

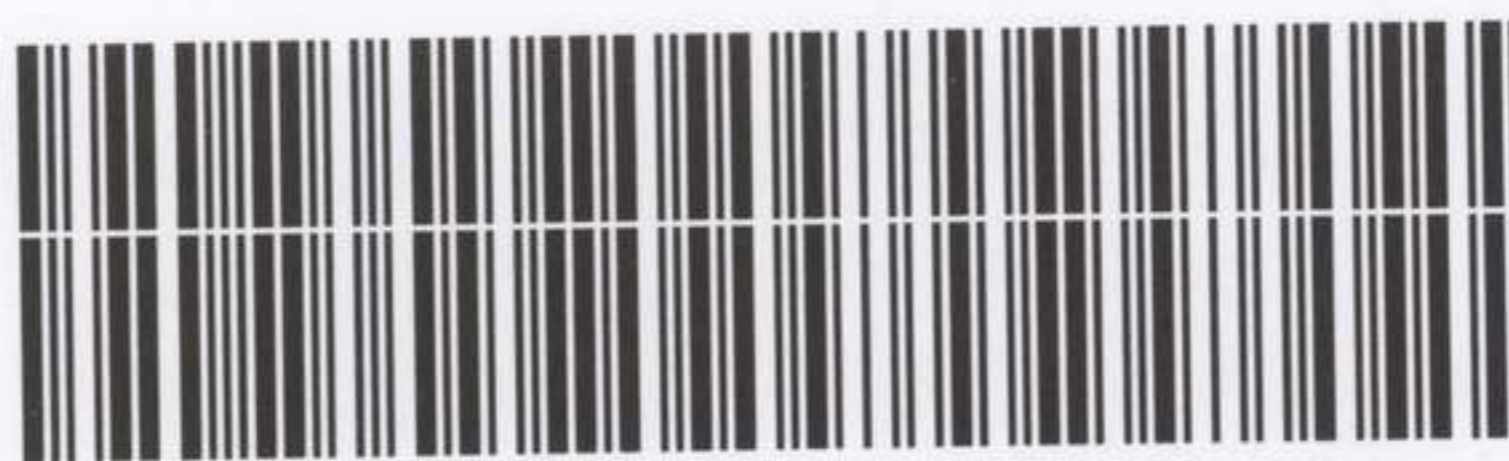
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Signals

Item number: 22/11/29

Title: 1st Australian Division Signals
Company

October 1917



AWM4-22/11/29

1st
AUSTRALIAN DIVL
SIGNAL COMPANY.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

1st Div Signals

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.

DSC 449
8-11-17

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.	
Otober, DICKEDUSCH	1917. 1st		Forward Buried Route surveyed between Anzac (AZ) and Helles (AW), and the sixxx site for a Cable Head selected at J.3.D.3.4.	
		1st/2nd	Night. Buried Route of 25 pairs commenced between sixix Anzac and Cable Head. 440 yards 7 feet deep completed. Burying Party suffering many casualties.	
		2nd	Company moved from Dickebusch to Lille Gate Ramparts. Office closed at Dickebusch at 4 pm. and opened at Lille Gate Ramparts at same hour. Lines through to the 2nd Aust. Division at Ypres Ramparts and to the 3rd Inf. Bde at Westhoek Ridge.	
		2nd/3rd	11pm. No's 2 and 4 Signal Sections took over from No. 3. at Westhoek Brigade Station.	
		3rd	Night. Buried Route of 400 yards completed to Cable Head, tested and working satisfactorily. Distribution of Telegraphists, Telephonists, Linesmen, Runners and Visual Stations in the Forward Area arranged. A Visual Station was established at Westhoek Ridge (Brigade Headquarters) from which position good visibility was obtainable to any point forward. Wireless Stations were established at Westhoek Ridge and Birr Cross Roads. Power Buzzers were established at Garter Point J.3.A.80.80., Cable Head J.3.C.30.90., and at a point J.4.C.30.30., and at Brigade Forward Station on Westhoek Ridge. Pigeons were supplied to all Forward Battalion H.Q. Positions.	
			9.50am. Buried Route between Division and No's 2, and 4, Signal Sections (Westhoek Ridge) blown out. Linesmen immediately put work in hand.	
			11.15am. Through on Route again and working satisfactorily.	
			11.20 am. Through to 7th Division on Left by 'phone, and to No. 3, Signal Section at Halfway House by Fullerphone.	
			sixix	
		4th	1 pm. All lines forward that were blown out put through and working O.K. Office at Cable Head opened.	
			1 am. No's 2 and 4 Signal Sections of pooled personnel for Forward Brigade Stations assembled at Cable Head, and Supplies of Cable and Technical Stores in readiness. All forward routes working satisfactorily. Personnel of Forward Brigade Stations with gear moved up to the Front Line in readiness to follow the advance. Lines laid back to Cable Head. Fullerphones working over this well, and a Power Buzzer Station established at the Jumping Off point.	

*Two Maps attached to illustrate the
Battle of 4th Oct., and communication
on front at end of the Month*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			1st Australian Divisional Signal Company. (2).	
		6 am.	Zero Hour. All lines working O.K., and good Visual Communication working between Cable Head and Intermediate Forward Brigade Forward Station.	
		9 am.	Lines from Cable Head to Intermediate Forward Brigade Station working intermittently, owing to their being cut by heavy shell-fire. Brigade Linesmen constantly patrolling lines forward of Cable Head. Forward Brigade Station established at Remus Wood, good visual communication.	
		10.30 am.	Special Laddered Line laid to Forward Brigade Station at Remus Wood from Cable Head and Telegraphic Communication with Fullerphones opened at 11.30 am. The service on this line was continuous during the remainder of the Operation.	
		2.15pm.	All lines forward of Division to Reserve Brigade at Halfway House blown out between Ypres Ramparts and Test point (R.B.) about 200 yards to the right of Hell-Fire Corner on the Roullers Railway Line.	
		5.15pm.	Lines mended and telegraphic communication restored between Division and Reserve Brigade, thus again linking up again with the Forward Stations.	
5th			No's 2 and 4 Signal Sections relieved in the line by the No. 3, Signal Section. Signal Communications all working satisfactorily. A Survey made of the proposed Buried Cable Route from Cable Head to Crater (D.29.C.5.6.) via Albania and Retaliation Farm.	
6th			All Communications working in order. Buried Route of 25 pairs commenced and extended as far as J.3.A.9.4. Visual Station established at Divisional Observation Post at D.2.9.C.5.6. to work direct with Cable Head.	
7th.			Communications all working in order. Lewis Gun mounted and operated by Cable Head personnel as anti-craft gun engaged hostile aircraft at close range and caused the machine to fall on the Passchendaele Ridge - Ghevulte Ridge. Buried Cable Route of 25 pairs extended to J.3.B.8.9&.	
8th			All communications working satisfactorily. Buried Route of 25 pairs extended to D.2.8.C.4.3.	
9th			Communications in good order. Arrangements made for the relief of the Division.	
10th			Relieved by the 5th Australian Division at 10 am. and removed to Scottish Lines, where Office established at the same hour.	
11th			Syllabus drawn up for Course of Instruction for Battalion Signallers. Personnel of Company allowed to gain all possible rest.	
12th			Overhauling and cleaning of Signal Gear proceeded with. In communication with all Brigade Signal Sections by 'phone or by 'phone and telegraph.	
16th			No's 2, 3 and 4 Signal Sections commenced School of Signalling Instruction for Battalion Signallers.	

1917

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company. (3).	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7th		6 men per Battalion attended.	
	13th		Power Buzzer School 2 men per Battalion commenced at Divisional Headquarters under the direction of the Wireless N.C.O.	
	14th		Communications as on 12th. P.B. School proceeding. Overhaul of gear continuing and personnel given all possible rest.	
	15th.		" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
	16th		No's 2, 3 and 4 Signal Sections commenced School of Signalling Instruction for Battalion Signallers. 6 men per Battalion attended.	
	17th		Power Buzzer and Signalling Schools proceeding. Cleaning up continuing.	
	18th		" " " " " " " " " " " "	
	19th		" " " " " " " " " " " "	
	20th		Power Buzzer School concluded. " " " " " "	
	21st		" " " " " " " " " " " "	
	22nd		" " " " " " " " " " " "	
	23rd		Signalling Schools at each Brigade Signal Section had to be disbanded owing to the Brigades moving towards the line.	
	24th		Moved from Scottish Lines to Ypres Ramparts and took over communications xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Linemen went forward to Test Points at J.T. and Sans Souci (S.S.) No. 4, Signal Section moved into the line and took over from the 4th Australian Division at D.26.C.1.3. and established communication. From Division to Brigade was through Buried System and from Brigade forward was by Buried through Sans Souci (SS) J.T., A-nzac (AZ), and then alternate routes via Garter Point (G.P), Albania (AL), and Tokio (TK) to Retaliation Farm (RF) xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx or, via Albania Woods (AW) to Retaliation Farm (RF) and forward to De Knoet Farm (KF). From which point Battalions were linked up by laddered lines. Alternate means of communication was by Visual and Power Buzzer from Brigade Headquarters to each Battalion. No. 3, Signal Section were in support at Infantry B-arracks, Ypres and No. 2, Signal Section on move forward.	
	25th		All means of communication kept in good order and repair. No. 2, Signal Section moved into Belgian Chateau.	
	26th		A small Stunt on our right to help the Operation farther to the North, during which time all	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company. (4).	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27th		communications were maintained despite heavy shelling. Heavy shelling kept linemen busy on all forward routes during which time heavy casualties were experienced owing to shell-gas.	
	28th		" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
	29th		" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
	30th		Test Box at Sans Souci (SS) blown out by heavy shells and practically demolished. A lineman from the Test Point at J.T. went forward to clear up position and place lines on a working basis. All communications through within two hours, and the lineman reported back to J.T. as S.S. position not tenable.	
	31st		No. 4, Signal Section came out of Line and took up quarters at Belgian Chateau, and were relieved by the No. 3, Signal Section. No. 2, Signal Section moved forward to support, in Infantry Barracks, Ypres.	

[Handwritten Signature]
 O. C. 1st AUST. DIV. SIGNAL COY. A. I. F.

WAR DIARY

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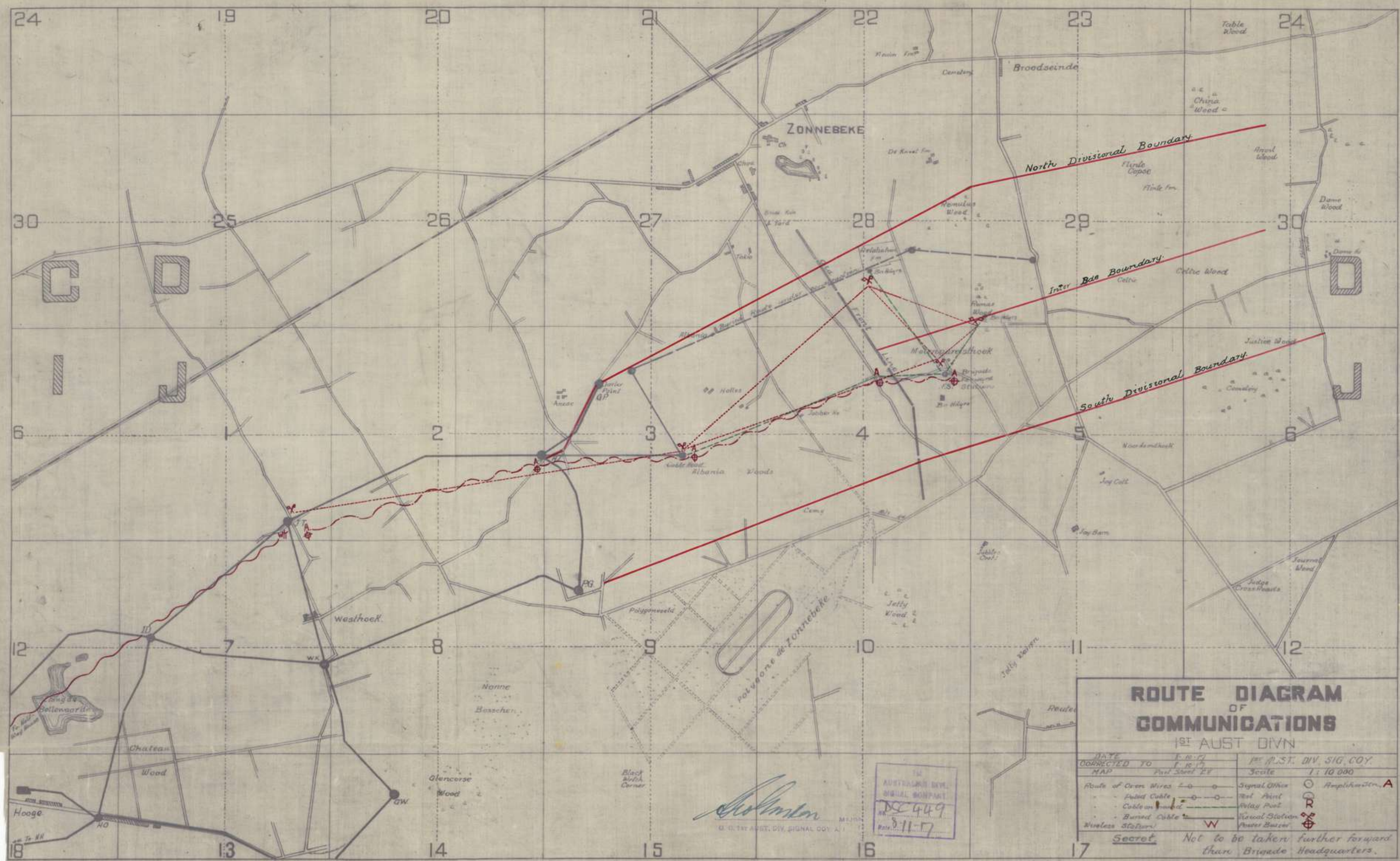
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company. Artillery Signal Sections. (2)	Remarks and references to Appendices
	18th		Communications kept in good order and repair.	
	19th		Ideal House was remanned, and communications kept up as well as the conditions would permit.	
	20th		" " " " " " " " " "	
	21st		A forward Exchange was established with the Forward Batteries and the F.O.O. F.O.O. line right through and working well on buried, so the Lamp Station was discontinued.	
	22nd)			
	23rd)			
	24th)		Linemen constantly patrolling the lines. All communications satisfactory.	
	25th)			
	26th)			
	27th		1st Aust. Div. Arty took over from 4th Aust. Div. Arty at Ypres Ramparts, Lines very earthy. Lines laid to new position with Batteries along valley running from Railway through Sans Souci to Westhoek	
	28th		Group Headquarters moved to position on Railway 400 yards North of Sans Souci (D.26.C.4.5.) Lines through O.K.	
	29th		Lines maintained to Batteries. Intermittent trouble evidently caused a-t Test Boxes.	
	30th		Buried Route JT-DV blown out and Battery Lines C Group down couple hours owing to the heavy shelling. Ground Lines laid to JT to C Group. Alternative route on Canadian Bury also failed	
	31st		Communications again in good working order and linemen constantly patrolling.	

[Signature]
O. C. 1st AUST. DIV. SIGNAL COY. A. I. I.



ROUTE DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS

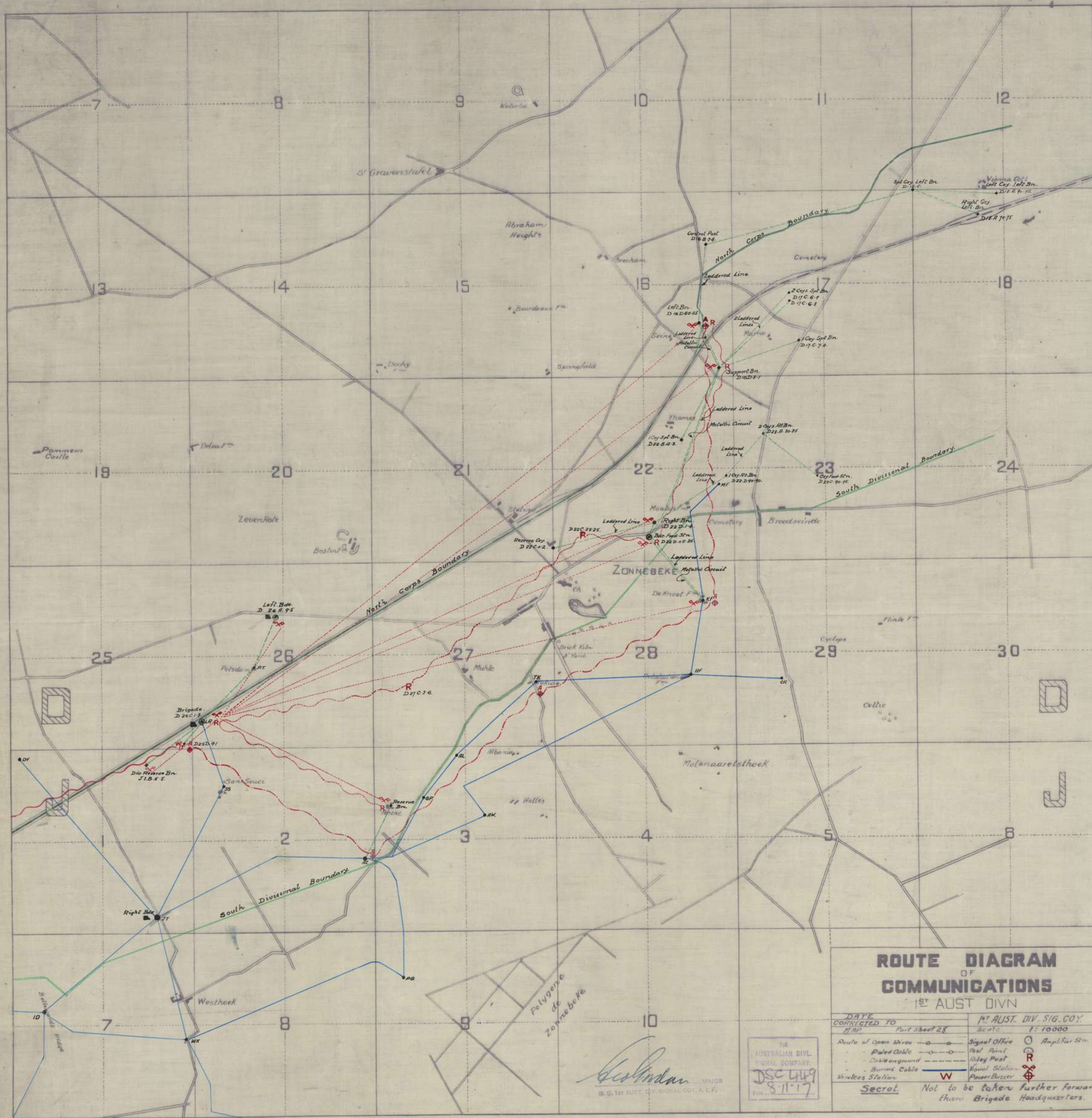
1ST AUST DIVN

DATE CORRECTED TO MAP	1-11-17 First Sheet 'E'	1ST AUST. DIV. SIG. COY. Scale 1:10,000
Route of Open Wires	Signal Office	Amplifier A
Public Cable	Relay Post	R
Cable on Road	Relay Post	R
Buried Cable	Wireless Station	W
Wireless Station	Post Office	W

Secret Not to be taken further forward than Brigade Headquarters.

Stanton
G. O. 1ST AUST. DIV. SIGNAL COY. A. I.

THE
AUSTRALIAN DEPT.
OF DEFENSE
DSC 449
Date 8-11-17



ANZ C SECTION C.O.
19 NOV 1917
TECHEL, N. I.

CONTINUATION OF
MAPLE SHEET 77

