

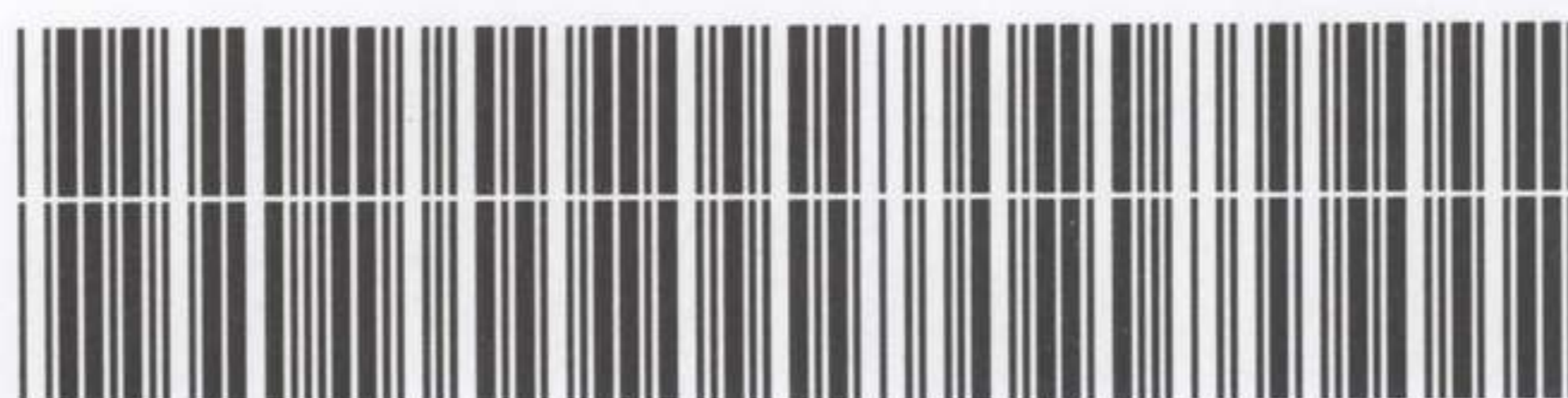
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/25/12

Title: 25th Australian Machine Gun
Company

August 1918



AWM4-24/25/12

CONFIDENTIAL.

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

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

25th Aus. Inf. Coy.

FOR

August 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

J. J. Saunders.

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. J. Saunders.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

27

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Street 62D FRANCE A. 27c. 06 27 1/18.	N.N.		<p>Last night the company was clear of all Line and Reserve positions & moved to Rear B.O. with all guns and gear, as detailed at the close of last month's diary. This morning the whole of the Company's personnel have been engaged in repacking limbers, and camp cleaning preparatory to moving to a new area, where billets have been allotted to this Coy in the village of COISY. The Company moved out from C 27a B.O. at 2 pm, and our camp was taken over by an Imperial Machine Gun Coy. The route to COISY as outlined in the attached Movement Order is an interesting one, & some pretty scenery is passed, - our destination was reached at 6.15 pm, and the personnel were soon settled in fairly comfortable billets. A few days rest will be much appreciated, and we are fortunate in being near the Fourth Division's excellent concert party - "The Smart Set", who are at present showing in the Aerodrome at BERTANGLES</p>	
			<p>Movement Order No. 1. (marked App No 1) attached</p>	
			<p>J. J. Saunders. Capt O.C. 35th Aust. M/Gun Coy.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62 ^D FRANCE N.W. A27c. 06.27	2/8/18		While the Battalion is in Corps Reserve, it will undergo a comprehensive system of training. A syllabus of training of the 25 th Coy for the first week, ending 10.8.18. is attached. Lieut Garling of No 1 Section who had been selected to attend the Intelligence course at the Australian Corps School, marched out today. A light rain commenced to fall at 4.30 this morning, & heavy showers have fallen throughout the day. Company strength is 13 Officers, 222. O/Ranks	
As above	3.8.18		<u>Syllabus of Training</u> (marked app too 2) attached The company was fallen in at 9.0 AM, & inspected by Lt. On completion Section Commanders took over, and deficiencies of clothing and equipment were listed and handed into the Orderly Room. In the afternoon Gun gear etc. was checked & shortages indented for. The following O/Ranks rejoined today, Lt/Cpl Newland from a Signalling course at Corps School, Cpl. Jensen from an Intelligence course at Corps School, & five casualties (wounded & sick men) Lieut Eldridge, accompanied by a batman, & Cpl. Kirby marched	
			J. J. Saunders Capt Lt. 25 th Aust Mt Gun Coy	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62D FRANCE A27c. 06.27.	2.8.18	N.W.	CONTINUED out to attend a Mc/Gun course at Camiers. Weather still very showery. Company strength 12 officers, 228 of Ranks.	
As above	4/8/18		All personnel are engaged in overhauling gun gear etc., in expectation of an early move. It was thought that the Companies would be here for 8 or ten days, but later developments point to an early departure. Sections 2 & 4 moved out tonight at 8 p.m. to join the 29th Battalion, with whom they will operate. Capt Saunders marched in today, & has been taken on strength. He assumes duties as Second-in-Command. Weather dull & cloudy with scattered showers. Company strength 11 officers, 226 of Ranks.	
As above	5-8-18		At 2 pm today gun teams from Sections 1 & 2 moved out to join up the 31st and 30th Battalions (Infantry) respectively, with whom they will cooperate in the forthcoming offensive. The remaining personnel, with transport J. J. Saunders. Capt. for C.B. 25th Aust MG Coy.	e

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62 D FRANCE A 27c. 06.27	5-8-18	P.M.	CONTINUED. Marched out to new area at 8 pm, arriving at AUBIGNEY, our destination at 1.30 AM. This village was being shelled, as was also CORBIE and FOUILLOY. Showery weather prevailed during the day, increasing to steady rain at dusk, and continuing throughout the night. Abnormal traffic was passed along the route, and a congestion of traffic, caused by tanks, held us our own transport in the "bottle neck" at DAOURS for four hours. Two Companies marched out on 14 days U.K. Leave Company. Strength 12 Officers & 226 Other Ranks. Movement Order No 2 (marked App. No. 2) attached	
Sheet 62 D FRANCE O 2 D. 9.9	6-8-18		Lieut de Ross & 20 Other Ranks. left at 9 AM. for Reserve positions at VILLERS - BRETTONEUX. Billets have been secured for the transport & remaining personnel. Constant movement of troops and ordnance towards the line. The weather has cleared a little, but light scattered showers have fallen throughout the day. One Other Rank to Hospital sick. J. J. Saunders. Capt Lt. 25 th Aust. Inf. Coy.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 620 FRANCE O.Z.D 9.9.	7-8-18		<p>The organisation of the Company for the forthcoming operations have been completed, and the Ob has joined the 29th Infantry Battalion, 8th Brigade, to which he is attached, whilst we are working with this Brigade. The Transport Section have been busy arranging and testing pack-saddlery loads which are to be used as per Administrative Memo. and Operation Order attached. Today has been much finer, although misty, but despite these conditions great aerial activity prevails. One Rank marched out on UK leave, & one man to Hospital.</p> <p>Administrative Memo No. 1 (marked App No. 4) attached Operation Order No. 1 (marked App No. 5) "</p>	
O.Z.D. 9.9.	8-8-18		<p>At 2.30 A.M. the pack animals proceeded with gear, as per instructions in Operation Order No. 1. Zero hour for the commencement of operations was 4.20 A.M. and the barrage fell at this hour. The guns of this Company moved forward with the several battalions, as previously mentioned.</p> <p>J. J. Saunders. Capt for Ob. 25th Aust Inf Coy</p>	<p>27</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62 ^D	FRANCE		<p><u>CONTINUED</u> and four gun crews under Lieut de Ross in Reserve at VILLERS-BRETTONEUX. Almost ideal weather conditions prevailed for the opening phase of the operations, the morning being foggy (and dry underfoot) so screening the movements of tanks, and first waves of attacking infantry. As the day wore on the fog lifted, and excellent observation could be obtained. The foggy conditions, accurate and short barrage, and rapid advance broke the enemy's opposition, and casualties were slight, only one man of this Coy being wounded. During his retirement the enemy mined the roads, and we had one pack horse wounded as the result of one of these mine explosions. All objectives were reached ahead of schedule time. Gun teams of this Coy supported the capture of the huge naval gun, on railway mounting, at HARBONNIERS. During the afternoon Transport Section, with pack animals returned to Rear Coy. after establishing forward dumps.</p>	
			<p>J. J. Saunders. Capt. Ct 25th Aust Wd Depot.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Street 620 FRANCE O. 2. D. 9. 9.	9. 8. 18		Under instructions from the C. B. Rear H. Q. moved to VILLERS BRETTONEUX at 2 pm today, and bivouaced for the night in an orchard. Heartening reports continue to arrive from all quarters of the continued progress and success of the offensive, the only opposition being met with being from well placed machine gun nests - the crews usually dying at their guns. Today we have had one corporal killed (sniped) and six men wounded. Enemy aircraft were busy during the night bombing our new line, and back areas; VILLERS-BRETTONEUX receiving attention. Weather fine, and very warm.	
HARBOYNIERES O. 2. O. C. 3. 5.	10. 8. 18		At 6.15 this morning the Rear party moved forward, but were met at WARFUSEE by special runner, with the news that the 8th Brigade were then being relieved, and we were to halt and await instructions. Necessary limbers went forward and collected guns and gear. Later the whole Company moved to DROURS VIA FOUILLOY & HUBIGNY, halting at FOUILLOY for dinner.	

J. J. Saunders. Capt
C. B. 25th Aust. M. Gun Coy

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARBONNIERES O. 20. 5. 5.	10. 8. 18.		<p><u>CONTINUED</u></p> <p>At the time of the Company's withdrawal the second objective was being exploited. Attached are the organisation details, and battle instructions for the period 8th, 9th & 10th, and suggestions re the exploitation of the second objective. One man marched out on 14 days U.K. Leave. Weather fine and warm. Company strength 13 Officers 210 of Ranks.</p> <p>Brigade Orders etc. (marked app. No 6) attached.</p>	
FRANCE 62 ^D . 8 th 1/20000. N. 6. D 7. 4.	11. 8. 18.		<p>Company in comfortable billets, and engaged in "cleaning up". Men's packs withdrawn from 8th Brigade Kit store. 1 of Rank marched in from U.K. leave. Weather fine and dry.</p>	
As above	12. 8. 18.		<p>Situation and disposition of Company as above. Personnel engaged in overhauling and cleaning of gun gear, and repacking of limbers. We are on the banks of the canal, and the men are availing themselves of the opportunity to indulge in swimming, a luxury after the past scarcity of water.</p> <p>J. J. Saunders. Capt C.B. 25th Aust. M/Gun Coy.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE 62 nd S.M. 20000 N. 60 7.4.	12.8.18		<p><u>CONTINUED</u> One of Ranks marched out to U.K., having been selected for transport duty and leave in Australia, which is being granted to 1914 men. Four of Ranks marched in from Rest Camp at Hill. Weather beautifully fine. Company strength 13 Officers 212 of Ranks.</p>	
ROSIERES 140000 N. 26. Central B. 8.18			<p>An early dinner was provided for the Company, and at 11.45 AM. we left DRAVRES for new area; and after an interesting march over recent battlefields, where the Canadians had attacked on the 8th inst we arrived at our destination at 7 pm. & at once dug in. The new camp is situated in a picturesque gully, the only drawback being the frequency of visits by enemy bombing planes.</p>	
As Above	14.8.18.		<p>The personnel engaged in usual ^{work} consequent on shifting of positions. Transport Section have erected bombproof horse lines. This afternoon the men were given a bathing parade, and were taken to captured German baths, which are beautifully fitted up. Weather fine and clear.</p>	

J. J. Saunders. Capt
Lt. 25th Aust Machine Gun Coy

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROSIERES 140000 No. 26 Central	15-8-18		<p>Company engaged in preparing for move to new location; we moved off at 5:30 pm, and by 9:30 pm had bivouaced in REGINALD WOOD, Q.14.D. 7.2. Thus only a temporary halt, and very little work as regards shelter was done. Enemy bombing planes were again busy during the night.</p>	
HARDONNIERES 140000 Q.13.B.4.2	16-8-18		<p>During the morning gun teams were busy preparing guns and gear for a "tour" in the line. Sections moved off at intervals between 1 and 2:30 pm, and took over from "C" Coy of the 11th Imperial Machine Gun Bn. in reserve positions. Later Rear Hqs and remaining personnel moved to present location, and in view of a few days stay, erected shelters in the terraces. Transport Section also erecting bombproof horse-lines. One Frank evacuated to hospital, sick. Weather fine, dry, and clear. Relief Order dated 16/8/18. (marked app No 7) attached.</p>	

J. J. Saunders, Capt
Q.13.25th Aust MG Coy

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
HARBONNIERES	140000		Situation and disposition of the Company remains as last reported.		
Q. 13 B + 2.	17.8.18		A few long range shells have fallen in the vicinity, and enemy planes have been over on the usual nightly bombing excursions. Apart from this there is little of interest to report. Lieut de Ross evacuated to hospital sick. Company strength 11 officers, 212 other ranks.		
	18.8.18				
	19.8.18				
As above	20.8.18		This afternoon personnel from the "line" moved back to Rear H.Q. having been relieved by the 2 nd Machine Gun Coy (1 st Australian Division). This short tour in the line was comparatively quiet, but gas was freely used by both sides; our own guns artillerymen using captured German guns, and ammunition. Early this morning one man was wounded by a bomb from enemy aircraft, whilst acting as gas guard. Weather very warm. One of Rank to Hospital, sick.		
			J. J. Saunders. Captain Lt. 25 th Aust MG Coy.	11	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARBONNIERES	1/10/00			
Q. B. 42.	21.8.18		Early this morning several high velocity shells fell among our bivouacs causing mild excitement. Five ranks rejoined from hospital (casuals) Nothing further of interest to report.	
As above	22.8.18		The company have been preparing to move to new location, and marched out towards dusk. Our destination was T. 31c. 29, and this was reached at nightfall. Positions were found which only needed headcoverings, and these were soon erected. Lieut Smythe proceeded on V/K leave. Weather somewhat cooler & overcast	
T. 31c. 29	23.8.18		The new camp proved to be ideally situated among trees, and adjacent to a canal. The men are comfortably settled, and spent the day swimming, and washing clothes. The men's packs were withdrawn from our own Battalion's Kit Store at Saours, thus providing the men with a change of underclothing.	

J. J. Saunders. Capt
C/O 25th Aust M.G. Coy

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARBONNIERES J.B.C. 2.9.	24 8 18 } 25 8 18 }		<p>Situation and disposition of Company as reported yesterday. Usual readjustment of limbers and gear being carried out by personnel.</p> <p>1 of Rank marched in from UK Leave, & one of Rank out to hospital.</p> <p>Weather fine and cool. Company Strength 11 Officers 215 of Ranks.</p>	
HARBONNIERES 140000 Q. 21 Central	26 8 18		<p>Reveille at 5.45 this morning morning, and an early breakfast provided.</p> <p>At 7am Coy moved off to new location, arriving at 10 A.M. This camp had recently been occupied by the enemy, and as usual, good accommodation for troops, was found. For the time being this unit is in reserve, and is standing by for an immediate move forward.</p> <p>One of our observation balloons was brought down by enemy aircraft during the afternoon, but was almost immediately replaced.</p> <p>Two of Ranks returned from UK Leave, and one man was evacuated sick to hospital. Fine weather still prevails.</p>	
			<p>Movement Order No 2 (marked App No 8) attached</p> <p>J.J. Saunders. Capt O.B. 25th Aust. M/Gun Coy.</p>	13

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HARBOYNIERES Q 21 Central	140000 27.8.18 28.8.18		Usual Camp duties and fatigues being carried out, & apart from this there is nothing of interest to report. Lieut Garland's batman returned from Corps Intelligence School, RUE; one of Rank marched in from U.K. Leave, and one Casual rejoined. Captain Barker (O.C. Coy) & batman proceeded to Corps Musketry School, & Lieut. Ingham has been granted 14 DAYS U.K. Leave.	
As above.	29.8.18		We left our present location at 2 pm today, and pulled in at M 29.0 at 5 pm, for the night. En route we passed through FOUCOURT and other villages, which were yesterday taken by the 8th Brigade. Numbers of enemy dead were seen, and also evidence of the havoc being constantly wrought behind his lines, by our bombing planes and accurate artillery fire. Particularly noticeable was the large number of horses which were lying dead everywhere. It was along here also we saw several of our own disabled tanks. As far as J. J. Saunders. Capt CB 25 th Asslt M/Gun Coy	14

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(Ato266) Wt W5390/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16.

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HARBOYNIERES Q. 21 Central	29.8.18		<p><u>CONTINUED</u> could be judged these were close to what had been enemy machine gun nests, and it ^{appeared} that the enemy had anti-tank guns covering each of these machine gun positions. Three of ranks evacuated to hospital, sick; & one man on Paris leave. Weather fine, and cool.</p>	
HARBOYNIERES M. 18 & 6.8	30.8.18		<p>During the morning the Company stood by prepared to move to present location, a few H.V. shells landed in the vicinity, the enemy trying to find the main road. At 2 pm the sections moved off at 10 minutes intervals, and a short march brought us to our present position; an old 1916 trench, with a system of dugouts where the men soon made themselves comfortable. During the night a squadron of enemy bombing planes were over, and heavy bombs were dropped, three being uncomfortably close; but fortunately the only casualty being one horse wounded.</p>	15

J. J. Saunders, Captain
 Lt. 25th Aust. M/Gun Coy

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HARBONYMEAES M18.C. 6.8	31.8.18		<p>As is usual when taking over a new camp certain fatigues have to be done, and these were carried out by the Coy during the morning. During the afternoon the assembling of gun gear took place preparatory to moving into the line tonight. Rations for forward party were cooked and all other necessary arrangements made. Each section sent in four guns with a crew of six per gun, and the usual complement of runners and signaller. These moved off at dusk in subsections at 10 minutes intervals. Weather cool, cloudy, and a few light showers have fallen. One casual marched in; one man proceeded on U.K. Leave. Coy Strength 10 Officers 212 of Ranks.</p> <p>To sum up: The month has been busy, strenuous at times, and full of interest. The moves have taken us over a considerable area, and a comprehensive view of the scope of recent operations has thus been obtained. The success of the offensive has done much to counteract any weariness that the long marches and fighting may have produced; the morale of the men is excellent, health good, and they are keen and fit.</p>	

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J. J. Saunders Capt.
Cpl. 25th Aust Wagon Coy

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WAR DIARY

OF

25th. Aust. Inf. Div. Coy.

FOR

August. 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Movement Order No. 1.
2.	Syllabus of Training.
3.	Company Order No. 2.
4.	Ad ministrative Memo. No. 1.
5.	Operation Order No. 3.
6.	Brigade Orders &c.
7.	Relief Order dated 16/8/18.
8.	Movement Order No. 3.

25th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Movement Order No. 1.

SECRET

COPY No. 8

C.H.Q. 1st August 1918.

Ref. Map FRANCE 62D N.W. 1/20,000.

1. The Company will proceed by march route to COISY on the afternoon of 1/8/18.
2. PA.ADE. Marching Order, 2 p.m. All blankets will be rolled in Section bundles, labelled, and handed over to Coy. C.M. by 1 p.m.
3. Officers kits will be complete by 1 p.m.
4. Movement will be by subsections, 100 yards intervals, to ST.GRATIEN, thence by sections, 200 yards intervals to COISY.
5. ROUTE. Dry weather track to FRECHENCOURT, thence St.GRATIEN, RAINEVILLE, COISY.
6. On muster parade all troops must be correctly dressed, hats turned up and ~~xxx~~ tapes of puttees worn at top. These points will be strictly adhered to.
7. Upon arrival at destination troops will not leave billets until further orders.
8. TRANSPORT. Transport will hold itself in readiness to move at fifteen minutes' notice after 1.30 p.m. Transport Officer will be held responsible that drivers parade with only authorized articles of equipment and clothing.

Arthur Barker Captain.

C.C. 25th Aust.M.G.Coy.

Distribution.

No. 1 Section Copy No. 1	1
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3	3
4	4
Transport Sec.	5
C.C.	6
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War Diary	8/10.

25th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

SYLLABUS of TRAINING.

Week ending 10th August 1918.

	9 to 9.30	9.30-10.15	10.30-11.30	11.30-12.2	2-3 p.m.	3.15 to 4
Saturday 3rd	Inspection	DEFICIENCIES of CLOTHING and EQUIPMENT.			Inspection Deficiencies of Gas Gr. of Cleaning & Gun Gear	
Sunday 4th	CHURCH Parade. (No parade for R.C.s.)					
Monday 5th	Inspection and P.T.	Lecture Discipline & Range T. Practice.	Gas Drill Marching in M.G. Barrage Respirators	Lecture on Limber Packing Drill	Action from Limbers (without horses)	
Tuesday 6th	Inspection Lecture Map Reading	Lecture Tactics Open Warfare (S.S. 192)	Indication & Recognition of	I.A. Rangetakers Practice	Limber Packing Drill	action from Limbers (without horses)
Wednesday 7th	Inspection and P.T.	Overhead Fire; all methods	Gas Drill & Tests. Range takers prac.	Section TACTICAL Exercise (without transport)		
Thursday 8th	Inspection Maps & Prismatic Compass	Lecture Concealment & Consolidation of ground.	Stoppages Rangetakers Practice	Section TACTICAL Exercise (without transport)		
Friday 9th	Inspection & P.T.	I. and R. of Barrage Targets	Drill	RESERVED		
Saturday 10th	O.C.'s INSPECTION of PERSONNEL and BILLETS. S P O R T S.					

RANGETAKERS will be in charge of Pts. Duff, P.E.

SIGNALLERS will train as per Special Syllabus.

Runners. Will be trained by Section Officers.

Walter Barker Captain.

25th Aust. Machine Gun Company.

3/20
 5th Aug 1918
 COPY No. 1

25th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY ORDER No. 2.

SECRET

Reference Map 62D France, 1/40,000.

1. The 25th Aust.M.G.Coy., less detached sections, will move by march route to New Area on night of 5th/6th August, 1918. Sections will parade in fighting order at 8 p.m.
2. Transport will move with the Company. The distances observed during the march will be double those laid down in 4th Army Routine Order No. 2039, para. 19.

Forward of BUSSY-les-DAOURS movement will be by parties of ten, 100 yards intervals; transport in groups of three wagons, 100 yards intervals. On completion of move Company Headquarters, Rear, will be established in O.16.b.

The following are details of detachments of this Company to Battalions of the 8th Infantry Brigade.

29th Battalion. Sections Nos. 2 and 4, each of a strength of 2 Officers, and 30 O/Ranks.

30th Battalion. Section No. 3. 2 Officers 30 O/Ranks

31st Battalion. Section No. 1. 2 Officers, 30 O/Ranks.

Detached personnel will be rationed by the battalions with whom they are affiliated.

ADVANCED Company Headquarters will be with the 29th Battalion.

3. All precautions will be taken against hostile shelling & bombing.
4. Lieut. R.A.Snythe is detailed for Liaison duty at Headquarters, 8th Infantry Brigade.
5. Upon completion of move the following additional Company H.Q. personnel will be attached to 29th Battalion, viz, One Officer 5 O/Ranks,
 - O.C.
 - 1 Batman.
 - 2 Signallers.
 - 2 Runners.
6. Company Orderly Room will close at COISY at 8 p.m. and open at O.16.b. at 8 a.m. 6/8/18.
7. Refilling point, until further orders, will be square at BLANGY TRONVILLE.

Arthur Barker Captkn.
 O.C. 25th Aust.M.G.Coy.

Distribution.

Section No. 1	Copy No. 1
2	2
3	3
4	4
File	5
War Diary	6/9
O.C.	10

25th Australian Machine Gun Coy. ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO No.: 1.

SECRET.

5th Coy No
5th Aug 1918

In the early stages of the forthcoming operations, GUN GEAR, AMMUNITION, etc., will be carried forward both by hand, and by pack transport.

The following stores will be carried forward by EACH section.

Guns.	4.
Tripods.	4.
Beltboxes	64
Water, tins.	4.
Picks	4.
Shovels	4.
Boxes of Belts	81
Bicycle	1
Phone D3	1
Phone Wire	1 Small coil.

Carried by Personnel.

4 Guns.
4 Tripods
43 Belts
1 Bicycle
1 Telephone D3
1 small coil Phone wire.

Carried by Pack Animal.

21 Belts
4 Tins Water
24 Belts in *big* box
4 Picks
4 Shovels

Rationing of sections will be done under Battalion arrangements
ADVANCED S.A.A. dumps will be established, and locations notified later.

Arthur Parker
Captain.
O.C. 25th Aust.M.G.Coy.

Distribution:-

Sections 1/4 each 1 Copy
O.C. Copy No. 5.
War Diary. Copy 6/9

274

SECRET.

Operation Order No. 3

Copy No. 7

5527
27

1. The Australian Corps is to attack the enemy from VILLERS BRETONNEUX CHULNES Railway, exclusive to the River SOMME. "Z" Day and Zero hour will be notified later.
The Fifth Australian Division will attack within the boundaries shown on maps issued to Section Commanders.
The Company will operate with the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade and sections are allotted to Battalions, and come under the command of C.O.s. Battalions, as under:-
Section No. 1. C.O. 30th Battalion.
Section No. 2. C.O. 29th Battalion.
Section No. 3. C.O. 31st Battalion.
Section No. 4. C.O. 29th Battalion.
2. Formation of Sections during advance will be as directed by C.O.s. Battalions.
3. The pack animals of the Company will advance brigaded under Lieut. Newton, D.C.M., and will be in the following formation:-
No. 1. ↑ No. 3.
No. 2. * No. 4.
These animals will be delivered by Lieut. Newton to C.O. Sections, at, or near the first objective, or GREEN line. Upon delivery of loads drivers and animals will return to horse lines immediately.
4. Cloth with which to make ground marks for observation by ammunition dropping aeroplanes will be forwarded later, and the following directions are issued:-
The letter "V" will be made on the ground with the strips provided, with the apex of the "V" facing the enemy. Section Commanders will have one "V" to two guns, and will select a suitable spot handy to the gun positions.
The ammunition aeroplanes will have the underside of the lower part painted black for a distance of two and a half feet from the tips.
5. Communications used. These will be those of the Infantry Battalions to which sections are attached. ADVANCED Machine Gun Coy. H.Q. will be with C.O. 29th Battalion, through whom all returns, intelligence, information, and requisitions, will be forwarded. All changes of location will be notified to C.O. Company, at the earliest possible moment; likewise Casualty Returns.
6. C.O. Coy. Rear H.Q. will be responsible that S.A.A. wagons are kept loaded and ready to move at half an hour's notice. Refilling point will be BLANGY TRONVILLE.
7. A supply of message maps, and aeroplane photographs is forwarded herewith. The latter will be distributed to senior N.C.O.s. as well as Officers.
The Machine Gun Battalion ADVANCED H.Q. will be at O.25.c.3.2.
8. Section Commanders will be prepared, at all times, to deal with low flying enemy aircraft.
9. Counter-attack planes. From Zero counter-attack aeroplanes will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentration or abnormal movement. In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter attack, the counter-attack plane will signal this information to the artillery by wireleads. In the case of a counter-attack actually developing a WHITE bursting flare will be fired by the plane in the direction of the troops moving for the enemy counter-attack, for the information of the infantry.
10. Light Signals. The following Light Signals will be employed in the Australian Corps:-
S.O.S. Signal. No. 32 Grenade showing GREEN over GREEN over GREEN.
Success Signal No. 32 Grenade showing WHITE over WHITE over WHITE.

H. Arthur Barker. Captain.

C.O. 25th Australian Machine Gun Company.

Distribution:-

Sections 1/4 Copies 1/4.

C.O. Copy 5.

Capt. Saunders. 6.

War Diary. 7/10.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

274

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM

Issued in conjunction with 8th Australian Infantry Brigade Battle Instructions Nos. 1 to 3 of 2nd August 1918.

Headquarters
2nd August 1918

The following preliminary instructions are issued to enable necessary action to be taken by Units.

1. NUCLEUS Nucleus personnel of Battalions will be accommodated in the Camp at the BOIS DE MAI at present occupied by 32nd Battalion. When the Battalions move, the Nucleus will proceed to the Camp at BOIS DE MAI. Necessary cooking equipment to be arranged by Battalions.
2. TRENCH SHELTERS When Battalions move into the forward area any trench shelters issued for accommodation in that area will not be taken forward, but will be collected and formed into a Brigade Dump under the charge of personnel which will be detailed from Nucleus.
3. All packs, surplus kits etc. will be stored at Brigade Pack Store HOSPICE, RIVERY and left in charge of the Guard already stationed there. The above to be complete by 4 p.m. to-morrow.
4. Baggage wagons will report at Unit transport lines at 10 a.m. 4th inst.
5. Supplies. Refilling Point for drawing of supplies on morning of 5th inst will be in the Square at BLANGY TRONVILLE.
Refilling Point for Nucleus and Brigade School will be at H.20.b.3.2. Rations for this personnel will be delivered by a G.S. Wagon from Div. Train on and after morning of 5th inst.
6. When Brigade moves from present area Unit transport lines will be situated N.22.a and b. Brigade Transport Officer will arrange to meet Battalion Transport Officers on morning of 4th inst. at 11 a.m. in Square at BLANGY TRONVILLE and allot lines. All transport will move forward to new lines on evening of 4th inst.
7. The following Battle stores will be available to be drawn from DADOS in the Square BLANGY TRONVILLE at 10 a.m. on morning of 5th inst.
Pack Saddlery sets 4 per Battalion
Water Tin Carriers pairs 4 " "
and all urgent stores that have already been indented for.
Following stores will be delivered at unit transport lines to-morrow 4th inst.
Water Bottles with shoulder straps 1 extra per man.
Wire cutters long 4 per Battalion
8. Advance DADOS will be at N.20.d.8.0. on completion of move.
9. PACK TRANSPORT Pack Transport will be Brigaded under Brigade T.O.
10. IRON RATIONS Each man taking part in the operation will carry the unexpended portion of the day's ration and 2 Iron Rations. The extra Iron Ration will be drawn at BLANGY TRONVILLE time to be notified later.
11. PRISONERS OF WAR CAGES The Division Cage will be at O.27.d.8.7. The A.P.M. will take over all prisoners of war at collecting station O.24.c. Central.
12. WATER SUPPLY
(a) The following water points will be established in the forward area.
(i) O.7.b.9.5. - Dixie filler and horse trough.
(ii) O.15.b.8.0. - Stand Pipe and dixie filled with sub-line to O.17.a.1.9. - Bottle and dixie filler.
(iii) 8000 gallon tank at end of pipe line O.29.b.5.0.

12. WATER SUPPLY Contd.

(b) Any well in captured area will be exploited by Tunnellers. The greatest care is to be taken that no water from these wells is used until, it has been tested and found safe.

(c) A reserve of water tins will be established at Advanced Divisional Dump, the location of which will be notified later. Every effort must be made to return empty water tins after being used so that they can be refilled.

A motor water lorry (capacity 135 gallons) will be available to fill tins at Divisional Dump.

(d) All horse watering should be done by means of canvas buckets pending troughs being constructed.

13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Howard W. Quinn

Captain.
Staff Capt 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 2.

2nd
August 3rd 1918.

1. For the purpose of the attack Brigades will be organised into Groups, 15th A.I. Brigade Group on the right, 8th A.I. Brigade Group on the left, 14th A.I. Brigade Group in Divisional Reserve.

2. (a) The composition of the 8th A.I. Brigade group will be as under :-

- 1 Infantry Brigade.
- 1 Machine Gun Coy.
- 1 Brigade Field Artillery.
- 3 Sections Light Horse.
- 1/2 Platoon Cyclists.
- Detachment of Engineers.
- Detachment of Tunnellers.

(b) Exploiting Detachments - 8 Officers, 210 o.r., 16 Vickers Machine Guns, 16 Lewis Guns.

3. FORMATIONS.

The 8th A.I. Brigade will move from Assembly positions in suitable formation for engaging in open warfare with advanced and flank guards and special provision for maintaining touch with adjoining bodies on the flanks.

It may at any time, particularly after passing the GREEN line, be necessary for units to deploy into Artillery formation, but the guiding principle will be to avoid premature and over dispersion and consequent loss of control.

The actual formation to be adopted will be decided later.

4. PROGRAMME.

Note 1 - For the purpose of calculation:

(a) The line O 36 central - Cross roads P 25 c - thence along road N.E. to QUARRY CROSSING - HAMEL as a start line for the 15th and 8th A.I. Brigade groups (less Artillery).

Note 2 - The rate of march is taken at one mile per hour including halts.

Note 3 - The distance from the 8th Brigade start line to the GREEN line is 5050 yards :- 2.9 miles.

(a) Therefore: to reach the GREEN LINE at ZERO plus 4 hours the 8th A.I. Bde. will leave 'Start' line at Zero plus 1 hour.

5. The exploiting detachments in the Mark V* Tanks will move behind the 8th A.I. Brigade Group at a distance of 800 yards until the RED LINE is reached when they will pass through the Brigade and advance to the BLUE LINE where detachments will disembark and act in accordance with orders previously issued by the Brigade Commander.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

G16/1431

J. Middleton

Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1.

8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

3rd August 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

274

1. The Australian Corps is to attack the enemy from the VILLERS BRETONNEUX - CHAULNES railway exclusive to the River SOMME.

The day and hour will be notified.

The 5th Aust. Division will attack within the boundary shown on the attached map No. 1 (Brigade Units only issued 2/8/18).

The 2nd Canadian Division is to co-operate on the right (South of the railway) inclusive, and the 4th Aust. Division on the left.

2. GENERAL METHOD OF ATTACK.

Division will attack on a two Brigade front. The attack will be carried out in two phases. Brigade boundaries and objectives are as shown in Map No. 1.

- i. First Phase - The Division, organised in Brigade Groups - 15th A.I. Brigade on the right and 8th A.I. Brigade group on the left, will advance in open warfare formation from the first objective passing through the 2nd Aust. Div. their objective is shown in RED on Map No. 1.
- ii. Second Phase - 15th and 8th A.I. Brigade groups will exploit their success and seize old British lines of defence marked BLUE on the map and establish themselves defensively in this line.
- iii. The 14th A.I. Brigade group will be in Divisional Reserve.
- iv. A detailed programme of the action will be issued.

3. ASSEMBLY.

Detailed orders for the Assembly will be issued later. In order to prevent troops arriving at their objective in an exhausted condition through a long march, troops detailed to the farthest objectives are to be quartered closest to the starting line prior to ZERO. To give effect to this the 8th A.I. Brigade will move from its present position under instructions to be issued and be disposed in an area between the start line and the AUBIGNY Line by 4 a.m. on 5th August. Area for Bns. will be allotted later.

4. ARTILLERY.

- i. 3 Field Artillery Brigades will be allotted to Infantry Brigades for the attack as under :-

14th A.F.A. Brigade to 15th A.I. Brigade.

13th A.F.A. Brigade to 8th A.I. Brigade.

6th Aust. Army F.A. Brigade to 14th A.I. Brigade.

- ii. Three Brigades of Field Artillery and one battery of 60-pdrs Heavy Artillery have been allotted to the Division for employment under the Divisional Commander defensively - to cover the consolidation of the second objective.
 - iii. Heavy Artillery is to be pushed forward to protect the troops in the second objective.
5. TANKS. Instructions for the employment of tanks will be issued later.

P.T.O.

6
 27 e. ENGINEERS.

The role of Engineer detachments allotted to the Brigade will be notified later.

7. Arrangements for the distribution of Medical units will be notified later.
8. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.
9. Orders will be communicated by means of Battle Instructions which will be finalised in an Operation Order.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued to	Copy No.
29th Battalion	1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th L.T.M.B.	5
<u>Copies to</u>	
E.G.C. 8th A.I.Bde.	6
Staff Captain	7
8th Fld Coy. A.E.	8
8th M.G. Coy.	9
'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn.	10
15th F.A. Brigade	11
5th Aust. Division	12
Capt. SAVAGE	13
No. 2 Sig. Section	14
Right Flank Bde.	15
Left Flank Bde.	16
War Diary	17/19
File	20
Spare	21

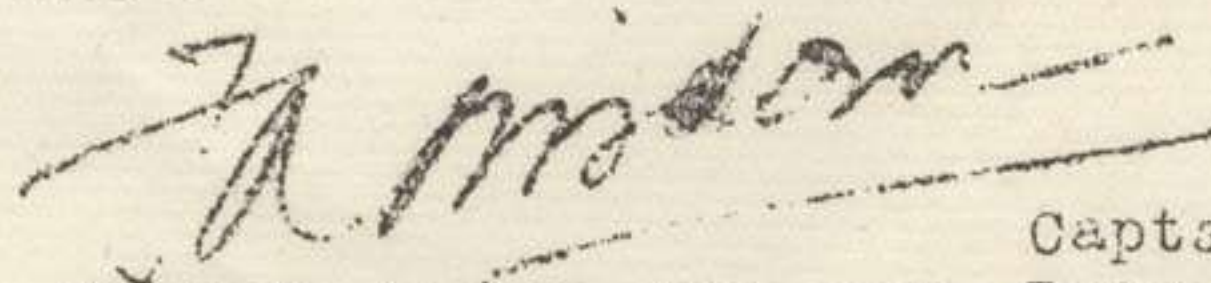
[Signature]
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

INTELLIGENCE and EXAMINATION and DISPOSAL of PRISONERS
and CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

1. Information required. The following information is required by the Brigade during the operation.
 - (a) The position of our troops.
 - (b) Positions and strength of the enemy.
 - (c) The nature and position of enemy defences.
 - (d) The nature and direction of hostile shelling.
 - (e) Identification of German units.
2. Brigade Intelligence Officer. Brigade I.O. will establish Brigade Collecting Stations at Brigade H.Q. His duty will be -
 - (a) Forward to Div. H.Q. by priority wire all identifications of enemy units, stating approx. the position where prisoners were captured.
 - (b) Arrange for examination of certain prisoners by attached German speakers to obtain information required by G.O.C.
 - (c) To forward important maps and documents to Advanced Divl. Collecting Station.
3. German Speakers. A German speaker will be at each brigade and Bn. H.Q. to check identifications, and obtain from prisoners any information required by G.O.C. brigade or C.O. Battalion.
4. Each Bn. will detail special trained searchers to search H.Q. dugouts etc. for maps and documents. (Tunnellers will be attached to help in this work). These searchers will also be instructed to count German dead and report same to Bn. H.Q.
Documents should be placed in bags and labelled important or unimportant and stating the position where they were found.
5. Searching Prisoners.
Previous instruction concerning separation of Officers, N.C.O.s and men, and searching of officers and N.C.O.'s. will be adhered to. Paybooks and identity discs are NOT to be taken from prisoners.
All documents taken from prisoners will be forwarded with the escort.
6. General Instructions for escorts and Traffic police.
 - (a) Special care must be taken that no documents are destroyed by prisoners. Escorts at the rear of columns should be warned about this.
 - (b) All military police and traffic police will ensure that all escorts passing them know their way to Divl. Collecting stations.
 - (c) Unauthorised speech or interference with prisoners must be strictly guarded against.
 - (d) Escorts should ascertain by which brigade the prisoners have been captured.
7. Military police escorts.
Military police will be attached to brigade H.Q. to take over prisoners and escort them to advanced Divl. Collecting Station, whence they will be evacuated to rear Divl. Cage.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1


Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Brigade.

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8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

3rd August 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 4.

Maps and Information regarding the enemy.

1. The following maps will be issued from Brigade :-

OS D (Sufficient copies for issue to all officers concerned
 OS D SE (taking into account those maps already in possession of
 Units.

Trench maps showing defensive works in the present 2nd Aust.
 Div. area.

Message maps for all officers and N.C.O's. of Battalions.

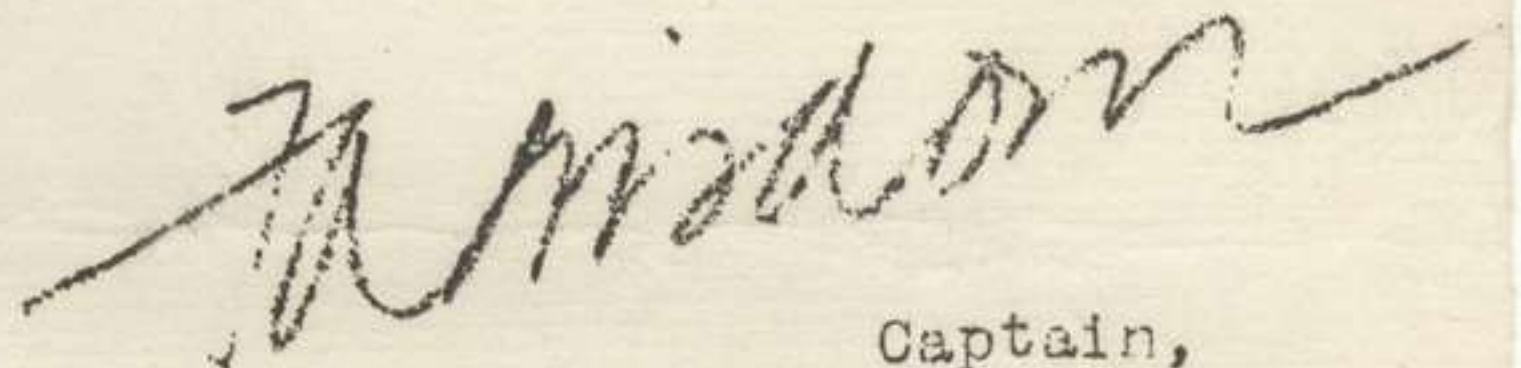
2. Aeroplane photographs will be issued as under :-

Mosaics for all officers and N.C.O's.
 Obliques for all officers and N.C.O's.

3. Copies of an organisation map will be forwarded for distribution
 down to Company Commanders. This will show enemy organisation
 within the area of operations.

4. A letter and map will also be issued giving a description of the
 enemy defences, distribution of enemy forces and topographical des-
 -cription of country. Sufficient copies for H.Q. and Coy. Commanders.
 This will be carefully studied and important information marked
 on the other maps issued.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.



Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution as for
 Battle Instructions No. 1.

274

SECRET.

Copy No.

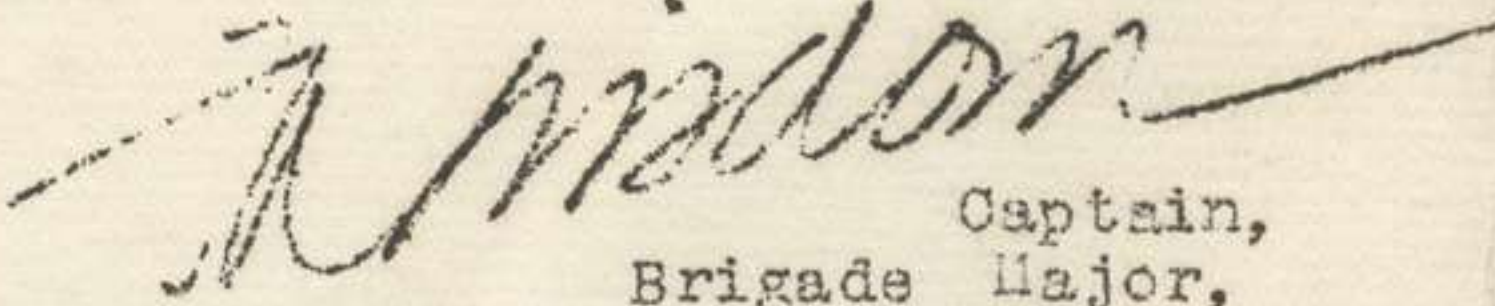
8th AUSTR. INFANTRY BRIGADE:

2nd August 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 5.

1. MEDICAL: The A.D.M.S. will make arrangements for the clearing of all wounded from Regimental Aid Posts. Bn. Commanders will take special measures to clear the battle field. Wounded will be conveyed to the nearest road. Corps will be specially searched. Supply tanks (denoted by a yellow board affixed in rear) will carry back the slightly wounded whom they may pick up. Special medical arrangements will be issued.
2. MOVEMENT of RESERVES. In moving Reserves Unit Commanders will use their discretion as to localities in which halts or detours will be made in the advance to avoid shelled areas. To this end careful reconnaissance and inquiry will be made in order to ascertain the localities and areas habitually shelled or gassed. See G17/1415 of 3/8/18.
3. FORMING UP and ASSEMBLY. Assembly tapes will be laid under the supervision of an Officer of the 8th Fld. Coy. A.E. Each Bn. will detail 1 Off. and 8 O.R. per Coy. to assist in tape laying and this personnel will be used to guide Bns. into their positions. The move to the Assembly positions will be made in the following order :- 31st Bn., 30th Bn. 32nd Bn. 29th Bn. L.T.M. personnel will move with 31st Bn. Affiliated ~~and~~ Machine Gun sections will move with their respective Bns.
4. COMMUNICATIONS.
- Detailed Signal Instructions will be issued separately.
 - To enable the proper and prompt use of reserves, information from the front must be sent back. That communication by telephone etc has broken down does not absolve subordinate Commanders from fulfilling this necessity. All subordinate Commanders must be reminded that when sending a message from a new position THE MAP LOCATION AT WHICH THE MESSAGE IS WRITTEN MUST BE INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE MESSAGE.
 - Attention is directed to S.S. 148 - 'Forward Communication in Battle'. Every provision will be made for the use of alternate methods of communication.
 - New Code letters will be issued and prompt measures are to be taken to see that these are adhered to.
 - At B brigade H.Q. only the Brigade Commander and Brigade Major will remain on the telephone exchange during the operations. At Battalion H.Q. only the C.O. of the Bn. or the Adjutant, and at Company H.Q. only the Officer Commanding will be allowed to use the telephone: no other subscribers will accommodated on the exchange under any circumstances.
5. DIRECTION (i) Special precautions will be taken to prevent loss of direction during the advance.
- Advanced Officers will be given a compass bearing by which to march regardless of the fact that there may be conspicuous land marks.
 - A bearing taken from Advanced Brigade H.Q. in O 24 c to the VAUVILLERS Church will give the approx. boundary between Brigades.
6. FLANK BRIGADES. The 5th Canadian Inf. Brigade, 2nd Canadian Div. (Brig. - Gen. J.H. ROSS, DSO) will be on the right flank of the 15th A.I. Bde. during the advance to the RED LINE (Brigade Major - Major A.L. WALKER, D.C.O., M.C.
- 7- ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1


Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.
 BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 6.

Copy No.....

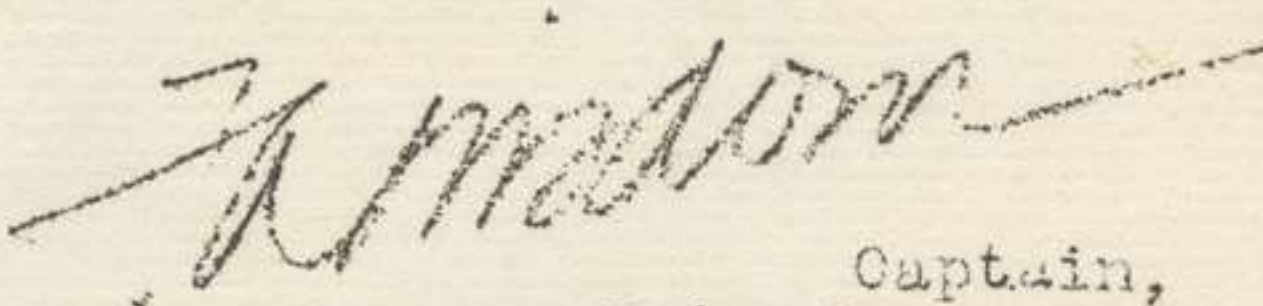
3rd August 1918.

SECRET.

- (a) It is of first importance that secrecy should be observed and the operation carried out as a surprise.
 Commanders will take all possible steps to prevent the scope or date of the operation becoming known except to those taking part. Any Officer, N.C.O., or man discussing the operation in public, or communicating details regarding it to any person, either soldier or civilian, not immediately concerned, will be severely dealt with.
- (b) All movements of troops and transport in an easterly direction will take place by night, whether in the forward or back areas of the Aust. Corps on and after 1st August, except where absolutely necessary to move by day.
- (c) O.C. No. 3 Squadron, A.F.C. is to arrange for aeroplanes to fly over the Aust. Corps Army area during the days when flying is possible, and to report to Corps H.Q. any abnormal movement of troops or transport within our lines.
- (d) Work on back lines will be continued as at present, so that there may be no apparent change in our attitude.
- (e) Commanders will ensure that the numbers of officers reconnoitring the enemy's positions is limited to those for whom such reconnaissance is essential.
 Nothing attracts attention to the offensive more than a large number of officers with maps looking over the parapet and visiting O.P.'s.
 Commanding Officers of units holding the front line are to report at once to higher authority any disregard of these orders.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
 Battle Instructions No. 1


 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

274
SECRET.8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.

3rd August 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 7

1. The following Officers have been detailed for duty with flank Brigades.

Name	Unit	Liaison with	Remarks.
Lieut. J. R. GREEVES	31st Bn.	15th A.I.Bde. (Right Bde.)	Report when ordered.
Lieut. L. S. BROWN	32nd Bn.	Left Brigade	ditto.

2. Liaison Officers will be supplied with 2 runners and bicycle from the 31st and 32nd Bns. respectively.
3. Lieut.Col. H. O. CADDY, D.S.O, Commanding 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade will be at Brigade H.Q. Battalions will endeavour to get in touch and keep in touch with Artillery Commanders during the operation and give them every assistance and facility for carrying out their duties.
4. Tank Coy. Commander will be at Brigade H.Q. during the operations. One Infantry liaison man will be carried in each Mark V Tank and will be selected from the affiliated Infantry Unit.
5. A Liaison Officer from the reserve Brigade will be at Brigade H.Q.
6. Battalions will arrange for the exchange of liaison Officers with Bns, on their flank. Runners will accompany these officers.
7. Care will be taken to inform neighbouring formations and Units of changes and locations of Headquarters.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued to -	Copy No.
29th Battalion	1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th L.T.M.B.	5
13th A.F.A. Brigade	6
Capt. SAVAGE	7
No. 2 sig. Section	8
Copies to	
B.G.C. 8th A.I.Bde.	9
Staff Captain	10
5th Aust. Div.	11
15th A.I.Bde.	12
Left Flank Bde.	13
'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn.	14
War Diary	15/17
File	18
Spare	19
25th H.G. Coy.	20
Capt. SUMBUCKS, Tank Corps	21

J. M. Dorn
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

5th AUSTRALIAN INF. BRIGADE:

3rd August 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 8.TANKS.

1. The 5th Tank brigade is operating with the Aust. Corps.
2. Tanks are allotted to 5th Aust. Div. for employment as under -
 - (a) Mark V Tanks - 'A' Coy. 2nd Tank Bn. for employment with 15th A.I.Bde.
 - 'A' Coy. 13th Tank Bn for employment with 8th A.I.Bde.
 - One Coy. of 8th Tank Bn. in Support.
 - It will be specially employed to maintain the attack at the junction of 4th and 5th Aust. Divisions.

After the capture of the first objective Tanks detailed to 2nd Aust. Div. will rally and will be employed to support the advance of 8th and 15th A.I.Briganades. After the capture of second objective Tanks will rally. 'A' Coy 2nd Tank Bn. will remain in close support to both 8th and 15th Brigades. The remainder of Tanks allotted to 5th Aust. Div. will be withdrawn to a point to be decided upon.

(b) Mark 5* Tanks. 1 1/2 Coys. allotted to the Division for the capture of the BLUE LINE. 9 Tanks will be used by each Brigade to transport the Special Vickers and Lewis Gun Coys. detailed to that objective. Details will be notified.

(c) 5 Carrying Tanks have been allotted to the Brigade. They will be employed for the transport of S.A.A., T.M. ammunition, Rations, Water, R.E Stores etc.

3. For tactical purposes Tanks are placed under the Command of Infantry Commanders to whose commands they are allotted.
4. 30th and 31st Bns. will supply 2 men (one liaison and one scout) for each Mark V Tank operating with them. The liaison man will belong to the unit, platoon etc. with which the Tank is operating and it will be his duty to ensure that the tank gets into position with its affiliated infantry unit and to carry out liaison between them generally.
5. Boards of a similar device bearing the Battalion colours will be prepared by units for the purpose of marking the Tanks operating with them. The board is to be displayed so that it can be seen by the Infantry.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued to	Copy No.
29th Battalion	1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th L.T.R.B.	5
<u>Copies to</u>	
15th A.I.Bde.	6
Capt. SAVAGE	7
No. 2 Sig. Section	8
B.G.C. 8th A.I.Bde.	9
Staff Captain	10
5th Aust. Div.	11
15th A.I.Bde.	12
Left Flank Bde.	13
25th M.G. Coy.	14
War diary	15/17
File	18
Spare	19

J. Midon
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,

SECRET.

Copy No.....

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE:

3rd August 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 8a:

1. (a) 'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn. is operating with 8th A.I.Bde.: Company Commander - Major H. PAPE.
- (b) The Coy consist: of 4 Sections each of 3 Tanks.
After passing the GREEN LINE Nos. 1 and 2 Sections will operate on the right in front of 31st Bn. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections will operate on the left in front of 30th Bn.
Tanks will move 200 yards in front of foremost infantry.
2. Stokes Guns, together with 50 rounds of ammunition per gun, will be carried by these Tanks. Arrangements for this will be made by O.C. 5th L.T.M.B. and O.C. 'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn.
3. 30th and 31st Bns. will send a percentage of officers to the CHATEAU, AUBIGNY on 5th inst. to meet officers of 'A' Coy 13 Tank Bn. and discuss matters with them.
4. Tanks will carry notice boards affixed on the back of the Tank showing the colours of the affiliated Inf. Bn.
5. Supply Tanks: 5 are allotted to this Brigade and detail of material to be carried have been issued.
These Tanks will move in rear of infantry and will be denoted by a yellow notice board affixed to the rear of the Tank. 2 will be allotted to 31st Bn., 2 to 30th Bn. 1 to 32nd Bn. Bns. will specially detail an N.C.O. to watch for these tanks and guide them to the sites for dumps previously selected.
Supply Tanks will load at 0 13 a 2 8 on 5th inst.
- Lieut. E.H. JOHNSON will be responsible for guiding the supply tanks to a position in rear of the Brigade at the point of assembly, and - unless otherwise ordered - these tanks will move off at ZERO plus 1 hour.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

Winston
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE,

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 9.

Copy No.

3rd August 1918.

SIGNAL INSTRUCTIONS.

1. TELEGRAPH and TELEPHONE. communication will be established between Advanced Divl. H.Q. and Brigade H.Q. in their first positions.
O 24 o 3 5.
No. 2 Signal Section will lay 2 pair of ground lines D3 Twist buried cable head at P 25 b 7 7. These ground lines will lead into Advanced Brigade H.Q. and then on to Brigade Forward Stations.
Brigade Forward Station will as far as possible be centrally situated between the H.Q. of Attacking Bns.
2. WIRELESS. 2 Trench set - one for Advanced Brigade H.Q. and one for Brigade Forward Station.
3. VISUAL. 2 Visual Stations will be established by the Brigade Signal Section, one approximately Q 25 d and one at Brigade Forward Station.
4. PIGEONS. Pigeons will be carried forward by Assaulting Bns.
5. AEROPLANE CONTACT. The Popham Panel will be used for signalling messages to Contact Aeroplanes and will be set with unit code letter on ground signalling sheet. identifying formation as laid down in Appendix B, S.S. 135.
Further instruction will be issued.
6. RUNNER RELAY POSTS. A runner relay post will be established at a convenient position, approx. P 30 d.
3 horse D.R's. will be used under instructions of Brigade Signal Officer, to be supplemented by Troopers detailed from the attached Light Horse.

[Handwritten Signature]
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Brigade

SECRET.

Copy No.....

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE:

3rd August 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 10.

1. ARTILLERY.

1. The 15th Aust. F.A. Brigade - 3 18 pdr batteries and 1 4.5" How. battery - is allotted to the 8th A.I.Bde. for the operation. The action of Artillery will be decided by the Brigade Commander in consultation with the Artillery Brigade Commander.
2. For the information of Bns. the order in which batteries will be disposed will be as follows :-

18 pdr Batteries	Right	49th Btty	Major	GATLIFF.
	Centre	50th	"	RETCHFORD.
	Left	51st	"	LISTER.

4.5 Howr. Btty. Position most suitable according to ground.
Major LESCHEN.
3. To provide for emergency 1 Coy of 29th Bn. is to be warned to be prepared to act as escort for the guns.
4. When the captured position is made secure, liaison Officers from Batteries will report to Bn. Commanders.
5. Machine Guns. The 25th M.G. Coy. is grouped with the Brigade for the operation.

A Section	3 Off.	26 O.R's.	is allotted to	31st Bn.
C	"	do.		30th Bn.

B. and D. Sections will be with the 29th Bn. and form part of the Brigade reserve. M.G. Sections so attached will for tactical purposes come under the orders of the Bn. Commander to whom they are allotted.
Capt. BARKER, D.C.M., O.C. 25th M.G. Coy. will be with CMO. 29th Bn. to give any technical advice that may be necessary.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

J. M. Moran
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf Bde.

In addition

OC. & 5 ORs will be the

HQ party with 29th Bn.

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

August 4th 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 11.

1. 8th Field Coy. A.E. will work in the 8th A.I. Brigade area assisting the Brigade, exploiting wells, distributing R.E. Stores, marking out tracks and general reconnaissance work.
2. 2 Sections of 8th Fld Coy. will be allotted for work directly with the Brigade. 1 Section will operate under 31st Bn. and 1 Section under 30th Bn.
Lieut. R. M. ISAACS will be the Officer in charge and the personnel attached will assist infantry in the work of consolidation, supervising and allotting tasks.
1 Sapper will be carried in each Supply Tank; when these tanks are unloaded the Sapper will get in touch with the nearest Infantry Commander and advise him of the location of the dump. The Sapper will also arrange to have this information conveyed to Lieut. ISAACS who will be with the C.O. 30th Bn.
3. A detachment of Tunnellers - 1 Off. and 10 O.R. will work under the orders of C.R.E. searching the Brigade Area for dugouts, and report at the earliest possible moment to Brigade H.Q. and C.R.E. the location, nature and accommodation of each dugout.
4. Pioneer. One Coy. of 4th Aust. Div. Pnr. Bn. will work directly under C.R.E. in the Brigade area to make good the following roads:
P 36 b 1 9: Q 32 c 4 6: Q 32 d 0 1 (avoiding BAYONVILLERS):
Cross Roads at Q 33 c 9 1: W 5 c 2 6.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1.

R. M. Isaacs
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade

271

5TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION ORDER No. 52.Copy No. 4
Headquarters,
4th August, 1918.SECRET.
Ref. May 62D.
1/40,000.

1. The 5th Aust. M.G. Battalion (less detached Units training with Tanks) will move to locations as shown in attached table.
2. On completion of move the 15th M.G. Company will come under the tactical command of 15th Inf. Brigade and the 25th M.G. Company under the tactical command of 8th Inf. Brigade.
3. Orders for the move of personnel detached for training with Tanks will be issued separately.
4. Unit Commanders will take all precautions to escape enemy air observation, and to avoid casualties from enemy artillery or bombs. Distance to be observed on the march will be double those laid down in para. 162 of Fourth Army G.S. Standing Orders of 15-6-18.
5. Battalion Headquarters will be established as under by 5 p.m. 5-8-18.
Advanced Battalion Headquarters at railway dug-outs O.25.c.3.2.
Rear Battalion Headquarters at BLANGY TROUVILLE.
6. Refilling point from 5-8-18 until further orders - BLANGY TROUVILLE.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*W. B. Smith*Adjt., 5th Aust. M. G. Bn. Capt.DISTRIBUTION.

Issued at 5 p.m. to :

Copy
No.

1. 8th M.G. Company.
2. 14th M.G. Company.
3. 15th M.G. Company.
4. 25th M.G. Company.

Copies to :

Copy
No.

5. 8th Inf. Brigade.
6. 14th Inf. Brigade.
7. 15th Inf. Brigade.
8. 5th Aust. Division.
9. W.D.
10. File.

MOVE TABLE :: Issued with 5TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION ORDER No. 32.

Serial No.	Date.	Unit.	From.	To	Remarks.
1.	Night. 5/6th August.	15th M.G. Co.	COISY	Right Sector forward area 2nd Aust. Div.	To report to and come under the tactical Command of 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
2.	Night. 5/6th August.	25th M.G. Co.	COISY	Left Sector forward area 2nd Aust. Div.	To report to and come under the Tactical Command of 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
3.	Night. 5/6th August.	14th M.G. Co. Less Personnel with Tanks.	COISY	BLANCY TRONVILLE.	
4.	Night. 5/6th August.	8th M.G. Co. Less 1 Section	COISY	BLANCY TRONVILLE.	Detailed as Divisional Reserve.

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Appendix

6

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25th M.G. Coy.

Herewith Battle Instructions 1 to 10, together with
Administrative Instructions.
Please ACKNOWLEDGE.

8TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. 4/6/18.
Date 9/6/1434

J. M. Moran
Captain.
Brigade Major 8th Australian Inf. Brigade.

274

SECRET

Copy No.

Ref. Map -
82d 1/40,0008th AUST. INF. BRIGADE Order 197.Headquarters,
4th Aug. 1918

1. The 8th A.I. Brigade will move to locations as shown in attached table.
2. On arrival in 2nd Aust. Divl. Forward Area, the 8th Brigade will come under the tactical Command of 2nd Aust. Div.
3. All precautions will be taken against hostile shelling and bombing.
4. The distances observed during the march will be double those laid down in 4th Army R.O. No. 2039 para 19 of 10/5/18.
5. Units will advise Bde. H.Q. of arrival in their new areas by forwarding the message "B.M. 123 received".
6. Administrative arrangements will be issued by Staff Captain.
7. No movement forward of a N. and S. line through BUESSY-les-DAOURS will take place before 10 p.m.
8. Brigade H.Q. will close at present location at 10 p.m. and reopen at O 24 c 3 2 at same hour.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued through Signals
at 1 p.m. to

	Copy
29th Battalion	1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th L.P.M.B.	5
No. 2 Sig Section	6
<u>Copies to -</u>	
B.G.C. 8th A.I. Bde.	7
Staff Captain	8
5th Aust. Div.	9
2nd Aust. Div.	10
5th Aust. M.G. Coy	11
14th A.I. Brigade	12
15th A.I. Brigade	13
8th Fld Coy. A.E.	14
13 Tank Bn.	15
25th M.G. Coy.	16
War Diary	18/19
File	20

Accepted
for
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade

Appendix 1 to 8th Brigade Order 197.

1. Personnel of 25th M.G. Coy. will report to Battalions as under at 6.30 p.m. and march with them to new areas -

1 Section	-	30th Battalion
1 "		31st "
2 Sections	-	29th "

 Personnel of 25th M.G. Coy. H.Q. will move to O 16 b.
2. When the new area is reached, special police will be detailed by Bns. to ensure that there is no unnecessary movement by day - any offenders are to be severely dealt with.

Appendix
6

MOVE TABLE to accompany 8th A. I. Brigade Order 197

Date	Unit	Move to	Route	Starting Point	Pass S.P.	Relieved by	Remarks
4/8/18	8th A.I. Bde. H.Q.	O 24 c 3 2	ALLOUVILLE-H 25 a-BUSSY- -DAOURS-AUBIGNY-FOUILLOY	G 12 c 3 3	9 p.m.	14th A.I. Bde. H.Q.	New areas are as on sketch attached.
"	29th Bn.	O 21	do.	Cross Rds. G 11 b 3 2	9 p.m.	54th Bn.	
"	32nd Bn.	PIONEER SWITCH Line	do.	Cross Rds. G 12 c 3 3	9.30 pm	14th Bde. Nucleus	
"	8th LTB	O 17 a	do.	Cross Rds. G 11 b 3 2	9.20 pm		
"	30th Bn.	O 17 a & b	- DAOURS - AUBIGNY - FOUILLOY	Road H 22 d 8 0	10 p.m.	55th Bn.	
"	31st Bn.	O 17 & O 18	BUSSY - DAOURS - AUBIGNY - FOUILLOY	Road H 22 d 2 0	10.15 pm	53rd Bn.	

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8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Further ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS issued in conjunction with Battle Instructions 1 to 10.

Headquarters
4th Aug. 1918

1. CARRYING TANKS will be used for transport of ammunition etc. They will be formed up for loading at about 0.13.a.2.8., Sheet 62D, early on the morning of 5th inst. Tanks will be loaded as under.

Two (2) Tanks, each carrying -

1 - 6" Newton T.M. with 30 rounds of ammunition with charges.
6 boxes M.G. ammunition
4 boxes S.A.A.
50 petrol tins filled with water.
2 boxes Preserved Meat
10 S.O.S. Signals
200 Shovels
100 Picks
5 bales Sandbags
10 bundles French wire
150 long screw pickets
150 short screw pickets
40 coils Barbed wire
2 boxes Biscuits

Three (3) Tanks, ea. carrying -

100 rounds L.P.M. ammunition
26 boxes M.G. ammunition
14 boxes S.A.A.
2 boxes No. 36 Grenades
50 petrol tins filled with water
2 boxes Preserved meat
2 boxes Biscuit
10 S.O.S. Signals
200 Shovels
100 Picks
5 bales Sandbags
10 bundles French wire
150 long screw pickets
150 short screw pickets
40 coils Barbed wire

2. Tanks will be formed up as under, the first numbered tank being on the right of its group.

116	DUBLIN	-
122	DARLINGTON	Lt. W. Ashford
120	ELSWICK	2/Lt. T. Scott
125	ELY	-
104	FOLKESTONE	Capt. G. Sunrucks

3. In the 8th Brigade Group tanks No. 116 DUBLIN and 120 ELSWICK will each carry the loads of which the 6" Newton T.M. form part. Tanks will each carry a board painted yellow as distinguishing mark. These will be delivered by the C.R.E. at the Loading place.
4. Battalions will arrange to communicate with their Officers with the tanks as to locality for dumping material.
5. In addition to the 2 Iron Rations to be carried by all personnel proceeding with TANKS, 24 hours rations should be arranged to be carried on each tank for personnel accompanying it.

- Further supplies of ammunition etc., to be carried by tanks will be obtained at Advanced Divisional Dump, at O.28.c.4.3., being loaded by personnel at the dump.
7. The ammunition will be delivered by O.C., S.A.A. Section who will arrange for necessary men to remain in charge until loaded on tanks.
 8. SUPPLIES Railroad will be at LA MOTTE BREBIERE, and supplies will be taken to Refilling Points by Divisional Train.
 9. VETERINARY The Mobile Veterinary Section will be at BLANGY TRONVILLE, and the Veterinary Evacuating Station at POULAINVILLE. All Units will evacuate to the Mobile Veterinary Section. Conducting parties will hand over the animals there, and return to their Units.
 10. SALVAGE The Main Salvage Dump will be established in the Square at BLANGY TRONVILLE. An Advanced Salvage Dump will be near the Advanced Divisional Dump. O.C. 5th Divisional Salvage Co. will detail necessary personnel to take charge. He will also detail 6 men for duty at the Advanced Salvage Dump, to be under the orders of Captain KEEN, Divisional Bombing Officer. Every effort will be made to bring back salvage.
 11. ADVANCED ORDNANCE DEPOT D.A.D.O.S. will select a site for an Advanced Ordnance Depot in the vicinity of GLISY, notifying the exact location
LST 22
 12. AMMUNITION Supplies of S.A.A., Grenades etc. will be maintained at Advanced Divisional Dump at O.28.c.4.3. In addition, 2nd Aust. Div. Dump at O.28.d. may be used in cases of urgent necessity. Captain KEEN, Div. Bombing Officer will be in charge of Advanced Divisional Dump. Units will move with full echelons.
 13. SANITATION In view of the prevalence of dysentery, the greatest care must be taken regarding sanitation in the new area taken over. Particularly as regards latrines and the protection of food from flies.
 14. Each Battalion will detail two men for each Tank allotted to the Brigade to proceed with tanks and act as unloading parties, and to form Brigade Dumps. The above party will come under Lieut E.H. JOHNSON, Brigade Bombing Officer, who will proceed forward with the tanks.
 15. 30th Battalion will detail a party of 1 N.C.O. and 36 C.R. (furnished from Nucleus) for purpose of loading Tanks of both Brigades. This party will also come under Lieut JOHNSON.
- The personnel as set out in paras 14 and 15 above will report to Lieut JOHNSON at O.13.a.2.8. on the morning of the 5th inst. at 7.45 a.m.
- 2 Iron Rations per man to be carried, loading to commence at 8 a.m.
16. PACK TRANSPORT For the first trip forward transport will come under Battalions, after the first trip a Rendezvous will be arranged by Brigade Transport Officer, under whom the transport will be then Brigaded.

4/8/18

Harry W. [Signature]
Captain.
Staff Capt 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

LOCATION REPORT 6/8/18.

8th Bde. H.Q.	O 24 c 25 30
25th Bn.	O 21 c 40 30
30th Bn.	O 17 c 36 35
31st Bn.	O 24 a 30 75
32nd Bn.	O 16 b 70 30
8th A.L.T.M.P.	O 17 b 80 30
15th Fld. Amb.	
Q.C. (Bearers)	O 24 c 40 40
8th Fld. Coy.	H 20 d 80 20
25th H.Q. Coy.	
'A' Coy. Tanks.	CHATEAU AUBIGNY,
Left Bde. (12th)	P 7 a 00 30
48th Bn.	O 18 b 90 30
48th Bn.	O 18 d 00 00
18th Bde.	O 24 c 25 30.

8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

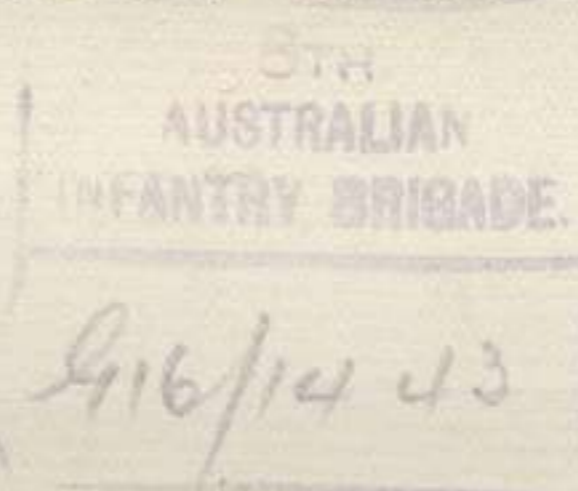
August 5th 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 16.

1. CONSOLIDATION.

- (a) As soon as the RED LINE has been captured the position will be thoroughly consolidated.
Arrangements have been made to ensure a supply of engineering material for this.
- (b) When the BLUE LINE is attained it will be organized and consolidated as the main line of resistance.
- (c) If the enemy is able to develop an immediate counter attack or if he has a definite plan, and the troops available in close reserve for the defence of the BLUE LINE - it may not be possible to reach the BLUE LINE. In this case the RED LINE will become the main line of resistance and will be consolidated and organized in depth accordingly.
- (d) Battalion Commanders will formulate definite plans in advance to deal with either case. Such plan will be conveyed to all concerned.
The Brigade must be prepared as early as possible to fight a stiff defensive battle on the main line of resistance.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

J. Widdow
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Bdo.

8th MG Coy

 Herewith Battle Instructions Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 1st Amendment to Battle Instructions Nos. 2 and 8a.
 Please ACKNOWLEDGE.
 8TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
 416/1441
 5/6/18
 Captain,
 Brigade Major, 8th A.I.Bde.

SECRET.

SECRET.8th. AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.
BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 12.

Copy No.

August 5th 1918

1. CONTACT AEROPLANES.(i) Indication of position by flares :-

(a) Red ground flares will be used to indicate the infantry positions to contact aeroplanes. The flares will be lit by Infantry in the most advanced positions only.

(b) A contact aeroplane will fly along the line of the second RED objective at Zero plus 8 hours 30 minutes. Flares will be called for by the aeroplane sounding a succession of "A's" on the Klaxon horn and by firing a White Very Light. If the aeroplane fails to mark the line accurately it will repeat its call ten minutes later.

Should the infantry not have reached the line of the objective at the time laid down above, the contact aeroplane will return at half-hour intervals until flares are shown.

(c) A contact aeroplane will fly over the third objective at Zero plus 8 hours 30 minutes when the procedure laid down for the second objective will be observed until the flares are shown.

(d) Divisional dropping ground will be located at O 25 c 3 3.

(ii) Other means of Identifying the Position of the Infantry.

(a) Rifles. Three or four rifles laid parallel across the top of the trench.

(b) Metal Discs. Metal discs will be used as reflectors by flashing in the sun. This method has been successful even on days which have not been particularly bright. The disc is most easily carried on the inside of the flap of the Small Box Respirator.

2. COUNTER-ATTACK PLANES -

(a) From Zero, counter attack planes will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentrations or abnormal movement.

(b) In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter-attack, the counter-attack plane will signal this information to the artillery by wireless. In the case of a counter attack actually developing, a white parachute flare will be fired by the plane in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter-attack, for the information of the infantry.

3. AMMUNITION CARRYING AEROPLANES.

(a) Aeroplanes will be detailed to transport ammunition from ZERO plus 7 hours.

(b) Vickers guns will display a white "V" at the point where ammunition is to be dropped. The arms of the "V" to be 6 feet in length and 1 foot in width. The apex of the 'V' to point towards the enemy.

(c) Ammunition aeroplanes will have the underside of the lower plane painted black for a distance of 2 1/2 feet from the tips.

4. COMMUNICATING BY POPHAM PANEL.

Communication between Infantry and aircraft will be by means of the POPHAM PANEL. The following distinguishing letters are allotted to Unit POPHAM PANEL stations :-

Right Infantry Brigade	A
Left Infantry Brigade	B
Reserve " "	C
29th Battalion	E
30th " "	H
31st " "	I
32nd " "	Z

These letters will be made with white strips beside the panel in manner laid down in Appendix "B" S.S.135 and should be shown by Observer on his form.

5. LOW FLYING E.A. Arrangements must be made by units to deal with low flying enemy aircraft. At least 1 Lewis gun per Coy. will be specially detailed for this work.6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

J. J. J. J.
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 13

August 5th 1918.

Light Signals, Message Rockets, Smoke.1. LIGHT SIGNALS:

(a) Australian Corps.

The following light signals will be employed in the Aust. Corps.

S.O.S. Signal - No. 32 grenade showing Green over Green over Green.

Success Signal No. 32 grenade showing White over White over White.

No other Light Signal will be laid down by Corps. There is no objection to the use within Divisions of a Very Light for the local indication of targets between Infantry and Tanks.

(b) Other Formations: Light Signals of other Formations are as follows -

Formation	Signal.	Meaning.
(i) Cavalry Corps	White star turning to red on a parachute fired from 1 1/2" Very pistol	"Advanced troops of cavalry are here."
(ii) 111 Corps	No. 32 grenade, Green over Green over Green No. 32 grenade, White over white over white. One White very light	"S.O.S." "Success signal. i.e. We have reach objective" "Barrage is about to lift" -

(iii) Canadian Corps No. 32 grenade, red over red over red.

No. 32 grenade, green over green over green.

Three white Very lights in quick succession.

* Remarks - In the case of (a) a smoke rocket (No. 27 grenade) will also be fired in the direction of the obstruction to indicate its position.

"S.O.S." will also mean (a) We are held up & cannot advance without help.
(b) Enemy is counter-attacking.
" (a) Lift your fire, We are going to advance. (b) Stop firing.
"We have reached this point."

(c) Special care must be taken by the Artillery on the right flank of the Division, that all Officers and N.C.O's. are acquainted with these signals so that no mistake may arise as regards the difference in the S.O.S. Signals of the Australian and Canadian Corps.

2. MESSAGE CARRYING ROCKETS.

Allotment of Message Carrying Rockets is 30 for the Brigade.

3. SMOKE: Screening beyond the First Objective.

15th Wing R.A.F., will arrange to screen the advance of the Tanks and Infantry from special localities in advance of their first objective by dropping phosphorus bombs. A map will be issued showing times at which it is anticipated that the infantry will make good certain zones.

Phosphorus bombs will not be dropped within these zones, at any time after it is anticipated that the infantry will have occupied them.

4. Allotment of above Signals will be made by Staff Captain. Smoke rifle grenades to screen disabled tanks will be required.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

R. M. Jordan
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

274

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 14.

Aug. 5th 1918.

1. COMMAND. At ZERO plus 4 hours Command of battle front will pass to G.O.C. 8th Aust. Division.
2. HEAVY ARTILLERY.
 (a) Throughout the advance beyond the GREEN LINE, enemy centres of resistance will be kept under fire as under. All troops will be warned accordingly.

BAYONVILLERS	Fire lifts at ZERO plus 4 1/2 hours.
EASTERN MORGOURT	" " " ZERO plus 5 1/2 "
VALLEY - Q 55	" " " " " " " "
HARBONVILLERS	" " " ZERO plus 6 "

(b) Special measures are to be concerted to deal with a deliberate Gas bombardment of VILLERS BRÉTIGNY on ZERO night.

3. CARRIAGE OF LEWIS GUNS etc.
 Slings will be prepared by 8th Fld Coy. and delivered to units on 7th inst.

4. ASSEMBLY POSITION.
 A preliminary reconnaissance of Assembly positions will be made on morning of 6th inst.
 Capt. A. C. WHITE, M.C., Lieut. R. M. ISAACS and 1 officer per Bn. will leave Brigade H.Q. at 7 a.m.

5. ROADS.
 (a) Two roads will be developed by the C.R.E. in the area East of the GREEN LINE.
 Right road through V C a and b, W 1 a and b passing Sth of and avoiding BAYONVILLERS W 3 c - W 9 b.
 Left - Q 51 a & d - Q 52 a passing Nth and avoiding BAYONVILLERS - Q 53 c & d - W 4 a & b.
 (b) THE AMIENS-VILLERS BRÉTIGNY RAIN ROAD AS FAR EAST AS THE CROSS ROADS IN H 26 c WILL BE RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE CAVALRY CORPS FROM 9.30 p.m. on "Y/Z" NIGHT UNTIL 8 a.m. on "Z" DAY. AFTER 8 a.m. on "Z" DAY IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR AUSTRALIAN CORPS AND CANADIAN CORPS. A.P.C. AUSTRALIAN CORPS IS TO ARRANGE TRAFFIC ON THIS ROAD THROUGHOUT.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
 Battle Instructions No. 1

A. Midon
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 15.

Copy NO.....

August 3th 1918.

1. LIAISON.

(a) The 12th A.I. Brigade, 4th Aust. Division will be on the left of the 8th A.I. Brigade: approx. H.Q. P 7 a 00 30.

The 48th Bn. 12th A.I. Brigade will be on the left of 30th Bn. 8th A.I. Bde. after passing the GREEN LINE. H.Q. 48th Bn. - 0 12 d 0 0.

(b) The 12th A.I. Bde. is to supply a liaison party on the right to keep touch with 8th A.I. Bde. The 30th Bn. will detail a liaison platoon to move on their left flank to keep touch with 48th Bn. and fill any gaps that may occur.

(c) (b) will be in addition to instructions as set out in para 6 Battle Instructions No. 7.

2. TANKS. Tanks will be moving into position on Y/Z night. To cover this movement the air service will maintain machines over the forward area from 9.30 p.m. to 12 midnight on Y day, and from ZERO minus 1 hour on Z day during which time tanks will be on the move.

3. SMOKE. The Air service will drop Smoke bombs as under :-
On BAYONVILLERS at about ZERO plus 4 hours.
On O 35. Eastern MORCOURT Valloy at about ZERO plus 5 hours.
On HARBONNIERES at about ZERO plus 6 hours.

4. APPROACH. Detailed instructions for the approach march of units will be issued after consultation with 5th A.I. Brigade and Tank Coys. Tracks forward from present areas will be marked under arrangements of 8th Field Coy.

5. RESTING TROOPS. On 'Y' Day troops are to be rested. One Officer per Battalion will be detailed to see that this order is observed. No swimming, football etc. will be permitted. Men are to have a complete rest.

6. SUNSET and SUNRISE.

Sunset August 7th	8-20 p.m.
Sunrise August 8th	5.24 a.m.

7. ENEMY GUN POSITIONS. To facilitate capture of enemy guns, a map showing positions of these will be issued. Units will carry tie-on labels to attach to trophies captured.

8. CABLE BURIES. Cable in the new area will be buried commencing at Bn. H.Q. backwards - a reversal of former procedure.

9. CLEARING WOUNDED FROM FRONT OF TANKS:

SMALL PARTIES WILL BE TOLD OFF BY BATTALIONS TO CLEAR OUR WOUNDED FROM THE FRONT OF THE TANKS AND THUS PREVENT THEM BEING CRUSHED.

Battalions will make arrangements for each man to carry a piece of white cloth, handkerchief etc. When a man is wounded and if he is able to, the cloth will be fastened to the butt of the rifle

and rifle with bayonet fixed will be pushed into the ground. Tank personnel will be notified of this and Tanks will make a detour to avoid the particular spot.

Crops will be specially searched: great care will be taken in the assembly area when tanks are passing through the infantry in the dark. Sentries will be detailed to warn men in shelters.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

[Signature]
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf Bde.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.

August 5th 1918.

1st AMENDMENT toBATTLE INSTRUCTIONS Nos. 2 and 8a.1. MARK V* TANKS for capture of the BLUE LINE.

9 Tanks are allotted for 8th A.I. Brigade and will be used to transport the special VICKERS and Lewis Gun personnel detailed for that objective.

Detail of Vickers and Lewis Gun personnel is as follows:

		Off.	H.C.O.	O.R.
10 Vickers Guns etc.	1 N.C.O. and 4 O.R. per gun		10	40
5 Tanks	Escort 2 O.R. per gun			20
	Sub section Commanders	5		
16 Lewis Guns	Crew of 3 O.R.			48
4 Tanks	1 N.C.O. per 2 guns		8	
	Officers	4		
TOTAL		9	18	108

In addition to the officers shown above, Capt. C.D. SAVAGE, O.C. Exploitation force, 8th A.I. Brigade, will be carried in one of the Tanks. In order to make room, one man at present detailed for escort duty will be withdrawn.

Instructions No. 8a para 2 - delete para 2 and Substitute :-

4 Stokes guns together with 50 rounds of ammunition per gun will be carried by Tanks of 'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn. These Tanks will be loaded under arrangements to be made by O.C. 8th L.T.M. Battery, such loading to be completed before the tanks leave their present position.

Close liaison will be maintained between L.T.M.B. and Tanks. The matter of releasing the Stokes Mortars and Ammunition from Tanks will be arranged by O.C. 8th L.T.M. Battery.

4 Stokes guns will be loaded on Supply Tanks at 0 13 a 2 8 on 6th inst. Lieut. E. JOHNSON will report completion of this to Brigade H.Q.

O.C. 8th L.T.M. Battery will detail 1 Officer to accompany these Tanks also for 3 men to move with each of the Tanks on which the guns are loaded: 2 men to take charge of guns and ammunition when unloaded and one man to advise O.C. 8th L.T.M. Battery of unloading point.

Any further detailed arrangements will be made by O.C. 8th L.T.M.B.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1.

E. Johnson
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

274

5TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION

Appendix

6

Copy No. 453
Headquarters,
6th August, 1918.SECRET.INSTRUCTION No. 1.

1. The Australian Corps is to attack the enemy from the VILLERS BRETONNEUX - CHULNES railway exclusive to the River SOMME. The day and hour will be notified later. The 5th Aust. Division will attack within the boundary shown on map No.1. The 2nd Canadian Division is to co-operate on the Right (South of the railway) and the 4th Aust. Division on the Left.
2. The Division will attack on a two Brigade front. The attack will be carried out in two phases :-
Boundaries and objectives are shown on Map No.1.

FIRST PHASE.

Brigade Groups will advance in open warfare formation from the first objective passing through the 2nd Aust. Division.

SECOND PHASE.

15th and 8th Inf. Brigade Groups will exploit their success and seize old British Line of defence marked in Blue, and establish themselves defensively in this line.

The 14th Inf. Brigade Group will be in Divisional Reserve. Tanks will take part in the operation.

3. Machine Guns are allotted as under :-
15th M.G.Co. to co-operate with the 15th A. Inf. Bde.
25th M.G.Co. to co-operate with the 8th A. Inf. Bde.
14th M.G.Co. plus 1 Section 8th M.G. Company with Mark V (Star) Tanks.
8th M.G.Co. less 1 Section Divisional Reserve.
4. 15th and 25th M.G. Companies will move under orders of the Brigade with whom they are co-operating. Pack horses will be used, but arrangements must be made to move limbers rapidly forward.
5. In consolidation these Companies will as far as possible be distributed in depth.
6. O.C. 14th M.G. Company will arrange to establish Headquarters at W.5.c.2.6. (Approx.) at zero plus 8 hours, and will assume control of guns in the Blue line.
7. The 8th M.G. Company (less 1 Section) will be in position of readiness with Transport at O.28.c.9.4. at zero plus 5 hours. An Officer from this Company will report at Battalion Headquarters at that hour. He will be mounted.
8. Separate instructions will be issued to Machine Guns operating with Mark V (Star) Tanks.
9. Reports will be forwarded to Advanced Battalion Headquarters at O.25.c.3.2. through Brigade or by runner.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

M. B. B. B.
Adjt., 5th Aust. M.G. Bn. Capt.

DISTRIBUTION

See attached Sheet.

DISTRIBUTION.

Issued at 10 a.m. to :-

Copy
No.

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1. | 8th M.G.Co. |
| 2. | 14th M.G.Co. |
| 3. | 15th M.G.Co. |
| 4. | 25th M.G.Co. ✓ |

Copies to : -

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 5. | 8th Inf. Bde. | |
| 6. | 14th Inf. Bde. | |
| 7. | 15th Inf. Bde. | |
| 8. | 5th Aust. Division. | |
| 9. | 2nd M.G. Battalion. | } For information. |
| 10. | 4th M.G. Battalion. | |
| 11. | 2nd Canadian M.G. Bn. | |
| 12. | W.D. | |
| 13. | File. | |

25 mg/ly

S E C R E T.

Herewith Battle Instructions Nos. 3a, 1st Amend. to B.I. 12, Nos. 16, 17, 18, 18a, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

916/1449

Please acknowledge.
6/8/18

J. Wilson

Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf Bde.

274 SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

August 6th 18.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 3a.

-
1. A Forward Brigade Collecting Station will be established in the vicinity of road junction P 30 d 5 8. Battalions will be advised by runner of the exact location when the station is established. All instructions as laid down in Battle Instructions No. 3 will be adhered to.
 2. ESCORTS. Escorts should fully understand the following :-
 - (a) That N.C.O's. and officers must be kept separate and not allowed to converse.
 - (b) What Collecting station to report to, and to report to the Brigade I.O. immediately on arrival.
 - (c) The number of prisoners in the batch and the Battalion responsible for the capture.
 - (d) Unauthorised conversation with prisoners must not be allowed.
 3. SEARCHERS. Officers and N.C.O's. only to be searched; much time is wasted in needless searching and questioning of men.
 4. Battalion I.O's. will keep Brigade I.O. informed of the movements of Bn. H.Q. This information will be forwarded by prisoners' escort as necessary.
 5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1.

James J. Scott
for - Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.

August 6th 1918.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 17.

-
1. Wednesday, August 7th will be "Y" Day.
 2. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

W. H. M. ...
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

August 6th 181

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 18.ARTILLERY.

1. All ranks will be warned that the trajectory of the 2nd Aust. Division barrage guns from Zero to Zero plus 45 minutes has only a very small clearance above the 8th and 15th Brigade "start line". This will be taken into account when selecting routes for the approach march to the "start line".

2. HEADQUARTERS.

Headquarters of 5th Canadian Brigade will be established at M 35 b 2 2 approximately by noon 5/8/18.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.1st Amendment toBATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 12.

August 6th 1918

Cancel para 4 and substitute the following :-

4. COMMUNICATION BY POFHAM PANEL.

The following Brigade and Bn. code calls will come into operation in the 5th Aust. Division from 12 noon, 7th August, for communicating between infantry and aeroplanes.

8th Aust. Inf. Brigade H.Q.	N
29th Battalion	N.W.
30th "	N.X.
31st "	N.Y.
32nd "	N.Z.

Brigade and Bn. H.Q. indicate their position by means of ground signal sheets laid on ground near the Headquarters concerned, whilst their identity is disclosed by the above code letters made by ground signal strips laid alongside the sheet.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE:

Copy no. 9.....

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 18.

August 6th 18.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

1. BEARER DIVISIONS. 8th Field Ambulance will detail 1 complete bearer Division (3 Officers and 114 o.r.) to go forward in rear of 29th Bn. in extended order, and will evacuate wounded from Regimental Aid Posts.
The Division will get into touch with Brigade on "YZ" night, and on "Z" day will accompany the Brigade until arrival upon the GREEN LINE, one bearer squad being attached to each R.M.O. with flag for contact duty to work in liaison with bearer Captains.
2. The Bearer Division will remain upon the GREEN LINE until capture of RED LINE and will then go forward under the orders of the O.C., Forward Evacuations (Lieut.-Col. WALSH) and get into touch with R.A.P's.
3. The O.C. Forward Evacuations, will form motor posts in vicinity of GREEN LINE and bearer Relay Posts between GREEN LINE and R.S.P's.
4. As soon as practicable FORD Ambulance Cars will be run forward from Motor Posts to Advanced Motor Posts.
5. Base of Operations for O.C., Forward Evacuations will be at the A.D.S. WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
6. EVACUATION of SICK. Sick will be evacuated to C.C.S. by motor ambulance convoy. Walking wounded will be evacuated from walking wounded station to C.C.S. by motor lorries and, if necessary, by any returning empty transport.
7. The following will be the locations of Medical stores.

	On 'Y' Day	After capture of Green line.	After capture of RED line.
A.D.S.	N 26 d 1 3	VILLERS-BRETONNEUX (vicinity)	WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT (vicinity)
M.D.S.	StACHEUL M 14 d 2 2	M 14 d 2 2	VILLERS-BRETONNEUX (vicinity)
D.C.S.	M 18 a 5 6	N 26 d 1 3	N 26 d 1 3

8. Every care will be taken to see that all crops etc. are thoroughly searched for wounded.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

Henry W. [Signature]
Captain,
Staff Captain,
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.....

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 19.

August 6th 18.

AIRCRAFT.

1. The Air Force which will operate on the Australian Corps front during the battle will be as follows :-
 - (a) Corps Squadron - 3rd Aust. Squadron.
 - (b) 5th Tank Brigade - 8th Squadron.
 - (c) Working under Army orders - The 22nd Wing (8 Scout Squadrons) will be exclusively employed in engaging ground targets and machine gunning along the whole Army front.
 - (d) One night Bombing Squadron - 101st Bombing Squadron.
 - (e) One Reconnaissance Squadron - 48th Squadron.
 Four additional Day Bombing Squadrons and three additional Night Bombing Squadrons are being obtained from other Wings for co-operation.

2. LOW FLYING SCOUTS.
 The low flying scouts of the 22nd Wing are being detailed on an even distribution to each Corps front. This distribution will be changed later, if necessary, to meet any special circumstances. They will operate in two phases, viz:-
 - (a) From Zero to Zero plus 4 hours eastwards from the GREEN LINE.
 - (b) From Zero plus 4 hours onwards eastwards from the RED LINE.
 In each phase very favourable targets will be engaged in addition to the targets marked by the GREEN and RED lines.


3. MARKINGS ON PLANES.
 The following will be the special markings of machines allotted to special duties :-
 - (a) Contact patrol machines - Rectangular panels 2' x 1' on both lower planes about 3 feet from the fuselage.
 - (b) Machines working with tanks - Black band on middle of right side of tail.

4. AMMUNITION CARRYING SQUADRON.
 Aeroplanes carrying S.A.A. will drop it at points as laid down in Battle Instructions No. 12 para 3 (b).

5. The contact aeroplane will fly over the 3rd objective at Zero plus seven (7) hours, not at Zero plus eight (8) hours 30 minutes as laid down in Battle Instructions No. 12, Para 1 (c).

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
 Battle Instructions No. 1


 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.,

August 6th 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 20ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.1. AMMUNITION.

Divisional Dumps will be formed as follows :-

Forward Dump	0 29 d 8 6.
Rear Dump	0 28 c 6 5.

After the Red line has been taken, S.A.A. section will deliver Ammunition, Fireworks etc. to a point in the vicinity of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT: location will be given later. This point will be used as a refilling point for Bn. transport, pack mules etc., which will be Brigaded after the first trip.

The rendezvous for Bn. transport after the first trip will be at Q 32 d 9 7 when same will come under Lieut. BULL, Brigade Transport Officer.

All requirements for Ammunition etc. will be passed through to Staff Captain as soon as possible.

2. STORE TANKS. The two tanks numbered 116 and 120 carrying the 6" Newton T.M.'s. will dump their loads on the BLUE LINE carrying, in addition to load already specified, 126 rounds of L.T.M. Ammunition. The remaining tanks will dump their stores on the RED LINE. After dumping stores all 5 tanks will come under the orders of the 5th Aust. Div. and will return to a point at P 29 c, S.W. corner.

3. WATER. In addition to two water carts per Bn. the Brigade will have attached :-

1 G.S. Water wagon:
1 Water Cart.

Lieut. BULL, Brigade T.O. will be instructed re the disposal of this water.

In addition there will be a motor lorry containing water at P 29 c 2 2. Water from this lorry is only to be used for immediate requirements.

Every advantage will be taken of wells etc. in WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT after they have been exploited and found fit for consumption.

A pipe line is being laid to a point approx. 0 29 b 5 0.

4. TRANSPORT. On "YZ" night, Brigade transport will move to the railway bank at 0 27 d 7 2. Route forward from this point will be along WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT road through VILLERS-BRETONNEUX to road junction at 0 30 d 95 30, and then N.E. along road to P 29 a 30 70, thence along road S.E. towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 1

Harry A. ...
Captain,
Staff Captain,
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No.

August 6th 1918

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 21.

1. ZERO hour will be notified in writing to all concerned by 5 p.m. on "Y" day.
3. Officers from Divisional H.Q. will synchronise watches with units as under. These Officers will leave 5th Aust. Div. H.Q. at approx. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on "Y" day.

H.Q. 8th Inf. Brigade - Capt. F. L. KRINKS, 32nd Bn.

5. Capt. A. C. WHITE, M.C., 8th A.I. Brigade H.Q. will synchronise watches with representatives of the undermentioned units at 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade H.Q. at 2.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on "Y" day.

29th Battalion
 30th "
 31st "
 32nd "
 8th L.T.M.B.
 8th Fld Coy. A.E.
 25th Machine Gun Coy.
 'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn.
 15 Tank Bn.
 Bearer Division, 8th Fld. Amb.
 13th A.F.A. Brigads

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution.

	Copy No.
29th Battalion	1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th L.T.M.B.	5
No. 2 Sig. Section	6
Copies to -	
B.G.C. 8th A.I. Nde.	7
Staff Capt.	8
Capt. A. C. WHITE, M.C.	9
8th Field Coy. A.E.	10
25th M.G. Coy.	11
'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn.	12
15 Tank Bn.	13
13th A.F.A. Bde.	14
5th Aust. Div.	15
15th A.I. Bde.	16
12th A.I. Bde.	17
Capt. BROWN, Bearer Div. attached 8th Bde.	18
15th Field Amb.	19
War Diary	20/22
File	23
Captain SAVAGE	24

F. L. Krinks
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Battle Instructions No. 22.

August 6th 18.

1. ENEMY'S WIRE: Enemy's lateral signal wires and signal wires running eastwards from enemy's Headquarters will be cut.
2. ENEMY'S AMMUNITION DUMPS. Great care should be exercised in destroying enemy's ammunition dumps in order to avoid loss from Gas shell which may be on the dump.
3. MARK V. STAR TANKS. Capt. E. A. C. MACFARLANE, M.C., will supervise the loading of Mark V. Star Tanks for 8th A.I. Brigade.
Tanks will be loaded and manned at 04 d 5 2. When loading and manning is complete, report will be rendered to Brigade H.Q. by Capt. MACFARLANE to this effect.
All ranks are to be warned to keep clear of Mark V. Star Tanks as they swing rapidly when starting and when in motion, and are thus liable to crush men who are close to them.
4. DIVISIONAL COLLECTING STATION.
(a) Divl. Collecting Station will be located at 024 c 3 2 from ZERO hour where Division I.O. will be in touch with Brigades.
(b) Any civilians encountered will be sent back to Brigade H.Q.
5. A.P.M. ARRANGEMENTS.
(a) 6 Military Police will be attached to 8th A.I. Brigade to escort prisoners from Brigade Collecting Station to Division Collecting Station.
Police will report to Brigade I.O. at or in the vicinity of P 30 d 5 8 by ZERO plus 4 hours.
6. O.P.'s.
(a) Division O.P. will be located at 029 d 5 9 from noon 7th inst.
(b) Brigade I.O. will arrange to man an O.P. in a suitable position beyond the GREEN LINE after ZERO plus 5 hours.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 21.

A. M. D. O.
Captain,
Brigade Major,
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 23.

Aug. 6th 1918

1. APPROACH MARCH. Routes forward from VILLERS Line will be reconnoitred by all Battalions. No definite route will be laid down, Units taking care to avoid roads and other localities likely to be shelled.
 HUNTER ST. will be used by 30th Bn.: KENT & YORK Sts. by 31st Bn. Troops will be moved in small parties with 50 paces interval, and touch will be maintained throughout.
 Attention is drawn to Battle Instructions No. 18 para 1. Reconnoitring parties will note gun positions and arrange routes accordingly.
2. ASSEMBLY. 8th A.I. Brigade and attached units will leave their present position at times and in the order as stated below, and arrive in the areas as shown by ZERO - 30 minutes.
 31st Bn. 1 a.m. 'YZ' night, move to ALBURY LINE-South of ALICE Trench within the Brigade boundary.
 30th Bn. 12.45 p.m. 'YZ' night move to ALBURY LINE-North of ALICE TCH. within the Brigade boundary.
 1/8 8th L.T.M. Battery, 12.30 p.m. 'YZ' night move to HUNTER St.
 32nd Bn. 12.30 p.m. 'YZ' night Move to HUNTER St & YORK St.
 29th Bn.
 1/2 8th L.T.M.B. } 12 midnight move to DIGGERS SUPPORT.
 Bearer Division }
 M.G. Sections and other attached troops will move with the Units to which they are affiliated.
 'A' Coy. 13 Tank Bn. will leave their present position at ZERO - 3/4 hour and rendezvous at QUARRY CROSSING* by ZERO plus 1 hour.
 When Brigade moves forward these tanks will follow the general line of the road to WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT and rendezvous in approx P 30 b. (* P 20 a)
 Mark V. Star Tanks (Capt. UNWIN) will rendezvous in P 13 c by 12 midnight on 'YZ' night. When Brigade moves forward they will be approximately 800 yds in rear of 29th Bn.
3. When units are in position reports will be sent to Test Box P 25 b 7 7 where they will be picked up by Brigade H.Q. runners and brought on to Brigade H.Q. at O 24 c 3 2.
 Tank Companies will advise Bde. H.Q. by runner direct from their rendezvous.
4. Tapes will be laid on a line from P 25 b 8 1 to Cross roads P 20 a. Work of tape laying will be supervised by Capt. A.C. WHITE, M.C. and Lieut. R. M. ISAACS. Bns. will detail 1 officer and 8 N.C.O's. per Coy to report to Capt. WHITE at a place and time to be arranged by him of which Units will be notified.
5. At Zero plus 45 minutes 30th and 31st Bns. and 1/2 8th L.T.M.B. and attached troops will leave their trenches and move on to the tapes. Remaining units will prepare to move forward.
 At Zero plus 1 hour the Brigade and affiliated units will move forward and eventually assume the formation as arranged at Conference 3/8/18 (diagramatic sketch attached).
6. The bearer division of 8th Field Amb. will be disposed in rear in accordance with instructions as laid down by O.C. 15th Fld. Amb.
7. O.C. 25th M.G. Coy. will arrange for pack mules carrying machine guns and ammunition to be in a covered position on left flank of Brigade approx. P 18 b or P 20 a by Zero - 30 minutes. When Brigade moves forward pack mules will be sent forward to join with their respective Bns.
8. 8th A.I. Brigade will be in their assembly position by ZERO - 2 1/2 hrs.

P.T.O.

64 9. ROUTES FOR TANKS Operating with 5th A.I. Brigade will be :-

(a) O 11 d - O 18 c - O 24 b - P 19 c - P 25 b - P 26 b to
P 26 d 3 6.

(b) O 11 d - O 18 b - P 13 d - P 20 a - P 21 c central.

These Tanks should be clear before the Brigade begins to move on
"Y/Z" night.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 21.

[Handwritten signature]
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf, Bde.

48TH
BN

59TH
BN

30TH BN

31ST BN

100 yds

200 yds

450 yds

32ND BN

8TH A.I. BDE
6-8-78

LEGEND.

- TANKS ↑
- BN. HQ [square with flag]
- Coy H.Q. †
- PLATOON [square]
- SCOUTS ○

450 yds

29TH
BN

SECRET.

Copy No.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. m24.

Aug. 6th 1918

ASSEMBLY and ACTION of TANKS.

1. PRELIMINARY MOVEMENTS. Tanks will be assembled in concealed positions in the forward area under the orders of 5th Tank Brigade prior to night "YZ".
2. Advance to start Line.
On night "Y/Z" the Tanks allotted to troops attacking the first objective will commence to move forward at 9.30 p.m. to the Tank Start line. They will move with full engines to a line not nearer to the Tank start Line than 3,000 yards. From there they will continue the movement forward to the Tank Start Line moving at a slow rate and as quietly as possible. The Tank Start Line will be approx. 1000 yards in rear of the Infantry taped line.
Tanks will leave the Tank Start Line at such times as will allow them to catch up to the Infantry as the barrage lifts at Zero plus three minutes.
3. Tanks allotted to Second Objective.
The Tanks allotted to Second Objective operating with 8th A.I. Bde. will form up as laid down in Battle Instructions No. 23. Those tanks will be formed up when the aeroplanes are in the air during the hours as laid down in Battle Instructions No. 15 para 2.
4. Liaison Coy. The Coy. of 8th Tank Bn. detailed to act in support and to ensure liaison in the battle line at the junction of divisions will detail 1/2 Coy. to each wave of Tanks vide para 2 and 3 above. The liaison platoon supplied by 30th Bn. operating on the left flank of the the Brigade will work in co-operation with this Coy.
5. 6 liaison men from each of 30th and 31st Bns. will report to 'A' Coy 13 Tank Bn. at CHATEAU, AUBIGNY at 6 p.m. 7th inst. These men will accompany the tanks to the GREEN LINE and on reaching there will establish touch between tanks and infantry co-operating with them.
6. Tanks will be moving about in front of GREEN LINE arranging their position and troops may get the impression that they have started. Before starting (approx ZERO plus 3hrs 59min) Green and White flags will be waved from the man hole of each tank to indicate to Infantry that tanks are in position and ready to start.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution as for
Battle Instructions No. 21

R. Madon
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

25th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Relief of "C" Coy. 17th Bn, Imp, M.G. Corps.

SECRET

Copy No.

16th August 1918.

Ref. Map. FRANCE 62D, S.E.

The Company will move by march route to Coy. H.Q. at Q18a.3.2., and via Q19 Central-MORCOURT - thence Junction Q17b 30.45-Coy. H.Q.

Moves of sections will be at intervals of 15 minutes. Coy. advance section is to arrive at 4 p.m. this day. The following order of section moves will be maintained, - 4, 1, 3, 2. Guides for each section will be at C.H.Q. at 4 p.m. and thence from Section H.Q. for teams. Section's personnel will move intact.

Only one Limber per section is necessary for transport of gear to C.H.Q. In addition one limber will transport C.H.Q. gear to new area.

Transport lines will be situated at HAMEL, P17c 5.9. and will include Q.M. store, cooker, and artificer, etc.

One fighting limber per section and horses will be maintained at Q14d 7.2. (close to Coy's present bivouac) and will be under supervision of L/Cpl. Halsey until further orders.

The following gear will be dumped at REGINALD Wood, Q14d, 7.2.

- 16 Filled Belt Boxes.
- 96 Filled spare belts (32 bulk boxes)
- 16 tripods, complete with dials.

Receipts in triplicate will be obtained.

Sections will need to bring gun water, for each gun.

Coy. Rear H.Q. under Captain Saunders will be with HAMEL transport lines. Capt. Saunders will personally supervise move of personnel to Advanced C.H.Q.

Transport and Personnel including Orderly Room staff will arrive at Rear at 5 p.m.

Pte. Raftery and Signallers will do duty with Advanced C.H.Q. Signal gear complete will be brought forward. Pte. Raftery will also bring a supply of stationery.

Capt. Saunders will make a tentative and suitable arrangement for rations for today, pending definite formulation.

(Signed) H. Arthur Barker Captain.

O.C. 25th Aust. M.G. Coy.

Q18 a.3.2.
11.25 a.m.

25th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

Movement Order No. 3.

SECRET.

Appendix

1. The Company will move by March Route to Q 21 Central, on the morning of the 26th instant.
2. Reveille, 5.45 a.m. Sections will parade at 7 a.m., Fighting Order, on Company Parade Ground. All packs and surplus gear will be dumped at O.M. store at 6.30 a.m. The 17 tents will be struck immediately after reveille, and returned by O.C. Rear Party, to Area Commandant HAMELET. All surplus trench shelters, and tarpaulins will be dumped at O.M. stores with other surplus gear.
3. A Rear Party of One Officer (Lt. Ludvigsen) and ten other ranks from No. 3 Section will remain behind and attend to the disposal of surplus gear, under a separate order to be issued.
4. Transport will hook in ready to move at 7.15 a.m.
5. Supply point will remain as before.
6. Prior to moving on two other ranks will be detailed to remain as Kit guards, during the absence of the Company.
7. Battalion Headquarters will be established at R 19 b, Junction Roads.
8. The dumping of Company Gear will be completed at Battalion O.M. Store, HAMELET, by 9 a.m.
9. Rear Party will proceed by March Route to New Area on completion of their duties.
10. Company Orderly Room will close at present location at 6.30 a.m. and will open at C 21 Central, Suzanne Wood, at 10 a.m.

J. Arthur Barker Captain.

O.C. 25th Aust. M.G. Coy.

Distribution.

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 War Diary. 4/6.