

AWM4

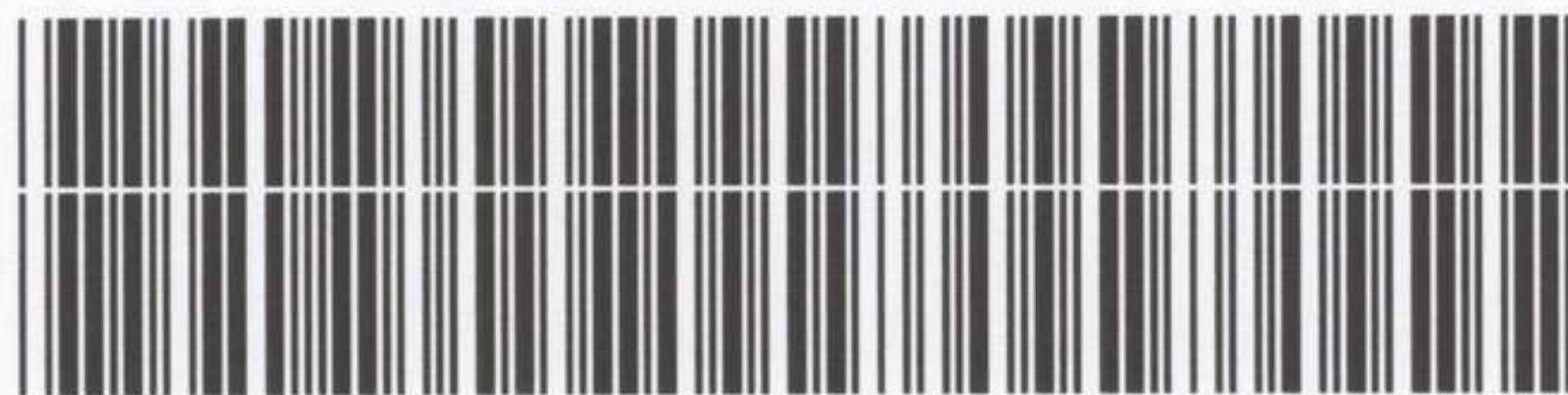
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/20/20

Title: 15th Australian Machine Gun
Company

October 1917



AWM4-24/20/20

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.)

Sheet 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres.	1 st October	1917	3am. Relief of Company from front line completed. Company in rest at Street 28. H23.6.99. Advice received that Capt. C. Elliott discharged from A.I.F. as being permanently unfit for service. Weather: fine & warm. Casualties nil. Reinforcements. nil.	
Sheet 28. H23.6.99.	2 nd	"	Parade. Inspection and address by O.C. (Capt. H.B. Munro). Shortages in gun gear and equipment taken & Board of Inquiry consisting of Capt. Fitz-Gerald (President) Lt. M. Ridgway and Lieut. A. Coffin held. Transport Sergeant Martin to Veterinary School at St. Omer. Weather: fine. Casualties nil. Reinforcements: nil.	
	3 rd	"	Day parade: Company improving camp area & resting. Lt. H. G. Hackworthy rejoined from Hospital & p.b. in England. Weather: intermittent showers. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements. 29 %.	
	4 th	"	Training: Physical exercises & Gas Helmet drill. Weather: wet & cold. Casualties. nil. Reinforcements. nil.	
	5 th	"	Bathing Parade & issue of clean clothing. Route march and physical training. Weather: showers & strong wind. Casualties nil. Reinforcements nil.	
	6 th	"	Parade in adjoining huts. Lecture by Section officers on experience gained & tactical lessons learned. Weather: wet & windy. Casualties. nil. Reinforcements. nil.	
	7 th	"	Church parade conducted by Lt. Hackworthy. Inspection of Coy. equipment & transport by O.C. Weather: wet - strong wind. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties. nil.	

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 2.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Uppl. Sheet 28. H.23.6.9.9.	1917 Oct: 8 th		Orders received for relief by 5 th Division of 1 st Division. Training: Physical exercises, marching + gas drill. Inspection of gas helmets etc. overhauling of gun gear. Weather: Dull - Showery. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil.	No. 1.
			9 th Company orders issued for movement to line to relieve 3 rd M. G. Coy. + necessary preparation made. Weather: Dull + showery. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil.	No. 2.
			10 th Capt. G. F. Fitz-Gerald (in charge), Lieut. J. Whelpton, A. F. Ridgway and A. Coppin (Battery Commanders), Lt. H. Hackworthy (liaison duty) and 87 other ranks moved forward & relieved 3 rd M. G. Coy. battery positions at Beelaere, J.3.d. and J.4.c. for S.O.S. barrage fire as per map attached. Fire organisation orders attached. Lt. Coppin was wounded & replaced by Lt. Hackworthy, H. H. Trevan moving forward for liaison duty. Weather: dull + showery. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: 1 officer wounded.	No. 3. No. 4.
			11 th S.O.S. not called for during day: enemy shelling very constant + of heavy calibre - enemy planes active + flying low over front line system where they used bombs + machine guns on our troops. Positions were improved + guns fired on enemy aeroplanes. Weather: Fine + sunny. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: 1 G.P.	

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
Date.....

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 3.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Upres area Ref. Becelgere. 1/10.000.	1917. Oct. 12 th		Orders for M.G. Reliefs received. Capt. FitzGerald reconnoitred positions in front line preparatory to taking over. Enemy shelling very heavy & enemy planes very active flying at low altitude & dropping bombs. Gun positions & men's shelters were improved. S.O.S. was not called for during day or night. Constructional work carried on at Hqs. & drying shed built. Weather: cloudy. Reinforce. nil. Casualties. nil.	No. 5.
"	13 th		Orders for M.G. Companies' change over received. Orders for relief issued to battery commanders Enemy shelling was constant - hostile aircraft were engaged by S.O.S. guns. S.O.S. was not called for. "A" battery fired on road from D. 30.d. 22.25 to J. 6.B. 31.92. "B" battery fired on area around pill-boxes D. 30.a. 6.8. and on road from D. 30.B. 15.13. to D. 30.a. 6.8. 17.60. "C" Battery were on construction & carrying work. 26,000 rounds S.A.H. were expended in firing on targets mentioned where enemy movement had been observed. O.C. reconnoitred front line system. Weather: stormy - heavy showers. Reinforce. nil. Casualties. nil.	No. 6. No. 7.
"	14 th		Enemy not so active as usual - enemy aircraft very active. S.O.S. batteries were relieved by 14 th M.G. Coy. Lt. Ridgway & 30 % reported back to Coy. Hqs. with surplus gear. Other batteries moved forward & took over front line defense positions from 8 th M.G. Coy. in accordance with orders, both reliefs were very satisfactorily carried out without casualties. Weather: fine. Reinforce. nil. Casualties. nil.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 4.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Upres area. Ref. Becelaere 1/10,000.	Oct 15 th	1917	Disposition of defensive guns as per map attached. Enemy shelling & aircraft active, otherwise no activity in sector. Considerable work was done on positions & shelters. Transport arrangements of Company were favorably commented upon by D.A.D.V.S. (comment attached) Weather: fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: 2 % killed 1 % wounded.	No. 8.
"	16 th		Enemy shelling very heavy - enemy aircraft flying at low altitude - two gun positions blown up - one team buried but carried on. no other activity - practically no enemy movement observed. Orders for proposed reliefs received. Weather: showery. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: 1 % killed 1 % wounded.	No. 9.
"	17 th		Enemy heavily shelled front line system & his aircraft were active during whole of day - attitude aggressive but no movement behind his line observed - numerous gas shells. Enemy machine guns firing on D. 29. C. and d. were engaged & silenced. Gun positions were rebuilt & shelters improved, also quantity of material salvaged. New shelters were constructed & drainage work done at Hqs. camp. Weather: showery. Reinforcements: 2 % Casualties: 1 % wounded. 1 % killed.	No. 10.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet. 6.5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres area Ref. Decelerate 1/10,000.	1917 Oct. 18 th		Enemy not as active as usual & front quiet. Enemy aircraft continued to be active. Gun fired on 'planes portion of 1 aeroplane being broken off by gun fire. although proximity of enemy aircraft hindered much movement construction work was carried on and guns fired on targets during day. Company was relieved by 14 th M. G. Coy. at dusk - good change over. and returned to Hqs. camp. at Sheet 28. H. 23. B. 9. 9. Weather: cloudy but fine. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties. 6% wounded. Bde. movement order received (Coy. remained at above camp)	No. 11.
"	19 th		Company resting - pay parade in morning - bathing parade at Divl. baths, Ypres where winter clothing was issued. Weather: fine. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties. nil.	
"	20 th		Inspection & address to company by O.C. - all shortages taken. Company resting. Orders for relief received. Weather: showery. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties nil.	No. 12.
"	21 st		Anticlergy programme received. Church parade. "Honors & awards" published. Following decorations were granted to members of 15 th M. G. Coy. Capt. K. B. Muirson M.C. - Was to M.C. No. 3339 Corp. Harrop, J. G. - D.C.M. 3764 Corp. Harbord L. - military medal 2222 " Turner W. - military medal Weather: showery. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil.	No. 13. No. 14.

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WAR DIARY

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres area	1917.			
Ref. Beelacre 1/10,000	Oct. 22 nd		Company resting: Parade, physical exercises + cleaning + overhauling gun gear, instruction of gas helmets etc. by Gas N.C.O. binoculars re preservation of aust. pattern clothing received. Movement orders 15 th Inf. Bde. received. Weather: showery. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil.	no. 15. no. 16.
"	23 rd		Physical + recreational training carried on: also constructional work around camp. Weather: fine Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil.	
"	24 th		Coy. parade, physical training + route march. Inspection of transport by O.C. 15 th Inf. Bde. movement orders received. Machine Gun instruction affecting reliefs received. £15-4-0 expended out of Regimental Funds for purchase of Xmas. Cards for Company. Pamphlet A.I. 7. Xmas. Souvenirs received and 500 copies "Angas Book" ordered by Company. Weather: fine - strong wind. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil	no. 17. no. 18. no. 19.
"	25 th		Company parade packing gear + loading knibbers preparatory to move to Reserve area. Weather: fine - strong, cold wind. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil	
"	26 th		Physical + recreational training. Orders for movement O.C. completed arrangements for handing over to Coy. relieving. Weather: showery. Reinforcements. nil. Casualties: nil.	no. 20.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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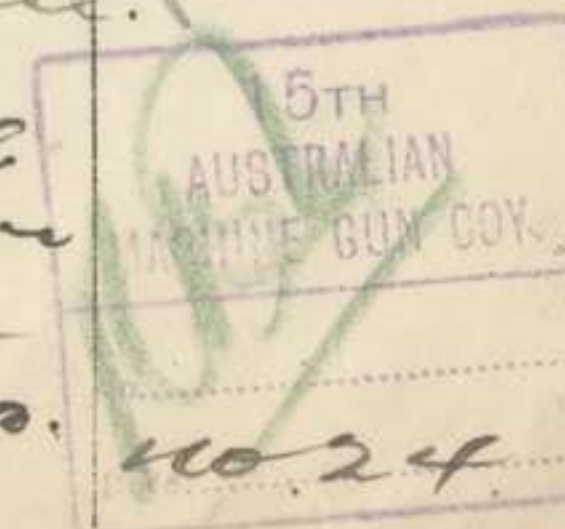
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet. 8.7

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Canal area Ref. Sheet 28 1/40,000.	1917 Oct 27		Physical & recreational training: orders received. Sgt. L. Harbord to Cadet School in England. weather: fine Rainfalls: nil. Casualties: nil.	no. 21.
"	28		Company moved off from H. 23. 6. 9. 9. transported by bus to Camp 11. G. 35. 4. 9. 7. weather: cloudy but fine. Rainfalls: nil. Casualties: nil.	
"	29		Standing orders for training etc. issued. Location of Brigade units received. Company carried out recreational training. O.C. and adjt. at Commanding Officers' Conference at Brigade Hqs. weather: cloudy but fine. Rainfalls: nil. Casualties: nil.	no. 22. no. 23.
"	30		Training as per syllabus. Anti-aircraft guards marched out as per orders & mounted 4 guns on dumps at G. 16. 4. 9. 7. and G. 21. 6. 6. 6. Enemy planes were fired on & deflected from dumps. weather: wet & windy. Rainfalls: nil. Casualties: nil.	
"	31		Company parade, inspection etc. Recreational training. football. Games & boxing. Considerable work done in improving sanitation & accommodation & draining of camp. Duck boarding & bomb-proof work commenced. Orders for aircraft guards weather: fine. Rainfalls: nil. Casualties: nil.	no. 24.

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Index to Appendices :-

- No. 1. 15th Aust. Inf Bde. Order No 121.
2. 15 Aust. M. Gun Coy Order
3. Beelaere Map
4. Fire Organization Orders.
5. Divisional Order - Probable moves of M Gun Coys.
6. Machine Gun Instructions
7. Coy. Order.
8. Disposition 15th M.G. Coy's Guns.
9. Report on Transport by D.A.D.V.S.
10. Machine Gun Instructions - with order 170.
11. 15th Aust. Inf Bde Order 124.
12. Machine Gun Instructions with Order 173.
13. Artillery barrages.
14. List of Honors & Awards
15. Australian Pattern clothing
16. 15th Aust. Inf. Bde Order 126.
17. Orders for 15th Inf Bde Move.
18. Machine Gun Instructions with order 174.
19. A.I.F. Christmas Souvenir.
20. 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. Movement Order.
21. 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. Order 129.
22. 15th Aust. M. Gun Coy R. Orders.
23. Map (15th Inf Bde) Locations
24. Anti Aircraft Guard Orders.
25. Recommendations for Honors.

273.
appx 1.
War Diary.

Gr/3rd/3

Secret

Copy No. 17.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE No. 121.

Ref. BELGIUM
 Sheet 28 1/40,000

8th October, 1917.

-
1. The 8th Australian Infantry Brigade is taking over the front line from the 3rd Australian Infantry Brigade on night 9th/10th October.
 2. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will take over the SUPPORT AREA on night 9th/10th October as under:-
 59th Battalion will relieve the 11th Battalion and 60th Battalion the 12th Battalion on ANZAC RIDGE.

 57th Battalion will relieve the 8th Battalion and 58th Battalion the 1st Battalion on WESTHOEK RIDGE.

 The 15th L.T.M.B. will move with the 58th Battalion who will allot the necessary accomodation.
 3. All details of reliefs will be arranged mutually between Unit Commanders concerned but relief will be conducted in daylight and completed before 5.0 p.m.
 4. All Administrative arrangements consequent upon this order will be issued separately.
 5. Brigade Headquarters will close at present location and reopen at HALFWAY HOUSE at times to be notified later.
 6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]

Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at

To	Copy No.	Copies to:-	
57th Battalion	1	2nd A.I. Brigade	11
58th Battalion	2	3rd A.I. Brigade	12
59th Battalion	3	29th A.A.S.C.	13
60th Battalion	4	15th Field Coy. A.E.	14
15th L.T.M.B.	5	14th Field Coy. A.E.	15
No. 4 Section (Sig)	6	15th Field Ambulance	16
		15th M.G. Company	17
		Staff Captain	18
Copies to		Area Commandant	
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Bde.	7	CANAL AREA	
5th Aust. Div.	8	War Diary	
1st Aust. Div.	9	File	
1st A.I. Brigade	10		

19	15th
20	AUSTRALIAN
21	COY.
Date	

273
 Appx. 1.

SECRET.

-- MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS. --

 To Be read in conjunction with Divisional Order No 168.

1. 5th Australian Division (less Artillery) will relieve 1st Australian Division in the line on the night 9/10 October.
2. Machine Guns in the line will be relieved by the 8th and 15th Machine Gun Companies on night 10/11th October.
3. The 8th Company will take over all guns in the forward area relieving 1st and 2nd Machine Gun Companies.-
4. The 15th Machine Gun Company will relieve 3rd Machine Gun Company, and take over S.O.S. line, the task of one Battery to be extended to enable the front to be covered by the 16 gun of the Company.-
5. Details of relief to be arranged between Company Commanders concerned.-
6. The 14th Machine Gun Company will revert to the control of 14th Infantry Brigade at 9 a.m. 10/10/17.-
7. The 25th Machine Gun Company will remain in present location under Divisional control.-
8. Transport and Machine Gun personnel not actually required in the line will remain in present location.-
9. Completion of reliefs will be wired to D.M.G.O. 5th Australian Division at Divisional Head Quarters, through Head Quarters 8th Brigade.-
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 6.p.m.
 8/10/17.

John Marsden Major.
 D.M.G.O. 5th Aust Division.-

Copies,				
8th Machine Gun Company,				No 1
14th " " "	"	"	"	" 2
✓ 15th " " "	"	"	"	" 3
25th " " "	"	"	"	" 4
D.M.G.O. 1st Division,				" 5
File,				" 6



273 15th Aust M.G. Co.

appx 1.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.SECRET.Divisional Headquarters.
9th. October. 1917.MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS, No. 3.SERIES 4.Relief. Machine Gun Companies of the 1st. Aust. Division. will
be relieved as under;-

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>By.</u>
Night 10/11th Octr.	1st. and 2nd. Aust. M.G. Coys.	8th. Aust. M.G. Coy.
Day. 10th Octr.	3rd. and 21st. Aust. M.G. Coy.	15th. Aust. M.G. Coy.

All M.G. Units on relief will proceed to Corps M.G.
Camp. CHATEAU BELGE and CHATEAU SEGARD AREAS.Details of relief to be arranged between C.O.'s.
of Companies concerned.Reports relief complete to be forwarded to D.M.G.O.
at Headquarters. 21st. Aust. M.G. Coy.W. H. French
MajorD.M.G.O.
1st. Australian Division.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY ORDER. NO.

1. The 15th Machine Gun Coy will relieve the 3rd M.G. Coy on SOS Line on night of 10th & 11th October.

2. Tripods, belt boxes, T shaped base plates, will be exchanged with outgoing Company.

3. Composition. - S O S Group is composed of three batteries as under -

A Battery -	4 guns.	No. 3 Section, Battery
		Commander Lt. A Coppin.
B Battery -	6 guns.	No. 1 & 1 sub-section of No. 4
		Section. Battery
		Commander, Lt. Ridgway.
C Battery -	6 guns.	No. 2 Section & 1 sub-section No. 4
		Section. Battery
		Commander. Lt. Whelpton.

H.Qrs. Lt. Hackworthy to take charge of following details. 1 A A M C, 2 Runners, 2 signallers, 4 'Phones.

Gun teams will consist of 4 men and 1 N.C.O.

4. Guns, Aiming Posts, Spare Part Boxes, etc. will be carried on Pack Horses.

5. Company will move off at 9 a m in the following order -

H. Qrs. A Battery, B & C.

Batteries will move in gun teams with pack animals.

6. Rations will be issued by 7.15 a m, and all water bottles filled.

7. T.O. will accompany unit and inspect route with view to getting rations up by limber.

Maps: Sheet 28, and Becela-ere will be taken by Officers.

Watches to be synchronised at 7 a m on the 10th at Company Office.

Kenneth B. Morrison

Captain,

O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

9th October, 1917.

Copies to - War Diary.
3rd M.G. Coy.
File.

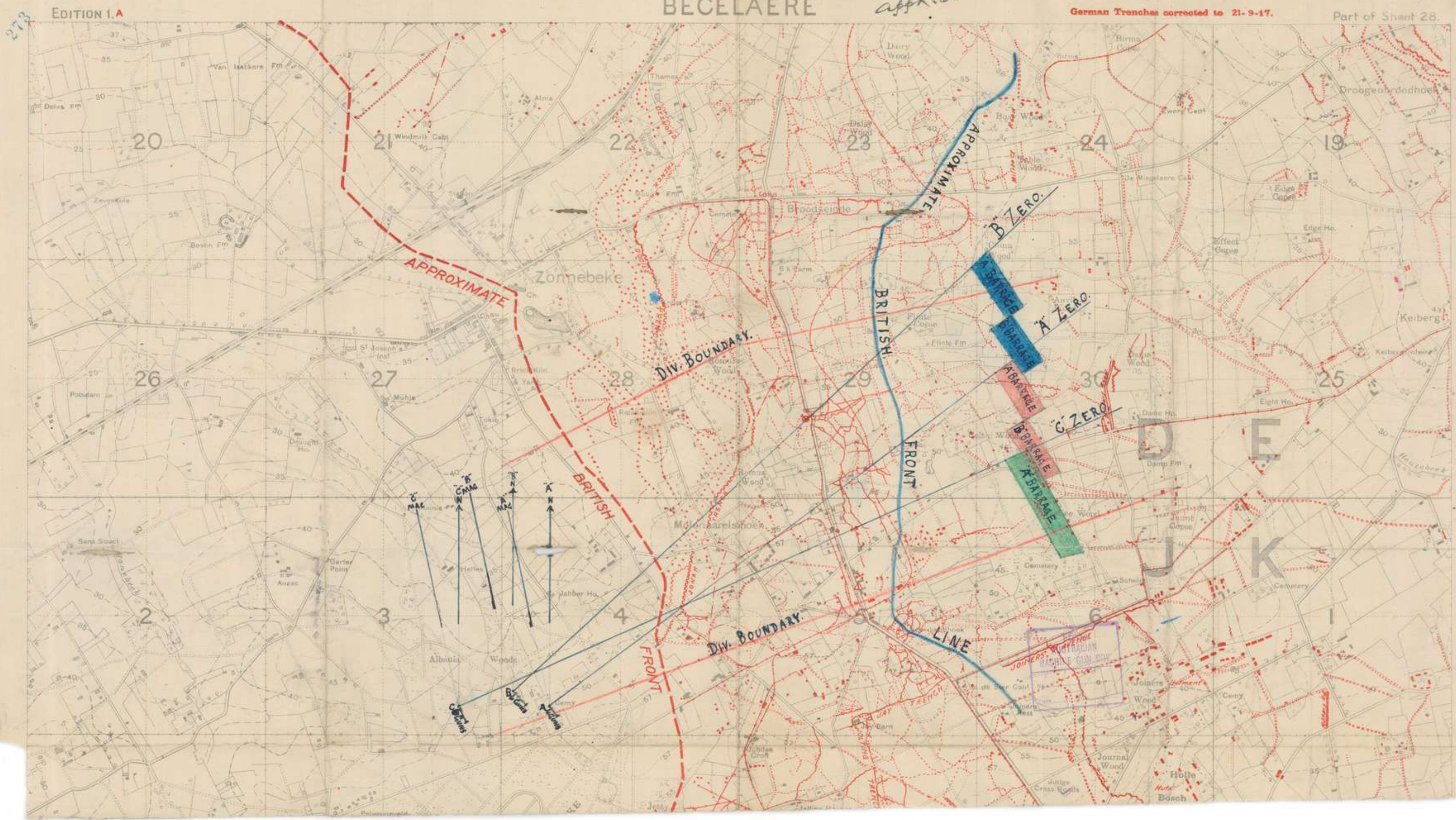


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SECRET. MAP SHOWING 10 MUST. M.G. COYS. S.O.S. LINES.
ON 5TH Aust. Div. FRONT FROM 10.10.17 TO 14.10.17.

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App. 3.*

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APPENDIX

War Diary
appx. No. 4.

Ref. Beclaire.

FIRE ORGANISATION ORDER.

BATTERY. B....

PLACE J.4.C.10.36
DATE 11.10.17.

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COMPOSITION			No. 1 Section & 1 Subsection of No. 4 Section			FRONTAGE OF BATTERY			70x.			TASKS:			S.O.S. Barrage.		
COMMANDED BY			Lieut. Ridgway			GRID BEARING TO R.O.											
LOCATION OF DIRECTING GUN			J.4C.10.36			ZERO LINE FROM J.4C.10.36 THROUGH			D.29.6.97.94								
No. OF DIRECTING GUN			6.			GRID BEARING OF ZERO LINE			46° 50'								
No. of Barrage	No. of Guns	TARGETS.	Clock Time	Zero Time	Deviation from Zero line	Distribution Angle	RANGE	V.I.	Q.E.	Range to F.T. When Barrage	Clearance when barrage	Rate of Fire					
A.	3.	(D30a 20.50) (D29.6.97.94)			NIL.	1° 50'	2700 ^x	-12 ^x	8° 55'	2050	143 ^x						
B	3.	(D30A 29.05) (D30.0.12.42)			5° 30'	1° 50'	2600	-8 ^x	8° 5'	1950	148 ^x						
(B No directing gun 3)																	

	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	REMARKS.			
A				NIL.	1° 50' R	3° 40' R			This shows angle: Traverse 2°			
B					5° 30' R	7° 20' R	9° 10' R		FROM ZERO LINE			
									for each gun			
									from this line			
									Barrage Chart			
									for each gun is			
									compiled and			
									issued to Gun			
									Commanders.			

Depth of Barrage 100^x

APPENDIX. 4

15



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BATTERY...C..... PLACE J3d.6524
DATE 11:10:17...

APPENDIX.

273

O.C. 8th Australian Machine Gun Co.
 O.C. 14th Australian Machine Gun Co.
 ✓ O.C. 15th Australian Machine Gun Co.
 O.C. 25th Australian Machine Gun Co.



The following is an outline of the probable moves of Machine Gun Companies in the Division as far as can be foreseen-

- 12th Oct. in 'A' Coy. Line*
- (a) C/D Night - 15th Machine Gun Company will move to forward area, relieving 8th Machine Gun Company. 8th Machine Gun Company will return to camp at H.23 central on relief.
 - (b) C Day, 14th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 15th Machine Gun Company on S.O.S lines.
 - (c) C/H night 14th Machine Gun Company will relieve 15th Machine Gun Company in forward area. 15th Machine Gun Company will return to Machine Gun Camp on relief.
 - (d) C day 25th Machine Gun Company will relieve 14th Machine Gun Company on S.O.S. line.
 - (e) C/H night 8th Machine Gun Company will relieve reserve Machine Gun company.
 - (f) Company Commanders will arrange for preliminary reconnaissance in view of above.
 - (g) ACKNOWLEDGE.

11th October 1917.

Prof. Marsden
 MAJOR,
 D.M.G.O., 5th Australian Division

*War Diary
 Appx 5.*



SECRET.

Copy No.....

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS

(Issued in conjunction with 5th Australian Division Order No.159)

Map Ref. 27
28 2/40,000.Headquarters,
12th October 1917.

1. The 15th Machine Gun Co. will relieve the 8th Machine Gun Co. in the forward area on the night of 14th/15th October.
2. The 14th Machine Gun Co. will relieve the 15th Machine Gun Co. on S.O.S. during the 14th October. This relief should be complete by 3 p.m. at latest.
3. The 25th Machine Gun Co. will become the reserve Company at 9 a.m. on 14th, and will remain under Divisional control.
4. The 8th Machine Gun Co. on relief will move to camp at H.23 central, and come under Brigade control.
5. Details of relief will be arranged between Company Commanders subject to the terms of this order.
6. All maps, Fire organization Orders etc., relating to the sector will be handed over.
7. Completion of reliefs will be notified to Divisional Machine Gun Officer 5th Divisional Headquarters

Issued to:-

Major J. J. G. G. G.
D.M.G.O. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. Major,

C.O. 8th Machine Gun Company
C.O. 14th Machine Gun Company
C.O. 15th Machine Gun Company
C.O. 25th Machine Gun Company.

*Was Diary
appx. 6.*

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.....	
Date.....	

SECRETCopy No. 16

15th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 122.

Ref. Sheet 27

28 1/40,000

12th October, 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will relieve the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade in the front line system during the 13th October and on the night 13th/14th October in accordance with attached table of moves.
2. (a) The 14th Australian Infantry Brigade is moving on the 13th October into the area at present occupied by the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
(b) The 15th Machine Gun Company is relieving the 8th Machine Gun Company in the front line system on night 14th/15th October.
3. All movement will be in single file with 50 yards between sections the usual precautions being taken against observation by hostile aircraft.
4. The 58th and 59th Battalions will each provide four guides (one per company) to be at BIRR CROSS ROADS at 6.30 p.m. for the 56th and 54th Battalions respectively of the 14th Australian Infantry Brigade.
5. All working parties will be handed over in accordance with instructions already issued.
6. Subject to the terms of this order all details of reliefs will be arranged mutually between Unit Commanders concerned.
7. Brigade Headquarters will close at HALF WAY HOUSE at 2.0 p.m. and reopen at WESTHOEK at an hour to be notified later on 13th October.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 11.30 p.m.

to	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	5.
No. 4 Signal Section	6.
Copies to :-	
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Bde.	7.
5th Aust. Div.	8.
8th A.I. Bde.	9.

Copies to :-	
14th A.I. Bde.	10.
15th Field Coy.	11.
14th Field Coy.	12.
29th A.A.S.C.	13.
A.D.M.S.	14.
Staff Captain	15.
15th M.G. Coy.	16. ✓
War Diary	17.
File	18.



TABLE OF MOVES
To Accompany
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 122.

UNIT	FROM	TO	IN RELIEF OF	REMARKS.
15th Brigade H.Q.	HAIF WAY HOUSE	WESTHOEK	8th Brigade H.Q.	(a) Guides will meet units at WESTHOEK cross roads (J.7-B.95.20) as under :- 58th Battalion at 10 a.m. 57th Battalion at 12.30 p.m. 59th Battalion at 5.30 p.m. 60th Battalion at 6.30 p.m.
59th Battalion	WESTHOEK RIDGE	LINE RIGHT	32nd Battalion	
60th Battalion	I.15.A.8-5.	LINE LEFT	30th Battalion	
58th Battalion	WESTHOEK RIDGE	SUPPORT RIGHT	29th Battalion	
57th Battalion	HAIF WAY HOUSE	SUPPORT LEFT	31st Battalion	
15th L.T.M.B.	WESTHOEK RIDGE	FRONT SYSTEM (H.Q. GARTER POINT)	8th L.T.M.B.	
				(b) ROUTES:- 58th and 59th Battalions and L.T.M.B. will move via HELLES TRACK. 57th and 60th Battalions will move via WARRINGTON ROAD - ZOUAVE mule track to HOOGE - CHATEAU ROAD - HELLES TRACK



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

TO	First Ridgway		
----	---------------	--	--

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number,	AAA
*	13		

To morrow 14th inst. you will take charge of A BATT. 7. & the remaining men of C and B Batteries, also surplus gear which is not being handed over to 14th Coy. or taken into the line. One N.C.O. & 15 Q's & gear in your charge will be left at Pill box on Tidd's. until relieved by men from C.H.Q. your & your party will report back to C.H.Q. Please give instructions to N.C.O. in charge of party left at Pill box and explain to him that one Gun is to be left there as a reserve. all other gear taken back to C.H.Q. when transport arrives for the early relief. If conditions are suitable early relief expected. Details later.

From	G. F. Fitzgerald Capt.	
Place	H. C. H. O.	
Time		

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *appx 1.*

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

15TH
MORTALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
Was Diaries
appx. 1.

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.				No. of Message.....	
Code.....M.		Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of	Reed. at.....M.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		Sent			
		At.....	By.....	Service.	Date.....
		To.....	By.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	From.....
TO					
Sender's Number.		Day of Month.	In reply to Number.		
* 2/90		13 th			AAA
<p>So tomorrow 14th inst you will be relieved by 14th M.G. Coy. On completion of relief you & your Battery will move to forward area and relieve 8th M.G. Coy. on left sector. Gun teams will consist of 1 M.C.O. & 3 men per gun. Guns, first aid kits & 48 hours rations will be carried. Remaining men will report to Mr. Ridgway & all gear that is not handed over to 14th M.G. Coy or taken into line will be left in charge of Mr. Ridgway, after handing over to 14th M.G. Coy you will proceed via Heller track to RECALIBRATION FARM, where you will pick up a guide from 8th Brigade M.G. Coy. who will guide you to R.T. Sector. Early relief expected if weather conditions are suitable. Particulars will be notified later.</p>					
From		G. J. F. Waldroft			
Place		M.C. H.Q.			
Time					
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.		(Z)			
Censor.		Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name			

10TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....	M.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of	Recd. at.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent			Date.....
			At.....	M.	Service.	From.....
			To.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....
			By.....			

TO

Lieut Hackworthy			

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

To-morrow 14th inst you will take charge of B battery after the relief has been completed by 14th Bty M.G. Coy. you will proceed to RETALIATION FARM where you will pick up a Guide from 8th M.G. Coy who will guide you to R¹ Sector. you will take 5 gun teams, consisting of 3 men + 1 H.C.O per gun. you will also take with you a good reliable runner. Guns and First Aid Kit + 48 hours ration will be carried. The remaining men will report to Mr Ridgway + Spare Part boxes + gear that is not being handed over to 14th Bty will be left in Mr Ridgway's charge. If conditions suitable early relief expected. Particulars will be notified later.

From	Lt. T. J. Gerald Capt.
Place	H.C.O.
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

Transmit

If a person is named as authorized to telegraph in his name

Sheet. 28. 27
1:10.000

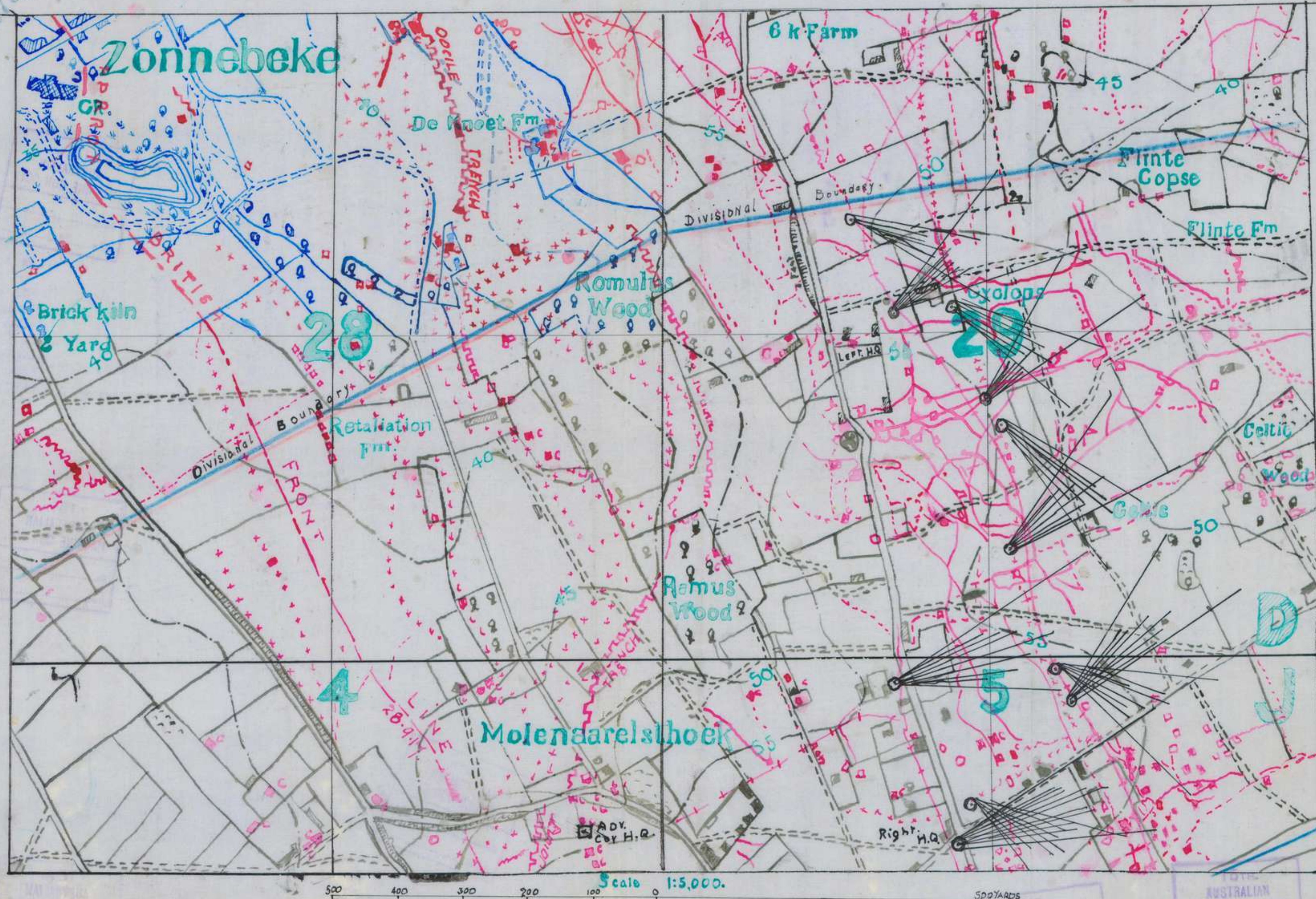
Was Diary
Appx. 8.

Disposition of 15th m.g. Coy's Guns
in front line 15th - 19th Octr. 1917.

APPENDIX. 8

22

Trenches corrected to 28-9-77



500 YARDS

15114

AUSTRALIAN

MACHINE GUN

NO. 1

DATE

APPENDIX. 9

25

273

COPY:

H.Q., 5th Aust. Div.
15-10-17.

The following extract from a report by D. A.D.V.S.
5th Aust. Div. is forwarded for your information :-

"In accordance with request of G.O.C. Division I have to report that the majority of units in the Division are carrying out provisions of the order for the protection of horses against bombs..... I wish to particularly commend the 15th Machine Gun Company, 25th Machine Gun Company, & 5th Pioneers. Besides protection they have been commendably active in endeavoring to provide standing and shelter."

The Divisional Commander desires to commend these units on their efforts to protect the horses.

(Sgd) Colonel
A.A. & Q.M.G., 5th Aust. Div.

*15th Div.
appx 9*



SECRET.

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No.123.

Reference:- Sheets 27

28 1/40,000

16th October, 1917.

1. (a) The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade (less machine gun company) is being relieved in the line by the 14th Australian Infantry Brigade (less machine gun company) during the 17th October and the night 17th/18th October 1917.
- (b) The 15th Australian Machine Gun Company is being relieved by the 14th Australian Machine Gun Company on the night 18th/19th October under arrangements being made by the D.M.G.O.
2. (a) Reliefs will take place in accordance with attached table of moves.
- (b) Distances of 50 yards between sections will be maintained East of BIRR CROSS ROADS, otherwise distances of 200 yards between companies and 800 yards between Battalions will be maintained.
- (c) The necessary precautions will be taken against enemy aircraft.
3. Subject to the terms of this order all details of relief will be arranged mutually between Unit Commanders concerned.
4. All Ammunition and R.E. dumps, S.O.S. grenades, trench shelters, local maps, air photographs, defence schemes and information will be handed over on relief and enciphers obtained. Copies to be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters by 12 noon on the 18th inst.
5. Gum Boots will be brought out of the line on relief and dumped on WESTHOEK RIDGE on the north side of the BELLEWARDE Sleeper road at the point where the duckwalk from Brigade Headquarters meets the road (about J.7.A.4-5) under a guard which will be found by Brigade Headquarters.
6. Baggage and supply wagons will report to the transport lines of Units 5.30 p.m. on 17th inst. These wagons are to be sent back to the Divisional Train immediately on completion of the move on the following day.
7. No supplies will be drawn on the 18th inst. Supplies for consumption on the 19th inst will be carried in the train wagons and supplies which would ordinarily have been drawn on 18th inst. for consumption on the 20th inst. will be taken to supply dump at G.17.D.5-1 from where they will be drawn on the 19th inst.
8. Completion of reliefs will be wired to Brigade Headquarters in code. The command of the sector will pass to the B.G.C. 14th Australian Infantry Brigade upon receipt of the last of these messages. They must therefore be despatched without fail immediately each relief is complete.
9. Brigade Headquarters will close at WESTHOEK on completion of relief and re-open at H.29.A.5-5 on arrival.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
 Major,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



273

TABLE OF MOVES
to accompany
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 123.

UNIT	TO BE RELIEVED BY	Route for 14th A.I.Bde. IN.	Route for 15th A.I.Bde. OUT.	REMARKS.
58th Bn. (Right Support)	55th Battalion	ZOUAVE WOOD - LEINSTER FARM - HELLES TRACK	GARTER POINT - PLANK ROAD - BIRR X ROADS - via LEINSTER FARM - WARRINGTON ROAD - SHRAPNEL CORNER - DERBY ROAD from I.12.B.9-3 to Billets.	58th Battalion will supply 5 guides to meet 55th Battalion at WESTHOEK X Roads (J.7.B.95-20 at 2.30 p.m.
57th Bn. (Left support)	53rd Battalion	-ditto-	-ditto-	57th Battalion will supply 5 guides to meet 53rd Bn. at WESTHOEK X Roads (J.7.B.95-20) at 3.30 p.m.
59th Bn. (Right action)	54th Battalion	WESTHOEK X ROADS - Hellos TRACK - CABLE HEAD (J.3.D. 3-8) BRANCH DUCKWALK from J.3.B.8-0 to 59th Bn. Hqrs.	HELLES TRACK - CABLE HEAD (J.3.D.3-8) DUCKBOARD TRACK to GARTER POINT - then as for 58th Bn.	59th Bn. will supply 5 guides to meet 54th Bn. at WESTHOEK X Roads (J.7.B. 95-20 at 5.0 p.m.
60th Bn. (Left support)	56th Battalion	WESTHOEK X Roads - HELLES TRACK - to 60th Bn. Hqrs.	-ditto-	60th Bn. will supply 5 guides to meet 56th Bn. at WESTHOEK X Roads (J.7.B. 95-20) at 6.0 p.m.
15th L.T.M.B.	14th L.T.M.B.	-ditto-	-ditto-	Relief to be arranged in- dependently and be completed by 11.0 p.m.
15th A.I.Bde H.Q.	14th A.I.Bde H.Q.			

(a) Details as to quartering of 15th A.I. brigade Units on the night 17th/18th October will be communicated later.



APPENDIX: 10

27

- 2 -

Issued at 8.0 p.m.

<u>to</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th L.T.M.B.	5.
No. 4 Signal Section	6.
Copies to :-	
E.G.O. 15th A.I. Brigade	7.
14th A.I. Brigade	8.
13th A.I. Brigade	9.
69th Inf. Brigade	10.
5th Aust. Div.	11.
A.P.M.	12.
A.D.M.S.	13.
C.R.E.	14.
C.R.A.	15.
15th M.G. Company	16.
Staff Captain	17.
29th A.A. Bn.	18.
War Diary	19.
File	20.



S E C R E T.

Copy No. 3

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS

Issued with 5th Australian Division Order No. 170.

Reference Sheet 27
28 1/40,000.Headquarters,
16th October, 1917.

1. The 14th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 15th Machine Gun Company in the forward area on the night 18th/19th October.
2. The 25th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 14th Machine Gun Company on S.O.S. during the 18th October. This relief must be carried out in such a way as to allow the 14th Machine Gun Company to move to forward area on completion.
3. The 8th Machine Gun Company will become the support Machine Gun Company at 9 a.m. on the 18th October, and will remain at present location.
4. The 15th Machine Gun Company on relief will move to Camp in CANAL AREA and come under Brigade control.
5. All maps, Fire Organization Orders, etc. relating to the Sector will be handed over.
6. Subject to the terms of this Order reliefs will be arranged between Company Commanders concerned.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

D. M. G. O.
D.M.G.O. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. Major,

Issued to :-

	Copy No.
8th Machine Gun Company	1
14th Machine Gun Company	2
15th Machine Gun Company	3
25th Machine Gun Company	4

Copies to:-

8th Infantry Brigade	5
14th Infantry Brigade	6
15th Infantry Brigade.	7

*was ready
appx. 10.*



SECRET

COPY No. 9.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 124

Ref. Sheet 28
1/40,000

18th October 1917

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will move to the OUDERDOM AREA today - 18th inst. as under:-

2. UNIT.	STARTING POINT.		ROUTE.
	PLACE	TIME.	
59th Bn.	CAFE BELGE	1.0 p.m.	A Roads H. 16.D. 1.2.- Road Junction H. 14.B. 4.8.- OUDERDOM - Where guides will meet units and take them to camps as allotted.
57th Bn.	X ROADS	1.30 p.m.	
58th Bn.)	"	2.0 p.m.	
15th A.L.T.M.B.)	"	2.30 p.m.	
60th Bn.	"	3.0 p.m.	
Bde. H.Q.	"		

- 3.(a) Distances as laid down in Brigade Order No. 114 will be maintained on the march.
(b) The usual precautions will be taken against hostile aircraft.
4. All administrative instructions have been issued separately.
5. Brigade Headquarters will close at present location at 2.0 p.m. and re-open at OUDERDOM on arrival.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Major.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at	To	Copy No.	Copies to	Copy No.
	57th Battalion	1	15th M.G. Coy.	9
	58th Battalion	2	29th A.A.S.C.	10
	59th Battalion	3	Area Commandant)	
	60th Battalion	4	SWAN AREA	11
	15th A.L.T.M.B.	5	Area Commandant)	
	No. 4 Signal Section.	6	OUDERDOM AREA	12
			War Diary	13
			File.	14
Copies to	B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	7		
	5th Aust Div.	8		



*War Diary
appx. 11.*

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS.

Issued with 5th Australian Division Order No. 173.

Reference:- Sheets 27 & 28
1/40,000

Headquarters
20th October 1917.

1. The 25th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 14th Machine Gun Company in the forward area on the night of 22nd/23rd October.
2. The 8th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 25th Machine Gun Company on S.O.S. during 22nd October.
This relief must be carried out in such a way as to allow the 25th Machine Gun Company to move to forward area on completion.
3. On completion of relief the 14th Machine Gun Company will return to Camp, CANAL AREA, and will remain under control of 14th Infantry Brigade
4. The 25th and 8th Machine Gun Companies will be under the control of the G.O.C. 8th Infantry Brigade while the 8th Infantry Brigade is holding the Line.
5. The 15th Machine Gun Company will become the support Machine Gun Company at 9 a.m. 22nd October and will remain at present location under the orders of the G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade.
6. All maps, fire organisation orders etc., relating to the sector will be handed over.
7. Subject to the terms of this order the reliefs will be arranged between Company Commanders concerned.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Loyle P. Anderson
Major,
D.M.G.O.
5th Australian Division.

Issued to:-

8th Machine Gun Co.
14th Machine Gun Co.
15th Machine Gun Co.
25th Machine Gun Co.

Copies to:-

8th Infantry Brigade.
14th Infantry Brigade.
15th Infantry Brigade.

Loyle P. Anderson
ass't 12.



APPENDIX. 13.

32

S E C R E T.

Headquarters,
15th Australian Infantry Bde.
21st October, 1917.

57th Battalion,
58th Battalion,
59th Battalion,
60th Battalion,
15th M.G. Company,
15th A.L.T.M.B.,



1. There will be two bombardment barrages on each of 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th inst.
2. Times of commencement :-
 - 22nd (a) To be notified later.
 - (b) 5.45 p.m.
 - 23rd (a) 6.0 a.m.
 - (b) 4.0 p.m.
 - 24th (a) 9.15 a.m.
 - (b) 5.30 p.m.
 - 25th (a) 7.0 a.m.
 - (b) 1.30 p.m.
3. There will be bursts of fire from all guns and howitzers on 23rd inst as follows :-
 - 8.0 p.m. - 8.15 p.m. silent period.
 - 8.15 p.m. - 8.21 p.m. Burst of fire.
 - 8.30 p.m. - 8.45 p.m. Silent period.
 - 8.45 p.m. - 8.51 p.m. Burst of fire.
 - 24th inst.
 - 8.15 p.m. - 8.21 p.m. Burst of fire.
 - 8.45 p.m. - 8.51 p.m. -ditto-

W. D. D. 13
appx 13

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brigadier General H.L. ELLIOTT C.M.G. D.S.O.
 Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

21st October 1917.

HONOURS &
 REWARDS.

894. The Field Marshal Commanding in Chief has, under Authority granted by His Majesty The King, awarded the decorations to the Officers and Other Ranks shown hereunder.

BAR TO THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Lieut. Col. J.C. STEWART, D.S.O. 57th Bn.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.

Major N. McK. FREEMAN 58th Bn.
 Lieut. Col. C.C. Mason 59th Bn.
 Lieut. Col. N. Marshall M.C. 60th Bn.

BAR TO THE MILITARY CROSS.

X Captain K.B. Muirson 15th M.G. Coy.

MILITARY CROSS.

Lieut. C.H. Davis 57th Bn.
 2/Lieut. C.S.A. Noan 57th Bn.
 Lieut. H.J. Boyd 58th Bn.
 2/Lieut. E.A. O'Malley 58th Bn.
 Captain S.W. Neale 59th Bn.
 Lieut. T.F. McLaughlin 59th Bn.
 Lieut. G.L. Pentreath 59th Bn.
 Lieut. E.F.M. Gamble 59th Bn.
 Lieut. M.D. Knight 60th Bn.
 Lieut. A.T. Parker 60th Bn.

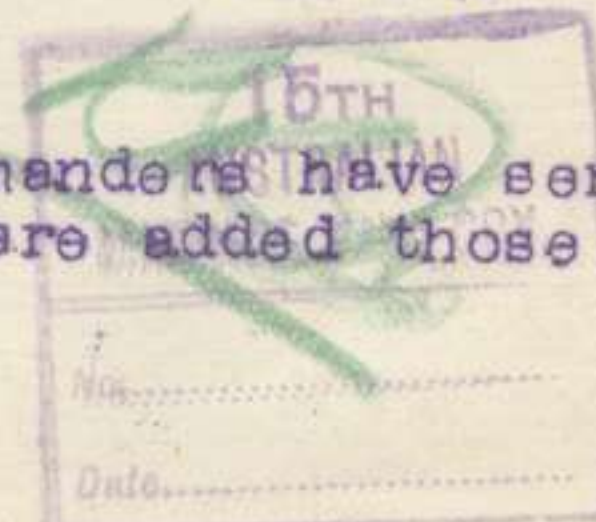
THE DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL

4472 R.S.M. E.F. Dawson 57th Bn.
 3107 Sergt J.H. Fleming 57th Bn.
 2863 Private T. Benoit 57th Bn.
 5072 Sergt J.G. Colclough 58th Bn.
 1894 Sergt A.G. Chenery 59th Bn.
 5366 Sergt S.G. Facey 59th Bn.
 5181 Sergt G.L. Prendergast 59th Bn.
 1806 Private M.V. Brockfield 59th Bn.
 X 3339 Corporal J.G. Harrop 15th M.G. Coy.
 1851 L.Sergt O.A. Cropke 60th Bn.
 (attached 59th Battalion)

MILITARY MEDAL.

2044 Sergt M.T. Danaher 58th Bn.
 1336 C.M.S. H. Graham 60th Bn.

The Army, Corps, and Divisional Commanders have sent their congratulations and to these are added those of the Brigadier.



273
FLARES 895. All red flares in possession of units will be returned to main Divisional Dump CAFE BELGE. All white to be retained.

PROMOTIONS .896 15th M.G. Company.
2213 Sgt. R.A. SMITH to be C.Q.M.S. vice CQ'S
WALKER transferred. dated 21.10.17.

[Signature]
Captain,
Staff Captain,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



273
SECRET.

15th M.C. Coy
 57th Bn
 Headquarters,
 5th Australian Division,
 22nd October 1917.

AUSTRALIAN PATTERN CLOTHING.

As will be seen from copies of correspondence set out below, between A.I.F. Headquarters, London and the Defence Department, Melbourne, there is every likelihood of a shortage of Australian pattern clothing for some months to come, owing to there not being sufficient freight available. Commanding Officers are requested to take all necessary precautions to preserve the Australian clothing now in possession. Care should be taken that the clothing now in use is not allowed to get into such a state of disrepair that it cannot be returned to the Base for washing, cleaning and repair. If it should be found necessary to issue British uniforms during the temporary shortage of Australian pattern, as much care is to be taken of this issue as if it was an issue of new Australian clothing. Every effort will be made to obtain, for this Division, as much Australian clothing as is now available. It is felt that by careful conservation of the clothing now on hand and available, that there may be no necessity to issue British uniforms. This matter is to be represented to all Officers and Quartermasters within the Division.



J.H. Murch
 Colonel,
 A.A. & C.M.G., 5th Aust. Division.

W. D. Smith
 P.T.O.
app x 15



C O P Y .

Qa.6506/1/63.

Headquarters, A.I.F.,
att. 1st Anzac Corps,
B.E.F., FRANCE.

A.I.F. Admin. Headquarters,

L O N D O N, 13th October 1917.

Please note the receipt of the following telegram from Defence Department, Melbourne, dated 10th inst. :-

" WX 674. Your telegram 14th September, 015725, about 2,000 cubic tons reserve of clothing awaiting shipment but freight not available until next November. Cannot guarantee despatch accumulated reserves. Every endeavour will be made to send with first consignment large size Jackets, Breeches, Hats, Boots and Great-coats."

and my reply thereto, as under :-

"Qa.18276. Your WX 674 of 10th October. Owing operations in France wastage clothing very heavy. Essential all available reserves be shipped earliest possible dates."

The position thus disclosed, is that we cannot expect the receipt of any further reserves of clothing from Australia until the end of January at the earliest, as at present there are no vessels on the water.

This information has been passed on to A.I.F. Depots in U.K., and every effort will be made to economise to the utmost.

Sd/ T. GRIFFITHS, Colonel,
COMPLDANT.

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

43/189.

Headquarters, A.I.F.,
att. 1st Anzac Corps,
20th October 1917.

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

The attached copy of a communication from A.I.F. Administrative Headquarters, is referred for your information.

Every effort however will be made to keep up the supply of Australian manufactured uniform, but if Divisions receive Australian pattern of British manufacture and material, the reason will be understood.

Sd/ T. H. DODDS, Colonel,
D. A. G., A. I. F..

Copy No. 6.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 126.

Ref.- BELGIUM Sheet 28 1/10,000

22nd October, 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade (less 57th Battalion - 58th Battalion - 15th M.G. Company and 15th L.T.M.B.) will move by march route tomorrow 23rd inst. to camps as under :-

Brigade Headquarters)	
59th Battalion	)	HALF WAY HOUSE.
60th Battalion	)	I. 15.A.8-6.
2. Units will move independently but will not move from present camps before 12 noon.
3. (a) Distances as laid down in Brigade Order No. 114 will be observed on the march.
 (b) The usual precautions will be taken against observation by enemy aircraft.
4. Transport lines of Units will remain at present locations.
5. Advance parties will be sent forward to take over from outgoing Units during the morning of 23rd inst.
6. Brigade Headquarters will close at H.24.C.4-4 at 4.0 p.m. and reopen at HALF WAY HOUSE on arrival.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. H. H. H.
 Major,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 7.30....p.m.
 to
 59th Battalion
 60th Battalion
 No. 4 Signal Section

Copy No.
 1.
 2.
 3.

Copies to :-
 57th Battalion 1.
 58th Battalion 5.
 15th M.G. Company 3.
 15th L.T.M.B. 7.
 B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade 8.
 5th Aust. Div. 9.
 29th A.A.S.C. 10.
 Area Commandant SWAN AREA 11.
 Area Comm'd't
 HALF WAY HOUSE 12.
 War Diary 13.
 File 14.

War Diary
appx No. 16

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY	
No.	Date

APPENDIX. 17.

38

Headquarters,
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
24th October 1917

Quartermasters,
57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th M.G. Coy.
15th A.L.T.M.B

*War Diary
Appx. 17.*

As Support Battalions (59th Right Support, 60th Left Support) will be leaving present camps early tomorrow 25th inst. to take up position (59th S.E. of WESTHORN RIDGE and 60th at GARTER POINT) it will be necessary for rations to reach them before 8.30 a.m. Quartermasters concerned will please arrange.

All packs and other baggage at present with Support Battalions will be returned to Transport Lines.

Battalions will carry in with them, the unexpired portion of the day's ration and also two day's hard ration. Hot food will be sent forward daily from Q.M. Stores.

Battalions will move forward with water bottles filled. The exact position regarding water in forward area will be notified later. It may be necessary to send water only to right front line Battalion.

57th Battalion moves at noon to right front; 58th Battalion about 1 p.m. to left front. Rations carried same as for Support Battalions.

Quartermasters will each draw from Div. Dump (Capt. Ellis) the following:

10 Pack saddles.
10 Hotboxes.
Water carriers.

Indents for pack transport for following day must be lodged with Staff Captain before 6 p.m. daily.

Rations, when Battalions are forward, will leave Q.M. Stores before 8 a.m.



Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



SECRET

Copy No. 10

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 127.

Ref.- BELGIUM
Sheet 28 1/40,000

24th October, 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Company) will relieve the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade (less 8th M.G. Company) in the forward area during the 25th and the night 25th/26th October in accordance with attached relief table.
- 2.(a) Distances of at least 20 yards between sections will be maintained during the relief.
(b) The usual precautions will be taken against observation by enemy aircraft.
3. All maps, documents etc relating to the sector will be taken over.
4. Administrative arrangements will be issued separately.
5. Subject to the terms of this order all details of relief will be arranged mutually between Unit Commanders concerned.
- 6.(a) Completion of reliefs will be reported in code to Brigade Headquarters.
(b) The command of the sector will pass to the B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade on completion of relief.
7. Brigade Headquarters will close at HALF WAY HOUSE at 4.0 p.m. and reopen at WESTHOEK on arrival.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 4.45 p.m.
to
Copy No.

57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th L.T.M.B.	5.
No. 4 Signal Section	6.
Copies to :-	
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	7.
8th A.I. Brigade	8.
5th Aust. Div.	9.
15th M.G. Company	10. ✓
A.D.M.S.	11.
C.R.E.	12.
29th A.A.S.C.	13.
Staff Captain	14.
War Diary	15.
File	16.



273



RELIEF TABLE TO ACCOMPANY.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 127.

UNIT	FROM	TO	IN RELIEF OF	ROUTE	REMARKS.
57th Bn.	H.24.C.4-4.	Front Line Right	29th Battalion	WARRINGTON ROAD - GORDON TRACK - RELIES TRACK.	(a) 29th Bn. Guides will meet 57th Bn. at junction of RELIES TRACK and Sleeper Road (J.7.B.9-1) at 4.30 p.m.
58th Bn.	H.24.B.5-6	FRONT Line Left	31st Battalion	WARRINGTON ROAD - BIRRX ROADS - BELLEWARRIE SLEEPER ROAD - SMITH ROAD	(b) 31st Battalion guides will meet 58th Bn. at junction of Sleeper road (J.7.B.8-2) at 8.30 p.m.
59th Bn.	HALF WAY HOUSE	Support line Right	32nd Battalion	GORDON TRACK - RELIES TRACK	(c) Guides from 32nd Bn. will meet 59th Bn. at junction of RELIES TRACK and Sleeper Road (J.7.B.9-1.) at 10.30 a.m.
60th Bn.	I.15.A.8-5.	Support line left.	30th Battalion	-ditto-	(d) Guides from 30th Bn. will meet 60th Bn. at junction of Sleeper road (J.7.B.8-2) at 11.15 a.m.
15th L.T.M.B.	H.24.C.4-4	Forward system	8th L.T.M.B.		(e) L.T.M.B. RELIEF to be arranged independently.
15th A.I. Bde. H.qrs.	HALF WAY HOUSE	WESTERN	8th A.I. Bde. H.qrs.		(f) 59th and 60th Bns. will be at disposal of 8th A.I. Brigade for work during 25th inst.

APPENDIX. 7

SECRET.

Copy No. 3.

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS.

ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.174.

Ref: Sheet 28,
1/40,000.Headquarters,
24th October 1917.

1. The Machine Gun Groups in the 5th Australian Divisional Area will be relieved by Machine Gun Companies of the 2nd Australian Division on night 26th/27th October 1917.
2. The 7th Machine Gun Company will relieve the 25th Machine Gun Company in the forward area on night 26th/27th October. The 22nd Machine Gun Company will relieve the 8th Machine Gun Company on 27th October.
3. On relief, the 8th Machine Gun Company will return to SWAN AREA and will rejoin 8th Australian Infantry Brigade at HALIFAX Camp H.14.c.3.5 on 28th October. Move to be completed by 3 p.m.
4. The 25th Machine Gun Company will return to CANAL AREA on being relieved in the forward area, and will move to HALIFAX Camp on 28th October.
5. The 8th and 25th Machine Gun Companies will detail a billeting party of 1 officer and 3 other ranks to report to Staff Captain 8th Infantry Brigade HALIFAX Camp at 12 noon 28th October.
6. 14th and 15th Machine Gun Companies will move under orders of their respective Brigades.
7. Subject to the terms of this order, the relief of 8th and 25th Machine Gun Companies by 7th and 22nd Machine Gun Companies will be arranged by Company Commanders concerned.
8. All maps, fire organization orders, etc. relating to the Sector will be handed over.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. H. Peck Lt Col General Staff
for Major,
D.M.G.O. 5th Australian Division.

Issued at 7 a.m. to:

8th Aust.M.G.Co.	Copy No. 1
14th Aust. M.G.Co.	2
15th Aust. M.G.Co.	3
25th Aust. M.G.Co.	4
D.M.G.O. 2nd Aust. Div.	5

Copies to:

8th Infantry Brigade	6
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	8
D.M.G.O. 1st Aust. Div.	9
D.M.G.O. 21st Division.	10.

14th Div
25th Div
18.



A.I.F. CHRISTMAS SOUVENIR.

There is being published, on the authority of a Committee consisting of the General Officers commanding the Australian Divisions in France, a memento of the past two years spent by the A.I.F. on the Western Front. This memento will be ready early in October so that it can be purchased and despatched to troops to their friends in time to arrive in Australia by Christmas.

The souvenir will consist of a finely produced magazine-book containing about 100 photographs of places where the A.I.F. has lived and fought in France, including Fleurbaix, Armentieres, Poisieres, Houquet Farm, Ypres, the Flanders-Coudecourt Front, Factory Corner, Fritz' Folly, etc., the country covered in the advance beyond Bapaume, the Hindenburg Line, and Messines; and some sketches of life in billets and in the line. It contains also a portrait of General Holmes.

The price will be 3/-, including postage to any address the purchaser desires; the book is not intended to make a profit, but if any profit results it will be given to similar patriotic Australian funds to those to which the Anzac Book funds will be devoted (Widows and Orphans, etc.)

The Book will have a finely designed paper cover entitled simply "FROM THE AUSTRALIAN FRONT", CHRISTMAS 1917th. It will be sold and automatically sent to any address indicated, by a system of entry in paybook and Acquittance Roll exactly similar to that adopted for selling the "ANZAC BOOK".

Thirty Thousand copies altogether are being printed, and they will be allotted in the order in which estimates for them arrive from the units. If O.Cs. of units will kindly indicate on the enclosed form (which is attached for their convenience) the number of copies which they estimate will be required by their units, the necessary Acquittance Rolls and "Bookplates", together with very full instructions will be sent them by return.

Hon. Sec. A.I.F. Christmas Book Committee.

C. G. Bean

100000

20000

10000



Headquarters,
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
26th October 1917

57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th A.L.T. B.
15th A.S. Coy.

1. Baggage and Supply Waggon will report to units at 5 p.m. tomorrow 27th inst. preparatory for move on 28th inst. These vehicles will be returned to the Train Company immediately the move is completed.

In addition to this horse transport one Motor Lorry per Battalion will be at Brigade Headquarters at 10 a.m. on 28th inst. Battalions will arrange to meet.

2. Supplies for consumption on the day following that on which the move takes place will be carried on the train waggon.

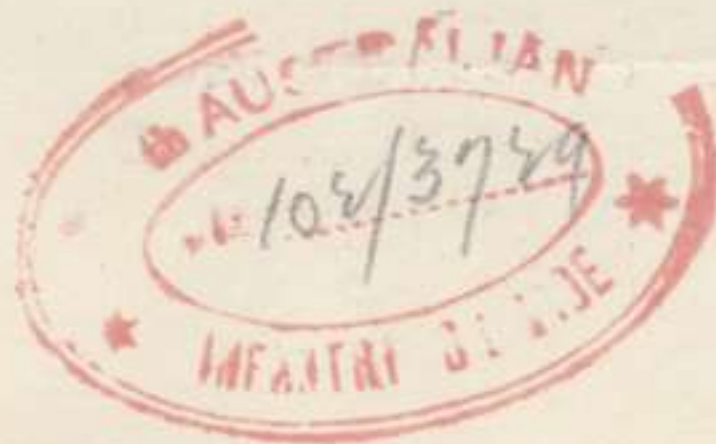
3. The Brigade will not draw supplies on 28th October for consumption on 30th October. These supplies will be drawn on the 29th October from a dump in the RENINGHELST AREA the location of which will be notified later.

[Signature]
Captain.
Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Copies to

Brigade Major.
Brigade Supply Officer.
Brigade Quartermaster.
All Quartermasters.
Brigade Transport Officer.
Brigade Hqs. A.S.S.

*1 Oct Diary
appx 20.*



Headquarters
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
26th October 1917

57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th A.I.T.M.B.
15th 'G. Coy'.
15th Field Ambulance.

This Office 102/3729 of today's date is amended
as follows:-

= There will be no issue on 27th inst. (tomorrow)

On, and after 28th inst, issues will be made at
G.34.1.5.8., near Salvage Dump, RENINGHEIST at 10 a.m.
2nd Line Transport will be used.



[Signature]
Captain.

Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Copies to
Brigade Major.
Brigade Supply Officer.
Brigade Quartermaster.
All Quartermasters.
Brigade Transport Officer.
Brigade Hqs. Q.M.S.



Headquarters
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
26th October 1917

57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th A.I.T.M.B.
15th 'G. Coy.
15th Field Ambulance.

This Office 102/3729 of today's date is amended
as follows:-

= There will be no issue on 27th inst. (tomorrow)

On, and after 28th inst, issues will be made at
G.34.L.5.8., near Salvage Dump, RENINGHELST at 10 a.m.
2nd Line Transport will be used.



R. H. Smith
2nd Lt.
W. R. Pollan

Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Copies to

Brigade Major.
Brigade Supply Officer.
Brigade Quartermaster.
All Quartermasters.
Brigade Transport Officer.
Brigade Hqs. Q.M.S.



SECRET.

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 128.

Ref.-BELGIUM.

Sheet 28 1/40,000

26th October, 1917.

1. (a) The 5th Australian Division (less Artillery) is being relieved in the right sector of the Corps front between the 26th and 28th October, 1917.
- (b) The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Company) is being relieved by the 7th Australian Infantry Brigade (less 7th Machine Gun Company) during the 27th and on the night 27th/28th October.
2. (a) Reliefs and subsequent moves will be carried out in accordance with attached table.
- (b) Distances of at least 20 yards between sections will be maintained East of the YPRES - SHRAPNEL CORNER Road and of 200 yards between companies, 800 yards between Battalions and 400 yards between transport and troops west of the above road.
- (c) Subject to the terms of this order all details of reliefs will be arranged mutually between Unit Commanders concerned.
3. All dumps, trench shelters, local maps, air photographs and information will be handed over and receipts obtained, copies being forwarded to Brigade Headquarters by 12 noon on 28th inst.
4. No trench or area stores will be removed from the sector.
5. All gun boots, whether serviceable or unserviceable will be returned to the drying room at YPRES in accordance with instructions to be issued separately.
6. Units will march out with ammunition echelons as they stand. These will be completed in the new area.
7. All transport and other Administrative Arrangements consequent upon this order will be issued separately.
8. (a) Completion of reliefs will be reported in code to Brigade Headquarters.
- (b) The command of the sector will pass to the B.G.C. 7th Australian Infantry Brigade on completion of relief.
9. Brigade Headquarters will close at WESTHOEK on completion of relief and reopen at H.22.C.4-4 on arrival.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade

Issued atp.m.
to

Copy No.

57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th L.T.M.B.
15th M.G. Company
No. 4 Signal Section
Copies to :-
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade
7th A.I. Brigade
2nd A.I. Brigade

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Copies to :-

62nd Inf. Brigade 11.
29th A.A.S.C. 12.
A.D.M.S. 13.
C.R.E. 14.
C.R.A. 15.
5th Aust. Division 16.
Area Comd't SWAN AREA 17.
Staff Captain 18.
War Diary 19.
File 20.



[Handwritten signature]
No. _____
Date _____

TABLE TO ACCOMPANY.
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No.128.

UNIT	TO BE RELIEVED BY	ROUTE 7th A.I. Bde. IN.	ROUTE 15th A.I. Bde. OUT.	TO PROCEED TO	REMARKS.
59th Battalion (Right Support)	27th Battalion	HELLES TRACK	HELLES OR CAMBRIDGE TRACK - PIONEER & GORDON TRACK - GATE WALK	H.30.A.3-9	Guides from 59th Bn. will meet 27 th Bn. at junction of HELLES TRACK and SLEEPER ROAD (J.7.B.9-1) at 3.0 p.m.
60th Battalion (Left Support)	25th Battalion	CAMBRIDGE TRACK	ANZAC TRACK - CAM- BRIDGE TRACK - PIONEER & GORDON TRACKS - GATE WALK	H.24.C.8-5.	Guides from 60th Bn. will meet 25 th Bn. on the CAMBRIDGE TRACK at J.1.D.3-8 at 2.0 p.m.
57th Battalion (Line Right)	28th Battalion	HELLES TRACK - JABBER TRACK	JABBER TRACK - HELLES TRACK - PIONEER & GORDON TRACK - GATE WALK.	DERBY HUTS (H.24.C.)	Guides from 57th Bn? will meet 28 th Bn. at junction of HELLES TRACK and SLEEPER ROAD (J.7.B.9-1) at 5.30 p.m.
58th Battalion (Line Left)	26th Battalion	CAMBRIDGE TRACK - ANZAC TRACK	ANZAC TRACK - CAMBRIDGE TRACK - PIONEER & GORDON TRACK - GATE WALK.	DERBY HUTS (H.24.C.)	Guides from 58th Bn. will meet 26 th Bn. on the CAMBRIDGE TRACK at J.1.D.3-8 at 5.0 p.m.
15th L.T.M.B. (Line)	7th L.T.M.B.	AS	CONVENIENT	DERBY HUTS (H.24.C.)	Relief to be arranged independently
15th A.I.Bde. H.Qrs.	7th A.I.Bde H.Qrs.			H.24.C.4-4	

APPENDIX.

SECRET

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 129.

Ref.-BELGIUM

Sheet 28 1/40,000

27th October, 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will move by 'bus to the RENINGHELST AREA tomorrow 28th inst.
- 2.(a) Units will move to camps as under :-
- | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 57th Battalion |) | |
| 58th Battalion |) | DEVONSHIRE CAMP G.22.B.8-7. |
| 59th Battalion |) | G.28.A.3-3 |
| 60th Battalion |) | RENINGHELST T. |
| 15th M.G.Coy. |) | |
| 15th L.T.M.B. |) | G.22.D.2-4 |
- (b) Advance parties will report to the Staff Captain at the Area Commandants Office (G.30.C.3-7) at 11.0 a.m. on 28th inst.
3. Times and details of embussing will be issued separately.
4. Units will arrange for guides to meet the "nucleus" which is arriving at G.22.B.4-3 at 2.0 p.m. on 28th inst.
5. On and after 28th inst supplies will be drawn by second line transport from G.34.B.5-8 at 10.0 a.m.
6. Brigade Headquarters will close at H.24.C.4-4 and open at G.22.B.4-3 at times to be notified later.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 2.20 p.m.

to	Copies No.
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th L.T.M.B.	5.
15th M.G. Company	6. ✓
No. 4 Signal Section	7.
Copies to :-	
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	8.

Copies to :-	
5th Aust. Div.	9.
Staff Captain	10.
Area Comdt. SWAN AREA	11.
Area Comdt.	
RENINGHELST AREA	12.
29th A.A.S.C.	13.
A.D.M.S.	14.
War Diary	15.
File	16.

*was Dead
appx 21*



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APPENDIX. 21

49

Headquarters,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade,
27th October, 1917.

57th Battalion.
58th Battalion.
59th Battalion.
60th Battalion.
15th A.L.T.M.B.
15th M.G. Coy.



The following will be handed over to the
relieving Brigade.-

- (i) All sheet maps 1/10,000 and 1/20,000,
BECLEAERE, PASCHENDAELE, WATERDAMHOEK, etc..
- (ii) Working maps referring to the sector.
- (iii) All air photographs, obliques, mosaics, etc..
All linen back maps will be retained.

W. L. J. M.
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

1. Instructions to obtain during stay in No. 11 Camp R Area, or until otherwise amended.
2. Time Table -

Reveille	7.30 a m
Breakfast	8 a m
Sick Parade	8.30 a m
Fall in	9 a m
O.C. Inspection	9 to 9.30 a m
Physical Exercises & Recreation	9.30 to 10.30 a m
Organized Sports	10.30 to 12 noon
Orderly Room	10.30 a m
O.C.'s Inspection	11 a m
Dinner	12.15 p m
Afternoon Free	
Tea	4 p m
Mounting & Dismounting of Guard	4.30 p m
Lights Out	8.30 p m
3. Anti-Aircraft Guard. -
 - Disposition - 2 guns at Dump G 16, d 9.7.
 - 2 guns at Dump G 21, b 4.6.
 - To be mounted at fixed positions.
 - Detail - Lieut. Hackworthy in Charge.
 - 1 N C O & 6 men per gun from each Section.
 - N C Os - Sgts. Moyna & O'Donohue.
 - Cpls. Maher & Duncan.
 - Gear - 4 guns. 4 Cradles
 - 4 tripods 8 belts & boxes per gun
 - 4 anti-aircraft mounts 4 first aid & oil wallets
 - 4 " " sights
 - 24 hours rations will be carried in addition to the unexpired portion of the day's rations.
 - Guard to move from H.Q. at 9.30 a m on 30-10-17.
 - Lieut. Hackworthy will submit daily reports, which will be called for.
 - Transport Officer will arrange necessary transport.
4. Company Dress for Morning Parade - Marching Order.
- Dress for Officers - Belt Hats, web equipment, P.H. Helmets.
5. Section Officers will select their own parade ground & will parade & inspect their sections on same prior to "Fall In" when they will march their sections on to markers on Company parade ground. Section markers will report to C S M on parade ground at 8.55 a m. This order will be observed at all times when a Company parade is called.
6. In addition to duties of ordinary routine the Orderly Officer for the day will - (1) Make a verbal report to the Second in Command, following his inspection at Reveille & Lights Out. (2) Particularly see that the printed instructions "Precautions against Fire" are strictly obeyed. (3) Suppress any naked lights shewing after sunset, and have offenders dealt with. (4) Report to O.C. at 11 a m that the Camp is O K for the daily inspection.
7. Orderly Section will provide 4 men as a Sanitary detail for the day for duty under the A A M C Corporal.
8. Upon taking over the Orderly Officer will report to Second in Command for detail of training, work etc. to be carried out during his period of duty.
9. Officers will see that strict military discipline in dress, deportment, & behaviour is maintained by all ranks, & that every advantage is taken to carry out a system of "General sharpening up"
10. Leave to visit Reninghelst & Picture Theatres may be granted at the discretion of Section Officers.
11. During the stay out of the line Section Officers will guard against the occurring of shortages of clothing & equipment, & will have same replaced by payment on Acquittance Roll unless satisfactory explanation of the loss is proved. Steps will be taken to replace existing shortages from salvage.

W. A. D. 22
K. B. Muirson
Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

ORDERS FOR CAMP GUARD.

1. The Guard consists of 1 N C O and 6 men whose tour of duty is 24 hours, from Retreat to Retreat.
2. There is one post and the beat extends from the Guard room along the duck boards to No 1 Hut.
3. The Guard will be turned out to the O.C. once daily during his tour of inspection.
4. The Guard will be turned out to all armed parties passing the Guard Room.
5. The Sentry will pay compliments to all Officers according to rank.
6.
 - a. The duty of the sentry is to prevent any unseemly behaviour in the vicinity of the Company Huts.
 - b. To prevent any unauthorised persons from loitering near the Huts.
 - c. To prevent unauthorised persons from removing anything whatsoever from the Huts and vicinity.
7. In case of fire the sentry will immediately turn out the Guard. The N C O in charge of the Guard will arrange to have the Orderly Officer and Orderly N C O warned.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

1. On the approach of enemy aircraft, either by day or night, the sentry will give the recognised warning, namely, - 3 blasts on the whistle. On the alarm being sounded by day, all troops are to take cover, & the sentry will see that this is done in the case of men who are about the huts.
2. On the alarm being sounded by night, all lights must be immediately extinguished.
- SPECIAL PRECAUTION.
Naked lights are ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN. Offenders will be severely dealt with.

(Sgd.) Kenneth Murray
Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.



29-10-14

273

APPENDIX. 23

15th M.G. Co.

273

15th INFANTRY BRIGADE - LOCATION.

NEWINGHAMPTON AREA.

Brigade Headquarters.	.	.	.	G.22.b.4.3.
No.4.Signal Section..	.	.	.	do.
15th M.F.Coy. . . . .	.	.	.	Camp. No.11.G.35.A.9.7
15th A.L.F.M.B. . . . .	.	.	.	Scottish Lines, G.23.b.2.8
57th Battalion...	.	.	.	Devonshire Camp, G.22.b.8.7.
58th Battalion. . . . .	.	.	.	do. do.
59th Battalion. . . . .	.	.	.	Scottish Lines, G.23.b.2.8
60th Battalion. . . . .	.	.	.	NEWINGHAMPTON TOWN, G.34.b.4.1.
29th A.A.S.C. . . . .	.	.	.	G.19.G.7.2.
15th Field Ambulance. . . . .	.	.	.	G.21.b.2.5.
Supply Dump . . . . .	.	.	.	G.34.b.5.8.
Brigade Field Post Office . . . . .	.	.	.	NEWINGHAMPTON TOWN, G.34.A.9.1.

All Transport with Units.

W. J. Gollan
Captain.

29-10-17

Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

W. J. Gollan
appx 23

1. GUARD & RELIEFS: 1 man on each gun - 2 hours on & 10 hours off.
2. FIRE ORDERS; Daytime- Fire on any enemy Plane when markings are visible.
Night- Do not fire unless Plane shows hostility by dropping bombs, or firing M.G. on troops, etc.
3. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO BE OBSERVED :
 1. Belts should have tight pockets. These should be tested, or with the gun vertical ~~and~~ the cartridges are liable to slip out
 2. With the Vickers Gun the barrel casing should be kept as full of water as possible and while firing the gun should be brought to the horizontal from time to time.
 3. It is not necessary to take a firm holding while firing, as a small cone of fire is of no advantage.
 4. Never open fire at a Plane (except in case of very exceptional target) unless quite sure that the dropping bullets will not fall among friendly troops.
 5. It is supposed that the the extreme vertical range of a machine gun firing Mark VII SA A in about 7000 feet and that of fire directed at an angle of 45 degrees about 8000 feet.
 6. A Plane is within range when, with good atmospheric conditions the cross can be distinguished with the naked eye.
 7. A constant watch must be kept for our own planes crossing the line of fire. This is most important.
 8. Use of the anti-aircraft sights. Aim is taken at the Plane not as hitherto by barraging in front of it. The whole at 12 o'clock is for use against Planes coming directly towards the observer. The hole at 6 o'clock for Planes going directly away. The hole at 3 o'clock for planes moving from left to right & the whole at 9 o'clock for planes going right to left. Intermediate holes for intervening oblique courses. The system of sighting has been calculated, taking the average flight of a plane at 80 miles an hour, and to put up a fairly intense fire up to ranges of 1200 & 1400 yds on the vulnerable portions consisting of Observer, Pilot, engine or petrol tank. Sighting must be taken through the different holes to correspond with the flight of the plane. The cone of dispersion of the bullets will compensate for any slight variations in course, speed & height.

(Sgd) Kenneth Muirson, Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

*War Diary
Capt
Oct 1917*



APPENDIX. 25

54

15TH AUST. MACHINE GUN COY.

No, 5222 PTE W TURNER -

When infantry advance was held up through inability to get contact with advancing troops on right flank from positions in front of infantry, kept Vickers gun in action for 12 hours alone (all other members of his gun team having become casualties). Inflicting heavy casualties on enemy menacing right flank. During this and earlier part of operations this man showed great personal bravery and devotion to duty. Location Polygone Wood, opposite Cameron House. Date 26/27th ~~September~~ September, 1917.

*Went to
App 4 25*

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
Date:

APPENDIX. 25

15TH AUST. MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

No. 3764, Cpl. HARBORD L.

During operations in the vicinity of Polygone Wood on 26/27th September 1917 when his officer had become a casualty, this N C O, in order to use the Vickers Gun for flanking protection at a critical moment, brought three German guns into use for frontal protection, organizing and instructing the teams of infantry, keeping them in action while he devoted his time to flank protection. The skill with which he organized this position of defense under heavy shell fire was accomplished only by exceptional skill and heroism.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date

APPENDIX. 15

56

15TH AUST. MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

No. 3339, CPL. HARROP J G.

When infantry advance held up and his officer had become a casualty, brought two guns into action in position in front of infantry, under heavy shell fire, and kept them in action protecting the right flank until advance was renewed on the 27th September 1917 (following day). By bringing into action a German machine gun at a critical moment this N C O unaided, fully accounted for an enemy attacking party on our right flank. m Harrop displayed exceptional skill and personal bravery during the operations. Location, Polygone Wood.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
For Official Use only.
Date

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 9th October - to - 6 a.m. 10th October 1917.

Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS Our artillery maintained a good deal of activity throughout the period. CELTIC WOOD was kept under intermittent bursts of heavy fire and the trench systems on the Eastern end were bombarded. Hostile Trench Mortar firing from ANVIL WOOD was successfully engaged. Enemy concentration in E.25.b. was dispersed at 9.22 a.m. Machine Gun firing from D.29.b.85.15 was silenced. Party of enemy, about 4 companies, reported in E.19.d at 12.33 p.m. were effectively fired on. An S.O.S. at 5.37 p.m. was replied to and fire continued till 6.20 p.m.

Barrages were placed on the enemy between 9.15 p.m. and 9.47 p.m. according to programme. Throughout the period enemy tracks and communications were kept under fire.

PRISONERS OF WAR Four prisoners were captured at D.29.b by a patrol of the left battalion between 4 and 5 a.m. this morning.

IDENTIFICATIONS Prisoners captured belong to the 448th I.R. of the 233rd Division. Three belong to the 7th Company and one to the 9th Company. Examination of prisoners forms an annexe to this Summary.

ENEMY SHELLING Hostile artillery was fairly active during the day but quieter during the night. From 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. our support line was subjected to fairly heavy shelling. Our battery positions in J.3.c came under fire from 4.2's from an Easterly direction between 7 and 8 a.m. At 9 a.m. the roads in J.7 received a good deal of attention from 5.9's. At 4.15 p.m. a fairly heavy concentration of 77 m.m's and 4.2 H.E. was placed over the area J.8.a and about 200 rounds were fired. These came chiefly from the direction of TERHAND. Some 8" reported to have fallen in D.29.d from the same direction during the morning.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY Hostile aircraft showed considerable activity during the afternoon flying fairly low over the forward area. At 3 p.m. 12 hostile aircraft flying low passed over our lines.

SIGNALLING A flare bursting into two green lights is reported to have brought artillery support.

Eastman Capt.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australia Division.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date.

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Examination of prisoners of the 7th and 9th
Companies 448th I.R. 233rd Division, Captured
10th October 1917.

1. Three of the prisoners belong to the 7th Company, and one to the 9th Company.

METHOD OF CAPTURE.

The 9th Company men had gone back from the line to guide up a ration party of five other men with hot food from MOORSLEDE. Two of the party got lost on the way dodging our shells; the remainder then lost their way and were captured by one of our patrols. All the prisoners showed great glee on being captured. Two were of the 1917 class, and two of the 1918 class.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

It cannot be exactly ascertained what Order of Battle exists. One of the prisoners thought all 3 Regiments of the 233rd Division were in the line; the 448th I.R. in the centre. Another was sure that the 449th were back in rest.

DISPOSITIONS.

These are also uncertain. One prisoner stated that 2nd Battalion was in the line, probably with all four companies in front, and the 3rd Battalion in support with the 1st in reserve. All were in shell holes.

RELIEFS.

The 448th I.R. went into the line five days ago.

UNITS SEEN.

The 93rd R.I.R. and the 94th I.R. were seen in and around MOORSLEDE. These, if correct, indicate the presence of the 4th Guards Division and the 38th Division in this area, but possibly there is confusion with 93rd I.R. of the 8th Division now opposite our right and the 94th R.I.R. of the 22nd Reserve Division on our left.

RATION PARTIES.

These are provided by the Pioneer Company. There is one of these per Regiment composed of men detached from all companies in the Regiment. Not now being engaged in digging trenches or working on defences, these were used for carrying up rations. Their quarters were in a village near MOORSLEDE, name unknown. The field kitchens come up to MOORSLEDE Every evening about 7 p.m. or at variable times about night fall. They stop on the high road at the western edge of the village about 28 E.15.b.4.9., carriers then take over the food.

ROUTES AND TRACKS.

The route to the trenches is along the main MOORSLEDE-ZONNEBEKE road, then turn off to the right and proceed overland about quarter of an hour before reaching the front line.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Prisoners state that their line is merely shell holes and in a very mu y condition.

HEADQUARTERS.

Regimental Headquarters of 448th R.I.R. is stated to be in a concreted house on the corner of the cross-roads in MOORSLED 28 E.15.b.4.9.

2nd Battalion Headquarters in the remains of a farm house about

-2-

300 metres from a large number of batteries which lie to the left of the main MOORSLEDZONNEBEKE Road. Many of the batteries are in the open.

PRISONERS' HISTORY.

A 1918 class man from STETTIN had been mustered in October 1916, called up on the 18th November 1916, trained with the 442nd I.R. depot, then in January 1917 transferred to the 448th I.R. He came into the field in April 1917.

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Date.....

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 11th October - to - 6 a.m. 12th October 1917.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

- OPERATIONS** 1. Our artillery was active during the 24 hours.
A hostile party about 120 strong was successfully dispersed in CELTIC WOOD at 9.30 a.m. ANVIL WOOD was swept with fire at regular intervals and tracks and communications searched continuously.
During the night harrassing fire was maintained on enemy lines.
PATROLS. Our patrols were active but came in contact with no enemy patrols.
- IDENTIFICATION.** 2. No identifications were made during the 24 hours.
- ENEMY SHELLING.** 3. During the day hostile artillery was not very active, but during the night his shelling increased. Area J.3.c came in for some attention at different periods, mainly from 5.9's from K.21. At noon our front system came under fire from 5.9" Hows. and 4.2" Hows. from the direction of E.23.c. At 2.45 p.m. our support line was shelled from the direction of MOORSLEDE by 77 m.m's. and 4.2" Hows. These guns are reported to have been active all day. The front was fairly quiet from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. when 5.9" How. was firing battery salvos on J.2.b from K.15. WESTHOME RIDGE was searched intermittently throughout the day, likewise BELLEVARDE RIDGE during the night. A number of shells fell in J.3.central at 11 p.m. but failed to explode. An enemy battery firing from D.26.d. shelled REBUS WOOD occasionally during the period.
- ENEMY ATTITUDE.** 4. Enemy reply to barrage this morning was weak so far as this Divisional front is concerned. -- weak barrage was placed on ZONNEBEKE RIDGE about 4 minutes after the opening of our artillery.
Very little hostile machine gun fire is reported to have taken place.
- ENEMY DEFENCES.** 5. MACHINE GUN POSITIONS. Machine gun positions are suspected at D.29.d.50.50, D.29.b.60.30, D.29.d.60.30, D.29.b.70.20.
HOSTILE BATTERIES. Hostile battery positions are reported at D.26.b.80.90, I.2.b.20.50. A large howitzer was observed firing at 10 a.m. from the road E.9.c.7.4. Smaller gun was observed firing from the vicinity of E.26.a.5.8.
- HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.** 6. Enemy plane dropped one white flare on the Ridge at D.29.c.5.8 at 9.25 a.m., this was followed by 20 rounds of 5.9" H.E. This was again done at 5.7 p.m. over J.5.b.5.8.

-2-

MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION
IN AND BEHIND
ENEMY LINES.

7. In the vicinity of E.25.b.9.9. a good deal of movement was reported. There appears to be an aid post in this locality. Movement of small parties up and down the road from D.24.d.70.70 to D.19.a.80.70 was observed. Smaller parties were observed on enemy roads and tracks at various times during the day in the vicinity of E.20.c.9.9. Some movement of small parties was observed on the sunken road at E.19.c.9.8 towards DROOGENBROOD-HOEK. Small parties were seen along the road E.19.b.6.7, also at E.19.c.9.7. Throughout the day isolated movement was seen along the road D.30.d.2.6; parties moved into KIEBERG where they disappeared.
DRESSING STATIONS. Red Cross flags were seen flying at E.19.b.3.8, E.25.d.5.9 and E.20 central, also on a red three story building in MOORSELEDE, approximately E.16.a.4.8.

WATER
SUPPLY.

8. A water tank appears to be in good condition mounted on a staging on road at E.9.c.00.50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

9. At 6.30 a.m. a party of 40 Germans with Red Cross flag came through CELTIC WOOD to what appeared to be a pill box at D.29.d.75.62. One party carried men on stretchers.
FIRES. A fire in a building was observed about E.2.a.90.8

Notes on aeroplane photographs, and maps showing shelled areas forms an annex to this Summary.

S. J. M. M. Capt
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

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Date.....

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 15th October - to - 6 a.m. 16th October 1917

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS

1. Our artillery maintained considerable activity. Bombardment and harrassing programmes were carried out. Roads, tracks and communications were intermittently searched throughout the period. Dugouts on the road near DAME HOUSE were kept under irregular bursts of fire. An S.O.S. signal was answered from 6.4 p.m. to 6.24 p.m.

PATROLS.

Patrolling was actively carried out over the whole of our front during the afternoon and night. One party of 8 proceeded from D.29.d.3.6 through the centre of CELTIC WOOD to the far edge. A pill box located here containing a party of 10 Germans was attacked, 5 of whom were captured, 3 killed and the remaining 2 were probably wounded, but escaped. While the patrol was in this vicinity, enemy aircraft flew low over them opening fire, and also signalling with a white flare to which the enemy opened fire on the patrol with machine guns. One machine gun was located at D.30.a.3.5, and also a sniper noticed in the same position. Three machine guns are reported to have fired from D.30.d.2.5. The patrol returned to our lines at 2 p.m.

CELTIC WOOD is greatly shell-torn and very boggy on the lower slopes. Enemy are suspected to be holding a strong point along the road D.30.d.3.0 to D.30.d.2.5. A party of 7 moved out at 4.30 p.m. and after having gone forward about 300 yards, they came under rifle fire from D.30.c.5.4 and D.30.c.5.5, and flares immediately went up from D.30.c.6.3. The first flare, being an orange one, brought immediate artillery support, and the second flare, composed of two greens, artillery fire ceased.

The third patrol reached a position in front of our line at about D.30.a.8.3 where enemy machine gun opened fire from D.30.b.9.9.

The fourth patrol advanced through FLINT COPSE and FLINT FARM and found no trace of the enemy. On going further forward towards ANVIL WOOD to a point about D.30.a.2.7, enemy sent up flares from the left of ANVIL WOOD.

During the 3 hours that the patrols were out, enemy shelled area between D.29.b.1.4 and D.30.a.3.7. The patrol returned at 10.25 p.m.

A fifth patrol left our lines at 11 a.m. at D.29.b.1.8 and moved towards the left and across the front of ANVIL WOOD. Flares were fired by the enemy from the vicinity of ANVIL WOOD. The patrol returned by FLINT FARM. The ground in the valley is reported to be very boggy, and for about 150 yards is practically impassable.

PRISONERS.

2. Seven prisoners have been captured during the 24 hours.

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IDENTIFICATIONS 3. The following identifications were made during the period:-

511th Sanitary Section, attached 94th R.I.R.
 22nd R.D. (prisoner).
 3rd Co. Guards Fusiliers, 3rd Guards Division
 9th Co. " " " "
 (both prisoners).

Papers and identity discs taken from dead by one of our patrols, identify the 5th Co. 93rd R.I.R. and 8th Co. 93rd R.I.R. The last entry from a diary taken from the same dead reads " 28.9.17. Moved up into line."

ORDER OF BATTLE.

Prisoners state that the Regiment north of the 94 R.I.R. had a number of over 400. From north to south came the Sturm Co. of the 22nd R.D., 3rd Co. 94th R.I.R. (Other companies of the 94th R.I.R. were there, but their numbers unknown.) 82nd R.I.R., 71st R.I.R. Further examination of prisoners taken forms an annexe to this summary.

ENEMY SHELLING

4. Hostile artillery very active throughout the period. Out battery positions in J.3.c. were intermittently bombarded by 5.9's and 4.2's from the direction of MOORSLEDE. At 10.30 a.m. a 5.9 How. concentrated on J.8.c. and d and the valley, firing from K.15. Three planes over head evidently directing the shoot. An 8" How. firing on our battery positions was later effectively neutralised by our counter-batteries. WESTHOEK and BELLEVUARDE RIDGES were shelled intermittently by 5.9's from the direction of K.4. YPRES was under fire during the day by a 4.2" H.V. gun firing from the south-east. During the night enemy shelled fairly heavily J.3.c, J.2.d, J.8.b, c and d, and the front system with mustard gas. Hostile guns firing from the direction of TERHAND and ZANVOORDE actively used gas shells.

ENEMY ATTITUDE.

5. It would appear from patrol reports and prisoners statements that the enemy is more or less improving his position and that a retirement is improbable. The evidence given by patrols of the condition of the ground is a good indication of the difficulty he is experiencing in the low ground. From prisoners statements it would appear that the enemy has no intention at the present time of carrying out offensive operations. His main activity is the use of gas shells and harassing artillery fire.

Hostile aircraft has been very active during the last few days, co-operating with their artillery in artillery shoots and in bombing.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

6. Taking patrols reports and prisoners statements into consideration, enemy front line now runs from JUSTICE WOOD D.30.a.5.5 to FIVIL WOOD. According to prisoners statements the DADZEELE line between SLYPSKAPELIE and WATERDAMHOEK has three belts of wire, each belt 3 or 4 yards in depth and 5 yards apart.

MACHINE GUN POSITIONS.

Hostile machine gun positions are located at D.30.a.3.5, D.30.a.2.5, D.30.c.5.4 and D.30.b.9.9.

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APPENDIX,

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 8 a.m. 15-10-17 to 8 a.m. 16-10-17.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	A.
Date.	

1. OPERATIONS

Patrols :- Patrolling over our whole front carried out vigorously. One party of 8 proceeded from D.29.D.3-6 through centre of CELTIC WOOD to further edge. Pill box located here containing party of 10 enemy of whom 5 escaped from rear of pill box, three were killed and other two probably wounded. The remaining five were captured. While patrol was in vicinity of Pill Box enemy aircraft passed over flying low which opened fire on patrol and signalled with white flare upon which enemy opened fire on patrol with Machine guns. One gun at D.30.A.3-5 opened direct fire, sniper noticed same position.

About D.30.D.25 three machine guns opened indirect fire. Returned to company at 2 p.m.

CELTIC WOOD greatly shell torn and very boggy on lower slopes. Enemy probably holding strong point along military road D.30.D.3-0 to D.30.D.2-5.

Party of 7 went forward at 4.30 p.m.; after having moved out 300 yards came under rifle fire from D.30.C.5-4 and D.30.C.5-5, flares immediately sent up from D.30.C.6-3 - first flare orange and brought immediate artillery support - second flare two greens artillery ceased. Enemy's front line approximately through D.30.C.5-5 and J.6-A.9-7 about 200 yards in front of road running North and South through D.30. and J.6.

Third patrol reached position 600 yards in front of our line about D.30.A.8-3 where enemy machine gun opened fire from D.30.B.9-9 - Officer in charge of patrol killed.

Fourth patrol advanced through FLINT COPSE and FLINT FARM - no trace of enemy. Worked forward on good ground towards ANVIL WOOD. On reaching about D.30.A.2-7 enemy sent up flares from left of ANVIL WOOD. Enemy shelled area between D.29.B.1-4 and D.30.A.3-7 during the 3 hours patrol was out. Returned 10.25 p.m.

Fifth patrol left about 41 p.m. D.29.B.1-8. Moved towards left and across front of ANVIL WOOD.

Flares were fired by enemy from vicinity ANVIL WOOD. Patrol returned by FLINT FARM. Ground in valley very boggy and for about 150 yards practically impassable.

Machine Guns :- Machine Guns were located at

- n D.30.A.3-5.
- D.30.D.2-5.
- D.30.C.5-4.
- D.30.B.9-9.

2. IDENTIFICATION

From prisoners captured (7) identification has been established of :-

Guard Fusiliers.

5th Company 93rd R.I.R.

8th Company 93rd R.I.R.

511th Sanitary section attached to 94rd R.I.R.

3. ENEMY
SHELLING

Fairly active throughout 24 hours., front and support lines being persistently shelled with 77 m.m. from front, KEIBERG and MOORSLEDE; 5.9 H.E. and Shrapnel from flanks. REMUS WOOD, RETALIATION FARM, TOKIO RIDGE and ROMULUS WOOD under searching fire from direction POTTERIDEBRUG and KEIBERG. Enemy battery of 77 m.m. located E.25.B.7-8, our heavies engaged same result battery ceased firing. WESTHOEK RIDGE and PASSCHENDALE RIDGE reverse slope shelled 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. whizz bangs and 4.2. Shelling near front line erratic sometimes shelling between our supports and front line and occasionally to 400 yards in front of our front line. Gas shells again in evidence particularly vicinity WESTHOEK RIDGE.

4. ENEMY
ATTITUDE

Distinctly defensive with exception of aircraft which have assumed the offensive and greatly assist the artillery in their harrassing fire. He seems quite satisfied to keep down - practically no sniping and very little Machine Gun fire.

5. ENEMY
DEFENCES

Very little movement or signs of defence within 1000 yards of front line.

6. HOSTILE
AERIAL
ACTIVITY

Enemy planes again very active throughout the day at periods flying very low over our front and support lines sweeping same with machine gun fire. Number of these planes GOTHA type painted red under body and nose. Enemy plane flew low over ZWIERG COTTAGE dropped an object about 3 feet long at D.24.C.7-8. Machine guns fired on planes without result. Between hours of 8.15 a.m. and 10 a.m. number of enemy planes over our line varied from 10 to 25. 10.15 a.m. two enemy planes flying very low over our lines observed a working party and signalled by means of white flare. Result heavy shelling 77 m.m. for 5 minutes. Three enemy balloons were up opposite our sector all day.

7. MOVEMENT AND
ORGANISATION
BEHIND ENEMY
LINES.

Great deal of movement in and about MOORSLEDE. 8.30 a.m. train observed moving behind KEIBERG Eastwards. Small party enemy - approximately 6 men seen at 1 p.m. moving along WATERDAWHEEK road in vicinity KEIBERG.

8. SIGNALING

5.45 p.m. four S.O.S. signals observed front of RIGHT DIVISION. Our barrage opened, 18 pdrs, from vicinity ANZAC RIDGE followed by heavier calibre in rear. 6 p.m. 3 more S.O.S. same front. 7.5 p.m. lamp signal observed at ZWAANHOEK. Various intervals during night cluster orange flares sent up from enemy positions about J.5-D.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

6.30 p.m. large yellow flare appeared in the sky on the right edge of MOORSLEDE and repeated at intervals for 12 minutes. Appeared to be dump burning.

10. STATE OF
GROUND

Drying on surface and ridges very wet and boggy elsewhere; shell holes 3 parts full of water.

11 WORKS REPORT

Burial party WESTHOEK.
Cable burying and carrying fatigue to ANDERSONS
LOOK OUT
Infantry Defences.
Wiring 200 yards left Battalion front.
Carrying parties CABLE HEAD to front line.
2 companies providing accomodation ANZAC RIDGE.

12. DISPOSITIONS

Unchanged.


Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade .

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.....

Date.....

-2- For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 16th October - to - 6 a.m. 17th October 1917.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS

1. Our artillery maintained usual activity throughout the period. All roads and tracks were searched, and centres where observers reported activity were fired on. KEIBERG came in for a good deal of shelling. Bombardments were carried out by Howitzer batteries on strong points in the eastern edge of ANVIL WOOD and north eastern corner of JUSTICE WOOD. Hostile batteries were actively fired on by our counter batteries.

PATROLS.

Vigorous patrolling was carried out during the night. A patrol reports enemy machine gun active at D.30.c.3.3. From this position enemy sent up many flares and also sniped. The northern side of CELTIC WOOD is reported to be clear of the enemy. Another patrol reports that enemy flares were fired from ANVIL WOOD. No hostile patrols were encountered.

IDENTIFICATIONS 2. No identifications were made during the 24 hours.

ENEMY SHELLING.

3. Enemy artillery was again very active throughout the period, especially during the night. WESTHOEK RIDGE came in for intermittent shelling during the day. Our support lines were continually under 77 m.m. and 5.9" H.E. and shrapnel fire. The road in D.29.a and c, also pill boxes on the Ridge came in for a good deal of attention. REMUS WOOD, HELLES and JABBER Tracks received particular attention. Most of the 77 m.m and 5.9" shelling came from behind KEIBERG and DROOGENBROODHOEK. A 77 m.m. battery appeared to be firing from immediate rear of ANVIL WOOD. Between 11 and 12 midnight 42 5.9's were fired on D.29.c.4.3; 29 of these failed to explode. BROODSEINDE RIDGE was periodically shelled between 10 a.m. and 12 noon by a 4.2" How. During the night our front and support lines were bombarded from the direction of OOSTHOEK. WESTHOEK and ANZAC RIDGES, also the Valley between them were heavily shelled with 5.9's at 11.30 p.m. Mustard gas shells were used freely. Enemy southern groups commenced an area shoot in the WESTHOEK, ANZAC RIDGE Valley at 2 p.m. of 4.2" and 5.9" Hows. This continued until 3.15 p.m. when a heavy concentration was put down in this vicinity, and also in J.8.c and d from the direction of OOSTHOEK, TENHAND and ZANVOORDE.

ENEMY
DEFENCES.

4. Two men were seen to enter a dugout or a trench in CELTIC WOOD at about D.29.d.9.5.

HOSTILE BATTERIES.

A hostile battery was located at 10.45 a.m. behind a hedge at E.19.c.4.9. Four guns were observed firing from F.7.d.8.9. Machine gun positions are located in MOORSLEDE on a true bearing of 48°, 50°, and 53° from J.4.b.8.6.

At 9.15 a.m. a hostile party was observed digging a trench at E.20.c.2.2.

HOSTILE
AERIAL
ACTIVITY.

5. Enemy planes in groups of 10 or 12 patrolled over our lines throughout the day and continually brought machine gun fire to bear on posts and working parties. Hostile planes also dropped bombs early in the morning on the forward areas and our battery positions. Out Lewis and Vickers guns continually fire on them.

OBSERVATION BALLOONS.

Several enemy balloons were up during the day.

MOVEMENT AND
ORGANIZATION
IN AND BEHIND
ENEMY LINES.

6. Five men were seen to enter what appears to be a machine gun post on the ridge at about D.13.c.7.2. Isolated movement seen along the road from the cross roads in D.24.d towards DROOGENBROODHOEK. Considerable movement to and from MOORSLEDE along a road running to E.9. central was observed. Movement consisted of motor lorries, G.S. wagons and small infantry parties.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

Enemy observation posts located at E.9.d.25.50.

LIGHT RAILWAYS.

That appeared to be a light railway was observed moving to and fro in E.20.c, apparently at a dump or siding.

MISCELLANEOUS

7. A large fire was observed behind a house at E.16.c.8.7. The flames were seen to burst into clouds of dense black and white smoke. The fire burned for 70 minutes. At 10.50 a.m. a fire which lasted about half an hour was seen in BECELAERE.

Sastman Capt.
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

REPORT on EXAMINATION of PRISONERS of 3rd and 9th Coys. GUARD FUSILIERS
3rd GUARD DIVISION, captured night 15th/16th October 1917.

IDENTIFICATION.

One prisoner of the 1916 class in the 9th Company and one of the 1917 class in the 3rd Company GUARD FUSILIER Regiment, 3rd Guard Division.

METHOD OF CAPTURE.

The 9th Company man was batman to LIEUTENANT SPIELMANN, who was detailed last night to act as Company Commander to the 3rd Company during the absence of leave (until 19th instant) of the 3rd Company Commander, LIEUTENANT HAMMELSTEIN. The batman was sent back with the 3rd Company orderly to fetch up his officer's things; instead both wandered into our lines on the left battalion front about D.29.b. at 2 a.m.

MOVEMENTS of 3rd GUARD DIVISION.

After suffering heavy casualties at LANGEMARCK on 31st July 1917 the Division went to ALSACE and after some days rest did duty in line near MULHOUSE, the GUARD FUSILIERS relieving the 110 R.I.R. (?) The sector was described as one where not a shot was fired. Meanwhile one officer per Battalion attended an "Assault Course" lasting about 6 weeks at a village of unknown name in BADEN.

The First Battalion was also trained to be an Assault Battalion though only about half of each Company have actually so far completed training. The regiment left ALSACE about 2nd October, relieved by a BAVARIAN regiment, had four days rest in the CHAMPAGNE came north to INGELMUNSTER about October 7th 1917 and stayed at LEDEGHEM 3 days.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

The 3rd Battalion relieved a regiment in line (number of regiment over 300) on night 11th/12th. Perhaps this was the 449 I.R. All 4 companies thought to be in line, the 2nd Battalion in support. Also thought that the LEHR REGIMENT was in line, but position of 9th Grenadiers uncertain.

The 1st Battalion (SCROSS BATAILLON) was for 3 days in support to the 82nd R.I.R. at BECELAERE from about the 10th instant. It was relieved there by the 99th R.I.R. (220th DIVISION), rested two days, and then left a village of unknown name at 8.30 last night to relieve the 2nd Battalion in support.

Regimental sector near the ZONNEBEKE Road, probably north of it.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Position held by the Guard Fusiliers consisted merely of shell holes covered over sometimes with planks or simply with the tent canvas square. The holes were not linked up by trenches. So far as known there were no concrete shelters in the position, the reason being given that our artillery fire prevented any attempt to build them. The front line lies on higher ground than the supports. (From these indications it is evident that the enemy has not moved as far back as the Western slope of the KEIBERG Spur.)

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6. GENERAL NOTE.

The 5th Australian Division has an especial interest in the 3rd Guard Division, which it met both at LAGNICOURT and BULLECOURT. The "COCKCHAFERS" as the Guard Fusiliers are nick-named, rather plume themselves on BULLECOURT as being the place where they made "gallant and successful resistance" although the enemy were on both flanks! When asked whether the LEHR REGIMENT remembered with like pride the drubbing it received on the 15th May of this year, prisoners smiled. The 9th COLBERG GRENADIERS suffered most severely in the April and May fighting against Australian Troops. The heaviest losses of all however prisoners said had been suffered by the Division when at LANGEMARCK on 31st July. The 3rd company alone of the Fusiliers had 76 casualties.

Since then the Division has had liberal rest and has been brought up to strength; the German endeavour being, as before, to make the most out of a name and a tradition, such as the regiments of the 3rd Guards have. Questioned in regard to Morale, prisoners expressed their thanks that they were not as other divisions are, who refuse to obey orders, desert to us, etc! Incidentally it was mentioned that with the "Cockchafers" it is not the "thing" to ride in motor lorries. They prefer to march from the railway to their billets, or to their sector in line.

As a sort of postscript, both prisoners on departing volunteered the information that they were not sorry they had lost their way last night.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Summary of Intelligence.

From 8 a.m. 16-10-17 to 8 a.m. 17-10-17.



1. OPERATIONS

Patrols :- Patrols over whole front carried out vigorously. As a result of daylight patrolling it has been noted that on men leaving and returning to the trenches the position of part of our front line was given away to the enemy and heavy shelling on this particular part of the line followed with result that one Battalion suffered over 40 casualties and posts had to be moved. It is suggested if further daylight patrolling is necessary that parties be sent from rear Battalions leaving and returning carefully and avoiding frontal positions.

Left Battalion Right Company patrol reconnoitred northern side of spur which slopes to D.30.B.0-0 on 35 contour, enemy machine gun in action S. of CELTIC WOOD D.30.C.3-3. From this position enemy was sending up flares and sniping and we were unable to thoroughly examine the S. side of the spur. Northern side was quite clear of enemy to 600 yards from our line.

Left Company patrol went out at 8 p.m. returning at 11.30 p.m. having reconnoitred front area to a point approximately D.30.A.2-3. D.30.C.2-8. Enemy flares were fired from ANVIL WOOD. No other patrols were encountered.

Right Battalion Patrols went out at 10.30 p.m. 12 midnight, 3 a.m. and 4.30 a.m.

Machine Guns :- During the day and more especially during the hours of darkness two enemy machine guns position not determined used direct fire along row of pill boxes at J.4.B.75-50.

One captured German machine gun is in action against aircraft.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

Nil.

3. Enemy SHELLING

Enemy artillery again very active throughout the 24 hours and support lines were continually under 77 m.m. and 5.9 H.E. and Shrapnel fire. Road in front of supports through D.29.A. & C also pill boxes on ridge were continually under fire. REMUS WOOD, HELLES and JABBER tracks received particular attention between Cable Head and support line. Majority of 77 m.m. and 5.9 shelling came from behind KIEBERG and DROOGENBROODHOEK but a 77 m.m. Battery appeared to be firing in immediate rear of ANVIL WOOD.

In one case 11 p.m. to 12 midnight 42 5.9's were counted near D.29.A.4-3; 29 of these were duds which were easily distinguished from gas shells. At 10.45 a.m. battery was located behind hedge at E.19.C.4-9, guns observed firing and shells bursting on ridge between D.29.A.4-2 and D.29.A.2-9. 4.30 p.m. 4 guns were observed firing from position at F.7.D.8-9 - shells were bursting on left of our sector about D.29.A.8-8. Three Gun positions were located at MOORSLEDE at true bearings of 48 deg. 50 deg. 53 deg from Battalion O.P. situated at J.4.B.8-6. These guns were all 4.2's. Artillery was notified through Liaison Officer.

APPENDIX

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.....	
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WESTHOEK and ANZAC ridges heavily shelled with 5.9's, about 11.30 p.m. mustard gas shells used freely, his idea evidently being to gas our batteries and render untenable and impassable to troops the valleys in between WESTHOEK and ANZAC and front line.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE

Infantry still very quiet no sniping and very little M.G. fire, they are on the defensive while aircraft combined with artillery are certainly on the Offensive.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES

No sign of any enemy posts in the forward area with exception of CELTIC WOOD where two men were seen to enter a dugout or trench about D.29.D.9-5 at 10.30 a.m.

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Enemy planes in groups of 10 or 12 observed patrolling over our front line throughout the day and continually brought M.G. fire to bear on posts and fatigue parties moving in vicinity of REMUS WOOD.

Our planes not active and seldom pass our support line giving enemy planes great opportunities of observation. No anti-aircraft fire on enemy planes unless about 200 yards behind our lines.

Our Machine Guns and Lewis Guns very active in daytime on enemy planes, none were brought down in this sector during the 24 hours.

8.50 a.m. enemy balloon observed E.5.C.8-3.

Two enemy balloons were up for a great part of the day at bearings true of 50 deg. and 56 deg from O.P. J.4.B.8-6.

9 a.m. party of 5 men seen to enter what appears to be Machine Gun post on ridge at about D.13.C.7

10.30 a.m. two men seen to enter CELTIC WOOD S. corner and disappear into digout or trench post in centre of wood about D.29.D.9-5.

2.15 p.m. 3 enemy seen to move from X roads in D.24.D. and move along road towards DROOGENBROODHOEK. During day continual stream small parties of men were moving to and from MOORSLEDE along a road running from the town to E.9.Central.

5 p.m. one G.S.Wagon and 2 motor lorries passed along previously mentioned road and entered the town. Located enemy O.P. E.9.D.25-50.

MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION BEHIND ENEMY LINE

6. SIGNALLING

At 10.5 a.m. eight white flares were fired from JUSTICE WOOD - seven single ones, last breaking into two white lights. No action followed. At irregular intervals during night number of orange cluster flares observed. No apparent result.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Large fire was observed behind house at E.16.A.8 flames bursting into dense clouds of black and white smoke, burned for 70 minutes.

8. CONDITION OF GROUND

Ground drying quickly on surface, tracks greatly improved, good deal of traffic possible across surface round shell holes.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
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10. WORKS REPORT

During the 24 hours work was proceeded with as follows:-

Carrying Parties :- Wire corkscrews, duckboards material for A.L.T.M.B., sandbags, rations salvage dump etc.

Wiring :- Total of 240 yards french wire erected in front of trenches in tactical positions.

Strong points chosen and taped off.

Trench Shelters erected.

350 yards duckboards laid HEILES TRACK to GARTER POINT.

11. DISPOSITIONS

57th and 58th Battalions are now in position on reverse slopes ANZAC RIDGE

Battalion H.Q. 57th Battalion J.3.A. Central.

Battalion H.Q. 58th Battalion J.8.B.65-35.

Otherwise unchanged.

Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Bde.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 17th October - to - 6 a.m. 18th October 1917.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS 1. Our artillery kept enemy roads and communications under fire at frequent intervals throughout the day. Centres of activity of the enemy were searched periodically. The KEIBERG cross roads and the vicinity were given particular attention during the night, where a good deal of activity had been noticed. A hostile battery in E.29.b.4.7 was engaged.

PATROLS.

Our patrols were active during the night. No hostile patrols were encountered. Flares were observed to be used from ANVIL WOOD.

IDENTIFICATIONS 2. Nil.

ENEMY SHELLING.

3. Hostile artillery, if anything, was below the usual activity during the period. Areas J.8.c and d came under intermittent shelling by 5.9's and 4.2" Hows. from the direction of OOSTHOEK and WATERDAMHOEK. J.c.3 came in for some shelling from the direction of BECELAERE. Our front system was intermittently shelled during the morning. WESTHOEK RIDGE and ANZAC RIDGE and the Valley between were frequently searched. During the night and the early hours of the morning our front system was given a fair amount of attention.

ENEMY DEFENCES

4. A hostile battery was observed firing from E.26.b central at 2.50 p.m.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

5. Enemy aeroplanes were active. Machine Gun fire was frequently brought to bear on working parties, carrying parties, and battery positions.

MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

6. Several cases of movement are reported on the cross roads in D.24.c moving towards the front line. Small parties were seen passing to and fro on road North-east of MOORSLEDE.

MISCELLANEOUS

7. Enemy dump was observed to be burning on the North-east corner of MOORSLEDE at 5.5 p.m. At 2.45 p.m. a large fire commenced in KEIBERG. At 6.10 p.m. a reflection of a fire was observed in the direction of DADIZEELE followed by three large explosions. AIRCRAFT Our Stokes Mortars effectively fired hostile aircraft from GARTER POINT. On being fired on enemy aircraft made a hasty retreat.

S. J. M. Cant
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

No.....
Date.....For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 21st October - to - 6 a.m. 22nd October 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS

1. Our artillery actively continued harassing and searching fire, and carried out bombardments on battery positions at E.25.b.95.60. Suspected machine gun emplacements at E.19.d.32.45 and E.25.a.23.90, shelters at E.25.b.65.95, and dugouts in road at E.19.d.80.35, enemy roads and tracks, also known centres of activity were swept by intermittent bursts of fire at frequent intervals during the period. A concentration of all guns was put down on road junction at E.26.a.45.65 at 7 p.m. and the vicinity searched periodically until 10 p.m. Between 7 and 9 p.m. three hostile batteries were successfully neutralised. An S.O.S. call was answered from 5.7 p.m. till 5.18 p.m. At 5.30 a.m. this morning the bombardment barrage was fired according to programme.

IDENTIFICATIONS 2. Nil.

ENEMY
SHELLING.

3. Hostile artillery was again active during the day, but quieter during the night. Between 11 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. ANZAC RIDGE was heavily shelled by 4.2's. Between 12.15p. and 12.52 p.m. a concentration shoot, principally 4.2's, was put down on the reverse slope of WESTHOEK RIDGE. A large percentage of shrapnel was used, also a few gas shells. During the afternoon WESTHOEK RIDGE was intermittently shelled by 5.9's from the direction of MOORSLEDE; this was neutralised within 20 minutes. Between 7 and 8 p.m. a few 77 m.m. lachrymatory gas shells were fired on J.8 and J.3. Throughout the night ANZAC and WESTHOEK RIDGES, and the Valley between, were intermittently shelled with 5.9's from the direction of WATERDAMHOEK.

HOSTILE
AERIAL
ACTIVITY.

4. Hostile aircraft was again active flying low and firing their machine guns on troops and transport in the forward area.

MISCELLANEOUS.

5. At 11.15 a.m. enemy ammunition dump at E.25.c.4.8 was observed to be on fire. At 4.40 p.m. a shell burst on the RIDGE at J.5.b.1.6 and throw up a shower of golden lights. At 6.50 p.m. reflection of a fire was observed in the direction of PASSCHENDAELE. At 4.15 p.m. and 8.20 p.m. similar reflections were seen in the direction of DADIZEELE. At 5 p.m. two large explosions occurred in the direction of MOORSLEDE.

Edmund Carr
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

For Official Use Only.



5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 22nd October - to - 6 a.m. 23rd October 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS 1. Our artillery carried out harrassing fire on enemy lines, tracks and communications. Bombardment barrages at 5.45 a.m. and 6 a.m. were carried out according to programme. Three hostile batteries were neutralised during the day. Dugouts in E.19.d and roads in E.26. a were swept with bursts of fire during the earlier part of the night. Three hostile 77 m.m. guns observed firing from E.75.a were engaged.

PATROLS.

Our patrols were active throughout the night. CELTIC WOOD was carefully reconnoitred. Patrol report having found what appeared to be dugouts at D.30.c.5.0; they proved to be a shelter partly above above the ground with about 8 feet of earth overhead. No signs of the enemy were seen in CELTIC WOOD. A patrol inspected a series of posts in CHINA WOOD, and found them deserted. A quantity of bombs and a rifle were in the vicinity. Around these posts appeared a series of trenches and shelters which were all destroyed.

ENEMY SHELLING.

2. Hostile artillery maintained a good deal of activity throughout the period. During the day ANZAC RIDGE, HELLES TRACK and the Tramway in J.3.c were intermittently shelled with 4.2" Hows. and 77 m.m.'s from the direction of WATERDAMHOEK. Battery positions in J.7.b. and c. were shelled at irregular intervals. Some lachrymatory shells were fired on the same vicinity at 7 p.m. During the night, tracks in the forward area were intermittently shelled. In the early morning heavy bombardment of the right battalion line and supports was carried out by all calibres, chiefly from the direction of MOORSLED and WATERDAMHOEK.

HOSTILE BATTERIES.

Gun flashes reported from E.25.b.6.8., E.25.a.7.2., J.12.b. and E.25.a.3.3.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

3. Hostile aircraft were less active than usual. Some back area bombing was carried out.

MISCELLANEOUS

4. At 6.30 p.m. a fire and two explosions were observed in the direction of PASSCHENDAELE. At 7.5 p.m. a searchlight was observed in the direction of MOORSLED.

S. J. M. Ait
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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APPENDIX

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	Date

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 24th October - to - 6 a.m. 25th October 1917.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS. 1. Our artillery carried out bombardment barrages according to programme. Enemy roads, tracks and communications were kept under intermittent fire during the period. Attempts were made to check registration, but visibility was too unfavorable.

PATROLS.

A patrol moved along the north side of BROODSEINDE ROAD, and reported finding the posts at D.24.c.15.60 unoccupied. At this point there is a series of defined trenches, but all the shelters have been destroyed.

About 200 yards further on a large crater was found, round which runs a broken tramline. There were large quantities of shells lying about along the road. It is reported that the enemy shelled this position during the day.

A patrol proceeded through CHINA WOOD to a post at D.24.c.8.3. It approached within a few yards from this post and was challenged. It appeared to be held by about 15 Germans. CHINA WOOD is unoccupied.

IDENTIFICATIONS 2. Nil.

ENEMY
SHELLING.

3. Hostile artillery was active at intervals during the day, and during the night became more active. Intermittent shelling of the tracks by 4.2" Hows. came from the direction of MOORSLEDE throughout the day. ANZAC and WESTHOEK RIDGES, and the Valley between came in for some attention. Enemy reply to our bombardment barrage at 9.15 a.m. consisted of a light barrage of 5.9's and 77 m.m.'s on our front line. Hostile shelling did not commence until 15 minutes after our fire opened, and ceased at 9.55 a.m. Some intermittent shelling of our battery positions is reported. At 5.p.m. enemy shelled our front system, and when our barrage opened he lifted to the reverse slope of the BROODSEINDE RIDGE; this eased down at 5.55 p.m., but intermittent shelling of the slope continued until 6.20 p.m. No counter-battery work was carried out.

ENEMY
DEFENCES.

4. Enemy has an occupied post at D.24.c.8.3.

HOSTILE
AERIAL
ACTIVITY.

5. Enemy aircraft were active during the morning flying low over our line. Machine gun fire was brought to bear on some of our working parties, and bombs were dropped on J.3.c and d.

For Official Use Only.

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On two occasions during the morning, our Stokes Mortars in the front line fired on enemy aircraft with 5 second fuses fuses dispersing them.

SIGNALLING 6. Two double and two single GREEN flares are reported to be the enemy's signal for artillery to stop firing.

MISCELLANEOUS 7. At 5.45 p.m. a fire broke out in MOORSLED during our bombardment.

S. L. M. Capt
 Lt. Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brigadier General H.E. ELLIOTT, C.M.G. D.S.O.
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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1st October 1917.

MEDICAL BOARD. 879. The following detail of Officers will examine and report on all "R.B." personnel attached to Y.M.C.A. with 15th Brigade. Board will assemble at Y.M.C.A. Hut opposite Brigade H.Q. at 10 a.m. 3rd October 1917.

Major N.J. BULLEN, M.O. 59th Battalion.
Capt. B.M. BEATH, M.Q. 57th Battalion.

IDENTITY DISCS. 880. It has come to notice that in many cases Army Order 287 of 1916 and G.R.O. 1922 have not been observed. The Divisional Commander wishes to impress on Commanding Officers the necessity for enforcing the strict observance of orders regarding the wearing of two identity discs. Newly arrived reinforcements are to be made acquainted with the orders, and frequent inspections should be arranged to remind Officers and others of their duty in this matter.

REPLACEMENT OF STORES. 881. With reference to recent operations each Unit will at once put forward indents for all shortages of stores. These will be investigated by D.A.D.O.S., and passed for issue at the earliest possible moment. Boards of Enquiry should be called for at once, and in this way all stores can be replaced and every adjustment necessary be made in the minimum space of time.

REVOLVERS AND BINOCULARS. 882. Lists of shortages submitted by units show a great deficiency in revolvers and binoculars. It has been brought to notice that during operations these articles come into the possession of individuals not authorised to carry them. Unit Commanders will therefore arrange "surprise kit inspections" and confiscate revolvers and binoculars in possession of unauthorised persons.

CERTIFICATES. 883. More attention is required in the matter of receiving receipts for stores, accommodation, etc., when leaving an area. Especially is this the case with trench shelters and tents as any that are short will be withheld from the Brigade when taking over a new area. Receipts, when obtained, may be used to advantage when requesting issue at a later date.

MISSING MEN. 884. Courts of Enquiry on missing men in France will be held only in such cases as 3rd Echelon consider that such action should be taken. Anzac Section furnish names in which action is to be taken and supply all negative evidence possible. On receipt of names, Units will convene Courts of Enquiry as early as convenient.

ILLEGAL
ABSENTEES.

885. In the event of a soldier being absent without leave for a period of 21 days, a Court of Enquiry must be assembled at once, unless before such Court of Enquiry has assembled it has come to the knowledge of the soldier's C.O. that the soldier has been apprehended or has surrendered. In that case no Court of Enquiry will be held and the facts of the soldier's absence and the deficiency (if any) of his clothing must be proved by oral evidence at any subsequent Court Martial (K.R. 673). In calculating the period of 21 days the day on which the soldier became absent and the day on which the Court is assembled must be excluded from the reckoning. Units will at once hold Courts of Enquiry on all men who have been illegally absent for 21 days and over. See K.R. 673; A.A. Sect. 72 and note 1 to Sect. 72.

15th Austral

Captain.
Brigade Major.
antry Brigade.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.

No.

Date

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

Brigadier General H.E. ELLIOTT C.M.G. D.S.O.
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date

4th October 1917

G E N E R A L S T A F F .

CONGRATULATORY. 887. The Army Commander wishes to express his appreciation of the work done by Intelligence in all formations and units of the Second Army during the recent series of operations, and is pleased to add that the value of this work has been particularly mentioned to him by the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief. The information which was secured in preparation for the offensive was both thorough and complete, and the attacking troops were fully acquainted with the ground over which they had to advance. The close co-operation of Intelligence with all Branches during the Battle itself, the accuracy of the information sent in, and its quick dissemination to all concerned were of the greatest value in promptly establishing the order of battle, and enabled the enemy concentrations and counter-attacks to be dispersed, thus contributing materially to the success which has been obtained.

A D M I N I S T R A T I V E.

BOARD OF INQUIRY 888. A Board of Inquiry, composed, as under, will assemble at Brigade Headquarters at 10 a.m. on Saturday 6th instant to enquire into and report upon the loss of certain Unit stores lost or destroyed during recent operations and such other matters as may be brought before it.

President.

Major. R.M.C. Aitchison, 57th Bn.

Members.

Capt. H. Roberts, 60th Bn.

Lieut. H.G. Morrow, 59th Bn.

All units will prepare lists of stores on charge to them which were lost or destroyed in recent operations. Lists will be sectionised. All necessary evidence will be produced by units concerned. Proceedings will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.

BATTLE STORES. 889

Units will furnish to this office before 6 p.m. on 4th inst. certificates to the effect that all Battle stores which were issued and have not yet been returned in full have either been destroyed or lost in action, or otherwise. Nil. returns required if all stores have been returned. Battle stores include;

- Bottles, water.
- Carriers, water, bottle.
- Pack-Saddlery.
- Carriers, water, pack-saddlery.
- Cutters, wire, Mk.1.
- " " long.
- Breakers, wire, S.A.
- Containers, Hot food.
- Gloves, hedging.
- Bags, ration, waterproff.
- Carts, water.
- Boots, gum, thigh
- Yukon packs.

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WAR TROPHIES. Information has been received that the claims of the various Battalions of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade to the items enumerated have been noted by the War Office.

Trophy.

By whom Captured.

Maxim M.G.No.2765	58th Battalion.
Maxim M.G.No.10129	-do-
(less feed blocks)	
Mounting M...field No.112	-do-
-do- 779	-do-
7.5 Minenwerfer No.3040	15th L.T.M.B.

Captain.

Brigade Major.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Notices. The chocolate supplied to troops before entering recent operations was a gift of the Y.M.C.A.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by
Brigadier General H.E. ELLIOTT C.M.G. D.S.O.
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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20th October 1917

ORDERS. 892. The following Orders are republished for information:-

D.R.O. 1695 TRAINING BATTALION RELIEFS.

In accordance with memo. from A.I.F. Depots in U.K. (No. CR.A.I.F. 19799 A), the ordinary reliefs for Infantry Battalions (including Pioneer Battalion) will not take place during November and December. Nominations for reliefs in January will be submitted in the usual way.

D.R.O. 1697 REINFORCEMENTS.

The reinforcements which are now being despatched to Corps Reinforcement Camps are definitely posted to their units before they leave the Base and should be taken on the strength as soon as they arrive at the Corps Reinforcement Camps. (1st Arzac 162/307 dated 13-10-17.)

A.R.O. 728 CASUALTIES. REPORTS OF "MISSING".

A great deal of discontent at home and unnecessary correspondence is caused through men stating in private letters that officers or men reported missing may be assumed to be dead though the body has not been found. Men should never make statements of this sort till an official report that the missing man is believed killed has appeared in Part II Orders. Attention is called to G.R.O. 1750. The words "believed killed" should not be added to the report of "missing" by the unit unless the evidence is complete.

This order will be republished in Battalion Orders and read to the men.

(A.G. G.H.Q. No. A/59(O.1.) of 5-10-17)

A.R.O. 722 INSTRUCTIONS re INDENTING for SMALL BOX RESPIRATORS and SPARE BOXES (CONTAINERS).

When boxes (containers) are worn out (i.e. have been worn for drill or in shell gas for 48 hrs.) or rendered useless in any way, new containers only should be indented for (not complete Respirators. Old boxes (containers) should be replaced under the supervision of an Officer or the Gas N.C.O. Complete S.B.R's should not be indented for unless the rubber tube or mask is damaged as a man should retain a mask he is used to as long as possible. If complete S.B.R's are indented for, the number and size required should be stated. The size of the mask is printed on the front of the mask usually in the circle made by the ring of the nose clip.

Extensions for S.B.R's are not now issued.

A "Tool for detaching containers" should be requisitioned for when demanding a first supply of containers. It should be stated clearly on the indent why the materials are required.



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1771. OFFICERS AND MEN PROCEEDING TO SCHOOLS:

In future, all Officers and men proceeding to Schools must be provided with written instructions and a record of their departure will be kept by the Unit or Reinforcement Wing as the case may be.

1772. HAIR CUTTING:

A number of men in the Division have been noticed with hair which requires cutting. O.Cs. Units will take steps to ensure that men's hair is kept short.

1773. REMOVAL OF BRICKS, ETC:

Attention is drawn to 1st Anzac Corps Routine Order No. 389 of 22nd September last regarding removal of bricks, etc. from towns and villages in the shelled areas, which will be strictly complied with. It has been brought to notice that in some cases these instructions are not being complied with. There is no difficulty in obtaining bricks etc. for authorized purposes provided the instructions above-quoted are followed.

J. H. M. M. M.
Colonel,
A.A. & Q.M.G., 5th Aust. Division.

N O T I C E.

STOLEN from 'B' Echelon Office, 1st Aust. D.A.C. at T.8.c.9.2. (Sheet 28) on night 20/21st November, Govt. Bicycles Nos. B.20775 and 73808. Any information regarding these bicycles to be forwarded to 1st Aust. D.A.C.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by
Lieutenant-Colonel J.G. STEWART D.S.O.
Temp. Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

31st October 1917

- COMMAND. 909. Lieut. Col. J.G. STEWART, D.S.O., 57th Battalion, assumes temporary command of 15th Infantry Brigade from this date during the absence of Brig-Gen. H.E. ELLIOTT, C.M.G. D.S.O., on leave.
- BREAD SACKS. 910. Every opportunity must be taken to return all empty bread sacks to Train Co. The supply of these sacks is running very short and unless steps are taken to prevent leakage the supply will cease altogether. Train Co. will check the numbers returned by units at indefinite periods.
- DENTAL. 911. No. 23 Dental Unit is established at G.21.b.2.5. and is prepared to treat cases at 9.30 a.m. daily (Sundays excepted) on production of an order from any H.O.
- SELF INFLICTED WOUNDS. 912. The number of cases of self-inflicted wounds in the Brigade has increased of late. Commanding Officers will therefore take steps to have all previous orders issued on this subject re-issued and brought to the notice of all ranks.
- PROSECUTORS; F.G.C.M. 913. In all cases of F.G.C.M. in a unit a responsible officer will be appointed as prosecutor who must be acquainted with the case. This officer will bring out all the facts necessary to prove the charge. For other duties see, R.P. 579, 594, 595, 601, 608, 609, 610.
- LEAVE. 914. Leave for all ranks up to 10% may be granted by C.O's. Men must be in possession of a pass, be properly dressed, and be clear of the town by 8 p.m.
- REVEITEMENT OF HUTS. 915. Units will arrange to draw from Brigade Headquarters after 9 a.m. tomorrow 1st November the following quantities of sandbags which will be used to protect Huts and Tents against enemy aircraft:
- | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|
| 57th Bn. | - | 2,500 |
| 58th Bn. | - | 2,500 |
| 59th Bn. | - | 3,000 |
| 60th Bn. | - | 1,000 |
| 15th M.G. Co. | - | 600 |
| 15th A.L.T.M.B. | - | 400 |
- ORDERS. 916. The following Routine Orders are republished for information:-
1268 Leave-Particulars in A.B.64.
A recent inspection of A.B.s. 64 of men proceeding on leave from a Base Port disclosed that in 24 per cent of the books examined the particulars of the last grant of leave had not been entered as prescribed by G.R.Os. 1267 and 2684.
These two G.R.Os. are republished for information:-
G.R.O. 1267 - LEAVE.
In future when N.C.Os. and men proceed on leave an entry will be made in Army Book. 64 showing the dates on which such leave is granted and for what periods.



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G.R.O. 2684 - LEAVE.
With reference to G.R.O. 1257, before new pay book (A.B. 64) is issued to a soldier on entry will be made in it showing the dates of the last grant of leave.

1269 Wearing of Trench Helmets.

A.R.O. 1057 dated 7th August, is cancelled.

Trench Helmets will be worn by all ranks East of the following line till further orders:-

PONT DE NIEPPE BRIDGE - LA PETITE MUNQUE FARM -
- WULVERGHEM - SPANBROECKMOLEN - VIERSTRAAT -
- ELZENWALLE - SWAN CHATEAU - YPRES-COMINES CANAL.

Captain.
Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



- 2 -

G.R.O. 2683 CLEANING RIFLES and REVOLVERS. (Precaution against accident)

Before any attempt is made to clean a rifle, either outside or inside, the bolt will be first removed and then the magazine.

After cleaning the bolt will always be replaced and closed, springs eased, and safety catch applied, before magazine is re-attached.

Revolvers are not to be cleaned either internally or externally without being first unloaded.

This order is to be read out periodically on Company parades.

G.R.O. 2684 LEAVE.

With reference to G.R.O. 1267, before a new pay book (A.B.64) is issued to a soldier an entry will be made in it showing the dates of the last grant of leave.

2nd Army R.O. 1214 RUM - STORAGE AND ISSUE OF.

Part 2 of A.R.O. No. 785 is republished.

(2) As several irregularities have recently come to light with regard to the issue of rum to the troops, the following rules, ~~and~~ published and must be strictly observed:-

1. Rum, when authorised, will be kept under charge of company, battery or squadron commanders.
2. Rum must be issued and consumed in the presence of an officer.
3. Under no circumstances will more than one issue, viz, 1/64 gallon, be made to a soldier on the same day.
4. Men undergoing Field Punishment will receive no issue of rum unless it is necessary for medical reasons.

BOARDS OF 893.

ENQUIRY.

It has now been definitely ruled that a Board of Inquiry for stores or equipment lost or destroyed in action (except for field glasses, revolvers, and other very technical stores) is not necessary. A certificate from Commanding Officers is all that will be required, but care must be taken that there is evidence to support the certificate if called for.

E. H. H. H.
Major.
Brigade Major.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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APPENDIX.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

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SICK WASTAGE REPORT.

<u>Date.</u> <u>1917</u>	<u>To Field</u> <u>Ambulance.</u> <u>Off. O/R</u>	<u>From Field</u> <u>Ambulance.</u> <u>Off. O/R</u>	<u>Evac. Div. Area &</u> <u>struck off strength.</u> <u>Off. O/R</u>	
Oct. 1	-	-	-	
2	-	-	-	
3	4	-	-	
4	1	-	-	
5	-	-	4	
6	-	-	-	
7	-	-	-	
8	-	-	1	
9	-	-	-	
10	1	-	1	Wounded
11	-	-	1	"
12	-	-	-	
13	-	-	1	
14	-	-	5	
15	-	-	2	Killed
16	-	-	1	Wounded
17	1	-	1	Killed
18	-	-	1	Wounded
19	-	1	1	"
20	-	-	6	"
21	-	-	-	
22	1	-	-	
23	-	-	-	
24	4	-	1	
25	1	-	1	
26	-	-	-	
27	1	-	-	
28	-	-	4	
29	-	1	2	
30	-	-	-	
31	-	-	-	

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