

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/62/31

Title: 45th Infantry Battalion

September 1918



AWM4-23/62/31

204

CONFIDENTIAL.

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

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

45th BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

SEPTEMBER 1918

Signature of Officer compiling W. Watson Lieut Adj.

Signature of Officer Commanding G. B. Ridley Lt Col.

Army Form G. 2118.

21st

Remarks and references to Appendices

Fine clear day. Church parades were held as follows- R.C. Mass in VAUX Church, at 9 am. Other Denominations in Concert Hall at 10 am.

2nd.

Dull and Showery. Lieut-Col N.M. Loutit, "DSO" assumed command of the Battalion vice Lt-Col C.M. Johnston "DSO" Training was carried out as per syllabus.

3rd.

Fine and sunny. Training as per syllabus was carried out. At 2.30 pm all Officers of the Battalion attended a conference called by the C.O. to discuss a tactical scheme to be carried out on the following Thursday.

4th.

Bright Sunny Day. 12th Bde Sports started at 10 am and were continued throughout the day in ground near VAUX. Many side shows were in evidence on the ground. At 5.30 pm the Battalion Band reported back from a 3 weeks tour.

5th

Fine Day. Reveille was sounded at 5.30 am, Bn moved out at 7.30 am to carry out an attack scheme. (See appendix 1) Returned to billets at 1.15 pm. The Band accompanied the Battalion. The C.O. held a meeting of all platoon Sergeants in the Mess Room at 4 pm re uniformity in billets. Baths were available from 6 pm till 8 pm for the Bn. A wire was received from Brigade at 10.5 pm asking for an embussing strength and cancelling platoon competitions for Friday and Divisional Commandants inspection on the 9th

A fine day. Preparations for the departure from VAUX were made and maps of ST QUENTIN area were issued. Limbers were loaded in the afternoon and Transport moved off at 3 pm.

Reveille at 6 am Breakfast at 6.30 am. Capt W.H. Schadel "MC" took over the duties of Adjutant, Lieut R.S. Pickup "MC" proceeding on Leave. At 7.30 am the Battalion moved out of VAUX. The Band played the Bn off from the starting point and then returned to the village, marching out with the Nucleus to CORBIE. Bn embussed at a point 2 kilos along the road AMIENS road at 10.45 am. and proceeded through RIVERY, AMIENS, VILLERS-BRETONNEUX until reaching BELLOY-en-SANTERRE thence going North through BARLEUX and debussing in the BIACHES area at 2.45 pm. Companies were allotted trenches in O.8.a.b.& d with Bn H.Q. at O.8.d.2.8. and R.A.P. at the same place. The weather was fine and snug positions were soon made.

8th

Showery. At 8 am all packs were stacked and moved to a dump on the LA CHAPELLET road. At 2.30 am enemy planes flew overhead and dropped 5 bombs in the vicinity of "C" Coy exploding 1 of the old German dumps of Mininwerfers and stick bombs and flares causing a big blaze and fire works display. Searchlights and A.A. Guns were very busy all night. The day was passed resting. 3 Hood hot meals were supplied.

9th

Windy Day. Reveille 7 am Breakfast 8 am Companies and H.Q. paraded at 9 am for inspections. Wires for move were received from Bde at 8.30 am and at 10.30 am Lieut L.R. Hughes proceeded forward to reconnoitre the new area. At 11.45 am 1 Officer and N.C.O. from each Coy went forward as billeting party. At 12 noon Order No 228 from Bde giving move time at 1 pm was received. The Bn moved out to time and proceeded via LES MESNIL to Stable wood in the CATAPLET area. CARTIGNY

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

D. D. & Co., London, E.C. (A10166) W. 15300/1713 750,000/1/18 Sch. 52 Form 5/C2118/16

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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9th Cont

10th

11th

12th
(These heading not required)

13th

14th

15th

16th

Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Hour

Date

Place

Sheet 2

ued. arriving there at 3.17 pm; ample accomodation was found and in 15 minutes the Companies and H.Q. were settled down. At 4.30 pm the C.O. held a conference of all Coy Commanders. At 5.45 pm Bde Order No 229 was received stating that the Bn would relieve the 51st Bn A.I.F. on the 10 inst. The C.O. Capt W.H.Schadel "MC" and Lieut L.R.Hughes went forward to make arrangements.

Cold and Showery, with violent wind. Wire was received from Bde giving moving out time as 4 pm. The Bn moved at time stated and proceeded along the TERTNY road thence along ESTREES road to rise in front of village. Bn H.Q. were established at P.29.b.2.7. with R.A.P. at P.29.b.6.7. and Companies in trenches on either side of TERTNY road. (Disposition map attached) Hot tea was served soon after arrival and as positions were evacuated by 51st Bn. A.I.F. they were in good condition.

At 9.15 am the I.O. (Lieut Hughes) and Coy Commanders went forward to reconnoitre forward support positions. Message from Bde states that the Bn will pass the starting point at 4.30 pm. At 3.30 pm move order was cancelled but at 4.50 pm Bde sent order that the Bn would move out at 8 pm. This time was adhered to, and the Bn moved out at 9.15 pm arrived in the vicinity of POKILLY (Disposition map attached) Lieut L.R.Hughes and 4 Scouts had proceeded ahead and guided the Companies to their positions.

High wind and showery. From 3.40 am till 5 am a number of shells fell in the vicinity of "B" & "C" Coys and "H.Q." but no casualties resulted. The majority of shells were "gas" and helmets were worn for 15 minutes. During the afternoon the C.O. and Adjt went forward for reconnaissance purposes. Anti-aircraft in our vicinity fired at enemy planes ~~in our vicinity~~ but never very close.

Dull and frequent showers. Companies paraded at 10 am for inspection of rifles and equipment. At 1 pm the C.O. held a conference of Coy Commanders. From dusk on, enemy planes were very active - at 9.15 pm 2 were seen to fall in flames. 1 Officer and 8 Other Ranks proceeded to Australia on leave. Our S.O.S. signals were forced on 1st Bde sector at 7.50 pm, and stand-to was ordered. Stand down was ordered half an hour later.

Fine Day. At 9 am Capt W.H.Schadel "MC" At 10.30 am I.O. 13th Bn, met Lieut L.R.Hughes and discussed bill in arrangements.

Sunny and Warm. At 9.30 am the C.O. Lieut Hughes Lieut S.J.Hill "MM" went forward to interview Line Bn Officers and reconnoitre ground and returned at 2 pm. Company parades were held in the morning and physical exercises. At 3 pm Coy Commanders and N.C.O.'s went forward to familiarise themselves with the ground returning at 5.30 pm.

Warm and Sunny. Company parades were held in the morning and clean clothing was issued. Move Order from Brigade was issued at 2.30 pm and Battalion order No 3/29 was issued to the Officers of the Bn. Extra water bottles and ammunition were issued. At 8 pm the Battalion moved out and proceeded via SOYECOURT to railway cutting, S.E. of VENDELLES, H.Q. being established at R.14.b.55.75. arriving at 9.15 pm. Owing to enemy observation meals were brought up in limbers at 4 am. An administrative order was received from Bde whilst on the march. Enemy aircraft dropped 3 bombs close to H.Q.

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WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Remarks and references to Appendices	Summary of Events and Information	Hour	Date	Place
17th	Heavy showers early in the day, but fine later. At 9.30 am maps and aerial photos were issued to all Officers and platoon Sgts in the Bn. These maps had attack objectives marked. At 2.30 pm the C.O. held a conference of all Company Commanders and Headquarters Officers and discussed with them details of the attack for the morrow. At 2.15 pm Bn attack orders were issued to the Companies. At 7.45 pm Lieut L.R. Hughes and 4 Scouts went forward to lay the tapes for the forming up line. During the evening enemy planes were very active and a large number of bombs were dropped in our vicinity.			
18th	Rainy early with dense fog. Our barrage opened at 5.20 am. The Bn had breakfast at 3.30 am and Companies started to move out at 4.20 am H.Q. moving at 4.50 am all in artillery formation, "A" "B" & "D" Companies formed the front line, with "C" Co 100 yds in rear as supports and Headquarters 200 yds behind them. Heavy shelling was experienced immediately we crossed the forming up line and a number of casualties inflicted amongst whom were Lieut L.R. Hughes and Lieut S.J. Hill "MM" the latter dying shortly after being hit. A halt was necessary when near CAMBRIERES WOOD as an English Bn on our right were experiencing difficulty in keeping level. We then proceeded to Sunken Road in gully at R.4.d.7.9. and rested half an hour. whilst the barrage played in front of 48th Bn objective. We then moved forward and encountered only occasional shelling and M.G. Fire for the remainder of the advance. Numerous prisoners were taken and were sent to Bde H.Q. in Railway Bank. The C.O. received a shell wound in the chest but remained with the BN. The same shell hit Capt W.G. Adams "DSO MC" who was acting in the capacity of Adjutant, in the wrist. Later his other hand was hit and he left the Bn. Lieut H.T. Hines was killed by M.C. Fire as we neared our final objective, which was reached at 9.20 am and our dispositions were as shown on attached map. Lieut W.R. Watson remained at the Rail way Bank and supervised Rear Bn Headquarters. Several journeys were made by Pack mules to the front line during the day carrying ammunition and water.			
19th	Dull and showery. At 10.30 am the C.O. left the Bn and proceeded via Bde Headquarters to the C.C.S. Later in the day Lieut-Col C.C. Ridley "DSO" took over the command of the Battalion. Meals were taken forward from the Cookers in valley near SOYECOURT, twice daily also dry rations. The latter were very good there being a liberal issue of tinned fruits from the Australian Comforts Fund.			
20th	Fine and sunny. More fruit found in the rations. Capt J.H. Holman "MC", R.S.M. E.V. Tuson "MC MM" and 8 Other Ranks left the Battalion for the Nucleus Camp, where they were joined by 8 more men, the whole proceeding on leave to Australia. Relief orders were received at 8 pm and at 10 pm 2 Companies of the 5th Leicesters marched up. Relief was completed without casualties at 12.30 pm.			
21st	On the march out, the Bn halted beside the Cookers and partook of a hot meal. The march was then continued the Bn proceeding to TINCOURT WOOD arriving at 4.15 am where billets had been secured by Lieut W.R. Watson.			
22nd	A quiet day was spent in the woods, the men resting and later cleaning up, Lieut W.R. Watson left for PISSY for billeting purposes at 9 am. Orders were issued at 10.30 pm giving details for move at 9.15 am the following day.			

D. D. & L., 10, Colindale Ave., E. C. 5, London, N. 9. (A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 4/18 Sch. 52 Form C/2118/16

W.R.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

23rd
204rd

Remarks and references to Appendices	Events and Information																				
	<p>The Battalion marched out at 9.15 am and proceeded via CARTIGNY, LE MESNIL to BARLEUX, where dinner was served. The Nucleus and the Band joined the Bn at this place, and Capt L.D. Ferguson "MC" assumed to take over the duties of Adj. and C.S.M. J.A. Heading, the duties of R.S.M. The march was then continued to ASSEVILLERS whither Lieut R. Bowden had proceeded to secure billets. Huts and dugouts had been secured, and old dugouts were improved by the men, with iron which was found in the vicinity. Move Orders were received from Bde at 10.30 pm and our orders were issued to Companies immediately after.</p>																				
24th	<p>Reveille was sounded at 4.30 am, breakfast was served at 5 am and the Battalion moved out at 6.15 am and proceeded to HERBECOURT where motor lorries met us and moving off at 9 am conveyed the Battalion via the AMIENS road to near FLUY, where we debussed and marched to PISSY. Lieut W.R. Watson acted as guide and the village was reached at 2.30 pm. Hot cocoa and biscuits were supplied by the Y.M.C.A. to all the men shortly after marching in.</p>																				
25th	<p>Fine Day. A lorry was despatched to the pack dump to collect the packs and gear of the casualties. This lorry returned next morning.</p>																				
26th	<p>Fine Day. Company inspections were held and all shortages taken. Steel helmets and ammunition were collected from Companies and handed in to the R.Q.M. Store.</p>																				
27th	<p>Fine sunny day. 12th Bde baths were allotted to the Battalion and were used continuously. "A" Coy played "B" Coy football, the latter winning the game.</p>																				
28th	<p>Showery Day. At 10 am a Battalion parade was held which included re-organizing of platoons etc.</p>																				
29th	<p>Alternately sunny and cloudy day. Church parades were held as follows- R.C.'s parade at 9 am which was held in the village church FLUY. A massed Church Parade was held in the Chateau Grounds at 10 am. Band was in attendance. At 6 pm a short service was held in the Y.M.C.A. hut. Lieut-Col C.C. Ridley "DSO" proceeded to "H.Q." Australian Corps for Liaison Duty, Major D.V. Hannay assuming command of the Battalion. Capt J.R. Anderson, R.M.C. proceeded on leave to U.K. and Capt E.M. Docker reported from the 12th Fld Amb at 2.30 pm to take over his work.</p>																				
30th	<p>Dull day with fine rain. Battalion parade was held at 10 am and then the Companies carried on with training as per syllabus attached. Lieut-Col C.C. Ridley "DSO" returned from Australian Corps.</p>																				
	<p><u>Note for the 24th</u></p> <p>The undermentioned Officers and N.C.O.'s left the Bn for detachment with the 27th American Division -</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Hour</td> <td>Lieut W.R. Watson</td> <td>R.Q.M.S.</td> <td>K.B. Goodwin</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lieut R. Bowden</td> <td>C.Q.M.S.</td> <td>M.B. Free</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date</td> <td>2/ Lieut W.E. Brown "DCM MM"</td> <td>C.Q.M.S.</td> <td>V.D. Beck "MM"</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>S/Sgt</td> <td>W. Giles</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Cpl</td> <td>H.S. Dunlop.</td> </tr> </table>	Hour	Lieut W.R. Watson	R.Q.M.S.	K.B. Goodwin		Lieut R. Bowden	C.Q.M.S.	M.B. Free	Date	2/ Lieut W.E. Brown "DCM MM"	C.Q.M.S.	V.D. Beck "MM"			S/Sgt	W. Giles			Cpl	H.S. Dunlop.
Hour	Lieut W.R. Watson	R.Q.M.S.	K.B. Goodwin																		
	Lieut R. Bowden	C.Q.M.S.	M.B. Free																		
Date	2/ Lieut W.E. Brown "DCM MM"	C.Q.M.S.	V.D. Beck "MM"																		
		S/Sgt	W. Giles																		
		Cpl	H.S. Dunlop.																		
	<p>Place</p>																				

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or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place

Date

Hour

The figures as follows, represent the weekly strength

Week ending	Off.	O.Rs
6th Sept.	47	774
" " 13th "	48	767
" " 20th "	37	693
" " 27th "	36	662

Casualties for the month as follows -

	Off	O.R's
Killed in action	4	10
Wounded	5	113
Died of Wounds		9
Total	<u>9</u>	<u>132</u>

Total number on leave on 30.9.18

5 Off. 37 O.R's

B. B. Ridley Lieut-Col
C.O. 45th Battalion A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

OF

45th Battalion A.I.F.

FOR

SEPTEMBER

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LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject
1	45th Bn Order No 3/28
2	Dispositions on 7.9.18
3	Dispositions on 8.9.18
4	Dispositions on 10.9.18
5	45th Bn, Order No 3/29
6	Dispositions on 16.9.18
7	45th Bn. Order No 3/30
8	Dispositions on 18.9.18
9	45th Bn. Order No 3/31
10	Syllabus Of Training for week ending 6.10.18
11	Report on Q.M. and Transport Section.

B. B. Redley Lieut-Col
C.O. 45th Battalion A.I.F.

Since Map "A" attached
OPERATION

APPENDIX I

Practice

1. The Aust Corps will attack enemy position on 5th September 1918. Zero hour will be notified later. The 4th Aust Div. will attack with 12th A.I. Bde on Right, 13th A.I. Bde on Left, and 4th A.I. Bde as Div. Reserve. The 1st A.I. Bde will operate on the right of 12th A.I. Bde
2. At Zero, the 2nd Aust. Div. in conjunction with 3rd Aust Div. on the Right, will attack and capture enemy position as shown by Green Line on attached map "A"
3. At Zero plus 3 hours 30 minutes, the 12th A.I. Bde will be formed up on assembly ground as shown on attached map "A"
4. At Zero plus 4 Hours the 45th Bn. A.I.F. will attack and capture the Red Line from F.26.c.2.C. to L.2.c.5.C. 48th Bn. A.I.F. will work in conjunction on our Left. Brigade & Inter Bn. boundaries as shown on attached map
5. DISPOSITIONS The Battalion will attack on a Two Company frontage "C" on the Right, "D" on the Left, "A" on the Right Support, and "B" on the Left Support. Companies will move from Green Line in Artillery formation in Sections
6. On Red Line being captured, Lewis Guns and Strong Posts will be established and consolidation begun, care being taken to connect with Flank Units. Strong fighting patrols will reconnoitre and keep in touch with the enemy. "A" & "B" Companies will establish and consolidate Support positions, approx. along road from L.2.b.1.P. to L.2.d.9.1. These Support positions will be established flanking the Copse North & South of 2 Central. All Companies will be organized in depth as soon as consolidation is complete. O.C. "A" Company will dig a G.T. from approx. centre of Support position to approx. centre of Front Line. One Light Trench Mortar will be allotted to each "C" & "D" Companies. These Mortars during the attack will deal especially with Copse in L.2.cent. and after capture of Red Line will be disposed on Flanks taking up position as close to front line as possible. At points where it is found difficult to dislodge the enemy the attack must not be held up but positions penetrated on flanks mopping up will be done by the Two Support Companies
7. Battalion Headquarters and R.A.P. will be situated at point where trench crosses Railway in L.5.c. On attacking troops passing road running North & South in L.4.a & c., Battalion Headquarters and R.A.P. will move to trench and road junction in L.4.a. On Red Line being captured Battalion Headquarters & R.A.P. will be established at Road in L.2.a.9.3. Exact time of moving will be notified to all concerned and Battalion Headquarters will be marked by a disc with Battalion Colours.
8. COMMUNICATION All communications, until objective is gained, will be by runner and visual. If practicable, telephonic communication will be established after consolidation.
9. SECOND PHASE At Zero plus 5 hours 30 minutes the 46th Bn. A.I.F. will pass through the 45th & 48th Bns and capture the Blue line.
10. ARTILLERY The 10th A.F.A. Brigade will move forward as close as possible behind attacking Infantry and engage targets finally taking up position to bring fire to bear on a line 400 yds in advance of the Blue Line
11. SUCCESS FLARES will be fired by Units on capture of objectives

Continued.
as under -

Red Line - 1 Very Light - fired by O.C. "D" Coy, Red.
Blue Line - 1 Very Light, Green.

12. SYNCHRONIZATION Watches will be synchronized at 8 am on Zero Day
A runner from Bn.H.Q. will take the time to all Companies
13. Company dispositions will be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters
as soon as possible after capture of Red Line
14. DRESS Fighting Order with Hats. F.P. Sheet under flap of
haversack. Midday meal will be carried. Box Respirators carried
in the alert position.
15. The Two Support Companies will not be committed to the attack
unless it is absolutely essential, and if necessary, only in
answer to an urgent request from Front Line Company or an order
from Battalion Headquarters.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued by runner at to-

(1) O.C. "A" Coy
(2) O.C. "B" Coy
(3) O.C. "C" Coy
(4) O.C. "D" Coy.
(5) Headquarters
(6) 12th A.I. Bde
(7) File
(8&9) War Diary.

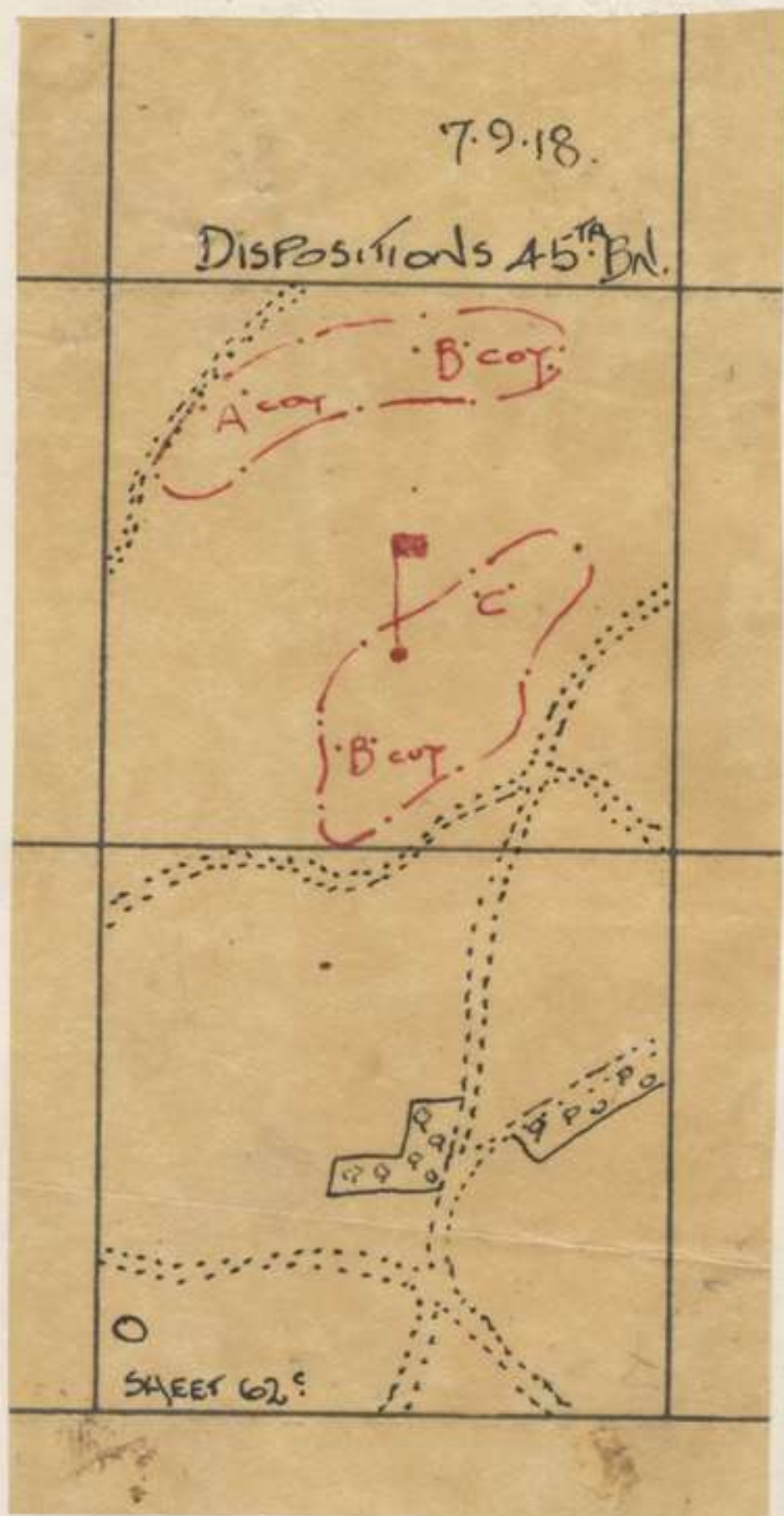
R. B. Pickup
Lieut.
Adj. 45th Battalion A.I.F.

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ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS APPENDIX

ISSUED WITH 45th BATTALION ORDER NO 3/28

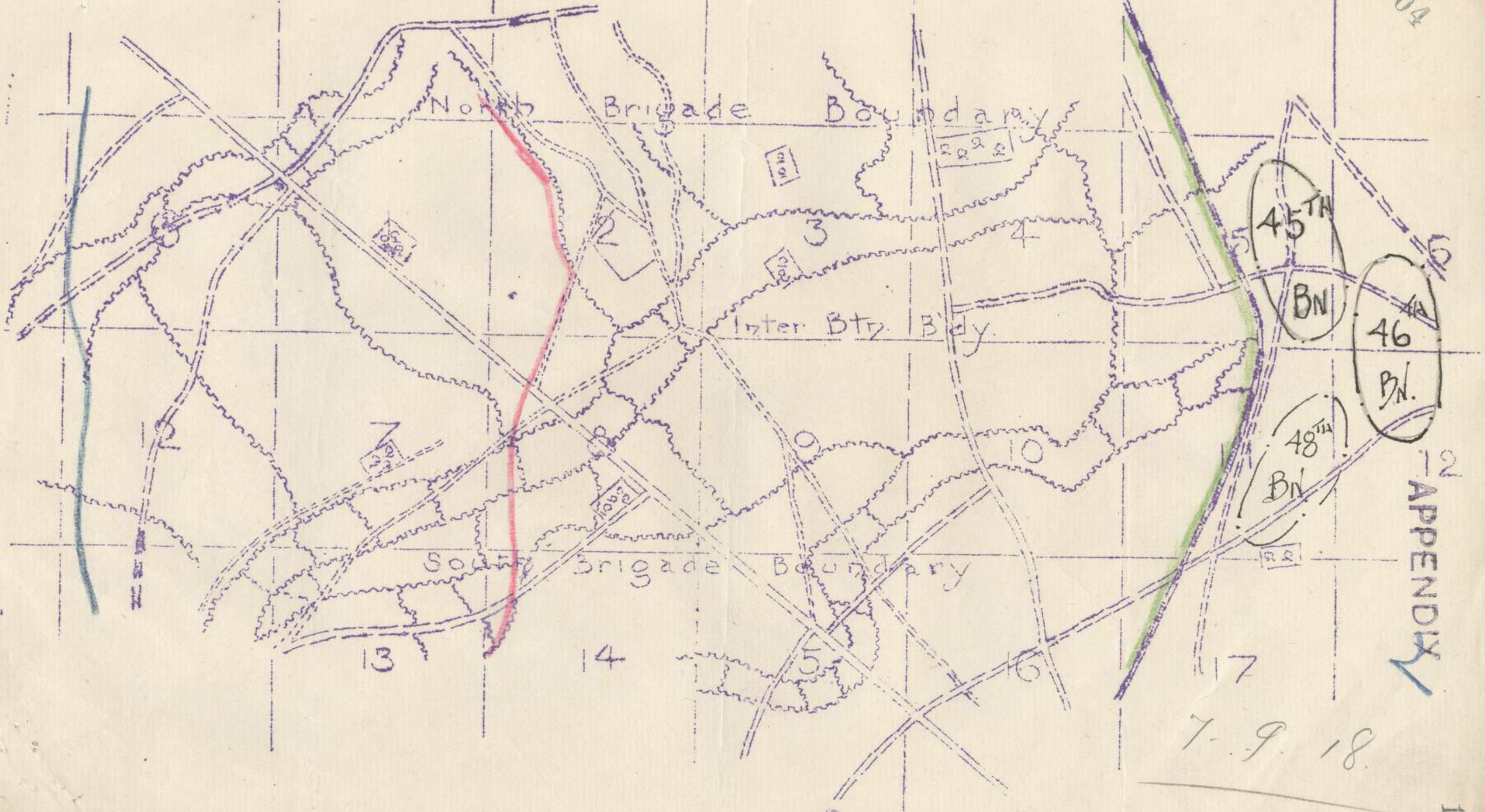
1. MEDICAL Casualties will be carried direct to R.A.P.
R.H.Q. will establish relay stations if necessary.
2. CASUALTIES Umpires will detail casualties and hand tickets to men detailed, who will have them tied to their equipment. Walking wounded & stretcher cases will be evacuated in the usual way to the 12th Field Ambulance who will work in conjunction with the Brigade during the operation.
3. PRISONERS will be forwarded to Bn.H.Q.s. Identification will be forwarded immediately, stating where captured.
4. ENEMY There will be a skeleton enemy fighting a rearguard action operating against the Brigade. Machine Gun section (4 Guns) will be shown by white flags. One Company of Infantry by Blue Flags.
5. AMMUNITION At Zero plus 4.15 Six Pack Mules with S.A.A. will leave old Battalion Headquarters in Green Line, follow the attack, and proceed direct to and establish dump at forward Bn.H.Q. at L.2.a.9.1.

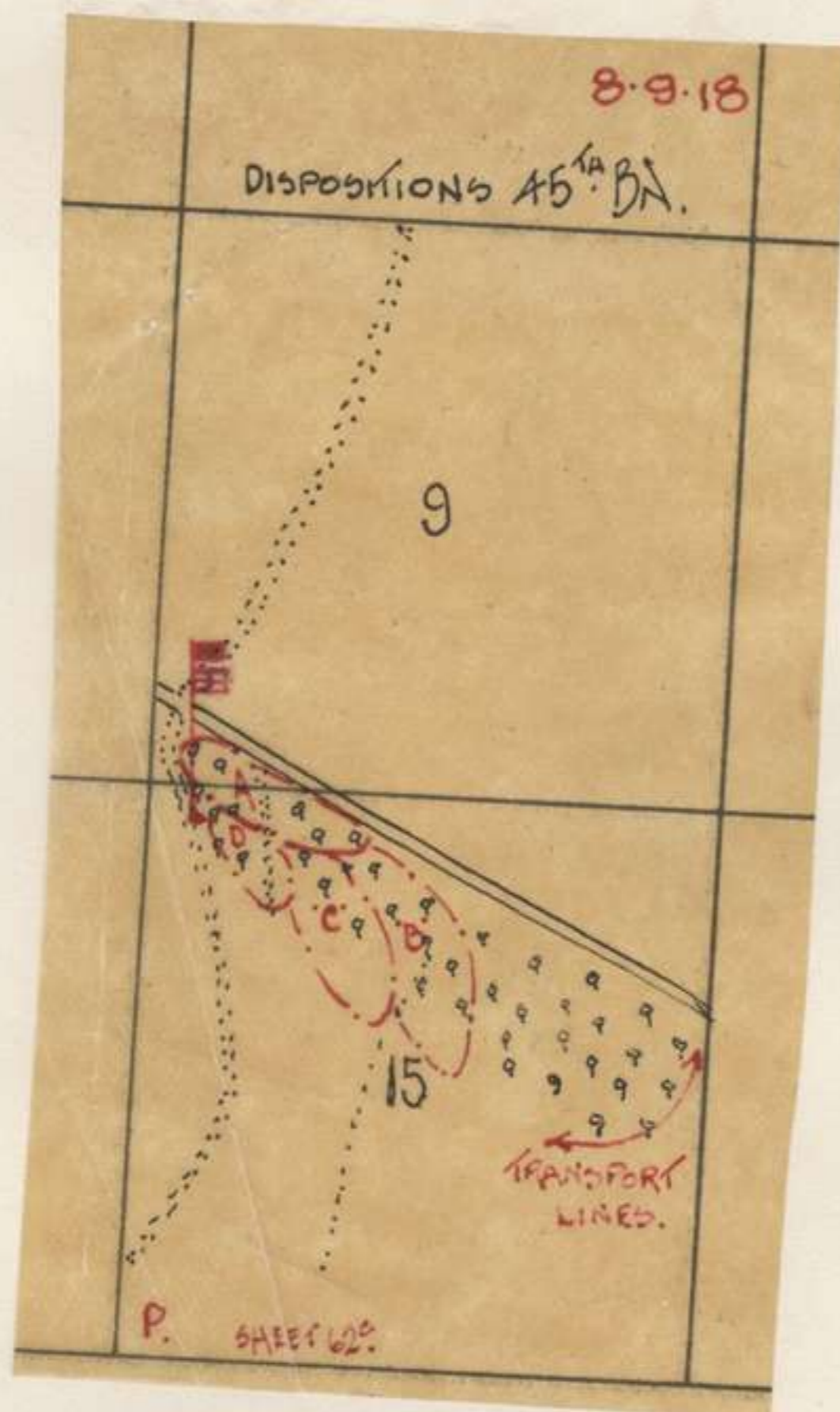
R. Pickup
Lieut.
Adjut 45th Battalion A.I.F.



MAP A.

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Headquarters 16.9.18

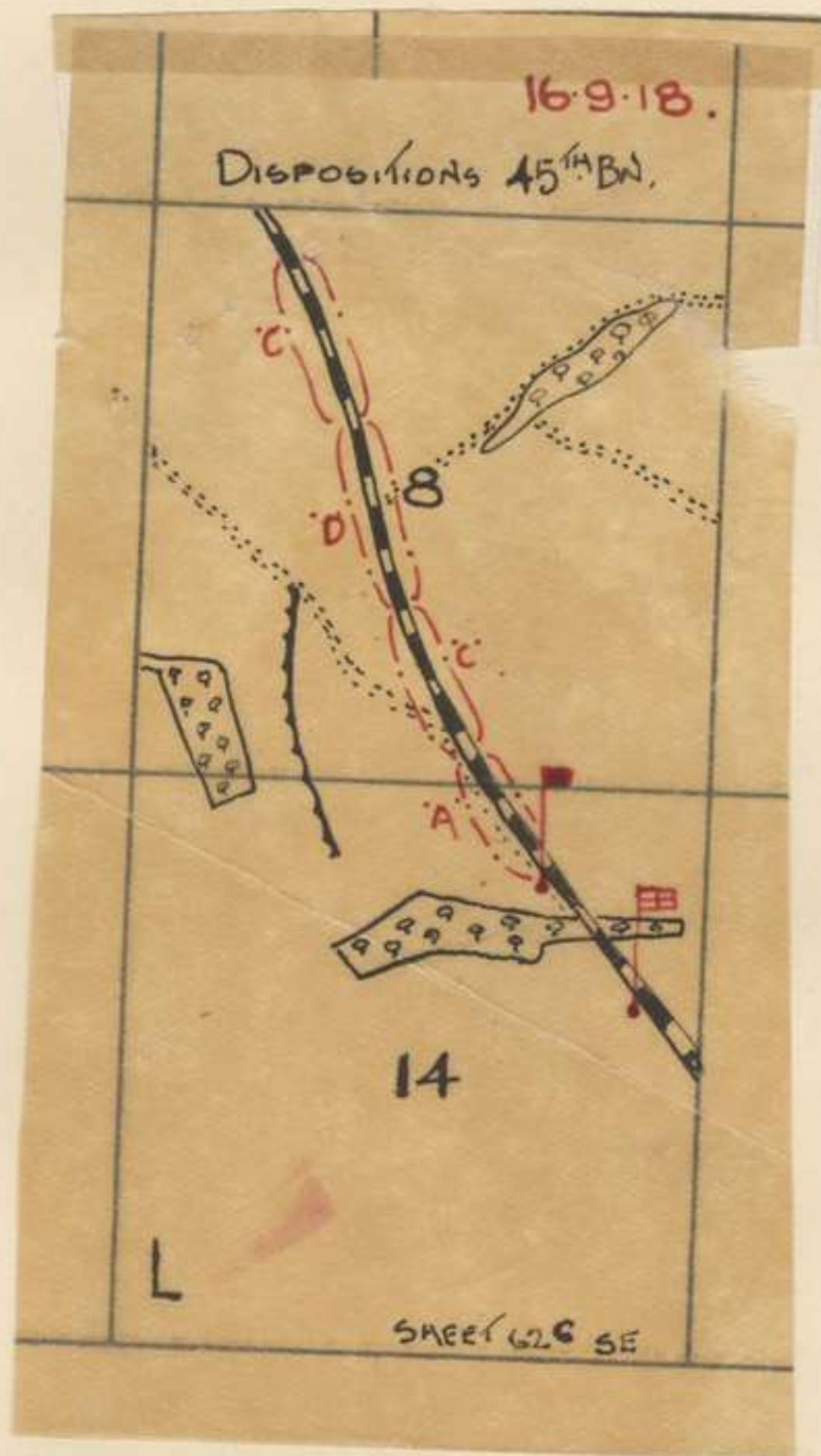
Reference Sheet 62C, 1/20000

1. The 12th A.I.Bde will relieve portion of the 13th A.I.Bde in Right Sector of the Divisional front between R.3.a.90.55. to R.9.d.85.35. on the night 16/17th Sept 1918
2. The 45th Battalion will move to Support in Railway Cutting from A.14.b.2.2. to R.2.c.3.1. "H.Q." will be at R.14.b.6.3.
"A" Coy and "H.Q." from R.14.b.9.2. to R.8.d.3.1.
"B" and "C" from R.8.d.3.1. to R.8.a.8.3.
"D" Coy from R.8.a.7.4. to R.2.c.3.1.
3. In the event of accommodation not being sufficient or on account of shelling, Companies may select positions close in rear but maintaining approx same boundaries.
4. The Battalion will move as under -
Order of March "H.Q." "A" "B" "C" "D" Companies
Starting Point Junction of Roads Q.29.a.2.5.
Time 8 pm.
Dress Fighting Order with blankets, Water bottles to be filled.
Intervals & 50 yds between platoons, 100 yds between Companies.
Lewis Gun Fear will be carried by Companies.
5. All picks, shovels, bombs, ammunition and sandbags will be issued immediately.
6. Extra water bottles will on no account be used until absolutely necessary, Iron ration & not until orders are received from Bn H.Qrs. All men to be warned of the absolute necessity of retaining extra bottles. Loss of bottles leads to great inconvenience.
7. Breakfast on morning of 17th will be delivered before dawn.
Hot meal after dark.
Breakfast morning of 18th at about 4 am.
8. Companies will hold an Inspection during the afternoon.
DRESS Full fighting Order all extras to be carried.
9. Completion of move to be notified to Bn H.Q.
Stand-to at 4 am morning of 17th

ACKNOWLEDGESgd W.C. Adams, Capt Lt Col.
act - Adjnt 45th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued by runner at 2.30 pm to

1. "A" Coy
2. "B" Coy
3. "C" Coy
4. "D" Coy
5. Headquarters
6. Office Copy.



Reference Map issued.

1. The 12th Aus. Inf. Bde. will attack enemy position in co-operation with 4th A.I. Bde. on the North, and the 2nd British Bde. on the South.
Boundaries and objectives as shown in maps issued.
2. ASSEMBLY. The Bde will be assembled by ZERO minus 30 minutes in the following order:-
48th Bn. on Infantry forming up line
45th Bn. on line approx. 400 yards ahead of railway line.
This forming up line will be taped if possible, if not, by H.Q. Scouts extended across front.
3. DISPOSITIONS. "A" Coy on right frontage 550 yards - "B" Coy on centre 500 yards - "D" Coy left 550 yards - "C" Coy in support moving 100 yards in rear of three attacking companies on a frontage of 800 yards. Attack to be carried out in artillery formation in sections. Three attacking on 2 platoon frontage. Support company on 3 platoon frontage. Bn H.Q. will move 200 yards behind support company.
4. Mopping up will, as far as possible, be done by attacking coys. but enemy passed over will be dealt with by support company. On 48th Bn. capturing GREEN Line, 45th Bn will form up on Bn. halt line on roads running north and south through L.34.d., R.4.b., R.5.c & R.11.a.
5. Battalion will anticipate the movement of the protective barrage in front of 48th Bn. by moving from Bn. halt line at ZERO plus 160. Bn. will then move through 48th Bn. to within approx. 80-100 yards from barrage and will continue to advance on barrage moving at ZERO plus 180.
6. The advance to the RED LINE will be continued at the rate of 100 yards in 4 minutes. All lifts of barrage will be of 100 yards.
7. Protective barrage will be maintained in front of RED LINE for 15 minutes.
8. Machine Guns C & D section of 12th M.G. Coy are allotted to 45th Bn.; reallocated as follows to companies:-
3 guns to "A" Coy - 2 Guns to "B" - 3 guns to "C" Coy.
These guns will move with support platoon of attacking companies taking up defensive positions eventually in RED LINE.
9. Trench mortars 2 guns are allotted to 45th Bn. One gun allotted to "A" Coy, 1 gun to "D" Coy. Mortars will move with support platoon of A and D Coys. On capture of RED LINE mortars will take position in approx centre of companies.
10. Tanks One tank is allotted to 48th Bn. This tank will operate under orders of C.C. 48th Bn. but will not proceed beyond GREEN LINE.
11. Pioneers.
Prisoners. "B" Coy, 4th Aus. Pioneer Bn. will form up 100 yards behind support company and will follow the attack of Bn to the RED LINE.
12. Position of Bn H.Qrs. prior to advance to GREEN LINE Bn. H.Qrs will be, until ZERO minus 30, at present location. After ZERO minus 30 will move 200 yards in rear of support coy. On capture of GREEN LINE, with 48th Bn. at R.5.c.1.4 until Bn. moves forward to capture GREEN RED LINE. Then with Bn. to final position M.1.b.4.5. Any alteration of these locations will be notified to companies.

Prisoners. All prisoners will be sent to Bn. H.Q. under the smallest escort possible; from there they will be forwarded to Bde. H.Q. at Railway embankment R.8.a.5.9. All prisoners will be taken over to A.F.M. and receipt must be obtained.

14. Aircraft. Aeroplanes will be flying along RED LINE at ZERO plus 5 hours. Flares will be called for aeroplanes sounding succession of As on Claxon horn and by firing a white Very Light. Position will then be indicated by lighting of Red ground flares or rifles laid across the trench in batches of 3 or 4 - about 1 foot apart. Should the observer not locate line accurately on first attempt he will return and repeat call 10 minutes later.

15. Light Signals. S.O.S. Red over Red over Red. Success White over White over White.
On reaching RED line success signals will be fired in pairs due north parallel with RED line.

16. Consolidation. On capture of RED line consolidation will be proceeded with; strong posts pushed out in front. "C" Coy will construct support line in most suitable position approx 150 yards in rear of FRONT LINE. If circumstances permit "B" Coy will be withdrawn and will then take up support position with "C" Coy.

17. Synchronization. ZERO hour will be notified later and watches synchronized at 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. to-day. Companies will send 1 officer to Bn. H.Q. at these times.

18. Reports. It is of the utmost importance that frequent reports are sent to Bn. H.Q. Negative information is of the utmost value. H.Qrs. I.C. will establish observation post in the vicinity of Bn. H.Q., which is marked by Bn. colors on disc.

19. R.A.P. will be at all times situated with Bn. H.Qrs.

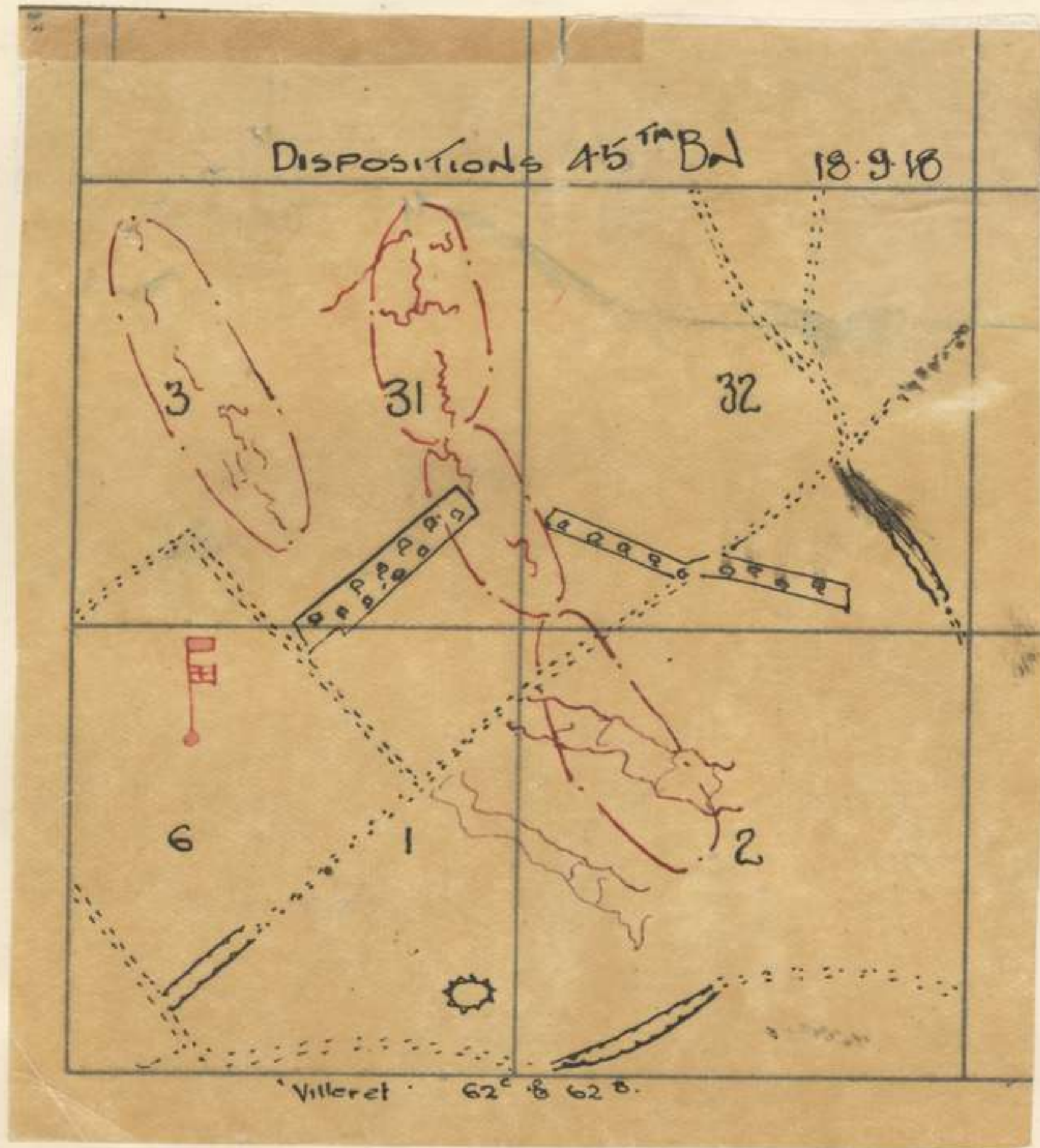
20. Liaison. Special care will be given to ensure that touch and direction be maintained with flank battalions.

21. Traps. All men are to be warned against enemy dugouts, 106 nose caps lying about, and T.M. shells.
Companies are reminded again for the necessity of conserving water, and preservation of water bottles.

(sgd) W. Adams Capt.
A/Adjt. 45th Bn. A.I.F.

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APPENDIX 8



SECRET

45th Battalion Order No 3/31

Headquarters 21.9.18

1. The 45th Battalion will be relieved this night 21/22 Sept 1918 by 2 Companies of the 5th Leicester Regiment in the following order-
"A" & "B" Coy 45th Bn by "A" 5th Leicesters
"C" & "D" Coys 45th Bn by "B" Coy 5th Leicesters
2. MAPS All maps will be handed over and receipts obtained.
3. TRENCH STORES All trench Stores including petrol tins, picks and shovels will be handed over and a receipt for same returned to Bn H.Q. "C" Coy will hand over all stores remaining on Bn ration Dump.
4. LEWIS GUNS All Lewis Guns and gear will be dumped near ration dump by companies when marching out and will be loaded on limbers
5. BLANKETS All blankets and trench shelters will be rolled in bundles and placed with Lewis Gun gear.
6. "A" & "D" Coys will supply guides to report to B.H.Q. by 5.30 pm sharp, to proceed to Bde Headquarters to guide incoming Troops to the line.
7. MOVING OUT Companies will move out via B.H.Q. by platoons with 50 yds interval. Companies at not less than 100 yds interval.
8. RATIONS Hot meal and rations will be issued on arrival at destination.
9. COMPLETION OF RELIEF will be wired to Bn H.Q. by the word "ROSE"

Act Adjt ^{Sgd} L.R. Corbett. Lieut
45th Battalion A.I.F.

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45th Battalion A.I.F.

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SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 6th 1916

Date	9 am to 9.50 am	10 am to 12.30 pm	2.30 to 4.30 pm
Monday Sep 30 th	Bn. Parade	P.T. and B.F. Platoon Drill Rifle Exercises Saluting Drill Extended Order	Recreation Parade
Tuesday Oct 1 st	Battalion Route March	Full Marching Order	Recreation Parade
Wednesday Oct 2 nd	Bn. Parade	As for Monday	Recreation Parade
Thursday Oct 3 rd	Bn. Parade	P.T. and B.F. Co. Drill Gas Drill Musketry Exercises (Rapid Loading etc) Guards and Sentries	Recreation Parade
Friday Oct 4 th	Bn. Parade	As for Thursday	Recreation Parade
Saturday Oct 5 th	Battalion Route March	Full Marching Order	
Sunday Oct 6 th	Church Parade		

- NOTES
- (a) On Battalion parades every available man will attend. The Battalion will be formed up in "class" on the Training Ground ready to receive the C.O. at 9.15 am.
- (b) The Band will attend these parades - XX
- (b) Each subject will be allotted 25 minutes during the period 10 - 12.30 pm. 10 minutes before each clock hour will be observed as a "break".
- (c) AFTERNOON PARADE Sports Competitions between Companies will be organized. Companies will parade at 2.30 pm and all men not engaged in matches such as football etc will be exercised in organized games under the supervision of an officer. All Officers will take part in these parades.
- (d) CLASSES
P.T. and B.F. All Companies N.C.O.'s will attend a course under the Brigade Instructor each Monday and Thursday.
Lewis Guns 10 men per Company to include all reinforcements
Signallers 7 per Company
Munners 5 per Company
Scouts and Snipers - 6 per Company
Bombers All reinforcements

All the above will attend the Battalion parades and route marches but will be available for their special instruction from 10 - 12.30

Lt. Ady

Bank Sgt RAC

30A Battalion were still billeted at VAUX on 1st Sept. Purchased 2 cases of sauce and some potatoes, also supplies of fresh milk from Regimental funds. On 3rd Sept a package of magazines and papers were received from the Comforts Fund. "A" & "B" Coys built improved ovens which proved a great success and helped in providing a good variety of dishes for the men. On the 6th the Transport left by road and reached MERICOURT at 12.30 am after a 10 and a half hours journey and left again at 7 am on the 7.9.18 for ETERPIGNY. On this day the Battalion left VAUX by motors reaching trenches near ETERPIGNY at 2 pm where Cookers joined their respective Companies and provided hot meals as usual. On the 8.9.18 a dump was established near ETERPIGNY where packs, valises and spare gear were stored. A package of papers and magazines were received from the Comforts Fund on 9.9.18. The Battalion moved from ETERPIGNY to the BIAS area and on 10.9.18 Bn moved to trenches near BOUVINCOURT, cookers accompanying their companies. Transport Lines and store remaining at BIAS. On the 11.9.18 at 8 pm the Bn moved from near BOUVINCOURT to positions near POEUILLY. On the 12.9.18 the men were issued with Rum, the weather was cold and showery. Transport and Store moved forward to VERAIGNES, On the 13.9.18 Comforts received of Cigarettes, puddings biscuits etc. The Cigarettes were more than appreciated owing to the great scarcity that prevailed. The barbers and tailors were sent to the Bn and were kept fully occupied. On the 16.9.18 Battle issue drawn and issued. The Battalion moved to the Railway embankment beyond SOYECOURT, cookers moving forward to wood in rear of SOYECOURT, where hot meals were prepared and carried forward in limbers along with dry rations. On the 17.9.18 comforts of tinned fruit were received and these lasted during the Bn tour in the forward area and proved a great addition to the usual supplies. On the 18.9.18 the Battalion attacked and captured the objective assigned to it beyond LE VERQUIER where rations and hot meals were carried forward in limbers and Rum was issued. A mule team under L/Cpl Lewis "MM" accompanied the Bn during the advance carrying spare Lewis guns and magazines also water, picks, shovels and signalling gear. Four mules were wounded and killed during this work. The Bn captured numerous machine guns which were brought back and handed in. On night 21/22-9-18 the Bn was relieved and moved back near TINCOURT. Cookers were brought to the main road near BURNES where the men were given a hot meal and tea and an issue of rum on arrival at TINCOURT. The Transport moved from VERAIGNES to TINCOURT during the afternoon of 21.9.18. On 22. .18 a change of socks was given to each man. On 23.9.18 the Bn moved to ASSEVILLERS the transport going with the Bn, tea was made and a meal given each midway. On the 24.9.18 the Bn embussed at HERBECOURT at 7 am arriving at PISSY at 3 pm. Transport left by road at 9 am and sufficient dixies, tea and food were carried on the motors to provide ^{meals} till the arrival of cookers. On 25.9.18 Transport and cookers arrived at midday. On the 27.9.18 rations were drawn from the railhead (AILLY-sur-SOMME) by 1st line transport. Comforts of jam, cigarettes, Coffee & Milk were received and a donation of cigarettes were also received from the American Y.M.C.A. On 30.9.18 potatoes were purchased from Regt. Funds which greatly supplemented the issue. The food supply for the month was good, but the reduction of fresh meat and bacon issue also jam, ^{was fair} and the unusually good supply of comforts greatly assisted to minimise the reduction of ration scale.

C. B. Ridley Lieut-Col
 C.O. 45th Battalion, A.I.F.