

AWM4

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/9/27

**Title: 4th Australian Machine Gun
Company**

September 1918



AWM4-24/9/27

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

4TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION.	
No.
Date

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th A.M.G. Coy

FOR

September . **191***8*

Signature of Officer compiling

Robinson

Signature of Officer Commanding

Robinson

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 ²¹²

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Longueau	Sept 1		The morning was devoted to Machine Gun training and the afternoon to football etc. The civilian population is beginning to return to this village & notice has been received that several billets are required for civilian occupation.	[Signature]
	2.		As on previous days the morning was spent in Machine Gunnery. The older members of the Company constructing targets for Range practices tomorrow. The afternoon was passed in Field Sports, the men being very keen on the various branches of football.	[Signature]
	3.		Range practices were indulged in this morning & the results were decidedly good. The newer men giving every indication of becoming first class gunners. The "Australian Rules" Football match against the 15 th Batta did not eventuate as the 15 th Batta could not put a team in the field. The afternoon was spent in practice games.	[Signature]
	4		The morning was spent in Machine Gunnery & Infantry drill. All officers attended a demonstration of a new scaled pattern limber at 2pm. An Inspection parade ordered for 3pm was postponed as the CO was engaged on other duty.	[Signature]

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) Wt. W1771/M2 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

WAR DIARY




Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Longueval	Sept 5		<p>Range practices were again carried out this morning & the good results obtained previously were maintained.</p> <p>An "Australian Rules" match was played this afternoon against "Others" i.e. Brigade units & details - & resulted in a rather one sided game - this company winning by 56 points to 3.</p>	
	6.		<p>The Company has been warned to be in readiness to move, though no date has yet been specified. The first half of the morning was spent on fitting equipment & machine gunnery & the remainder in cleaning guns, packing limbers & cleaning up billets. The men spent the afternoon in preparing to move.</p>	
	7.		<p>Limbers were packed by 8 am & moved off to Marcourt where the bivouaced. The day was spent in cleaning up billets etc preparatory to moving out. Orders have been received that 4th Brigade group will embus from COISY-ALLONVILLE Road for a point N.W of BIACHES & that the 4th MB Coy will embus with the 4th Aust Pioneers & 4th Engineers at road junction M 29.d. - destination N. 24.b. on right side of VILLERS-CARBONNIERES - Barleux road.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Longueau	Sept 8		<p>An early reveille was ordered in order to allow the Cooks to make an early start for our new positions. The Company embussed in accordance with yesterday's orders. The journey was interesting, as after leaving Villes Beltonnes & Warfusee - Abancourt behind the journey was over country that was new to this Company. Warfusee in common with other villages near the firing line as it stood from March to August. bears eloquent testimony to the destructive power of our artillery & is practically a mass of ruins. The country between Barleux Warfusee & Barleux shows the rapidity of the German retreat. Villages are practically untouched & shell holes are far from numerous. At 3.30 pm the Company arrived at BIACHES & a short route march brought us to BARLEUX. This village shows the ravages of war to the fullest extent & is a village in name only - a great heap of bricks & mortar marking the site where it stood. Almost the whole of the Company were accommodated in dugouts & only a few men had to construct homes for themselves.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Langueau Barleux	Sept 9		Guns & limbers were cleaned in anticipation of this division relieving the 5 th Austrn Division shortly. Gifts of tobacco, fruits, etc were received from the Australian Comforts Fund & were greatly appreciated. Preliminary orders for the relief came to hand today.	
	10		Heavy rain most of the day. About 2 P.M. the Company moved out from BARLEUX to billets at CATELET. The latter village was recently the site of a German Army H.Q. When the area was evacuated by the enemy most of the huts etc were burnt & consequently the Company had to construct bivouacs.	
	11		The day was spent resting & in cleaning up gear.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 218
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Catelet	12		Company moved forward to Divisional Reserve & 105. 1. 374 Co-operated with the 4 th A.D. Bde in forming a line of defence. Coy H.Q. & N ^o 2 section moved to Santin Farm. The move was completed & all guns in position by 4 pm.	A. Gun Disposition
Santin Farm	13		Weather showery	
"	14		Received word of a stunt but no fixed date given. The guns which were holding the defence line were withdrawn at noon to Coy H.Q.	
"	15		Church parade was held for Coy E at 10 pm by the Rev Finegan, the Battalion Padre. Received tracings & maps showing objectives also 4 th Bde Operation Order 32	
"	16		N ^o 2 Section relieved 4 guns of 13 th Coy in the front line, at about 7 pm several shells from H.V. guns fell in close proximity to Coy H.Q.	

WAR DIARY


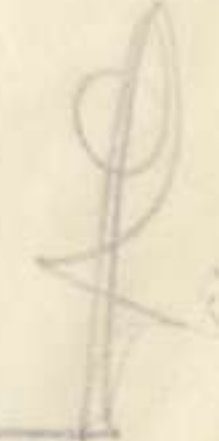
Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sartin Pm	17		<p>Preparations were made during the day for the start which is to start in the morning. Petrol cans were filled & extra waterbottles were issued. At 7 pm the Coy with the exception of No 4 section, moved up towards the line. No 1 section reported to 13th Bn, No 3 to 15th Bn & No 4 to 14th Bn. No 2 section were kept in Reserve at Coy H.Q. at R.I. a. 90-40 Ref map VILLERET 1:20,000</p>	
VENBELLES	18		<p>Zero hour was 5.20 am. From the start things went without a hitch. A very feeble resistance was met with & all objectives were gained by schedule time with the exception of the BLUE line which was not reached until 11.20 pm. Approx; 2,000 prisoners have been counted up to date. The Division on our right, 1st Division met with greater opposition & were unable to reach their final objectives. The 1st Am Division on our left took all objectives & are busy consolidating.</p>	<p>For further particulars see "A" (Operation Report)</p> 

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the line	19		Nothing much of interest took place during the day. Coy A.Q. moved forward & occupied dugouts in LE VERGIEUR. L. Pl. W. McIVOR was unfortunately killed by a bomb from an aeroplane & his body was sent down to VRAIGNES & buried in the military cemetery there.	
"	20		Nothing of interest took place. Nos. 1 & 3 sections relieved No. 2 & 4 sections in the front line.	
"	21		The day was quiet & weather remained fine	
"	22		The Coy was relieved by the 46 th M.G.B. & the relief was completed by 8pm without casualties. It commenced to rain steadily at 5.30pm & did not cease until about 10pm.	
VRAIGNES	23		Coy fell in at 9.15am & moved out from VRAIGNES at 9.30am & route was as follows. Bouvincourt, Lantier, Catelet, Le Mesnil, Barlent arriving at Haucourt at 2.20pm.	
	24		Reveille was at 4.45am. After packing bundles Coy fell in at 6am & marched to embussing point where the Coy embussed. Busses moved off at 10am & arrived at OISSY at 2.30pm & billeted in the Chateau	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
OISSY	25		The day was spent in cleaning limbers & gun gear, as the billets were found to be unsatisfactory it was decided the the Coy should move to the next village	[Handwritten mark]
	26		after packing limbers the Coy moved out at 1 pm & arrived at LE MESGE at 2.30pm there . Billets had been found for all the Coy in one building.	[Handwritten mark]
	27		The day was spent in gun instruction & games	[Handwritten mark]
	28		"	[Handwritten mark]
	29		church parade in the morning & a soccer match in the afternoon. The Coy played BATTAL & the match ended in a win for the Coy by 2 goals to 0.	[Handwritten mark]
	30		a route march was intended but owing to the weather gun instruction was carried out instead.	[Handwritten mark]

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APPENDIX

WAR DIARY
of
4TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.
FOR
September 1918.

4TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION.	
No.....	
Date.....	

LIST OF APPENDICES.

Subject.

- A. Report on Operations 18th to 20th September.
- B. Intelligence Summary 4th A.I.Bde., 19/20-9-18.
- C. Company Order No.19.
Company Operation Order No.10.
- D. Miscellaneous Orders.
- E. 4th A.I.Bde. Soccer Football Competition Fixtures.
- F. Map showing disposition of guns at 6 p.m. 12-9-18.
Map referred to as "A" in Company Order No. 19.

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4TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY

REPORT ON OPERATIONS from 18th September to 20th September 1918.

1. GENERAL. At 7 p.m. 17/9/18 the Company, with the exception of Nos 2 & 4 Sections moved to the line, in front of VENEUILLES, and after reporting to the Battalion to which they were allotted Nos 1 and 3 Sections disposed themselves in readiness for the advance.
2. No 1 Section. (Lieut. HOPKINS) After reporting to the 13th Battalion, this section moved out on to the tape. The gun teams were comprised of 5 men and 1 driver with pack horse each, and in addition 1 runner was with Lieut HOPKINS, the section officer. At 2.15 a.m. it commenced to rain steadily. Owing to the barbed wire, trenches and rough going, two of the 4 packhorses were unable to move off at zero hour but followed on later. At 5.20 a.m. the barrage was put down and the infantry moved forward to the attack with the guns following just in rear. Soon after leaving the tape one of our shells killed a horse and wounded two men of No 1 team. The N.C.O. of this team re-allotted the loads and carrying as much as possible left the remainder with the driver of the horse, and orders to have the gear moved forward as soon as possible. Owing to mist and smoke great difficulty was experienced in maintaining direction. Half way to the BROWN line more difficulty was experienced in getting the packhorses over the trenches and wire. As the infantry were advancing quickly we took 21 boxes per gun and left the horses to follow. On reaching the BROWN line we took up positions in the eastern edge of HILL SPINNEY for the two hours halt. During the halt enemy M.G.'s and snipers showed great activity. We fired 500 rounds at the guns located putting one out of action and perceptively quietened the other M.G.'s and the snipers. A 77mm gun was firing close to us but could not be located. At zero plus 3 hours 10 min. we advanced again the horses following 300 yards in rear. Two more men of No 1 gun team were wounded at this stage by one of our shells. (the gun was two lifts behind the barrage throughout). We re-organised the gun teams and continued to advance. On reaching the RED line we laid the guns and commenced to dig in. The N.C.O. in charge of the packhorses arriving we distributed the ammunition between the 4 guns. One tripod was left with the horse which had been killed, and the gun was mounted on the auxiliary tripod. We fired 750 rounds to cover the advance of the 14th Battalion to the BLUE line. Note by Section Officer: In my opinion, the use of packhorses is quite practicable and is a great saving of man power. If two belt boxes per gun are carried by the team, the remainder on the packhorses should arrive in ample time.
3. No 2 Section. (2/Lieut MORROW.) This section left JEAN COURT at 3 p.m. with one limber and reported to 14th Battalion at BLUE line. No opposition was met with until we reached ~~some~~ ASCENSION VALLEY when enemy planes and M.G.'s opened fire on us. No casualties were sustained. We unloaded the limber at 6.25 a.m. and carried the guns and gear to the trench in 6.20 a. At 8 p.m. two guns were in position and protecting the right flank. Enemy M.G.'s were active in 6.21 c. The 14th Battalion informed me that two Companies were occupying the trench and I attached 3 guns to each company and placed two of Lieut TYLER's guns in position. At 11 p.m. the attack commenced and at 11.30 p.m. 1500 rounds were fired at retreating enemy by the two right guns.
4. No 3 Section. (Lieut STEPHENS, M.M.) This section was attached to the 15th Battalion and the ~~main~~ task of the section was to advance with the infantry from the BROWN line. The section moved from the starting point at 7.15 a.m. and advanced to the BROWN line. Rain was falling and there was heavy mist. Moving over the ridge to the right of JEAN COURT, thence up the valley along the tramline we reached the sunken road running in a northerly direction, from here we had great difficulty in negotiating the trenches and barbed wire. On reaching the top of the ridge to the left of LE VERQUIER a shell wounded two gunners, a driver and his horse. The horse was relieved of its load and left behind. Another horse was hit but not seriously. At the foot of the ridge we caught up to the infantry who were on the BROWN line. We waited 10 minutes until the barrage lifted and moved off in rear of the infantry each gun in its allotted position. The barrage was slow and at times irregular and this impeded

the

the advance especially on the ridge to the left of GRAND PRINCE FARM. Here we unloaded the packhorses and sent them back and got the guns into action. Some good targets were obtained. The two right guns opened fire on retreating artillery and transport at 1600 yards on the crest of the next ridge. Also small parties of infantry. The two left guns engaged and silenced two machine guns. On reaching the RED line we dug in and established positions which enabled us to cross fire.

5. No 4 Section. (2/Lieut TYLER, M.M.) At midnight on the 17/18th the section left BOUVINCOURT taking limber and 4 packhorses. On reaching BENARES FARM, packhorses were loaded and moved to point on sunken road in front of VENDELLES, waiting there until 6.30 a.m. We then moved up to starting point and joined 14th Battalion advancing with them to ASCENSION SPUR. We took up positions between ASCENSION FARM and HOOFF POINT, unloaded packhorses and sent them to the rear. We then mounted the guns and during the hour which we had to wait we fired 1000 rounds at the retreating enemy. Continuing the advance we reached the objective on sunken road where we experienced heavy shelling and Machine Gun Fire. Two guns were replaced on the right to do barrage fire to cover the advance of the 14th Battalion to the final objective. The remaining two guns took up positions in the trench in readiness for any counter attacks.

As soon as Sections sent in their dispositions to Company HQ. on the day of the attack, Bulk ammunition, petrol tins of water & gun oil were sent up in a limbered wagon to each section, so throughout the whole operations every gun team had an ample supply. All gun teams received their rations & a rum issue on "Z" night.

Lawson's
 Lt. H. Allcock

CONFIDENTIAL.FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
From 6.a.m. 19/9/18 to 6.a.m. 20/9/18.THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Active at intervals during the day and night. Harassing and destructive shoots were carried out in accordance with programme. Line Battalion reports excellent opportunity targets for our artillery.

TRENCH MORTARS. 3 inch Stokes Mortars fired 25 rounds on Saps and supposed M.G. positions.

MACHINE GUNS. During the day our machine guns both Vickers and Lewis carried out some excellent long range shooting. On frequent occasions parties of enemy troops were dispersed and casualties inflicted.

AIRCRAFT. Very active during the day making both high and low reconnaissances of enemy positions.

PRISONERS AND IDENTIFICATION. 1 prisoner 8th Company 251 R.I.R., 75th Reserve Division.

PATROLS. Standing patrols were pushed forward 250 yards in advance of present front line. Nothing of interest was reported. Liaison was maintained with units on both flanks.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. A battery of 77's. situated G.17.a.2.6. proved very troublesome. Scattered fire on both forward and support positions was maintained throughout the period. Particular attention was paid to ASCENSION VALLEY. A Gun was observed firing from the vicinity of G.34.b.

TRENCH MORTARS. Nil.

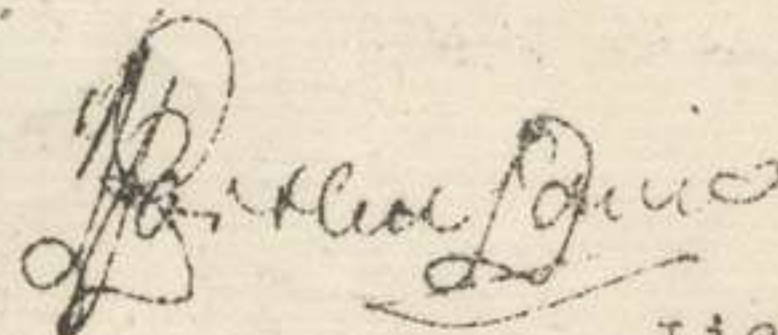
MACHINE GUNS. Very active both with direct and indirect fire.

AIRCRAFT. At 3.p.m. 4 E.A. shot down one of our patrol machines which fell south of our sector. Enemy aircraft generally inactive during the day.

PATROLS. No enemy patrols were encountered.

FLARES AND SIGNALS. At intervals during the night two Red lamps were observed sending signals from the direction BELLENGLISE.

MOVEMENT. Considerable movement was observed East of the Canal. Troops were observed moving along trenches in G.28.b, and also in trenches G.23.c., G.29.a. and G.29.b. Groups of 20 to 50 men were occasionally observed moving along the ridge East of the Canal.



Lieut.
for Brigade-Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

H M J Cory



FOURTH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY ORDER No.19.

Reference Map 'A' issued herewith.

15th Sept. 1918.

1. On a date and at an hour to be notified later the 4th Aust. Division will capture the enemy defences on the Divisional front and consolidate on the line shown BLUE on attached map 'A'.
The day of the attack will be known as "Z" day and that preceding it as "Y" day.
The 1st British Division on our right and the 1st Aust. Division on the left will attack simultaneously with 4th Aust. Div.
2. The attack by 4th Aust. Division will be carried out by 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade on the right and the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. on left.
3. The attack of the 4th Australian Inf. Bde. will be carried out in three phases :-
 - (a) 16th Battalion will capture and mop up the village of *LE VERGUIER and the 13th Battalion (right) and 15th Battn. (left) passing on the flanks of the village will capture the BROWN line and form up thereon for phase (b).
 - (b) 13th Battn. on right and 15th Battn. on left jumping off from BROWN line will capture and consolidate the RED line.
 - (c) 14th Battn. passing through RED line will capture and consolidate the BLUE line.
 *16th Battn. after mopping up the village will occupy the BROWN line.
4. ARTILLERY. Phases (a) and (b) will be assisted by a creeping barrage which will halt as a protective barrage for three hours 10 minutes in front of the BROWN line.
Phase (c) will be assisted by a Mobile Field Artillery Brigade.
Heavy Artillery will co-operate.
5. The 4th A.M.G. Coy. will allot 4 guns each to the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions, the remaining 4 guns to be in reserve at R.2.c.3.2. during the attack.
6. On night 16th/17th 4 guns of No.2 Section and Lieut. MORROW will go forward and relieve the 4 Left front line guns of the 13th A.M.G. Coy. These guns will remain in those positions until attack commences and will then move into reserve positions as in para.5.
7. Lieut. HOPKINS and No.1 Section have been allotted to 13th Battn. and Lieut. STEPHENS, M.M. and No.3 Section to 15th Battn. Lieut. TYLER, M.M. and No.4 Section to 14th Battn. All Section Commanders will immediately get in touch with Battalion Commanders concerned and will make the necessary reconnaissances of the area as soon as possible. Section Commanders will report complete to respective Battalion Commanders by midnight on night 17th/18th.
8. 4 pack horses have each been allotted to Nos. 1, 3 and 4 Sections and will move forward with those Sections carrying ammunition in belt boxes. Each gun crew to take its gun, tripod, 10 boxes of ammunition, 1 petrol tin of water, 1st Aid case of spare parts, oil and rag.
9. Company H.Q. will be located at R.2.c.3.2. during attack as also will H.Q. 4th A.I. Brigade and 4th A.M.G. Battn.
10. RUNNERS. Those Sections that have two runners on H.Q. strength will take one with them in the attack and those who have only one will appoint one temporarily.
11. As soon as guns are in position Section Commanders will send back a list of their dispositions (approximately will do) to Company H.Q..

12. It is proposed that the rations and ammunition for Nos.1, 3 and 4 Sections will be dumped as close to RED line as possible.

13. Lieut. HOPKINS will send back with his disposition report to where (map location) he requires those rations to be dumped ~~at~~ and at what time. He will also endeavour to collect from each of the other Sections a list of their dispositions and send same to Company H.Q.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Laubome

Captain,
O.C. No.4 A.M.G. Company.

15/9/1918.

Copies to :-

Nos.1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 to Sections.
No. 6 to Brigade.
No. 7 to 4th A.G. Battalion.
No. 8 to O.C.
No. 9 to War Diary.
No.10 to File.

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APPENDIX

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SECRET

AMENDMENTS

TO

4TH. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY ORDER NO 19.

15. 9. 18.

Ref. Para 1.

DELETE Line 3.

SUBSTITUTE: "And consolidate in succession on the lines shown
"GREEN, RED. and BLUE on attached Map "A"."

Ref. Para 2.

ADD: "Infantry forming-up Line will be in a direct line from
"R.9.d.8.5. to L.1.d.7. 0."

Ref. Para 5.

IN LINES 4, 6 and 9 SUBSTITUTE "GREEN LINE" for "BROWN LINE"

Ref. Para 4.

DELETE: "for three hours ten minutes"

Paul. [Signature]
.....Capt.
O. C. No. 4 Aust. M. Coy.

APPENDIX

15

No 4 Aust M. G. Company

APPENDIX

Operation Order 10

12.9.18

Ref Sheet 62c SE. 1:20,000

- I. Company will move today into area occupied by Reserve Brigade (4th A.I. Bde.) and Sections will occupy positions reconnoitred previously by Section Officers
- II. Company Headquarters and No 2 Section will move to SANTIN FARM. P2329.8.
- III. Cooker will accompany Company Headquarters.
- IV. All Guns to be in position by 4pm.
- V. On reaching area Sections may use Limbers to obtain Iron & material for shelters.
- VI. Nucleus personnel will move at 2pm to Transport Lines under Lieut Headlam, taking with it remainder of Limbers, spare gear and C. Q. Mts.
- VII. Each Section will place all Hats in bags, label the bags and place on spare Gun Limbers.
- VIII. Lieut Headlam will ensure that spare Gun Limbers are not touched while Coy is in forward area.
- IX. All officers' valises will be loaded on B28 Limber before leaving.
- X. Sections that have two runners on HQ strength will take one forward. Those with only one on HQ will appoint a runner temporarily.
- XI. Sections will send to Coy HQ at SANTIN FARM by 7pm a list of dispositions and locations at which Sections ^{RATIONS} are to be delivered.
- XII. Water Cart will deliver water to Nos 1, 3 and 4 Sections with rations and to Coy HQ each morning.
- XIII. Headquarters will load gear on front portion of B28A Limber.
- XIV. Blankets and overcoats will be carried by Sections until further instructions.

Copies -

- 1, 2, 3, 4. - Sections
 5. - 4th M.G. Bn
 6. - 4th A.I. Bde
 7. - File
 8. - War Diary

Paul Bomb Cap
 O.C. No 4A M.G. Coy

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BATTALION ROUTINE ORDER NO. 57.
by
LIEUT-COLONEL H.W.MURRAY, V.C., D.S.O., D.C.M.
C o m m a n d i n g
4th Australian Machine Gun-Battalion.

9th September, 1918.

Part I.

COMFORTS.

1. The C.O. gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following gifts from the Australian Comforts Funds:-

10 cases	Cocoa and Milk.	1 Case	Tobacco
5 "	cigarettes.	4 Cases	Soup.
Receipt No. D8483 of 6-9-18.			
4 Cases	Cocoa and Milk.	4 Cases	Milk.
2 "	Custard Powders.	6 "	Fruit.
4 "	Refills	3 "	Wallets.
5 "	P.O.Oddments.	2 "	Socks.
Receipt No. 8497 of 6-9-18.			

ORDERS.

2. Attention is directed to G.R.O.4944 - Pickle Jars.

Part II.

CORRIGENDUM. 1. Vide. B.R.O.54 of 4-9-18. Delete the following entries.

4th Aust.M.G.Coy.
To be A/C.S.M. (A/W.O.Class II) dated 26-8-18.
No.2351 Sgt. W.H.ROBERTS, M.M., vice MORROW promoted.
To be T/Sgt. dated 26-8-18.
No.2177 Cpl. J.G.McDonald, M.M., vice ROBERTS promoted.
To be T/Cpl. dated 26-8-18.
No.3718 L/Cpl. W.H.CARR, M.M., vice McDONALD promoted.

APPOINTMENTS

AND

PROMOTIONS.

4th Aust.M.G.Coy.
To be T/C.S.M. (A/W.O.Class II) dated 8-9-18.
No.152 Sgt. R.W.HUDSON, vice MORROW promoted.
To be T/Sgt. dated 4-9-18.
No.2177 Cpl. J.G.McDONALD, M.M., vice ROBERTS, to hospital.
To be T/Cpl. dated 4-9-18.
No.3718 L/Cpl. W.H.CARR, M.M., vice McDONALD, promoted.

13th Aust.M.G.Coy.
To be T/Cpl. dated 6-9-18.
No.1021 Pte. F.S.GARDER, vice HODGE, W.I.A.

H.Q., 4th Aust.M.G.Bn.
To be T/Cpl. dated 8-9-18.
No.2999 Pte. R.HOLTHAM, vice HUDSON, promoted.
No.4725 Pte. W.A.TANKEY, to complete establishment.

H. W. Crouch Capt.
Adjt., 4th Aust.M.G. Bn.

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APPENDIX D

4TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATTALION.

ORDER No 27

Reference attached Map 1/40,000
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1. INFORMATION.

The enemy is retiring on the Aust. Corps front, and is being pressed by our advanced guards. We hold DOINGT, LE MESNIL - ERUNTEL, and are on Western outskirts of ATHIES.

The Corps front has been reorganised and is held by 32nd Division, 5th Australian Division, and 3rd Australian Division. Boundaries as per map attached.

2. INTENTION.

The advance will be continued by the Divisions now in the line. At a date to be notified later the 1st and 4th Australian Divisions and the 6th Division will pass through 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions and 32nd Division respectively and will continue the advance.

3. METHOD OF ADVANCE.

The advance will be pressed in a series of bounds in co-operation with Flank Divisions. The successive objectives are shown on attached map. Each Divisional front will be covered by an advance guard consisting of a Brigade Group with a proportion of Artillery attached.

4. BRIGADE GROUPS.

Each under the Command of respective Brigadiers -

<u>4th A.I. Bde Group.</u>	<u>12th A.I. Bde Group.</u>	<u>13th A.I. Bde Group.</u>
4th Aust. Inf Bde.	12th Aust. Inf. Bde.	13th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4th Aust. M.G. Coy.	12th Aust. M.G. Coy.	13th Aust. M.G. Coy.
4th Aust. Field Coy Engrs	12th Field Coy Engrs	13th Field Coy Engrs.
4th Field Ambulance	12th Field Ambulance.	13th Field Ambulance.
7th Coy. A.A.S.G.	26th Coy A.A.S.C.	27th Coy A.A.S.C.

4th Aust. M.G. Battalion Headquarters, and 24th Aust. M.G. Coy are attached to 12th A.I. Bde Group, and 4th Pioneer Battn to 4th A.I. Bde for the move to forward area. Embussing point and time will be notified later.

5. MOVES.

6th September:- 13th A.I. Bde Group by bus to N.W. BIACHES, accomodation allotted by Area Commandant HERBECOURT. 13th A.I. Bde Group Transport to vicinity MORCOURT. 12th A.I. Bde Group Transport to vicinity MORCOURT. Quarters allotted by Area Commandant, MORCOURT.

7th September:- 4th Aust. Div. Artillery by route march to PROYART area, accomodation allotted by Area Commandant PROYART. 12th A.I. Bde Group by bus to vicinity of ETERPIGNY. Transport move from MORCOURT and rejoin Units 4th A.I. Bde Group Transport to vicinity of MORCOURT.

8th September:- 4th Aust. Div. Headquarters to HERBECOURT. 4th A.I. Bde Group by bus and will be concentrated in rear of 5th Aust. Division in position to be notified later. Transport rejoins Units.

6. After arrival in forward area Battalion dump of surplus kits and packs will be established at CAPPY, and transport will be battalionised under Battalion Transport Officer at selected Lines near ETERPIGNY.

7. Nucleus Personnel will assemble at Transport Lines under Senior Officer

8. Battalion H.Q. will close at 9a.m. and open on arrival in new area at ETERPIGNY.

9. All Ranks are warned to be on their guard against enemy booby traps and ruses.

1st Lt Capt *101* Lieut-Col.
C.O., 4th Aust. M.G. Battalion.

Issued through Signals at p.m.

6/9/18.

SECRET.
*****FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INSTRUCTIONS NO. 1 to accompany BRIGADE ORDER NO. 29. Brigade
Headquarters,
7th Sept. 1918.

1. EMBUSING.

Place. COISY - ALLONVILLE road. Head of column at Cross
roads G.I.I.B.
Time. 9.30 a.m., 8/9/1918.

Embussing officers to report to Brigade-Major at head of column
at 9.30 a.m.

Load. 25 all ranks per bus. Parties to be told off before-
hand.

Order. Units will embus in the following order :-
15th Battalion.
14th Battalion.
13th Battalion.
16th Battalion.
4th Field Ambulance.
4th A.L.T.M. Battery.
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade Headquarters.

Debussing Point. N.W. BIACHES.

2. One Motor Lorry will be allotted to each Battalion to carry
Q.M.'s and Orderly Room gear. These will report at respective
Headquarters at 7 a.m. to-morrow. Guides to be at Brigade Head-
quarters at 6 a.m. to conduct lorries to Battalion Headquarters.

3. CLAIMS. All claims to be adjusted if possible before leaving area.

4. Transport will rejoin respective units on night 8th inst.

5. Bivouac Area for Brigade Group N.W. of BIACHES.

6. Disposition statement to be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters as
soon as possible after arrival in new area.

7. ENEMY RUSES. All ranks are to be specially warned to be on their
guard against enemy "booby traps" and ruses.

8. Brigade Nucleus will be located at 4th Aust. Div. Reinf. Wing,
CORBIE, under Capt. S.A. RICHARDS, 15th Battalion. Personnel will
proceed to CORBIE by route march on 8th instant under instructions
from Capt. S.A. RICHARDS (O.C. Nucleus). Cooking gear etc. will be
convoysed by Motor Lorry as under :-

1 Lorry - 14th and 15th Battalions.
1 Lorry - 13th and 16th Battalions.

These will report to Capt. RICHARDS at CHURCH ALLONVILLE at 12.
noon, where a guide from each Battalion will report. Guides
from 13th and 16th Battalions will then proceed with 1 Lorry and
those for 15th and 14th Battalions will proceed with the other to
pick up gear at respective Headquarters, after which they will proceed
to CORBIE under instruction from CAPT RICHARDS.

Issued through Signals at 3 p.m.
Dis. as for Brigade Order No. 29.

R. J. Howell
Major,
Brigade-Major,
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

SECRET.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Instructions No. 2 issued with Brigade Order No. 32.

Headquarters,
17th Septr., 1918AIRCRAFT.1. CONTACT AEROPLANES.

(i) Contact patrol machines (3rd Squadron A.F.C.) will carry rectangular black panels 1' x 1' on both lower planes, about 3 feet from fuselage.

(ii) Contact patrols will be carried out as follows :-

(a) Machine will fly along the BROWN Line (first objective halt line) at Zero plus 2½ hours.

(b) Machine will fly along the Red Line (second objective) at Zero plus 3 hours.

(c) Machine will fly along the BLUE Line (Objective line of Exploitation) at Zero plus 3 hours.

(iii) (a) Flares will be called for by the aeroplane sounding a succession of "A's" on the Klaxon Horn and by firing a WHITE Very Light.

(b) Should the aeroplane observer not have located the line accurately on the first attempt he will return and repeat the call 10 minutes later.

Should the infantry not have reached the objective line at the time laid down above, the machine will return half an hour later and repeat the call.

(iv) Infantry, in the most advanced positions only, will indicate their position to the contact machines.

Infantry will indicate their position by the following means -

(a) RED ground flares.

(b) BRIGHT metal discs.

(c) Rifles laid across the trench in batches of three or four and about a foot apart.

2. COUNTER ATTACK MACHINES.

(i) From Zero onwards counter-attack machines will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentrations or abnormal movement.

(ii) In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter-attack, the counter-attack aeroplane will signal this information to the artillery by wireless. In the case of a counter-attack actually developing a WHITE parachute flare will be fired by the aeroplane in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter-attack, for the information of the infantry.

3. TANK LIAISON MACHINES.

The 5th Squadron R.A.F., will work with the Tanks and will carry out the following roles :-

(i) (a) Machines detailed to watch and report on the progress of the Tanks.

(b) Machines detailed to bomb and bring machines gun fire to bear on hostile anti-tank guns.

(ii) Machines carrying out the above will be marked by a black band on the tail plane.

4. NIGHT FLYING TO CONCEAL NOISE OF TANKS.

To conceal the noise of the engines during the advance of the Tanks to the Start Line, the 5th Brigade R.A.F. is arranging for machines to fly over the Corps Forward area at times to be fixed later.

ARTILLERY.

(a) Artillery Barrage Maps have been issued separately.

P.T.O.

ARTILLERY (Contd.)(b) Frontage during the Barrage.

During the barrage the Divisional front will be covered as follows :-

RIGHT GROUP	12th Aust. Inf. Brigade Front.
LEFT GROUP	4th Aust. Inf. Brigade Front.
SUPERIMPOSED GROUP	Divisional front in equal proportions for Brigades.

(c) ARRANGEMENTS AFTER ZERO.

(i) After the first objective (GREEN LINE) is taken, a protective barrage will be maintained to cover consolidation of the infantry halt line (BROWN LINE on Tracing "A").

On arrival of the barrage at this protective barrage line the SUPERIMPOSED GROUP will cease firing and advance to the positions selected.

From these positions the batteries of the SUPERIMPOSED Group will join in the barrage when it moves forward from the protective barrage line and support the advance to the RED Line.

(ii) After the barrage is completed the 10th and 11th Aust. F.A. Brigades will cease to form a Group and will move forward in close support of the infantry carrying out the exploitation towards the BLUE Line, the 10th Aust. F.A. Brigade supporting the 12th Aust. Inf. Brigade and the 11th Aust. F.A. Brigade supporting the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

(iii) On completion of the barrage the LEFT Group and the SUPERIMPOSED Group will stand by to take whatever action the tactical situation demands.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 7.a.m. through Signals.

Distribution -

A for Brigade Order No. 32.

P. J. Lovell

Major.
Brigade-Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Administrative Instructions.

11th September, 1918.

Ref. Map 1/40,000, Sheet 62.C.

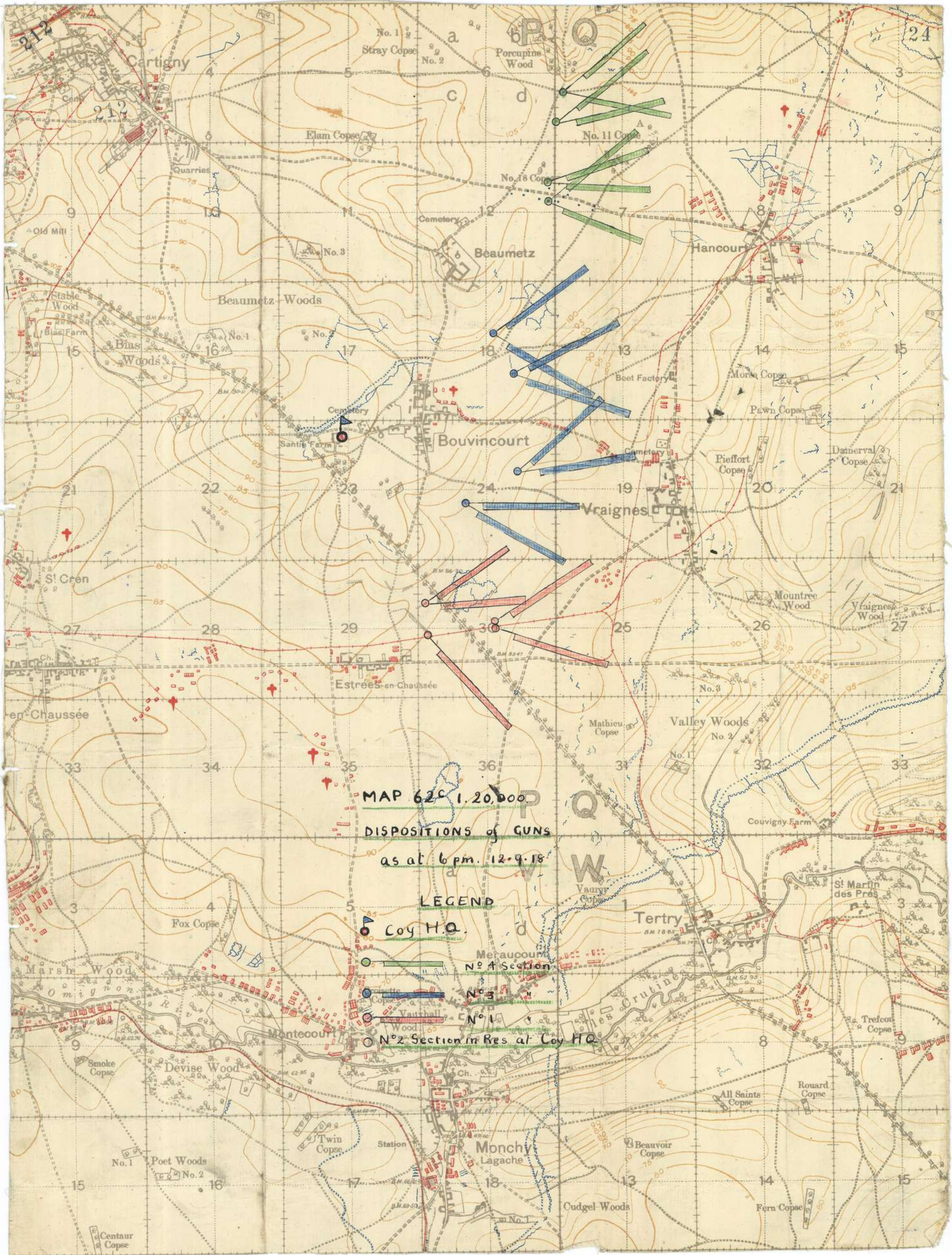
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- APPENDIX D
1. SUPPLIES. Railhead, on 11th instant - LA CHAPELLETTE, thence by Train wagons to Transport Lines.
Refilling Points - Div. Troops, P.15.0.
4th A.I.Bde. P.15.b.3.8.
12th A.I.Bde. P.15.b.3.8.
13th A.I.Bde. P.15.b.3.8.
 2. AMMUNITION. S.A.A. Section is located at P.20.c.1.2.
Ammunition Dump - P.27.d.4.4.
Demands for ammunition will be made in the usual way to O.C., S.A.A. Section.
 3. ORDNANCE. D.A.D.O.S. is located at H.25.d.
 4. VETERINARY. Mobile Veterinary Section is located at O.20.a.0.0.
 5. CLOTHING EXCHANGE will be established at D.H.Q., CATELET, on 11th instant, where socks can be exchanged.
 6. STERILIZING LORRIES are located at DOINGT - J.36.e.4.3.
CARTIGNY - J.36.c.9.2.
 7. STRAGGLER COLLECTING STATION situated at P.29.d.7.8.
 8. PRISONERS OF WAR. P.O.W. Cage is ~~not~~ established at ESTREES-EN-CHAUSSEE (P.29.d.7.6). Brigades will arrange to send all P.O.W. captured, under escort, to Divisional Cage.
 9. DIVISIONAL A.P.M.'s. Office adjoins P.O.W. Cage and Stragglers Collecting Station.
 10. SALVAGE. Careful attention will be given to salvaging every article possible. Two limbers per Company will be detailed to collect salvage and deliver through Btn. Q.M.
 11. DIVISIONAL CANTEEN OFFICER. At Div. Headquarters for the present.
 12. CAMOUFLAGE PARK will be established at P.23.a.9.4, S.W. of BOUVIN-COURT.
 13. DIV. BURIALS OFFICER is with Headquarters, 4th Aust. Pioneer Btn. He will report location of all cemeteries within Divisional Area to D.H.Q., and suitable sites for new ones if required.
 14. CEMETERIES. Units will, as far as possible, utilize existing British Cemeteries. Isolated burials should be avoided.

H. G. Couch Captain.
Adjt., 4th Aust. M. G. Btn.

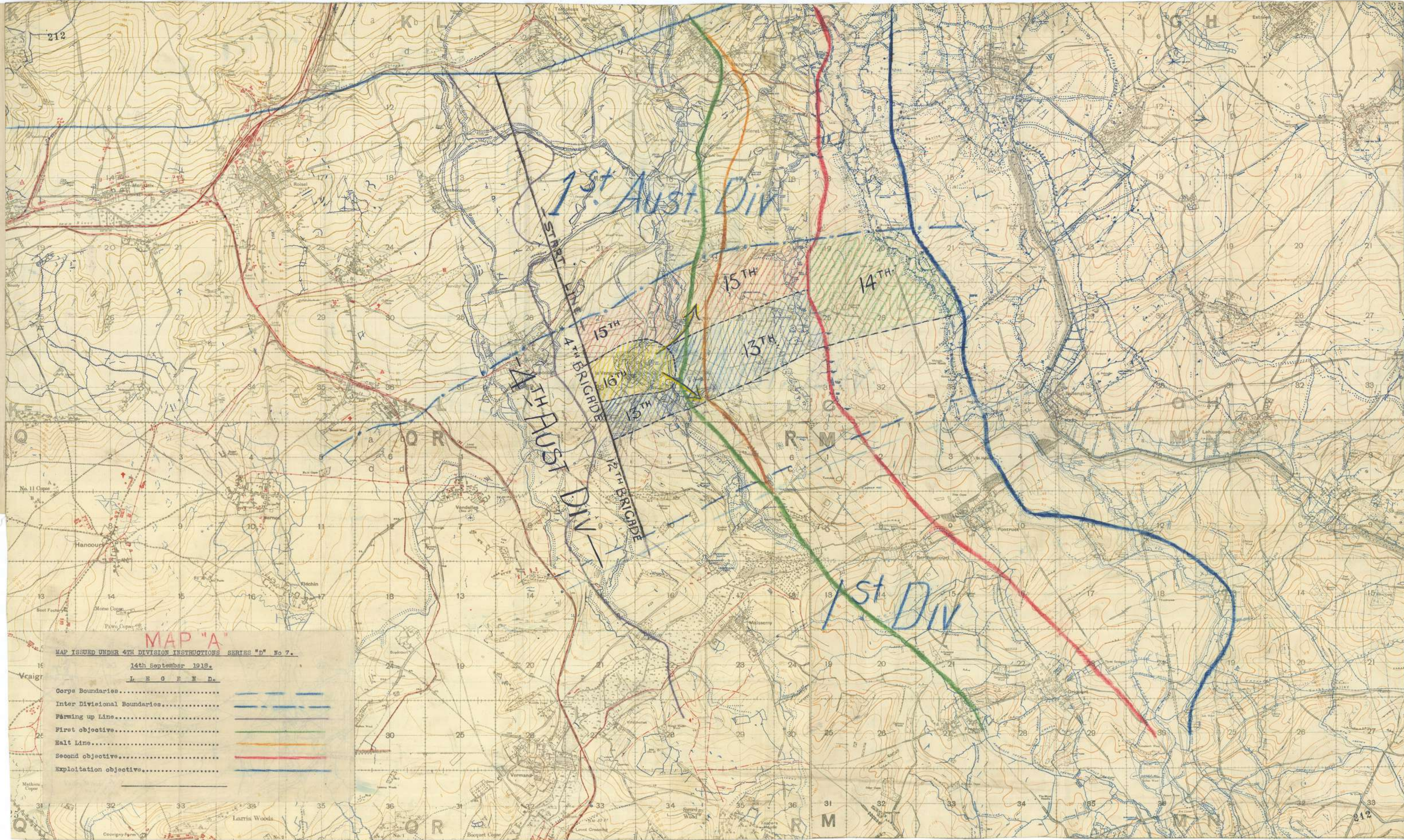
FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS. SEASON. August-September 1918.F I X T U R E S .S O C C E R R U L E S .

Friday. 30/8/18.	15th Bn V. "Others".	Eng' Referee.
Sunday. 1/9/18.	13th Bn V. 14th Bn.	15th Bn Referee.
Tuesday. 3/9/18.	4th F. Engrs. V. 16th Bn.	"Others" referee.
Thursday. 5/9/18.	14th Bn. V. 15th Bn. 4th Engrs V. 13th Bn.	Engrs Referee. 16th Bn Referee.
Saturday. xxxx 7/9/18.	15th Bn. V. 16th Bn. 4th F.A. V. 13th Bn.	13th Bn Referee. 15th Bn. ..
Monday. 9/9/18.	4th Engrs V. 15th Bn. 14th Bn V. 16th Bn.	16th Bn Referee. 15th Bn. ..
Friday. 13/9/18.	4th Engrs. V. 4th F.A . 15th Bn V. 13th Bn.	13th Bn R eferee. "Others" Referee.
Sunday . 15/9/18,	14th Bn.V. 4th Engrs. 13th Bn V. 16th Bn.	15th Bn Referee. "Others" ..
Tuesday. 17/9/18.	4th F.A. V. 16th Bn.	Engrs Referee.
Thursday. 19/9/18.	4th F.A. V. 14th Bn.	13th Bn Referee.

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APPENDIX "F"



3/6

SW
G. P. M.

35-62¹⁵

