

**AWM4**

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/20/26 Part 1

**Title:** 15th Australian Machine Gun  
Company

April 1918 Includes appendices



AWM4-24/20/26PART1

2148  
60

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.G. Coy.*

FOR

*period 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April 1918.*

Signature of Officer compiling

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*Lieut.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Tempt.*

*F. Whelpton Capt.*

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4. Folio 1.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme Sheet 62 <sup>D</sup> 1/40,000.	1918 April 1 <sup>st</sup>		Weather: dull - showers overnight. 2 sections attached to 10 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Bde. digging in + improving gun positions. Adm. instructions from 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. (2 sects. attached) received Intelligence summaries (3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div. + 15 <sup>th</sup> Bde.) attached Section officers' reports attached With Coy: 11 off. 170 % : Battle casualties: 1 % wounded: Reinf. nil.	Not. " 2 " 3
	"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Weather: fine. Intelligence summaries 11 <sup>th</sup> + 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bds. attached Provisional Defence Scheme of " " " Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports With Coy. 11 off. 169 % Battle casualties: nil. Reinf. nil.	" 4 " 5 " 6
	"	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Weather: day fine - rain at night. 15 <sup>th</sup> Bde. orders re salvage + much property in billets recd. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached With Coy. 11 off. 167 % Battle casualties: 1 % wounded: Reinf. nil.	" 7 " 8
	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	Weather: fine. Reports by Lt. H.B. Linton-Smith + Lt. H.G. Hanna of operation by which enemy occupied Hamel without resistance from British troops. Enemy advance subsequently held up with aid of 1 gun. 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. orders attached - S.H.H. drawn. 2 sections in line in T.18. relieved + marched to Corbie where Coy. less 1 section concentrated + billeted under orders 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde.	" 9 " 10(a)

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(ASCO4) Wt W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 82 Forms/C2118/14

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4 Folio 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tonnin Sheet 62 <sup>d</sup> 1/40,000	1918 Apr. 4 <sup>th</sup>		Arrived at billets O.S.C.6.9. at midnight. With Coy. 11 off. 173%. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil.	
			5 <sup>th</sup> 6 am. Orders for 12 guns to support reserve Battalion on Warfusée - Abancourt road. O.C. reconnoitred position getting in touch with Batten. Commanders. Guns brought 10.30 am.: into position through heavy shelling. 5.30 p.m.: Orders to relieve 16 <sup>th</sup> M. G. Coy. (British) of 8 guns in positions opposite Hamel. Nos. 1 + 3 sections moved to effect relief - found 16 <sup>th</sup> Coy. (British) had gone before relief - position reconnoitred + guns placed. No. 2. Section remained with 57 <sup>th</sup> Batten. guns on right flank. Hot meal to all sections. Hqs. + Transport shelled out of O.S.C.6.9. moved to I34.d.6.2. (Corbie). 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Summary attached Section officers' reports attached. With Coy. 11 off. 167%. Battle Casualties: 6% wounded Reinforcements: nil.	No: 10 " 11
			6 <sup>th</sup> Weather: fine. 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Diagram. Instructions + intelligence wires attached. Section officers' reports attached - casualties inflicted on Enemy transport near Hamel. O.C. (Capt. G. F. Fitz-Gerald) took command of all guns on brigade front - disposition etc. of same attached. Coy. Intelligence summary + section officers' reports attached.	12 13 14 15
			With Coy. 11 off. 167%. Casualties: nil Reinforcements: nil.	

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1/27 52 Form C. 2118/14

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4 Folio 3.

15th  
AUSTRIAN  
MACHINE GUN COY.  
Date

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme Sheet 62D 1/40,000.	1918 April 7 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: cloudy, no rain. 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary, Intelligence wires and Section officers' reports " " " bin. memo. attached With Coy. 11 off. 167.7% Casualties: nil. Recruits: nil	No. 16 " 17
	"	8 <sup>th</sup>	Weather: dull - heavy showers. 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary etc. " " " administrative memo. With Coy. 11 off. 167.7% Casualties: nil. Recruits: nil	" 18 " 19
	"	9 <sup>th</sup>	Weather: dull + cloudy. Congratulatory memo. + 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary + Section officers' reports With Coy. 11 off. 167.7% Casualties: nil. Recruits: nil	- 20 - 21
	"	10 <sup>th</sup>	Weather: cloudy. oc. at CO's conference of Company Commanders. Coy. Intelligence Summary + Section officers' reports attached With Coy. 11 off. 159%: Casualties 3% killed 4% wounded: Recruits: nil.	" 22
	"	11 <sup>th</sup>	Weather: dull + cloudy. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cameron + Welch joined Coy. Following re-arrangement of companies, disposition of guns attached Section officers' reports attached With Coy. 13 off. 158.7% Casualties: nil. Recruits: 2 officers.	" 23 " 24

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4. Folio 4.

AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme Sheet 62 <sup>D</sup> 1/40,000.	1918 Apr 12 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: fine. Intelligence report 8 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. attached Coy summary & section officers' reports attached With Coy. 13 off. 184 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: 17 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> (from Inf.)	No: 25 .. 26
	13 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: cloudy - rain over night Expected enemy attack did not develop. Coy summary & section officers' reports attached. With Coy: 13 off: 175 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: 1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> killed 2 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> wounded Reinforcements: nil	.. 27
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: dull but fine. Coy summary & section officers' reports attached With Coy. 13 off. 175 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil.	.. 28
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: dull - slight showers. Coy summary & section officers' reports attached With Coy: 13 off. 174 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil	.. 29
	16 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: fine. Coy summary & section officers' reports attached With Coy. 13 off. 174 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: nil. Reinforcements: nil	.. 30
	17 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: fair. Probable adjustment of areas received from Co. Coy summary & section officers' reports attached With Coy. 13 off. 188 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> Casualties: nil Reinforcements: 10 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>175</sub> from Base	.. 31 .. 32

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18822 WI 2/27/1/12/31 72,000 Sch. 52 Form C. 2118/14

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Vol. 4. Folio 5

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tommie Sheet 62? 1/40,000.	1918 Apr. 18 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: Showery. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 13 off. 189.9%. Casualties: nil. Reports: nil.	No. 33.
	" 19 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: Fine. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 13 off. 189.9%. Casualties: nil. Reports: nil.	.. 34
	" 20 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: Fine. Battalion order re extension of front received. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 13 off. 186.9%. Casualties 2% killed, 1% wounded	.. 35 .. 36
	" 21 <sup>st</sup>		Weather: Fine. Enemy transport fired on near Hamel Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 13 off. 187.9%. Casualties: nil. Reports: nil.	.. 37
	" 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Weather: day fine: rain overnight. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached. Lt. F. E. Murphy to Batten. Hq. as Intelligence officer	.. 38
	" 21 <sup>st</sup>		with Coy. 12 off. 187.9%. Casualties: nil. Reports: nil.	
	" 23 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather: Fine. Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached. with Coy. 12 off. 185.9%. Casualties: 1% wounded. Reports: nil.	.. 39.

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D.D. & I. London, E.C. 4. 1918. Form C. 2118/4

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4 Folio 6

AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme Sheet 62 1/40,000.	1918 April 24 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather: fine.                      Coy. Intelligence Summary + Section officers' reports attached                      Heavy bombardment by enemy with gas + H.E. shells opened at 3.30 am. Transport + Rear Hqrs. moved to H35 d. 6.9. O.C. (Capt. G. F. Fitz. Gerald) evacuated wounded (gas). Intended enemy attack frustrated by our artillery during night of 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>. Capt. F. Whelpton temp. in command of Coy.                      5<sup>th</sup> Div. Intelligence Summary + annex attached with Coy. 12 ff. 174 ff. Casualties: 1 off. 11 ff. wounded. Reinforcements nil.</p>	No. 40 .. 41
	25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather: Cloudy but fine.                      Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 11 ff. 174 ff. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements nil.</p>	.. 42
	26 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather: dull. Patn. order No. 5 received.                      Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 11 ff. 175 ff. Casualties: 3 ff. wounded. Reinforcements nil.</p>	.. 44 .. 43
	27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather: dull.                      Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached Patn. order No. 6. + Intelligence Summary attached with Coy. 11 ff. 176 ff. Casualties 4 ff. wounded. Reinforcements nil.</p>	.. 45 .. 46
	28 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather: dull - rain over night.                      Coy. Summary + Section officers' reports attached with Coy. 11 ff. 178 ff. Casualties: nil. Reinforcements nil.</p>	.. 47

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4. Folio 7.

157  
AUSTRALIAN  
MACHINE GUN COY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Summit Sheet 62 <sup>d</sup> 1/40,000.	1918 Apr. 29 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: cloudy - slight rain. Section officers report attached. Overhauling + clearing of transport with Coy: 11 <sup>th</sup> 178 <sup>th</sup> . Casualties: nil. Recruits: nil.	No: 48
" 30 <sup>th</sup>		Weather: dull. Section officers' reports attached. with Coy. 11 <sup>th</sup> 178 <sup>th</sup> . Casualties: nil. Recruits: nil.	49	
F. Whelpton Capt. p.s. Temp. O.C. 15 <sup>th</sup> M.S. Coy.				

## WAR DIARY

OF

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY

FOR

MONTH OF APRIL 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
x1	15th A.I.Bde Admin. Instructions No.14.
x2	3rd Aust. Division Intelligence Summary.
x3	Section Officers' Reports.
x4 )	15th A.I.Bde Intelligence Summary.
5 )	11th A.I.Bde Report No.48.
x25	15th A.I.Bde Provisional Defence Scheme & Wire.
x26	Section Officers' Reports.
x7	Wires -2- Instructions from 15th A.I.Bde.
x8	Section Officers' Reports.
x9	Section Officers' Reports.
x10a	15th A.I.Bde wire re ammunition refilling point.
x10	15th A.I.Bde Intelligence Summary.
x11	Section Officers' Reports.
x12	Wires & Admin. Instruction No.15 from 15th A.I.Bde.
x13	Section Officers' Reports.
x14	Machine Gun Dispositions on 15th A.I.Bde Sector.
x15	Section Officers' Reports.
x16	Section Officers' Reports. 15th A.I.Bde Intelligence Summary and wires.
x17	15th A.I.Bde Circular Memo. No.20.
x18	15th A.I.Bde Intelligence Summary & wire.
x19	15th A.I.Bde Admin. Memo. No.16.
x20	Messages of congratulation & 15th A.I.Bde Intelligence
x21	Section Officers' Reports.
x22	Section Officers' Reports.
x23	Dispositions of Machine Guns 15th A.M.G. Coy.
x24	Section Officers' Reports.
x25	8th A.I.Bde Intelligence Summary.
x26	Section Officers' Reports.
x27	Section Officers' Reports.
x28	Section Officers' Reports.
x29	Section Officers' Reports.
x30	Section Officers' Reports.
x31	5th M.G. Battn. Adjustment of Areas.
x32	Section Officers' Reports.
x33	Section Officers' Reports.
x34	Section Officers' Reports.
x35	5th M.G. Battn. Order No. 4.
x36	Section Officers' Reports.
x37	Section Officers' Reports.
x38	Section Officers' Reports.
x39	Section Officers' Reports.
x40	Section Officers' Reports.
x41	5th Aust. Division Intelligence Summaries.
x42	Section Officers' Reports.
x43	Section Officers' Reports.
x44	5th M.G. Battn. Order No. 5.
x45	Section Officers' Reports.
x46	5th M.G. Battn. Order No. 6. & Intelligence Summary.
x47	Section Officers' Reports.
x48	Section Officers' Reports.
x49	Section Officers' Reports.



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*[Handwritten text: 15th M.G. BATTN. WASTE REPORT]*

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN  
JE 23/68  
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS No. 14.

Headquarters,  
1st April 1918

Ref. Map 62D

- 
1. SUPPLIES. The Refilling Point is at PONT NOYELLES. Supplies will be drawn at 10 a.m. daily until further notice.
  2. ORDNANCE STORES. Urgent demands for Ordnance Stores will be made direct to Ordnance Officer, Corps, VILLERS BOCAGE. A copy of all demands made should be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.
  3. POLICE. In addition to the usual Police Duties, special instructions will be issued to all Regimental Police to prevent looting, and to suppress lights and open fires after dark.
  4. TRAFFIC. Traffic Control Posts have been established as follows:-
    1. HEILLY.
    1. BONNAY.
    1. LA HOUSOYE.
  5. BATTLE STRAGGLERS:-
    1. at Junction of FRANVILLERS - HEILLY and AMIENS ALBERT ROADS.
    1. at Junction of roads  $\frac{1}{2}$  k.m. North of T. in RIBEMONT.
    1. North side of railway at HALTE, South of HEILLY.
    1. Railway end of BONNAY.
    1. East of CORBIE at Junction of roads at third "L" in LA NEUVILLE.

Advanced Collecting Post at Field Punishment Compound, HEILLY, where all stragglers collected in this Brigade Area will be forwarded direct under escort.
  6. PRISONERS OF WAR. Divisional Cage at Field Punishment Compound, HEILLY, opposite Church.

*Appx. 1  
Vol. 4 7000!*

*W. Dawson*  
Captain.  
Staff Capt.  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

T.O.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Intelligence Summary No. 83 from 6 a.m. 1-4-18 to 6 a.m. 2-4-18.

(NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF COMPANY HEADQUARTERS).

## 1. - OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Movement observed was promptly fired on by our Artillery throughout the day. At 4.30 p.m. and 5.15 p.m. Batteries concentrated on VILLE-SUR-ANCRE with sweeping and searching fire.

Machine Guns. In addition to firing short bursts on moving targets throughout the day, our machine guns fired at irregular intervals along the Valley in K.31, Cross Roads at Q.7.a, Bridge at Q.1.c, and on the Area between village and marsh in P.6.b.

Patrols. Patrols of the Left Battalion located enemy M.Gs. at K.1.a.6.6 and E.25.c.3.2. Artillery fire was brought to bear on these points.

## 2. - IDENTIFICATIONS. E 1 L.

## 4. - HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile artillery fire for the period was directed mainly against our forward areas. SAILLY-LE-SEC and VAUX-SUR-SOMME were fired on at irregular intervals during the night. BUIRE CHURCH and TREUX CHURCH were registered between 1.45 p.m. and 2 p.m.

During the afternoon about 25 rounds 10.5 cm. from the direction of MORLANCOURT fell in J.21.c, and a few rounds of 5.9 cm. into HAMEL. Transport on our roads in J.19 and J.20 were fired on by 10.5 cm. hows, fire during these shoots being very accurate. Enemy battery suspected in E.12.a.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy appears to be busily engaged on his front line defences. Fewer targets now present than used to snipers and machine guns as the enemy is careful to move about in small parties only. Hostile Artillery appears to be firing mostly from long range from the general direction of K.17.

## 6. - ENEMY DEFENCES.

Machine Guns. Enemy M.G. were located firing from K.1.a.60.60 and E.25.c.30.20. One gun was also firing from K.13.b., and two from K.7.a.

## 7. - HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 8.15 a.m. 6 B.A. flew over MORETT WOOD and dropped bombs in J.9 and J.15, target evidently being a Battalion ration party.

## 8. - MOVEMENT IN &amp; BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

The enemy now moves in very small parties, a number of which were observed during the day in E.25, E.30, K.10.a, K.4.d., on the roads; also in K.1.b and road in K.10.c. Horse transport was continually seen on road in E.25.b and d; also on BRAY-MAULTE Road. During the morning transport, both motor and horse, was very active along the main MORLANCOURT-CHIPILLY Road, movement being practically continuous. At 7 p.m. our artillery placed 9 bursts of shrapnel over the road and transport was seen to scatter.

## 11. - MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy's system of defence still appears to be a series of disconnected posts. Two posts are at about K.7.central. He also has post in road in K.1.b. Road running North and South through K.1.b.2.0 is held by the enemy. 6 enemy balloons were observed during the day.

T.O.

P. T. O.

J. H. Jackson. Captain.  
General Staff.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.Intelligence from Third Army Intelligence Summary 1-4-10.

The enemy put down what appeared to be a practice barrage on our support lines North of ALBERT from 5.30 p.m. to 6.10 p.m. MARTINBART WOOD was also heavily shelled.

The total number of machine guns captured on 30th March near LASIGNY FARM was 109.

On the 1st about 9.30 a.m. the enemy attacked our line west of ALBERT with about 70 to 80 men. They were repulsed with loss, 29 being accounted for.

During the day we captured the Quarry South of HEBUT RENE, capturing 73 prisoners, 3 machine guns and killing about 100 of the enemy. A counter-attack was subsequently driven off.

The enemy has largely increased the accommodation of his aerodromes from ARRAS to ST QUENTIN and has established advanced aerodromes at BAPAUME, LESCHELLE and LONGVEBRES.

PRISONERS. 3 Officers and 261 O.R. passed through collecting stations for the 48 hours ending 6 p.m. on the 31st, making the total for the month 22 Officers, 786 O.R.

Two two-seater machines were brought down by anti-aircraft fire on the 29th and 31st, making the total for the month 23, of which 17 fell in our lines.

PALESTINE THEATRE (31st March).

On the 28th and 29th our operations eastward of the JORDAN were successfully continued in spite of an obstinate resistance. Colonial troops destroyed several miles of track of the HEDJAZ Railway.

On the 28th March we also attacked westward of the JORDAN, and the left centre of the line was advanced on an 8-mile front to a maximum of 2 miles.

FRENCH FRONT (31st March).

Very heavy fighting continues between MOREUIL and NOYON, the German advance being checked by the continual counter-attacks of the French.

Between MOREUIL and MONTDIDIER, the enemy's advance was stopped by artillery fire. MOREUIL changed hands several times but was finally retaken by British and French troops. The Woods North of the Village were also cleared of the enemy and a number of prisoners taken.

There was also very heavy fighting between MONTDIDIER and NOYON, especially at BRVILLERS, le PLENT, and PLESSIER de ROYE. The French gained lost ground by their counter-attacks, in the course of which le PLENT and PLESSIER de ROYE were retaken and the French line carried forward to the outskirts of GANNY-SUR-MATZ. At le PLENT, the French captured 700 prisoners. The enemy's losses were very heavy.

15th  
AUSTRALIAN  
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date.

## 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

## Intelligence Summary

From 7.30 a.m. 1st to 7.30 a.m. 2nd April

Ref. Map Sheet 62D  
1/40,000

1. OPERATIONS Our artillery fired 60 rounds shrapnel over roads ~~xx~~  
~~P. 18. D. and C. at 6.45 p.m.~~ from MAILENCOURT to CHIPILLY at 6.45 p.m.  
Later our guns shelled WARFUSEE-A-BANCOURT and LAMOTTE.  
Patrols Liaison patrols active frequently during night.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.
3. ENEMY SHELLING
- |                           |        |           |             |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------|
| 11.10 a.m.                | P.7.d. | 16 rounds | 5.9 in.     |
| 1.20 p.m.                 | P.7.d. | 8 "       | 4.2 in.     |
| 1.20 p.m.<br>to 5.30 p.m. | VAUX   | 22 rounds | H.E. Shrap. |
| 5.5 p.m.                  | HAMEL  | 5 rounds  | 5.9 in.     |
| 12.40 p.m.                | "      | 4 rounds  | 5.9 in.     |
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE Enemy transport very active.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES No new work noticed.
6. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT Between 6 and 8 a.m. two squadrons one of 6  
and one of 9 planes flew over HAMEL.
7. MOVEMENT From 9 a.m. to 7 a.m. transport (both motor and horse)  
was active along main MAILENCOURT - CHIPILLY Road. Traffic  
was practically continuous. Our artillery registered and  
at about 7 p.m. succeeded in placing 9 Shrapnel burst over  
the road. Transport was seen to scatter.
8. MISCELLANEOUS Three enemy balloons were up all day in rear of  
MAILENCOURT and CHIPILLY.

D. P. Doyle Capt

Brig. General.  
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

To A.L. 15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy  
From No 2 Section

Basinets

Change in Personal

Ammunition on Hand	Cash	18000
	Belts	20000
	Exp. Amm	et al.

Rations

Rations were received again last night  
for 24 hours.  
1000 lbs Sgt's 30 lbs 35 C.R.

General

There was a boat which arrived  
yesterday morning.  
A few shells fell on the Latham  
Bank of the canal about 11 AM.

Moved back with

1:4:18.

2 C. 15<sup>th</sup> A.M. & Coy

Casualties	- Nil
Breakages	- Nil
Ammunition Expended	Nil
ammunition on hand.	
	S.A.A. 10,000
	Belts. 4,000
	<u>14,000</u>

The other boxes of belted ammunition left  
by Nos 1 and 3 sections I am sending  
up immediately.

Shelters erected and improved  
for the men.

Rations received. No bread  
for my team. The people of the  
other companies here are getting  
plenty of bread.

I cannot give you any further map references than what I sent down in yesterday morning's report. as I have absolutely no maps; can you return one by my runner please.

Please send my pack up if possible.  
everything O.K. just a bit damp.

F. J. Moxley  
Lt.

1/4/18.  
6.45.

### Daily Report

N<sup>o</sup> 4 RIGHT SUBSECTION

1/4/1918

- 1 NIL
- 2 NIL
- 3 NIL AMM. on hand 5000 in belts
- 4 24 hours rations to hand  
bread ration very light. 1 to 1 1/2  
but the Lord has provided plenty  
of potatoes

5 1 off 1 Sgt 1 cpl 13 gunners 1 detail  
TOTAL 17.

6 (a) Very quiet night, nothing doing.

The 58<sup>th</sup> have a strong post 200' left of our guns and another post 150' right, and started making another 500' left of our gun position, all four positions have very good field of fire & cover country from P. 4 right round to P. 12

32 C 80-50

1/4/18 4:45 AM

A. B. [unclear] Smith  
Lieut



Special Report  
N<sup>o</sup> 4 Section (RIGHT SUBJECT) 31/3/1918

1 Nil  
2 Nil  
3 Nil 5000 in belts  
5 The Montgomery turned up this morning alright  
State now: 1 offr 1 Sgt 1 cpl 13 gunners 1 deta  
Total 17.

6 (a) Gun at J 26 c 10-15 has been moved over the Canal to J ~~32~~<sup>32</sup> c 65-20 and my H.Q. are at J 32 c 80-50 in village of VAIRE

GUN at J 25 d 10-90 remains where it was.

7 Will you please arrange to have a mounted orderly to meet my runner each morning at 58<sup>th</sup> Batt. H.Q. where the 59<sup>th</sup> had their H.Q.

Axle of rear half of limber N<sup>o</sup> 1120 has been broken right off.

I have told the driver to try & save a half limber

J 32 c 80-50 31/3/18  
6.30 P.M.

W. Montgomery Smith  
Lieut

Daily Report 24 hours  
To The O.C. enaig 3 am 1/4/18  
15<sup>th</sup> A.M.S. Coy. From W.S. Hanna Lt.  
NO. 4 Section

Casualties: nil

Ammunition Expended Nil

Received Nil

Rations Received 24 hours

Parade plate 1 Officer 1 Sgt 2 Gpls.

11 Gunners 1 Runner.

Enemy Artillery: Area near J 34 B 4000 was shelled by 5.9 about midday  
Heavy bombardments from time to time to the south.

Work done: improvements to emplacements & shelters.

Verified Locations of Guns:

1 Gun at J 32 a 90 68

1 " at J 34 b 40 40

Everything O.K., Men Rested & getting plenty to eat.

Time sent: W.S. Hanna Lt.  
By Runner: NO. 4 Section

APPENDIX 915

York 15<sup>th</sup> A. M. S. Coy  
To Capt Fitzgerald

Cooker + limber arrived safely. Horses + men are provided for. Re hot food, have you any hot food containers? The way the infantry manage is - firstly, their cooker is in Mericourt, secondly they have carrying parties to carry the hot food up to the line. It will be difficult for us to send hot food up without containers owing to lack of carriers. Pls Ketts would like empty M<sup>l</sup> Con tins for pies etc. The men in line require drinking water. Please send petrol tins of water with rations to night.

Are you sending us bags to pack rations for the line?

Ketts also requires petrol tins for sea which we can send up hot.

St Murphy asks for a F. S. pocket book and his pack.

Will instruct S/O to return soled sox <sup>in place</sup> those you are sending up. Presume <sup>uncooked</sup> rations will be sent to Ketts as early as possible. G. T. O.



14

APPENDIX

3

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	A A A
Runner has just arrived with reports 8.30 a.m.			
No report from Murphy.			
Pte Hollopoly, wounded by m.g. fire			
1-4-18		To Hollopoly Capt	



To O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> A.M. E. by. Vol. 4. 7. 1. 2/4/18.  
from Lt. F. E. MURPHY.

1/ Casualties = Pte Reeves evacuated through dressing station, sick early yesterday morning.

2/ Ammunition. Expended Nil  
on hand. S.A.A. 10,000  
(41 boxes) in betts now 10,250  
20,250

3/ Rations Received. O.K.

strength 1 officer 11 ~~11~~ 12.

(another man of No 3 Section who turned up after the sort out, and has been living here so I put him on cooking, he will counterbalance loss of Pte. Reeves.

Tell Driver to bring the cart up to my position with rations, as it avoids confusion with other parties, and is only a matter of a few yards up the road.

The petrol was not so noticeable last night in the tea, potatoes & tea.

Cans will be returned tonight with sandbags (which am sorry to lose)

Am in a splendid position for observation here, and intend to get the gun on to one or two places I have been watching. I observed a lamp signals yesterday behind enemy lines and

They are having them translated and decoded, and are very pleased at my reporting them. It appears that I am the only one who reported them ~~one~~. The roof has been dripping copiously on me for 2 nights and part of the day so my ardour is slightly "damped".

Slight movement in small parties behind enemy lines. A small party of stragglers leaving his line and going back, looks to me like local reliefs.

Enemy is digging in and has a chain of posts which are not too well connected as they have to run from one to another.

Situation appears to be Normal.

my position J. 11. A. 00.50.

F. O. Balloons observed on mag bearings of 110° and 114° from here about 5,000 yds from here

one of our own planes came up from rear yesterday evening and dropped 4 bombs near Mericourt (suppose he mistook it for Dornancourt chero! F. E. Murphy 6.40.  
2/4/18

To O.C.

15<sup>th</sup> H.M.G. Coy.

Daily report

- (1) Casualties: Nil.
- (2) Ammunition expended: Nil
- (3) Rations received: O.K.
- (4) Ration Strength: Please continue to bag as follows.

- 1<sup>st</sup> bag: 2 officers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> " : 4 runners
- 3<sup>rd</sup> " : Sgt. Moyna & 6 gunners
- 4<sup>th</sup> " : Sgt. Bryant & 6 gunners
- 5<sup>th</sup> " : Cpl. Moysay & 7 gunners
- 6<sup>th</sup> " : Cpl. Turner & 7 gunners

Total 2 officers 34 ranks

Rations again arrived in good order and showed another creditable effort on the part of the "eats". The tea was quite hot tho' the petrol cans could do with another scalding as the petrol taste still lingers.

when it is necessary to couple  
on brackets but do not  
if can be avoided

"Murphies" were nearly cold but in any case they would not be eaten until cold; so long as they are cooked 'tis all right. Water, rum, and Kero' tin box, also sox. There is only just room for Idowie myself & the box in the "house" and the reserve water will have to be kept at Murph's place. Sox will be distributed pair for pair.

I have instructed all NCO's to return all sandbags, petrol cans, mackon, tins & bag labels. It hurts them to have to return the former as they are unable to dig a shelter of any kind without it falls in on top of them. Intend to find a route by which limbers can get closer to position as m.l.s. play across the space between here & the X roads a good deal. Battalion has had 2 cookers up to my door tonight so we should be able to get ours up here

173

APPENDIX 9 19

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ATTENDIX 9 19

cc. to H.M.G. Coy.  
 15  
 via  
 LT. MURPHY

To OC.  
 15th H.M.G. Coy. Daily report

(1) Casualties: Nil.  
 (2) Ammunition expended: Nil.  
 (3) Rations received: 0.  
 (4) Ration Strength: Please continue to bag as follows.

1st bag	2 officers
2nd	4 gunners
3rd	Sgt. Moyne 9 6 gunners
4th	Sgt. Bryant 4 6 gunners
5th	Cpl Moxey 4 7 gunners
6th	Cpl Turner 4 7 gunners
Total	2 officers 34 gunners

Rations again arrived in good order and shucked another creditable effort on the part of the "beaks". The tea was quite hot tho' the petrol cans could do with another scalding as the petrol taste still lingers.

where it is necessary to couple gun teams please do so as bracketed but do not couple if it can be avoided.

easily enough. Will report further  
on this later.

Seams say that no good targets  
have come within their scope except at  
extreme ranges. Single men or men in  
pairs can be seen about 2000 yds distant  
but I have given orders not to fire the  
guns on such targets, but to snipe this  
and reserve the gun for larger parties.

The bacon received tonight  
was uncooked. I think it would be  
better to send this up cooked next  
night if you can manage it.

6:0  
14 M.  
9/24/18

B. J. Rider Lt.  
of No 1 Section

1343

To Lt 15<sup>th</sup> Albany A.I.F.  
From No 2 Section

Account

Change Personal

ammunition Expenses

on Hand Belts	20000
Buck	18000

Ration Station

Ration were received per 24 hours  
also Taylor mentioned that he  
can supply you with certain  
vegetables if you apply to him

and can stand over your  
first present.

Harold Mackintosh  
2/14/18

APPENDIX 3

120

O.C. 15 M G.C.

From O.C. N°3 Section: 2/4/18

Positions reserved V.T. the tea  
being quite hot.

Ration Strength 20 O.R.

N°3 Sgt Devonshire 7 O.R.

N°1 - Cpl American 7 O.R.

N°4 - Cpl Brunton 6 O.R.

If there are no cigarettes or soap  
can you buy some & charge them  
up to me.

I will return all Sandhage Co  
patrol base at the earliest.

Supping is fairly brisk  
Sgt Devonshire's team having  
good sport - one man cleaned  
a bag of 3 Fritzys & another  
two. An improvement on  
yesterday, when they only got  
one. So far they have not taken  
on anything with the Japs.

I don't like the position of  
mine at X Roads & intend finding  
a new one for it. There is dead  
ground quite close up and  
a German outpost on the other  
side of dead ground. Also the  
field of fire is not good.

Am returning nominal roll of  
N°3 Section in forward area  
I have crossed off the names of  
men not here.

Sgt Devonshire reports enemy still  
digging in & apparently patting on  
Mortar & M.G. positions. Also more  
artillery has been brought up.

4 x 2 9 gun oil required  
NO AMMUNITION EXPENDED. Same as yesterday.

J. J. Brown

2/4/18



Daily Report

24 hours ending

To O.C. 7 am 2/1/18  
15<sup>th</sup> A.M. Coy from H.G. Hanna  
No 4 Section 2<sup>nd</sup>

Casualties; Nil.

Ammunition Received Left Subject

10000 rounds at J329065

Will consult Mr. Smith Redistribut.  
ion.

Belt Boxes with filled belts;

20 boxes with Cpl. Thompson at J34644

20 " " Sgt. O'Donohue at J329065

Rations Received 24 hours.

Satisfactory arrangements made  
with Mr Smith re cooking & distribut.  
ion of meals to teams.

Communication; A good boat has  
been found & brought to Sgt O'Donohue  
position by this means direct comm-  
unication is possible between Mr  
Smith & Self. This will also make  
comparatively easy the transport.

of gun gear etc along waterways  
Parade State; 1 officer 1 Sgt 2 Cpls  
10 runners. 1. Myatt (runner)  
Requirements; Flannellette 4 x 2  
Enemy fired approx 50 shells  
along canal area between  
aircraft very active both our  
own & the enemy's. I have  
suspicions of some of the  
planes which fly over this  
area though they carry Allied  
markings & resemble Allied planes  
H.G.; An enemy machine gun  
fired down canal from high  
ground east of Bodyscort

Time sent 7 am  
By Runner

H.G. Hanna  
Sub. Sect. officer  
No 4 Sect.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 1-4-18 to 6 a.m. 2-4-18.

CASUALTIES: There were no casualties reported for the 24 hours.  
AMMUNITION EXPENDED: No suitable M.G. targets being seen, no ammunition was expended for this period.  
WORK PROPOSED & IN HAND: Making gun positions, SAA shelters & men's quarters.  
ENEMY ATTITUDE: Quiet. Snipers were very active.  
ENEMY MOVEMENT: Lamp Signalling was observed behind enemy lines. Small groups of enemy seen moving about at a distance.  
ENEMY MACHINE GUNS: Were fairly active.  
ENEMY AEROPLANES: Very active. Suspicion is entertained that the enemy is using our 'planes with our markings.  
GENERAL: In places the enemy was observed to be digging in. The weather was fine, and observation very fair.

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



To T.O.  
15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.  
From P. Radcliffe

Casualties:

3  
7  
1  
Vol 4

Rations received: O.K.

Ration strength: Can I have rations  
tagged as follows please?

- 1<sup>st</sup> bag: Lt Howison and Reid
- 2<sup>nd</sup> " : Hummer at Sec. H.Q.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> " : Sgt Moyna & 6 men
- 4<sup>th</sup> " : Cpl Moysey & 7 men
- 5<sup>th</sup> " : Col Turner & 7 men
- 6<sup>th</sup> " : Sgt Busant & 6 men

Ammunition strength: At Sec. H.Q. there  
are 10 boxes S.H.F. This includes  
S.H.F. (10 boxes) reported by Lieut  
Howison yesterday morning

T.T.O.

Cpl Duncan tonight gave me  
to understand that you think I am  
in charge of front line guns. This  
is not so. The orders Lt Murphy gave  
me from you on the morning of the  
change-over was that I should take  
4 guns while he took 1 as a reserve  
and Howie the remaining three and  
as the 10<sup>th</sup> had 3 guns in F.L. &  
4 in support I ~~considered~~  
naturally considered that I was  
to take the support guns.

Re. map locations; ~~out~~  
Sec. H.Q. occupied by Howie and  
myself is in the cutting which runs  
N.E. S.W. from J.11. D to J.17. central  
and just about the top of the 7 in  
J.12. Gun positions are at intervals  
of about 50 yds in a short support  
line which runs parallel to the  
cutting and on an approximate

line of J. 11. II. 60.00 to J. 17. II.  
40.50. Working parties are  
extending the length of this trench.  
Allow me to compliment  
the person responsible for the  
splendid effort made with the night  
rations. Cooked spuds & meat are  
an excellent idea, Tommy cookers  
particularly welcome and tea  
arrived in good order and quite  
hot. This is saying nothing of the  
jags and champagne. We only  
want a supply of water & rum now  
to fix us up, but we need these  
pretty badly.

The Hun was very shucky  
today and brought a line of  
transport consisting of about 14 or  
18 limbers down the hill in full  
view of everybody at about 3.30 p.m.  
Our 18 pdr. argued the matter  
out with the transport.  
The transport lost!

R. R. L.

Ammunition in Bell Pipes at Gams  
4,000 rds per gun.  
S.H.H approx. 6000 rds.

OC 15 m. S.E.

From V.C. No 1 Section. 24/17.

Map locations of gun positions

Corbie 1/4000

No 4 Gun x Roads J18d 60.05

. 1 " Road J18d 20.60.

. 3 " Road J18h 20.00.

No 4 Gun is in a hole at side of road used for draining road.

Cpl Brunton is constructing a position on opposite side of road.

No 1 & 3 Guns are in short trenches which are also occupied by outpost infantry.

There is an infantry post about 50 yds from No 4 gun

Ammunition

at Sect. 10g? 10000 S.W.A.

This is also reported by Lt Rida

No 1 Gun in belts (12) 3125

" " S.F.A. 2 boxes 2000

3 " belts (12) 3000

" S.F.A. 2 boxes 2000

Ammunition

N° 4 Gun	in belts	2000
	SAA	1000

At Lt Murphy's position there are 10 belts (full) belonging to me. Do you consider the above number of belts at gun positions to be sufficient?

Rations Received VTK

Ration Strength - 20 men

N° 1 gun	Lt Duncan	7 OR
2	Sgt Devonshire	7 OR
4	Cpl Brunton	6 OR

N° 687 Pte Holophy J.P. was wounded & evacuated

Pte McClure was with Holophy at the time & states:- Holophy & Cpl had left g. position to go for rations. A m.g. opened fire on them when about 300 yds away & running for cover he was hit. He seemed to lose consciousness at once & McClure

bandaged him up. The wound was in part of stomach. McClure returned to Cpl Brunton who went for a stretcher which he was unable to get until dark.

McClure says he considered it dark enough to leave position but thinks they must have been seen as the M.B. fired directly at them.

Holophy was wounded about 7 PM

Sgt Devonshire reported that enemy are consolidating & digging in.

Cpl Brunton reported enemy despatch rider lost his way & rode down the road J 24 D 8000 to J 18 d 6005 on a bicycle. Refused to halt when ordered & was wounded in leg & captured by infantry.

2/1/17

J. Devonshire 2nd Lt.

1373

APPENDIX

4

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Intelligence Summary

From 7.30 a.m. 2/4/18 to 7.30 a.m. 3/4/18

Ref. Map Sheet 62d 1/40,000



1. OPERATIONS Our artillery were not very active during period. A few rounds were fired at WARFUSSE-ABANCOURT and roads in K.34. Patrols Frequent liaison patrols operated during night. Attached Cyclist Company carried out reconnaissance Patrols in neighbourhood of VALRE, VILLERS, BRETTONUX and BOUENCOURT.

2. ENEMY SHELLING SAILLY LE SEC was lightly shelled at intervals during the day. In the afternoon about 20 5.9's fell in CORBIE.

9.20 a.m.	J.33.d.	10 rounds	H.E.
11.35 a.m.	HAMELET	8	4.2 in.
11.50 a.m.	PICQ	4	4.2 in.
12.7 p.m.	HAMELET	12	5.9 in.
4.20 p.m.	SAILLY le SEC	4	Shrapnel.
5.50 p.m.	J.21.	20	5.9 in.

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE Enemy still showing activity in his transport movements behind his lines .

4. ENEMY DEFENCES No work reported.

5. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT At 2.25 p.m. 8 enemy planes flew over our lines. Our A.A.Defences drove them back.

6. MOVEMENT In rear of SAILLY LAURISTE movement of small parties noted during day. At one time 30 mounted men were seen here. Enemy transport again very active on roads leading into MORLANCOURT. This movement was not sufficiently dealt with by our artillery.

7. MISCELLANEOUS Enemy balloons up, all day on True bearings of 87 and 85 degrees from I.30.a.l.5. Large columns of smoke rose from CERISY at 1.10 p.m.

*Appx 4  
Vol. 4 7.1.*

*D.B. Doyle Col*  
Brig. General.  
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



Summary of operations and Intelligence Report from 6 a.m.  
2nd to 6 a.m., 3rd April 1918.

OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our 18 pdr. and How. 5.9 Batteries fairly active during the day.

50 rounds 18 pdrs. fired at enemy movement in vicinity of Red House K.10.b.50.00., and many casualties were caused. 18 pdrs. also fired at single vehicles and small parties in Q.9.Central and Q.7.a. About 6.30 to 7 p.m., our 5.9 How. Battery fired about 150 rounds H.E., and Gas at Enemy Battery position in Q.8.d.60.60., which was active. The shooting was good - enemy battery discontinued shooting.

MACHINE GUNS. Our Machine Gun Company fired 4,000 rounds harrassing fire at irregular intervals at following targets, where movement had been observed:-

- 1,000 rds. on Cross Roads in Q.7.a.
- 2,000 " on Bridge in Q.1.c.
- 1,000 " on Roads in Q.1.c.

AIRCRAFT. Our planes were active and several bombs were dropped on enemy's back areas.

IDENTIFICATION. Three identifications secured.

- (1) A dead German examined in N.H.L., on night of 1st/2nd by an Officer of 41st Battalion proved to belong to 31st I.K.
- (2) A prisoner captured at 9 p.m., last night strayed into our lines was severely wounded. Identification 13th Inf. Regiment.
- (3) A prisoner belonging to 1st Battery Bav. Reserve, Foot Artillery, 3rd Regiment, captured about 10 p.m., last night belongs to Mobile Battery.

PATROLS. Our front was covered by 8 patrols, 44th Battalion supplying 4. They report examination of River bank in P.6.a., and they suspect an enemy post in P.6.b. Location in J.30., J.35., J.36, P.6.a, J.4., and vicinity of Cemetery were traversed on right Battalion frontage. Liaison was maintained between posts during night and with our right flank Brigade every two hours. 41st Battalion patrols report a M.G. post at J.30.b.80.80 approx., which is used as O.P.

Enemy in strengthening his trenches on hill behind North extremity of cemetery

HOSTILE SHELLING. More active than usual. Apparently carrying out registration shoots. About 210 shells of all calibres, principally R 4.2 and 5.9 cm were fired. 170 of these landed in village of SAILLY LE SEC doing a lot of damage and fired between 9 a.m., and 12 Noon; and 9.30 p.m., to 10 p.m.

The direction of shooting was from K.19 and 20, TREUX and K.12. At 7 p.m., a practice barrage was put down between BOIS DE HAMEL and River SOMME, this was repeated at 5 a.m. this morning and lasted 30 minutes. At 4.15 p.m., a Pom Pom gun fired 16 rounds from J.23.b. into wood K.25.d.

MACHINE GUNS. Were less active than usual.

AEROPLANES. Came over in strength at intervals during the day but they were driven back by our A.A. Guns.

ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet.

ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy improving his positions. He appear to have a series of posts in front of position on the ridge in K.19.a.2.5., and a line of pot holes back into which runners get protection.

MISCELLANEOUS. At different points in enemy back area 8 columns of black smoke seen, but they only lasted a few minutes. A battery of three guns fired from 88 degrees T.B. from J.14.d.40.80. Enemy apparently using captured 18 pdrs., at times.

E.J.R.

Brigade Major, 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

Lieutenant,  
For Major



33

3

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

Prefix <i>SM</i>	Code <i>WLA</i>	Words <i>55</i>	Charge	No. of Message	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			This message is on alc of:		Recd. at
<i>A. G. O.</i>			Sent		Date
			At		From
			To		By
			By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { *15<sup>th</sup> A.M.G. Coy.*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* <i>SC 960</i>	<i>Second</i>	—	

*No vehicular traffic will be allowed on road running N.E. through I. 30.C and I. 30.A along crest of ridge during daylight AAA small parties of men only will be allowed AAA Traffic control post at road junction I. 35. b. 6. 7. will prevent all movement other than that laid down above*

From	<i>15<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde</i>
Place	
Time	<i>11 a.m.</i>

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

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

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)



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APPENDIX 5

Headquarters,  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade  
3rd April, 1918.

.....15th M. G. Coy.

1. Herewith please find Provisional Defence Scheme of 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
2. Please acknowledge.



*[Handwritten signature]*

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



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APPENDIX

5

S E C R E T

Copy No. 5

D E F E N C E      S C H E M E  
(PROVISIONAL)

R I G H T      F L A N K      G U A R D.  
T H I R D      A R M Y.



-----\*O\*-----

--\*C O N T E N T S--\*

1. BRITISH FRONT LINE.
2. LIMITS OF POSITION.
3. ALLOTMENT OF TROOPS FOR THE DEFENCE.
4. POLICY OF DEFENCE.
5. ASSEMBLY POSITIONS FOR RESERVE BATTALIONS.
6. IMPROVEMENT OF DEFENCES.
7. LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS.
8. WORKING PARTIES.

====\*O\*====

Appex. 5  
Vol. 4 Folio 1

-\*A P P E N D I C E S-\*

1. DISPOSITION OF TROOPS.
2. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS.
3. LIST OF BRIDGES.
4. AMMUNITION SUPPLY.
5. SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS.
6. COMMUNICATIONS.
7. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

*Gibson*  
Major,  
Brigade Major,  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION:

	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
30th Battalion	4.
15th L.S. Company	5.
15th L.T.M.B.	6.
9th Field Coy. A.E.	7.
11th Field Coy. A.E.	8.
3rd Australian Division	9.
11th A.I. Brigade	10.
1st Cav. Division	11.
10th Field Ambulance	12.
WAR DIARY	13- 15.
File	16.

1. BRITISH FRONT LINE: The present front line runs from P.28.B.2-0. - P.22.Central - P.16.D.5-0. - P.10.D.9-0. - P.5.C.1-0. - P.4.B.8-2. - P.5.B.5-5. - J.30.C.8-0. - J.24.B.1-0. - J.18.B.2-0. - J.12.A.8-0. - J.6.A.6-0..
2. LIMITS OF POSITION: The position occupied for the guarding of the River SOMME extends from AUBIGNY (inclusive) along the River SOMME (BOUZINCOURT Bridge inclusive) to a post at J.35.C.0-9.
3. ALLOTMENT OF TROOPS FOR THE DEFENCE: One Brigade of Infantry -- Two Sections of a Machine Gun Company and a Field Company are allotted for the defence of the Position. Detailed positions are shown on attached map.
4. POLICY OF DEFENCE: The Policy of Defence will be to maintain along the entire length of the area a system of lightly held posts covered by vigorous patrolling with a line of O.P's on the High Ground on either side of the River SOMME, the body of the garrison being kept concentrated as far as possible for the defence of any threatened point. In addition the following bridge head positions will be held in greater strength on the South side of the River SOMME as under:
 

AUBIGNY VILLAGE	One Company.
FOUILLOY VILLAGE	One Company.
HAMELET VILLAGE	One Company.
VAIRE SOUS CORBIE VILLAGE	One Company.

The garrison of VAIRE SOUS CORBIE is to be maintained at full strength and of HAMELET at 50% strength. At FOUILLOY and AUBIGNY there need be sufficient nucleus garrisons only to maintain order. To provide for a defence in depth a series of positions will be constructed on the High Ground on the Northern Bank of the River SOMME from the cemetery at CORBIE (inclusive) to SMILLY LE SEC (exclusive) and the town of CORBIE and the Village of LAMIEUVILLE are to be prepared for defence if required. The Garrison Commanders however at VAIRE SOUS SOMME - HAMELET - and FOUILLOY are to arrange for a possible retreat down the River by either or both banks and with this end in view will construct small positions facing up stream which may be occupied by the rear guard in a successive retirement. All posts will be defended with the utmost resolution and troops will on no account withdraw without direct orders from the next higher authorities. The Bridges across the River have been prepared for demolition but must not be fired with out direct orders from Brigade Headquarters. If telephonic communication fails and the situation is such that the position would be jeopardized and grave danger incurred by the enemy gaining the Bridges, then the bridges may be fired by the order of the nearest Battalion Commander.
5. ASSEMBLY POSITIONS FOR RESERVE BATTALIONS: In the event of alarm the Battalion at BONNAY will assemble in open ground in I.25.A. keeping under trees etc. as far as possible but will not move forward without orders from Brigade Headquarters.
6. IMPROVEMENT OF DEFENCES: All trenches whether on the North Side of the River facing Southwards and firing across the River or on the South Side facing South, are to have their flanks turned back so as to give an echeloned field of fire up the river. As material becomes available positions on the South bank will be wired and connected up. The wire is to be laid out with a view to enfilade fire by Machine Guns from the various posts but so that the posts will not fire into each other in defending the wire. Pontoon Bridges are to be established at VAIRE SOUS SOMME and HAMELET to allow speedy reinforcement of the garrisons of these Villages. Preparations are to be made for their demolition if required.
7. LIAISON ARRANGEMENTS: An Officer with two cyclist orderlies is attached to each of the following Headquarters:
 

Division	immediately South of the SOMME.
Battalion	" " "
Brigade	" North "

21/3/47

(2)

8. WORKING PARTIES: Working Parties will always wear Fighting Order and unless working with either of the two Battalions guarding the River will assemble at their Battalion Assembly Positions. If working with either of the two Battalions guarding the River they will place themselves under the orders of the Battalion Commander concerned.

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. It appears to be a list of numbered items, possibly 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.]*

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APPENDIX 2.

LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS.

Division immediately North of the River SOMME	-	ST. GRATIEN.
Division immediately South of the River SOMME	-	FOUILLOY.
Brigade immediately North of the River SOMME	-	J.19.D.1-3.
Brigade immediately South of the River SOMME	-	HAMELET
Right Battalion	-	I.34.D.7-1.
Left Battalion	-	I.30.A.6-6.
"A" Reserve Battalion	-	BONHAY.
"B" Reserve Battalion	-	BONHAY.
"A" Field Company A.E.	-	I.27.B.9-5.
"B" Field Company A.E.	-	BONHAY.
L.T.M. Battery	-	J.26.D.9-3.
Brigade Headquarters	-	BONHAY.

-----\*\*\*O\*\*\*-----  
APPENDIX 3.

LIST OF BRIDGES.

O.2.E.8-2.  
O.3.A.8-8.  
I.33.C.3-1., I.33.D.8-5.  
O.4.D.3-4.  
O.5.C.4-7.  
J.34.D.2-3.

These bridges are prepared for demolition and guarded. The Railway Bridge at AUDIGNY will be demolished (if necessary) only by the French Authorities.

-----\*\*\*O\*\*\*-----  
APPENDIX 4.

AMMUNITION SUPPLY.

No dumps are to be formed in the area but all ammunition is kept on wheels and Units meet their requirements from their Mobile Reserve which is immediately completed by Brigade Headquarters.

-----\*\*\*O\*\*\*-----  
APPENDIX 5.

SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS.

Supplies are drawn from PONT NOVELLES at 10.0 a.m. daily by 2nd line transport and delivered to Quartermasters Stores in CORBIE and BONHAY and carried forward by 1st line transport to the Battalions guarding the river.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX 7.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

A.D.S. - - - BONNAY BONNAY

LEFT SECTOR:

Advanced A.D.S. - - - MERICOURT J.9.B.1-8.

Roly Post - - - J.10.A.2-9.

Collecting Post - - - HEILLY Station  
J.7.D.3-3.

Information - A.D.S. HEILLY clearing North of AMORE.

RIGHT SECTOR:

Advanced A.D.S. - - - I.30.A.3-2.

Roly Posts - - - J.19.A.7-1.  
J.27.A.3-0.  
J.28.D.1-9.

EVACUATIONS: via HEILLY - CORBIE Road or Tow Path.

AMBULANCE POST: - - - VAIRE.

POST: At J.19.B.7-2 which evacuates to HEILLY Post.

RIGHT FLANK:

A.D.S. - - - LA MEUVILLE opposite Church.

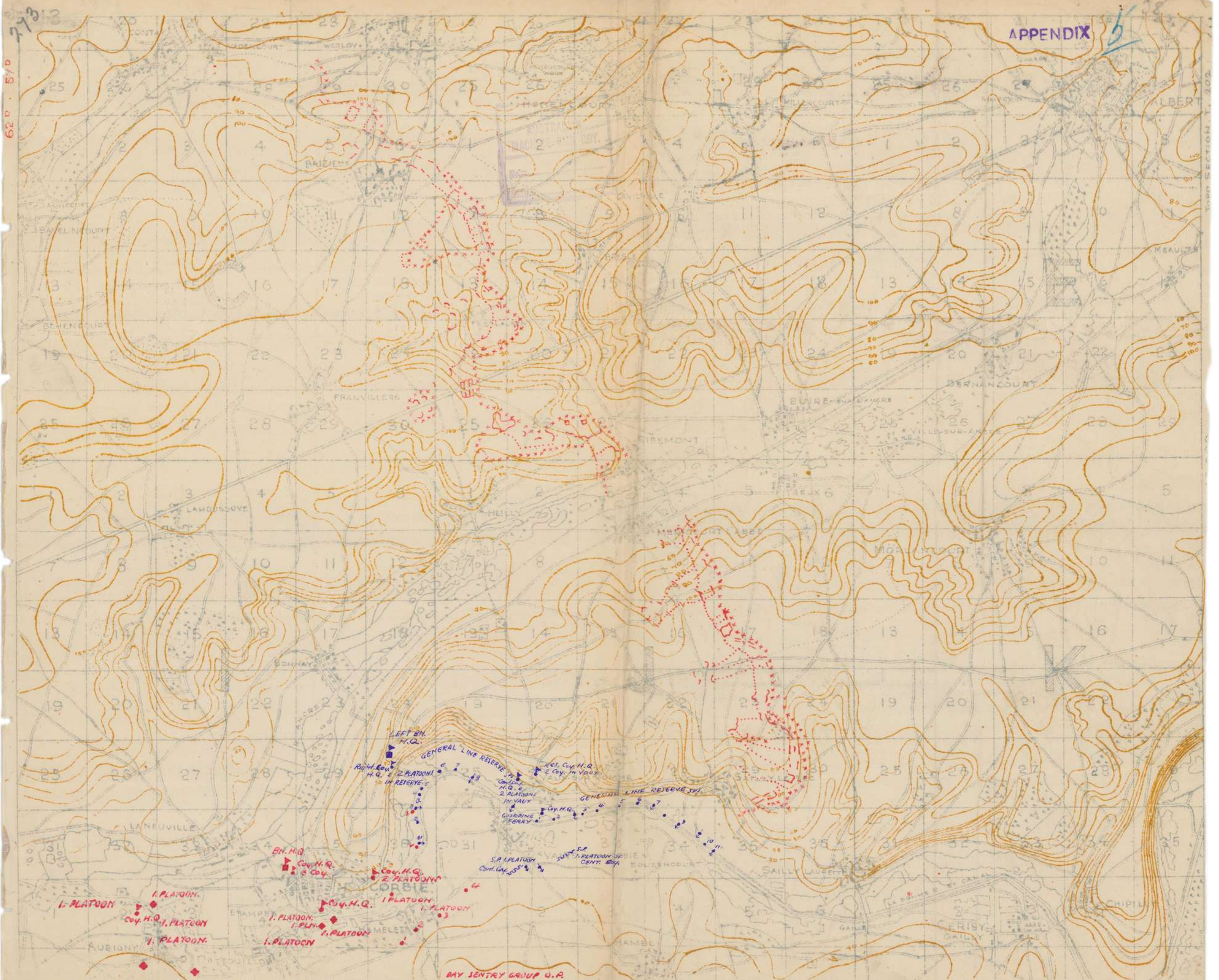
Cars and Horse Ambulances at Advanced A.D.S.'s.

M.D.S. - - - QUERRIN.

LEFT BATTALION R.A.P. - - - I.30.A.3-6.

RIGHT BATTALION R.A.P. - - - I.34.D.7-1.





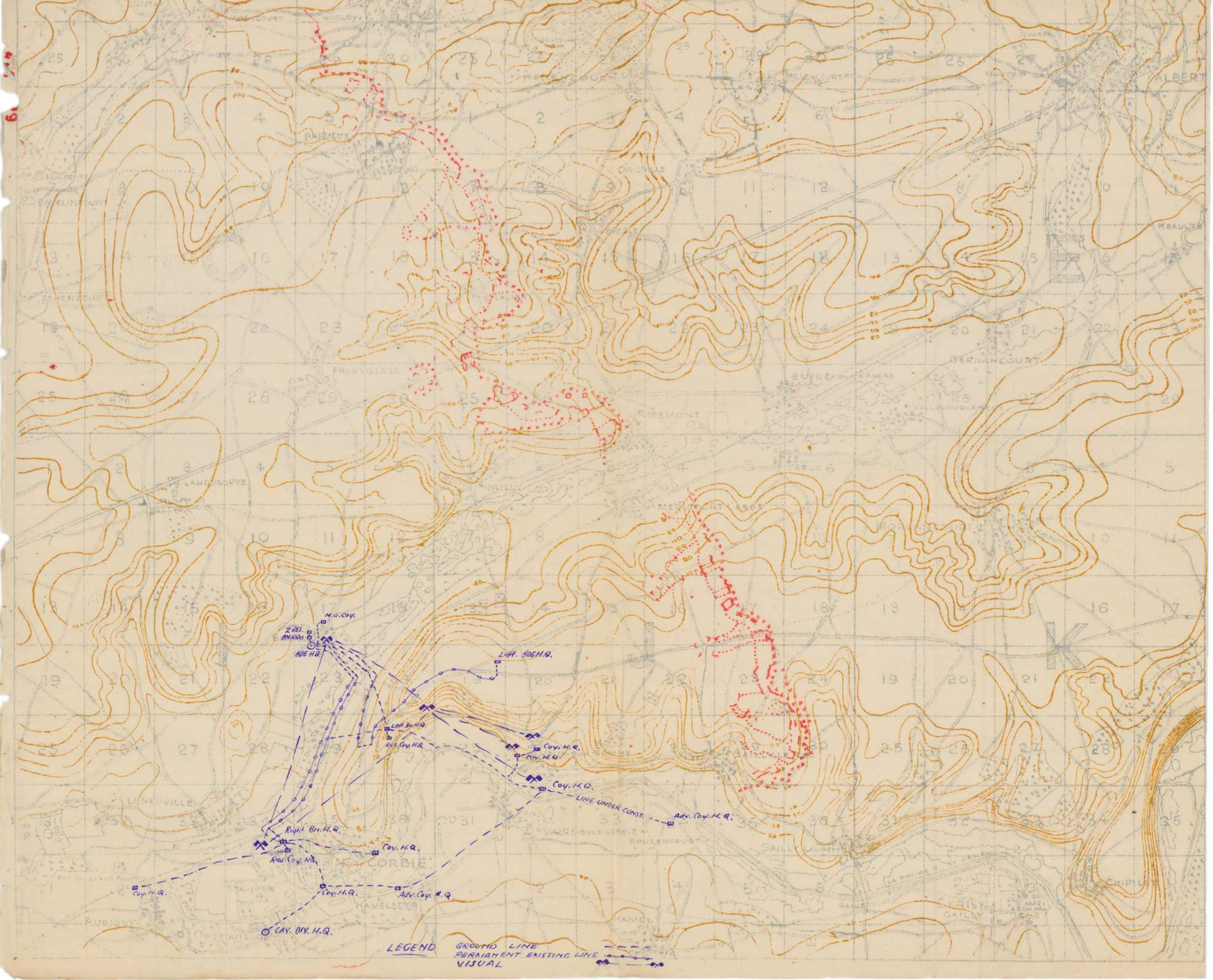
LEGEND: LEFT BN SHOWN IN BLUE } 2 BNS. AS DIV. RES. IN BONNAY  
 RIGHT " " RED } LEWIS GUN POST → VICKERS GUN POST → L.T.M.B. POST • EXAMINING POST • BN. H.Q. • COY. H.Q.

62° 5' 0" 213

TWO SECTION T. 202

273

99



39 273

APPENDIX

1

To O.C.

15<sup>th</sup> AMY. Coy.

From P.C. No 1 Sect.

Daily Report

1 Casualties -

2 Ammun. expended -

3 Rations received this morn

4 Ration strength - 2 officers

4 runners

Sgt Moore of 6 gunners

Sgt Bryant of 2 gunners

Cpl Myles of 7 gunners

Cpl Turner of 7 gunners

Can you please put in each bag of rations for support guns some dry tea & sugar please so they are able to boil a mess tin on caudles? I want also flamette & gun oil.

Capt Taylor of 11<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy was along to see me this morning. He said he had to take a fatherly interest in us as we were working with him. He asked to prepare a B.O.S. barrage in cooperation with his guns which I am firing up. Place to be barraged from J. 13. central one south to road running E. W. through J. 13. C & D. (Corbie's) etc. He also told me that we can draw S.F.H. from his Bde dump at Bonny.

5/4/18

B. J. Rider Lt  
O.C. No. 1 Sect.  
15<sup>th</sup> AMY. Coy.

APPENDIX

6  
710

613

373

APPENDIX

Handwritten notes on a piece of graph paper, including the date 15/11/11 and some illegible text.

Handwritten notes on a piece of graph paper, including the date 15/11/11 and some illegible text.

OC 15<sup>th</sup> M.G.  
From O.C. No 3 Section.

Rations received O.C.

Ration strength - 20 men

No 1 Gun	Cpl Duncan	7 OR.
3	Sgt Devonshire	7 OR.
4	Cpl Brunton	6 OR.

Ammunition -

Expended - 500 lbs Sniping  
with rifles.

On hand at positions.

No 1 Gun	5000
3	4500
4	5000

At Sect Hqs - 9000.

Sgt Devonshire reports enemy  
still working on his line & very  
active sniping with both rifle  
& M.G. to which he replies.

No 4 Gun at X Roads has  
been moved across the road  
from old position.  
Cpl Brunton is starting to build  
a new position about 150' along  
road west of X Roads on a  
bank at edge of small wood.

A supply of gun oil &  
flannel etc is required.

John Brown  
2/11

Daily Report

To: The O.C. 15th A.M.S. Coy from H.S. Hanna 2nd NO 4 section

24 hours ending 7.30 am

3/4/18

Casualties; Nil  
Ammunition; Expended Nil  
On Hand; 40 belt boxes = 10000 } 20000  
P.A.A. (Bulk) = 10000 }

Rations Received; 24 hours (Good)  
Parade State; 1 officer 1 Lt. 2 Cpls  
10 Gunners 1 Washer

Intelligence; Heavy bombardments down south at 10 pm & again in same sector & north as well at 6 am.

Aeroplanes; Both hostile & our own were very active during day.

A minor mortar is reported to be firing on front just north of band

Requirements; Nil  
Returned here with (Report)  
Time 7.25 Hanna 2nd  
By Rossie NO 4 section

Daily Report

Nº 4 Section

3/4/1918.

- 1 NIL
- 2 NIL
- 3 NIL

ammun. on hand 10,000 in 40 belt boxes

4 24 hours rations to hand

5 1 offr 1 Sgt 1 cpl 13 gunners  
1 runner 4 drivers TOTAL 21

6 (a) our guns had no targets to engage during the 24 hours  
4 or 5 shells fell close to VAIRE,  
and HAMLET was fairly heavily  
bombarded with 5.9's

7. Will A.M.C. Sgt please send out some medicine for colds and sore throats, several of the men are suffering

32.C 80-50

3/4/18

6.45 AM

H. J. Hunter Smith  
Lieut

APPENDIX

6

H2

10.0.C. 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Coy.

- 1. Casualties = Nil.
- 2. Breakages = Nil.
- 3. Please send up 4x2 and gun oil + dynamite.
- 3. Ammunition on hand.

in belts 9,250  
 Sent to Mr Rider 4 belts boxes (1,000)  
 S.A.A on hand 10,000  
 19,250

4. Rations Received B.R. and distributed.

5. Ration strength 1 off 11.0R. = 12

6. Am improving the men's shelters and cleaning up position generally, but infantry are coming in so I 'spore they'll ruin the joint.

7. Aircraft not quite so active during period under review. Fritz appears to be trying to consolidate, but our artillery is worrying him quite a lot. Observation was not too good. Can you send up a bottle of "wisque" please.

We have a block up here that rings the hours and half hours. Has little cupids all over it, left here by previous mob.

3/4/8 6.30 AM. Chorio. P. Murphy

To O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Coy. A.I.F.  
 From Mr. Rider  
 Casualties  
 Breakages  
 Ammunition  
 Rations  
 Ration strength  
 Aircraft  
 Observation  
 Block up here  
 Cupids  
 Previous mob  
 3/4/19

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX 6

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 2-4-18 to 6 a.m. 3-4-18.

CASUALTIES: There were no casualties reported for the 24 hours.

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 500 rounds SAA were expended.

WORK IN HAND & PROPOSED: General improvements to gun positions &c.

ENEMY ACTIVITY: Snipers and artillery were fairly active.

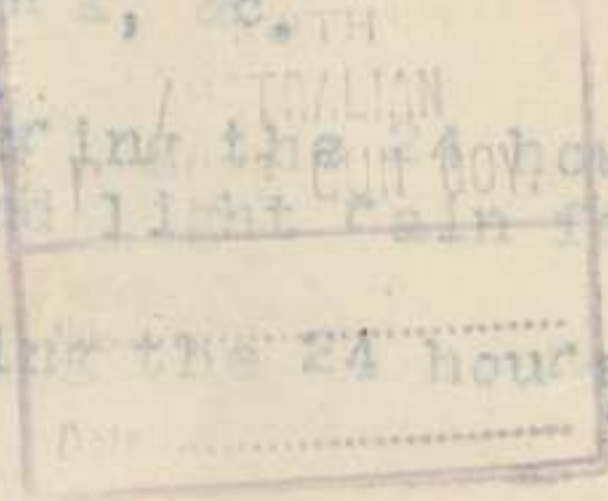
ENEMY MOVEMENT: Enemy still active digging in. Isolated men seen moving about in the distance. Enemy apparently consolidating.

ENEMY MACHINE GUNS: Fairly active, on sniping work, &c.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Not quite as active as usual.

TARGETS ENGAGED: Sniping only was engaged in during the 24 hours.

WEATHER: The weather was fine during the day, and light rain fell overnight. Observation was only fair. Our artillery and aeroplanes were active during the 24 hours.



O. C., 15th M. Gun Coy. <sup>6</sup>  
*Capt. J. J. 1*  
*2nd. 7.1*



Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **54** This message is on a/c of: Recd. at ..... m.  
 Sent ..... Date .....  
 At ..... m. Service. From .....  
 To .....  
 By ..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By .....

TO { **15<sup>th</sup> M. G. Coy**

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**  
 \* **SC. 966** **Third**

You will supply two  
 ladders to report to  
 58<sup>th</sup> B.N. H.Q. at  
 1.30 A.M. at 11.30 A.M. AAA  
 These ladders are to  
 collect salvage and dump  
 it at Brigade dump  
 BILLET 40 next Brigade  
 H.Q. BONNAY AAA  
 Guide will meet ladders  
 at 58<sup>th</sup> B.N. H.Q. AAA

*Appx. 7 to 10  
 Vol. 4*  
*Noted & OK'd  
 [Signature]*

From **15<sup>th</sup> AUSTR. INF. BDE**  
 Place  
 Time **10.15 AM**

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

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

Prefix **SM** Code **0111** m. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **24/10/41** This message is on a/c of: Recd. at ..... m.  
 Sent ..... Date .....  
 At ..... m. Service. From .....  
 To .....  
 By ..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By .....

TO { **15<sup>th</sup> A.M. G. Coy**

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**  
 \* **SC 967** **Third**

You will see that  
 all billets occupied by  
 you are put in  
 order and indeed AAA  
 All drawers and cupboards  
 which were opened  
 will have the contents replaced  
 AAA as many repairs as possible  
 will be effected

From  
 Place **IT**  
 Time **11 AM**

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

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX

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193

32.3  
199.67.32

40  
36  
20  
34  
24  
35  
199

To P.C.

15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.  
From P.C. No 1 Sect.

Daily report

1. Casualties - Nil

2. Ammun. Exp - Nil

3. Rations received this morn. An improvement would be to roll butter in paper as the butter <sup>last night</sup> arrived all over the tins. Otherwise everything was good. No dry tea need be sent tonight.

4. Ration strength - 4 officers

4 runners

Sgt Mays & 6 gunners

" Bryant & 6 gunners

Cpl Mays & 4 gunners

" Turner & 4 gunners.

Flannellette, soap, & gun oil need.  
All our men want cigs & matches pretty badly.

Howie & myself would like 7 tins of water sent up each night as our gun teams use about a tin daily. As soon as you are able to do so will you provide us with fresh maps of the district as those we have are up the "putt"?

P. A. G. X's statement that sandbags are not being returned I would very much like to call him a ——. All my sandbags have been returned and also M. C. W. Tins, of which only a couple have been used. Petrol cans & ration labels!

All the socks have not been distributed and I am holding the remainder here. Today I salvaged about 7 pairs and as I needed only pairs for pairs there should be a small surplus in these. All my tea bags have been returned also.

Will you send us up some kerosene please?

4/4/18  
6.10.18

P. Rider Lt.  
OC. No 1 Sect.

OC 15<sup>th</sup> M.S.E.  
From OC No 3 Sect 4/4/18

Rations received O.K. but the butter got over other rations through not being security wrapped up.

Ration strength 20 men

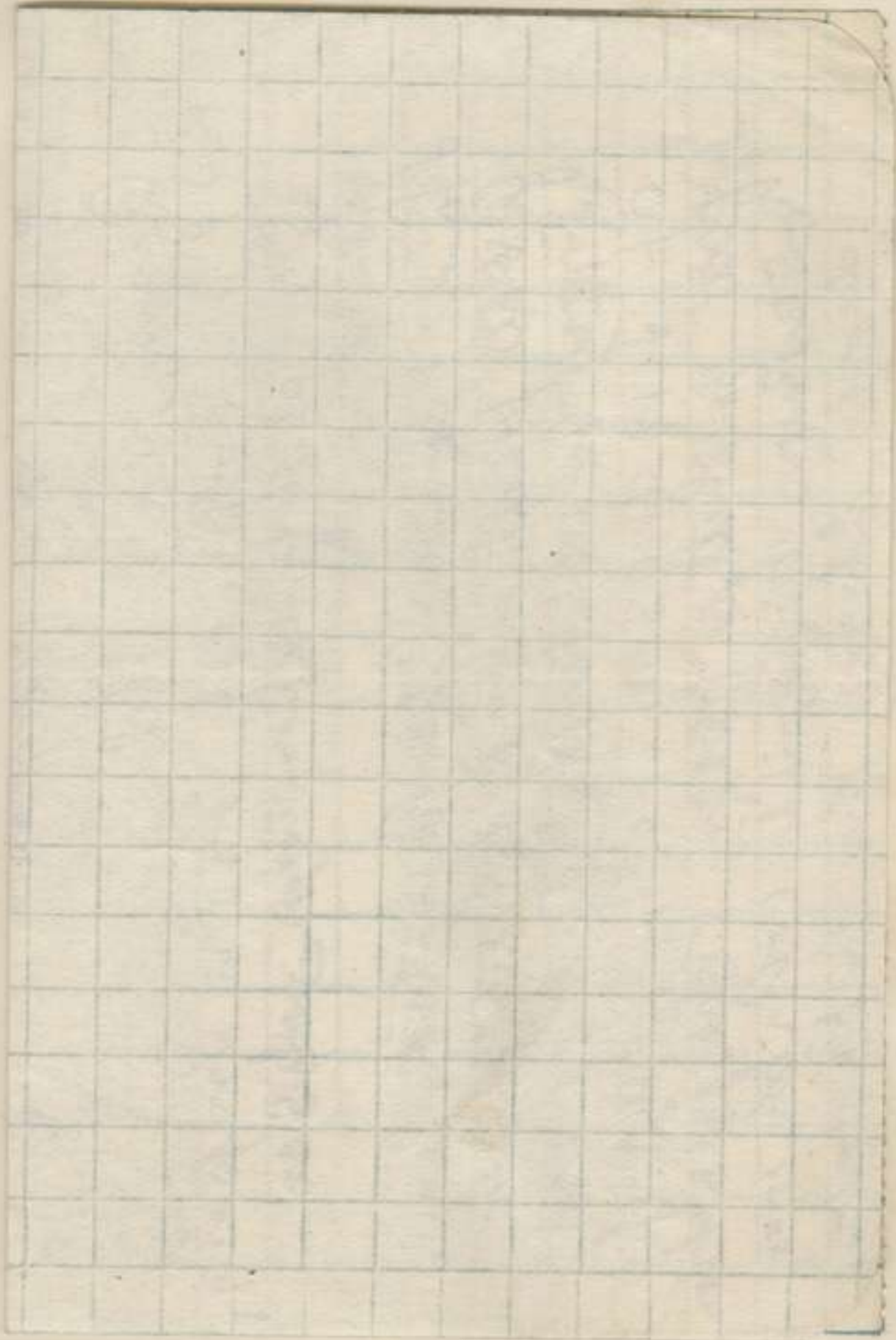
No 3	Sgt	Devonshire	7	OR
.	.	Cpl	American	7
.	.	Cpl	Burnton	6

Amm. used Nil

expended 250 in Sniping,  
at 3 front positions - 16500

Have moved Cpl Burnton's team from position at X Roads at J 18 d 60 05 to N. Side of road at J 18 d 05 10. The field of fire is better from this position & covers ground which was dead from the X Roads.

15<sup>th</sup> H.M.C. Coy.



APPENDIX

47

73

There is also better shelter  
for the team.

Lt Donovan reports enemy  
is very busy on the line  
putting up wire to a more  
in Sims

Please send another  
supply of cigarettes, also  
matches.

J. Donovan  
2nd Lt

4/4/18

13  
Daily Report.

To. O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy.

Casualties — Nil.

Breakages — Nil.

Ammunition expended. 500

“ on hand. 19,250

Rations received. + G.K.

Ration strength 1 off 11 O.K. — 12.

Received gun oil etc.

Carried out harassing fire  
on Morlancourt village approaches  
during night.

Visibility was not too good  
yesterday, usual transport and  
enemy movement behind his  
lines.

Still working on accommodation  
and shelters

4/4/16.

6.45 AM.

J. J. Murphy  
Lt.

To D. B. 15<sup>th</sup> A. G. Coy  
From No 2 Sect.

Basinaltas

Change in Personnel

Ammunition Expended  
On Hand Buck  
Belts

Rations

Rations were received for 24 Hours.

1 Coy 2 Sgts 3 Spls 35 D. R.

Please send as under.

Cpl Whitfield	9
Sgt Ashton	9
Sgt McIntosh	8
Cpl Lewis	8
Hdqs.	7

Dispositions

D Coy has established its Hdqs  
at the S. Gate by the Bridge  
& are connected to their Btlm

by phone. Therefore I have not  
skipped Section Hdqs otherwise  
I would lose direct means of  
Communication.  
Attached you will find a rough  
sketch which will show you  
how the guns are now disposed  
off the fields of fire they  
have

Unless you deem it specially  
unadvisable there seems to me  
no reason why one officer  
should not carry on. However  
if you come along to-day you  
will be able to understand the  
position more clearly.  
57<sup>th</sup> Btlm were notified upon  
guns being in position.

Harold Haskwood

4:4:18.



Y. O. B. 15-4 M. G. Log  
Continued

At 6.30 as I was writing  
report I was ordered to concentrate  
guns at my Hedge. Hence the  
other had to be abandoned  
altogether. I am now standing  
by.

~~Alphachunk~~

4.4.18

7.45 A.M.

Daily Report

N° 4 Subsection

4/4/1918

- 1 NIL
- 2 NIL
- 3 Ammunition NIL  
do received NIL  
do on hand, in belts 10,000
- 4 24 hours rations to hand
- 5 1 officer 1 pvt 1 cpl 13 gunners 1 runner  
4 drivers TOTAL 21
- 6 (a) guns did not fire  
(c) our artillery and the Hun artillery  
opened a heavy bombardment at  
5.30 A.M. it still continues as  
I write. Most of the Hun shells  
fell in the area P 12, 7, 8, 9
- (f) Enemy aircraft more active yesterday  
(j) six or seven Hun shells fell in  
VAIRE, not much damage done,  
two pigs killed, and sending  
now one by limber today

32 C 80-50  
4/4/18  
7.A.M.

Alphachunk Smith  
Lieut



O.B.  
15th M.G. Coy

1/3



APPENDIX 50

Daily Report

To The O.C. 24 hours ending  
15th A.M.S. Coy. ~~4/4/18~~ 7.30 am  
From ~~4/4/18~~ 4/4/18  
104 Section.

Casualties Nil  
Ammunition Received  
" Expended  
Requirements; Nil

Rations Received;  
Parade-Platt; 1 Officer 1 Sgt & 2 Cpls  
10 Runners 1 Runner 1 Cook.

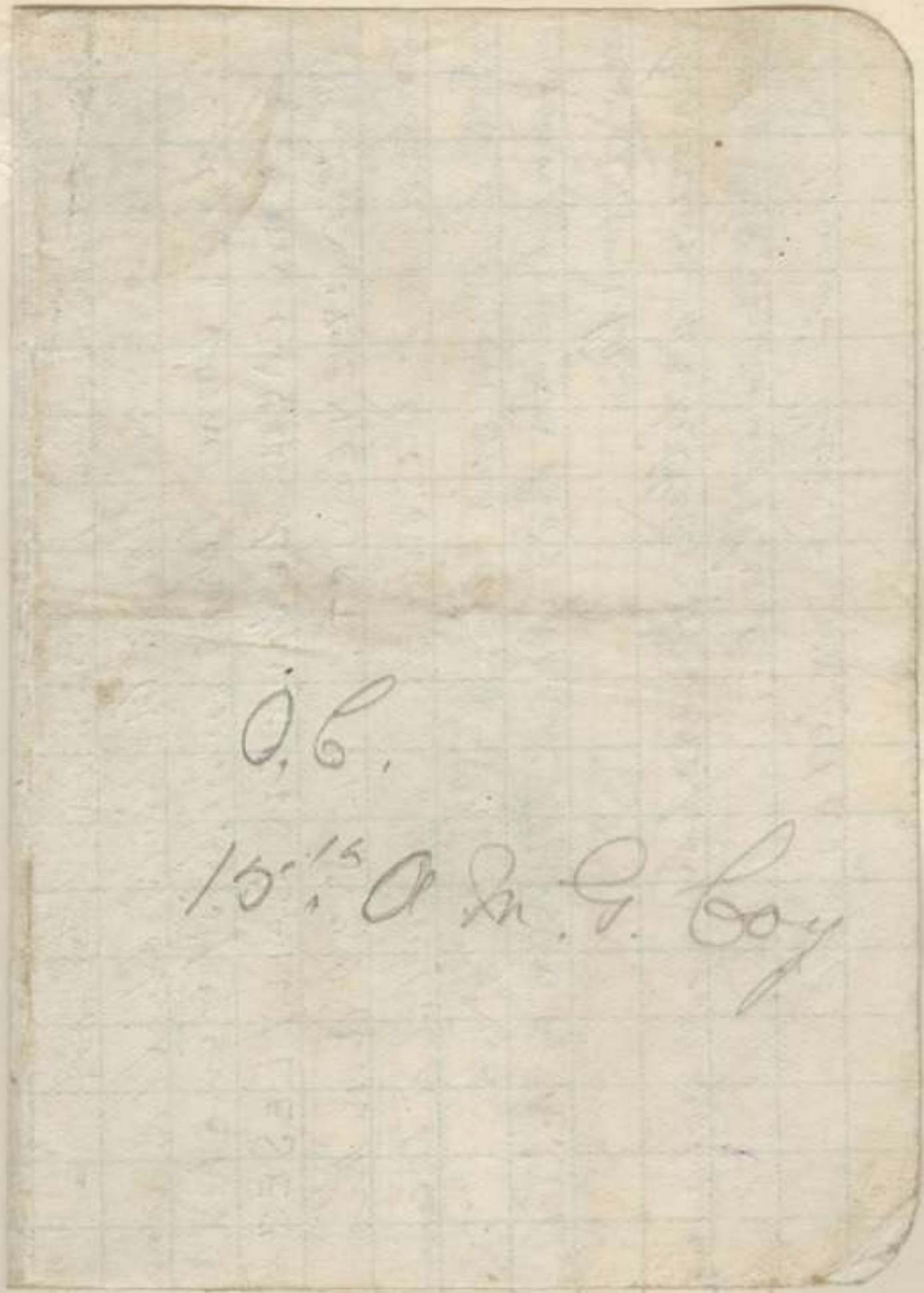
Enemy Artillery; Activity slight during  
the day. Some large shells (8 inch)  
fell on area between SAILY L'ESEC  
& BOUZENCOURT. At 5:30 am this  
morning the enemy opened a heavy  
barrage on our lines south of the  
canal. This bombardment continues  
as I write

Our own artillery are replying vigorously  
to the enemy fire.  
No Inf action reported as yet.

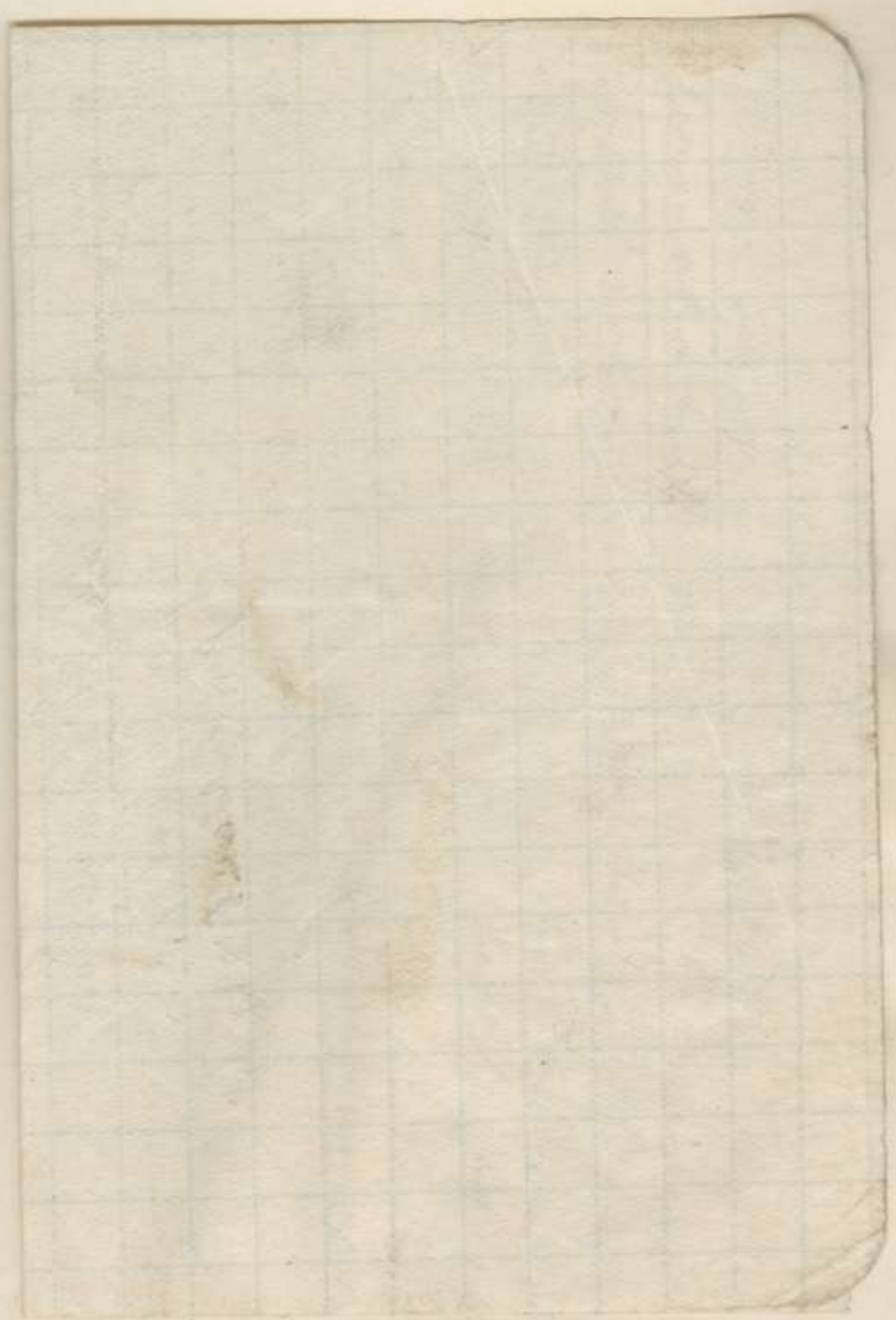
(2)  
Aerial Activity; Very marked. Large  
formations of our own & the enemy's  
machines being seen. Hostile planes  
crossed our lines during the day but  
retired on approach of our fighting squad-  
rons.

Salvage; 1 Bayonet (Army pattern) damaged  
being returned with timber.  
Returned; Sand Bags & pairs duty  
see.

Every thing O.K.  
Time sent 8 am  
By Runners  
A. G. Hamadren  
Left subsection  
No 4 Section.



O.C.  
15<sup>15</sup> O. G. Coy



APPENDIX  
80 37

73

73

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY,  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 3-4-18 to 6 a.m. 4-4-18.

CASUALTIES: There were no casualties reported for the 24 hours.

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 750 rounds SAA were expended.

WORK PROPOSED & IN HAND: Improvements to gun positions, men's quarters &c.

ENEMY ATTITUDE: Artillery active on roads &c.

ENEMY MACHINE GUNS: Displayed their usual activity.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Were fairly active during the day and night.

ENEMY MOVEMENT: The usual transport movement behind enemy lines was observed.

Enemy is very busy putting up wire along his line, and placing more machine guns in.

TARGETS ENGAGED: Harassing fire was directed on the approaches to MONTAGU during the night. Sniping was carried on during the day.

GENERAL: The weather was showery and visibility was only fair. Our artillery and aeroplanes were active during the day and night.



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

*With 8  
Vol. 4. 7.1*



Daily Report  
 To The O.C. 24 hours  
 ending 7:30 am  
 15<sup>th</sup> A. In S. Coy. 5/4/48  
 From H.Q. 15<sup>th</sup> A. In S. Coy.

Casualties: Nil  
 Ammunition Expended 3000 rd.  
 Received Nil  
 A.A. on hand, 2000 rounds  
 in belts filled 5000  
 Requirements; 1 Pin firing  
 Roller - Collar.  
 Parade State 1 officer, 1 Pk  
 2 Gps, 10 Gunners, 1 Gunner  
 1 Cook.  
 Rations Received 24 hours  
 Hostile Artillery; Enemy  
 continued his bombard-  
 ment commenced at 5:30  
 am 4/4/48 till 11 am.  
 Operations; Following on his  
 bombardment the enemy  
 attacked with strong forces

(2)

from wood & roads in  
 P5 BVD & P11. He advanced  
 in a swath westerly direct-  
 ion & took HAMEL from  
 which the defenders fled.  
 Having obtained permission  
 from Capt Dawson D boy 58<sup>th</sup>  
 Bact I ferried my Gun at  
 Boy # 9 to the South Bank  
 of the Canal & 1st came into  
 action at J 33d 0070 I engaged  
 hostile machine gun crews  
 which were taking up positions  
 at P4 Central & P4 C 5050  
 These guns were silenced by  
 shooting down the ammunition  
 carriers. I then advanced  
 my gun to J 33c 70.40 & got  
 direct fire on large concentra-  
 tions of the enemy along  
 track running from P4 Central  
 to P4 C 43:00. At various times  
 till it became too dark to

(3)

obtain further observation  
 I continued to get good ~~at~~  
~~observation~~ target at this point  
 During the afternoon the enemy  
 advanced either through and  
 behind HAMEL (unobserved) &  
 debouched from village at  
 Pq 80050 - Pq 81560 - Pq 83010  
 & advanced along ridge Pq 81  
 I got good shooting from the  
 time he left the village &  
 caused the enemy a lot of  
 casualties at these points  
 throughout the afternoon.  
 Twice during the afternoon  
 he attempted to attack towards  
 my gun from the village but  
 each time got driven back  
 by my gun with fully 60%  
 casualties. I think it would  
 be well within the mark to  
 put down his losses to my gun  
 alone at 200.

13

(4)

At Cap Ferris Request I  
 maintained my post in  
 throughout the night & was  
 supplied with a strong inf  
 escort for my protection.  
 Every thing I am looking  
 forward to some good  
 shooting again today.  
 Night quiet.

Time sent 7.45 H.O. Hammagh  
 By Runner ~~sent~~ subject  
 to 4 section

P.S. Conduct of English by  
 successful, in other words  
 they ran away.

Great aerial activity

APPENDIX

9 54

163

Daily Report

N<sup>o</sup> 4 Sub-section 5/4/1918  
1 NIL

2 NIL

3 AMM. EXPENDED. 4000  
do RECEIVED 3000  
do on hand in belts 9000  
do " " bulk 2000

5 1 officer 1 Sgt 1 cpl 13 gunners  
1 Munition & 4 drivers TOTAL 21

4 24 hours rations to hand

6 (as the English troops in front of us retreated from the line in front of HAMEL in a disorderly rabble, many had thrown away rifles &

equipment and it was with the greatest difficulty that we could get them to make a stand in the line of resistance occupied by <sup>2</sup> ~~Coy B~~ <sup>Coy B</sup> ~~of 58th~~ <sup>Capt. FERRIS</sup> and 2 of our guns.

N<sup>o</sup> Hackworthy reinforced me with two guns on the South side of the Canal & kept two in reserve in strong points on the North Side of Canal.

N<sup>o</sup> Hanna moved his right gun (Sgt O'Donohue) to the South side of Canal and did some excellent shooting, his gun was one bright patch in an otherwise sorry days performance.

N<sup>o</sup> Hackworthy got orders at 9.30 P.M. last night to report with his four guns back to Bde. H.Q.

APPENDIX

1

55



Two officers of A. Coy. 35<sup>th</sup>  
M.G. Batta<sup>3</sup> came here last  
night to see positions of guns  
with a view to relieving me.  
I have no orders about handing  
over to them, but arranged for  
guides for my Section guns and  
those of N. 2. Sect. The latter  
have since reported back to Bde  
H.Q. ~~will you please let O.C.~~  
~~of A Coy 35<sup>th</sup> M.G. Batta know~~  
~~that as far as we are concerned~~  
~~there is only one position to~~  
~~take over from. They are only~~  
~~a couple of miles out of BONNAY.~~

The Hun now occupies HEMEL  
and P 8 c and d from EAST  
side of road in C, P 9 b, c & d  
and the wood in P 12, 14 & 15  
35<sup>th</sup> M.G. Batta brought 4 guns in  
J 32 C 80-50 at dawn

5/4/18

7.15 A.M.

H.P. Hamilton Smith  
Lieut

Handwritten text on a piece of aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive and includes the name "A. L. Broach" in large letters. Below this, there is a horizontal line and several lines of smaller, less legible handwriting. The paper shows signs of wear, including a tear at the top and a hole at the bottom.

34

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Intelligence Summary

From 7 a.m. 5/4/18 to 7 a.m. 6/4/1918.

APPENDIX 10  
57  
428/223

Ref. Map Sheet 62d 1/40,000

1. OPERATIONS

Our artillery active. On left Battalion front our line was advanced and now runs from J.34.A.6-4 to J.33. Central, then South along road in P.8.a. and c. Patrols: At 2 p.m. our patrol of 1 M.C.O. and 3 men encountered German patrol of 30 strong in vicinity of BOUZENCOURT. Our patrol opened fire killing 6 enemy and wounding two - these being captured. Machine Guns and Sniping Very active. C.O. left Battalion reports that the M.G. commanding bridge at BOUZENCOURT has accounted for at least 200 Huns during morning. 4 Staff Officers were seen in BOUZENCOURT and of these only one escaped.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Vicinity of BOUZENCOURT (J.23) 2nd Battalion 93rd R.I.R. (prisoner).

Prisoner 12th Coy. 35th Regt. 228th Div. taken by patrol at about P.14.C.6-4. this morning.

3. ENEMY SHELLING Enemy opened a very heavy fire at about 10.45 a.m. right along front. Shelling was particularly heavy on HAMELET, VAIRE and positions of Reserve Battalion in O.18.

This heavy fire lasted about 1 hour 10 minutes after which intermittent fire was maintained on our positions and roads. Enemy shooting on latter was particularly good.

During morning CORBIE was shelled with 4.2's and 5.9's hits being scored on the Church.

Shells also fell close to main bridge.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE The barrage at 10.45 a.m. was apparently intended to cover attack. Enemy began to emerge from BOIS DE VAIRE but on red flare being fired from wood these retired.

At 6 a.m. this morning (6th inst.) report was received from centre Battalion that enemy were in waves in P.14.B. Our artillery opened with effect and attack did not materialise.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES Enemy M.G. active from P.14.D.4-7., P.14.D.3-4. Two guns firing from P.20.b.0.6. Enemy sentry post at P.15.d.0-3. all day.

6. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT Enemy planes active on our front several times during the day at height of about 1500 feet.

One of our planes was flying all around our sector between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at a height of 150 feet.

7. MOVEMENT Large numbers of enemy have been seen along ridge P.11. Central to P.17. Central and some digging is being carried out on forward slopes of this ridge.

260 x 10  
26.4 7.2

D. H. Day  
Brig. General.

Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

"A" Form.  
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

No. of Message.....

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

TO

15 M.G. Coy

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 50900	15		

In case of necessity  
arrangements for  
will be made at  
011 1/18 AAA  
immediately while cables  
are depleted when  
arrangements will be made  
towards you until further  
point

From	10(a) 15 14 1, BDE
Time	7.1

copy  
del. H

*The message may be forwarded as now corrected.* (Z)

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

\* This line should be erased if not required.

(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)



To Capt Herr: <sup>Appt 19</sup> 7.2.  
yep 4.  
Relief was completed at 11 P.M. on  
the 5<sup>th</sup> inst: Nos: 1 and 3 sections  
took over positions which were occupied  
by 16<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy: (British): on arrival  
these positions were not occupied  
O.C. 16<sup>th</sup> Coy: had relieved his Coy:  
early: but was there himself to show  
us the positions: He was very vague  
& apparently not sure about the  
situation. I gave orders to S.P.s to  
get in touch with Coy: commanders  
of 59<sup>th</sup>: Batt: to reconnoitre the  
sector and select positions accordingly.  
Owing to misunderstanding front line  
runners did not report to me this  
morning: so presume S.O.s have  
made necessary arrangements re  
rations etc; if not I will have a  
guide waiting at the ~~border~~ to meet ~~them~~

in fact Mr. Rider will be there  
with instructions.  
First bar: Squadron M.G.s have also  
got 8 guns on this sector:  
I am going to call on B.A.C.O.s  
on Brigade front & will send  
in locations of all M.G.s to-morrow.  
Visibility is fairly good:  
air-craft on both sides very  
active, we have already seen  
some good wraps:  
Artillery normal:

We have got a good Lorne line  
& men in the line will be able  
to make themselves comfortable  
3 P.M.  
6/4/11 George J. Fitzhald Capt.

APPENDIX

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on a rectangular piece of paper pasted onto the left side of the envelope flap.]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on a rectangular piece of paper pasted onto the right side of the envelope flap.]*

To  
Lieut. A. G. Kent.  
Dadly.

3

To Capt. Whelpton.

With rations  
Tonight will you please send  
1 can of water for each gun team

Sections are just along the  
bank of a sunken road and I  
think pretty miserable. As fires  
cannot be lighted I would advise  
good issues of "solidified spirit"  
and candles.

~~If you can~~ Re. bagging  
of rations, for ~~the~~ Adv. C.P.A.  
will you please bag as follows:

1 bag for Capt. Fitzgerald & self.  
1 bag for 2 sigs 2 runners 1 batman  
1 orderly - Total 6 men

I presume S.O's. reports which we  
did not receive this morning  
acquaints you of their respective strength.

I don't think Sections in line  
have a cigarette between them and I  
am positive that there are none among  
H.Q. people so if you can do anything  
in this respect please do so.

Sections last night took  
up positions along road in P. 8.  
"A" and "C" but as the boys we were  
to relieve had gone away before  
we arrived and only O.C. remained  
behind everything was very vague.  
He knew absolutely F.A. about anything.  
Will most probably be able to give  
you definite locations tomorrow.

Limbers tonight will have  
to take road over bridge near Bae  
H.Q. take turn to left at 0.10. B. 8. 7  
and turn again to left at X roads in  
0.11. A. Proceeding along this road  
they must take to the left in 0.12. A  
which runs into HEMMET.

At the first turn to the right in  
O.6.11 (5.3) I will meet them and  
go with them down to O.6.11.5.1  
and along to P.2.B.7.7 which is  
as far as limbers can go.

As it is inadvisable to  
use torches at this point will  
you please put No 1 Sict. rations in  
four portion of limber and No. 3's  
in kind or make some similar  
arrangement?

Adv. C.H.D. is on corner of  
roads at O.6.B.6.4. (Very rough sketch  
attached.)

Here we can cook anything  
at all & have plenty of ~~water~~  
water.

May see you tomorrow &  
will explain things better

(Just need. S.H.A.) P.T.O. ~~Blinder St.~~  
oilbaste





Please time limbers  
to reach corner where I am  
wait about 9 P.M.  
+ sooner.

Capt. Jiny  
has made certain  
arrangements with the Col.  
Staulow & does not  
want any more S.A.H.  
sent up.

Yours  
Have received your  
despatches sent by  
Cpl Woodhead.



Daily Report  
N° 4 Sub section 6/4/1918

- 1 N° 5731 Montgomery W (Inf. Attac  
shell wound fore arm
- 2 Nil
- 3 Amm exp. 250.  
" recd. 10,000 bulk  
" on hand 9500 belts TOTAL  
" " " 12000 bulk 21500
- 4 24 hours rations to hand
- 5 1 off. 1 Sgt - 1 cpl 13 gunners  
and 4 drivers TOTAL 20
- 6 (a) Small bodies of the enemy, when  
they appeared on the skyline at  
2000<sup>x</sup> engaged.  
GUN at J 32 de 30-50 moved to  
J 33 C 7-4 to support one of  
M<sup>r</sup> Hannan's guns.

My H. Q. now in trench at  
JP 2 a 9-8  
7 A.M.  
6/4/1918  
A. D. Smith  
Lieut

Dear Alfie  
A Lewis gun corporal and two of  
his men down near Hanna put  
up a good stunt yesterday, about  
20 to 25 mins with a heavy mount  
M. G. tried to sneak in the back  
of Hanna's posy and they stumbled  
right on to the Lewis gun lot, who  
gave them a burst and they chased  
the Hun who turned and ran for  
dear life, 6 Killed and 2 wounded  
I saw the 2 wounded brought in.

The 59<sup>th</sup> on our right up on the rise  
P 7, 8, 9 put up a better one though  
frtiz attacked in 7 waves after a  
bombardment and the 59<sup>th</sup> hopped  
out to meet them they had a box on  
and both fell back for repairs, then  
when the 59<sup>th</sup> came the second time  
the Hun was not the stuff to face  
them, they P.O. Q

6/4/1918  
D. D. Smith

Daily Report 24 hours ending

To: Lt Col. G. S. Coy from Lt Col. Hannan

Equalities: Out No 4 Section  
Ammunition Expended: 3500 rounds  
Received: 3500 rounds

On Hand: 2000. Left: 5000

Equipment Required: Out.  
Rations Released: 24 tons  
Parade: Staff 1 Officer 1 Sgt. 3 Cpls.  
15 Gunners 1 Runner 1 Inf. A.M.

1200h  
Operations: Lt Smith has sent  
Lt Pearson's Gun to strengthen  
the flank I hold. It is now in  
position at P33C34. The Inf. Flank  
guard given me to prevent enemy  
working ~~between~~ <sup>between</sup> guns between  
2 bands was strengthened by  
the addition of a G. S. section.  
On the morning of 9/4/18 ~~at 2.15 pm~~  
at 2.15 pm a party of the enemy  
approx 20 strong, approached  
cautiously by the road to G. S. post.

The G. S. gunners let the enemy get  
to within 30 yds then opened a  
heavy fire. The enemy turned & ran  
leaving 4 dead & 2 wounded in  
our hands.

Lt Pearson's & Sgt O'Donoghue's Guns  
fired 3500 rounds during the day  
on moving targets mostly enemy  
transport & machine guns.  
The bases on 2 occasions were  
hit & drivers dismounted on  
several occasions.

Identifications: Papers collect-  
ed of dead sent to B.H. 2 also  
wounded sent to rear.  
Hostile Artillery: Not very active.  
Quiet during the night.  
Our own artillery fairly active.  
Aerial Activity: A German plane flew  
over our positions during the afternoon.

Time sent 7.30  
Pty Runner. Lt G. Hannan  
Sub section  
No 4 section

APPENDIX

11

153

*[Faded handwritten text on a piece of aged, grid-patterned paper, possibly a page from a notebook or ledger. The text is illegible due to fading and the age of the document.]*

*Leind. Hess*

*[A second piece of aged, grid-patterned paper, similar to the one above, with no legible text.]*

To O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> A.M.G. Coy <sup>flaming through</sup> P.8 AHC

Have placed all my guns in position. With the exception of the gun in the first chalk trench we visited. Saw Capt Young and he asked me to put that forward gun in so I got some men and shovels from him and put cpl Turner in charge of forward gun. They have now a better position dug but will have to lie doggo during day.

Have place cpl Murgrey's gun on road embankment for the time being.

Casualties - Nil.  
Ammun Expended Nil.

Quiet night but sold found a little rabbit hole for self and runner. Will have a look round to day for more suitable positions.

Please send Tommy Cookers and dry rocks if possible.  
6/4/18 4:30 H. Murphy

To O.C.

By my position not altered as yet. All D.K. 80 in artillery active. Enemy activity nil.

Ammunition 64 belts 14,000 rounds  
Rations 2 officers

- 2 Lt D. ... (7)
- Atwell (7)
- Baxter (8)
- Dr. ... (7)
- At ... (7)

Plan Unaltered 1/13 det

APPENDIX

11

65

\* This line should be erased if not required.

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

From \_\_\_\_\_  
Place \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_

B.C. 1st day of log  
M

To C.O.

by unprovoked not altered  
as yet. All D.K. & our artillery  
active. & enemy's activity 4/16  
Ammunition 64 belts 16,000 rounds  
Rations 2 officers  
2 pl Duma (?)  
Abell (?)  
Banta (?)  
Dr. Danish (?)  
At 4pm etc.  
6/11/40

Plan Unaltered 1/3 etc

13

APPENDIX 11

65

To O.C. BROACH  
 From 2 Section  
 Casualties 3058 Pte L J Mitchell  
 seriously wounded  
 Changes Personnel  
 Ammunition Expended  
 On Hand Bulk 17000  
 Return  
 Rations were reserved for 24 hours  
 The boiler was great at noon & the  
 hot meal was greatly appreciated  
 Strength 2 Off. 2 Sgt. 36 Pte O.R. 33  
 Disposition  
 At present guns are disposed of  
 along terrace behind bank at  
 Batter Hdqrs. O18 H.  
 There is party of Bulk S.A.F.  
 available.  
 Harold Blackwood  
 Lt

173

From ..... At ..... m.  
 Charges to Collect By ..... To .....  
 Service Instructions *ago* By .....  
 Handed in at ..... Office *5-5am* Received ..... m.  
 TO *M. G. Corp.*  
 \*Sender's number. Day or Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**  
*RF11* | *6-4-18* |  
*Commanding officers to attend*  
*conference here at Nine*  
*am* *aaa*  
 FROM *Book*  
 TIME & PLACE  
\*This line should be erased if not required.  
John Edison, Ltd - 3/17 - 6-30. Forms C9128.

APPENDIX 1

Prefix Code Words  
 Charges to Collect  
 Service Instructions  
 From At m.  
 By To  
 By

Handed in at Office 6:23 a.m. Received m.

TO M. Gray

\*Sender's number. Day of month. In reply to number. AAA  
 DB 55 6

Cancel Bn commanders  
 conference till further orders  
 Adv 58' repta all  
 units

FROM Book  
 TIME & PLACE 6:35 a

\*This line should be erased if not required.  
 John Wilson, Ltd - 5/17 - 5-20. Forms C2123.



Prefix Code Words  
 Charges to Collect  
 Service Instructions  
 From At m.  
 By To  
 By

Handed in at Office 7:30 a.m. Received m.

TO 15 M. Gray

\*Sender's number. Day of month. In reply to number. AAA  
 DB 56 6

If military situation permits  
 of commanders leaving a  
 conference of commanding  
 officers will be held  
 at Bde HQ at  
 10 am this morning

FROM Book  
 TIME & PLACE 7:30 am

\*This line should be erased if not required.  
 John Wilson, Ltd - 5/17 - 5-20. Forms C2123.



APPENDIX

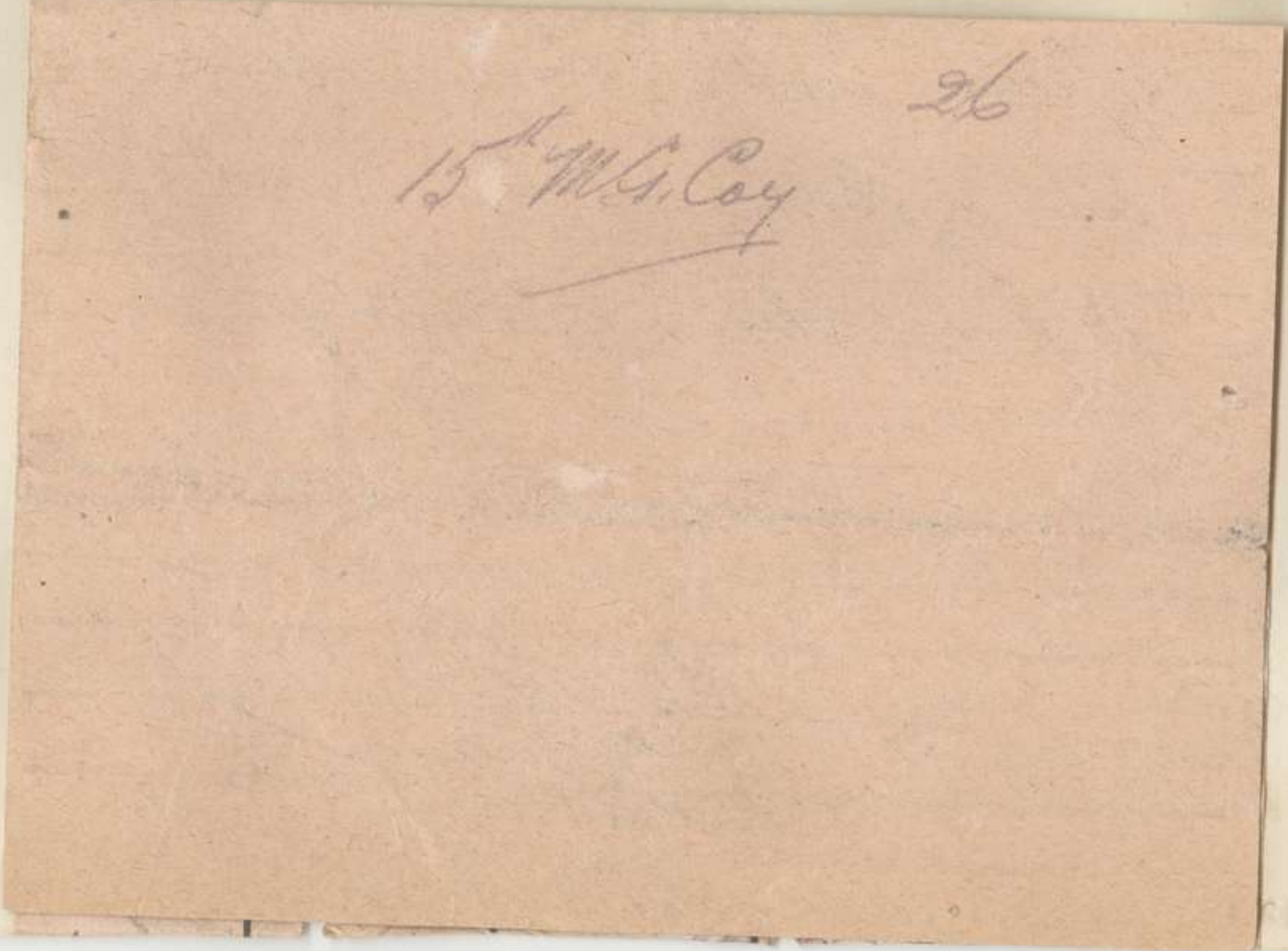
11  
 69



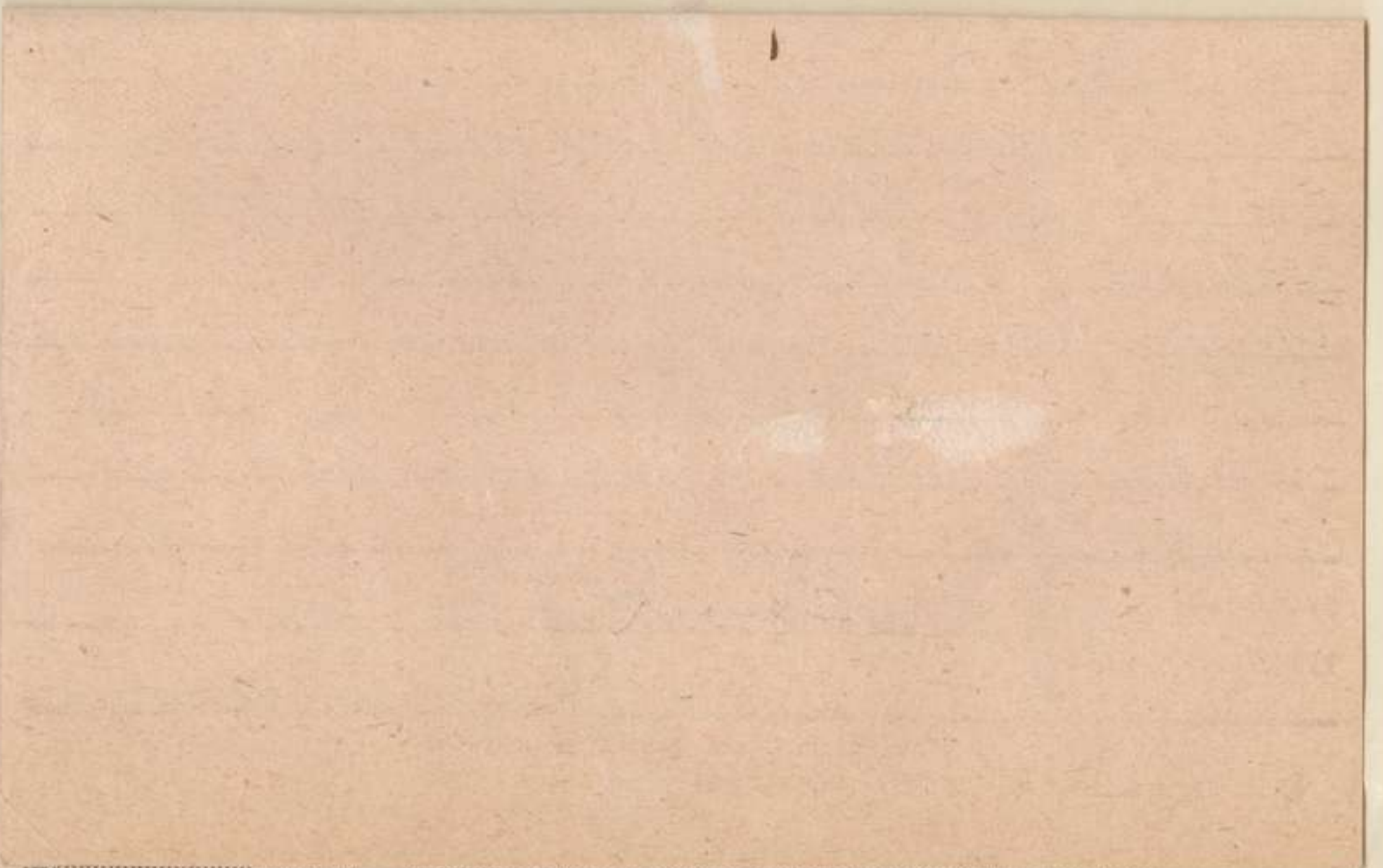
67

II

APPENDIX



15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy 26



Handed in at \_\_\_\_\_ m.

Office \_\_\_\_\_ m. Received \_\_\_\_\_ m.

Service Instructions. *beardo 040*

Charges to Collect \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

At \_\_\_\_\_ m.

To \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Printed \_\_\_\_\_ words \_\_\_\_\_

POST OFFICE  
MELBOURNE  
VICTORIA

23

SM M4AM 59 Dist.  
A.G.O.  
6 adds

15th M.G. Coy



BM 206

6-

aaa

5.30 pm Air report enemy artillery very active from HAMMEL to MARCELCAVE and from wood U. 18. 6 aaa No advance being made at present - but barrage heavy in line P. 2.5 O. 3.6 U5 U 10 aaa Enemy continually advancing by platoons along WARFUSSE - VILLERS - BRETTONNEUX road aaa German plane fell in flames in U 11 at 4 pm

Book

11.50 pm

appx. 12  
Vol. 4 7.2



Usines de Corbie

(Somme)

SM

MCAM

49 Jext

AGO

6 adds

15<sup>th</sup> Australian M G Coy.

BM 205

6<sup>th</sup>

AAA

Hostile trenches and shell holes occupied by enemy  
are reported as follows aaa

U18 a - U11 b - U6 c - U12 a - U6 d - V1 a. b

P. 31. d . 32 a, c, and b - V. 1. c. d - V2. c. d

Y. 3. c. b - P. 33. d - B - V7. d. c - V. 8. a aaa

Very strong trenches P. 26. d - B - P. 27. c. a

aaa P. 20. d P. 14. b P. 9. a P. 3. d - B -

P. 34. c

Boots

11.45 am



173

12  
70

"A" Form  
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121  
(in pads of 100).

Prefix.....Code.....M. Words Charge. No. of Message.....  
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Sent  
 At.....M. This message is on a/c of Recd. at.....m.  
 To..... Service. Date.....  
 By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") From.....  
 By.....

TO { 15 M 9 60.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA  
 \* M. 9 464 6 -

Rehol	Lins	urgently required	
at	Rhe	Basel	AAA
Empfy	Rehol	Lins	to
be	called	and	returned
to	supply	dumps	on
Rhe	Empfy	supply	wagons.

From  
 Place 5<sup>th</sup> M. I. Brn.  
 Time 4.30 pm

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)  
 Censor. Signature of addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name  
 R. B. Wm / Capt.

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
 Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1197.)



Ref. Sheet,  
32 D

April 6th 1945

The following are the administrative arrangements for Sector at present held by this Brigade.

AMMUNITION

Supplies are drawn from 3rd Aust. Div. D.A.O. at I.3.C.6-2 and 3rd Cav Div. D.A.O. at O.8.b.6-5.

A temporary Brigade dump has been established at I.34.d. 2-1.

All ammunition required in forward zone is drawn from mobile echelons and sent forward by 1st line transport to respective Battalion Headquarters.

Mobile Echelons thus depleted are immediately refilled from Brigade Dump, on return of limbers.

In addition to above two forward dumps have been established at :-  
O.11. D.5-4.  
O.12.B.8-9.

Ammunition is not drawn from these dumps unless in case of urgency or in the event of normal arrangements failing.

SUPPLIES

Brigade Supply Dump is at PONT NOVELLES.

Supplies are drawn by 2nd line transport, waggons returning to Supply Dump after delivering supplies to Q.M.'s Stores.

Following are arrangements for food supplies in line:-

Left Bn. Cookers situated at O.30.b. Rations taken forward to cookers by 1st line transport and from cookers to line by carrying parties.

Centre Bn. Cookers situated at I.34.D.9-3. Hot food taken forward by 1st line transport, in petrol tins to O.8.d.5.4. and sent forward by carrying parties.

Right Bn. Cookers situated at I.34.d.9.0. Hot food taken forward by 1st line transport in petrol tins to O.12.b.8-7 and sent forward by carrying parties.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Regimental Aid Posts are at -

Left Bn.	-	J.25.D.2-4.
Centre Bn.	-	O.8.d.5-4
Right Bn.	-	O.12.b.8.7.

Bearer Relay Post at - Pontoon Bridge over River SOULE at O.8.A.7-1.

Walking cases can proceed via I.30.d.8-8 to Advanced Dressing Station BONNAY.

Main Dressing Station - QUERRIEU.

POLICE ARRANGEMENTS (Stragglers).

A mounted picket of 1 Off. and 12 Other Ranks patrols roads and approaches to and from line to prevent any straggling.

TRANSPORT LINES All transport lines and Quartermaster's stores are along road from I.34.D.1-4 to O.5.A.2-9.

COMETRIES

Cometries have been established at

O.12.B.8-7.  
O.8.D.4-5.

All above arrangements are liable to amendment.

*awhoy*

Captain.  
Staff Capt.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

P.F.O.

Distribution.

- 57th Battalion.
- 58th Battalion.
- 59th Battalion.
- 60th Battalion.
- 15th M.S. Coy.
- 15th A.L.T. Coy.
- 3rd Cav. Div.
- 3rd Inf. Div.
- 5th Inf. Div.
- 13th Field Amb.
- 22nd A.A. Coy.

The following is a list of the units which were distributed to the various areas of the theatre of operations during the period from 1st January 1942 to 31st December 1942. The units are listed in the order in which they were distributed.

The units listed are:

- 57th Battalion.
- 58th Battalion.
- 59th Battalion.
- 60th Battalion.
- 15th M.S. Coy.
- 15th A.L.T. Coy.
- 3rd Cav. Div.
- 3rd Inf. Div.
- 5th Inf. Div.
- 13th Field Amb.
- 22nd A.A. Coy.

Oct 42

13

Daily Report

N<sup>o</sup> 4 Section 1<sup>st</sup> 2 7/4/1918

1 NIL

2 NIL

3 AMM. Exp. 7000 (M<sup>r</sup> Hanna 2 guns & 1 of mine)

do recd 10000 bulk

do on hand 19500 belts

do do 19000 bulk TOTAL 38500

These figures are for the whole section  
4 24 hours rations to hand.

5 2 off = 2 pvt 3 cpl 23 gunners & 4 drivers  
(for ~~the~~ <sup>1 number</sup> section <sup>copy</sup>) TOTAL 36

6 (a) one of our sub-section guns under  
Cpl. Pearson is now near one of  
M<sup>r</sup> Hanna's and he will give details  
of operations in his report  
My other gun (Sgt Milburn) is being  
kept for time when Hun makes an  
attack, communication to this  
gun is very difficult as the trench  
is out in the open plain the  
other three guns are much better  
in this respect

(c) Enemy shelled our trenches  
very heavily at three different  
times during the 24 hours at  
midday at 5 PM & about 7.30 PM

(f) Hun planes were active yesterday  
afternoon and shot down six of  
ours (mostly the bombing planes)  
ours seemed to be too slow to either  
get away or twist about and fight  
a squad of 14 Hun triplanes were  
very active, but would not take  
on any of our formations of fighters  
when numbers were about equal  
We saw two Hun fighters brought  
down by our planes.

(k) our trench has been deepened  
and extended.

H.Q. J3209-7  
7/4/18  
7.45 AM.

H. J. Hinton Smith  
Lieut

73  
Daily Report.

To O.C. 24 hours ending  
15<sup>th</sup> A.M. Coy. 2 m 7/4/18

Casualties; Int  
Ammunition Expended 7000 rds  
Rations Received; 24 hours.

Parade State; Complete feet plate  
Lt. Smith's report.

Equipment; Required 2 firing Pins  
2 new barrels, oil & 1/2 x 2  
(Will return broken parts by  
lumber)

Operations; Sgt. O'Donohue's &  
Epl. Pearson's guns situated  
at P3 d 70.34 & P3 d 80.60  
respectively fired 7000 rounds  
on various targets during the  
day. Chief targets being enemy  
inf & machine gun digging in  
from Pga 45.20 to Pgb 40.50  
(A. Good target to report to artil-  
ery) (2) Enemy Transport.

(2)  
9 small parties of men  
moving along road from  
P10 a 80.70 to P4 d 95.15.  
This latter target gave us  
some good results. On two  
occasions drivers were un-  
horsed & horses bolted. Horses  
of other carts were hit & observed  
to be in a bad way.

At 2 pm 1 large wagon was  
brought to a stand still by  
the drivers being hit & the  
horses wounded. Our artil-  
ery landed a shell among  
the horses & killed the lot.  
This caused a blockage in  
the road & the next transport  
wagon was held up & shot  
the horses down with the gun.  
Enemy artillery was active  
& so was our artillery.  
Night cold wet & dark.



Hostile Air craft were very numerous large formations of enemy Wha shipes were over our lines nearly all day. Planes with our own colours bombed our lines & fired machine gun bullets at us. Believed to be a Fritz machine. The action of the Lewis Gun section & the 4 men with him did a very plucky thing in charging the German attacking party (numbering 30) at 3300 ft. Would it be possible to let our R.F.C know our locations & then we could know what to do with some of those camouflaged planes which come over. Hostile attitude (digging in to hold what he has got).

Time sent 7:30  
By Runner  
To G. Hannard  
Sub section  
No 4 section

To O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> M.B.  
From No 2 Subst.

Basalties

Charge Personal

Ammunition expended

Pl Hard Buck

Batts

17000

Rations

2 Off 2 pts 3010 32 O.R. This includes my Dinner  
General

The lumber are still standing  
Eg Everything is very quiet.  
I am too far back to give much information.

Mandy Hachwood  
7:4:15

APPENDIX

1275

14 76

MACHINE GUN DISPOSITIONS

Map Ref:  
Sheet 62 D 1/40,000 ON 15TH INF. BRIGADE SECTOR  
" " " S.W. 1/20,000

14  
Capt 7.2  
Vol. 4.

Map Location	M.G. Coy.	Sectn. Hqrs	Battalion holding Line	Remarks
P. 2. A. 90. 80 J. 33. C. 90. 60 J. 33. D. 20. 70 J. 34. C. 20. 70	15th Aust M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Smith. Vaire	58th A.I.F.	These guns enfilade ground from our front line up to HAMEL. Gun at P. 2. A. 90. 80 enfilades sunken road through P. 8. B. and D.
J. 32. D. 20. 50 J. 32. D. 40. 70 P. 2. A. 70. 20 P. 2B 20. 10	35th Brit- ish M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Hill VAIRE	58th A.I.F.	Commanding all low ground West of HAMEL.
P. 2. C. 70. 10 P. 8. A. 55. 92 P. 8. A. 50. 50 P. 8. A. 50. 20	15th Aust. M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Coppin P. 8. A. 40. 18.	59th A.I.F.	P. 2. C. 70. 10 specially sited to enfilade sunken road through P. 8. B. and D. Remainder cover North slope of Spur P. 8. 8. and 9.
P. 8. C. 60. 20 P. 8. C. 45. 25 P. 8. C. 25. 15 P. 8. C. 25. 10 P. 8. A. 25. 30 P. 8. A. 22. 20	15th Aust. M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Murphy P. 8. A. 40. 18	59th A.I.F.	To cover crest of ridge and -BOIS DE VAIRE.
P. 7. C. 80. 80 P. 7. D. 00. 90 P. 7. D. 15. 90 1 Reserve P. 7. A. 80. 20	25th Aust. M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Norman P. 7. A. 80. 20	50th A.I.F.	Flanking BOIS DE VAIRE
P. 8. C. 45. 92 P. 8. C. 50. 80 P. 8. C. 50. 50 P. 8. C. 38. 52.	25th Aust. M.G. Coy.	Lieut. Phillips P. 8. A. 45. 05.	59th A.I.F.	P. 8. C. 50. 50 sited to enfilade our line to right. All guns cover crest of ridge and BOIS DE VAIRE



Daily Report 15 2

1918/4/1918

apt. 4  
col. 4

N<sup>o</sup> 4 Section

1 NIL

2 NIL

3 AMM. EXPP 10000  
do REC<sup>d</sup> 10000  
do ON HAND 19500 in belts TOTAL  
do do 28000 in bulk 47500

4 24 hours rations to hand

5 2 offrs 2 Sgts 3 cpls 23 gunners 4 drivers  
1 runner 1 cook TOTAL 36

6 (a) NOT much doing during the 24 hours.  
Went with Capt Ferris & Lt Hanna on a reconnaissance to BOUZENCOURT and about 500<sup>x</sup> beyond, before coming in contact with any Huns.  
The 58<sup>th</sup> Battr. are occupying the ground down to BOUZENCOURT and guns (Cpl Thompson) which was at the bridge on the NORTH side of Canal has been brought over to the SOUTH Side

7. Sgt Millburn's gun leaks pretty badly near the steam escape hole, and it will be necessary to have a gun sent out to replace this one which could be fixed up by the armourer.  
Will you please send the spare gun out with the rations tonight.

V 32 C 9-7  
8/4/18  
7.50 AM

Antony Smith  
Lieut

APPENDIX 19

Daily Report 24 hours enemy  
To: The O.C. Coy  
15th A.M.S. Coy  
7.30 am 8/4/18  
From: G. Hanna 20th

casualties; Nil.  
Ammunition; Expended; 1000 rounds  
Received; (See Smith's Report)  
Equipment; Required; 1 pin collar roller  
Returned; 2 Broken pump pans  
2 worn barrels.

Rations Received; 48 hours  
Bread; 1 plate; (See Smith's report)  
Operations; In company with Capt. Ferris,  
Smith, Sgt. 7 & 3 men I made a recon-  
naissance of the village of Bournecourt.  
We found the village deserted with the  
exception of a large block of farm  
buildings at J 34 05 15 where we found five  
French women two children & an elderly  
man (wounded) also a wounded  
English soldier. These were sent back  
under escort. There were 4 horses, 9 pigs  
& litter of 7 small ones. 3 cows & a large  
number of fowls.

In the village proper no sign of the  
gun was to be seen, but the place

but by the amount of equipment  
littered about the English Garrison  
left the place in disorderly haste,  
we penetrated East of the village  
to a point J 35 d 2000 from which we  
could observe small parties of the  
enemy wandering about the country  
to the east. Along the road at Q 12 a 600.  
(approx) could be seen a heavy draught  
team (of 6 horses) hauling a gun (heavy  
field piece) also a motor car & other  
transport at frequent intervals.  
At 3.30 we withdrew & our line  
was established from the large farm  
buildings to the Inf Post at Gpts.  
Thompson's Gun was brought to the  
south bank of the canal & placed  
in position at J 34 a 15.10 Good cover &  
field of fire. Inf Officers well satisfied  
with work of Guns.

During the day the enemy scarcely  
showed himself & we only knocked  
horse out of a team of six & killed  
two Huns for certain.

Hostile Artillery active from  
9pm to 10.30pm shelling VAIRE &  
North bank of Canal.

Hostile aircraft active during  
the day. A Large plane marked  
with Black White Black rings drop-  
ped bombs & fired a machine  
gun in his vicinity.

Could you send up some  
soup, tinware, foot powder,  
knives are very scarce.  
Everything O.K. Good cooking  
arrangements. Mens feet-being  
seen to, socks being dried at  
cook house in VAIRE.

20

Lieut A. Kerr:  
Am sending chart to G.O.C.  
showing dispositions of guns  
on Brigade sector up to  
night of 7<sup>th</sup> inst: am enclosing  
copy for your information.  
These positions are liable  
to alteration; in fact some  
of the guns have taken up  
other positions already.  
Rations arrived in good  
order & condition: and the  
men appreciated the hot food.  
Covers etc. were most acceptable.  
Please send word through to  
Capt Barker to send rations  
for 1 off; and 20 other ranks.  
I understood 6<sup>th</sup> Batt were  
rationing them all: but they  
are only doing the rationing on  
their front. Major Marden

was here yesterday and he  
has got a scheme in progress  
to allot to each sector  
so that will allow us to  
relieve some of our s.o.g. in  
in depth. Everything O.K. here  
Best of luck  
G. J. F. [unclear] left

8/4/18

70 80 15\* 1st M G Coy.

Map Reference of Guns

- P. 7. C 8.8
- P. 7. A 8.0
- P. 7. A 8.2
- P. 7. D 0.8

(this may be changed tonight)

Casualties Nil

Colt [unclear]  
G Section

for C + D Sections

APPENDIX

19  
80

80

121

APPENDIX

15<sup>th</sup> AMSCY  
 2091

[Redacted area]



131



In the Field,

8/4/1918

Disposition No 1 P 14 = 48  
No 2 P 14 = 27  
No 3 P 8 = 55 33  
No 4 P 8 = 45 50

Section HQ No 3 Gun

Casualties: Nil

Ration strength 10 off 20 OR

Miscellaneous: as the 15th Bde  
expect to be moving out  
thought I could not arrange  
for them to ration us, so  
will need rations again  
tonight.

E. Kelly

To O.C. 15 A.M. G.C.

Casualties: NIL

Breakages: NIL

Ammunition expended NIL

Received 11,000

On hand 16,000 (Balls)

24,000 (Bulks)

Ample for present

Strength - 2 off 20 OR.

Rations - 24 hours (Excellent)

Returned various salvage  
including good but muddy  
belt-bags, etc.

Tarpankins received are very  
acceptable, also so.

We are quite comfortable now.

General: - At the instigation of  
Colonel Scanlon I altered my  
positions, moving two guns  
further right & one left.  
Positions are pretty good.

APPENDIX

1918



Lt Murphy  
18th Dec

... was a mission to ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...

APPENDIX 19 81

13

2 are as follows.

P2C 3610 (specially sited to  
fire up bunker road P2C  
P & B)

P2C 5592

PTA 5050

PTA 5030 (sited to comply with  
tactical wiring)

Would you please acquaint  
Colonel Scanden with this  
disposition.

Airplane activity much less  
than preceding day. Some of our  
planes are evidently unaware of the  
position of our line, but the  
aerodrome has been notified by  
battalion.

Artillery activity moderate.  
Do not think that the Boche are  
aware that this line exists. Vain  
was heavily shelled from 9.15 pm  
to 10 p.m.

I got in touch yesterday  
evening with M. Smith's night

gun. There is a Tommy gun  
between.

Night quiet until 4.30 a.m.  
when we put over a heavy barrage

Abouja in the  
5/11/18

Daily Report No 1 Section

- 1/ Casualties - Nil.
  - 2/ Breakages - Nil.
  - 3/ amm. Recd. 11,000  
     " expended 1,500  
     amm. on hand: 40,250
  - 4/ Rations Recd. O.K. with exception of Sgt Bryants team, whose rations did not arrive. Sent word back by one of transport to Q.M.S.
  - 5/ Harassing fire carried out on road approaches to Hamel and enemy post in P.S.C.
  - 6/ 1/2 aircraft fairly active, photographic machines mostly.  
     Enemy Howitzers active in morning of 7th, on flat ground on left bank of Somme.
- 2 cleaning rods required for Corporal Mayses guns.  
 Box received, all right.

J. E. Murphy  
 Lt.

8/4/18

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 7-4-18 to 6 a.m. 8-4-18.

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 3,500 rounds SAA were expended.

CASUALTIES: There were no casualties reported for the 24 hours.

WORK PROPOSED & IN HAND: Improvements to gun positions & men's quarters.

ENEMY ATTITUDE: Enemy artillery and machine guns were active.

ENEMY AEROPLANES: Were active during the day.

ENEMY MOVEMENT: Little enemy movement was observed during the day. Small parties of enemy were observed. Along the road at Q 12, a 10.80. could be seen a heavy draught team of 6 horses hauling a gun, also a motor car and other transport at regular intervals. Our guns accounted for 1 horse and 2 men of one team.

TARGETS ENGAGED: Harassing fire was engaged on approaches to villages held by the enemy. Direct fire at the enemy was also obtained.

GENERAL: The weather was cloudy with periods of sunshine, and visibility fair.

We made a reconnaissance of the village of BOUZENCOURT and found the village deserted with the exception of a large block of farm buildings at J.34, where were 5 French women, 2 children & an elderly Frenchman (wounded) and a wounded English soldier. These were sent back under escort. We penetrated east of the village and observed small parties of the enemy wandering about the country to the east.

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



N<sup>o</sup> 4 Section Daily Report 9/4/1918

1	NIL		
2	NIL		
3	Ammn exp. 500	appx. 16	
	" need NIL	Vol. 4.7.3	
	" on hand 19000 belts		TOTAL
	" " " 28000 bulk		47000

4 24 hours rations to hand  
 5 2 offrs 2 Sgts 3 cpl 23 gunners 4 drivers  
 1 runner 1 cook TOTAL 36

6 (a) very little enemy movement observed, harassing fire brought on reverse slope of ridge near HAMEL in P. 9 and 14

Very heavy bombardment of VAIRE started at 6.30 AM and kept up till 7.30 without a break all whin bangs. The trenches got some of the shelling too

J32C 9-7  
 9/4/18  
 8. AMH

H. Kinton Smith  
 Lieut

Daily Report

To O.C. 24 hours ending  
 5.6 M.S. Coy 7.30 am 8/4/18

Casualties; Nil  
 Ammunition Expended; Nil

Equipment Required; Nil  
 Rations Received; 24 hours

Parade, State; (see Smith's Report)  
 operations; no targets visible within range.

visible artillery; quiet during day  
 He put over bursts of H.E. on Canal bank just before midnight.

Opened up a heavy barrage at 6 am this morning, shells falling in area behind my guns. All standing to hoping he will attack.

Aerial activity; very slight.  
 Enemy machine gun sweeping Canal at Babouin Bridge.

Everything O.K.  
 WANTED some Couch mixture.

Time sent 7.30  
 Coy Runner. H. Kinton Smith  
 Coy Runner

APPENDIX

14

60  
MARCH 1918  
[Faint handwritten notes, possibly a diary entry or report, with some illegible words and numbers.]

Report - def. on 14 as the  
fog was dense & I expected  
enemy to attack. I wanted  
every man of G. H.

13

To O.C 15<sup>th</sup> AM GA

From O.C No 1 Sect

Morning report - 9-4-17

Casualties - Nil

Rations - Received OK  
excepting for Cpl  
Turner's team for which  
no dry rations were received.  
Yesterday Sgt Bryant's  
team was missed.

On both occasions  
rations for these teams  
had to be made up out  
of the other team's rations.  
Please have this matter  
looked into.

Tea & Stew received in  
good condition & hot.

### Ration strength -

1 Off - 1 Runner -	2
No 1 team Sgt Bryant -	7
2 Cpl Moyan -	8
3 Cpl Turner -	8
4 Sgt Moyna -	7
5 Platoon Fegan -	3

### Ammunition

Received	11000
Expended	1000
On hand	40250

21 lbs Soap returned last night

16886

Day 9 during night enemy  
were quiet.

Report of off. in charge  
of 25<sup>th</sup> M.C. Sect. here with

J. Morrison

24/11

To O.C. 15A.M.G.C

Barrellets - NIL

Breeches - NIL

Ammunition Expended NIL

Received 11,000

Salved 10,000

On hand 4,500 Bullets

16,000 Belts

Strength 2 officers 290 R

Retros 24 hours.

Returned petrol tanks & general salvage

General Day quiet both with  
artillery & aerial. Observations dull

Night also quiet

As per 11  
25/11/15

Place unchanged.

ADP-1111X

14

187



13

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APPENDIX

16



In the Field,

9/4/

1918

Disposition as before  
 Casualties Nil  
 AOs expended Nil  
 Ration strength: 1 off 20 OR

Challinor  
 25th Regt  
 1st Div



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

## Summary of Intelligence

7.30 a.m. 6/4/19 to 7.30 a.m. 7/4/19

Ref. Map Sheet 621 1/42,000

15th  
AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY  
BRIGADE

1. OPERATIONS Our artillery was active on enemy centres of activity and occupied positions. At 8 p.m. our artillery opened a barrage on account of enemy artillery activity on our right. Aerial activity Our planes were extremely active during afternoon. One M.A. driven down at J.B.A. Central. One of our planes fell in BOIS DE HAMEL at 3.45 p.m. Planes with our markings dropped bombs on our front line and also operated H. Guns. against our posts. This was reported by each of our Battalions in the front line. Patrols: DOUZENCOURT was found to be strongly held by H. G's firing along all approaches. Our line was not advanced here. Our centre Battalion was able to advance and their line now runs P.2.B.2-5. - P.3.B.2-5. - P.3.C.2-5.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS Prisoner at P.20.A.0-8. 207th R.I.R. 228th Div.
3. ENEMY SHELLING The shelling during the day was much less than during the previous twentyfour hours. Our front line and supports were shelled at intervals and HAMELST and VAIRE also received attention at intervals.
4. ENEMY ACTIVITY Enemy seen digging along ridge P.11.A. and C. There was much traffic in vicinity of HAMEL during the day.
5. ENEMY POSITIONS Suspected enemy O.P. at edge of BOIS DE AQUAIRE P.11.B.5-5. Large party of enemy were working in trench in P.20.B.
6. ENEMY MOVEMENT Was actively engaged by our artillery with good results. Transport seen along track from P.10.b.0-2. to P.10.b.1. Much movement was seen on hill in rear of HAMEL. Small parties were moving about continuously. Movement seen in BOIS DE VAIRE particularly at P.14.b.4-0. Movement at P.10.C.2.2. also very noticeable.
7. MISCELLANEOUS 2 enemy guns firing on T.B. of 93 and 122 degrees from P.9.A.20.55.

D.B. Day (Capt)

for Brig. General.  
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Headquarters,  
1st Australian Inf. Brigade.  
7th April 1918

- 57th Battalion
- 58th Battalion
- 59th Battalion
- 60th Battalion
- 1st M.G. Coy.
- 1st A.L.T.M.B.



Following wire received from 3rd Corps I.

Begins "Air report 7 to 8.15 a.m. AA German trenches well manned between BOIS DE VAIRE and railway S.E. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX AAA 50 enemy lining bank east of HAMEL in P.I.I.A. AAA Machine guns active along west and north edges of BOIS D'AGOROCHE and in BOIS D'ARQUAIRE AAA Addressed all Divisions." Ends.

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Major.  
Brigade Major.  
1st Australian Infantry Brigade.



73.

APPENDIX

16

891

Messages de Corbie  
(Somme)

SM. M. CAM (112 trad)

A 90  
(6 adds.)

To Broach

BM 208

Seventh

aaa

Air report timed 12.45 pm. aaa

Very old wired trench at Le HAMEL full of troops aaa

Considerable transport moving west along road

MERICOURT-MORCOURT-CERISY aaa

Advanced landing ground, 7 hangars, 23 machines

on ground S.E. of LA MOTTE N.P. 31. aaa

55 pm. Enemy shelling railway line at V1 and 2 aaa

pm. Enemy shelling heavily our line in P13-19 aaa

30 pm. Our artillery shrapneling Bois DETAILLEUX  
heavily aaa.

40 pm. 200 infantry in wood P.14. C.22 which  
aeroplane fired 500 rounds into. aaa

45 pm. Fire at 036. a 4.3 aaa

50 pm. Hostile shelling 036. b and c.

Book

FROM

12.10 am.



7/3

92

APPENDIX 16

Usines de Corbie  
(Somme)

SM + BEPM 21  
AGO

15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.

BM 210 7<sup>th</sup> Ann

Bridge has been across The SOMME  
at N. 17. C. 6. 3 for use of transport  
and troops ann

Block 2

2. Ann



Usines de Corbie

(Somme)

S M. IGAM

A 90

(5 Adds.)

96 test

Rec. at. 11.40 pm

BY EWB

TO BROACH

BM 218

Y<sup>1</sup>

aaa

Prisonery of 207 R.I.R., 228<sup>th</sup> DIV. captured  
 on road P 20. a.o.s night of 6/7<sup>th</sup>  
 states aaa

207 R.I.R. held narrow front of 160 yds.  
 in P 20. a. aaa. BOIS DE VAIRE,  
 believed held by 93<sup>rd</sup> R.I.R. aaa  
 losses in recent attack, and general, very  
 heavy owing that our infantry and machine  
 gun fire and M.G. fire from aeroplanes was  
 company strength only 35 to 40 men aaa.  
 No draught received yet aaa.  
 Nothing known of enemy intention to  
 attack but no further attack expected  
 at present - Sent all units

15. A. I. Bde.



S.M. MITH 31 Rec. at. 1.12 h  
 BY. EWB.  
 A G O  
 8 adds

BROACH  
 BM 221 Seventh. aaa.

S.O.S signal on brigade front is  
 now red, over red, over red aaa

Sent all bus. clfy. bay.  
 repeated 5 Aus. Div. + flank  
 bdes.

15<sup>th</sup> A. I. BDE

~~eff.~~



SM 14PM	Words	
AGD 6 adds	54 bat	Recd 9.16 from AGD By SWP

To *Woods* **BROADBACH**

BM 223 Seventh AAA

As soon as the enemy commences to shell any village in which troops of this brigade are quartered the village will be evacuated under arms by all ranks under orders of the senior officer of the unit present who will be responsible that this is done.

*SWP*

From Time	15 A. I. Bde
	8.30 pm.





13

SM LBPM	AG0	6 adds	22	
			Text	

To	BROACH
----	--------

BM229	Swath -	AAA
-------	---------	-----

S.O.S. signals received by you  
 6<sup>th</sup> inst. now in use over  
 whole army front area.

From Time	15 BOOK 11 P.M.
--------------	--------------------



54 LEPM 32 best

A 40  
(6 adds)

10 BROACH

BM231 Seventh AAA

Six heavy shoots of two minutes each will be carried out on ~~every~~<sup>enemy</sup> assembly positions at following times.

2.30, 3.5, 3.40, 3.58, 4.10

4.55 am. aaa

From time	BOOK 11-15 hr
-----------	------------------



73

Usines de Corbie

(Somme)

Recd at 6.30

France

SM BG

92

AVZ

15<sup>th</sup> MG Coy

G 4025

7

aaa

Air report 5.30 to 7.10 pm area SOMME  
to MOREUIL aaa One Bn of enemy  
resting on embankment N Side of CERISY

HAMEL road from HAMEL to cross roads  
in Q 7 A aaa About 2 Coys of enemy  
stationary of Road SE of HAMEL in P 10 D

4 HT going NE to MARCELCAVE from  
AUBERCOURT aaa German trenches about

BOIS DE HANGARD well manned aaa

Battery of ~~the~~ four guns firing on MARCELCAVE  
in V 10 A Central aaa Enemy Battery NE end of  
MOREUIL WOOD

5<sup>th</sup> AUST DIV

2.30 am



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM NO. 23

7th April 1918



It has come to notice that a certain unit has secured a quantity of wine and is issuing it as a ration to the troops.

This action is highly irregular, and in any further instance the officer authorizing the commandeering of any such supplies, without referring the matter where possible to Brigade Headquarters for sanction, will be chargeable with the full value of articles commandeered.

Such action is highly inconsiderate and may cause serious trouble for the following reasons:-

1. Other units in the Brigade are not so fortunate as to be billeted in a village where such a supply exists and naturally the men will be highly dissatisfied on learning of the better treatment of the favoured unit, and it would become essential to make a general issue throughout the force, which would be highly undesirable.
2. If a Battalion Commander can authorise such commandeering, a Company Commander detached from his Unit for a short time, could also authorise such an issue and so on, until a Private temporarily detached from his Unit, on the same line of reasoning, could justify his looting a liquor store.
3. Such wine is the property, in the main, of poor inhabitants of the country.

Wherever possible there should be kept very careful notes of any article whatever taken in lieu of rations.

4. It is well established that the supply of alcoholic liquor, except the small official ration of rum, tends to lower the vitality of the men in the end, rather than augment it.

All Officers and N.C.O's will therefore take steps to ensure that where they can communicate with higher authority no such action is to be taken without first referring the matter to higher authority and having same authorised.

Further if through failure of communications it is impossible to refer matter at once to higher authority, every officer concerned should ensure that any such issue is made through Coy. Q.M.S. or R.Q.M. and an exact record of quantity, quality, time and place kept.

In every case an immediate report is to be forwarded to Battalion and Brigade Headquarters setting out what justification they had for such highly irregular action.

*awh*

Captain.  
Staff Capt.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

17  
2 ppx.  
Vol. 4. F. 3

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Intelligence Summary

7.30 a.m. 7/4/18 to 7.30 a.m. 8/4/18.

Map Sheet 831 1/30,000.



**1. OPERATIONS** Our artillery was very active during the day and night. During night concentrated shoots were carried out on probable German assembly points.

**Aircraft** Very active all day. 3 planes were seen to fall behind enemy lines; not known whether British or German machines.

**Patrols** Our patrols were active during the night. A patrol searched KUTZINGHOUS finding it unoccupied by the enemy. No established posts at the cross roads J.34.D.2-7 and at bridge. The patrol reported H.I. fire from our old front line in P.5.A. A patrol from centre battalion moved along road to P.9.a.9-9 and located an enemy post. The rest of one of our patrols approached a post at P.8.b.3-9 containing 15 to 20 enemy. The sentry was noticed during and was killed with a bomb. This aroused the remainder of post and some bombs were thrown knocking several over and dispersing others to surrounding cover. One of the enemy was shot through the neck. Results of other patrol work appears under enemy defences.

**2. INTELLIGENCE**

- 3. ENEMY ARTILLERY** Enemy artillery was not very active and with exception of 200 rounds fired into VALLS during the 24 hours his shelling was confined to light intermittent shelling of front and support lines.
- 4. ENEMY AIRWAYS** No apparent change.
- 5. ENEMY DEFENCES** Patrols located :- Enemy H.I. at P.3.C.6-0, enemy post P.3.D.15-15., post with H.I. at P.8.D.8-1 (about 10 men), post at P.14.B.7-7, post at P.8.B.8-0. Observers located H.I. at P.14.d.2-1. Enemy digging on forward slope of hill P.21.C. and P.27.A.
- 6. MOVEMENT** There was continual movement of small parties in P.16.B. and P.17.A. during the day. There was a good deal of movement in front of HANZL during morning but after our snipers had shot four of the enemy this was considerably loosened.
- 7. HIGHLY ACTIVE** 3 no enemy air flashes seen at P.24.b.6-5. From 0.P. at P.2.A.4-4. Flashes seen on T.1. of 93 and 122 degrees. Balloons one reported in P.24.b. and another on T.1. of 89 degrees from P.13.d.0-5. Planes A biplane with our markings flew along our line at 9.30 p.m. firing on our posts. Heavy bomb was dropped at J.33.C.5-1. This plane has number 117 on one side and 711 on the other.

Appx. 7.18  
Vol 4. 3

D. Dayle  
Capt.  
for Brig. General.  
Commanding 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



733

Prefix	Code	Words	Sent at To By	Recd. From By
SM	HIAM	26 text		

Special instructions

4 adds A G O

To Broach



M239 | eighth | - | 777

Starting from nine a.m.

our artillery will bombard enemy concentration areas etc.

For two minutes every thirty nine minutes

~~SM~~

FROM

15 A. I. Bde

Time

8.49 am.



15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 16.

Ref. Sheet 82 D

April 8th 1918.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Left Battalion will evacuate from the R.A.P. to the SOMME Canal by 15th Field Ambulance Stretcher bearers; thence by 10th Field Ambulance to A.D.S. BONNAY.  
 Centre Battalion and Right Battalion will evacuate from R.A.P.'s by Field Ambulance Stretcher bearers to Wagon Loading Post O.S.d.S-3 HAMBLAY thence by motor ambulance to A.D.S., AUBIGNY to C.C.S. PICQUIGNY.  
 Walking wounded are sent to Collecting Post N.S.d.O.1 DAOURS (14th Field Ambulance).

This cancels all previous Medical Arrangements

STRAGGLER COLLECTING STATIONS

Straggler posts have been established at BOUILLOY Bridge O.S.O.4-7. and AUBIGNY Bridge O.S.b.7-5.  
 Collecting Stations are at BOVIES and at INN, N.28.d.S-8.

PRISONERS OF WAR CAGE

The Corps Prisoners of War Cage is at BOVIS.



*W. Hay*

Captain.  
Staff Capt.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

*Appx. 19  
Vol. 4. 7. 3.*

## THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,  
8th April, 1918

My dear General,-

Will you allow me to convey to you and through you to the 15th Brigade my very high appreciations of the splendid assistance which this Brigade has rendered to me during the few days which it was under my command. - Nothing could have been more splendid than the prompt action and excellent initiative of the Brigadier and all his Staff and Commanders. - The Brigade helped me over a very difficult period, and its very presence protecting the line to the River on my Right flank greatly heartened all my troops who were engaged in resisting a considerable pressure from the enemy from the East on my line, which runs across from the ANCHES to the SOMME and about 2000 yards West of MERLANS COURT. -

I greatly admired ELLIOTT's quickness of grasp and his resourcefulness in dealing with every situation as it arose; and also the promptitude with which he established most useful liaison with the troops, and the situation, South of the SOMME. -

I am glad to know that there is some prospect that you and I will again be next-door neighbours, as I understand that your Division is likely to come into the line on my Right. -

With kindest regards, -

Yours very sincerely,

John HOWASH

Major General Sir J.J. Talbot Hobbs, K.C.B., V.D.  
Commanding 5th Australian Division.

1st Cavalry Division  
7-4-18.

Dear Elliott,

The 1st H.Q. Squadron has returned from the line near HAMEL. I am writing on behalf of them and also of the whole 1st Cavalry Division to express my thanks to your Brigade and especially to the 59th Battalion for the kind and generous assistance they rendered to our Machine Gunners. They so much appreciate the courtesy of the C.O. of the Battalion in seeing them march off this morning and his words of encouragement and thanks.

Yours sincerely

H.L. MULLANS





413/7649  
AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY DIVISION

Headquarters,  
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.  
9th April 1918

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

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY

The attached copy of a letter received from the G.O.C. 1st Cavalry Division is forwarded for your information.

The B.G.C. wishes you to express to all concerned, his thanks for their treatment of the 1st M.G. Squadron while temporarily attached to this Brigade.

Attached also is copy of a letter received by G.O.C. 5th Aust. Div. from G.O.C. 3rd Aust. Div., and copy of covering letter from G.O.C. 5th Aust. Div. to B.G.C.

*Apr 20  
Vol 4. 7. 2*

*away*

Captain.  
Staff Capt.  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Headquarters,  
5th Australian Division,  
8th April 1918

My dear Elliott,

I enclose a letter which I have received from General MONASH, Commanding our 3rd Australian Division. I congratulate you and your Brigade on the great praise accorded you by General MONASH, which I know thoroughly well you all deserve. It is a source of personal satisfaction to me that you and your gallant men should have been instrumental in earning such golden opinions from both our 3rd Division and the 3rd Cavalry Division which you were assisting. Brig-General HARMAN, commanding the 3rd Cavalry Division, was most enthusiastic about you, when speaking to me a day or two ago. I believe he wrote to you expressing his high appreciation of your services.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

J.T.HOBBS

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



Headquarters,  
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.  
9th April 1918

57th Battalion  
58th Battalion  
59th Battalion  
60th Battalion  
15th M.G. Coy.  
15th A.L.P.M.S.

Severely wounded prisoner of 12th Coy. 3rd Grenadier Regt. 1st Division captured near BOUZENCOURT states:-

The whole 1st Divn. is in reserve in the open. Prisoner was a convalescent in a draft of 300 who joined the 3rd Grenadiers 4 days ago. 4th Guard Div. still in line. HAMEL is not occupied owing to our shelling. Prisoner had entirely lost his way while carrying a message. His Regt. suffers many casualties from our artillery even while in rest.



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



AUSTRA  
APPENDIX 20  
106  
178/7623

18th Australian Infantry Brigade

Summary of Intelligence

From 7.30 a.m. 8/4/18 to 7.30 a.m. 9/4/18.

Ref. Map Sheet 62 B 1/40,000

**1. OPERATIONS** Our left and centre Battalions advanced slightly during night and improved line now runs:- J.34.d.2-4 - P.3.Central - P.2.d.8-8 - P.8.b.8-6 - P.8.d.4-0.

**Artillery** Our artillery was active on concentrated shoots during the morning. Bad visibility prevented observation of effect.

**Patrols** Right Battalion sent out hourly protection patrols. These operated 300 yards in front of our line.

Other Battalions patrols operated frequently. No enemy patrols met with. Snipers claim to have caused four casualties.

**2. IDENTIFICATIONS** Wounded prisoner taken near BOUZENIGURT 18th Coy. 5th Guard Bgt.

**3. ENEMY SHELLING** Enemy artillery was very active on VAIRE. The village was shelled during the day at intervals with 8.9's and 77's. At 8.30 a.m. (9th) enemy commenced a heavy bombardment on VAIRE and the front line of left Battalion. HAMELET was also shelled at same time. At about 6 a.m. enemy opened heavy bombardment of front line in centre Battalion sector and 300 yards behind front line of Right Battalion sector. The only other shelling was as follows:-

3 p.m.	P.7.c.	50 rounds	8.9 and 4.2.
3.15 p.m.	P.12.b and d	50 rounds	8.9 and 4.2.
4.30 to 5.30 p.m.	P.7.c.	40 rounds	8.9 and 4.2.
10.00 p.m.	B.24.a.	20 rounds	8.9 and 4.2.
1 a.m.	O.24.a.	20 rounds	8.2.

2 to 3 a.m. enemy artillery very active on right Battalion front.

**4. ENEMY ATTITUDE** His heavy bombardment of VAIRE and HAMELET this morning and his simultaneous shelling of our front line indicated possible attack. However nothing eventuated.

**5. ENEMY DEFENCES** Enemy appears to be digging a line 100 yards in rear of SOUTH END of BOIS de VAIRE - running along towards BOIS de HAMEL. New trench work seen from P.4.C.8-6 to P.4.A.6-5.

**6. ENEMY MOVEMENT** Much less movement seen owing to bad visibility. Small parties were seen SOUTH of BOIS de VAIRE.

**7. AERIAL ACTIVITY** Much less owing to unsuitable weather.

**8. MISCELLANEOUS**  
Topography Small copse shown on 62B sheet at P.8.b.9-3 does not exist.

Prisoner taken yesterday was seen walking towards our lines at BOUZENIGURT. When 300 yards off he appeared to grow suspicious and about to turn back. He was shot at and dropped. After 20 minutes he got up and walked in to our lines.

*D. B. Doyle*  
Capt.

for Brig. General.  
Commanding 18th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Daily Report

1.0.06 24 hours ending  
15.11 A.M.G. Coy 5.30 am 9/4/18

Ammunition expended; 1st  
" Received; 1st Smith's Report

Equipment required; 2nd  
Rations received; 24 hours

Parade state; (See Mr. Smith's Report)  
Operations; no enemy appeared within

Range of guns during day. ~~Smith~~  
Larnegie, Johnson, & myself reconnoitred

to eastern end of village of BOUZENCOURT  
We saw 3 Huns at P4 B8040 I fired

a one who ran away with a rifle &  
apparently hit him badly.

Hostile artillery; Hostile Barrage  
ceased on the morning of the

5/4/18 at 7 am no inf action  
resulted. During the day enemy

shelled Canal Bank heavily  
with 5.9s.

Aerial activity; very few planes  
seen.

Change over with Mr. Coppin  
complete.

Sgt. O'Donohue's Gun is now at J34 B0820  
(Front Line)

Cpl Thompson's Gun is at J34 A1020  
(Front Line)

Sgt. Mulholland's Gun (Reserve) is at J33 B4020

Cpl Pearson's Gun is at J33 B9080  
(Reserve)

This position is provisional as the  
ground is very marshy & it is hard to  
to get a place for the men to line.  
I may find a better place during  
the day.

Work done; the various gun teams  
have been working through the  
night on shelters & gun placements.

Time spent 5.10 am  
By Name: Lt. Hanna 2 hrs  
No objection

APPENDIX 2/107

To HQ.

15<sup>th</sup> A.M.G. Coy.

Daily report

app<sup>d</sup> 4. 7.

Casualties: Nil

Ammunition exp: Nil

on hand: 16 belt boxes per gun

belt box total: 16,000 rds

S.A.A. on hand: 3,000 "

Grand total 19,000 "

I have probably more on hand in belt boxes but do not know just how many boxes are with the reserve gun while placing my guns last night I came across a section of the 13<sup>th</sup> A.M.G. Coy with guns installed in the vicinity of positions I had reserved for my guns. I interviewed the officer in charge of these guns but he knew absolutely nothing concerning

them as he had only been sent up last evening to replace the officer who had been in charge of the guns. He was wounded yesterday morning. Practically the only information I got from him was that they relieved the 35<sup>th</sup> English M.G. Coy. on the night of the 6/7<sup>th</sup> inst. with 4 guns of the 13<sup>th</sup> placed as follows:

J. 32. 1. 2. 5

J. 32. 1. 4. 7

P. 2. 3. 20. 10

P. 2. 1. 10. 85

I did not deem it necessary to place my <sup>last night</sup> guns as my front is very well covered and the ground will have to be further reconnoitred if the 13<sup>th</sup> hold their present positions. So I seized the opportunity of giving a couple of my teams a night's rest.

APPENDIX

21/108

Two guns which I did place & which are in position now are -

Forward gun at J.32.D. 90.10

Support gun at P.2.H. 90.80.

Should my remaining two guns have to be placed I propose placing both in vicinity of support line say at - P.2.H. 60.30

P.1.B. 85.60

I intend to reconnoitre the ground further and may find more favorable positions for these guns. You will, of course, be informed immediately should I change any of my positions.

Ration Strength I would like my rations bagged as under please,

1 bag for	Sgt Murphy & myself	off	2
1 "	" Corp Moxey & 4 men	"	5
1 "	" " Turner " 4 "	"	5
1 "	" " Charlton " 4 "	"	5

Ration strength cont: 1 bag for Cpl Burgess & 4 men = 5  
1 " " No 1 Sec. nucleus 7 men = 7

Total ration strength diff. 27 men  
4 bag for 5 men each  
1 bag for 7 men  
1 bag for 2  

---

6 29

From tomorrow I think I can arrange the hot tea and food for No 1 Section from here, but I would like you to carry on as usual for tonight to enable me to complete necessary arrangements.

Section H.Q.s are established at J.32.C. 70.50

Gun teams have been reduced to 1 MCO. & 4 men per team which leaves me with a reserve of 7 men whom I can use as carriers, runners to replace casualties, relieve worn out men etc. These men I

are keeping at Section H. Pro. in a cellar.

Mrs Charlton & Burgess I have instructed to carry on as corporals! Everything good ok!

Sec. H. G.

7. A.M.

11/4/18

R. J. Rider Lt.  
10. No 1 Section  
15th A.M. G. Corp.

P. S. Can I have up with tonight "rashies" some gun oil, Glanclletta Knave, a re-fill for the book, and particularly matches & cigs if these can be obtained. Some "male" would be acceptable awee.

To: O.C. 15th A.M. G. C.

From: O.C. No 3 Section

Morning Report 10/4/17

Casualties - Nil

Ammunition - On belts 10000

Ration Strength - S.A.A. 10000

1 less in Sgt Duncan's team.

Rations received O.K.

New positions occupied at midnight

Map Ref: 62<sup>D</sup> 140000

J 33 e 9069

J 33 d 2070

J 33 d 4570

J 34 a 8020

Post Hq. with W. Smith in Vario  
A Coffin per J.H.

12  
3

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Daily Report  
N<sup>o</sup> 4 Section

10/4/1918

- 1 NIL
- 2 NIL
- 3 Ammv. exps NIL  
do recd 10000  
do on hand 19500 belts TOTAL  
do do do 38000 bulk 57500
- 4 24 hours rations to hand
- 5 2 offer 2 ppts 3 cpls 23 gunners 4  
drivers 1 runner 1 cook TOTAL 36
- 6 Change over with N<sup>o</sup> 3 section  
Mr Coppin was completed during  
the night.  
Sgt O'Donohue's Gun is now at  
J 34 b 08.20 FRONT LINE  
Cpl. Thompson's Gun is now at  
J 34 a 10 20 FRONT LINE  
Sgt-Milburn's gun is at J 33 b 4054  
Cpl Pearson's J 33 b 95-80  
These two are RESERVE LINE  
all teams have been working  
during the night on guns

emplacements and positions  
for men. The reserve positions  
are in swampy ground and may  
be moved today slightly one  
way or another if better places  
for mens quarters can be found.  
Enemy shelled VAIRE very  
heavily, mostly with WHIZ BANGS  
at intermittent times yesterday

J 32 C 9-7  
10/4/1918  
6.15 A.M.

A B Linton Smith  
Lieut

20

D.M.G.O

5<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.G. Battery

Change over was completed successfully on the night of 9/10 inst. and the following are the map locations of my Gun positions:

Front Line J34A 10:20 J34B 08:20  
Support J33B 40:54 J33B 95:80

Front Line J34A 80:20 J33C 90:69  
Support J33D 20:70 J33D 45:70

Front Line J336 50:16  
Support P2A 90:80 P2A 60:30 P1B 85:60

There are 4 guns of 13<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.G. Coy on our sector in J32D 2.5 J32D 4.7 P2B 20:10 P2D 10:80

23

15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy Hqrs. Hamlet  
J32D 19.57 OCB 50:40

Section Hqrs Vaire J32C 70:55

Arms Exp. Nil.  
" On hand 260 Belt boxes  
50000 50000.

Bandages Nil.

Enemy Artillery Normal

Visibility Poor

8.10 AM

O.C.B 50:40

George F. J. Gerald Capt.  
15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.  
OC 10 10/4/18

APPENDIX

21

13  
15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 9-4-18 to 6 a.m. 10-4-18.  
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CASUALTIES: There were no casualties reported for the 24 hours.

WORK IN HAND & PROPOSED: Improvements to gun positions and men's quarters were carried on.

ENEMY ATTITUDE: The enemy was quiet, only intermittent shelling being engaged in on most of our line. VAIRE was shelled very heavily, mostly with "whiz-bangs", at various times during the day. The canal bank was also shelled with 5.9s.

ENEMY MACHINE GUNS: Played on roads and tracks at various times during the 24 hours.

ENEMY AEROPLANES: Few enemy 'planes were observed during the day.

ENEMY MOVEMENT: No movement was observed behind enemy lines, owing to poor visibility.

GENERAL: The weather was cloudy, and the visibility very poor. As no targets could be observed during the day, our guns did not do any firing.

Change Over: No. 4 Section relieved No. 3 Section during the night. Four gun positions were occupied at J.34.b.08.20.; J.34.a.10.20. (2 front line guns) J.33.b.40.54.; & J.33.b.95.80. (2 reserve guns).

New gun positions were taken up by No. 1 Section, as follow: Forward gun J.32.d.90.10., Support gun P.2.a.90.80. and it is proposed to put the two remaining guns at P.2.a.60.30 & P.1.b.85.60.

No. 3 Section guns occupied the following new positions: J.33.c.90.69.; J.33.d.20.70., J.33.d.45.70.; J.34.a.80.20.

A reconnaissance was made of the eastern end of BOUZENCOURT and 3 enemy were seen at P.4.b.80.40. These were fired on and one was apparently badly hit.

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



To  
60  
5th A.M.G. Battalion  
Appx. 22  
4. 7. 2.

I have to report the following casualties  
3036 Pte EASTBROOK Robert (Killed by shell fire)  
292 Pte Bohun C. (Throat & finger of left hand  
blown off by shell fire)  
192 Pte HOLMES E (Shell wound in chest)

Ammunition On hand  
In belts 67,500; S.P.A. boxes 53,000  
Exp. Nil.

During day light enemy shelled  
VAIRE and HAMELET heavily with  
5.9s & 4.2s he also shelled forward  
area intermittently.  
During darkness enemy abnormally  
quiet. Enemy aircraft much less  
unfavorable weather

Enemy squadron of 21 machines,  
were observed during the day.  
Visibility Poor  
No targets for M.G. fire were  
seen during past 24 hours.

Dispositions unaltered

11/4/18

8.30 AM

George Fitzgerald Capt  
O.C. 15th M.G. Coy

HAMELET

Work done: Improvements to  
S.P.s and shelters

To O.C. Report for  
15th A.M.G. Coy. 24 hrs ending  
noon H.C. 7 A.M. 11/4/18  
No. 1 Sec.

Casualties: No 292 Pte Bohun C.  
had the thumb & middle fingers  
of his right(?) hand blown off  
by enemy shell (42)  
Ammunition on hand 16,000 in belts  
8,000 S.A.H.  
Total 24,000 rds

12,000 S.A.H. were brought from old  
dump by Lieut. Coppin & of these I  
received 5,000 rds.

Ration Strength - 2 officers  
Please bag Cpl Kaysept & men  
as given " Turner & 4 "  
" Charlton & 4 "  
" Burgess & 4 "  
Spare men etc. 8 "  
Total 2 officers 38 men

Included in the last bag are  
the two cooks sent up last night.  
Lieut. Hackworthy may also include  
them on his strength. I think it  
would be best to allow me to  
draw for them.

Succeeded in moving  
my section and gear from the  
shelled area without incident &  
am now established in deep sallows  
in house <sup>restroom</sup> on corner of HAMLET -  
HAMLET roads. O. 32. C. 15. 95. Shells  
again fell on old quarters after  
we had vacated.

Hot tea was prepared  
for both Nos. 1 & 2 sections about 12  
midnight & stew at 5.15 a.m. Think  
everything should be all right here  
and will make further report  
later.

Have saved a quantity  
of soap which I will return  
by tonight's ration lumber.

I want some gun oil rather  
badly, also matches if poss. revolver  
ammunition

Sec. HQ.

0.32. C. 15.95

7.10. A.M.

11/4/18

B. Rider Lt.  
J. No. 1 Sec.  
15. AM. C.

Please give runner some  
breakfast

Daily Report  
No 4 Section

11/4/1918

1 3036 Pte EASTBROOK ROBERT Killed  
by shell fire

2 NIL

3 AMM EXP<sup>d</sup> NIL

do REC<sup>d</sup> NIL

do on hand 19500

do do 38000

belts TOTAL  
bulk 57500

4 24 hours rations to hand

Most of the food left behind by  
the civilians is now cut out, and  
we depend more on the issue.

5 2 off 2 sqts 3 cpls 23 gunners 4 drivers  
1 runner TOTAL 35

6 (a) Nil

Enemy shelled cookhouse fairly heavily  
Cookhouse moved to J 32 A 2-4 BILLET 20  
in a cellar

11/4/1918

7.A.M.

A. Blanton Smith  
Lieut

APPENDIX 20  
11/16

273

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O.C. M.G.  
 15th Nov 1918  
 H.A.G.

To O. B. BRODCH  
From No 2 Section.

Casualties	Nil
Change in Personnel	Nil
Ammunition Expended	Nil
On Hand	16000
Buck	7000

Rations  
Rations were received & cooking  
operations were successfully  
undertaken in VAIRE

Strength 2 Pfc 3 Sgt 3 Pte 2 Q.O.R.  
Total 36.

#### RELIEF

Relief was carried out quite successfully  
with No 3 Section  
General

The night was abnormally quiet

6.30 P.M.

11:4:18

Harold J. Mackworth  
No 2 Section

#### Daily Report.

Left Sub Section  
No 4 Section  
To O.B. 15<sup>th</sup> A.M.S. Coy  
15<sup>th</sup> A.M.S. Coy from H.S. Hannam 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Casualties Nil  
Ammunition Expended Nil  
" Red. Pfc. 24<sup>th</sup> Smith's Regt  
Requirements Nil

Rations Received 24 hours  
Parade State; see 24<sup>th</sup> Smith's Regt  
Operations; nothing to report.  
Hostile Artillery; at 4 pm  
Enemy shelled large farm  
west end of BOUZENCOURT  
Quiet night.

Hostile Aircraft Large Squadron  
(21 machines) flew round  
during the day.

Runner Required; Wilson  
experi. cook replacing Easterbrook  
(Killed)

H.S. Hannam 2<sup>nd</sup>

No 4 Section

Time sent 6:30

By Runner.



15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 a.m. 10-4-18 to 6 a.m. 11-4-18.

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CASUALTIES: 1 O/R was killed and 2 o/R wounded by shell fire during the 24 hours.

WORK IN HAND & PROPOSED: General improvements to gun positions and men's quarters.

ENEMY ATTITUDE: Enemy artillery shelled VAIRE and HAMELET very heavily with 5.9s and 4.2s during the day, but during the night was abnormally quiet.

ENEMY MOVEMENT: Owing to poor visibility no enemy movement behind his lines could be observed.

ENEMY MACHINE GUNS: Fired intermittantly on roads, tracks &c. during the 24 hours.

ENEMY AEROPLANES: A squadron of enemy 'planes (21 in number) were observed during the day.

GENERAL: The weather was cloudy and observation very poor.

No targets being seen our guns did not open fire.

At 4 p.m. enemy heavily shell large farm at the west end of Bouzencourt.

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



13.3

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

DISPOSITION OF MACHINE GUNS IN FORWARD AREA: 12-4-18. 8.30 am

No. 1	J. 34. b. 08. 20.	) No. 4 Section. Lieut. H. B. L. Smith.
2	J. 34. a. 10. 20.	
3	J. 33. b. 95. 30.	
4	J. 33. b. 40. 54.	
5	J. 33. d. 10. 70.	) No. 2 Section. Lieut. H. Mackworth.
6	J. 33. c. 50. 67.	
7	J. 33. a. 90. 00.	
8	J. 33. c. 70. 30.	
9	J. 32. d. 90. 10.	) No. 1 Section. Lieut. B. L. Rider.
10	P. 2. a. 90. 80.	
11	P. 1. b. 80. 50.	
12	P. 2. a. 60. 30.	



Copy to:  
 8. H. H. G.  
 25 "  
 P. H. G.

*Refer to*  
*Vol. 4*  
*7.3*

