bde Message S.C. 820 re Nucleus personnel J. J. Whitham sketch |

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52nd Battalion
A.I.F.

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Sheet 7.

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| As shown on Sheet 6 | 1918 16 th May | am 11.30 5 pm 6 pm | <p>Warm sunny day - Australian weather for the last day of the 52nd Battalion in the field. Battalion bathed at LAMOTTE Baths during day. Very busy day for Battⁿ HQs & all Coy Officers, checking rolls of personnel & arranging distribution to the other battalions, checking of personnel, equipment etc, & preparing marching-out documents. For details regarding the Re-organization of 13th A.I. Bde, & of all orders & messages thereon, see various appendices P(1) to P(6) - (P(4) Excepted). Nucleus Reserve personnel rejoined Battalion at about 10 am.</p> <p>During morning a Memorial Cross was erected in memory of Officers, N.C.O's & men of 52nd Battⁿ who were killed or mortally wounded in the operations near VILLERS-BRETONNEUX on 24/26th April. (see Appendix P(4) 1918.</p> <p>Companies "marched out", from their positions in the reserve trenches, and valedictory message was read by each O.C. Coy. Detachments then formed for each of the remaining 3 Battalions, to whom C.O. spoke personally.</p> <p>52nd Battalion marched out, each detachment as it passed Battalion HQs being halted and addressed by the Brigadier (Brig General T.W. GLASGOW. CB. CMG DSO); The Brigadier briefly explained the reasons for the withdrawal of the 52nd Bn from the Brigade, his sincere regret for losing such a battalion which he classed as "second-to-none" in the AUSTRALIAN Imperial Force", and, after recounting the work done & the operations in which the Battalion had been engaged since its arrival in FRANCE from EGYPT in 1916, he gave them his farewell message "To do as well in their new battalions as they had done in their old."</p> <p>Detachments marched out to their new battalions in the following order, 51st Bn, 50th Bn, 49th Bn., the Pipe Band of the 52nd Bn - transferred complete to 49th Battalion, played each detachment for a few hundred yards along the road past Bn HQs. For details re personnel, numbers to each Bn, & posting of all officers see Appendix P(5)(b) a few members of the Bd Battⁿ staff, including C.O., ass^t Adj^t, and Qr. Master, with the Orderly room staff, were retained for several days later in order to finally wind up all records of the Battalion in the field</p> | <p>P(1) Various Messages re the Breaking-up of the Battalion. J83 to J90.</p> <p>P(2) Message to all personnel of 52nd Bn by C.O.</p> <p>P(3) Particulars of Memorial to those who fell on 24/25/26 April</p> <p>P(4) Last Signal message from 52nd Bn to 13th A.I. Bde.</p> <p>P(5) A¹ Aus. Divⁿ (a) Adm. Instruction No 81 and</p> <p>P(5)(b) 13th A.I. Bde Memo of 16.5.1918 on Re-Organisation of Bde on 3 Bn Basis</p> |

J. Whitham Lieut Colonel
Comm^{dg} 52nd Battalion A.I.F. J. Whitham

WAR DIARY

OF

52nd. BATTALION A. I. F.

FOR

M A Y 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | "A" (1) Dispositions of 13th. A.I. Brigade Units (dated 5 p.m. 28th. April). |
| x | "A" (2) Sketch (2 copies) showing 52nd. Battalion dispositions in AUBIGNY Line and in CACHY SWITCH. |
| x | "A" (3) 4th. Aust. Div. Instructions for the Defensive, No.5. |
| x | "A" (4) " " " Intelligence Summary No.250 of 1/5/18. |
| x | "A" (5) Notes on the enemy troops opposite the 4th. Aust. Divnl. Front (issued with Summary of Intelligence No.250). |
| | "A" (6) Battalion Operation Memo (No. J.1.) of 1/5/18 (for relief of 48th. Battalion in CACHY SWITCH). |
| | "A" (7) Battalion memo No. J.2 of 1/5/18 - Instructions for re-organization into 3 Companies. |
| x | "B" (1) 13th. A.I. Bde Order No.121 of 2/5/18) Reference operation in MONUMENT WOOD |
| | Brigade message No. B.452 of do) and relief of |
| | "B" (2) Battalion Operation memo (No. J.7)) 48th. Battalion. |
| | " " " " (No. J.8)) |
| | "B" (3) Battalion memo No. J.6a of 2/5/18) |
| | " " " " No. J.39 of 7/5/18) Re Salvage. |
| x | "B" (4) 4th. Aust. Divnl. Summary of Intelligence No.251-2/5/18. |
| | "C" (1) 13th. A.I. Brigade message No. B.455 of 3/5/18. Relief of 12th. A.I. Bde. by 13th. A.I. Brigade and notes by A/ C.O. 52nd. Battalion. |
| | "C" (2) Battalion instructions re above and for defence (J.11) |
| xx | "C" (3) Report etc. re German Flag of Truce on 25/4/18. |
| | "C" (4) Company dispositions Reports dated 3/5/18. |
| | "D" (1) Battalion memo No. J.14 - Instructions to Companies. re ammunition, bombs, reserve rations. |
| | "D" (2) Return of war material salvaged for week ending 4/5/1918 (Battalion memo No. J.15 of 4/5/18). |
| x | "D" (3) Report re enemy propaganda balloons on 3/5/18 also specimen paper "L'Anglais - tel qu'il est". |
| | "E" (1) Works report 4/5th. May. (Memo J.18 of 5/5/18). |
| | "F" (1) " " 5/6th. " (" J.27 of 6/5/18). |
| | "F" (2) Amended dispositions on left flank in CACHY SWITCH - with Intelligence Report by O/C "C/D" Company, both dated 6/5/1918. |
| | "F" (3) Ammunition Return (as at noon 5/5/18). Battalion memo No. J.34 of 6/5/18.) |
| | "G" (1) Works Report for 6/7th. May (Bn. memo J.40 of 7/5/18). |
| | "G" (2) Brigade memo B.1/386 of 7/5/18 re artillery bombardment of enemy positions in MONUMENT WOOD. |
| | "H" (1) Works Report for 7/8th. May (Bn. memo J.44. of 8/5/18) |
| | "H" (2) Instructions to Companies on various matters (Memo F.42 of 8/5/18). |
| | "I" (1) Works Report for 8/9th. May (Bn. memo J.48 of 9/5/18). |
| | "I" (2) Report of casualty to Aeroplane No.2271 (messages M.47 and 49 of 9/5/18). |
| | "I" (3) Reliefs by units of 13th. A.I. Brigade and 12th. A.I. Brigade (Bde. message No. B.478 of 9/5/18) |

P. T. O.

-2-

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | "I" (4) Reliefs by units of 13th. and 12th. A.I. Brigades. Battalion operation memo J.50 of 9/5/18. |
| x | "J" (1) Sketch showing disposition of 52nd. Battalion from night 9/10th May to night 13/14th. May 1918. |
| | "J" (2) Instructions to Companies, various matters. Memo F.46 of 10/5/18 |
| | "K" (1) Material salvaged for week ended 11/5/18 (Memo J.53 of 11/5/18). |
| | "K" (2) File regarding minor operations night 11/12th. May, with object of securing identifications of enemy. |
| | "L" (1) Instructions to Companies regarding siting of Lewis Guns (memo J.68 of 12/5/18). |
| | "L" (2) Instructions and reports re Special Patrol on night 12/13th. May (memos F.52, 52a. of 12/5/18 and tracing showing route for patrol). |
| | "L" (3) Report on capture of German prisoner night 12/13th. May (memo J.71 of 13/5/18). |
| | "L" (4) Instructions re probable relief of Battalion by 14th. Battalion. Message No.F.55 and operation memo J.70 of 12/5/18. |
| | "M" (1) 13th. A.I. Brigade Order No.122 of 13/5/18 re relief of Brigade by 4th. A.I. Brigade. |
| | "M" (2) Battalion Operation Memo re above (J.73). |
| x | "M" (3) Copies of French messages, giving pass words on 12/13th. and 13/14th. May, from C.O. 5th. Bn., 2nd. ZOUAVES. |
| x | "M" (4) File of Intelligence Reports, Patrol Reports, etc., for period 9/10th. May - 13/14th. May. |
| | "M" (5) Report by Brigade Gas Officer. |
| | "N" (1) Sketch showing dispositions of 13th. A.I. Brigade on 14/5/18 - when in Divisional Reserve. |
| x | "N" (2) Instructions to Companies, message J.74 of 14/5/18. |
| x | "N" (3) Brigade memo M.5/333 re BATHS. |
| | "O" (1) Re Lewis Guns for Anti-Aircraft defence. Memo J.80. |
| x | "O" (2) 13th. Brigade Return dated 15/5/18 - Casualties etc. from 3rd. to 15th. May. |
| | "O" (3) Message E.182 of 15/5/18 to Company Commanders re breaking up of Battalion on 16th. instant. |
| x | "O" (4) Brigade message S.C. 820 of 15th. May re return of Battalion's Nucleus Reserve personnel to unit on 16th. inst. |
| | "P" (1) Various messages, dated 16/5/18, breaking up of the Battalion. Messages J.83, J.84, J.85, J.86, J.87, J.88, J.89, J.90. |
| xx | "P" (2) Message to personnel 52nd. Bn. by C.O., see also message J.90. |
| | "P" (3) Particulars of memorial erected in memory of Officers, N.C.Os, and men killed in action 24/25th. April, 1918. |
| x | "P" (4) Signal message (C.1) from 52nd. Battalion to 13th. A.I. Bde. H.Q. notifying closing of Battalion Signal Office. |
| x | "P" (5) (a) Copy of 4th. Aust. Divnl. Administrative Instructions No.81 (b) 13th. A.I. Brigade Memo of 16/5/18 on Re-organization of Brigade on a 3 battalion basis. |

P. 7. 0.

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APPENDIX.

-3-

| No. | Subject. |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| x ✓ "P" (6) | Battalion Order No.264 of 16/5/1918. |

M A P S.

| | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| x ✓ | Map 62.D. (FRANCE) comprising area covered by operations April 24th. to end of April and the period of this Diary May, 1918. |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| x ✓ | Map E.2. (1/20,000) part of 62.D. Showing dispositions of Companies in the AUBIGNY Line in BOIS 1' ABBE, |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

N O T E

- x - ONE copy only (with original of Diary.
- xx - TWO copies (with Original and Duplicate of Diary)

J. Whitham

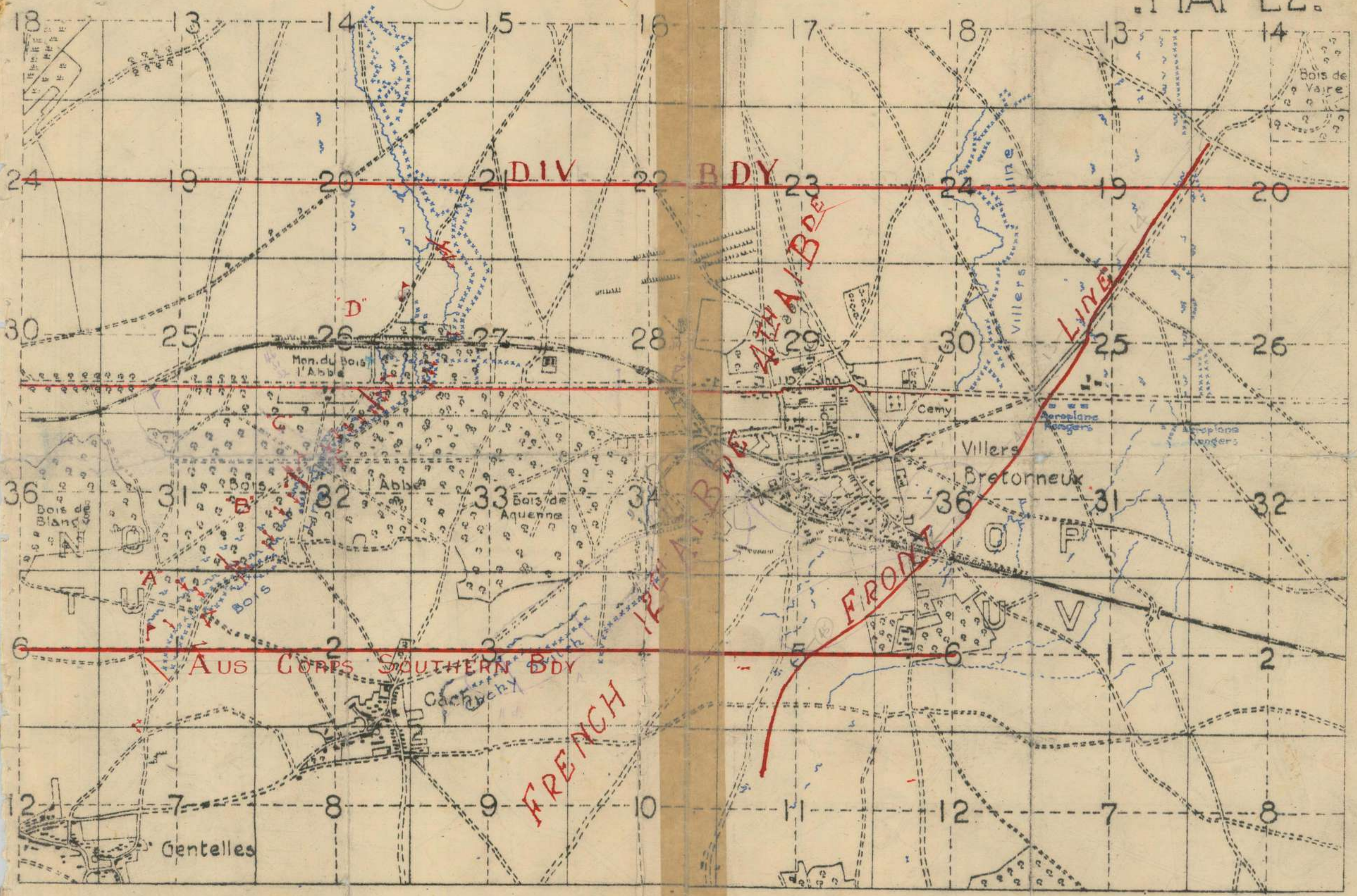
Lieut-Colonel,

Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.



SECRET

MAP E2



SCALE 1:20,000

DIVISION 21-4-16



SECRET.

13th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

APPENDIX

DISPOSITION OF UNITS.

"A" (1)

As at 5 p.m, 28th April, 1918.

Ref. Sheet 62.D.

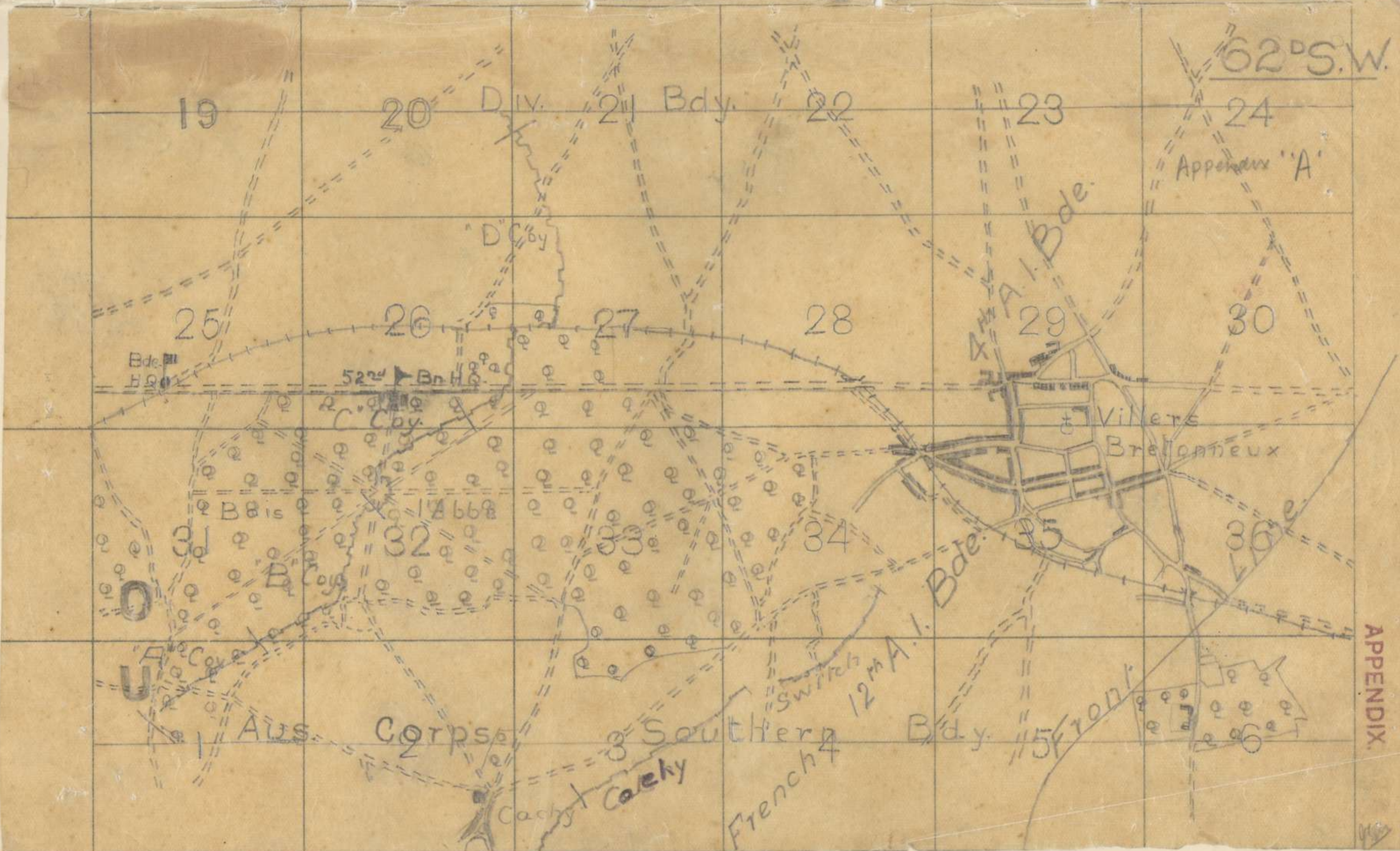
| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 13th Brigade Headquarters | GLISY. |
| 49th Battalion Headquarters | BLANGY-TRONVILLE. |
| 50th " " " | do. do. |
| 51st Battalion | BLANGY- TRONVILLE NICHOLAS |
| Battalion Headquarters | RESERVE (T.4 con. - N.29 con.) N.35.a central. |
| 52nd Battalion | RESERVE LINE (U.1 central |
| Battalion Headquarters | 0.21: a. 0.0.) 0.26: 0.9.3. |
| 13th A.L.T.M.B. | BLANGY-TRONVILLE NICHOLAS RESERVE (with 51st Bn.) |

*29/4/18
Wred Riv 2/11*

T. C. Clark Major,
Brigade Major, 13th Australian Infantry Brigade.

224

62° S.W.



APPENDIX.

APPENDIX. 1921/3

APPENDIX A

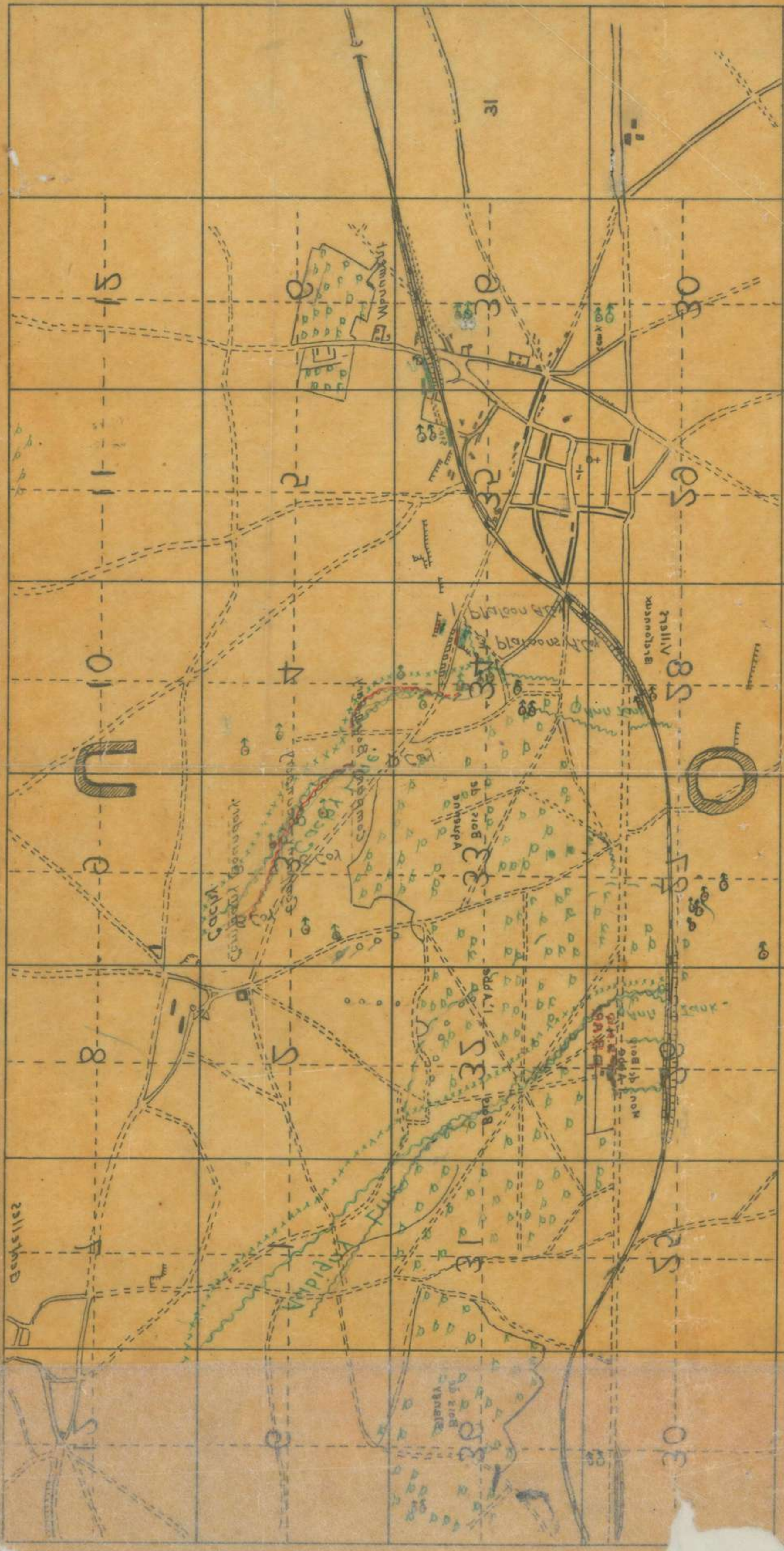
Sketch (Green ink) showing disposition of 48th Battalion when we registered them.

Scale 1:25,000

Signature _____

of the 1: _____

Tracing taken from Sheet _____



Anti Tank Gun
Machine Gun
Tropes in Barracks
Machine Gun
Index

NOTE—(1) These traces are intended to facilitate the communication of information as to the position of various platoons which have been observed on a detailed map drawn at a scale of 1:25,000. (2) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (3) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (4) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (5) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (6) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (7) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (8) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (9) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (10) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (11) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (12) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (13) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (14) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (15) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (16) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (17) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (18) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (19) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000. (20) The traces are drawn on the original map at a scale of 1:25,000.

In May War Diary - 52 Bn

APPENDIX

4315
Appendix A(3)

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE NO. 5.

1. Main line of Defence.

The line held by the Division in front of VILLERS BRETONNEUX is to be maintained as the main line of defence. Every effort is to be made to retain it and to regain it if temporarily lost.

2. Reinforcement and Counter-Attack.

A definite policy is to be pursued as regards reinforcement and counter-attack and a clear distinction drawn between them. After an enemy attack begins it will generally soon become apparent whether a reinforcement of the firing line or a definite counter-attack is required. Every situation must be considered on its merits and if the line is seen to be holding or not seriously pressed back reinforcement will generally be all that is required. If, on the other hand, it is seen that the enemy has made a serious inroad into our defences, counter-attack will be required to regain ground. When a counter-attack is definitely decided on the whole force available in the hands of the responsible commander should be used, in order to make as sure of success as possible. Counter-attacks should be co-ordinated, wherever possible, with neighbouring units or formations, especially as regards timing. Piecemeal counter-attacks are to be discouraged. Reinforcement, on the other hand, will generally necessitate the employment only of a portion of the available reserves.

3. Zone Defence.

In the present Divisional sector the forward zone will be the area forward of the ALLIGNY line (exclusive). The defences known as the ALLIGNY line will be the front system of the 2nd Zone.

4. Divisional Reserve.

(a) Composition. The Divisional Reserve will consist of an Infantry brigade (less 1 battalion), a M.G. Coy., (less 1 Section), the Pioneer Co., a troop of Light Horse, and a platoon of cyclists.

(b) Method of Employment. The Divisional Commander considers that the enemy will attempt to envelope VILLERS BRETONNEUX from the South, and contemplates having to use the Divisional Reserve in that direction.

5. Work of Defences.

All work on forward zone defences will be carried out under the direction of Brigade Commanders in the line. The C.R.E. will detail a Field Company to be at the disposal of line Brigades for this purpose.

Every endeavour is to be made to link up defences with those of flank units and formations.

6. Headquarters and Report Centres.

Headquarters etc. are to be arranged strictly in accordance with Instructions for the Defensive No. 2, dated 11/4/18, issued by this Office. Where mutual H.Q. are laid down the arrangements will be made by agreement between the two brigade commanders.

7. Liaison and Intelligence.

It is vital that intelligence should be sent to Divisional H.Q. and flanks as soon as possible, and that as close a liaison as possible should be maintained with flanking units, especially with the FRENCH.

Mutual liaison posts will be established at the flanks of Brigades and Battalions.

P.T.O.

(2).

Active patrolling and minor enterprises, initiated by subordinate commanders for the purpose of inflicting loss on the enemy and obtaining identifications, are to be encouraged.

8. Gas Precautions.

The clearest instructions are to be given to troops occupying areas liable to become seriously infected with gas as regards movement to avoid gas casualties.

When an area is vacated on account of gas the troops must be disposed in such a manner as to cover the area vacated with fire and deny its occupation to enemy Infantry and Machine Guns. The Artillery is invariably to be warned before, or as soon as possible after, such an evacuation.

The strictest anti-gas discipline is to be maintained at all times and places.

The enemy's policy appears to be to deluge the area he intends to attack with mustard oil some days prior to the attack and to use a rapidly dissipating lethal gas immediately prior to the assault.

9. Enemy Smoke Barrages.

The enemy has lately made frequent use of smoke barrages to conceal movement, notably that of tanks. Should a smoke barrage be put down on the front of this Division a slow rate of fire will be opened by all arms searching back over the area concealed from view.

J. Lavarack

Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISTRIBUTION.

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------------------|-------|
| 4th A.I. Bde. | (5). | Australian Corps | (1). |
| 12th " | (5). | 5th Aust. Division. | (1). |
| 13th " | (5). | 'C' Coy. 1st Bn. Tanks. | (1). |
| C.R.A. | (4). | ----- | ----- |
| C.R.E. | (1). | War Diary. | (3). |
| Pioneers. | (1). | G.O.C. | (1). |
| M.G. Bn. | (1). | Spare. | (8). |
| Div. Sig. Coy. | (1). | | |
| A.D.H.S. | (1). | | |
| D.A.D.I.S. | (1). | | |
| Detachment 13th L.H. | (1). | | |
| " 1st Cyclist Bn. | (1). | | |
| P.I. | (1). | | |
| A.C. | (1). | | |
| 'Q' Liaison | (1). | | |

For Official Use Only.4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 250.From 6 a.m. 30th April, to 6 a.m. 1st May, 1918.NOT to be taken into the FRONT line.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Owing to the low visibility practically no observed shoots could be carried out until evening. Harassing fire was maintained throughout the period. Howitzers engaged house at O.36.B. 80 on which several direct hits were observed. Towards evening the improved light gave us the opportunity of checking our S.O.S. lines. At night bursts of fire were placed on WAREUSEE - FOUILLOY road, cross roads in P.21.D., roads in P.26.C., P.26.D., P.32.A., P.32.B., V.2.B., V.3.A., MONUMENT WOOD, P.33.C., and Railway. Synchronized shoots were carried out along the whole Divisional front at 10.30 p.m. and 4.15 a.m. from S.O.S. 200 to extreme range in ten equal lifts, all guns bombarding and the artillery of Divisions on Right and Left co-operating.

(b) Machine Guns. Both our Lewis and Vickers guns did excellent shooting on moving targets, throughout the day, chiefly in the direction of BOIS DE VAIKE. Many casualties were inflicted on the enemy, including a mounted man who was shot whilst riding along road in P.20.B. Two of our Vickers guns fired intermittently on targets in MONUMENT WOOD from 11 p.m. till 2 a.m..

(c) French Mortars. Stokes Mortars effectively engaged occupied farmhouse at O.36.D.7.8 at intervals.

(d) Aircraft. Very active during the day flying low over our own and the enemy forward areas. One of our planes flying low fired Machine guns into MONUMENT WOOD.

(e) Patrols. Reconnaissance and liaison patrols operated actively throughout the night on whole divisional front. Divisions on flanks were constantly kept in touch with. A patrol reports MONUMENT WOOD to be held in fair strength. Enemy could be heard in U.6.C.1.9 where digging seemed to be in progress. A trench running from O.36.D.35.10 to U.6.B.2.8 was found occupied. Fourteen enemy were seen to enter a house at P.25.C.70.45. No enemy patrols were encountered but heavy machine gun fire was experienced by all patrols.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Comparatively quiet during the day except for periodical shelling of VILLERS - BRETONNEUX with H.E. and shrapnel - 77's, 105's and 150's being used. The village was also shelled during the night whilst the enemy's barrage was in progress. From 10.10 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. a barrage was put down on our forward system in response to an enemy signal of a series of red flares. From 2.15 a.m. to 3 a.m. enemy shelled our front line systems with 77's, 105's and 150's and 210's. This was repeated from 4.15 a.m. to 4.25 a.m. Enemy heavies were active during the day on back areas. At 6.15 p.m. enemy fired 11 Blue Cross gas shell into VILLERS - BRETONNEUX. During the night enemy artillery was very active on our posts and support lines. The AMIENS road also received attention.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. Apparently very nervous - flares were being fired continuously and M.G.'s. fired on slightest sound. Nearly all our patrols drew M.G. fire, the whole M.G.'s. were very active. At dawn the front line of left Brigade was swept with M.G. fire. On right Brigade front there was less activity except whilst an attempt was made

P.T.O.

(2).

to advance our line. No. M.W. activity is reported.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. In front of and about 20 yards from edge of MONUMENT WOOD (in U.5.B.) there are two fences with a few strands of wire in each. A single apron fence runs from here away to the South.

(b) Work. A trench is being dug at U.6.C.1.9. A party of 20 men was seen working at P.20.D.0.7 (dispersed by L.G. fire.)

(c) Machine Guns. Two active guns were located at O.36.D.6.9. Two in Hanger at P.25.C.4.2. One at P.25.C.95.45, P.25.B.9.5.

(d) Posts. located at O.36.D.2.5 (3 men) P.25.C.95.45.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

As compared with the previous day the inactivity of E.A. was very noticeable, only two planes crossed our lines (at 7.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.). These were driven off by L.G. and French M.G. fire.

8. MOVEMENT. Cyclists were seen on road at U.6.B.9.5. Considerable movement of enemy in small numbers in and about forward enemy positions. At 2.30 a.m. a large party was seen at P.35.A.3.8. Movement was observed on roads P.23.B and P.29.A.

9. ARMS AND EQUIPMENT. A German 08/15 Machine Gun was brought in by one of our patrols.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signal. A series of red flares fired by the enemy brought down a barrage on front line system.

W. Stewart L.
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

From Fourth Army Summary dated 30th April, 1918.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

Since his unsuccessful attack of April 24th, the enemy has put two fresh divisions, who have a good fighting reputation, into line S.E. of VILLERS-BRETTONNEU. It must be assumed that he has done so with the intention of attacking as soon as possible.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. (From the Army on our Right).

The following extracts from letters found on prisoners taken in the NEREUILL Area are of interest: writers and addressees are unknown :-

11th April, (unposted).

"We are stuck here in a very unsatisfactory position, and are obliged to wait till our flanks have conformed. We are thus engaged in a sort of position warfare, without organised positions. We shall no doubt remain in line until an advance takes place".

17th April, (unposted).

"Here we are again, engaged in position warfare, but intense fire and fighting prevent the construction of positions. All we want is fine weather, chiefly a favourable wind, and operations will begin again".

GENERAL.

The Germans have strengthened their line between the SOMME and the LUCE with the Jager Division. This division is a fresh Division from G.H.Q. reserve and has a good reputation. There are now two fresh and probably three tired divisions in line between the above mentioned rivers.

From the above, there is reason to suppose that the enemy intend to renew their offensive against VILLERS-BRETTONNEU in the near future. They suffered, however, very considerable losses on the 24th inst., and may possibly require a little more time to reorganise.

Our troops holding VILLERS-BRETTONNEU should be on guard against a sudden surprise attack to capture the village from the East and Southeast.

From MOROCCAN Division Intelligence Summary dated 29th April, 1918.

ARTILLERY.

A few shells of large calibre fired into the western edge of GENTELLES on bursting appeared to scatter 5 or 6 lights on a radius of 10 metres from the point of impact. These lights had the appearance of VERMILION lights and burned for about 15 seconds.

Barron River

W

W



11/2/1915



Lyndal River



(C)

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Appendix A(5) APPENDIX

20

52
(For MAY War Diary, 52/Bn)

Jan 21/18

APPENDIX
A(5)

NOTES ON THE ENEMY TROOPS OPPOSITE THE DIVISIONAL FRONT.

The 9th Bav. Res. Division holds the sector from approx. P.14.B. to P.25.C. The Sector is held with two regiments in line, viz: 14th Bav. R.I.R. and 11th Bav. E.I.R. The 3rd Bav. Ersatz Regiment is in reserve. This Division has been in line since 27th April. It is of very poor quality and is known as a "trench Division", and usually merely employed in "holding the line".

It is probable that the 3rd Bav. Ersatz Regt. has now been put into line and has relieved portion of the 4th Guard Division. (The remainder of the 4th Guard Div. being relieved by the Jager Division).

The 4th Guard Division took part in the attack on VILLERS BRANTONNEUX on 24th April, and was last identified on 26th April. It is not certain whether they are still in line. The sector previously held was approximately P.25.C. to U.5.D. Since then, however, the Jager Division has been identified in O.36.C., and, according to prisoners statements, has been in line since 26th April and holding a narrow sector, the Northern boundary of which is the railway line. It is not certain whether Jagers hold the whole of the sector from the railway line to U.5.C. (the Northern boundary of the 109th Division). Prisoners of the Jager Division states that there is only one regiment in line which has only two companies in the front line, the remainder of the regiment being distributed in depth.

It is quite probable, however, that this division has two regts. in line, thus accounting for the whole of the sector between the 4th Guard Div. and the 109th Div.

The Jager Division is a fresh division withdrawn from the Italian front in February, and had no fighting from that time until brought into the line S.E. of VILLERS-BRANTONNEUX. Whilst in rest drafts were received and the division brought almost up to establishment - each battalion is said to be nearly 1,000 strong. This is a good division. In fact is essentially an assault division, hence one would not expect to find it in a sector where a defensive role was intended.

The 109th Division holds the sector previously held by the 77th Res. Div. (The Northern boundary running from U.5.D.) They came into line on 27th April, this being their first appearance on the Western Front. They were withdrawn from the Rumanian front end of March and have therefore had about one month's rest. This division has a good reputation as a fighting division.

RELIEFS.

An inter-battalion relief is expected in the Jager division sector on night 2nd/3rd May.

No other reliefs are definitely known. There are indications that the 9th Bav. Res. Division is being relieved to-night.

See also Rept re prisoners captured by 52/Bn on night 12/13 May 1918 (Morse J 71 9-13/5/18)

51.

Headqrs, 52 Bn A.I.F.
1-5-1918.

OPERATION MEMO. APPENDIX "A(6)"

Map Reference - 62P/40,000.

1. (a) 52nd Bn. will relieve 48th Bn. in CACHY SWITCH trench system on 2nd May. Relief will be carried out after dusk. Further instructions will be issued regarding defence intentions; units on flanks &c.
- (b) A Coy 52nd Bn. will relieve B Coy 48th Bn.
 B " " " " C " "
 C & D Coys. " " " D " "
- (c) 2 Coys, 51st Bn. will take over trenches now occupied by 52nd Bn. in the AUBIGNY Reserve system in BOIS L'ABBE.
2. Prior to taking over CACHY SWITCH, 52nd Bn. will reorganise so as to form 3 Coys. - A & B Coys. of 2 Platoons each; C & D Coys. to form 1 Composite Coy. of 3 Platoons. Details of reorganization required will be issued shortly.
3. Reconnaissance of CACHY SWITCH system will be made by all Coy. Officers & N.C.O.s on 2nd inst. Bn. I.O. will arrange direct with Coy. Cdrs. for first reconnaissance, which will be made about daybreak on 2nd inst.
4. Trenches & vicinity of trenches now occupied by 52nd Bn. will be put in a thoroughly clean and sanitary condition tomorrow; all uncleanness of previous occupants to be removed.
5. Bn. Hqs & R.A.P. will not be moved.

Paul J. A. J.
Capt.



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J.2.

C O P Y.

APPENDIX "A(7)"

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
1/5/1918.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RE-ORGANIZATION.

1. For the present and until the Nucleus Reserve rejoins the Battalion, Companies will be organized as under :-

"A" COMPANY.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| O.C. | Lieut. H. THOMAS. |
| 2 Platoon Commanders | Lieut. W.J. HALL |
| | 2/Lieut. H.S. BURN |

"B" COMPANY.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| O.C. | Lieut. R. DICKSON. |
| 2 Platoon Commanders | Lieut. J.O. SMITH. |
| | Lieut. C.J. IVORY. |

"C"/"D" COMPANY

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| O.C. | Lieut. C.W. WILSON. |
| 3 Platoon Commanders | Lieut. E.R. HOCKINGS |
| (Composite Company) | 2/Lieut. E.F. HARRIS |
| | 2/Lieut. D.J. HENDERSON |

2. This organization will be put into force at once. Other officers now with Companies, i.e. - Lieuts. HATTON ("A" Coy), FEARNSIDE ("D" Coy) and BIBBY ("B" Coy. temp. "C" Coy), will proceed at once to Nucleus Reserve at ALLONVILLE on 2nd. instant under arrangements to be notified later.

3. As many Lewis Guns as it is possible to provide teams for will be retained with Companies as re-organized; any then surplus guns will be sent to Battalion H.Q. The principle of 1 N.C.O. with a team of 8 men for every ~~for every~~ two guns will apply in this case.

(Signed) G.E.G. GILL Lt.
Adjutant, 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

724

Appendix B (1) APPENDIX B1

EFW.

SECRET.

Copy No.....

13th. AUST. INF. BDE. ORDER No. 121.

Headquarters,
2nd. May 1918.

Ref. 1/2 0,000 Map. Sheet 62D S.W.

1. The Division on our right, French Moroccan Division, is advancing its line in the BOIS DE HANGARD at a date to be notified later, as far as the Eastern outskirts of the wood in Square U.16.
2. (a) The 4th. Australian Division will co-operate by seizing the MONUMENT WOOD in Square U.6, and by means of artillery fire.
 (b) The 12th. Aust. Inf. Bde. will carry out the attack on the MONUMENT WOOD with one Battalion, supported by Machine Guns and L.T.M.'s.
 (c) Simultaneously with the attack of the 12th. Aust. Inf. Bde. the Regiment on the left of the French Moroccan Division has arranged to advance its line from U.5. Central to a point about 100 yards West of the road running N. and S. through U.6.a. and c. The approximate point of junction will be U.6.c.2.6.
3. (a) Prior to the operations the 13th. A.I. Bde. will replace temporarily a Battalion of the 12th. Bde. that will be withdrawn from the CACHY Switch for the operations.
 (b) The 52nd. Bn. will take over from the 48th. Bn. the line abovementioned.
 (c) The 51st. Bn. will move 2 Coys into the AUBIGNY Line as a Nucleus Garrison to replace the 52nd. Bn.
 (d) Details of relief will be arranged between C.O.'s direct. Moves to be completed by 10 p.m.
 (e) Headquarters of Battalions to remain as at present.
4. (a) It is anticipated that the 13th. A.I. Bde. will relieve the 12th. A.I. Bde. on the night subsequent to the operations mentioned in para. 3.
 (b) The relief of the front line will be made by the 50th. Bn. on right and the 49th. Bn. on the left. Definite orders will be issued later.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

48th Bn

Completed
relief at
1.15 am on
3/5/18.
message sent
in 34

RW

Renwell

Brigade Major, 13th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. Major,

Issued through Signals at 2 p.
Extra Copies to :-

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 16. 4th. A.I. Bde. | 20. Bde. Supply Officer. |
| 17. 12th. A.I. Bde. | 21. 4th. M.G. Bn. |
| 18. 13th. Fld. Ambce. | 22. C.R.A. 4th. Aust. Div. Art. |
| 19. 27th. A.A.S.C. | |

4300w
2/5/18

1/2
Cachy 12/33

Noted RW 2/5/18

also J7 2/5/18

Via Bn Oper Memo 2/5/18
No J1.

N.D.C.

M 34

3/5

B 452

QQQ

318

(Come message)

N.T.L.

1.15 am

J. Whitnam
L. L. L.

3
B(1)

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|------|----|-------|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| Prefix | Code | m. | Words | Charge | This message is on file of: | Recd. at | m. |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | | | | Sent | Date |
| | | | | | At | Service | |
| | | | | | To | From | |
| | | | | | By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | By |

TO: 52 Pm
51 Pm (Approx B(1))

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * B452 | 2 | | |

Ref Bde order 121 a a a
Zero hour 2 am
Zero day 3rd may a a a

action regarding para 3
of Bde order will be taken
by 52 & 51 Pm tonight
a a a Report when moves
are completed. a a a
addr 52 Pm & 51 Pm

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| From | 13Avt Inf Bde sent Packed 1.15 am |
| Place | |
| Time | 1.15 am |
| The above may be forwarded as now corrected. | |
| Censor. | (Z) Russell |
| Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. | |

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.

APPENDIX B/24

224

25

APPENDIX B1



"C" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message.....

Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 100.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Prefix..... | Code..... | Words..... £ s d. | Received From <i>MP</i> | Sent, or sent out At.....m. | Office Stamp. <i>1776</i> <i>2-5-18</i> |
| Charges to collect | | | By <i>[Signature]</i> | To..... | |
| Service Instructions: | | | | By..... | |

Handed in at..... Office.....m Received.....m

| | | |
|----|------------|------------|
| TO | <i>MTL</i> | <i>Don</i> |
|----|------------|------------|

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| *Sender's Number | Day of Month <i>3rd</i> | In reply to Number | AAA |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------|

000 218

Rec'd

Wined Bde at 1.15 am

Relief completed (Jan)

RAW 3/5/18

12.45 am

M.A. reported by Crocker OK at 1 am

Spoke to Wilson & Coy at 1.15 am

OK Jan

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| FROM | <i>MA</i> |
| PLACE & TIME | <i>[Signature]</i> |

* This line should be erased if not required.
(H 8188) Wt w 7496 - M857 250,000 Pads. 1/17 H & S (E489.) Forms/C.2123/3

324
C O P Y.

Headquarters, *APPENDIX "B(2)"*
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
2/5/1918.

J.7.

O P E R A T I O N M E M O.

1. Our Front Line is roughly - U.11.a.central, U.5.central., O.36.c.8.3 P.20.a.2.7.
2. At about 2 a.m. 3rd. instant the French Division on our right is advancing its line in the BOIS DE HANGARD. The 4th. Aust. Div will co-operate by seizing the MONUMENT WOOD in Square U.6. and by means of artillery fire.
3. (a) Prior to the operations as above, the 52nd. Battalion will temporarily take over from the 48th. Battalion the trenches known as the CACHY SWITCH.
(b) The 51st. Battalion will move 2 companies into the AUBIGNY Line to replace the 52nd. Battalion.
(c) Attention is directed to Operation Memo J.1. of 1st. instant.
(d) On completion of the operation above referred to, the French MOROCCAN Div. will be on our right, and the 46th. Battalion A.I.F. on our left.
4. The relieving troops of 52nd. Battalion referred to in Operation Memo J.1., para.1 (b), will not arrive at their destination before the hour stated hereunder :-

| | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------|---------|
| "A" Company | - | 11-45 p.m. | 2/5/18 |
| "B" " | - | 12 mid-night | 2/5/18 |
| "C" & "D" " | - | 12-30 a.m. | 3/5/18. |

(Sgd.) G. E. Gill

Lieut.
Adjutant, 52nd. Battalion A.I.F.

Issued 9-15 p.m.
to Os/C "A" Company
"B" "
"C" & "D" Companies.



324

27

APPENDIX B2



C O P Y.

J.8.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
2/5/1918.

Map Refce. Sheet 62d. 1/40,000.

APPENDIX "B(2)"

OPERATION MEMO.

Following upon Operation Memo J.1 and J.7 you are informed that R.A.Ps have been established at :-

- 48th. Battalion - O.35.d.1.4.
- 45th. " - O.35.c.1.4.
- 47th. " - On road to at O.28.d.O.2.

It is recommended by R.M.O. that evacuations from Right Flank be made via R.A.P. at this Battalion H.Qrs.

52

Sgt G.E. Gull

Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 52nd. Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to :-
Os/C "A" Company)
"B" " ") at 9-30 p.m.
"C" & "D" ")



C O P Y.

J. 6a.

Headquarters,
13th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.
(Reference Sheet 62.d. 1/40,000.)

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
2/5/1918.

APPENDIX "B(3)"

I beg to report that the following Salvage Dumps have been made in addition to such material as has been returned through R.Q.M.:

1. O.32.c.2.2. About 50 18 lb. shells can be obtained in daylight. Route via S. edge of BOIS l'ABBE or O.26.d.5.4.
2. O.34.c.4.3. About 70 6" shells cases can be obtained in daylight. Route via O.27.d.4.4.
3. U.3.b.0.3. About 150 18 lb. shells. Cannot be obtained during daylight.
4. O.26.c.2.2. About 15 boxes (10 each) of 4.5" Ctges.

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM, Lieut-Col.
C.O. 52nd. BATTALION A. I. F.

22A
COPY.
J.39.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
7/5/1918.

APPENDIX "B(3)"

Headquarters,
13th. A.I. Brigade.

Reference - Sheet 62d. 1/40,000 - SALVAGE

Following upon my J.6a of 2nd. instant, I beg to report that there are considerable quantities of 18 lb. shells on E side of sunken road at U.34.4.3.

It is impossible for the above to be dealt with by this Bn. for some time, as the limbers available can scarcely cope with lighter salvage.

The dumps can be approached in daylight via road through U.33.

(Signed) E.E. J.L. WHITHAM, Lieut-C1

C.O. 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

2217
War Day May

Appendix B (4)

APPENDIX

30

54

52/Pm am

For Official Use Only.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 251.

From 6 a.m. 1st to 6 a.m. 2nd May, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the FRONT line.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Owing to low visibility the operations by day were confined to harassing enemy roads and communications with bursts of fire. Following areas received special attention :- Roads and tracks in V.12 and 3, U.6.C.45.90 to U.6.A.5.3, P.31, P.26.C, P.21.B.7.2, P.22.D.4.1. Trenches in O.36.D.70.05, O.36.D.8.5, Railway in V.1 & 2. Concentrations were put down on occupied houses in O.36.D.70.95 and P.25.D.0.0 with good effect. Good shooting by the heavies is reported, particularly on MONUMENT WOOD and house at approx. O.31.A.5.5. Field guns successfully engaged enemy parties in P.22.A & C and inflicted casualties. Batteries of the Left Group fired on S.C.S. lines from 6.40 to 6.45 a.m.. Area shoots were fired at 8 p.m. and 3 a.m. lasting 2 and 5 minutes respectively.

(b) MINOR OPERATION.

An operation was undertaken with the object of advancing the line on the two centre battalion fronts. At 2 a.m. rifle grenadiers engaged enemy posts at P.25.D.00.75, P.25.C.90.40, P.25.C.70.20 thus covering the advance of two platoons which worked up and dug in on the pre-arranged line. Very heavy H.G. fire was encountered but casualties were very light. The barrage put down by the enemy was very heavy and consisted chiefly of 105, 150 and 210 mm. H.L. As a result of the operation our line on left centre Battalion front runs as follows :- P.25.C.5.4, P.25.C.5.5, P.25.C.6.6 (with a bombing post at P.25.C.7.6) P.25.C.85.70 to P.25.A.85.20. On the right centre Battalion front posts were established at the following points :- O.36.D.4.7, O.36.B.43.30, O.36.B.45.20, and O.36.D.20.25.

(c) Machine Guns. Vickers Guns of the left Brigade were inactive during the night on account of silent minor operation. During the day enemy parties were successfully engaged and casualties inflicted.

(d) Trench mortars. At 11.15 p.m. Stokes Mortars fired 14 rounds on enemy post at O.25.C.72.25.

(e) Snipers. did good shooting - many hits being claimed.

(f) Prisoner. One prisoner was brought in by our patrol.

(g) Patrols. Vigorous patrolling was carried out along the whole divisional front. Touch was maintained with flank divisions and between units. A patrol of Right Bde. engaged an enemy post and party in farmhouse at O.36.D.6.9. A bomb fight ensued and casualties were inflicted on the enemy. The western and north western edges of MONUMENT WOOD were thoroughly reconnoitred. The wood is still strongly held by the enemy and a very great number of flares were fired from it. A patrol crawled to within 15 yards of a previously located enemy post, bombing the garrison and directing bursts of rifle fire into it. Enemy is holding farm houses in O.36.D.6.9 and vicinity. A working party was observed by a patrol of left Bde. at P.25.B.8.4 and dispersed with Lewis Gun and rifle fire.- casualties being inflicted.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

5th Battery, 20th Field Artillery Regiment (east of VILLERS - BRANTONNEUX) - prisoner.

P.T.O.

(2).

5. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

Relief. It is believed that the 9th Bav. Res. Div. is in course of being relieved. Prisoners are urgently required to confirm this.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Very active throughout the 24 hours on left Bde. front; several heavy shoots were put down in that area. At 6.25 p.m. a heavy concentration was put down on North edge of VILLERS - BRITONNEUX. About 6 batteries of 77's were engaged in this shoot, four of which were firing from direction of HAMEL and two from North of WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT. These fired for 15 minutes at a high rate of fire. At 6.30 p.m. two batteries of 105's and a battery of 150's fired on wood in O.29.A. to O.30.D. converging to a V point southwards into the village. Support and reserve areas were shelled at intervals with 77's and 105's. Between 5.25 a.m. and 5.50 a.m. about 200 gas shell including blue, green and yellow cross fell on support battalion sector. At 9.45 p.m. a concentration was put down on main road from O.29.C.5.3 to O.30.C.3.2 front support and reserve lines. H.E. Shrapnel and Blue Cross and phosgene gas were used. VILLERS - BRITONNEUX was shelled at intervals during the night with H.E. and Blue Cross gas shell. A 15 minutes barrage was put down on railway in vicinity of station at 12.45 p.m. A 20 minutes barrage was put in O.35.C & D at 6.20 p.m. At 9 p.m. a shoot on same locality included Gas shell.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. Apparently very nervous - a very great number of flares were fired and M.G.'s fired on slightest movement. About 4.40 a.m. an enemy party of about 50 approached our post in O.36.D.1.2 in an open order from the direction of U.C.B. Garrison of post opened fire with M.G. and rifles. Enemy was dispersed and took cover in shell holes. Many casualties are believed to have been inflicted. Enemy did not re-appear. It is not known whether enemy's intention was to attack our posts or reinforce his front line.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

- (a) Work. Party apparently digging a trench at approx. P.25.B.8.4 (patrol).
- (b) Machine Guns. No new positions were located.
- (c) Post. located at O.36.D.4.1.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Very little activity. A plane flew over our lines at a low altitude at 5 p.m. and again at 6 p.m. - (engaged by M.G. fire). At 4.30 p.m. an enemy plane flew over our reserve line at a low altitude. The plane was of a grey color and resembled our scout machines. The marking consisted of a black GENEVA cross within a white circle, on sides and under parts.

8. MOVEMENT. Transport was heard moving towards enemy lines at 11.27 p.m. - apparently on the WARFUSEE - VILLERS BRITONNEUX road.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. A flare bursting into orange cluster appears to be a call for artillery. Two reds give direction, and two greens - lengthen range. At 9.15 p.m. enemy fired a flare consisting of 2 green lights which was answered by a barrage of H.E. and gas shell. At 11.20 p.m. a white cluster was sent up followed by two reds in several places - this brought down a very heavy barrage on our front line for 10 minutes.

R. H. Stewart Lt.
to Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

324

32.

APPENDIX C1



Appendix C(1)

1086) Wt. W16552/M1615 250,000 Pads. 21/3/17. J.R. & C. E 685 Forms/C2122/6.

BASP "B" Form.

Army Form C2122 (in pads of 150)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message.....

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Prefix <i>AW</i> | Code <i>AW</i> m. | Received | Sent | Office Stamp |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions | Words | At <i>2-19 p</i> m. | At m. | |
| <i>noc</i> | <i>97</i> | From <i>aydn</i> | To | |
| <i>3 add</i> | | By <i>homon</i> | By | |
| <i>msg 1/2/18</i> | | | | |
| | <i>Keep</i> | | | |
| | | <i>Keen</i> | <i>Keen</i> | |
| Sender's Number | Day of Month | In reply to Number | | |
| <i>B455</i> | <i>310</i> | | | AAA |
| <i>Action will be taken reference</i> | | | | |
| <i>Bde Order 121 Para 4 tonight</i> | | | | |
| <i>aaa 50th Bn will take over</i> | | | | |
| <i>the line from 45th Bn from 1.5.</i> | | | | |
| <i>central to D.36. C.S.I. and 29th Bn</i> | | | | |
| <i>from 47th Bn from D.36. C.S.I. to</i> | | | | |
| <i>D.36. d. 4-9. and Hdqrs both Bns</i> | | | | |
| <i>D.28. C. 7.0.55 D to LTM Bty will</i> | | | | |
| <i>take over from 12th LTM Battery aaa</i> | | | | |
| <i>b.0's 51st and 52 Bns will meet</i> | | | | |
| <i>g.O.b at 12 Bde HQ D.25. C. 6.4.</i> | | | | |
| <i>at 3 pm aaa</i> | | | | |
| <i>address all Bns</i> | | | | |
| <i>Repla 12 AI Bde LIAI Bde</i> | | | | |
| <i>(15)</i> | | | | |
| From | <i>AW</i> | | <i>Knife</i> | |
| Place | <i>2-14-18</i> | | <i>1.45 pm</i> | |
| Time | <i>2-15/18</i> | | <i>2.45 pm</i> | |

* This line should be erased if not required.

52nd Bn

B455

1922

224



52nd Bn. ^{Appendix C(1)}
3/5/18.

On receipt of attached wire I proceeded to Bde. H.Q.s. where the P.O.C. gave the dispositions for the battalions of the brigade. The 52nd Bn. remains in the Cachy Switch joining with the left flank of the French on one side and with the 46th Bn. (A.S.F.) on the left, the 46th Bn. being temporarily attached to the 13th A.S.F. Bde.

In the event of the front line being pushed back by the enemy the Cachy Switch line is to be held at all costs. Bn. H.Q.s. to remain as at present.

R. G. Great Major
Commanding Temporarily

724

34



B

His Report

Com. H. Qu.

C.A. V 4 a 7 b

B. V 3, b, 6, 2

A. V 3, c, 9, 8

A } V 3 c 4 1 5
 } V 3 d 1 9 ✓

B } V 3 d 1 9 15
 } V 4 a 1 5

C.A. } V 4 a 5 5
 } ~~5 6 1 10~~
 } 3 c 8 7

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



J11

Bdeqs 52nd Bu. A.I.F.

2/5/1918.

APPENDIX "C2"

Coy. Cams.

The following notes are forwarded for your information:-

1. The wire zone will be seen by perusal of Int. Summary No. 251, attached hereto.
2. The 52nd Bu. is remaining in the CACHY SWITCH, joining with the FRENCH on the right and the 46th Bu. (temporarily attached to the 13th A.I. Bde.) on the left.
3. The 13th A.I. Bde. relieves the 12th A.I. Bde. in the front line tonight. Relief will commence about dark. The 50th Bu. will take over on the right and the 49th Bu. on the left. The 51st Bu. will move into close support and will occupy positions on southern edge of village.
4. In event of the front line being pushed back the CACHY SWITCH line will be held at all costs.
5. The Bu. Bdeqs. & R.A.P. remain where now situated.
6. The buildings in MONUMENT WOOD are not held by us at present. The situation will probably be cleared up tonight, & will be notified to you.

Shown to Coy Cams.
by runner, leaving
at 7 pm

Paul Lewis
Adjutant

734



Appendix C (3)

File re Flag of Truce
incident on 25. 4. 1918

Report to Base HQ (M16) 28⁴/_K

Message re Evidence re 12 128⁴

" re Summary of (S.C. 670) 29⁴/_K
(S.C. 679) 29⁴/_K

Instruction to attend at (S.C. 685) 1

Court Martial on 3⁵/₁₈ 1/5/18

also facsimile of message received from a German
Commandant on 25/4/1918 - referred to in Report
(memo M16)

~~Appendix C(3)~~

274 ✓



In Original Diary
57/Brn May 1918

Appendix C(3)

The officer who commands
the troops there has to come
at once in the direction
of the english Tank with the
german soldier

Recd about 9.45 am
25/4/1918
J. Whitlam
Lt Col
Commander
Lt Col
Lt Col

Certified facsimile of message in my possession.
The original message was brought in to the trenches occupied by
some English regiment on our right flank by a German soldier
who was now sent to 57/Brn H.Q. in Cauchy Sixth Trench
- vide Appendix "C(3)" of War Diary for May 1918.

J. Whitlam Lt Col
C.O. 57/Brn AIF

734

38

APPENDIX C3



"C" FORM. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123. (In books of 100.)

No. of Message

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Prefix.....Code.....Words..... <i>l s d</i> | Received. From <i>NDB</i> | Sent, or sent out. At <i>11</i> m. | Office Stamp. <i>N.T.L</i> <i>28 4 18</i> |
| Charges to Collect | By <i>W. Marshall</i> | To..... | |
| Service Instructions | | By..... | |

Handed in at *NDB* Office.....m. Received *11:30* m.

TO *NTL*

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| * Sender's Number. <i>X12</i> | Day of Month. <i>28th</i> | In reply to Number. | <i>AAA</i> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <i>Concerning</i> | <i>Telephone</i> | <i>message</i> | <i>of</i> |
| <i>this</i> | <i>morning</i> | <i>sent</i> | <i>in</i> |
| <i>by</i> | <i>special</i> | <i>runner</i> | <i>full</i> |
| <i>reports</i> | <i>on</i> | <i>the</i> | <i>flag</i> |
| <i>of</i> | <i>three</i> | <i>Epiporke</i> | <i>aaa</i> |
| <i>State</i> | <i>locality</i> | <i>where</i> | <i>the</i> |
| <i>three</i> | <i>came</i> | <i>from</i> | <i>how</i> |
| <i>the</i> | <i>runner</i> | <i>disposed</i> | <i>and</i> |

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| FROM | <i>Continued</i> |
| PLACE & TIME | |

* This line should be erased if not required. (19629) Wt528/M1270. 300,000 Pads. 4/17. M.C. & Co., Ltd. (M1213)

224

39.

APPENDIX C3



| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Charges to Collect | | From..... | At.....m. |
| Service Instructions | | By..... | To..... |
| Handed in at..... | | Office..... | Received.....m. |
| TO | | | |
| * Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| of | his | identity | is |
| known | to | people | who |
| look | him | over | |
| Reply sent (MIL) | | | |
| 28/4/18 JAW | | | |
| FROM | KNIFE | | |
| PLACE & TIME | 10.30 am | | |

(19629) W1528/M1970. 300,000 Pads. 4/17. M.C. & Co., Ltd. (M1919)

27X ✓



M16

HQ. 52nd Bn AIF
25th April 1918

H.Q. 13th A.I. Bde

(13)

With reference to your X12 and 'phone message today asking for details regarding the 'flag of Truce' episode on the 25th instant the following particulars are submitted.

On 25th April 52nd Bn HQs were in a trench #5, of the Bois de Aquenne in U3 D. (portion of the GACHV Switch System); 51st Bn were also in this trench, and the C.O. 2nd NORTHANTS Regt. also made his temporary HQs here during the morning. (The 2nd NORTHANTS were occupying a trench in rear of the left flank of 13th A.I. Bde sector - approximately in U5 a and O 34 d.)

About 9 am an officer of the 2nd NORTHANTS verbally reported to his C.O. (Major H. FORSTER) that two Germans, kindfolded & carrying a flag of truce, were in their trench & had brought a verbal message from a German Commander asking for our surrender as we were surrounded on three sides by superior forces.

At this moment and for some time - at least an hour - previously numbers of men could be seen coming over the sky line on our right flank and in front of the sector which we understood to be held by the Brigade on our right. (This high ground was approximately in U 10 d and U 11 c). For some

224 ✓



(2)

(C3)

Time the morning mist made it difficult to say whether these men were the Enemy advancing (British) or our own troops falling back to a support position on the rear slope of the ridge, but as the movement was suspicious we had at once reported it, by phone message to 13th A.I. Bde St Qs in order that the Brigade on our right could be questioned, but up to the time of the flag of truce incident no information as to the actual front line of Right Side was available, and we were becoming more certain that the enemy had dug in on the ridge.

* Regarding our intentions the GOC. Both announced sympathetically, remarking that we could tell the message to GOC.

I asked the C.O. 2/NORTHANTS to have the bearers of the flag of truce sent over to our trench & they arrived about 9.30 am, escorted by an officer - his name I believe to be Capt. MASON, 2/Northants.

In the meantime I rang up my Brigadier and briefly informed him of the incident & he told me to act as I thought best ~~re disposal of the flag of truce.~~

* The bearer of the flag, whom I took to be an unter-officer, was accompanied by a N.C.O., probably a Serjt. Major - the unter-officer belonged to the 332nd Regt. and spoke quite good English. His message was as follows:-

"My Commander has sent me to tell you that you are confronted by superior forces & surrounded on three sides, there are two Guards divisions and another division. He desires to know whether you will surrender and avoid a big loss of life. If you do not surrender he

11772

224 ✓



3

(C3)

will blow you to bits by turning ~~the~~ the heavy artillery on to your trenches.

Before replying to the messenger I spoke to the C.O. 51st Bn (Lt Col. R. CHRISTIE) who was with me, & also on the phone to C.O. 50th Bn (Lt Col. SALISBURY) asking the latter if he agreed to the action we proposed to take, i.e. ignore the message and either detain the flag of truce or send him to the rear; C.O. 50th Bn fully concurred. This course was also agreed to by C.O. 2nd Northants.

I therefore told the bearer of the flag that he could inform his Commander that, whilst we thanked him for his courtesy in giving us the chance to live we had no desire or intention of accepting his offer or of surrendering. He then asked if he could return at once, saying that he had already been a longer time in our lines than his commander desired.

As we had our suspicions regarding the efficacy of the bandages with which the two Germans were blindfolded we informed the officer that he would be sent under escort to Bde HQs; he protested as it entailed a further disobedience to his Commander but we assured him that he had not been invited to come to us & therefore, whilst every respect would be given him as the bearer of a flag of truce he would have to obey our orders; he was then sent - under escort of the NORTHAMPTON Regtⁿ Officer to HQs 24th Inf. Bde to 8th Div. HQs. I have no further particulars of this party or of their final disposal.

2274 ✓



(4)

Just about the time the party left the 24th Bde HQ another German arrived escorted by a NCO (a Corporal I think) of the 2nd Bedfords. He came on our immediate right flank. This German was not carrying a flag but had a written message which he handed to me - a facsimile of the message is attached.

This soldier did not speak English but we could understand his French & ascertained that he came from the ridge on which we could still plainly see movement (approximately in U 10 d & U C). The NCO who escorted him to us said there were no officers near him in the trench through which the German crossed into their area, & that he brought him to us as he had pointed in our direction.

As we did not place any more importance on this second message than the first but regarded it as a "big bluff". I gave instructions for the Corporal to take the German to the rear & send him for assisting wounded Germans who were lying near our trench to the Dressing station. I rang up 13th AG Bde HQ & reported the incident.

No special hostile action followed during the morning & the afternoon. ~~was~~ shelling in our sector was not very heavy. Machine gun fire from the right flank was active. Between 7 and 8 pm the whole area was heavily shelled but this did not strike us as being the unrelenting bombardment of the morning.

J. Whitham Lt Col

G.O. 52/Bn AIF

224 ✓



"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Art. 121
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|------|----|-------|--------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--|
| Prefix | Code | m. | Words | Charge | This message is on a c of: | Reed. at | m. | |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | | Sent | | Date | Date | |
| | | | | At | m. | | Service. | |
| | | | | To | From | | | |
| | | | | By | Signature of "Franking Officer." | | | |

TO 52nd. and 51st. Bns.

Handwritten: 10 45 PM

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * SG. 670 | 29 (April) | | |

ARMY have notified that German prisoners concerned in white flag incident are to be tried by G.C.M. AAA Lieut-Col. WHITHAM and Lieut-Col. CHRISTIE are required as witnesses AAA Evidence is required (1) Use of flag of truce (2) as to the statement of bearer that we were surrounded and were to surrender AAA If any other officer or man can give material evidence as to facts which are not known to Lieut-Cols. WHITHAM or CHRISTIE they should be sent to report to Bde. H.Q. as soon as possible AAA Summary to be taken at VAULX tomorrow AAA Trial at FLIXECOURT the following day AAA Further details of time and place will be notified later AAA Addsd 52nd and 51st. Bns.

From 13th. A.I. Bde.

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

Captain.

Censor.

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.

Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

334 ✓

"C" FORM.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C, 2123.
(In books of 100.)

No. of Message.....

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Prefix <u>814</u> | Code..... | Words <u>RTBPM</u> | Received. | Sent, or sent out. | Office Stamp. |
| Charges to Collect <u>23</u> | | | F. om. <u>NDB</u> | At <u>(15)</u> m | <u>NTG</u> |
| Service Instructions <u>NDC</u> | | | By <u>LHB</u> | To..... | <u>29/4/18</u> |
| Handed in at..... | | | Office..... | m. Received <u>10.55 p.m.</u> | <u>LHB</u> |

TO KEEP V. NDB

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| * Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| <u>SC679</u> | <u>29th</u> | | |

LT. COL WHITHAM ONLY
REQUIRED AS WITNESS AAA
CAR WILL CALL YOUR
H.Q AT 12.15 PM
TOMORROW

Recd 11.15 pm
[Signature]

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| FROM | <u>KNIFE</u> |
| PLACE & TIME | |

* This line should be erased if not required.

(19629) Wt528/M1970. 300,000 Pads. 4/17. M.C. & Co., Ltd. (E1213).



22x ✓

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APPENDIX C3



"A" Form. **MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.**

Army Form (In pads of 10)

No. of Message...

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|------|----|-------|--------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Prefix | Code | n. | Words | Charge | This message is on a/c of: | Reed. at |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | | | | |
| | | | Sent | | Service. | From |
| | | | At | m. | | 7-587 |
| | | | To | | | By |
| | | | By | | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO { *Keels* }

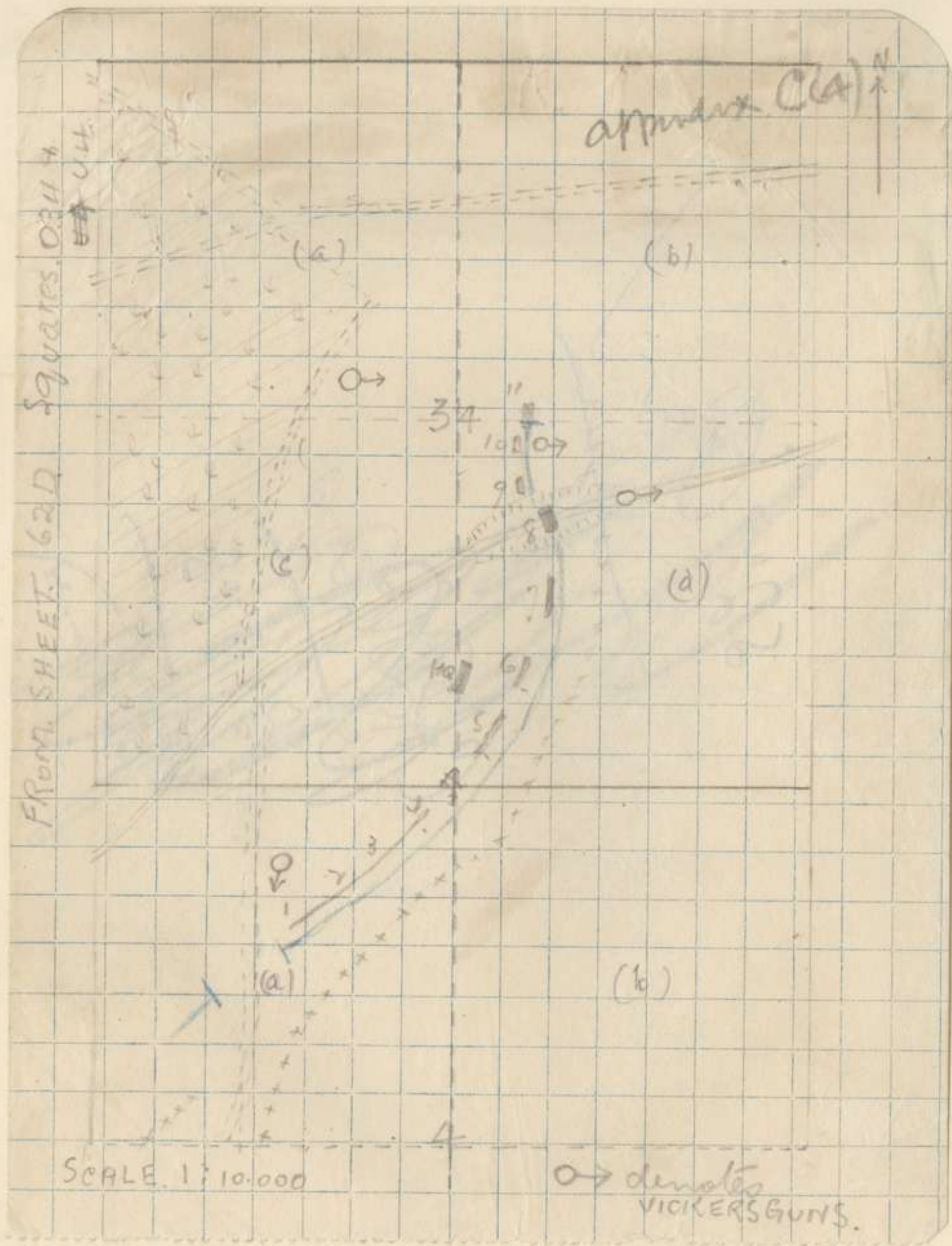
| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| <i>5685</i> | <i>1st May</i> | | |

Bar *will* *call* *for*
you *9.15* *AM* *at*
3rd *inst* *reference* *flag*
of *vice* *case* *aaa*
further *instructions* *where*
you *can* *have* *aaa*
Major *Gerrald* *to assume*
command *pending your* *return*
to *the* *1st Lt*

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| From | <i>Keels</i> |
| Place | |
| Time | |

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) Received midnight 11/5/18
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0 0 Pads 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)



Field Sketch Attached
Distribution of C.R.D. Cars

| Pat | H.Q. | OFFICER OR LG |
|-------|------|---------------|
| No | 1 | 1 8 |
| | 2 | 1 8 1 |
| | 3 | 1 5 |
| | 4 | 1 1 6 1 |
| | 5 | 1 6 |
| | 6 | 1 10 1 |
| | 7 | 1 13 |
| | 8 | 1 1 13 1 |
| | 9 | 1 8 1 |
| | 10 | 1 1 6 |
| | 11 | 1 7 1 |
| Total | 47 | 14 00 6 |

Approx C(A)

J. G. ...
for ...

25-5-18
Per ...

27 X

APPENDIX, C 4



To: ADJ.

From MA. VEEP
3/5/18 6am
Lucey 907 Bay

INTELLIGENCE

After our base opened at 2am heavy
set of single ~~FAIR~~ RED and then
TWIN GREEN LIGHTS.

6 am

Robinson
OC Bay

224

Disposition Report

Boy sector extends from about U3096
to U3094 a distance of 400 yds
In this there are 93 men distributed
in 10 posts

Four guns are at U3096, U3038,
U3050, U3073 & U3094.

Boy 907 is in a trench about
U3022 + with me I have 18 men.

3/5/18
2 AM

Robinson
OC Bay

Appendix C(4)

APPENDIX

C4
48.

Relief in Bois. (ABB E. Wood.)

The 51st Bn took over trench
opposite D Coy frontage, but not our
C Coy frontage.

Dump at O. 32. G. S. O contains
20,000 mds. aa. 13 picks 33 shovels.

The company left its old positions
at 11.45 pm. 2.5.18

5 km
3.5.18
By runner

Receipt for
for 216 lbs
52nd Bn

224

APPENDIX C (4)

FROM G/EMA

3/5/18

Sam

TO AD'S
KEEP

DISPOSITION REPORT.

PANOHY SWITCH TRENCH.

| | |
|------------|------------|
| R. FLANK | U36070 |
| L. " | U366515 |
| POSTS AT:— | U365010 |
| | U363005 |
| | U3 Central |
| | U367080 |
| | U366070 |

LNA 9.5

ON RIGHT 5th LOUAVES TRENCH.

B Coy ON LEFT

12 M.7 Coy have 4 guns in
my area

Sam

W. H. H. H.
3/5/18

APPENDIX C4

49.

22A



news up to date - through
John Lane as follows -

The ams. have gained the
monument & have taken a
number of prisoners, 14 of
whom are on their way
down & 40 still remain
in vaults of monument
farm

As far as I know the
line has so far been
maintained

Corbett Lt

John G. Jones

8/15/c



Intelligence Report

Our Artillery Barrages, which seemed very light opened at 2 am. results not seen

Enemy Artillery this barrage opened soon after 2 am, swept slowly from about our front line, to the edge of the woods. The barrage was thin, & lasted about 4 hours

A second smaller barrage opened at 4.30 and lasted 10 minutes. Gas was used in this. about 4 shells fell. but the whole of the company front was affected.

Aircraft Our planes patrolling this morning one enemy plane very early about 4 am.

Tanks 2 passed forward on Co front at 4.15 am

Latrol Report

liaison with tanks on along Co front, at irregular & frequent intervals throughout the night

Situation Report

wind slight breeze easterly weather fine & clear
 Enemy movement not seen from here

Disposition Report

attached with sketch

3.5.18.

L. A. [Signature] sent for details 52nd [Signature]

C O P Y.J14

Company Commanders.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
4/5/1918.

APPENDIX "D(1)"

It is desired that constant supervision be exercised by all officers and N.C.Os. with regard to S.A.A. and bombs, on the man and in Company reserve. When in the line, whether support, reserve, &c., 100 rounds extra per man must be issued to all except Specialists. Company Commanders must not await orders to issue this but must take action on their own initiative immediately orders are received to move.

The following is the minimum quantity of S.A.A. and bombs to be carried on the man whilst in the forward area. Any deficiency to be made up at once. :-

Specialists (i.e. Signallers, Runners, Nos. 1 and 2 of Lewis Gun teams, Rifle Bombers who have cup attachments, Scouts) - 60 rounds per man.

The above, except Rifle Bombers, will carry at least 2 Mills or Egg bombs per man.

Rifle bombers will carry cup attachments and at least 4 No. 36 Mills Grenades.

All others - 220 rounds per man and at least 2 Mills bombs.

A Company reserve of at least 100 rounds per man will be kept in secure and easily got at places, which must be made known to everyone.

One box of No. 36 bombs will be kept in Company reserve for each Rifle Bombing Section (only those who have cup attachments).

A reserve of 50,000 ctges, 303" will be kept at Battalion Headquarters. Parties must be told off for carrying and must know the way to Battalion H.Qrs.

Company Commanders will take steps to have the above instructions put into effect every day to-day.

A reserve of 500 Iron Rations and 65 tins of water will be placed under charge of O/C "B" Company for Right Group of trenches and a similar quantity under charge of O/C "C" Company for Left Group. Suitable places for the dump will be selected and notified to me to-day. Guards will be mounted.

The greatest care will be taken in handing stores over.

(Sgd) G.E. GILL Lieut.

Adjutant, 52nd. Battalion

A. I. F.

224



C O P Y.

J. 15.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
4/5/1918.

H. G. 13 H. I. Bde.

MATERIAL SALVED FOR WEEK ENDING 4/5/1918.

Appendix "D(2)"

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Rifles, S.M.L.E. 303" | 39 |
| Equipment, Staks | 2 |
| Equipments, sets, complete. | 3 |
| Saddles, universal. | 2 |
| Collars, breast | 6 |
| Traces, long, pairs | 10 |
| Breechings | 2 |
| Spiders | 2 |
| Magazines, Lewis Gun. | 16 |

(SGD) J.L. WHITHAM, Lieut-Colonel
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A.I.F.

724



Appendix D(3) App D(3)
 H. Q. 52 B⁷ 4-5-18.
 I.O.
 13th A.I.Bde.
 Enemy propaganda
 Several propaganda balloons
 fell in vicinity of Bois l'Abbe yesterday
 between 3 pm and 4 pm and one
 fell near C. Co in Cuchy Switch
 Specimen papers is sent herewith
 W. H. Cunnell Lt
 52 B⁷ 4-5-18
 Encl.
 Journal "L'Anfaire - tel qu'il est"

App. D (3) Extracts

Am. hon. sec. Galt

Re: Prop. in bar on

copy will be found in
4th Div. Engrs. diary for May '18



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APPENDIX E1

COPY.

J18

APPENDIX "E1"

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
5/5/1918.

WORKS REPORT.

| Date | Strength of Party | Hours of work. | Coy | Nature of work and where done. |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------|
| 4/5/18 | 1 NCO 10 men. | mid-night to 8 a.m. | "A" | Carrying earth from dugouts to dump O.25.c.7.4. |
| " | do | 8 a.m - 4 p.m. | "A" | do do do |
| " | do | do | C/D | do do do |
| " | do | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | "A" | do do O.34.b.0.5. |
| " | 1 NCO and 20 men. | do | "B" | do do O.25.c.7.4. |
| " | | | | do do O.34.b.0.5. |
| 5/5/18 | 1 NCO & 10 men. | 12 mid-night to 8 a.m. | "A" | do do O.25.c.7.4. |
| " | 1 N.C.O. & 20 men. | do | C/D | do do O.34.b.0.5. |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM. Lieut-Colonel,
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

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APPENDIX *F1*



C O P Y.
J.27.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
6/5/1918.

W O R K S R E P O R T.

APPENDIX "F(1)"

| Party. | Hours | Date | Coy. | Nature of work and where done. |
|----------------|-----------------|---------|------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 NCO, 10 men. | 8 a.m - 4 p.m. | 5/5/18. | C/D |) Removing earth from for 256 |
| 1 NCO, 20 men | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | do | "B" |) Tunnelling Company. Work at |
| 1 NCO, 20 men | 12 m-n - 8 a.m. | 6/5/18 | C/D |) O.34.b.0.5. <i>or thereabouts</i> |
| 1 NCO, 10 men | 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. | 5/5/18. | "A" |) Removing earth for Tunnelling Coy. |
| | | | |) at O.25.c.7.4. |
| 55 O/R | 10 p.m - 12 m-n | 5/5/18 | C/D |) Digging new trenches as set out |
| 16 O/R | 12 m-n - 2 am | 6/5/18. | "A" |) by Engineer Officers at :- |
| 30 O/R | 2 a.m - 4 a.m. | 6/5/18 | "B" |) U.4.a.6.6. |
| | | | |) O.34.d.2.1. |
| | | | |) O.34.d.7.7. |
| | | | |) Total - About 130x excavated about |
| | | | | 12" |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM Lieut-Colonel,
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

224



Appendix F(2)
 52 Bⁿ H.Q.
 6.5.18

Dispositions
 52 Bⁿ
 as at 7 am 6.5.18.
 == 0 ==

A Co - unchanged
 B Co - unchanged
 C and D Cos (combined) - is now
 altered to the following map
 applications - U & a 60 60
 to O 34 d 20.10.
 to O 34 d 70 70.

new line not yet completed but would
 be occupied in case of attack
 The left Bⁿ is now responsible
 for the road running N.E. at
 O 34 d

V.H. Courzell

J. Whitham Lt Col

Intelligence Report
 Appendix F(2)

Enemy Airfield very light on air front. Using drop fuel in afternoon thought to be, and over. Burst emitting white smoke.
 No gas in last 24 hours

of
 Labels

Lines on bay front at frequent intervals

Situation Report

Land weather
 Enemy movement etc.

Disposition Report

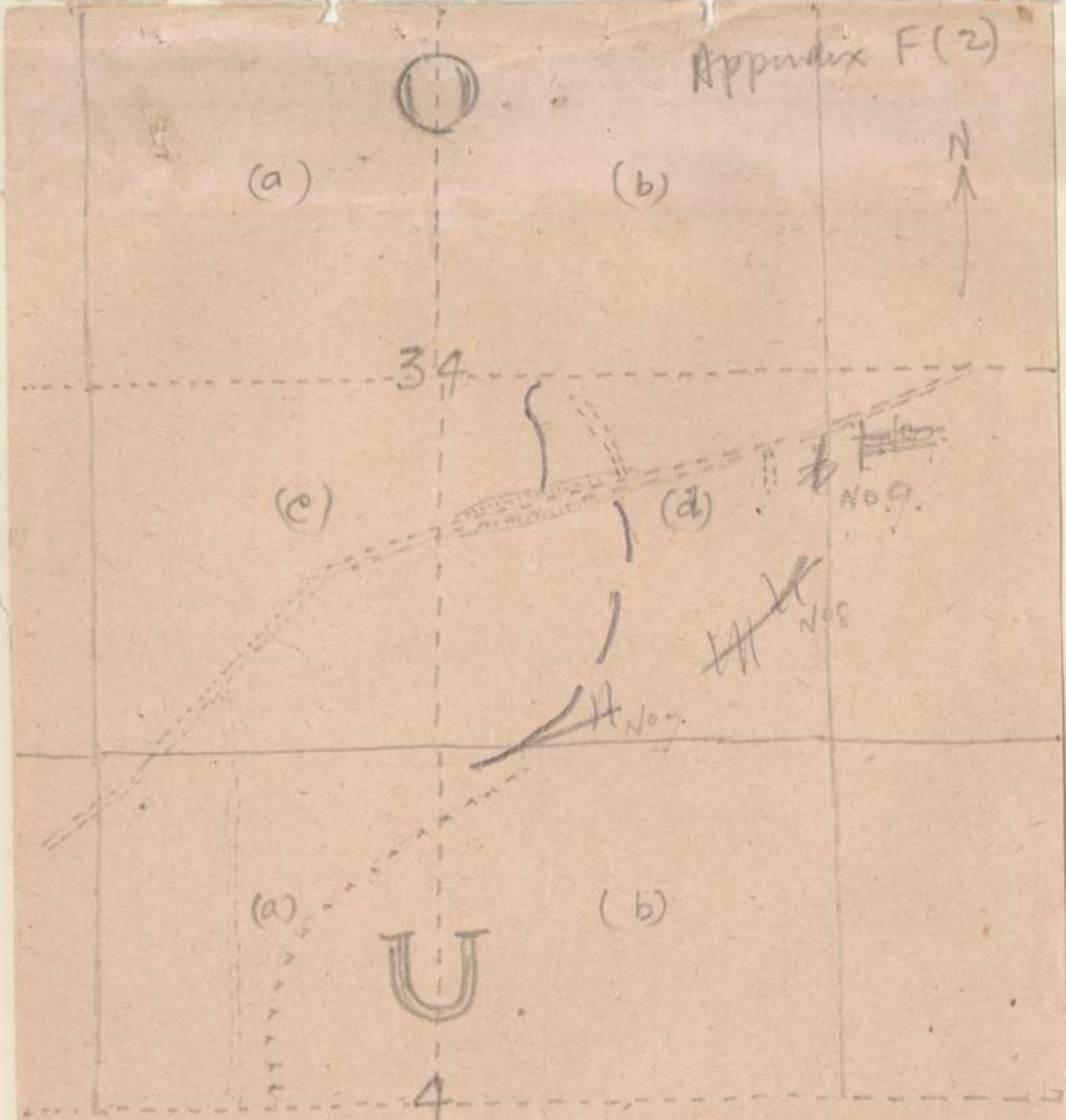
By day no change.
 In case of "defensive moves" Nos 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
 Posts vacated. New lines as shown on sketch taken up.

(1939) W1528/M1970 300,000 Pads. 4/17. M.C. & Co., Ltd. (E1212)

PLACE & TIME

224

Appendix F(2)



From Map F2
 Scale 1:10,000
 To show new flank

6.5.18

Revised for off base
 5.5.18



APPENDIX F(2) 59

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C O P Y. J.34.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
6/5/1918.

Headquarters,
13th. A. I. Brigade.

APPENDIX F(3)

RETURN OF S. A. A.

(vide Brigade memo M.2/326)

ON HAND AT NOON 5/5/18.

| In line (including on the man) | Dump at Bn. H.Q. | Echelon | Total. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|
| 89,000 | 50,000 | 77,000 | 216,000 |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM, Lieut-Colonel,
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

2224

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APPENDIX G1



C O P Y.

J. 40.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
7/5/1918.

WORKS REPORT.

APPENDIX "G(1)"

| Party. | Hours | Date | Coy. | Nature and location of work. |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 NCO, 10 men | 8 a.m - 4 p.m | 6/5/18 | "B" |) Removing earth for 256 Tunnelling Company at O.34.b.0.5. or thereabouts. |
| 1 NCO, 20 " | 4 p.m. - 12 m-n | " | "A" | |
| 1 NCO, 20 " | 12 m-n 8 a.m | 7/5/18 | "B" |) Removing earth for 256 Tunnelling Coy. at U.4.a.5.5. |
| 1 NCO, 12 " | 8 a.m. - 4 pm | 6/5/18 | C/D | |
| 1 " 12 " | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | " | C/D |) Digging new trenches at U.4.a.6.0. 0.34.d.2.1. 0.34.d.7.7. |
| 1 " 12 " | 12 m-n 8 a.m. | 7/5/18 | C/D | |
| 36 O/R | 10 am - 12 m-n | 6/5/18 | C/D |) All incomplete. |
| 22 O/R | 2 a.m. - 4 am | 7/5/18 | "B" | |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM Lieut-Colonel
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

22X

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APPENDIX G2



CM. C O P Y.

SECRET

B. 1/386.

APPENDIX G2

Headquarters,
13th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.
7th. May, 1918.

O.C.
52nd. Bn.

A second bombardment of the buildings, trenches and Machine Gun positions in Orchard in square U.6. will be carried out at 3 a.m. to-morrow, 8th. instant.

The French will also co-operate.

Please warn all concerned.

(Sgd) R. MORELL Major,

Bde Major, 13th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.



COPY.

J.44.

Appendix "K" "H(1)" Headquarters, 52nd. Battalion A. I. F. 8/5/1918. 8-30 a.m.

WORKS REPORT.

| Party | Hours | Date | #Coy. | Nature and location of work. |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1 NCO, 20 men | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | 7/5/18 | "A" | Excavating etc for Tunnelling Coy at O.34.b.0.5. |
| 1 Off. 30 men | 10 p.m - 1-30am | 7/8th. | "A" | Digging fire trenches for C/D Coy |
| 1 NCO, 10 men | 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. | 7/5/18 | "B" | Excavating at O.34.b.0.5. |
| 1 " 20 " | 12 m-n - 8 a.m | 8/5/18 | "B" | do do |
| 1 " 12 " | 8 a.m - 4 p.m | 7/5/18 | C/D | do at U.4.a.5.5. |
| 1 " 12 " | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | do | C/D | do do |
| 1 " 12 " | 12 m-n - 8 a.m. | 8/5/18 | C/D | do do |
| 1 Off. 50 " | 8-30 p.m ---- | 7/5/18 | "B" | Wiring. |
| --15 O/R | 9 p.m - 12-30am | 7/8th. | C/D | Digging fire trenches for C/D Coy |
| 1 Off. 47 O/R | 12-30am - 4 a.m | 8/5/18 | C/D | do do |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITEAM Lieut-Colonel, Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

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APPENDIX. H2



C O P Y. F.42.

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
8th. May, 1918.

Company Commanders.

APPENDIX "H" (2)

1. RANGE CARDS are to be prepared to-day, and kept in every Lewis Gun post. If trenches are taken over the Range Cards will also be handed over.
2. O/C "A" Company and scout will reconnoitre 50th. Battalion support Company's trenches to-night, reporting first at 50th. Battalion Headquarters, O.28.c.8.4.
Os/C "B" & "C" Companies will send an officer and N.C.O. to reconnoitre the trenches reconnoitred by them yesterday.
3. C of E Service and Holy Communion will be held here at 10-30 a.m. to-morrow - Ascension Day. Permission may be granted for 20% to attend. They must parade under an officer or N.C.O.
4. Dental treatment for a limited number is available at PETIT BLANGY CABARET. Names to be forwarded by 9 p.m. the day previous (phone or writing).

(Sgd) G.E. GILL, Lieut.
Adjutant. 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

C O P Y.J.48Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A.I.F
9/5/1918.W O R K S R E P O R T.

APPENDIX I (1)

| Party. | Hours | Date | Coy. | Remarks. |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 NCO, 20 men | 4 p.m - 12 m-n | 8/5/18 | "A" | Excavating for Tunnelling Coy. at |
| 1 NCO, 10 men | 8 a.m - 4 p.m. | do | "B" | O.34.b.O.5. |
| 1 NCO, 20 men | 12 m-n- 8 a.m. | 9/5/18 | "B" | do do do |
| 1 NCO, 12 men | 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. | 8/5/18 | C/D | Excavating &c at U.4.a.5.5. |
| 1 NCO, 12 men | 4 p.m. -12 m-n | do | C/D | do do |
| 1 NCO, 12 men | 12 m-m - 8 a.m. | 9/5/18 | C/D | do do |
| 1 Off. 60 men | 9 p.m. ----- | 8/5/18 | C/D | Excavating posts on left of sector. |
| 1 Off. 30 O/R | 11-30 pm-1-30 a.m. | 8/9th. | "B" | do do |
| 1 Off. 30 O/R | 7 p.m. ----- | 8/5/18 | "A" | Wiring left of sector (carrying) |
| Posts on left of sector are now completed and lived in. | | | | |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM, Lieut-Colonel.
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

224

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APPENDIX I.2



COPY OF MESSAGE SENT TO "KNIFE" RE CASUALTY TO AEROPLANE.

K N I F E

APPENDIX "I(2)"

M.47

9/5/18

AAA

One of our planes down near CACHY AAA Observer wounded removed
by French AAA Am guarding plane. Map reference U.3.d.9.5.

K E E P

12-15 p.m.

(sgd) G.E. GILL Lieut.

A

COPY OF MESSAGE SENT TO "KNIFE" RE CASUALTY TO AEROPLANE.

TO - 13th. A.I. Brigade.

APPENDIX "I(2)"

M.49

9th.

AAA

Number of 'plane B.2271 AAA Petrol tank pierced AAA 3rd. ZOUAVE
Regiment have a guard on and ours is still there AAA enemy has put
one shell over in vicinity of 'planeAAA Driven down by two enemy
triplanes AAA small boomerang in front of pilots seat with cooe
printed on it.

K E E P

1-30 p.m.

G.E. GILL Lieut.

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"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 121. (In pads of 100.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Prefix Code m. Words Charge

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sent m. Service.

At m. Service.

To Service.

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

This message is one of **APPENDIX** of Recd. at m.

Date **I(3)**

From

By

TO All Bns. 45th. Bn. 13th. Fld. Coy. Eng.
 4th. A.I. Bde. 74th. French Bde. 13th. M.G. Coy
 4th. Aust. Div.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* **B 78** **9**

The following moves will take place tonight
 58nd. Bn. relieves 50th. Bn. AAA 51st. Bn.
 relieves 49th. Bn. AAA 3 Coys 14 Bn. will relie
 ve 45th. Bn. the two Coys to be disposed in
 posts in C. 34. b. and c. AAA Details of relief
 to be made between C.O's concerned AAA Report
 when relief complete AAA Added All Bns. 45th.
 Bn. 13th. Fld Coy. Eng. 13th. M.G. Coy. 4th.
 A.I. Bde. 18th. A.I. Bde. 74th. French Bde.
 4th. Aust. Div.

Rec 150 *150pm* *Rec 9/15/18*

From **13th. A.I. Bde.** (Approved **I(3)**)

Place **12**

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *[Signature]* Captain.

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

530. Operation Memo
 by Lt Col J. L. Whitham C.M.G.
 Commanding 52nd Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX I(4) SECRET

Bn Hdqrs 9-5-1918

- 1 The 52nd Bn will relieve the 50th Bn today 9th inst in front line trenches from USb 20.25 to O36c3.1 and from USb 1.8 to O35d3.4.
- 2 Coys of 52nd Bn will take over from coys of 50th Bn as under
 - (a) B Coy 52nd Bn from C Coy 50th Bn
 Right Sub-sector, from USb 20.25 to USb 25.40
 USb 25.50 to USb 45.75
 Coy Hdqrs at USb 2.5.
 - (b) C Coy 52nd Bn from B Coy 50th Bn.
 Left Sub-sector from USb 5.8 to O36c3.1
 Coy Hdqrs at USb 7.8.
 - (c) A Coy 52nd Bn from A Coy 50th Bn
 Support line from USb 1.8 to O35d3.4
 (2 Platoons less 1 LG Secn).
 USb 25.80 to O35d3.1.
 (1 LG Secn).
- 3 (a) Bn Hdqrs will be situated at O28c8.5
 (b) R.A.P. - O35c3.8 (c) Bn D.P. O34b8.5. O35c3.8
 (d) International Post - Right of Sector. ~~O35c3.8~~
- 4 Coys will move from present positions as soon as possible after dark in the following order - B, C, A.
 Coy Cdrs of B & C Coys will notify Ofc of A and A Coy respectively when they move

Front Line

(2)

- 5 Completion of relief will be notified by phone using code word "DIGGER" and will confirm by Runner.
- 6 Coys will take with them, in addition to LGuns Arms &c, the following:
 - (a) Telephones
 - (b) Filled LG magazines
 - (c) All S.A.H now ordered to be carried on the man
 - (d) Bombs as now ordered to be on issue
 - (e) Food & Drink tins not returned tonight.
- 7 (a) All Stores &c, Reserve Non Rations & SAA will be handed over to relieving unit. The receipt of an officer will be obtained & forwarded to Bn Hdqrs.
 (b) Copy of Receipts given for stores &c taken over from 50th Battalion will be forwarded to Bn Hdqrs.
- 8 Rations and food will be delivered as under from Bn Hdqrs by parties supplied by BNO & A Coy.
 at dusk. Guides will be sent on at 3 am morning of 10th inst.
- 9 The following Returns are required daily
 - (a) Intelligence Report, to latest possible hour (to be stated) by 7 am
 - (b) Despatch Report do.
 - (c) Situation Report (by phone) at 3/30 am & 3/30 pm
 - (d) Patrol Reports by 7 am

APPENDIX I(4) 68

27H



Appendix "J.1."

SKETCH showing DISPOSITION 52nd BN 9/13.5.18
PART of SHEET 62^D

sqsm Yrellitna ntiw au

15

224

APPENDIX J.2

70



C O P Y.

F. 46

Battalion H.Qrs.
10/5/18.

APPENDIX "J(2)"

O/C "C" Company.

1. Whilst in forward area telephone conversation is to be reduced to a minimum and names of officers not to be mentioned.
2. All ranks are to be made fully acquainted with ~~our-Tanks~~ the description of our TANKS.
3. When not otherwise occupied at night, troops are to be employed on levelling parapet and improving trenches. Trenches must not be undercut.
4. The Y.M.C.A. have arranged to make cocoa at about 0.35.d.35.60. Companies will arrange with Y.M.C.A. as to the hours most suitable for it, and will send petrol tins for it.
5. Rations will be delivered on road near R.A.P. at dark and 3 a.m. "A" Company will take delivery there and other Companies will arrange for ration parties at "A" Coy. H.Qrs. Care must be taken to return all tins etc.
6. Salvage to be sent to Ration Dump.

(Sgd) G.E. Gull

Lieut.

Adjutant.

774

APPENDIX K.1 71



C O P Y J.53

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
11/5/1918.

Headquarters,
13th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX "K(1)"

MATERIAL SALVED FOR WEEK ENDING 11/5/1918.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Rifles, S.M.L.E., 303" | 140 |
| Equipment, sets, complete | 39 |
| Magazines, Lewis Gun | 12 |
| Bottles, water | 30 |
| Helmets, steel | 33 |
| Small box respirators | 4 |
| Bayonets | 3 |
| Packs | 1 |
| Mess tins, D.S. | 2 |
| Rifle Grenades | 14 |
| Helves, entrenching tool | 2 |

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM Lieut-Colonel
Commanding 52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 Lieutenant-Colonel B. CHRISTIE, D.S.O.
 Commanding 51st. Australian Infantry Battalion.

11/5/18.

Reference Sheet 62 D. S. W. 1/80,000.

INTENTION.

1. A Patrol of 1 Officer and 10 O/Ranks in conjunction with a similar patrol of the 52nd. Battalion will leave our trenches at Zero hour with the object of gaining identification of the enemy troops in sector opposite the Brigade front.

INSTRUCTIONS.

2. (a) S/Lieut. S.E. JOYCE and 10 O/Ranks from "B" & "C" Coy. in co-operation with Lieut. W.J. HALL and 10 O/Ranks of the 52nd. Battalion will carry out the operation.
 (b) Zero hour will be 12.30 a.m.
 (c) Our artillery will fire on line as shown on attached sketch and will remain on "Barrage Starting" Line from Zero plus (3) two minutes, lifting at the rate of 100 yards per minute to "Standing Barrage Line" and remaining there to Zero plus 30 minutes. French artillery are co-operating on our right.
 (d) 13th. L.T.M. Battery will co-operate and fire on the railway cutting O.36.d. and enemy trench from U.6.b.3.9. to O.36.d.5.8. and on building U.6.a.5.9. from Zero plus (1) one minute and then lift on to buildings and wood from U.6.a. Central, also on enemy posts in U.5.b..
 (e) 13th. Machine Gun Coy. will assist by firing on road in U.6.b. and on wood in U.6.a. and b. from Zero plus 30 minutes.
 (f) The patrol will leave our trench at approx. O.36.c.8.3 move to S.E. side of building at U.6.a.7.8. returning to our line at approx. O.36.c.6.8. 52nd. Battalion patrol are leaving their line at O.36.c.4.0. moving through U.6.a. and returning to trench at approx. U.5.b.8.9.
 (g) S/Lieut. S.E. JOYCE will co-operate with Officer in charge of 52nd. patrol before moving out.

REPORTS.

3. Immediately patrol returns to our line the code word "FINISH" will be sent to Battalion Headquarters at once. A full report of the operation will be forwarded as soon as possible afterwards.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

- Nos. 1 & 2 Copies to Coys.
- No. 3. Copy. 52nd. Battalion.
- 4. " 13th. Brigade.
- 5. " War Diary.
- 6. " 49th. Battalion.

H. Albrecht
 Captain & Adjutant.

Rec'd. J.M.

337 ✓

APPENDIX *K2*⁷³



CM.

SECRET.
B.1/387.

13th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,
11th. May, 1918.

Under cover of an intense artillery bombardment, the 52nd. and 51st. Battalions are sending out strong fighting patrols in U.G.a. with a view to obtaining identifications.

ZERO hour 12.30 A.M. 12th. instant.

Runnell
Major,

Bde. Major, 13th. Australian Infantry Brigade.

Copy to -

- All Bns.
- L.T.M.B.
- 14th. Bn.
- 12th.A.I.Bde.
- 73rd French Bde.
- 13th. M.G.Coy.
- 13th.Fd.Coy.Engrs.

Raw 11/5/18

See Pon Operation Memo

appendix K(2)

151 Pon Order No 63
10 F 49 9/11/5/18
Raw

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13k

APPENDIX

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY COPY NO. 7

SECRET

ORDER NO. 141.

HEADQUARTERS,
11th May 1918.

1. The 13th Aust. Inf. Brigade will carry out a minor operation on night 11th/12th May 1918 to obtain identifications.
ZERO HOUR -- 12.30 a.m.

2. Patrols will leave our trenches at ZERO HOUR and enter enemy posts after barrage lifts.

3. ARTILLERY TASK :-

ZERO to plus 2 - All 18-prs. of RIGHT and LEFT Group barrage starting line as shown on tracing attached.

At ZERO plus 2 - 18-pr. Batteries roll outwards at 100 yards per minute to reach line shown as "standing Barrage" line. 18-prs. continue on Standing Barrage Line until ZERO plus 30 minutes.

Inter-Group boundary throughout operation will be U 6 a 5075 to U 6 b 7000.

4.5" How. Batteries :-

ZERO to ZERO plus 30 minutes :-

RIGHT Group Battery searches Railway Line from O 36 d 7005-O 36 d 2.0.
LEFT Group Battery bombards trench P 31 Central to P 31 e 8535.

69th R.G.A. :-

ZERO to plus 30 minutes :-

Bombard area shown GREEN on attached tracing.

Normally Batteries will stop firing at ZERO plus 30. In the event of the Infantry wishing the fire to cease earlier, the code word "FINISH" will be sent to all concerned.

4. RATES OF FIRE :-

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <u>18-pr.</u> | ZERO to ZERO plus 6 min. | - | 4 rds. per gun per min. |
| | Plus 6 to plus 30 min. | - | 2 " " " " " |
| <u>How.</u> | ZERO to ZERO plus 15 min. | - | 2 " " How. " " |
| | Plus 15 to Plus 30 min. | - | 1 " " " " " |

5. AMMUNITION :- 1 Section per 18-pr. Bty. will fire smoke shell throughout. Remaining 18-prs. 75% A, 25% AX. 4.5" Hows. -- 100% B.X.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

H. J. ...
Major,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

over

DISTRIBUTION.

- NO. 1 #RIGHT Group.
- 2 #LEFT Group.
- 3 SUPER. Group.
- 4 RESERVE Lde..

- 5 4th Aust. Inf. bde..
- 6 12th " " "
- 7 ~~13th~~ 13th " " "
- 8 #4th Aust. Div. "G"
- 9 #69th R.G.A..
- 10 #R.A. Aust. Corps.
- 11 #37th French D.A..
- 12 H.A. Aust. Corps.
- 13 5th Aust. D.A..

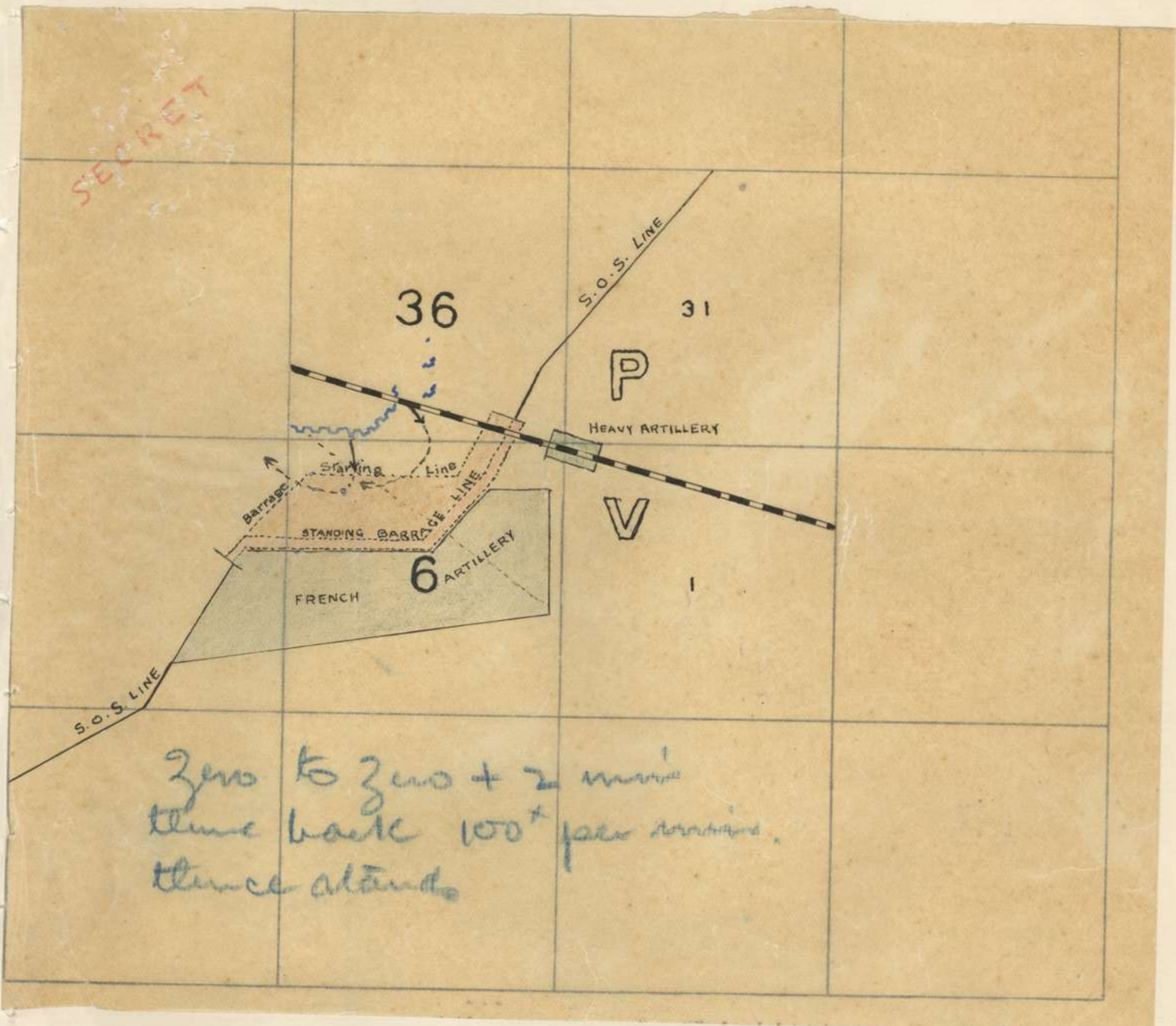
- 14 File.
- 15 - 17 Diary.
- 18 C.R.A..
- 19 B.k..
- 20 S.C..
- 21 R.O..

Tracings for those marked *

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SECRET



Secret F49

52nd Bn A.I.F

11th May 1918.

(Appendix K(2))

Operation Memo.

Reference 62 D SW 1/20,000

1. With the object of obtaining identification of the enemy opposite Brigade sector patrols of 51st & 52nd Bns will operate tonight as under:-

(a) 51st Bn will send out Fighting Patrol of 1 officer & 10 other ranks from approx 036 c 8.3 moving through U 6 a and returning through (approx) 036 c 6.2

(b) 52nd Bn will send out Fighting Patrol of 1 officer and 10 other ranks from approx 036 c 4.0 moving through U 6 a and returning through (approx) U 5 b 8.9

2. Instructions to C of 52nd Bn Patrol have been issued direct (verbally) to Lieut W.J. HALL, "A" Coy who will co-operate with officer C of 51st Bn Patrol (Lt Joyce) before either Patrol moves out.

- (2)
- 3 Zero hour will be 12.30 am
 - 4 Div^l Artillery will fire as shown on attached sketch (issued to C of Patrol & C of "C" Coy only) and will remain on barrage starting line from Zero plus 2 minutes, lifting to standing line and remain there to Zero plus 30 minutes. The barrage will lift at rate of 100° per minute.
 - 5 13th A.M.G. Coy is co-operating with fire on targets already indicated to C of 13th A.M.G. Coy. 2 guns firing on enemy post (Derilict Tank) to the North edge of MONUMENT WOOD in U 6 a Central, and one gun firing on enemy trench between road and railway in U 6 b and U 36 d.



APPENDIX:

K2

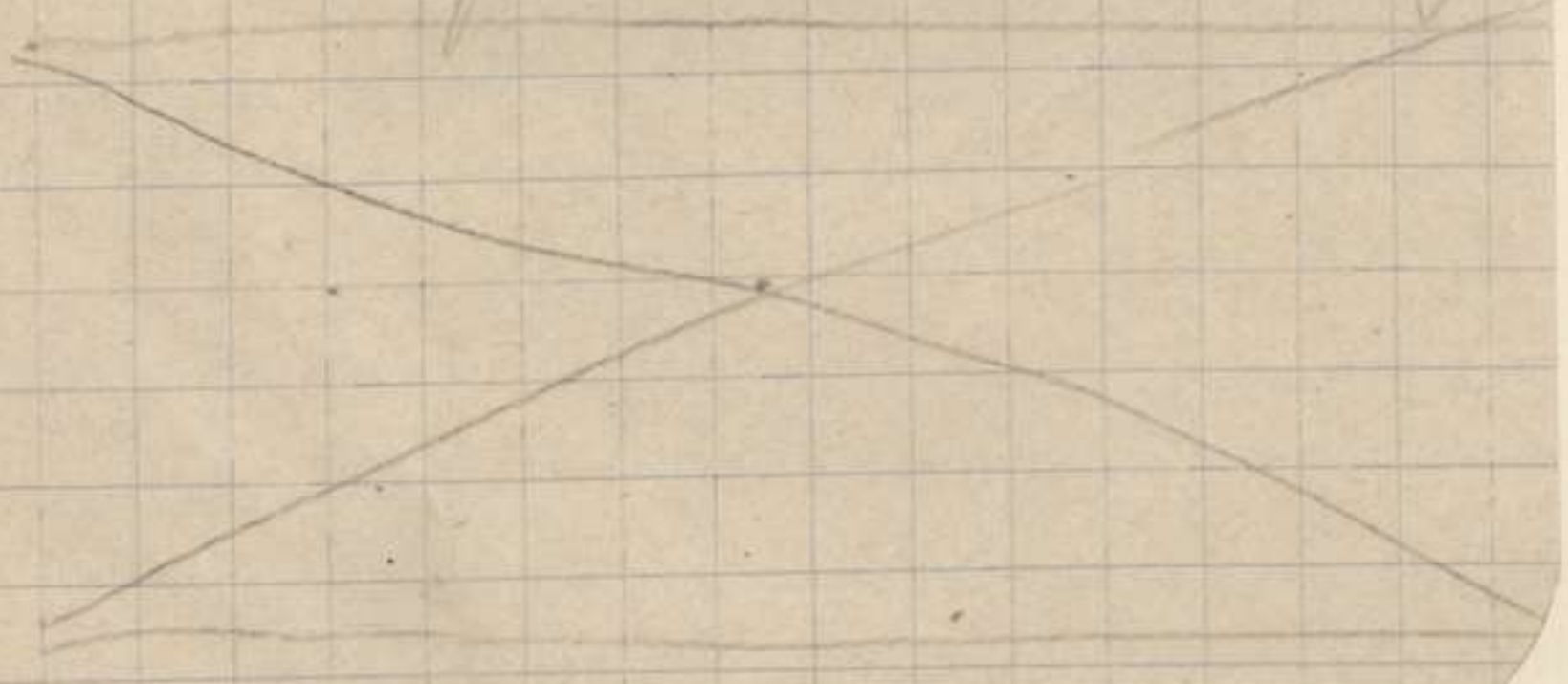
77

(3)

The 13th Aust Light
Mortar Bty
will cooperate
by firing on targets
as under -

(a) enemy post (Stranded
British Tank) in
U6 b

(b) Building near
MONUMENT approximately
U6 b 3.9 to O36 d 5.2, a
second mortar
continuing this line
North of the Railway.



(4)



7. OE. "C" Coy (Left Coy 52 Bn) will
arrise Officer in charge 52 Bn patrol by
observation of enemy trenches before dusk
and facilitate the return of patrol through
his Company sector. He will also
report to Platoon HQ. immediately the
patrol has returned to our line, using
the code word "FINISH", and state
briefly on 'phone the result of operation
- whether identification has been secured.
Officer in charge of patrol will forward
a full report of the operation as soon as
possible to Bn. HQs.

acknowledges.

(Distribution shown on
back.

8 pm

P.T.O.

Adj 52/Bn AIF

File Lead

APPENDIX

K2 78

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(M. 54 a)

52nd Ptn AIF
12.5.1918 (K2)

HQ. 13th A.I. Bde.

appendix (K2)

Further to my message M 54.

Reference your B1/387 of 11th inst. I beg to confirm my verbal report sent on telephone at 1.20 am that the patrol sent out had returned to our lines and had secured no identifications.

The patrol of 52nd Ptn was composed of 1 Officer (Lieut W. J. HALL) and 10 other ranks all of whom - two other ranks excepted, had been out on reconnoitering patrols in the vicinity of the area they were to visit last night.

Patrol moved at zero, leaving our trench at 036 C. 35 25. crossed three belts of our wire and moved in two lines, extended so as to cover approx.

50⁺. Left flank of patrol kept about 20⁺-30⁺ from road in U 6 a; after passing

(2)

MONUMENT a line of screw pickets, long, running parallel to our line of trench in 036 C and apparently into MONUMENT was met with - pickets spaced about 20 yards. Could say whether these had just been placed there; no signs of enemy were near pickets. Patrol moved about 30⁺ S. of this line of pickets then circling slightly west, returned to our line at 12.55 am, through 036 C. U.O.

No signs of enemy were seen; shell holes searched. No enemy trench or posts seen. Actual edge of wood in U 6 a was not reached by patrol as small proportion of our shells kept on edge of wood after the standing barrage line was reached.

Return journey of patrol was accelerated owing to No Man's Land being lit up by the light from a burning building, apparently the building about U 6 a 5. 4.

No casualties to members of patrol, or so far as is known to men in trenches.



3

Enemy fired two red, followed by two green flares shortly after our barrage opened.

About ten minutes later enemy artillery opened up. No Man's Land receiving a few shells & also our front trenches - in left sector several shells burst in trench in occupied portions.

Enemy artillery maintained fire about 20 minutes.

No machine gun or rifle fire encountered by patrol. Enemy machine gun in wood in U's a or b. was firing to (apparently) the north.

Wagon Ntham, saw a similar patrol from 5th Bn after zero. The route taken by such patrol was both from East to West - close cooperation in arrangements prior to zero was observed.

Our artillery fire was good.

It is regretted that identification was not secured - I am of opinion that enemy does not hold a strong line in front of MONUMENT Wood but apparently is dug in in the wood.

J. L. Ntham
CO 5 Bn

274

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APPENDIX K.2



MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|------|----|-------|--------|------------------------------------|----------|----|
| Prefix | Code | m. | Words | Charge | This message is on a c of: | Reed. at | m. |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | Sent | | | Date | |
| | | | At | m. | Service. | From | |
| | | | To | | | By | |
| | | | By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | | |

TO KNIFE (approx K(2))

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| *M 54 | 12/5 | B1/387 | |

Confirming telephone report am
 Patrol went out according orders my
 memo F49 and followed route
 indicated your sketch and searched
 intervening area. No identifications
 secured aaa Patrol left at zero through
 036 C 35 25 returned zero plus
 25 minutes through 036 C 0.0 aaa
 Our artillery good aaa Patrol able
 blow barrage closely aaa Enemy
 artillery shelled area through which
 patrol returned aaa No casualties
 Detailed report follows.
 (vide M 54(a))

| | |
|-------|---------|
| From | KEE P |
| Place | |
| Time | 2:30 am |

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) J. Whitham
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

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C O P Y.

J.68.

Headquarters,

52nd. Battalion A. I. F.

12/5/1918.

APPENDIX "L" (U)

Os/C. "B" & "C" Companies.

1. With a view to securing co-operation between the Lewis Guns ~~on~~ on the Battalion front and providing cover from frontal fire, it is suggested that the Company Commanders of "B" & "C" Companies arrange for their Lewis Guns to be placed as per attached plan.
2. Please confer on the subject with the other Company Commander concerned, and either take necessary action to-night or report by phone as to reasons why the suggestions cannot be acted upon.
3. It is necessary that properly prepared gun positions be prepared and head cover provided from enemy fire in any direction except that within the area of fire as shown.
4. If required, the advice of an Engineer Officer is available, also sappers to supervise the work. The Lewis Gun N.C.O. will report to Company Commanders to-night to assist.
5. The distances of gun positions from trenches is not to scale on plan, and same are left to discretion of Company Commanders. 5 or 6 ft. should suffice with guns about 20 ft. apart.
6. Any wiring done round the guns should be well concealed.
7. It is not desired to in any way restrict the mobility of the Lewis Guns. The positions must be camouflaged and only used in event of attack.

(Sgd) G.E. GILL Lieut.
Adjutant.

F 52 a

HQrs.

13th A.I. Bde.

APPENDIX (2)

52nd Bn HQrs.

12th May 1918

Reference conversation with C.O. C. this morning regarding action of patrol to operate on our front on night 12/13 May with object of confirming report of last night's patrol and to further definitely ascertain enemy locations, arrangements have been made, and are briefly as under:

Patrol, 1 Officer & 6 other ranks from left company, to leave our line from vicinity of Coy HQrs. (U5 D 7.8), proceed S.E. towards N.W. corner of wood, thence West along N. edge of wood in U6 a as far as road running N. and S. from Chateau to VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, thence back to left of Battalion sector, keeping to West edge of road and MONUMENT Buildings. Plan see

(2)

F 52 a

Sketch attached, showing approx route to be followed)

Patrol to go out at 11.30 pm. and remain out one hour.

Mutual arrangements have been made with R.H. Battalion (51st): their patrol will leave at same hour working on ~~the~~ East side of N. and S. road in U6 a.

Arrangements for Veterans MG's to fire during period patrol is out on enemy post at or near Donelich Tank in U5 D, have been made direct with OC, 13th A.I. Coy. - the same target was engaged by them last night.

Pass-word arranged for Brigade sector for night 12/13 May. "ROUEN". Left Bn French Brigade notified.

Other patrols will operate between 10 and 11.30 pm in U5 D, (on right Coy front) and again between 12.30 and 3 am.

3 pm

J. J. Whitman Lt Col
C.O. 52nd Bn.

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83.

F52

F52

HQ Keep Bn

12-5-1918

OC Coy. (Appendix) (2)

Instructions for Special Patrol on night 12/13 May 1918

Map Reference
Sheet 62 D SW

1 In addition to usual Patrols working opposite Battalions sectors (which are supplied by H Coy and instructions for which have been issued separately to Coys concerned) a special patrol will be furnished by C Coy (left Coy in line) to operate on left of Battalion Sectors.

2 (a) Strength of Patrol 1 officer
6 other ranks
(b) Route as per sketch attached (copy of sketch to OC C Coy only) and following references:
Point of departure Vicinity of Left Coy Hqr (WS 678)
Thence S.E. towards N.W. corner of wood Thence W. along N edge of wood in Uba to road

2 (A) (2)
Thence N. Keeping to west of road and MONUMENT.

3 Point of return - Left of Battalion Sector or approx junction of KEEP and KEEN Battalions.
Time of departure 11 30 pm
" " return 12 30 Am (approx.)

3 Object of Patrol is to obtain definite information of enemy positions opposite left of Battm Sectors and, if possible, to obtain identification of the enemy holding the line opposite our front.
The patrol will carefully examine the area shelled during last night's barrage N of the wood - that is between our left company trenches and the edge of wood in which the building was set on fire last night. To ascertain whether any dead or wounded enemy



APPENDIX

224
84

334

(3)

It will also search for any signs of recent work or occupation by enemy and take any available means of securing identification

4. A Patrol from Left Battalion (KEEN) will be operating on east side of N and S road in Uba at the same time as this patrol going out from KEEN Right Coy and working in vicinity and E of MONUMENT

5(a) There will be no artillery bombardment of the sector over which patrols will work: guns covering our sector will only fire on back areas during period mentioned in para 2.



(4)

(b) Enemy positions opposite
right of Battery Sector (in
vicinity of Direct Tank)
will be engaged by
Vickers guns during
period that patrol is
operating

6 "C" Coy Commander
will notify flank
companies of times of
patrols departure and
return and will also
notify Bn Hqs by 'phone
directly patrol has
returned using code word
"COMPLETE": also Special
report in writing as
soon as possible after
patrol has returned

7 Password 2/B3 issued
Separately all
contained

(See Distribution
on back)

adj KEEP.

7
appendix L2.

224



| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----|
| Collect | By | At | In |
| Instructions | | To | By |
| Office m. Received. | | | |
| Sender's Number | Day of Month | In reply to Number | AAA |
| <u>Distribution</u> | | | |
| Issued by G/D Cpl KEEN | | | |
| Copies to A. & B. Cpl | | | |
| " KEEN Cpl | | | |
| " 7/Jan 2/20 AIE R | | | |
| " Mr. Dwyer | | | |
| <u>G.W.</u> | | | |

Patrol Report (Forwarded with Intelligence Report to Bde HQ on 13/5/1918)

Orders for Patrol Routes taken
1 Off and 6 O.R. Issued by Bⁿ H.Q. to OC. C Co. (mess F52)

As shown on sketches attached.

Remarks
Enemy movement - Enemy party digging and working from N.W. corner of wood to point about 100' in rear of Tank. R Flare thrown out of Tank to throw flare at intervals. The enemy occupying a post at N.W. corner of wood with about 6 men when we were about 20-30' from the

post they got into extended formation in shell holes. I think by the way they formed they had a M.G.

Enemy works: - I examined 2 enemy posts (improved shell holes) along the edge of the wood about 50' out. They showed no signs of recent occupation. The ground is not badly shell torn.

Conspicuous
Camouflage points
noticed in
own lines,
No enemy dead were seen
looking from the wood to our trenches
our working parties trenches are
invisible

P.T.O.

89. Cypriani L2

ARK

Time off base 11.30 pm
Left base
Returned 12.40 am
Date Night 12/3.5.18.

As instructed (see memo F52)

V J Henderson

2/Lieut

Keep B? 13/5/18

Mr. (Do not
use this Special report
in War Diary)
Special Report

I returned to a point about a dozen yards
R. of L post of Keen B?. When about 5 yds
off the mine covering the R. post of Keen
a party of an NCO and 2 men who appeared
to be examining the mine turned in the
direction of their line and saw. After going
a few yards they turned and the NCO threw
a bomb at us. It did no harm.

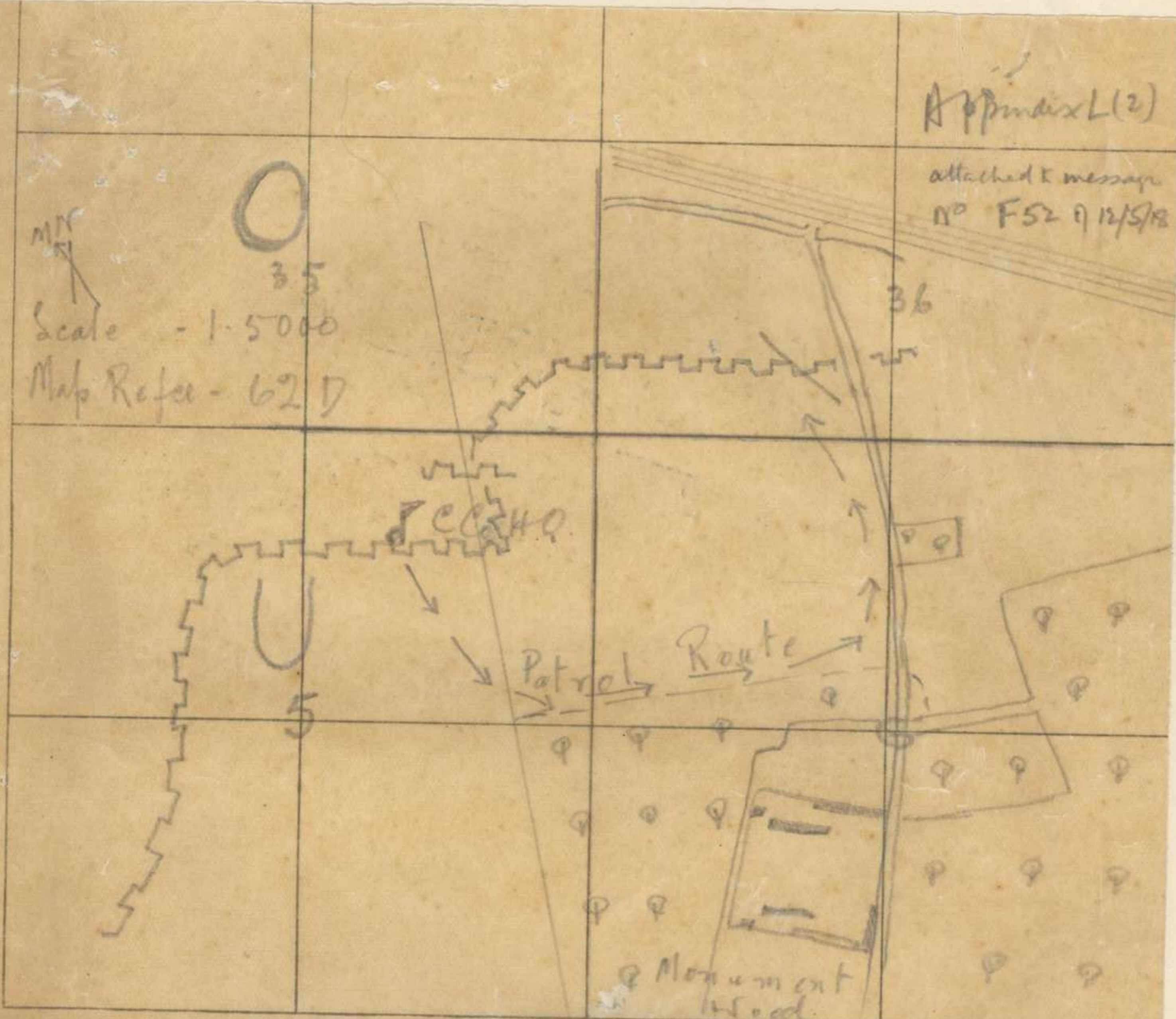
I walked through the mine and approached
their post and called out Hallo digger what's
your bloody game I gave the password
I approached their post. Without warning a shot was fired
from their post. The shot wounded Pte Schultz
badly in the shoulder.

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Appendix L(2)

attached message
no FS2 9/12/5/18



NOTE.—(1). These traces are intended to facilitate the communication of information as to the position of targets, which have
 (2). The squares on this trace are 500 yards in length on the 1/10,000 scale, 1,000 yards in length on the 1/20,000 on the 1/40,000 scale.
 (3). The squares on the trace are fitted to the squares of the map showing the targets, which are then drawn. Letters and numbers must also be added to enable the recipient to place the trace in the correct position on the map. This may also be traced, but this is not essential. The name and scale of the map to which the trace refers must be added. This can be used for the 1/10,000, 1/20,000, or 1/40,000 scale.

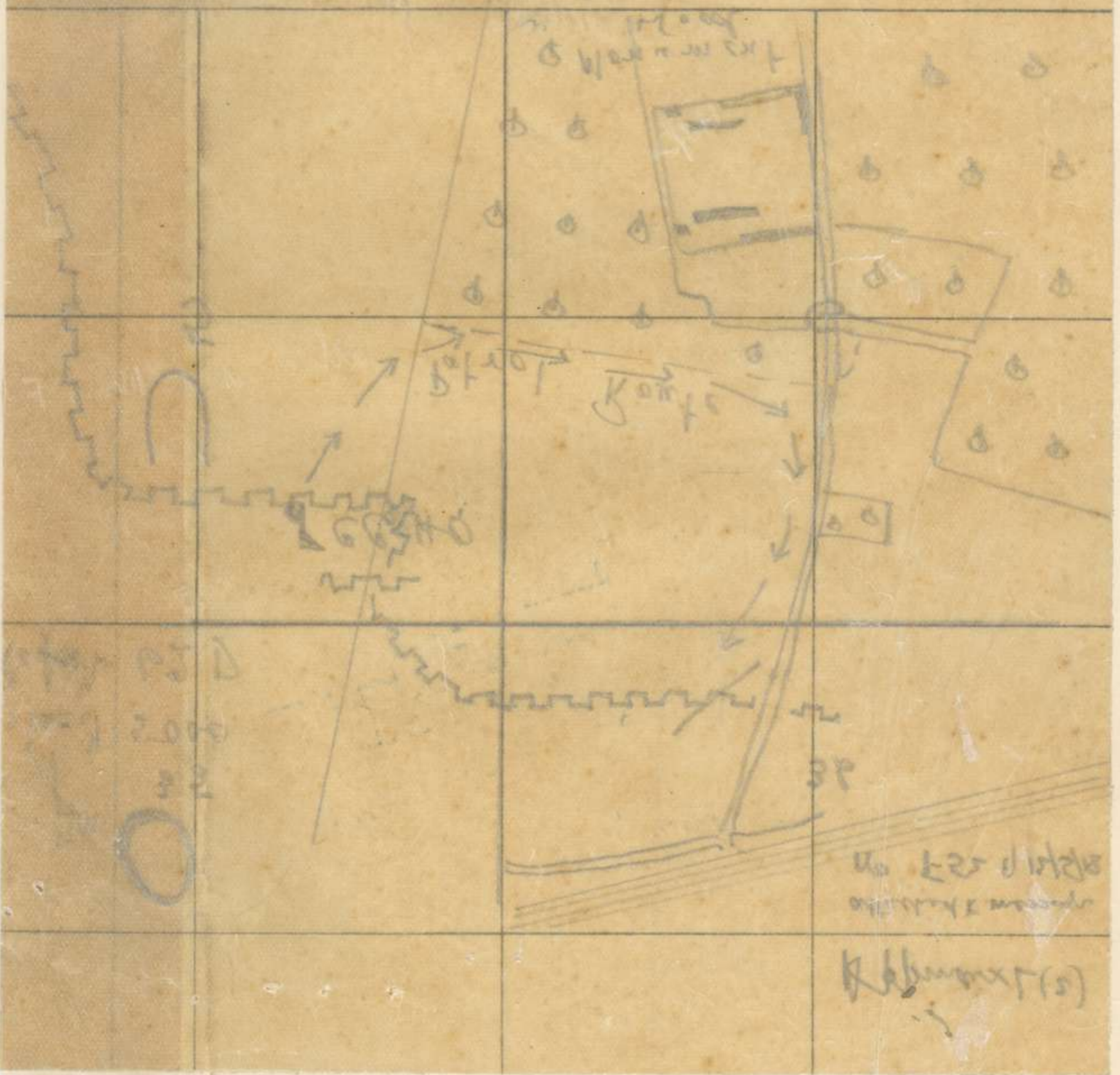
G.S.G.S. 3023.

Handwritten red text: "A. J. ..."

Artillery Trace

3032 2022

These traces are intended to facilitate the communication of information as to the position of targets, which have
The squares on this trace are 500 yards in length on the 1/10,000 scale, 1,000 yards in length on the 1/50,000
The squares on the trace are fitted to the squares of the map showing the targets, which are then drawn
The name and scale of the map to which the trace refers must
be traced, but this is not essential. Latitudes and longitudes must also be added to enable the recipient to place the trace in the correct position on a
map of the 1/10,000, 1/50,000, or 1/40,000 scale.



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APPENDIX L3

91



C O P Y.

J.71

Headquarters,
52nd. Battalion A. I. F.
13/5/1918. 1 a.m.

Headquarters,
13th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX "L(3)"

Herewith prisoner named HEINRICH BRUER of 20th. Battalion (3rd. Coy) JAEGER Regiment, captured at about midnight, 12th. instant, at about U.5.b. (sheet 62d. S.W.) opposite Right Company Sector of this Battalion, by L/Cpl BERTHELSEN, 52nd. Bn. Prisoner states he was one of a party of about 20, apparently on patrol, and that no officer was with the party. Unit ~~has~~ has been in the line 4 days, relieving 8th. Bn. same Regt. Has no idea of date of relief but heard they were going to ITALY when relieved. He has already been on Italian front.

-XX- Further statements follow with Intelligence Report.

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM Lieut-Col.
Commanding.

-XX- NOTE For further statements, please see Appendix M (4)
"Intelligence Report for 13th. May, 1918.

Encl. Small packet papers & documents

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Notes for Coy Commanders 52/Pan
 APPENDIX L 4⁹²
 Capt BEAMOND:
 D' Coy 14 Pan will work B' Coy 52/Pan
 and "C" Coy's sector as far approx. as
 C' Coy HQ's. (Capt JACKA is the actual
 Coy Commander of D' Coy 14 Pan)
 Capt COLE
 A' Coy 14 Pan will work C' Coy 52/Pan
 from Coy HQ's to Staff A' sector & also
 the right Coy A' 52/Pan as far as railway.
 Captain BLANNEY. C' Coy 14 Pan will
 visit A' Coy 52/Pan to arrange to
 take over our support company with
 2 platoons (remainder of B' 14 Pan will
 take over portion of 49' Pan sector in
 reserve.
 Coy Commanders will make mutual arrange-
 ments for guides for the incoming unit.
 Probable date of relief night 13/14 May.
 J. Whittham
 Lt Col
 11/5/18

These notes will be made after dark tonight (Saturday) 11/5/18
 (arrangements made with Capt Beamond 14/Pan)

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APPENDIX

L4⁹³



C O P Y.

S E C R E T, TO BE DESTROYED WHEN READ

H.Qrs,
K E E P

F. 55

11-45 a.m.

12/5/18.

O/C "

" Company.

APPENDIX "L(4)"

1. The Battalion will probably be relieved during night 13/14th. instant.
2. In event of relief taking place (for which preparations are to be made) the following instructions will be observed :-
 - (a) Evening meal will not be issued until after relief. Arrangements will be made for hot cocoa at WHITE CHATEAU en route out.
 - (b) A limber for each Company will be sent to Ration point at a time to be notified later for Lewis Guns, magazines, Food Tins, and any such gear.
 - (c) All S.A.A., bombs, flares, &c will be handed over and receipts obtained. Bombs and extra 100 S.A.A. carried on the man may also be handed over but the greatest care is to be exercised to assure that none is wasted.

(Sgd). G.E. GILL Lieut.
Adjutant.

727
C O P Y.

NOTES FOR COMPANY COMMANDERS, 52ND. BATTALION.

APPENDIX "L(4)"

Captain BEAUMOND, "D" Coy., 14th. Bn will visit "B" Coy, 52nd. Bn. and "C" Coy's sector as far, approximately, as "C" Coy's H.Q. (Captain JACKA is the actual Coy. Commander of "D" Coy. 14th. Bn).

Captain COLE "A" Coy., 14th. Bn. will visit "C" Company, 52nd. Bn from Coy. H.Qrs. to left of sector and also the right Coy. of 51st. Bn as far as Railway.

Captain BLAINEY, "C" Company, 14th. Bn. will visit "A" Coy, 52nd. Bn. to arrange to take over our support company with 2 platoons. (remainder of "C" Company 14th. Bn will take over portion of 49th. Bn. sector in reserve).

Company Commanders will make mutual arrangements for guides for the incoming unit.

Probable date of relief - night 13/14th. May.

These visits will be made after dusk to-night (Saturday) 14th. May. Arrangements made with Lieut-Col. CROWTHER 14th. Bn on 11/5/18.

(Sgd) J.L. WHITHAM Lieut-Col.

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APPENDIX 49

C O P Y.

J.70.

Headquarters, APPENDIX "L(4)"
52nd. Battalion A.I.F.
12/5/18.

O P E R A T I O N M E M O.

Copy No.1.

1. The 52nd. Battalion will be relieved by 14th. Battalion A.I.F. during night 13/14th. May, 1918.
2. Companies will be relieved as under :-
 - (a) "A" Coy. 52nd. Bn will be relieved by 2 platoons of 14th. Battalion - arriving at about 11 p.m. ("C" Coy. 14th. Bn)
 - (b) "B" Coy. 52nd. Bn will be relieved by portion of "D" Coy. 14th. Bn, who will take over line from U.5.cen. to U.5.b. 80.80., which includes portion of present "C/D" Coys. Arrive about 10-30 p.m.
 - (c) "C/D" Companies 52nd. Bn will be relieved by "A" Coy, 14th. Bn, arriving at about 10 p.m.
3. Arrangements for guides will be made mutually by Company Commanders concerned.
4. Receipts for trench stores will be obtained and forwarded to Battalion H.Qrs.
5. Unless otherwise ordered, Companies will, after being relieved, move out via road. O.34.a.8.2., O.34.a.85.75., O.26.d.00.35. Destination will be notified later.
6. Hot cocoa will be provided by Y.M.C.A. at O.35.d.00.35.
7. A limber will meet each Company at about point O.34.b.2.1. for conveying Lewis Guns, etc.
8. Attention is directed to preliminary instructions issued this day (message No. F.55).

DISTRIBUTION E-

- No. 1 File.
- 2/4 Coys.
- 5 R.Q.M. & R.T.O.

(Sgd) G.W. GILL Lieut.
Asjutant.