

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/3/6

Title: 3rd Australian Machine Gun Battalion

August 1918



AWM4-24/3/6

CONFIDENTIAL.

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

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY



OF

Third Australian Machine Gun Battalion.

FOR

AUGUST. 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

Whitehead Capt. & Adjt.

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. Blumenthal

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

3rd M G Battalion

August 1918

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Reference Map: FRANCE Sheet 62.D. 1/40000.				
HAMEL SECTOR	1st Aug. 1918.		On the night 31st July/1st August the 11th M.G.Coy. relieved the 10th M.G.Coy. in the right of the Sector. Relief reported complete at 11.15 p.m. 40200 rounds were expended in harassing fire, of which 2700 rounds were fired in daylight hours.	
	2nd Aug.		Owing to re-adjustment of Southern Divisional Boundary the four forward guns of the 11th M.G. Company were taken over by the 7th M.G.Coy. 2nd Aust. Division. 30200 rounds were expended of which 3000 were fired in daylight hours. Disposition of Battalion after re-adjustment of boundaries as shown by	Appendix A1. APPENDIX 1.
HAMEL	3rd Aug.		Conference to discuss the employment of the guns in offensive action generally and with special reference to the forthcoming operation by the Division. Present at Conference - C.O., Second-in-Command (Major A.W. Taylor, M.C.) Company Commanders, Transport Officer, Signal Officer, and Intelligence Officer. The general principles of supporting fire was decided upon and, so far as the information then available would allow, the Companies were grouped with regard to barrage and direct fire. The question of Signal Communication was gone into and it was decided, if possible, to establish a Battalion Command Post as far forward as possible with communication to the rear. 40000 rounds were expended in harassing enemy tracks, roads, etc.	
HAMEL SECTOR	4th Aug.		Preliminary instructions as to possible employment of the guns were issued. Acting on later information received from Division conference No. 2 was called at Forward Battalion Headquarters. Present - C.O., Major Taylor, Company Commanders, and Intelligence Officer. From Divisional Orders received and points discussed at this Conference Battalion Order No. 20 was issued this evening to which are attached appendices with regard to fire directions, and the employment of sixteen guns of the 4th A.M.G. Battalion, which were attached to the 3rd A.M.G. Battalion for the operation. Barrage Table (Sketch "A") 34,900 rounds fired during the night.	APPENDIX II. APPENDIX III. APPENDIX IV.
	5th Aug.		38,000 rounds expended in harassing fire. Administrative Instruction as per Appendix V. issued in conjunction with Battalion Order No. 20. Arrangements were made for establishing a Battalion Dump at P.4.c.5.5. and also a water supply at this point.	APPENDIX V. APPENDIX VI.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

158

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map. FRANCE Sh. 62D N.E. 1/20000.				
HAMELET	6th Aug.		<p>Conference No. 3 at Forward Battalion headquarters. C.O., Major Taylor, Company Commanders and Intelligence Officer present. Following points were discussed and settled:- Ammunition supply, positions to be occupied on forward moves, location of dumps, and all final arrangements in connection with employment of the Battalion. 36,000 rounds expended.</p> <p>Enemy artillery showed unusual activity during the night concentrating on our roads and on villages behind the lines, HAMELET in particular receiving special attention, being bombarded with all calibres, gas and M.E. from 4.30 a.m. to 6 a.m.</p> <p>During the night of 6/7 August Companies detailed for barrage work moved up all available men for construction of slit positions. Dumps of necessary ammunition, extra rations, and water, were moved to these positions by Company Transport</p>	
HAMEL SECTOR	7th Aug.		<p>Conference of Company Transport Officers held at Rear headquarters, BUSSY-les-DAOURS. Subjects discussed and co-ordinated - moving up of ammunition supplies etc. and the question of employment of pack animals for transport. On the latter question experience gained in the offensive operation at YPRES were of great value in settling many points. As a result of this conference special instructions were issued to Transport Officers.</p> <p>During the day final arrangements were made by Companies and Battalion H.Q., all preparations for concentration being complete before dark. As soon as visibility permitted movement to battle positions was commenced. Concentration was carried out as follows:- 10th and 23rd Coys. complete and 8 guns each of 9th and 11th Coys. moved to their respective barrage positions as shown on Appendix IV. The remaining 16 guns (8 of 9th and 8 of 11th Coys.) were ordered to concentrate with their respective Brigades. Brigades further allotted them to work with battalions. Barrage guns reported in position at 11 p.m. Guns of 9th and 11th Coy. to go forward with infantry reported in position at 3.30 a.m.</p> <p>Battalion Command Post with direct communication on to buried cable to Battalion H.Q. was established in F.4.d. in dug-out in forward trenches. on</p>	APPENDIX VII.
	8th Aug.		<p>Operations commenced at 4.20 a.m. (phases 1 and 2 as per appendix VIII) were successfully carried through.</p> <p>When the 4th Aust. Div. had leap frogged through the 3rd Aust. Div. the various Companies of the Battalion concentrated for re-organisation and rest; 9th, 10th, and 11th Coys. with their</p>	APPENDIX VIII.

[Handwritten signature]

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.)

158

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
REF. MAP: FRANCE Sh. 62D. N.E. 1/20000.				
HAMEL SECTOR	8th Aug.		their respective Brigades and 23rd Coy. as Divisional reserve near Forward Battalion headquarters in B.4.d.	
	9th Aug.		Battalion Headquarters moved forward and established at old Command Post at HAMELET, nucleus and Rack Store remaining at BUSSY-les-DAOURS. Command Post was withdrawn, Second-in-Command (Major A.W. Taylor, M.C.) reporting back to Battalion Headquarters.	
	10th Aug.		With a view to this Division exploiting the success gained by the 4th Aust. Division the C.O. made a reconnaissance of forward area and visited Forward Divisional headquarters. On the night 10/11th the 3rd A.M.G.Bn. relieved the 4th A.M.G.Bn. in their defensive position on the Blue line. 10th M.G.Coy. was detailed to assist the 10th A.I. Brigade in an offensive operation against PROYART. Owing to concentration and approach march being made whilst visibility was still good the enemy was able to concentrate artillery fire on to the column. Enemy aeroplanes were also active with bombs and machine gun fire. As it was considered inadvisable to continue the advance a defensive flank was formed North of the AMIENS - ST. QUENTIN Road, the 10th Coy. taking up positions North and South of this Road. Owing to other Companies already being in defensive positions the area available was very limited and caused a temporary concentration far beyond the needs of the situation (See Appendix IX, Q.30.d. and R.25.c.) Four guns were able to dig into position in R.21.c. and R.27.a. and c. under heavy shell and machine gun fire.	APPENDIX IX.
	11th Aug.		Acting under instructions Battalion Order No. 21 was issued. 23rd Coy. moved to defensive position on ridge in Q.17. 23, and 30 (See Appendix IX) 8 of this Company's guns, in conjunction with guns of 11th Coy. fired a creeping barrage to cover operations of the 11th A.I. Bde. on the left of the Division. When the objective had been reached four guns of the 11th Coy. moved to defensive positions in the newly captured ground. 100,000 rounds were expended during this operation. To form a composite inspection parade by His Majesty the King at BERTANGLES six selected other Ranks moved out from the Battalion.	APPENDIX X.
	12th Aug.		Battalion Command Post established in Q.16, MORCOURT, in accordance with Battalion Order No. 21, with Second-in-Command in charge.	

[Handwritten signature]
3

- 4 -

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

158

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Ref. Map. FRANCE SH. 62D. 1/40000.			
SOMME.	12th Aug.		Daylight attack, with PROYART as objective successfully carried out by 10th A.I. Brigade, 9th Coy. co-operating with direct fire. 6 guns of the 11th Coy. moved forward to consolidate the ground won, 8 guns of the 23rd Coy. moving up to take their places. 3rd A.M.G. Battalion relieved by 17th M.G. Battalion, B.E.F. Dispositions on completion of relief as follows:- Battalion Headquarters - HAMELET. 9th, 10th, 11th, and 23rd Coys. with Transport and "B" Echelon concentrated in P.4. and 5.	Appendix X A.
	13th Aug.		Companies re-organising and resting.	
	14th Aug.		C.O. attended conference at Divisional Headquarters to discuss forthcoming operations.	
	15-17 Aug.		Companies resting and re-organising.	
	18th Aug.		9th M.G. Coy. relieved 13th A.M.G. Coy in the "D" Divisional Sector on the North of the SOMME immediately West of BRAY, working in co-operation with 9th A.I. Brigade. Relief reported complete 11.30 p.m.	
	19th Aug.		C.O. attended conference at Divisional headquarters to discuss forthcoming operation. Adjutant (Captain D.A. Whitehead, M.C.) marched in from English Leave. 11th M.G. Coy. relieved 131st U.S.M.G. Coy. in rear positions in "D" Divisional Sector.	
	20th Aug.		Battalion Headquarters moved to SAILLY-le-SEC and established at 2.30 p.m. C.O. held conference of Company Commanders at Battalion Transport Lines. General scheme of forthcoming operations was discussed, also the role of the different companies. As the Second-in-Command was likely to proceed on leave the Adjutant was detailed to take over Battalion Command Post. Captain Whitehead and R.M.O. (Captain T.M. Mansfield) and Company Commanders went forward to ETINHEM to reconnoitre possible billets, headquarters, and the ground generally. The condition of the village showed recent heavy shelling and it was therefore decided to concentrate troops in the SOMME Valley at about K.24.d. For disposition of Units as at night 20th see sketch. O.C. Command Post attended Battalion headquarters and received final orders and prepared barrage tasks for xxxx operation. <i>Br. Order No 23 issued</i>	APPENDIX XI Appendix XII

WAR DIARY

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.)

158

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref.	Map	FRANCE Sh. 62D. 1/40000.		
SOMME	21st Aug		<p>Battalion Command Post established at K.24.d.50.40. with direct telephonic communication to Battalion headquarters.</p> <p>Battalion Ammunition Dump of 250,000 rounds formed at CHIPILLY, Companies to draw direct on it. Positions constructed and the moving forward of all stores and the laying off of all guns completed during the night. Two sections of the 11th Coy. were attached one each to the 43rd and 44th A.I. Battalions to assist in consolidating the captured ground. The remaining guns of the Battalion were allotted barrage tasks. For positions etc. see</p> <p>The remaining personnel of the Companies moved up during the night and all guns were in position by midnight.</p>	APPENDIX XII.
	22nd Aug.		<p><u>Operation.</u> Enemy artillery activity was normal up to 2.15 a.m. on 22nd. From 2.15 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. enemy heavily bombarded Western extremities of ETINBHEM and Valley of the SOMME in K.24.c. and d. with 15 c.m. 10.5 c.m. and 77 m.m. 30 minutes prior to Zero enemy put down a heavy and well distributed barrage on our tape line in L.10 causing casualties to 23rd Coy. ("F" Battery) in L.10.d. Our barrage opened at 4.45 a.m. at which time enemy shelling of valley in K.24 decreased considerably. Guns fired according to schedule on appointed tasks, the total expenditure being 420,000 rounds. No opportunity targets were engaged during the first three hours of the operation. Reports as to the progress of the infantry were indefinite for some time but by 10 a.m. it was definitely established that our troops were on the green line. By 12 noon, as the infantry appeared to be established on their final objective arrangements were made to organise defence of the sector. Four guns of the 9th Coy. which had gone forward with the attacking infantry took up a position protecting the left flank about L.9.a.central and L.8.b.central. The remaining 12 guns of the 9th Coy. were distributed in depth about the area as follows:- two guns to right and two guns to left battalion for work in support line, remaining guns to form a protective barrage North of BRAY. Two sections of the 11th Coy. acting as mobile guns were allotted one section each to 43rd and 44th Battalions. As there was no work for these guns they were withdrawn to shelters towards the rear. 16 guns of the 10th Coy. remained in positions in L.19.b. ready to put down a protective barrage East of BRAY in L.16.a. and to engage any targets that showed on hillside East of BRAY. "A" and "B" Batteries (8 guns 11th Coy.) "E" and "F" Batteries (16 guns 23rd Coy) were withdrawn to dug-outs in K.24.d.</p> <p><u>Enemy Counter-attack.</u> At 5.45 p.m. the 9th A.I. Brigade reported parties of enemy North of BRAY active against our line. Orders were issued to 10th M.G. Coy. to engage any parties of enemy visible. If no targets were visible they were to barrage line from L.16.central to 500 yds. North.</p>	

[Handwritten signature]

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.)

158

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Ref. Map FRANCE: SH. 62D 1/40000.			
SOMME.	22nd Aug.		<p>At 6 p.m. 9th A.I. Bde. reported about two battalions of enemy moving towards BRAY in L.17.b. and d. The 10th Coy. were informed and the target was engaged when arrived in L.16.b. and d. This target was later engaged by artillery. The leading wave disappeared in trenches or sunken road, last wave coming over crest retired. Attack repulsed.</p> <p>6.55 p.m. Enemy reporting to be advancing on our left and occupying HAPPY VALLEY. One section of the 11th Coy was detailed to take up a position about L.14.a to command this valley and to protect left flank of the Division. This section reported in position in L.13.b.90.10 by 8.45 p.m.</p> <p>7.30 p.m. Requested by 9th A.I. Bde. to place one extra section at the disposal of Colonel White 35th A.I. Battalion with headquarters at L.14.b.10.30, to assist in protection of the left flank. This section moved off at 8.45 p.m. with the assistance of a carrying party of 12 men of the pioneer Battalion. Section reported in position at 9.30 p.m.</p> <p>Casualties for 22nd August - Killed 6 O.R. Wounded 18 O.R. Missing 2 O.R.</p>	
	23rd Aug.		<p>Owing to guns allotted to Infantry Battalions being moved into position and no report being received by the Machine Gun Battalion it was found that an unnecessarily large concentration of guns in the vicinity of L.14.central had taken place. To rectify this a re-distribution was made during the day. The 9th Coy. remained in defensive positions in the line. The 10th Coy. remained in barrage positions in L.19.b. covering BRAY. 8 guns of the 11th Coy. plus 16 guns of the 23rd Coy. were withdrawn to L.24.d. 8 guns of the 11th Coy. still remaining attached to Battalions in reserve <i>See Appendix XIII</i></p> <p>Preliminary orders and sketch for operation on the morning of the 24th received. O.C. Command Post (Capt. Whitehead) visited 9th and 10th A.I. Brigade headquarters to collect information and to explain scheme of machine gun co-operation. Times of artillery barrage received 9 p.m. Final orders issued to Companies at 10 p.m.</p>	APPENDIX XIII <i>Appendix XIV</i>
	24th Aug.		<p>3rd A.M.G. Battalion, using two companies, co-operated with 10th A.I. Brigade in the capture of BRAY. The 10th and 23rd Coys. were allotted to assist in the attack and were formed into two groups - "A" (Barrage) Group and "B" (Target) Group.</p> <p>5.15 p.m. Orders received that Zero hour had been fixed for 1 a.m. and rate of advance given as 100 yards every three minutes. Lift table for barrage group was worked out and the targets with times for the target group.</p> <p>6 pm. Orders issued. Synchronisation of watches and final instructions fixed for 10 p.m.</p> <p>8.30 pm. 23rd Coy. (Barrage Group) reported guns in position and laid on Zero lines.</p>	
A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.				

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

158

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map.	FRANCE	Sh. 62D.	1/40000.	
SOMME	24th Aug.		O.C. Command Post visited H.Q. 10th A.I. Brigade to explain scheme of machine gun co-operation and same was approved by G.O.C. Map and copy of orders taken by Liaison Officer to the attacking Battalion (40th) Synchronisation of watches and final instructions issued at 10.35 p.m.	
		1 am.	Barrage opened and fired as per schedule xxxxxxx .	
		2.15 - a.m.	Word received from 40th Battalion that they were held up by machine gun fire from the Northern flank and requested continuance of machine gun barrage. Instructions to this effect issued to 23rd Coy. by visual signalling (Lucas lamp). Message delayed slightly by smoke from shells bursting in vicinity of sending station.	
			Expenditure of Ammunition: 23rd Coy - 65,000 rounds. 10th Coy. - 10,000 rounds.	
			Casualties - Killed 1 O.R. Wounded 8 O.R. Four mules killed.	
			Enemy action; Prior to Zero enemy artillery was very quiet. In reply to enemy S.O.S. signals (single RED and GREEN light) enemy barrage was slight and scattered. Machine guns North of BRAY were active against left flank of the attacking troops. xxxxxxx	
			During remainder of darkness our fire was maintained on YAKKO Copse, L.23.d. with a view to preventing enemy concentration.	
		9 am.	Orders received for attack on morning of 25th, which was to carry our line to the hill just West of CEYLON WOOD with a possibility of further exploitation in the direction of SUZANNE.	Appendix XV
		10 am.	Preliminary orders issued which gave the distribution and action of companies as follows:- 9th M.G.Coy. holding line. 10th Coy. as target group about L.20.d. 11th Coy. on wheels in position of readiness in K.24.d. 23rd Coy. barrage group in L.22.c.	
			The remainder of the day was spent in moving up ammunition and stores. It was found that all bridges across the SOMME connecting with LA NEUVILLE (position of barrage group) had been blown up by the enemy. Work was immediately put in hand to man-handle stores across an insecure and half-submerged footbridge, which had been hurriedly erected that morning.	
			O.C. Command Post, in company with O.C. 23rd M.G.Coy. made reconnaissance of the area and decided that with pack transport there would not be sufficient time to move up the ammunition and stores required. It was therefore decided that some sort of bridge was necessary at about L.28.d.5.2. This work was entrusted to Lieut. Brain, 23rd Coy. whose untiring energy the successful completion of the bridge under enemy fire was entirely due. Pack train moved across at 6.0 p.m. and all guns with stores were in position by midnight.	
	25th Aug.		In accordance with orders 10th and 23rd Coys. fired program in conjunction with attack by 10th and 11th A.I. Bdes. zero hour being 2.30 a.m.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

158

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map. FRANCE SOMME	25th Aug.		<p>Sh. 62D. 1/40000.</p> <p>At zero plus two hours 11th Coy. moved forward and established themselves as follows:- Coy. headquarters L.10.d.00.40 1 Section L.11.c. 1 Section L.5.c. and 2 Sections in reserve at L.10.c. On completion of tasks the 10th and 23rd Coys. moved to huts in L.26.b. Sections of 11th Coy. allotted to 11th Brigade were sub-allotted to Battalions. At 9 a.m. all 16 guns were in action. 11th A.I.Bde. which was to move and exploit country beyond green line in vicinity of CEYLON WOOD failed owing to heavy enemy shelling. The guns of the 11th Coy. took up defensive positions. Battalion headquarters moved to School house ETINEHEM. Also transport as follows:- 9th Coy. in K.21.b. 10th Coy. L.22.a. 11th Coy. K.24.c. 23rd Coy. L.20.d.</p>	
	26th Aug.		<p>Battalion Command Post moved forward to BRAY. 10th A.I. Brigade captured SUZANNE and held line approximately G.2.central - G.15.central waiting for left flank to conform. Two sections of the 10th Coy. moved up to assist in consolidation and took up barrage position in G.8.a. In preparation for operation on 27th the 11th A.I. Brigade established their line from Copse "K" A.27.c. to North of VAUX WOOD, G.4. Orders issued that 10th and 11th Coys. would co-operate with 11th A.I. Bde. working as liaison force with 58th Division B.E.F., on our left. 10th Coy. (Barrage Group) 8 guns, ordered to take up positions in G.3.d. 11th Coy. (Barrage Group) 8 guns in G.3.a. North of COPSE "L" also four guns at COPSE "J" to engage "S" works, A.22.d.</p>	APPENDIX
	27th Aug.	4 pm.	<p>Final orders issued about midnight. Zero hour fixed for 4.55 a.m. This gave very little time for the Companies to get into position. The night was extremely dark. 10th Coy. finally took up position in G.3.d. 300 yards S.W. of "L" COPSE. 8 guns of the 11th Coy. were unable to get into position until after zero. 9th Coy. ordered to relieve 10th and 11th Coys. in the line. As the position then occupied was not suitable the 9th Coy. moved through and took up following positions:- four guns in "R" works, A.28.a. barraging valley A.29.b. four guns in A.27.d. covering valley in direction of MARICOURT to COPSE "C", A.21.d. Four guns COPSE "J" covering valley towards MARICOURT and four guns reserve in COPSE "L", G.3.a. Guns sited chiefly to protect left flank of Division. 10th and 11th Coys. moved to billets in BRAY. Orders received to cover advance on morning of 28th; 16 guns 9th Coy. allotted barrage tasks and took up position in A.28.a. 23rd Coy. 8 guns SUZANNE Avenue in G.4.a. as target group. 8 guns 23rd Coy. as reserve in COPSE "L". Ammunition dump of 100,000 rounds moved from BRAY to vicinity of COPSE "L".</p>	

(A7883) Wt W809/M1672 50,000 4/17 Sch 52a Forms/C/2118/14

(Handwritten mark)

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map.	FRANCE	Sh. 62C 1/20000.		
SOMME.	27th		Battalion Order No. 26 (Appendix <u>XVI</u>) received by O.C. Command Post at 9.45 p.m.	APPENDIX <u>XVII</u> .
	Aug.			
	28th		Final orders issued to Companies at midnight. Zero hour 4.45 a.m. Advance covered by a creeping barrage and an S.O.S. protector in front of objective for 30 minutes. Infantry exploited success, capturing CURLU and established approximately on line n.l.central - B.21.cen.	
	Aug.		Four guns 23rd Coy. took up positions covering left flank in A.23.c. Two guns covering right flank on Chapeau de Gendarme, A.29.d. Battalion Command Post established at SUZANNE Chateau 7 a.m. in accordance with B.O. No. 26.	
			Reconnaissance from Observation trench G.4.b. showed enemy parties moving to rear, also great activity on part of enemy artillery.	
			200,000 rounds S.A.A. drawn from D.A.C. and delivered at Command Post, SUZANNE Chateau. Dump established during night at SPUR WOOD A.28.d.	
	29th		Captain A.W. Wardell, M.C. (O.C. 10th Coy.) took over duties of Second-in-Command, with	
	Aug.		With a view to continuance of operations Battalion Command Post was moved to G.6.d.95.95. in close proximity to 10th Brigade headquarters. 10th M.G.Coy. moved up operating with 10th A.I. Brigade. By night line ran approximately on Western outskirts of CLERY-sur-SOMME. During these operations it had not been necessary to call on the assistance of the Machine Gun Coy. 10th M.G.Coy. therefore bivouaced for the night in the VALLEY in H.2.c. During the night ammunition limbers of 9th and 23rd Coys. transferred Battalion Dump from SPUR WOOD in A.28.d. to old QUARRY in G.6.b.85.55. Location of dump given to Command Post and to Company headquarters. During the night patrols gradually worked forward and by daylight the Divisional front ran as follows:- Hill 110, B.23.c. and d. along trench to COPSE 5., n.5.b. thence to Eastern outskirts of CLERY-sur-SOMME. 10th M.G.Coy. transport moved to QUARRY H.2.b.7.5.	
	30th		Stiffening of enemy resistance brought the advance to a temporary halt. 10th Coy. took up defensive positions as follows:- 2 guns Hill 110, B.23.d. 6 guns forming a battery on the high ground in B.29.d. 8 guns also forming a battery to cover right flank and approaches to CLERY, sited in trench in n.5.e.8.9. Enemy reported to have counter-attacked at 4 p.m. from direction CLERY Copse, I.l.c. appears to have been very half-hearted and in no large numbers. No targets justifying opening of machine gun fire presented themselves.	


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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref Map.	FRANCE.	Sh. 62C.	1/20000 N.W.	
SOMME	30th Aug.		During the night patrols advanced our line to the old British front line occupied at the end of 1917. In conformity with this 10th M.G. Coy. took up the following dispositions:- 8 guns forming a battery in C.25.c.O.O. VAN Trench, 8 guns as battery in n.6.a.75.38.	
	31st Aug.		<p>With a view to resting 10th Coy. 11th Coy. received orders from Battalion Command Post to move through the 10th Coy. and take up positions covering the front. 23rd Coy. ordered to form a defensive flank to the left as the country on our Northern flank naturally lent itself to counter-attack. Distribution as follows:- 4 guns Hill 110, B.23.d. 4 guns B.24.b.1.3. 8 guns in reserve. Increasing distance of advance/movement of Command Post again necessary.; established by 6 p.m. in dugout in embankment at H.5.c.5.O. As left flank was still in the air 4 extra guns of 23rd Coy. moved on to spur in C.19.b.</p> <p>10th Brigade relieved by 11th Brigade during the night.</p> <p>C.O. received details, verbally, of operations by 11th Brigade on morning of 1st September. Battalion Order No. 27 immediately compiled and issued 20 minutes after receipt of orders</p>	APPENDIX XVII
				 <p>10</p>

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.)

158

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																																																							
			<u>GENERAL.</u>																																																																																								
			<p>The month of August found the Machine Gun Battalion almost constantly engaged and still continuing in offensive operations, or in preparation therefor, and the strain on personnel animals, and material has been very severe. Every endeavour has been made to maintain the fighting efficiency by resting all available troops consistent with the tactical situation. The uncertainty of infantry commanders as to their flank and consequent nervousness, added to which the failure to appreciate the full fire-power of machine guns caused frequent demands to be made for an unnecessarily large number of guns. Much of this would be obviated if infantry commanders would state the work required for machine gunners, leaving distribution and numbers to the trained experts. Specific instances are those recorded on night 10/11th, 22nd, and operations on 1st September. It is considered that for general work of this nature on a divisional front, two companies working forward, one company in support and one in reserve are sufficient. Reserve company should, if possible, be given six clear days out of the line. Less periods than this are not sufficient to have any marked benefit on tired troops.</p> <p>Complete list of lessons, tactical, technical, and general, learned from recent operations cannot be compiled at the present time.</p> <p>Casualties for the Month.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Unit.</th> <th colspan="2">Killed.</th> <th colspan="2">Wounded</th> <th colspan="2">Missing.</th> <th colspan="2">Injured.</th> <th colspan="2">TOTAL</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Off.</th> <th>OR.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>OR.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>OR.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>OR.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>OR.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9th MGC.</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>28</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10th "</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>29</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11th "</td> <td>-</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>35</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23rd "</td> <td>1</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>21</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bn. n. G.</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3</td> <td>19</td> <td>5</td> <td>113</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>8</td> <td>140</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Strength of Battalion.</p> <p>31-7-18 52 Off. 907 O.R.</p> <p>31-8-18. 52 Off. 813 O.R.</p> <p>Rejoined from hospital etc. 6 Off. 71 O.R.</p> <p>Reinforcements Taken on 5 Off. 38 O.R.</p>	Unit.	Killed.		Wounded		Missing.		Injured.		TOTAL		Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	9th MGC.	-	3	1	28	-	-	-	1	1	32	10th "	1	4	2	29	-	3	-	2	3	38	11th "	-	6	1	35	-	-	-	1	1	42	23rd "	1	6	1	21	-	1	-	-	2	28	Bn. n. G.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		3	19	5	113	-	4	-	4	8	140	
Unit.	Killed.		Wounded		Missing.		Injured.		TOTAL																																																																																		
	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.	Off.	OR.																																																																																	
9th MGC.	-	3	1	28	-	-	-	1	1	32																																																																																	
10th "	1	4	2	29	-	3	-	2	3	38																																																																																	
11th "	-	6	1	35	-	-	-	1	1	42																																																																																	
23rd "	1	6	1	21	-	1	-	-	2	28																																																																																	
Bn. n. G.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-																																																																																	
	3	19	5	113	-	4	-	4	8	140																																																																																	

18,000-12/17-872

WAR DIARY

OF

THIRD AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION.

FOR

AUGUST, 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
A1.	Battalion Order No. 19.
1.	Dispositions as at 2nd August., 1918.
2.	Preliminary Instructions.
3.	Battalion Order No. 20.
4.	Barrage Table.
5.	Administrative Instruction.
6.	BN/817.
7.	Special Instructions for Transport Officers.
8.	Summary of Work 8-8-18 to 13-8-18.
8a.	Disposition on "GREEN" line on 8-8-18.
9.	Disposition as on night 12/13th. August., 1918.
10.	Battalion Order No. 21.
10a.	Battalion Order No. 22.
11.	Dispositions as on 20th. August. 1918.
11a.	Battalion Order No. 23.
12.	Disposition and tasks for Operation 22-8-18.
13.	Disposition as at noon 23-8-18.
14.	Battalion Order No. 24.
15.	Battalion Order No. 25.
16.	Battalion Order No. 26.
17.	Battalion Order No. 27.
18.	Report by R.M.O.
19.	<i>Routine Orders Nos 32, 33, 34, 35.</i>

SECRET:

Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 19.

Copy No. 9.....

Battalion Headquarters,
2nd August, 1918.

Reference Map: France, Sheet 62.D. S.E. & S.W. 1/20000.

1. The Southern Boundary of the 3rd Aust. Division is being re-adjusted on the night 2/3rd August, to run as follows:-
from front line at P.21.b.1.3. - Quarry crossing P.20.a.6.4. -
along South side of road to O.11.d.5.2. - O.10.b.8.0. - O.9.a.7.4. -
O.8.c.2.8. - O.2.c.2.2. - O.7.a.2.7. - H.12.b.9.0. - H.7.a.0.0. -
H.4.c.7.0.
2. The 2nd A.M.G.Bn. will conform to the above movement and will take over the following gun positions from the 3rd A.M.G.Bn. on the night 3/4th August:-
1 gun at O.21.a.70.15.
1 gun at O.21.c.90.90.
1 gun at O.19.a.50.60.
1 gun at O.19.a.50.65.
3. All details of the relief will be mutually arranged between the Company Commanders concerned.
4. On being relieved the four guns of the 11th M.G.Coy. will be available for employment in the forward area.
5. Completion of relief to be notified to Battalion Headquarters and also to 10th Brigade Headquarters by the use of the code word "BRICK".
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

DISTRIBUTION: P.T.O.

J. Hunt
Lieut. & Asst. Adjt.
Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix A1

M 158

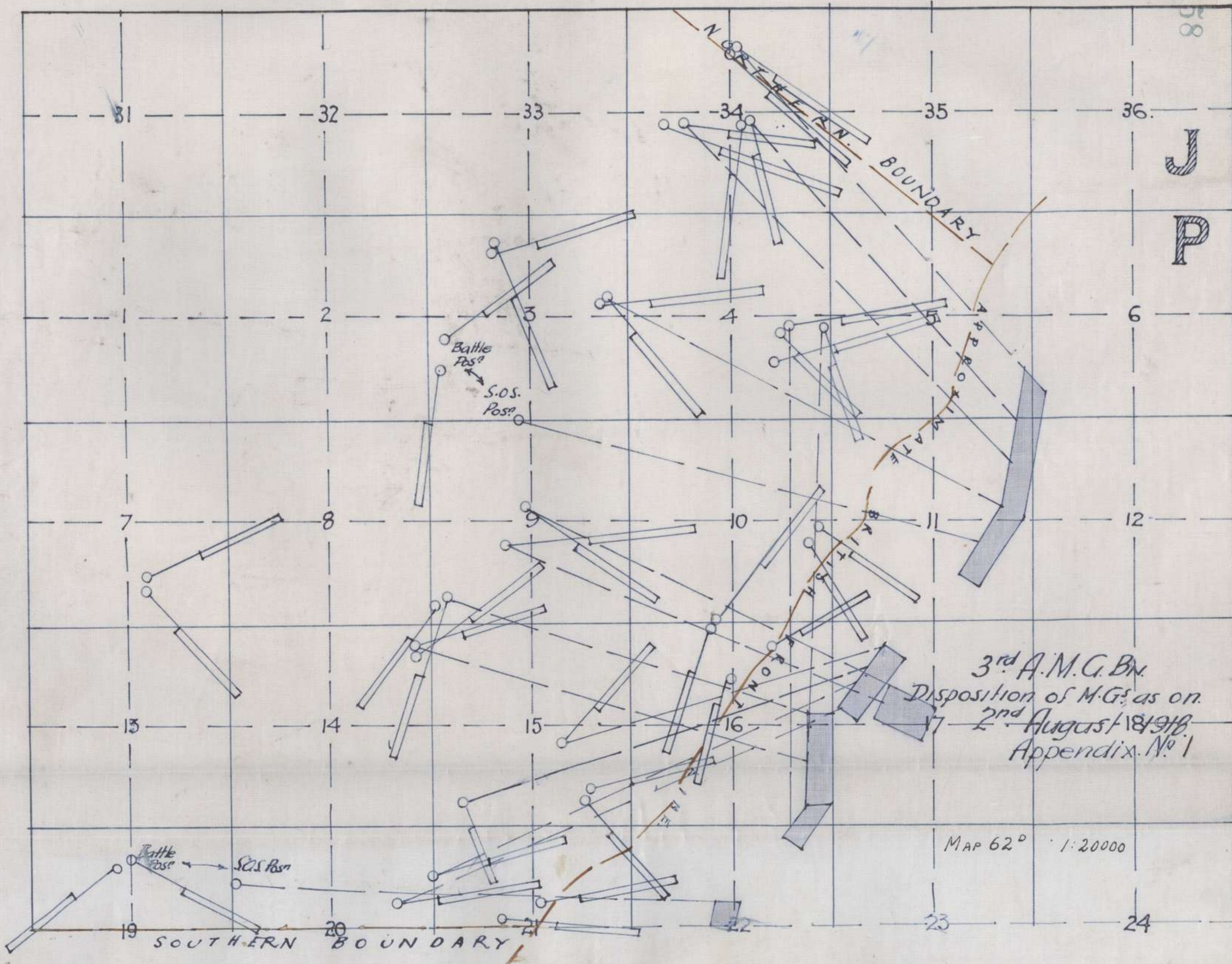
APPENDIX

A1 13

MA 158

- 2. C.O. [unclear]
- 3. Major Taylor
- 4. O.C. 9th M.G. Coy.
- 5. O.C. 10th M.G. Coy.
- 6. O.C. 11th M.G. Coy.
- 7. O.C. 23rd M.G. Coy.
- 8. War Diary.
- 9-12
- 13. File.

J
P



3rd A.M.G. Bn.
Disposition of M.G.s as on
2nd August 1918
Appendix No 1

MAP 62° 1:20000

APPENDIX

Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.Preliminary Instructions.GUNS AND TASKS.Opportunity Guns.

9th Inf. Brigade - 8 guns of 9th Machine Gun Coy.
 11th Inf. Brigade - 6 guns of 11th Machine Gun Coy.

Barrage Guns.

9th Machine Gun Company - 8 guns.
 12th " " " - 8 guns.
 10th " " " - 16 guns.
 23rd " " " - 16 guns.

distributed on ground as per attached sketch (approximately)

On completion of barrage task at Zero plus ? the remaining 8 guns of the 9th and 11th Companies will move forward with their respective Brigades, to a position of defence on green line.

The 23rd M.G.Coy. will conform to this movement, taking up a central position in the new defensive line. For this task 8 of this Company's guns will be allotted to the 9th Brigade and 8 guns to the 11th Brigade. This will allow of a defence in ~~max~~ depth on a three company frontage.

As soon as barrage guns move forward, they will at once come under the orders of the G.O.C. of the Brigade to which they are attached.

The 10th M.G.Coy. will remain in defence of our old front line, and come under the orders of the G.O.C. 10th Brigade for this and subsequent movements.

(Sgd.) A.C. BLACKLOW, Lt-Col.

Appendix II

G.O. 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion.

Third Australian Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 20.

Copy No. 133 16

SECRET 58

Battalion Headquarters,
4th August, 1918.

Ref. Map: FRANCE Sheet 62.D. 1/40000.

The Third Aust. Division, in co-operation with other units of the Australian Corps on our right, and the 3rd Corps on our left will attack and capture enemy positions opposite our front. Zero day and zero hour to be notified later.

Objectives. The 3rd Aust. Division will capture and consolidate ground to and including green line.

The 4th Aust. Division will leap frog through 3rd Aust. Division on the green line and capture and consolidate ground to and including blue line.

Command of troops on green line will pass to G.O.C. 4th Aust. Division at zero ~~xxxx~~ plus four hours.

Frontages. 3rd Aust. Div. frontage from Southern edge of ACCROCHE Wood inclusive, to the River SOMME inclusive, and in ~~xxxx~~ depth from P.25.a.9595. to and including the River SOMME (green line). The attack on the 3rd Aust. Division front will be carried out by 9th and 11th A.I.Bdes. while the 10th A.I.Bde. will hold our present defences.

Brigade Frontages. 9th A.I.Bde. from Southern edge of ACCROCHE Wood inclusive to the Northern edge of ACCROCHE Wood inclusive, and in depth to green line.

11th A.I.Bde. from Northern edge of ACCROCHE Wood exclusive to and including River SOMME and in depth to green line.

The 3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion will co-operate in the attack. The following tasks are allotted to Companies:-
Opportunity Guns.

9th Inf. Bde. - 8 guns of 9th M.G.Coy.

11th Inf. Bde. - 8 guns of 11th M.G.Coy.

These guns will be under orders of G.C.'s.C. Brigades and will be formed up immediately in rear of the attacking troops of their respective Brigades at zero minus one hour.

Barrage Guns, as follows will assemble on barrage line at zero plus 5 hours.

9th M.G.Coy. - 8 guns.

11th M.G.Coy. - 8 guns.

10th M.G.Coy. - 16 guns.

23rd M.G.Coy. - 16 guns.

distributed on ground as per sketch "A". On completion of barrage tasks (as per Appendix "B") the remaining eight guns of the 9th and 11th Companies will move forward to their respective Brigades to a position of defence on green line.

The 23rd M.G.Coy. will conform to this movement taking up a central position on new defence line. For this task eight of this Company's guns will be allotted to 9th Bde. and 8 guns to 11th Bde. This will allow of defence in depth on a three-company frontage.

As soon as the barrage guns move forward they will at once come under the orders of the G.O.C. of the Brigade to which they are attached.

Right Group 9th Brigade guns - G.O. - Capt. Mackey.

Left Group 11th Brigade guns - G.O. - Capt. Wells.

The 10th Machine Gun Company will remain in defence of our old front line and come under orders of the G.O.C. 10th Inf. Bde. for this and subsequent movements.

Signals. Signal communications will be established to Battalion Headquarters (P.4.b.70.20.) and from there forward to Companies.
S.O.S. - No. 32 grenade - ~~xxxxxx~~ green over green over green.

Success signal - No. 32 grenade - white over white over white.
Counter attacks will be signalled by aeroplanes firing a white parachute light in direction of counter attack.

P. T. O.

Appendix III

Transport. Transport will remain in present position ready to act as pack transport or otherwise.

Battalion Dumps. Battalion Dumps will be established at P.4.c.central, and will contain the following stores:- S.A.A. sandbags, water, and rations. Lieut. Tyzack will arrange for guard at this dump.

Aid Posts, will be established in the vicinity of our present front line.

Reports to Battalion Headquarters, dugout, P.4.b.7.2.

Synchronisation. Watches will be synchronised at Brigade H.Q. at zero minus two hours.

Liaison. One Officer per group will be attached to Brigade Headquarters for liaison.

[Handwritten signature]
Lieut. & Asst. Adjt.
Third Australian Machine Gun Bn.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Division.
2. H.Q. 4th Aust. Division.
3. H.Q. 9th Inf. Bde.
4. H.Q. 10th Inf. Bde.
5. H.Q. 11th Inf. Bde.
6. Major Taylor, SOLA.
7. O.C. 9th M.G.Coy.
8. O.C. 10th M.G.Coy.
9. O.C. 11th M.G.Coy.
10. O.C. 23rd M.G.Coy.
11. Q.M.
12. R.M.O.
- 13-16. War Diary.
17. File.
18. C.O. 4th A.M.G.Bn.

Appendix III

1158

Copy No. 13

SECRET.

APPENDIX B.

Issued in Conjunction with Battalion Order No. 20.
Battalion Headquarters
4th. August 1918.

FIRE DIRECTIONS.

Barrage will open at zero plus seven minutes. This allows attacking troops to get clear. At zero plus ten minutes the barrage will advance 100 yards.

The barrage will continue at the rate of 100 yards every three minutes for seven successive lifts, then for two successive lifts of 100 yards every four minutes.

At zero plus forty minutes guns will prepare to advance to new defensive positions.

Rate of fire. 120 rounds per minute throughout.

Tanks. Every precaution will be taken to prevent Tanks moving over Gun positions.

Every endeavour ~~xxxxxxxx~~ will be made to continue the normal rate of night firing. This duty can be best performed by the 10th. Machine Gun Company.

Appendix III

Lieut. & Asst Adjutant.
for C.O. Third Aust. M.G. Bn.

APPENDIX 3 18

SECRET.

APPENDIX "C".

Copy No. 8

Issued in Conjunction with Bn. Order No. 20.

1. The 4th Aust. M.G. Battalion have allotted 16 guns to the 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion for barrage purposes during the first stage of the forthcoming attack.
2. Tasks as per Sketch "A".
3. ~~Taskxxxxxxx~~
GUNS. 8 guns 13th M.G. Coy.) C.O. - Captain Cory.
8 guns 24th M.G. Coy.)
4. At zero plus forty minutes these guns will cease operations and come under the control of C.O. 4th Aust. M.G. Battalion.
5. The 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion will prepare all positions, allot tasks, supply S.A.A. and water, but not belts.
6. Captain Cory will report to 3rd A.M.G. Bn. H.Qrs, HAMELET for detailed instructions.

[Handwritten Signature]
Lieut. & Asst. Adjt.
Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div. | 6. C.O. 4th A.M.G. Bn. |
| 2. H.Q. 9th A.I. Bde. | 7. Q.M. |
| 3. H.Q. 11th A.I. Bde. | 8-11. War Diary. |
| 4. Major Taylor, SOLA. | 12. File. |
| 5. C.O. 11th M.G. Coy. | 13. C.O. |

Appendix III

APPENDIX

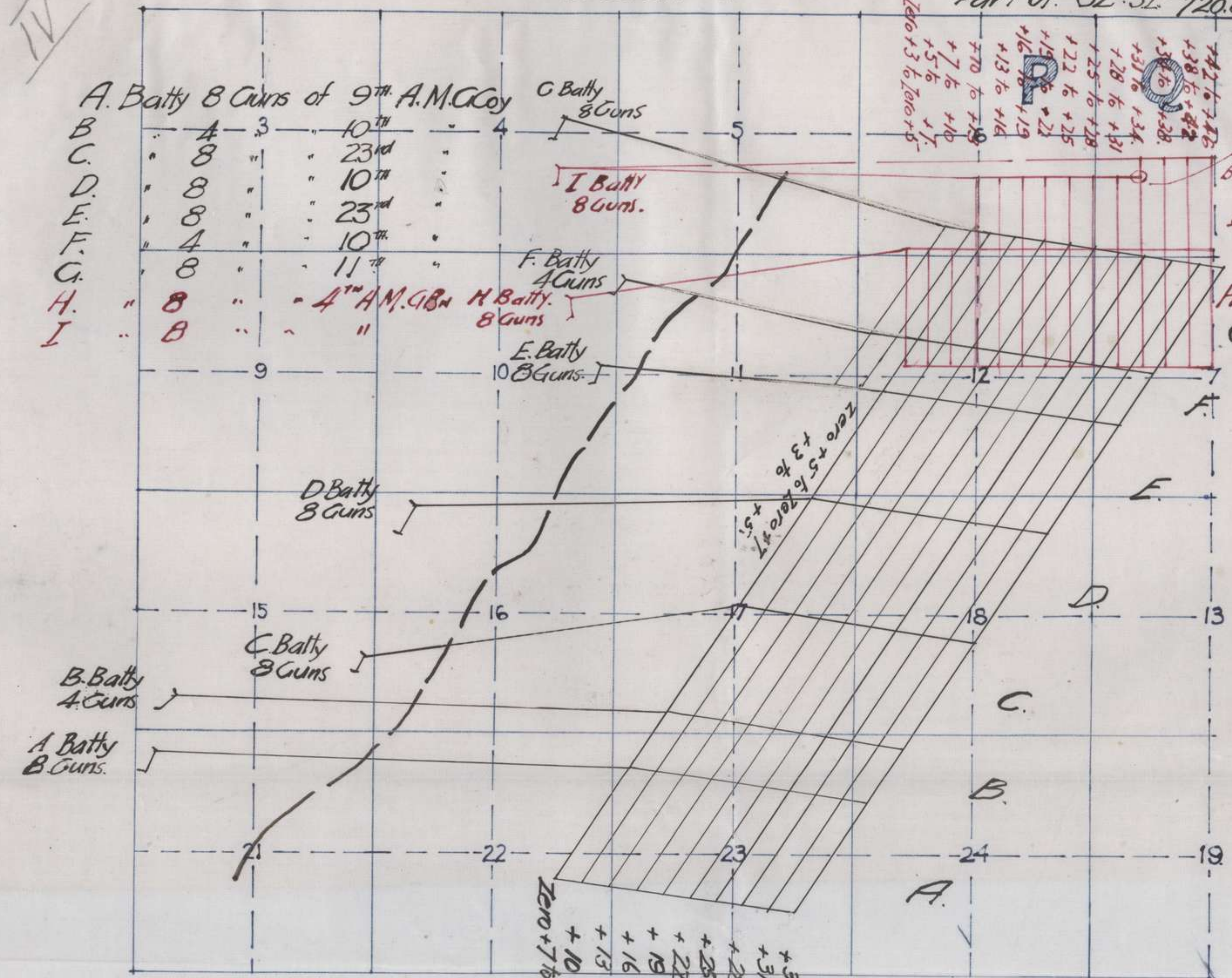
3
19

158

3rd A.M. G. Bn.
Barrage Table.

Sketch A.

Part of 62nd SE 1/20,000.



A.	Batty	8 Guns	of 9 th A.M. Coy
B.	"	4	"
C.	"	8	"
D.	"	8	"
E.	"	8	"
F.	"	4	"
G.	"	8	"
H.	"	8	"
I.	"	8	"

+42 to +46
 +38 to +42
 +34 to +38
 +31 to +34
 +28 to +31
 +25 to +28
 +22 to +25
 +19 to +22
 +16 to +19
 +13 to +16
 +10 to +13
 +7 to +10
 +5 to +7
 Zero +3 to Zero +5

+34 to +38
 +31 to +34
 +28 to +31
 +25 to +28
 +22 to +25
 +19 to +22
 +16 to +19
 +13 to +16
 +10 to +13
 Zero +7 to Zero +10

Two Guns firing on Bridge from Zero+3 to Zero+34.

Appendix IV

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 1.

Issued in Conjunction with Battalion Order No. 20.

APPENDIX

Battalion Headquarters,
5th August, 1918.

521

158

1. Casualties. Machine Gun Battalion will detail one clerk to report to Divisional Headquarters at noon on "Y" day.
Casualty slips will be collected under Divisional arrangements and forwarded to units.
2. Battle Stragglers. Battle Stragglers Posts will be located as follows:-

1st Phase	O.18.b.5.4.
	O.12.b.7.7.
	O.32.c.8.4.
	J.26.c.1.1.
2nd Phase	F.20.a.3.6.
	F.14.b.8.2.
	F. 9.b.1.7.
	F. 4.d.0.2.
	J.34.b.7.1. < J 34 d 7.3

Battle Straggler collecting Station: O. 5.d.5.7.
3. Prisoners of War Cage at O.5.d.5.3. The A.P.S. will take over prisoners of war at Brigade Headquarters, and evacuate from P.O.S. Cage to Corps Cage at H.11.b.99.
4. Medical Arrangements. The following are the dispositions:-

Walking Wounded.	Collecting Post.	Hospice.
"Y" Day.	After capture of Green Line.	After capture of Red Line.
A.D.S. O.15.a.5.7.	O.15.a.5.7.	Vicinity HARRI.
H.D.S. H. 4.c.9.2.	H. 4.c.9.2.	O.10.a.9.7.

LES ALANCONS
Divisional Collecting Station - H.4.c.9.2.
Walking Wounded will be evacuated by bus from FOUILLOY.
Motor Loading Posts :- F.13.d.1.5.
F. 3.c.2.8.
F. 8.b.2.3.

Stretcher dumps will be arranged at F.13.d.1.5. and F.3.c.2.8.
Hot drinks will be supplied at all the above medical stations.
5. Disposal of the Dead. Divisional Burials Officer - Lieut. A.M. GUNNING
3rd Aust. Pioneer Battalion, c/o Pioneer Battalion H.Qrs.
Burials will, as far as possible, be carried out in either established cemeteries or sites selected by Burials Officer as cemeteries.
Burial returns of companies will be rendered to Battalion Headquarters, daily.
6. S.A. Ammunition, Grenades, etc.

Advanced Divisional Dump	-	O. 9.b.80.25.
9th Sde. Ammunition Dump	-	F.14.central.
10th " "	-	Present line Bn. dumps.
11th " "	-	F.4.a.central.

A mobile echelon of the S.A.A. Section D.A.C. containing S.A.A., Machine Gun Ammunition, No. 36 Grenades, T.M.C., will be parked at BUSSY on Y/Z night. Urgent demands for ammunition to replenish Brigade dumps will be wired to these Headquarters.
7. Iron Rations. The 2nd iron ration to be carried on the man will be drawn from General Purpose rations in the area. The supporting rations will be collected under arrangements to be made by the Senior Supply Officer, and concentrated at O.5.d.5.7.

P. T. O.

Appendix V

22-17A 5

8. Water. The following allotment of water tins has been made, and the Senior Supply Officer will arrange issue:-

3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion 140.

One extra Water Cart has been allotted to this Battalion and C.M. will be advised when and where it may be drawn.

Forward Water Points are at O.15.d.6.8. - 8000 gal. Tank.

O. 8.d.0.5. - 8000 gal. Tank.

A further point will be established at O.17.a.0.8.

To provide for the opening up of wells and Officer and party of tunnellers are allotted to this Division, and will work under the C.R.E.

As soon as the party has located a well and opened it up they will mark it "NOT TESTED". These wells will then be tested under medical arrangements, and the above sign removed, and signs:-

UNFIT FOR USE	or	FIT FOR USE -
		With Scoops.

as the case may be, put up.

In the event of necessity arising for the use of water from the River, it should be borne in mind that the water from the peat lagoons is 55% purer than the canal.

9. Divisional Salvage Dump will be situated at HAMELET.

10. Veterinary. Mobile Veterinary Section - Bussy.
Veterinary First Aid Post - FOUILLOX.

11. Roads. For Horse Transport - Road running through O.11.a. - O.12.a. - P.1.2.3.4. c and d. and road from HAMEL to SAUFVILLER ABANCOURT. Road from HAMEL - VILLERS ENTONNEUX. Motor transport roads will not be used by H.T. Where there is no distinct H.T. road a parallel H.T. track will be formed. Roads will be marked by notice boards:-



12. Sanitation. Company Commanders will take steps to ensure that adequate sanitary arrangements are immediately made on occupying a forward position and that steps are taken to provide the necessary appliances before any fouling of the ground occurs. Sanitary appliances will be held in, and issued from R.E. dumps. Chloride of lime may be obtained from Prisoners of War Camp O.5.d.5.8.

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut. & Asst. Adjt.

Third Australian Machine Gun Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION:

- All recipients of Battalion Order No. 20.
- Transport Officers.
- Liaison Officers.

V Appendix A

158

APPENDIX

6 23.

VI
Headquarters,
3rd Aust. Division.

3RD AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
BATTALION.

No. BN/817

Date 5-8-18.

Reference Water Supply.

Ref. your Q.186/286 of 5th instant. Arrangements have been made for water carts to go forward to HAMELET, and fill up at our present Headquarters at O.6.b.central, where there is a good well, and water has been tested.

From HAMELET the water carts go forward and refill into petrol tins at our forward dump at P.4.c.5.5. From this point water is carried forward and, if necessary, pack animals will be used.

(Sgd.) A.C. BLACKLOW, Lieut-Colonel.
C.O. 3rd Australian Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix VI

Special Instructions to Transport Officers.

1. The following pack animals will be ready at Zero plus forty minutes to move forward with guns. Transport Officers to arrange with Company Commanders for guides etc.

9th M.G.Coy.	-	8 pack mules.
23rd M.G.Coy.	-	16 pack mules.
11th M.G.Coy.	-	8 pack mules.
2. Transport Officers will keep closest possible touch with Battalion Headquarters for all subsequent movements as required by Companies, and will be ready at the shortest possible notice to go forward.

Cookers and water carts will be prepared to go forward at Zero plus four hours if the situation allows.
3. ROUTES. Transport Officers will study the routes available for vehicle and pack transport, and instruct all drivers in same. Great care should be taken in this respect to prevent congestion (See Administrative Instruction No. 1)

7-8-18.

(Sgd.) T.L. HUXTABLE. Lieut.
Asst. Adjutant,
3rd Australian Machine Gun Battalion

Appendix VII



The following is a summary of the work of the 3rd A.S.G.Bn. during the recent operations, from the time that the Artillery barrage opened at 4.20 a.m. on 8-8-18 until the Division was relieved by the 17th Division, B.A.F. on the night 18/13 August.

The operation was divided into three phases:-

1. The attack on, and the consolidation of the green line.
2. Fresh troops moving through the green line into open warfare and capturing the blue line.
3. The exploitation of the success so gained.

Phase 1, from a machine gunner's point of view, may be further divided into two sub-phases as follows:-

- (a) The putting down of a machine gun barrage, with the majority of the available guns whilst 16 guns accompanied the advancing Infantry to assist them in their advance if necessary, and to give immediate assistance in the consolidation of the green line.
- (b) The barrage, with the exception of 16 guns of the 10th Company moving forward to organise the defence of the green line.

PHASE 1. The dispositions at Zero were as follows:-

Barrage Guns. 9th Coy. 3 guns.
10th Coy. 16 guns.
11th Coy. 8 guns.
23rd Coy. 16 guns.
4th M.G.Bn. 16 guns.

the whole distributed in 9 batteries.

Opportunity Guns. 9th Coy. 3 guns.
11th Coy. 8 guns.

These guns were drawn up in rear of their respective Brigades ready to advance with the Infantry. Opportunity guns got well away at Zero (4.20 a.m.) but experienced some difficulty in keeping direction owing to the thickness of the fog. Little resistance was encountered except by the 9th Coy. just N.E. of AGCROCHE Wood, where one section of this Coy. encountered two machine gun nests. Two N.C.O.'s of this section, Sgt. Walsh and Cpl. Polyp, rushed these nests and silenced them with bombs. Four light machine guns and a number of the crews were captured. A short distance further on this section captured an anti-tank gun. All the opportunity guns reached the green line safely and immediately were placed in positions of defence. During the advance two heavy machine guns were also captured by the 9th Coy.

Barrage Guns opened fire at Zero plus 5 on the left and at Zero plus 7 on the remainder of the front. This 7 minutes was to allow the Infantry to get clear. The barrage continued at the rate of 120 rounds per minute until Zero plus 48 at which time the guns prepared to move forward. For the move forward each gun team had one pack mule.

The 10th Coy's guns remained in their position for defence of our old line. 8 guns from each of the 9th and 11th Coys. moved forward to their respective Brigades and the 23rd Coy., 8 guns to each of the 9th and 11th Brigades. The guns of the 23rd Coy. moved to a central position in the line so that the defence could be organised in depth on a three-company frontage. The forward move was carried out according to plan and the defence of the green line put into operation.

PHASE 2.

At Zero plus four hours the 4th Division passed through the 3rd Division on the green line, and moved forward towards their objective. The re-organisation of the 3rd Division was then carried out.

Each of the 9th, 10th, and 11th Companies ~~was~~ came under the command of its affiliated Brigade, and the 23rd Company became Divisional Reserve concentrating at 10.30 p.m. near Forward Battalion Headquarters, in P.I.d.

PHASE 2. (Continued)

The 10th Coy. about 5.30 p.m. moved forward into the gully in P.24.d.

PHASE 3.

On the night of the 10/11th August the 3rd M.G.Bn. relieved the 4th M.G.Bn. in the front system of trenches. The 23rd M.G.Coy. moved forward to a reserve position in Q.20.d. During the night the 10th Brigade attempted an encircling movement round PROYART by moving along the main AMIENS Road, and then turning North. The 10th M.G.Coy. was to assist in this movement with four guns attached to the 37th Battalion, two guns to the 38th Bn. two to the 40th Bn. and 8 guns in reserve. Limbers were used as far as railway dump in R.25.d. and from there the forward guns used pack transport, and the reserve sections carried their gear.

The advance was stopped by shelling and machine gun fire, and bombing from enemy aircraft, and a defensive flank was formed in the vicinity of LA PLAQUE. The four guns which were attached to the 38th and 40th Bns. took up positions in R.21.c., R.27. a & c. These positions were selected by Lieuts. Martin and Coatts under very heavy shell and machine gun fire, and enabled the guns to cross fire and give close support to the infantry. The four guns attached to the 37th Battalion had, in the meantime, returned with that Battalion to the system of trenches in R.25.c. When this Battalion moved forward again the C.O. decided not to take the guns forward with him and they remained in the positions they had taken up. The 8 reserve guns had taken up positions in the system of trenches in R.30.d. Two of the forward guns were knocked out during the operation and these were replaced by sending two of the reserve guns forward.

The 10th M.G.Coy. remained in these positions until they were withdrawn from the line on the night 12/13 August. On the 11th August at 5.50 p.m. the 23rd M.G.Coy. moved forward to form a line of defence on the ridge in Q.17, Q.23, and Q.30. 8 of this Coy's guns on the same evening were used to assist an advance of the 11th Brigade on the left of the Divisional Sector. These guns put down a barrage from 8.30 to 9.15 p.m. and then withdrew to their positions as taken up earlier in the evening. This operation was also assisted by a barrage from the 11th Coy. guns. On the conclusion of the operation 4 of the 11th Coy. guns moved forward into the new line.

12-8-18. Forward Battalion Headquarters established **BORCOURT.**

On the afternoon of the 12th August the line was carried forward in front of PROYART. This movement was supported by direct fire from some of the 9th Coy. guns.

One gun from the 11th Coy. went forward on to this line with the infantry and in the evening 5 more of the Coy's guns moved forward. The positions these guns had vacated were filled by moving forward 8 guns of the 23rd Coy.

On the night 12/13th the 3rd M.G.Bn. was relieved by the 17th M.G.Bn. B.E.F. The Battalion was then concentrated in P.4. and 5.

Relief was carried out with only two slight casualties although enemy aircraft were active bombing.

Forward Battalion H.Q. was withdrawn on the morning of the 13th August.

Casualties for the operation were as follows:-

	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
9th M.G.Coy.	-	1	-	9	-	1	-	11
10th "	-	1	-	11	-	3	-	15
11th "	-	3	1	13	-	-	1	16
23rd "	-	1	1 [Ⓢ]	5	-	2	1	8
	-	6	2	38	-	6	2	50

[Ⓢ] Wounded, believed killed.

1.
WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SUMMARY.</u></p> <p>The following points were brought out during the operation:-</p> <p><u>1. The value of establishing a forward Battalion Command Post as far forward as possible.</u> Prior to the operation Forward Battalion Command Post was established in our front line system, and this enabled the whole of the machine guns to be closely supervised by Battalion before and during the first phase, and also for reports to be gathered and forwarded immediately.</p> <p><u>2. Signal Communications.</u> These were excellent. Forward Battalion was in constant communication by telephone both with Rear Battalion and to the Barrage Groups. After the move forward communication was established with the different Companies through their respective Brigades. This system worked well and rapidly, except that as the lines had to be laid overland they were often cut by the amount of transport and other traffic across the open. These were quickly repaired.</p> <p><u>3. Reconnaissance.</u> As soon as the green lines consolidated Officers went forward in batches and thoroughly reconnoitred the area between the green and the blue lines. The value of this was emphasized when it was necessary to move forward to take over the blue line. Companies were able to move immediately and by the shortest routes.</p> <p><u>4. Transport for the Commanding Officer.</u> In order that the Battalion Commander could exercise personal supervision and control over the Battalion it was necessary that he should visit the Companies sometimes often as twice a day. As horses are the only means of transport at present available, this meant that it was necessary to use as many as three horses in one single day, and these would be thoroughly exhausted and almost unfit for work on the following day. In the event of our breaking out into open warfare, and consequently long distances, it will be absolutely necessary that the Battalion Commander should be provided with some kind of <u>motor transport</u> if he is to exercise any personal control at all over the different Companies.</p> <p><u>5. Transport.</u></p> <p>For the forward movement of guns it was found that one pack mule per gun team is scarcely</p>	

APPENDIX
827

2.
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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

158

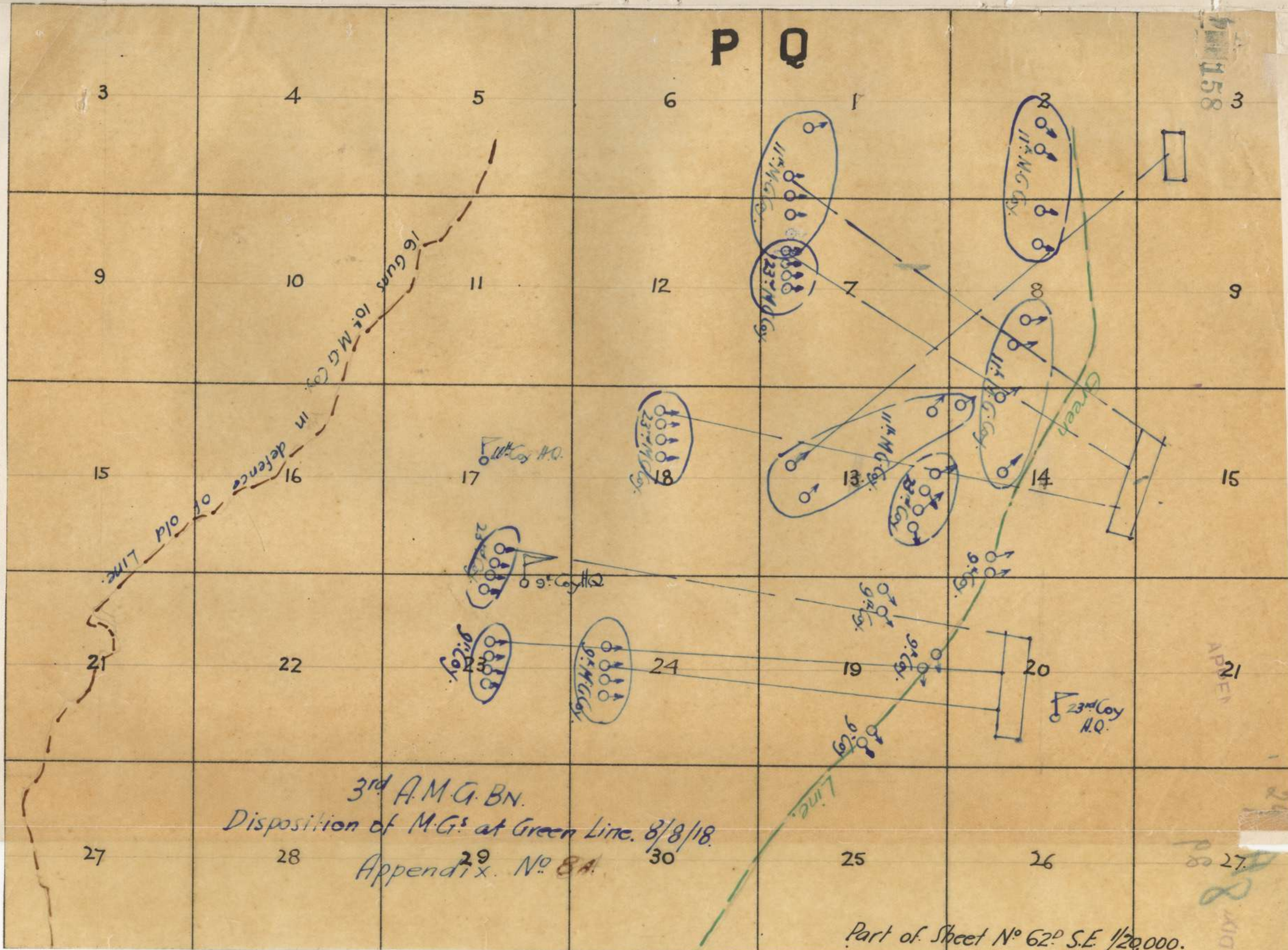
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>5. Transport (Continued)</u></p> <p>sufficient. In rough country pack transport is quite satisfactory but two mules per gun team are required. In open country, and where the advance is on a fairly large scale, wheel transport can be used quite well. The front half of a U.S. limbered wagon would be the most suitable. The reason for using only one pack mule per gun was to keep down casualties among mules, and for the short distances a return journey was easily made.</p> <p><u>6. Ammunition Supply.</u></p> <p>This is one of the most difficult problems of all. The plan adopted by this Battalion of forming a dump containing ammunition, water, sandbags, etc. as close to the jumping-off place as possible proved to be very effective. This minimised the distance that ammunition and supplies had to be carried, and consequently effected a great saving in man power and transport. After the advance it is essential that further dumps should be formed as far forward as it was possible to get.</p> <p><u>7. Barrage Slits.</u></p> <p>The barrage guns were provided with the ordinary barrage slit, i.e. the gun just slightly dug in in the open with narrow slits for Nos. 1 and 2. Their value is proved by the fact that there were no casualties amongst the personnel of the gun teams, although they had to remain in the enemy's barrage zone for 48 minutes after the advance, firing continually; only one gun was put out of action, due to a bullet striking the muzzle attachment. This gun was immediately replaced from forward store.</p> <p><u>8. Relief.</u></p> <p>If possible, relief should be carried out piece-meal by daylight. This is especially necessary now that six enemy aircraft are so active bombing roads and approaches.</p> <p><u>9. General.</u> Everything in the operation was carried out according to the arrangements made, without hitch, and to time-table.</p>	

Lieut-Colonel,

APPENDIX

8

28



3rd A.M.G. BN.
 Disposition of M.G.s at Green Line. 8/8/18.
 Appendix. No. 8A.

Part of Sheet No 62° S.E. 1/20,000.

158

APPEN

27

Scale of 1 inch = 25000'

88
2054
6/29

P O

Appendix No 4
30
9/8/18
Distribution of W.C. & other things
A.M.C.B. & A.M.C.B. & C

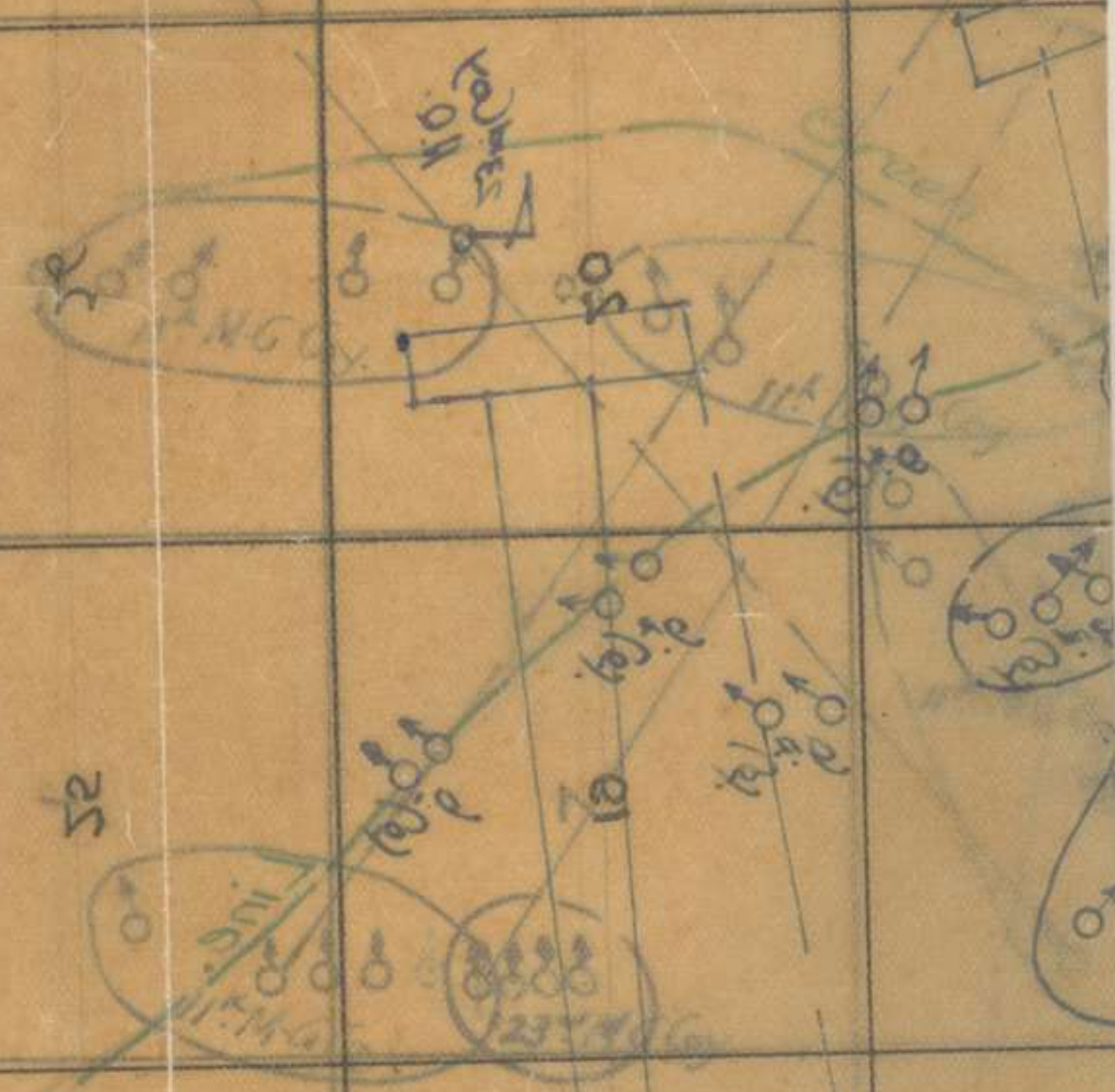
4
58

3
57

16 Guns
104 M.G.

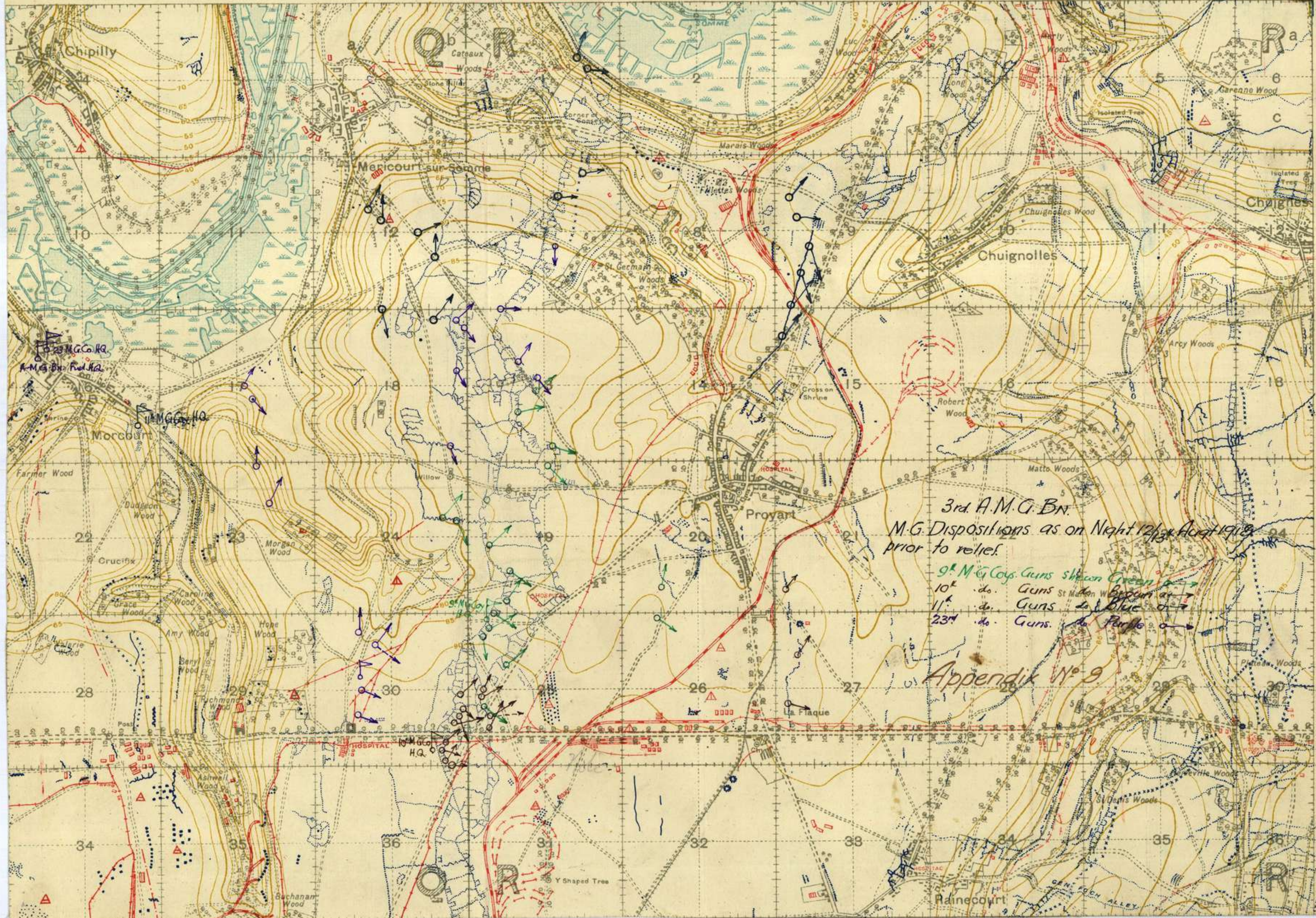
10
55

610
70
LINK



IX

The congestion of the lines as shown here was due to the failure of the 10th Bde to be supplied on the night 10/11 August.



3rd A.M.G. Bn.
 M.G. Dispositions as on Night 12/13 August 1918
 prior to relief.

- 9th M.G. Coy. Guns Shanon Green
- 10th do. Guns St Michel Wood
- 11th do. Guns La Blue
- 23rd do. Guns La Ferle

Appendix No 9

APPENDIX 930

Third Australian Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 21.

Copy No.....

SECRET.

Battalion Headquarters,
11th August, 1918.

Ref. Map: FRANCE.

1. The following dispositions will be taken up forthwith, and Battalion Headquarters notified when move is complete.
2. The 23rd M.G. Company will move to-day (11-8-18) and take up a position of defence on spur from main AMIENS ^{Road} to River SOMME, as per sketch attached.
3. This will relieve four guns of the 11th M.G. Coy. which will be prepared to move forward to defensive position if the G.O.C. 11th A.I. Brigade so desires.
4. Transport Lines and "B" Echelon for all Companies will be in the vicinity of P.4.b, and P.5.a. *not later than 12/8/18*
5. Full advantage will be taken of the river banks for the protection of animals.
6. Forward Battalion Headquarters will be established to-morrow opposite Church at MORCOURT.

acknowledge

DISTRIBUTION: P.T.O.

Lieut. & Actg. Adjt.
Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

- 1 Hqrs 3rd AUST DIV.
- 2 Hqrs 9th A.I. BDE.
- 3 Hqrs 10th A.I. BDE
- 4 Hqrs 11th A.I. BDE.

Appendix X

- 5 66 9th m g Coy.
- 6 " 10th " " "
- 7 " 11th " " "
- 8 " 23rd " " "
- 9 S.M.
- 10 Signal officer
- 11 War diary
- 15 File

APPENDIX. 31

10

SECRET.

Copy No. 12

XA

3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 22.
Battalion Headquarters,
12th August, 1918.

Ref. Rep. FRANCK, Sh. 62, D. S.E. 1/20000.

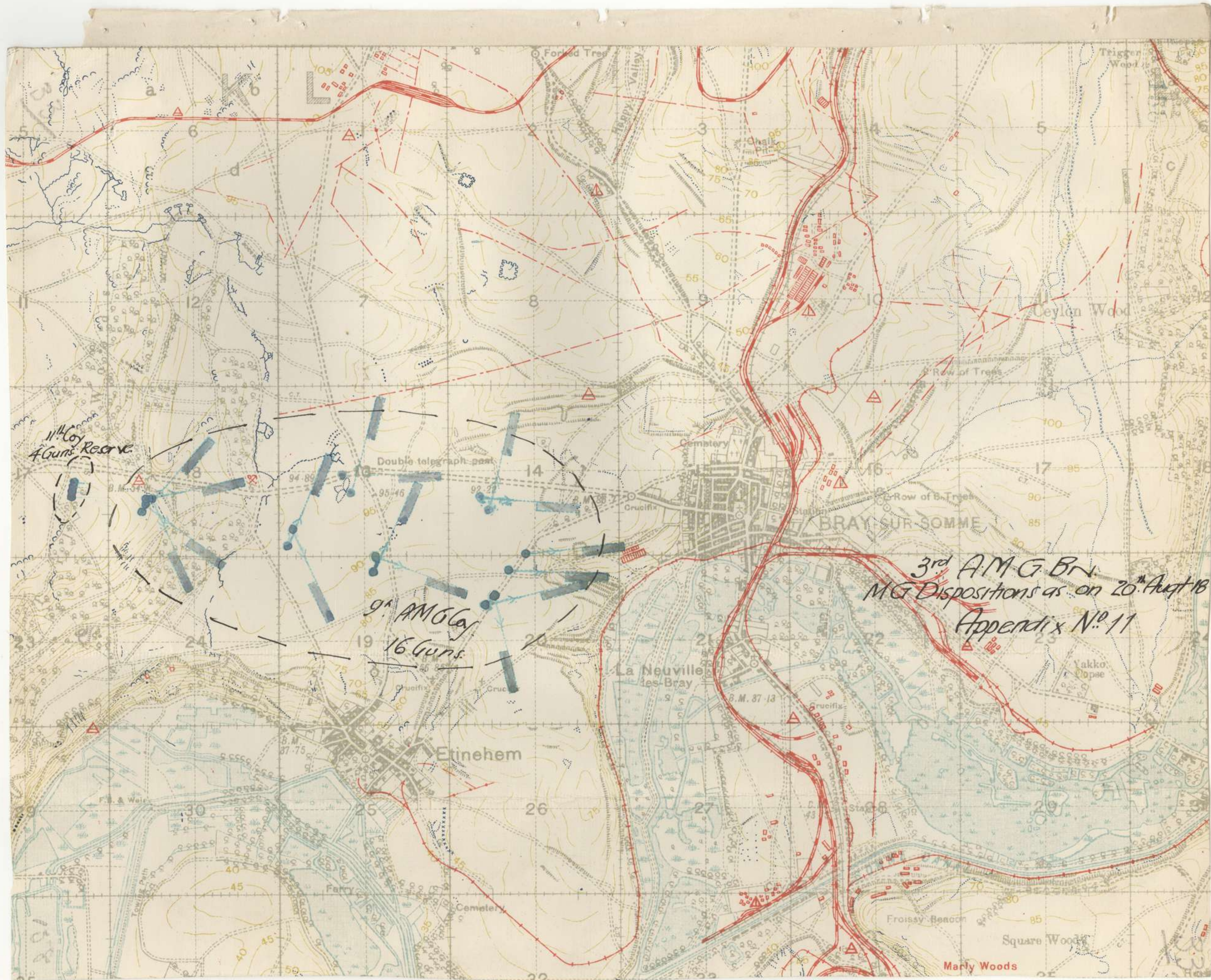
1. The 17th Division, B.E.F., will relieve the 3rd Aust. Division in the line on the night 12th/13th August, 1918.
2. The 17th Machine Gun Battalion will relieve the 3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.
3. On relief all Companies will move back to present transport lines at P.4.b.
4. "A" Coy. 17th M.G. Bn. will relieve the Right Sector, "B" Coy. the Left Sector; "D" Coy. will relieve the 23rd A.M.G. Coy. "C" Coy. 17th M.G. Bn. will move to a reserve position in rear of VAIRE wood with reserve Brigade.
The 10th A.M.G. Coy. will move back independent of relief at 8 p.m. 12-8-18.
5. Nos. 1 and also Nos. 2 if necessary, of each gun team, will remain at gun positions until the morning of the 13th inst. when they will move back.
6. GUIDES will meet incoming units at Forward Battalion Headquarters MORCOURT, at 7 p.m. 12-8-18.
7. STORES. All Stores, Dumps, Signal Rockets etc. will be handed over on completion of relief.
8. Battalion Headquarters will remain at HAMELET.
9. Divisional Headquarters will move to BUSY-les-DAOURS.
10. On completion of relief the code word "DONKS" will be wired to these Headquarters, and also to respective Brigade headquarters.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

DISTRIBUTION: P.T.O.

L. J. ...
Lient.
Acting Adjutant,

3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XA



APPENDIX

1133.

Ref. Map. Sh. 62, D N.E. 1/20000.

1. The 3rd Corps B.E.F. will carry out an attack to the north of the SOMME.
2. The 141st and 142nd Bdes. will be on the Aust. Corps left flank.
3. 1/2 day and Zero hour will be notified later.
4. The 3rd Aust. Division will co-operate in the attack with two battalions of the 9th A.I. Bde.
5. The 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion will assist in the attack by barraging certain localities known to be occupied or used by the enemy.
6. The 10th, 23rd, and 2 sections of the 11th M.G. Coys will move to billets in BRINKHAM and vicinity on night 20/21 Aug.
7. All movements must take place at night and every precaution taken against observation by the enemy.
8. Guns and Tasks.
 - (a) 23rd M.G. Coy. will take up a position in the vicinity of L.20.b.
 First Task - 8 guns to barrage HAPPY VALLEY and 8 guns on enemy defences at L.3.c. and d.
 Second Task - 16 guns to barrage on L.10.b. and d. and L.11.a.
 - (b) 10th M.G. Coy. will be in position at ~~BRINKHAM~~ L.19.b.
 First Task - 8 guns to barrage roads and vicinity L.9.a. 8 guns to fire on roads and enemy works at L.9.c. & d. and L.15.b.
 Second Task - 8 guns on road and enemy works in the vicinity L.10.d. and L.11.c. 8 guns on road and enemy works at L.16.a. and b.
 - (c) 11th M.G. Coy. (less 2 sections)
 First task - 8 guns to ~~barrage~~ barrage vicinity of LA NEUVILLE and Southern approaches to BRAY.
 Second Task - above guns to fire on locality L.16.c. & d. One section will be in position at L.16.c. and barrage enemy strong point at L.8.a.
 One section will be in reserve at L.31.b. & c.
 - (d) 9th M.G. Coy.
 One section will be attached to left flank battalion of the 9th A.I. Bde. and will go forward with the attack and take up the following positions with a view to forming a defensive flank:-
 2 guns at L.8.b. central.
 2 guns at L.9.b.10.90.
 One section will be in position at L.19.a. and will barrage enemy strong point in L.8.a.
 All remaining guns of the above Coy. now in defensive positions will barrage the "western approaches" to BRAY in the vicinity of L.15.c.
 - (e) Rate of Fire and time that each locality will be barraged will be governed by the Artillery barrage. Map showing this will be issued later.
9. The advance of the 9th A.I. Bde. will be governed entirely by the success of the troops on their left flank.
10. Transport will remain at their present position.
11. Regimental Aid Post will be established in BRINKHAM on the night 20/21 August.
12. Synchronisation watches will be synchronised at Battalion Command Post on 1/2 night at 8 p.m.
13. Dump. S.A.A. dump will be formed in CHIFFLY at Junction of roads Q.4.a.50.50.
14. Liaison 11th M.G. Coy. will send a liaison Officer to H.Q. 9th A.I. Bde. on 1/2 night.
15. Communication. Signal Communication will be established between BRINKHAM and H.Q.
16. Reports to Captain H.A. Whitchard at Battalion Command Post, BRINKHAM thence to H.Q. SAILLY-le-SEC
17. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Appendix XI A

J. H. ...
Lieut. & Adj.

DISTRIBUTION.

- 1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div.
- 2. H.Q. 9th A.I. Bde.
- 3. H.Q. 10th A.I. Bde.
- 4. H.Q. 11th A.I. Bde.
- 5. C.R.A.
- 6. O.C. 9th M.G. Coy.
- 7. O.C. 10th M.G. Coy.
- 8. O.C. 11th M.G. Coy.
- 9. O.C. 23rd M.G. Coy.
- 10. G.M.
- 11. Signal Officer.
- 12. R.M.O.
- 13-16 War Diary.
- 17. File.

Appendix XIX

36

Date
Signature

of the
to
of the

NOTE: (1) - This map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (2) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (3) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (4) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (5) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (6) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (7) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (8) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (9) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose. (10) - The map is a reproduction of the original map on a scale of 1:20,000. It is not to be used for any other purpose.



Handwritten notes and scribbles in the left margin.

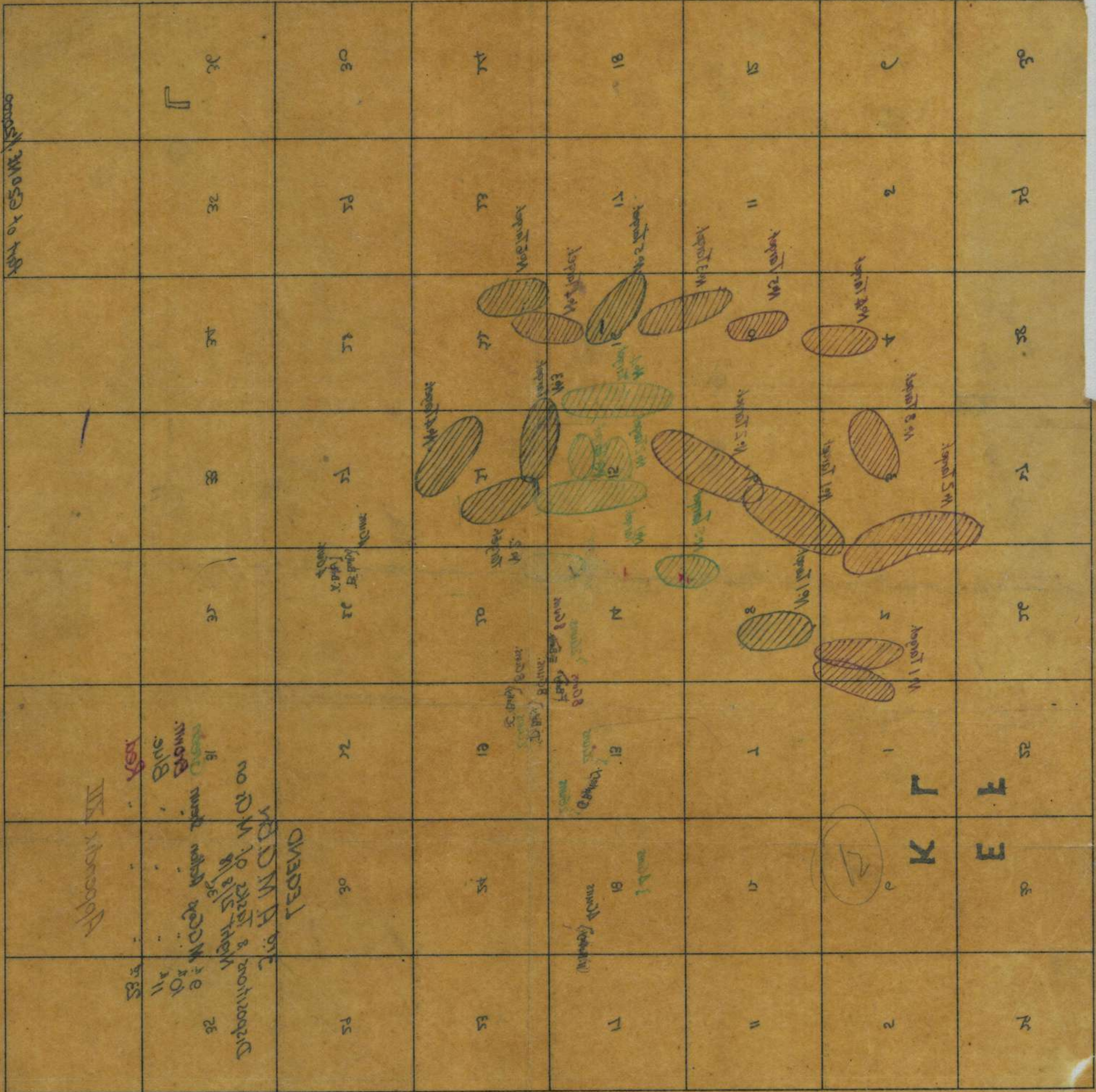
AWM 4
24/3/16

Vertical text on the right edge of the map.

Handwritten notes on the right margin.

36

Identification Trace for use with Artillery Maps.



NOTE.—(1). These traces are intended to facilitate the communication of information as to the position of targets, which have been located on a squared map.
 (2). The squares on this trace are 800 yards in length on the 1/10,000 scale, 1,000 yards in length on the 1/20,000 scale, and 2,000 yards in length on the 1/40,000 scale.
 (3). The squares on the trace are fitted to the squares of the map showing the targets, which are then drawn on the trace. Sufficient letters and numbers must also be added to enable the recipient to place the trace in the correct position on his own map. A little detail may also be traced, but this is not essential. The name and scale of the map to which the trace refers must be always given. The trace can be used for the 1/10,000, 1/20,000, or 1/40,000 scale.

Tracing taken from Sheet.....
 of the 1:..... map of.....
 Signature..... Date.....

G.S.G.S. 3023.

7/1/30

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page.

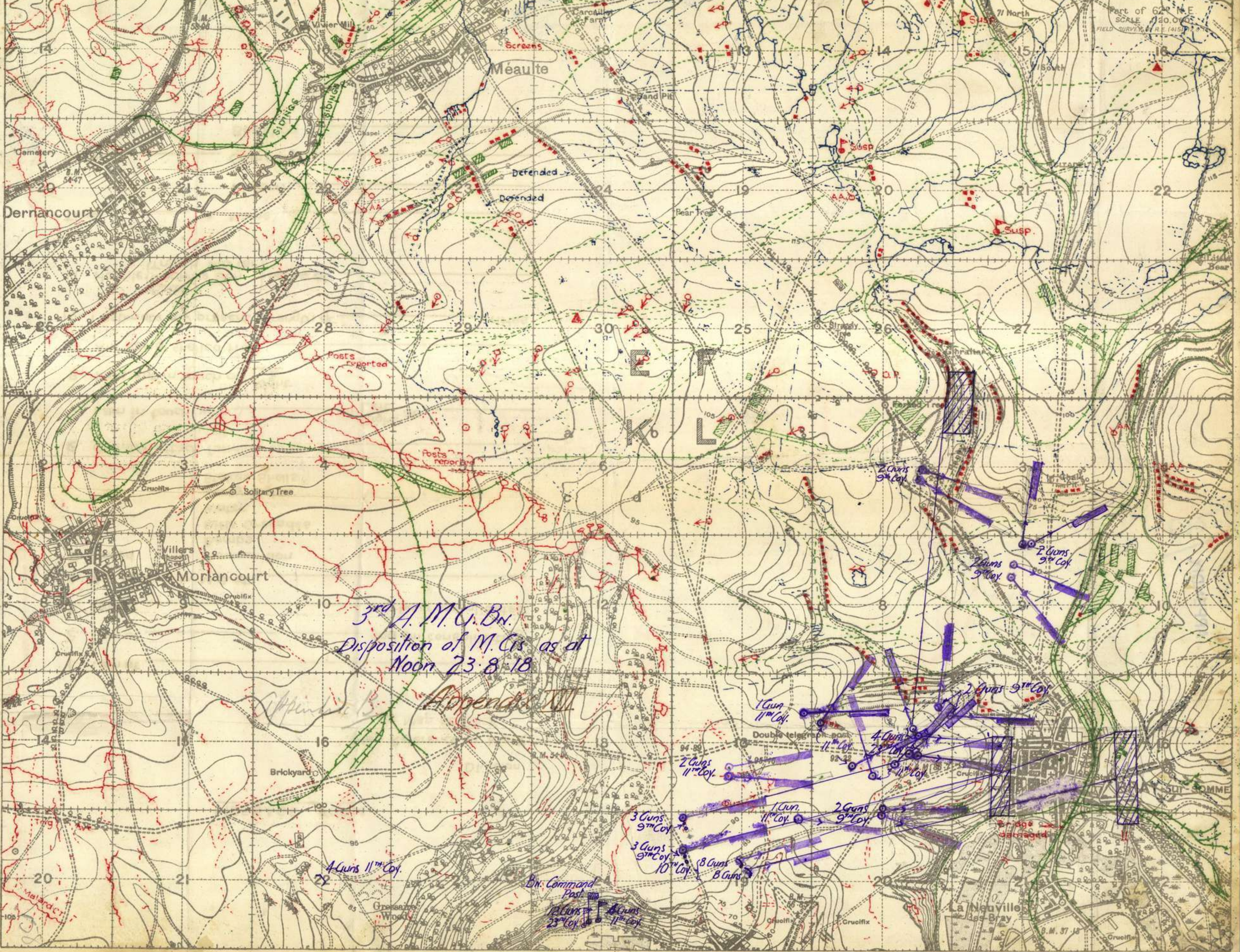
28

HQ. = CP. = Dugout. =
 MG. = TM. = C
 Railways Normal. + Old British Huts
 Light - Enemy Tracks - - - Groups of shallow posts

13

TRENCHES CORRECTED TO 18.8.18.

C.T.S. N°(117)



3rd A.M.G. Bn.
 Disposition of M. Cts as at
 Noon 23.8.18

Appendix III

MESSAGE FORM.

Division
Map Reference or Mark
on Map at Back.

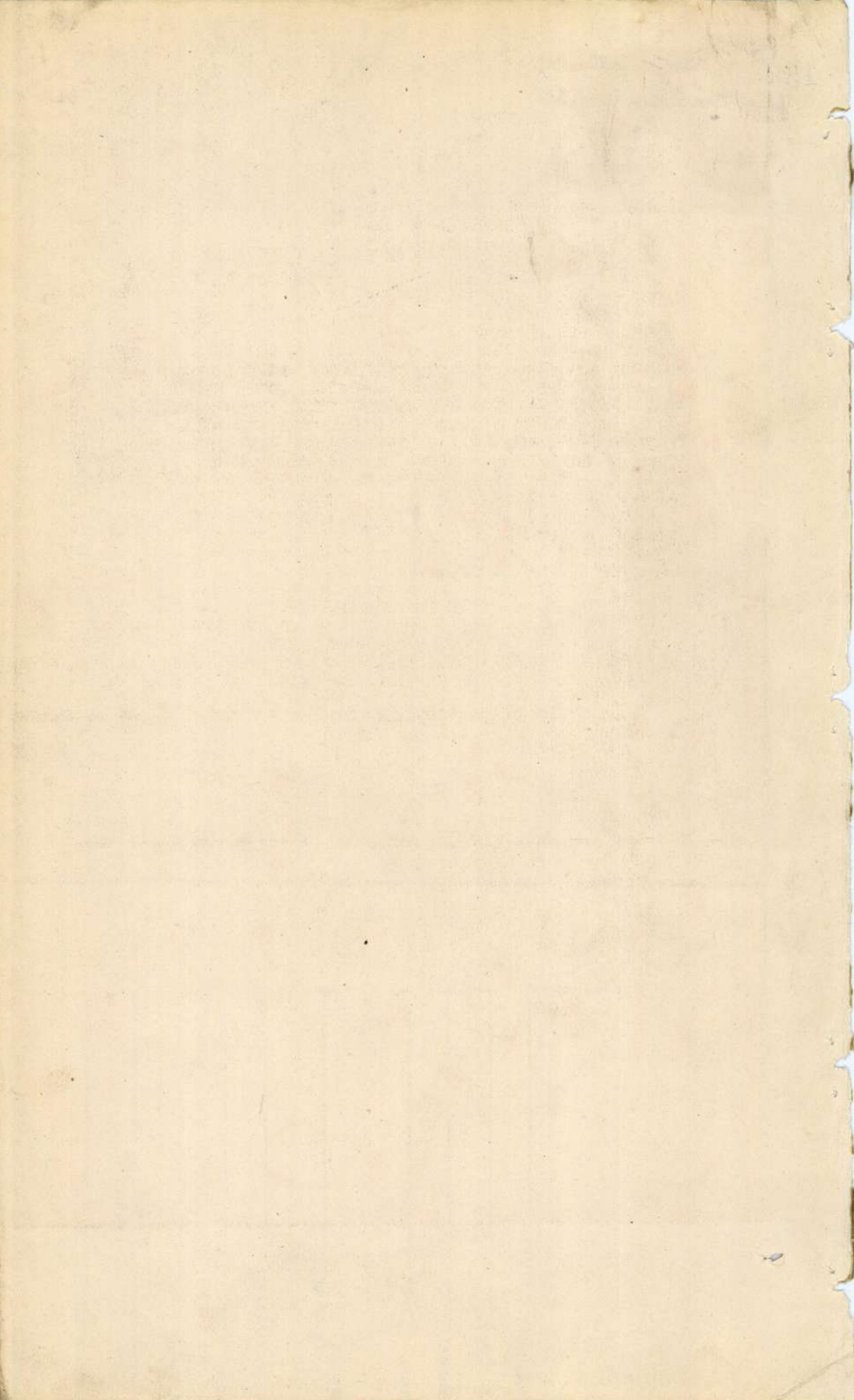
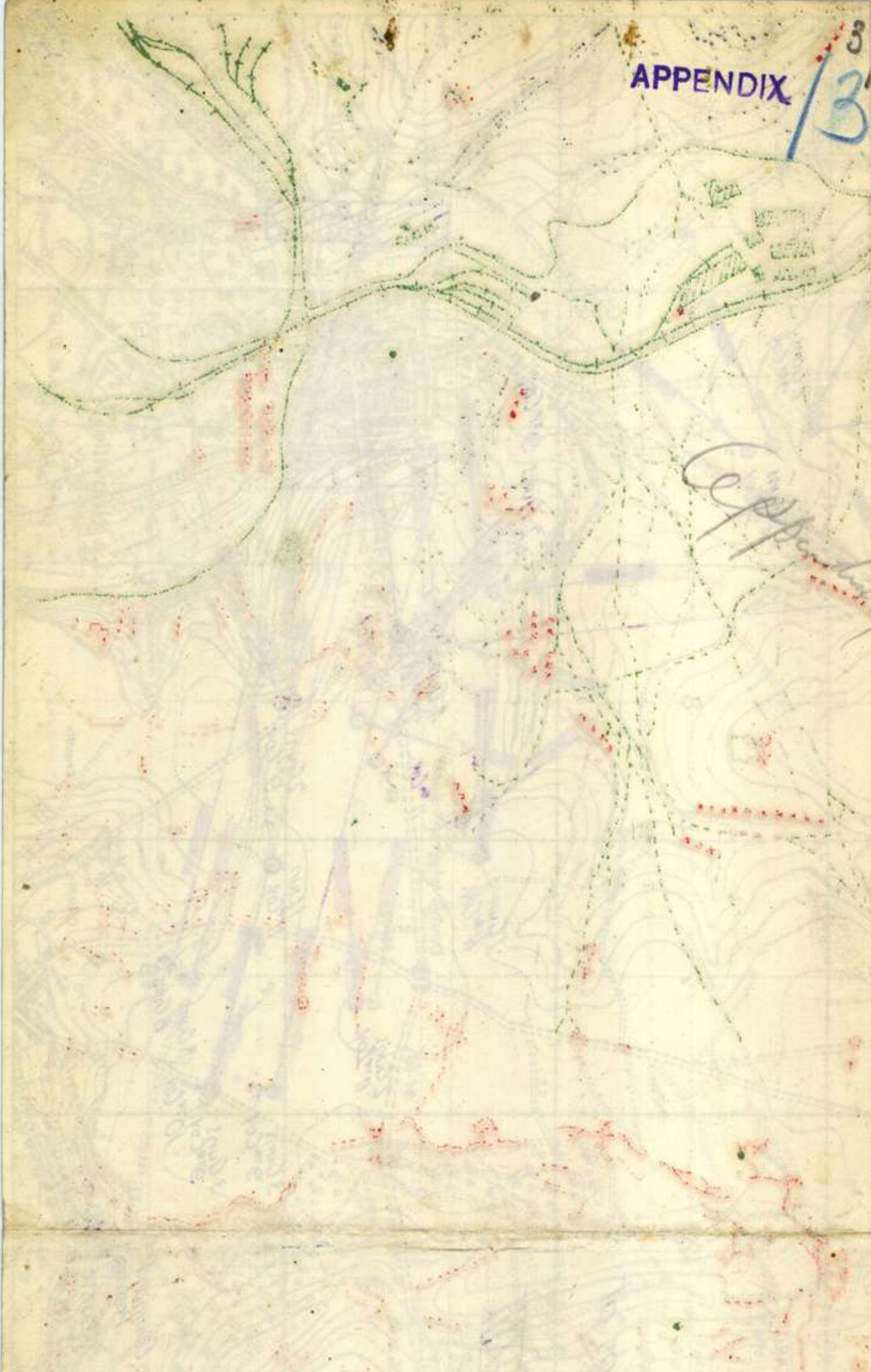
- 1. I am at _____ and am consolidating
- 2. I am at _____ and have consolidated
- 3. I am at _____

- 4. Am held up by M.G. at _____
- 5. I need _____
 Ammunition
 Bombs
 Rifle Grenades
 Water
 Vere
 Stok

- 6. Counter-attack form _____
- 7. I am in touch with _____
- 8. I am not in touch with _____
- 9. Am being shelled from _____
- 10. I estimate my present position _____
- 11. Hostile _____
 Battery
 Machine Gun
 Trench Mortar

Time _____ m N P C E

Date _____



Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 24.

Battalion Headquarters,
23rd August, 1918.

Ref. Map. 52.D. N.A. 1/20000.

1. The 40th Battalion, 10th A.I. Brigade, will attack and occupy BRAY at 1 a.m. on the 24th August.
2. The 47th Division, B.M.F. on the left will attack and regain the original green line.
3. On the night 23/24 August, the 10th A.I. Bde. will relieve the 9th A.I. Bde., less Pioneer Battalion, in the forward sector, with two battalions in the line.
4. The 3rd Aust. Pioneer Battalion will hold the right sector of the front line from the Grid Line between L.14. and L.20. Southwards.
5. Forming-up line, artillery start line, and objectives, are shown on attached map.
6. An artillery barrage will open on the Western edge of the village and after five minutes will creep forward through the village at the rate of 100 yards per three minutes.
7. The 10th Machine Gun Company will conform to the limits of the artillery barrage on the flanks and will put down a barrage 500 yards East of the jumping off line. After five minutes the barrage will lift 200 yards every six minutes up to the final objective, when a protective barrage will be placed from L.17.a.00.00 to L.17.c.50.50.
8. The 23rd M.G. Company will barrage selected targets conforming to the lifts of the artillery barrage. When the objective is gained a protective barrage will be placed from L.17.c.50.50 to L.23.c.0.0.
9. Tasks - as per attached map.
10. Rate of Fire - 120 rounds per minute.
11. The 9th M.G. Company will remain in its present position of defence.
12. The 11th M.G. Company will be in reserve in the VALLEY R.24.d
13. Mission. 2/Lieut. L.R.A. Chambers will report to C.O.C. 10th A.I. Brigade.
14. Synchronisation. Watches will be synchronised at Battalion Command Post at 7 p.m. to-night.
15. Reports. - to Captain Whitehead at Br. Command Post, L.24.d.5.

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| * 1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div. | 3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion. |
| 2. H.Q. 9th A.I. Bde. | |
| * 3. H.Q. 10th A.I. Bde. | |
| 4. H.Q. 11th A.I. Bde. * | 9. Captain Whitehead. |
| 5. C.O. 9th M.G. Coy. | 10. C.M. |
| 6. C.O. 10th M.G. Coy. | 11. Signal Officer. |
| 7. C.O. 11th M.G. Coy. | 12-15. War Diary. |
| 8. C.O. 23rd M.G. Coy. | 16. File. |

* 17 4 etc

* maps attached

Appendix XIV

SECRET.

Copy No... 13....

Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 25.Battalion Headquarters,
24th August, 1918

1. The 3rd Aust. Division will advance and capture the ridge East of BRAY on the morning of the 25th August at 2.30 a.m.
2. The attack will be carried out on a two-brigade front, 10th A.I. Brigade on the right, 11th A.I. Brigade on the left. The 175th Brigade, S.M.F. will attack on the left flank of the Division.
3. The attacking infantry will be assembled on the jumping-off line one hour before Zero.
4. A portion of the battalion in support of the 10th A.I. Bde will mop up the ground between the right flank of the attack and the river SOMME.
5. The advance will be carried out without a halt under an artillery barrage which will remain for four minutes on the artillery start line. It will then move forward at the rate of 100 yards every four minutes.
6. Machine Gun Tasks.
 - (a) 9th M.G. Coy. will remain in its present position of defence, and will co-operate by placing a barrage in the valley on F.28.d. central, by all available guns and will conform to the artillery barrage.
 - (b) 10th and 23rd M.G. Coys. will co-operate in the attack by barraging special localities known to be occupied by the enemy. For tasks see special map attached.
 - (c) 11th M.G. Coy. will be in a position of readiness just North of ETINHAM at L.19.d. At Zero the company will move forward with the attack and take up a position of defence on the 11th A.I. Bde. front to protect the consolidation. For probable dispositions see attached map.
7. Reports to Captain Whitehead at Battalion Command Post K.24.d.5.4.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div.
2. H.Q. 9th Inf. Bde.
3. H.Q. 10th Inf. Bde.
4. H.Q. 11th Inf. Bde.
5. O.C. 9th M.G. Coy.
6. O.C. 10th M.G. Coy.
7. O.C. 11th M.G. Coy.
8. O.C. 23rd M.G. Coy.

[Signature]
Lieut.
Asst. Adjt.
3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion.

9. Capt. Whitehead.
10. Q.M.
11. Signal Officer.
- 12-15 War Diary.
16. File.

Appendix XV

App. XVI

Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 26.

Battalion Headquarters,
27th August, 1918.

Ref. Map. 620.N.W. 1/20000.

1. The advance will be continued.
2. The advance of the 3rd Aust. Division will be regulated by the progress of the right flank of the 58th Division.
3. The Northern Divisional Boundary will be a line drawn Eastwards through G.29.central - B.26.central.
4. The reliefs and dispositions (as arranged) are to enable the 10th and 11th A.I. Brigades to rest and refit.
5. Artillery. The attack will be covered by artillery barrage opening on the old enemy front line system and will move at the rate of 100 yards in six minutes. The final protective barrage will be placed in front of the objective.
6. The main defensive line will be constructed on the objective line from A.30.c.3.3. A.30.c.3.7. A.29.d.3.9. A.30.a.5.6. A.30.a.2.8. along trench line to support copse inclusive thence Northwards through BOIS d'en HAUT.
7. The following are the machine gun dispositions and tasks for the forthcoming operation on the morning of the 28th Aug.
 - (a) 9th M.G. Coy. 16 guns will be in the vicinity of Observation Trench, G.4.a. These guns will barrage by successive lifts of 200 yards and will conform to the artillery barrage.
 - (b) 23rd M.G. Coy. 8 guns will be in the vicinity of G.10.a.90.50 and will barrage special targets. On completion of task these guns will move via CAUSEWAY to G.6.c.50.50. The 8 remaining guns will be in reserve at COPSE "L", G.3.a. and will move forward at Zero plus two hours to a position in the vicinity of FARGY HILL, A.29.d.50.90. All guns of this Coy. from their advanced positions will hold themselves in readiness for any future operation.
8. For dispositions see attached trace.
9. The 10th and 11th M.G. Coys. will remain in billets in the vicinity of BRAY.
10. Communication. Signal communication will be established in SUZANNE at Advanced Executive Command Post at Zero plus two hours.
11. Reports. until Zero plus two hours, to Advanced Executive Command Post, thence to Executive Command Post at SUZANNE.

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div. | | |
| 2. H.Q. 9th A.I. Bde. | | |
| 3. H.Q. 10th A.I. Bde. | | |
| 4. H.Q. 11th A.I. Bde. | | |
| 5. Captain Whitehead. | 8. O.C. 12th M.G. Coy. | 12-15 War Diary |
| 6. O.C. 9th M.G. Coy. | 9. O.C. 23rd M.G. Coy. | 16. File. |
| 7. O.C. 10th M.G. Coy. | 10. Signal Officer. | |
| | 11. G.M. | |

John Whitehead
Lieut.
Asst. Adjutant,
3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XVI

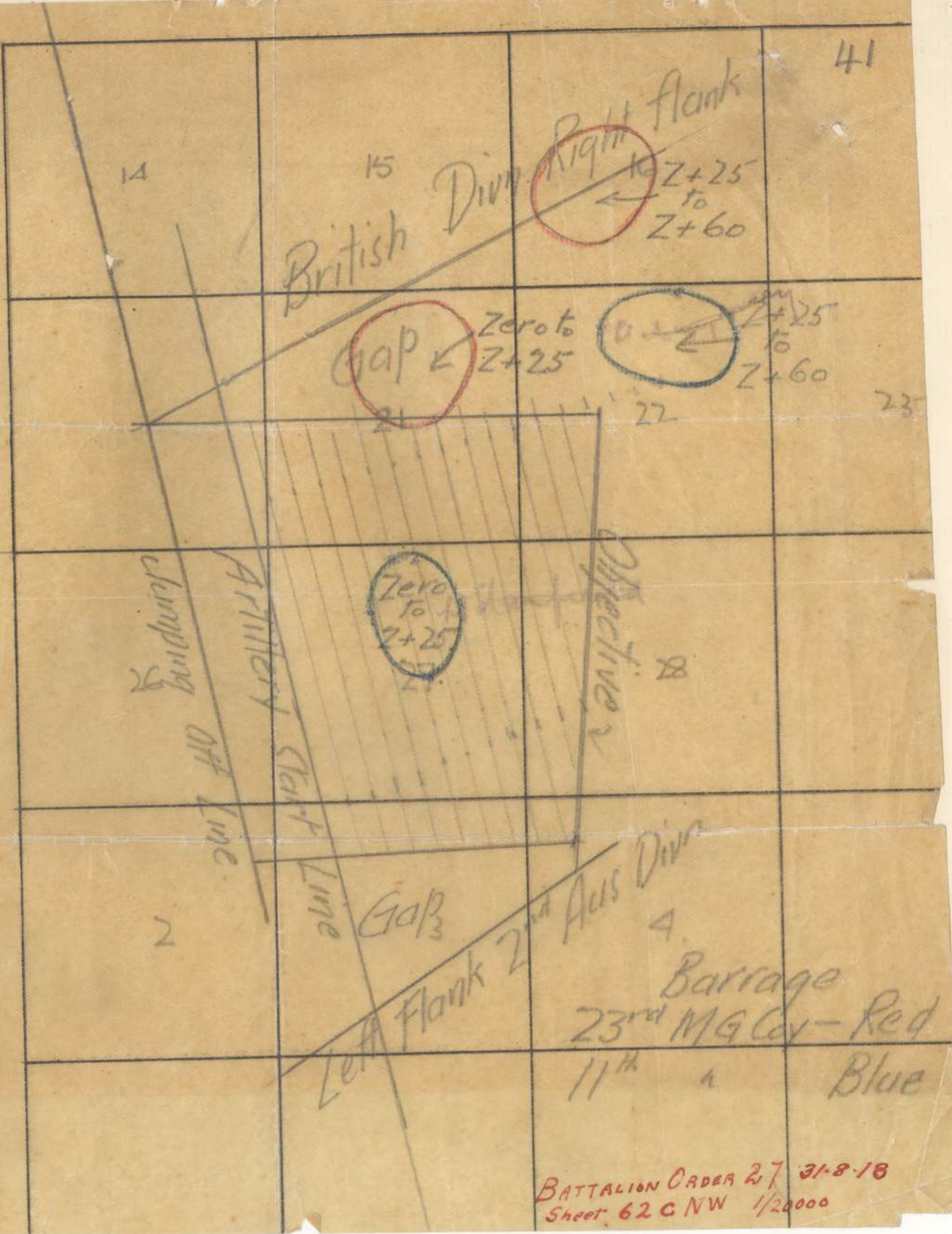
J

158

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

G.S.G.S. 3023.

*3rd MG Coy 1st Div 1918
 2nd MG Coy 1st Div 1918
 2nd MG Coy 1st Div 1918*



BATTALION ORDER 27 31-8-18
 Sheet 62 C NW 1/20000

171

17

SECRET.

Copy No. 10.....

Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion Order No. 27.Battalion Headquarters,
31st August, 1918.

Ref. Map. Sh.62.G. N.W. 1/20000.

1. 3rd Aust. Div. will attack and capture the high ground between HAUT-ALLAINES and BOUCHAVESNES to-morrow morning, 1st Sept.
2. The attack will be carried out by the 11th A.I.Bde. with the 2nd Aust. Division on their right and a British Division on their left.
3. Zero Hour will be 5 a.m. Zero hour for British Division on our left will be half an hour later (5.30 a.m.)
4. Boundaries and Objectives. From a line running through I.3.a.central to I.4.a.central on the right, to a line running through C.20.central to C.22.central on the left. British right boundary runs from C.20.central to C.16 central, leaving a "V" shaped gap on our left. 23rd M.G.Coy. will place a standing barrage on this gap as per para. 6.
Start line - Road from FEULLAUCOURT to BOUCHAVESNES.
Objective - Line running through C.22.c.65.99 to I.4.a.70.60.
5. Artillery. Start line will be 300 yards East of Road and barrage will advance at the rate of 100 yards every five minutes until protector is reached.
6. Machine Gun Dispositions and Tasks. 11th and 23rd M.G.Coys will barrage special localities as per attached sketch. Times and rates of fire to be arranged by Company Commanders concerned with due regard to ammunition supply.
23rd M.G.Coy. will pay special attention to the gap on our left mentioned in Para. 4.
7. Reports. - to Captain Wardell, Executive Command Post, H.5.c5.0.
8. A C K N O W L E D G E by wire.

DISTRIBUTION.

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------|--|
| 1. | H.Q. 3rd Aust. Div. | |
| 2. | H.Q. 9th A.I.Bde. | |
| 3. | H.Q. 10th A.I.Bde. | |
| 4. | H.Q. 11th A.I.Bde. | |
| 5. | Captain Wardell. | |
| 6. | O.C. 9th M.G.Coy. | |
| 7. | O.C. 10th M.G.Coy. | |
| 8. | O.C. 11th M.G.Coy. | |
| 9. | O.C. 23rd M.G.Coy. | |
| 10-13. | War Diary. | |
| 14. | File. | |
| | Sketches attached. | |

Capt. & Adjnt.

3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XVII

(18)

Report on Medical Work of 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion
for August, 1918.

A Rest Billet was established at BUSSY-les-DAOURS in which 41 cases of influenza were treated, 5 being evacuated to hospital; the remainder were returned to the line cured.

On August 14th the Battalion Headquarters moved to HAMELET. The four Companies situated near HAMEL were visited daily and sick parades held. There was a slight outbreak of diarrhoea, probably due to inefficient sterilization of the drinking water, but they soon sub-sided. The general health of the men whilst resting was good, there being few evacuations. On August 19th Battalion headquarters were established at SAILLY-le-SEC. On the 21st an Aid Post was established near ETINEHEM. On the 22nd approximately 30 Casualties passed through this R.A.P. Between 20 and 30 casualties passed through during the next four days.

On the 27th Aug. Battalion Headquarters moved to ETINEHEM. The general health of the men at this stage was good, but a number of them showed signs of fatigue, and also a number reported with sore feet. There was also some diarrhoea, presumably due to the supply of water to gun teams being inefficient, and the men being compelled to drink any water near at hand. This was more particularly in the 9th M.G.Coy.

On 29th August the R.A.P. moved to BRAY and on the 30th again moved forward to SUZANNE.

31-8-18.

J. W. Mansfield
Captain, A.A.M.C.
R.M.O. 3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XVIII

1944

ROUTINE ORDER No. 35
 by Lieut-Col. A.G. BLACKLOW, D.S.O. Commanding 3rd A.M.G. Bn.
 Battalion Headquarters,
 28th August, 1918.

169. Leakage of Information through Prisoners of War.

Reference G.R.O. 4791. Para. 4. These instructions will be read out to troops on parade on the first Sunday of each month, and a certificate rendered to this office on the following Monday, by noon, to the effect that this has been done.
 (Div. R.O. 455. Para. 8017 of 24-8-18.)

170. Discipline - Bombing of River.

Complaints have been received that men of this Battalion are bombing the River. This practice is to be stopped at once, by order of the Divisional Commander.

10th M.G. Coy. will detail 1 Officer, 1 N.C.O. and 2 Other Ranks to patrol the banks of the River in the vicinity of billets and transport lines.

11th M.G. Coy. will detail 1 N.C.O. and 2 Other Ranks for similar duty.

The Regimental Police will report for duty, in connection with this, to the A.P.M. at once.

In future this duty will be carried out by all companies whilst at rest.

(Sgd) T.L. HUXEABLE, Lieut.
 Asst. Adjutant,

3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XIX

ROUTINE ORDER No. 34
by Lieut-Colonel A.C. BLACKLOW, D.S.O. Commanding 3rd A.M.G. Bn.

Battalion headquarters,
26th August, 1918.

167. GROWING CROPS. It does not appear to be generally recognised that the unnecessary damaging of crops in the forward evacuated areas is just as reprehensible as in areas where the inhabitants are still living.

Company Commanders will have it made known to all ranks that severe disciplinary action will be taken against any further offenders.

168. Appointments and Promotions.

826	L/Cpl.	Meddows, J.C.	9th Coy.	to be T/Cpl.	9-7-18.
519	Pte.	Turner, W.J.	do.	do.	17-7-18.
560	"	Whittard, G.R.	do.	do.	8-8-18.
662	"	Schurr, A.J.	do.	to be L/Cpl.	9-7-18.
222	Sgt.	Doherty, J.E.	10th Coy.	to be T/COQS.	22-7-18.
156	L/Sgt.	Veness, A.J.	do.	to be T/Sgt.	22-7-18.
2785	Pte.	Cocks, C.A.	23rd Coy.	to be T/Cpl.	8-8-18.
433a	T/Cpl.	St. Baker, H.J.	Bn.R.Q.	to be L/Sgt.	16-8-18.
243	L/Cpl.	Zillman, C.H.S.	11th Coy.	to be T/Cpl.	17-8-18.
351	Pte.	Higgins, F.W.	do.	do.	15-7-18.
412a	T/Cpl.	Condon, R.J.	10 23rd Coy.	to be Cpl.	24-7-18.
5930	"	Wilson, W.R.	23 do.	do.	17-7-18.
		(A.F.B. 213 No. 22 of 17-8-18.)			
27	Cpl.	Evans, E.A.	9th Coy.	to be T/Sgt.	20-8-18.
To be Drivers under A.I.F. Order 785:-					
3073	Pte.	Handley, H.G.J.	9th Coy.		23-7-18.
19a	"	Branch, K.	do.		3-8-18.
1914	"	Orich, E.	do.		11-8-18.
1870	"	McGoldrick, H.J.	do.		16-8-18.
2809	"	Freeman, W.	23rd Coy.		10-8-18.
1997	"	Negri, R.W.	do.		16-6-18.
1255	T/Sgt.	Walsh, J.	9th Coy.	to be Sgt.	19-8-18.
42	T/Cpl.	Hinkley, W.R.	do.	to be Cpl.	19-8-18.
(A.F.B. 213 No. 23 of 24-8-18)					
470	Pte.	Mansfield, E.W.	9th Coy.	to be Dvr. under A.I.F.	
Order no. 785 24-7-18.)					
(A.F.B. 213 No. 22 of 27-8-18 as amended in B.213 of 24-8-18)					

(Sgd.) T.L. HUXTABLE, Lieut.
Asst. Adjutant.
3rd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XIX

163. CLAIMS FOR CAPTURED TROPHIES.

In claiming trophies units will enumerate the different parts accompanying them, e.g. when claiming a Machine Gun, the mounting, belt, belt box, condenser, and cover barrel casing should be enumerated.

These are all taken on charge separately by the Imperial Ordnance authorities, unless a claim specifies the appurtenances accompanying a trophy, they may be overlooked when the trophy is being handed over for despatch to AUSTRALIA.

(Div. R.O. 451 Para. 2012 of 11-8-18.)

164. VETERINARY.

Owing to the danger of Colic and Laminitis, arising from horses eating ripe wheat, strict supervision will be exercised over all animals whilst grazing.

(Div. R.O. 451 Para. 2012 of 11-8-18)

165. APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.

- 873 T/Sgt. Keogh, E.V. 9th M.G.Coy. to be Sgt. 24-7-18.) B.213 No.20
 - 1858a T/Cpl. Marks, R. 9th M.G.Coy. to be Cpl. 24-7-18.) 3-8-18.
 - 3078 Cpl. Dawson, W.J. 23rd M.G.Coy. to be T/Sgt. 21-7-18.
 - 3075 Pte. Evans, G. do. to be T/Cpl. 15-7-18.
 - 7304 " Rowlands, W.J. do. do. 18-7-18.
 - 3457 " Hess, E. do. do. 25-7-18.
 - 2379 " Hastings, J.B. do. do. 25-7-18.
 - 3078 T/Cpl. Dawson, W.J. do. to be Cpl. 21-7-18.
 - 413 " Eady, E.S.G. do. do. 8-8-18.
 - 552 Pte. Doyle, E. 11th M.G.Coy. to be Dvr. under A.I.F. Order
 - 611 " Hitchens, J. No. 785 of 3-8-17. d/- 7-8-18.
- (A.F.B. 213 No. 21 of 10-8-18)

166. CORRIGENDUM.

- Ref. B.R.O. No. 26 of 7-7-18. "Reversions".
- "No. 447 T/Dvr. Harris, B. 9th M.G.Coy. to Pte. on evacuation sick 27-6-18". Delete whole entry. (Vide A.I.F. Order 785 of 3-8-17)
- Ref. B.R.O. No. 31 of 30-7-18. "Reversions".
- "No. 1605 T/Dvr. Selway, J.G. 9th M.G.Coy. to Pte. on evacuation sick 23-7-18." Delete whole entry. (Vide A.I.F. Order 785 of 3-8-17)
- "No. 30336 Dvr. Woodford, M.V.E. En.H.Q. to Pte. on transfer from 3rd A.B.A.C. 16-7-18." Delete whole entry.

(Sgd.) T.L. HORTABLE Lieut.
 Acting Adjutant,
 Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XIX

Alley
 ROUTINE ORDER No. 32.
 by Lieut-Col. A.C. BLACKLOW, D.S.O. Commanding 3rd A.M.G. Battalion.

 Battalion Headquarters,
 2nd August, 1918.

161. LEAVE:

1. Paris Pay Office. From 29-7-18 the address of the Paymaster, A.I.F., PARIS will be:-
 Hotel D'Iena, Place D'Iena, PARIS,
 which address is readily reached by Metropolitan (underground) Railway or Street Car.
2. Commonwealth Bank Payment Warrants. Commonwealth Bank Payment Warrants will not, under any circumstances, be cashed at the A.I.F. Pay Office, PARIS. Prior to proceeding to PARIS on leave all ranks should be informed that holders of these Warrants must cash same before leaving, or have the amount credited to Pay Ledger Account by the Divisional Paymaster, and on presenting book in PARIS must produce the official receipt to support the entry.
 (Div. R.O. 2008, 18-8-18.)

162. DUTIES: Reference BN/613 of 14-7-18. Duty roster as laid down therein is hereby cancelled and the following will come into force until further notice.

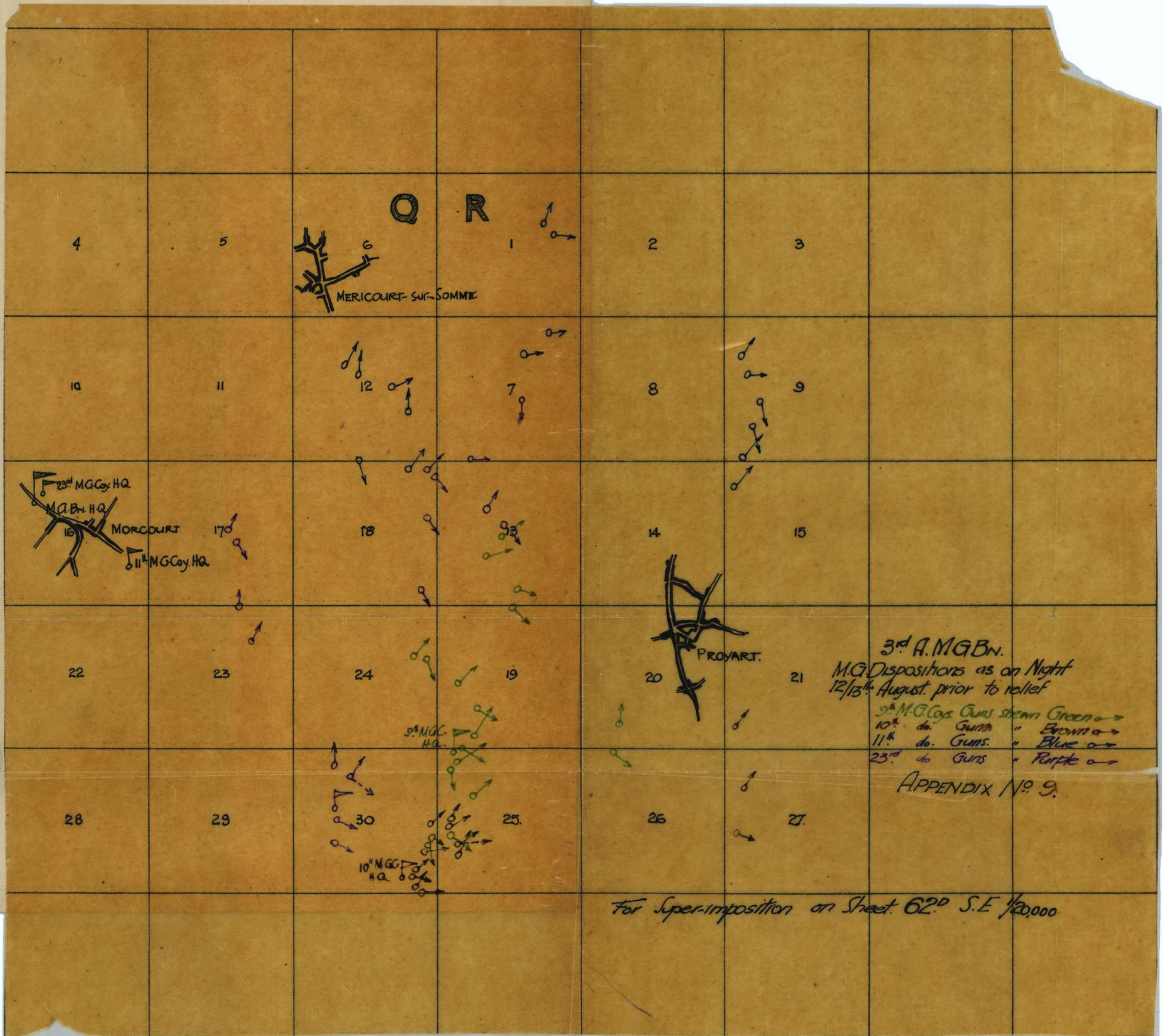
Duty Company	2nd August	23rd M.G. Coy.
" "	3rd "	11th "
" "	4th "	9th "

and so on in above order.

Guard will mount duty at 6 p.m. Battalion Orderly Sergeant will report at 9.0 a.m. daily.

(Sgd.) T.L. HUXTABLE Lieut.
 Asst. Adjutant,
 Third Aust. Machine Gun Battalion.

Appendix XIX.



3rd A.MGBN.
 MG Dispositions as on Night
 12/13th August. prior to relief
 9th M.G. Coy Guns stem Green →
 10th do. Guns " Brown →
 11th do. Guns. " Blue →
 23rd do. Guns " Purple →
 APPENDIX No. 9.

For Super-imposition on Sheet 620 S.E. 1/20,000



LEGEND

3rd A.M.G. Bn.
Dispositions & Tasks of M.G.'s on
Night 21/8/18.

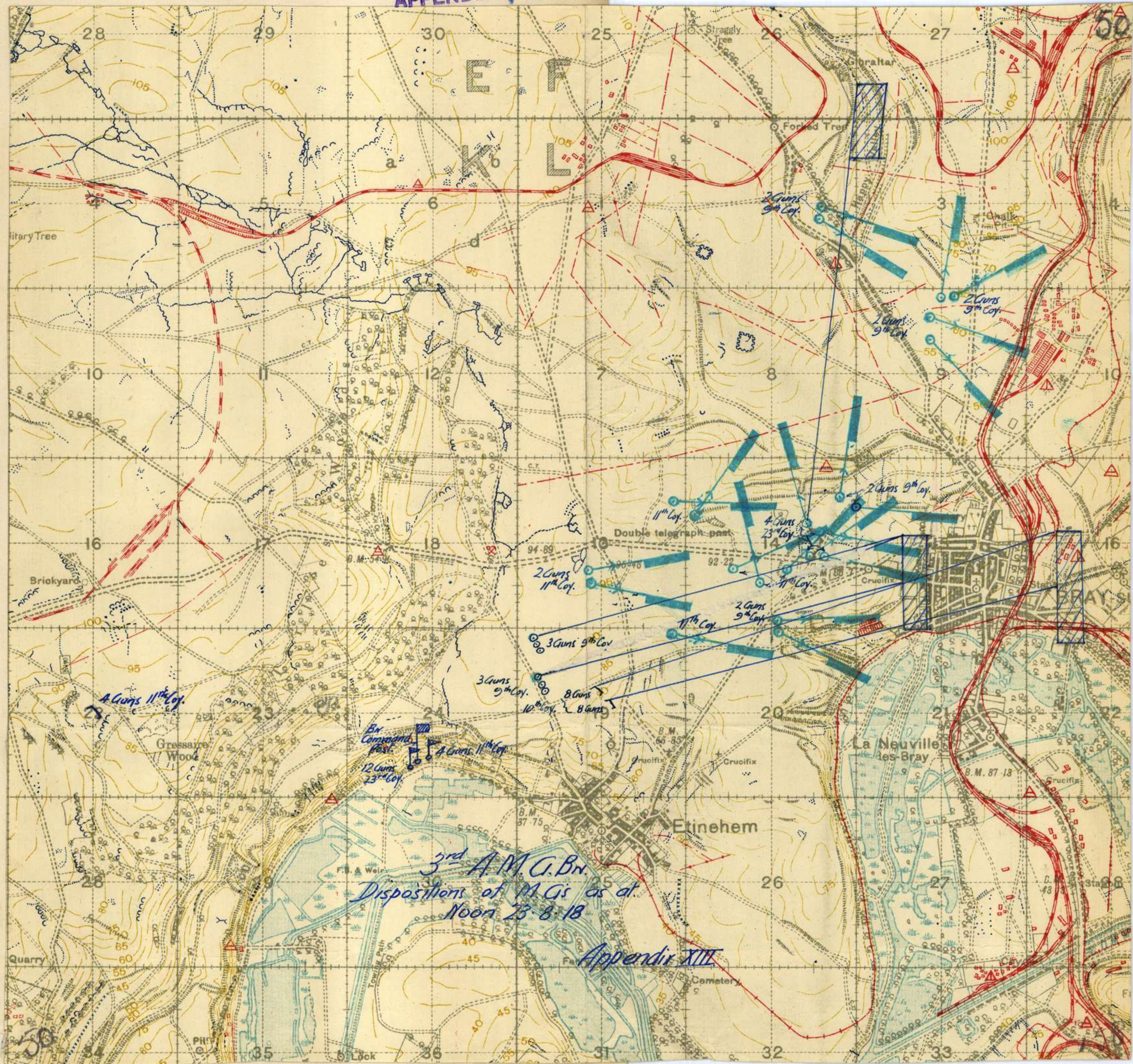
29	30	25	26	27	28	29
9 th M.G. Coy	Action	shann	Green.			
10 th	-	-	Brown.			
11 th	-	-	Blue.			
23 rd	-	-	Red.			

Appendix XIII

35	36	31	32	33	34	35
	K	L				

Part of Sheet 029

APPENDIX ²² B 50



3rd A.M.G. Bn.
Dispositions of MGs as at
Noon 23-8-18

Appendix XIII