

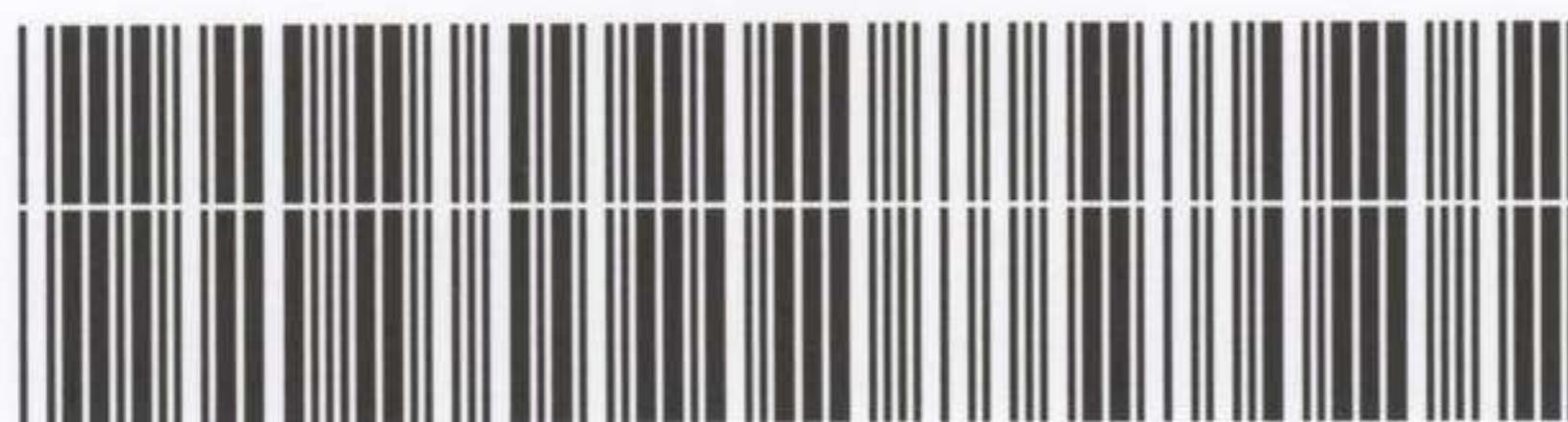
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/7/23

**Title:** 7th Infantry Brigade

July 1917



AWM4-23/7/23

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.

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

VOLUME 15

7th AIB

Army Form C. 2118.

95

JULY 1917.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAPAUME	JULY			
	1st.		Brigade in BAPAUME area. Training and organization. (See notes at foot)	
	2/5th		Units inspected by the G.O.C. Specialist Lectures. Training.	
	6th		Divisional Field Day without troops.	
	7th		Training.	
	9th		Divisional Field Day with troops. Scheme practised without artillery support	App. 1
	10/12		Training.	" 2
	13th		Brigade Field Day with contact aeroplane co-operation.	" 3
	14th		Demonstration of platoon work at 1st Anzac School. G.O.C. and senior officers attended.	
	15/17		Training.	
	18th		Brigade Staff Officers assembled at D.H.Q. to practise writing operation orders.	
	20/21		Brigade night stunt.	App. 4&5
	22/23		Divisional night stunt.	" 6&7
	24th		Demonstration at AUCHONVILLERS on Forward Inter-Communication in Battle.	
	24/27		Training.	

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 95

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAPAUME	JULY			
	28th		<p>Brigade moved from BAPAUME to RENESCURE area by train. Brigade H.Q.. RENESCURE. 25th Battalion at N.13.d.8.8., 26th Bn. T. 9.b.5.0., 27th Bn. at T.10.c.2.1., 28th Bn. at T.14.a.6.5., 7th M/Gun Coy and 7th A.L.T.M.Bty at RENESCURE. D.S.O., M.C.,</p> <p>Captain G. ROWAN HAMILTON called away to 24th British Division as G.S.O.2. Captain C.H. HARRISON, M.C. took over duties of Brigade Major.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>App 8</i></p>
	28/31		<p>Route marching and close order drill.</p> <p><u>TRAINING.</u> The training for this month has been largely devoted to tactical work, Divisional, Brigade, and Battalion Field Days, with night attacks. Company and platoon tactical work has been carried out on the field firing range, and the Bullet &amp; Bayonet assault course has been in daily use under the supervision of a P.T. &amp; B.F. Instructor. Musketry on 30 and 200 yards ranges. Route marching has been done whenever practicable.</p> <p>Tactical exercises without troops for senior officers under Brigade arrangements)</p> <p>The G.O.C. wrote a circular memo on principles of advancing in platoons.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">App. 9.</p>
			<p><i>Wanawana</i> Brig. General, Commanding 7th Australian Infantry Brigade.</p>	

Secret

7th A.I. Bde

No 5

Order No 100

6/7/17

Ref. 1/20000 map.  
Sketch map issued.

1. Information and intention of 2nd Aus Div has already been given verbally to Cpl Units.

2. The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde is in reserve to 2nd Aus Div and will concentrate in small H 30.

3. Brigade will move from present position in artillery formation in two lines of battalions. First line 28th + 25th Bns 28th Bn on the right, 50 yds interval + 300 yds distance. Second line 26th + 27th Bns 26th Bn on the right. 26th Bn will direct and will keep S of Fremantle Village. Leading Bns to be responsible for protection. 7th A.I. Bde will move in rear of 26th Bns. Move at 8 50 AM.

4. On reaching rendezvous H 30

Units will dispose themselves  
as under

27 Bn I 25C 44  
25 Bn I 25C 49  
26 Bn I 30K-5 44  
28 Bn I H 30d 3 5

5. 7th M/Sqn Coy + 7 Jem. B.M. will  
report forthwith to the 6th Ave  
Inf. Bde to be at disposal of  
P.O. 6th Inf Bde until RIENECK  
is captured. They will then  
report back to 7th Bde and  
will be located at I 25C  
55

6. Coy 25th Bn will detail  
forthwith 1 Officer as liaison  
officer for the 5th Bde and Coy  
25th Bn, officer as liaison  
officer to 6th Bde 2 runners  
will accompany each officer

7. Bde Reserve SRA  
Each Bn will detail 1  
SRA, limber in addition  
26th Bn 1 grenade limber  
2 signaller and two runners  
above to report to Bde Bomb.

Officer at I 25 a 54 on  
reaching the rendezvous.

- 8 Watches will be synchronised  
at 8 P.M., and again on reaching  
the rendezvous.
- 9 Medical arrangements have  
already been notified.
- 10 First line transport will be  
with units.
- 11 Adjutants will report to Bde  
Hdqs at 8.45 P.M. and remain  
there until orders for further  
move are issued.
- 12 7th Bde Hdqs will close at  
BEUGNY at 9 P.M.  
Reports after that hour to rear  
of 26th Bn.
- 13 Acknowledge.

*[Signature]*  
Capt.  
Bde Chapo 7th Inf Bde

Dictated to Adjutants  
3-4 5 P.M.

Copy No 1 2<sup>nd</sup> Aus. Div  
" No 2 7<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.  
No 3 7<sup>th</sup> T.M. Bty.  
No 4 6<sup>th</sup> Bde  
No 5 War Diary  
& file

Issued to Signals at 6 P.M.

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SECRET

## 7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Copy No. 15

ORDER No. 111.

July 7th 1917.

Reference Map 1/20,000. 57.G. N.W. &amp; S.W. &amp; sketch map issued.

1. The 30th Army Corps attacked and consolidated the line BANCOURT - O.l.a.central - VILLERS au FLOS. The 1st Anzac Corps will pass through the 50th Corps and exploit the success gained.  
The 2nd Australian Division will advance on the frontage BANCOURT - VILLERS au FLOS, both inclusive, passing through the 50th Division.  
Objectives :-  
  - 6th A.I.Brigeade :- Brickfields - THILLOY to line of trees at point N.9.c.2.3. all inclusive.
  - 5th A.I.Brigeade :- Trees at N.9.c.2.3. (exclusive) to road junction N.21.b.6.0.

Boundary between 5th and 6th A.I.Brigeades :- O.l.central along South edge of RIENCOURT - lez BAPAUME - N.9.d.7.3. - N.9.c.2.3.

Flank boundaries as in Special Idea.

The enemy is credibly reported to be in a state of disorganization and to be occupying the area forming the Divisional objective with a total force not exceeding two and a half Battalions and sixteen machine guns.
2. The 7th A.I.Brigeade and the 7th Field Company will be in Divisional Reserve in the area H.30.central, and will be in readiness to support the right flank attack.
3. The 7th A.I.Brigeade will move to reserve position in accordance with attached march table, and will be in position by 9.30 a.m. on 9th inst.
4. The 2nd Australian Division will attack at 10 a.m. on the 9th inst.
5. The 7th Machine Gun Company and 7th A.L.T.M.Battery will be at the disposal of the 6th A.I.Brigeade, until after the capture of RIENCOURT, when they will rejoin the 7th A.I.Brigeade in accordance with march table. They will receive instructions direct from the 6th A.I.Brigeade.
6. The progress of the 2nd Australian Division will be signalled by Very Lights fired to the rear.



- 2 -

7. Liaison Officers, each accompanied by two runners, will be detailed as under :-

25th Battalion - for 5th A.I. Brigade.  
28th Battalion - for 6th A.I. Brigade.

Officers will report to their respective Brigade Headquarters at 9.30 a.m. on the 9th inst.

5th A.I. Brigade H.Q. O.S.C. central.  
6th A.I. Brigade H.Q. H.36.b.4.1.

8. Brigade Reserve S.A.A.

Units will detail limbers as under to report to Brigade Bomb Officer, 2nd Lieut. ARMSTRONG, 28th Battalion, at I.25.a.5.4. on arrival at place of assembly (H.30.)

Each Battalion	1 S.A.A. limber.
26th Battalion	1 Grenade limber in addition to S.A.A. limber.
7th M/Gun Coy	2 S.A.A. limbers.

26th Battalion will detail two runners and two signallers to report to the Brigade Bomb Officer at the same time and place.

9. Watches will be synchronized at 8 a.m. and again on reaching the position of assembly.
10. 1st Line Transport will march with units to position of assembly.
11. As soon as Battalion Commanders have disposed their Battalions at the position of assembly, they will report to Brigade Headquarters.
12. Medical and Signal arrangements are attached.
13. Special instructions for the exercise are attached.
14. Divisional Dump is located at Cemetery I.26.a.2.7.
15. Reports to H.30.d.8.2. after 9.30 a.m.
16. Acknowledge.

*J. M. Wantanille*  
Captain, Brigade Major,  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 11 pm

Distribution on separate sheet.

- 3 -

Distribution.

1. 25th Battalion.
2. 26th "
3. 27th "
4. 28th "
5. 7th M/Gun Coy
6. 7th A.L.T.M.Bty.
7. B.T.O.
8. Brigade Bomb Officer.
9. Staff Captain.
10. 7th Field Coy.
11. 5th A.I. Brigade
12. 6th A.I. "
13. Chief Umpire.
14. 2nd Aust. Division.
15. War Diary
16. File
17. Spare.

## 7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

MARCH TABLE to accompany Brigade Order No. 111.

Unit	From	To	Starting Point	Time to pass	Route	Remarks
27th Bn.	Camp	I.25.c.4.4.	Old Sugar Factory H.28.d.	8.45 a.m.		Fine weather track S. of CAMBRAI Road - X Roads I.25.a.1.8.
7th Bde H.Q.	"	H.30.d.8.2.	ditto	8.55 a.m.	}	Transport to join Brigade Reserve Ammunition on arrival at place of assembly
7th M/Gun Coy	"	I.25.a.5.5.	ditto	9.00 a.m.		
7th A.L.T.M.Bty	"	ditto	ditto	9.00 a.m.		
26th Bn.	"	I.30.b.5.4.	Concrete Reservoir H.34.c.	8.40 a.m.		To keep N. of BANGCOURT Village.
25th Bn.	"	I.25.c.4.9.	ditto	8.45 a.m.		
28th Bn.	"	H.30.d.3.5.	ditto	8.55 a.m.		
7th Field Coy A.E.		I.25.a.3.8.				Not to move on or cross CAMBRAI Road before 9.25 a.m.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TACTICAL EXERCISE.

1. DRESS. Fighting order without coats.  
 No ball ammunition will be carried.  
 Pouches will be inspected by an officer before moving off.  
 Entrenching tool will be carried in front, and water bottle behind.  
 Bayonets will be fixed when the tactical situation demands it.
  
2. TACTICAL. Special attention to be paid to Mopping up.  
 Use of reserves for Strong Points that have not been mopped up.  
 Camps and horse lines will be out of bounds.  
 Enemy will be using a little blank ammunition.  
 Engineers will discharge some Bangalore Torpedoes. Troops should not be within 200 yards of the explosion.  
 Opposing forces will not advance to within 50 yards of one another.  
 Use of snipers and observers to be practised.
  
3. 26th Battalion (Duty Bn) will detail Major CURRIE, DSO, with a proportion of signallers, to command the two Companies reporting to the O.C. enemy. Remainder available will attend exercise.
  
4. Tools and signalling gear and Medical stores will be carried, but the remainder of the 1st Line Transport will move empty.
  
5. Casualties will be practised. For this purpose, Umpires, assistant umpires, company and platoon commanders, will be furnished with slips of paper, previously prepared, showing the nature of the wound. The paper will be handed to the casualty, who will act as if he had received the wound described.

\* - \* - \* - \* - \*

P.T.O.

7

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

To accompany Brigade Order No. 111.

Corps Main Dressing Station is at I.17.c.5.5.

All Field Ambulances will be held in readiness to move at once on receipt of orders after zero hour on the 9th inst.

The Tent Division, 6th Australian Field Ambulance, will form an ambulance post at MILL CROSS I.27.c.2.9. Movement to be complete by 8 a.m. on 9th inst. An ambulance loading post will be prepared at I.32.c.2.5. Horse ambulance waggons will be sent forward to this post as soon as circumstances permit.

All horse ambulance waggons of the three Field Ambulances will come under the command of the O.C. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance at 8 a.m. on 9th inst.

As soon as the RIENCOURT - BAPAUME crest has been completely carried, the 7th Aust. Field Ambulance Tent Division will be ordered to form an Advanced Dressing Station at O.2.a.6.9. All ambulance cars of the Division will be attached to the 7th Aust. Field Ambulance.

From this station cases will be evacuated by horse ambulance waggon by the valley track through I.32.central to MILL CROSS.

As soon as possible, motor ambulance waggons will work forward to the Advanced Dressing Station by road via HAPLINCOURT. When this motor ambulance route is opened the 6th Aust. Field Ambulance Tent Division will move forward to reinforce the Advanced Dressing Station, from which time the 7th Aust. Field Ambulance will attend stretcher cases, and the 6th Aust. Field Ambulance will attend to the walking wounded.

As soon as R.A.P's have moved forward beyond the RIENCOURT BAPAUME crest, the O.C. 6th Aust. Field Ambulance will send forward a tent sub-division with equipment and form an advanced collecting station at RIENCOURT, N.6.a.0.0. Horse ambulance waggons will work forward to this station via the BANCOURT Road, and the valley track, avoiding the vicinity of BANCOURT as much as possible.

When the final objective has been gained & R.A.P's have been established on the line N.22.b. to the outskirts of THILLOY, one tent sub-division and bearer division 5th Aust. Field Ambulance will move forward with equipment on pack horses and establish an advanced post at N.10.b.0.5. Relays of bearers will be formed between R.A.P's and the Advanced Collecting Station.

Two Tent Divisions, 5th Aust. Field Ambulance, will be held in reserve at BEUGNY, ready to move forward in the event of a further advance being made.

~~SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.~~

Divisional Headquarters,  
5th July, 1917.

SIGNAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR DIVISIONAL OPERATIONS ON JUNE 9TH

The following will be the Signal arrangements for the

~~TRACK~~ on the THILLOY-RIDGE Line by the Second Australian Division.

1. Between Divisional Headquarters and Brigade Headquarters - metallic circuit Fullerphone service, visual and despatch riders.
2. Between Brigade Headquarters and Battalions - metallic circuit Fullerphone service, visual, despatch rider or runner.
3. In addition, between Brigade Headquarters LEFT sector and Battalions in Line - Trench wireless service.  
Between Brigade Headquarters RIGHT sector and Battalions in Line - Power Buzzer and Amplifier service.
4. Between Battalion Headquarters and Companies in Line - visual and runners.
5. Trench wireless set will push forward with one Battalion Headquarters of the LEFT sector. (Battalion to use set to be decided upon by Brigade Signalling Officer.) This set will work back to a similar station at LEFT Brigade Headquarters.
6. An Amplifier and Power Buzzer station will push forward with one Battalion Headquarters of the RIGHT sector. (Battalion to use set to be decided upon by Brigade Signalling Officer.) This set will work back to a similar station to be installed at the RIGHT Brigade Headquarters.

Power Buzzer, Amplifier and Wireless Stations will not be moved except by instruction from Brigade Signalling Officer or O.C. Signal Company. Brigade Signalling Officer will refer to O.C. Signals before moving any Wireless Station.

Amplifier and Wireless Station will be UP & DOWN working.

Brigades will be required to detail a carrying party of 1 N.C.O. and 5 other ranks, permanently, during the operation, for each Wireless Station. Brigade Section Officers will be responsible for the Power Buzzer-Amplifier and Wireless Stations in their respective SECTORS, and for the proper installation and handing over of these Stations upon relief by relieving Brigades.

ALL MESSAGES HANDED IN AT POWER BUZZER AND WIRELESS STATIONS MUST BE IN CIPHER.

(Sgd.) S. H. WATSON,  
Major,

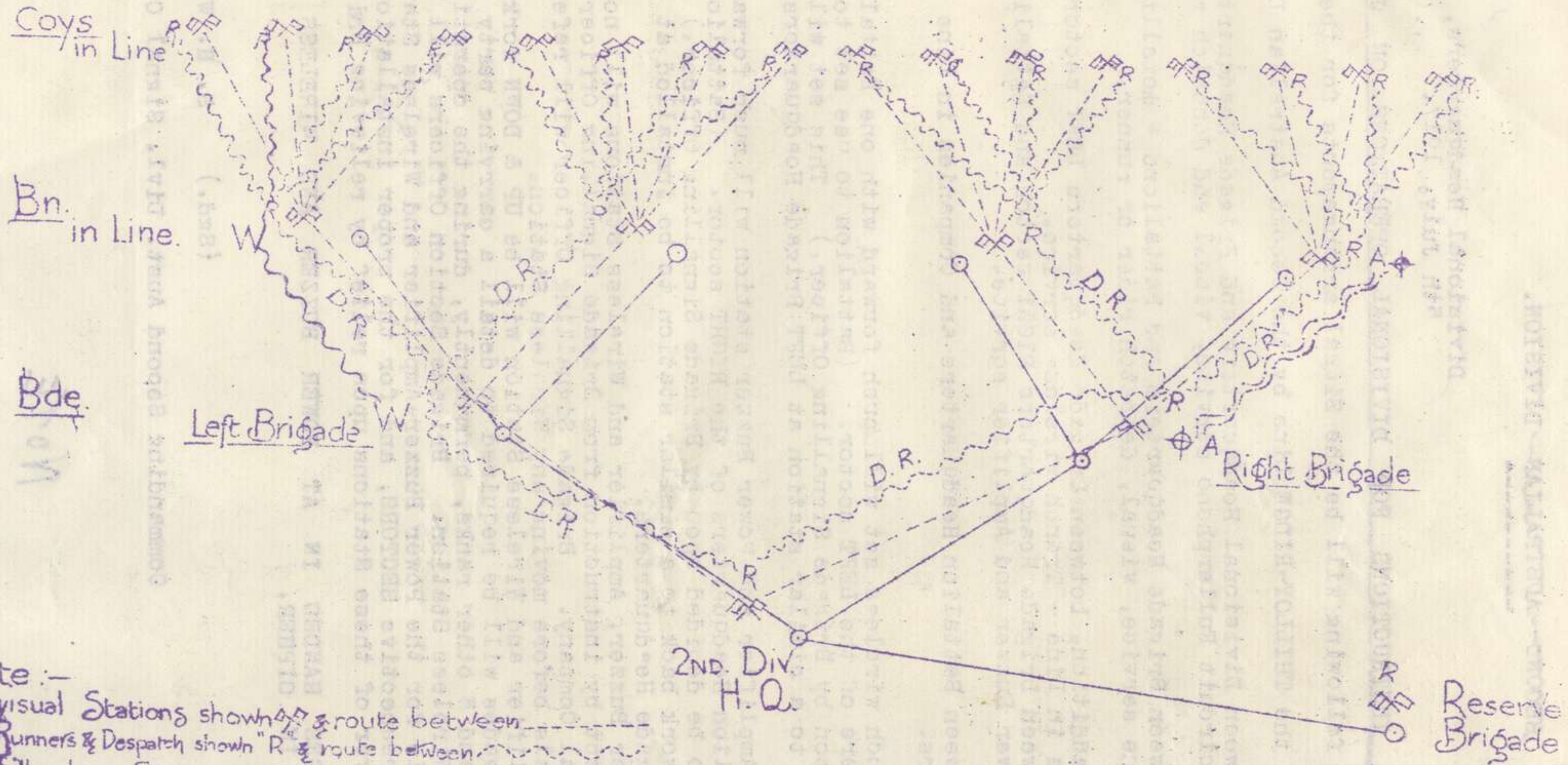
Commanding Second Aust. Divl. Signal Company.

## NOTE

Wireless and power buzzer amplifier sets will be erected and moved in accordance with the situation, but are not permitted to be used. Messages may be handed in in cipher and will be transmitted by other means.

LEFT SECTOR - 5TH. BDE.

RIGHT SECTOR - 6TH. BDE.



Note :-

visual Stations shown & route between  
 Runners & Despatch shown "R" & route between   
 Full telephone Stations & route between   
 Wireless communication between   
 Power Buzzer & } do. do   
 Amplifier }

Secret  
 War Diary  
 Reference  
 Copy No  
 Order No N2 7  
 9th July 1917

1 Reference Map 1/20000 NW  
 and Sketch Map issued

2 Information as already  
 given

3 7th N 2 Bde will move from  
 present situation at 1.30 pm.  
 and will attack THURLEY through  
 N 2 Central at ~~1.50~~ 2.30 pm

4 28th Bn will attack on the  
 Right 27th Bn on the left  
 25th Bn in support and 26th  
 Bn in reserve

5 Attacking Bns will form  
 up under cover in H 32 B  
 and H 32 C

6 Objective - 25th Bn Right  
 boundary road through H 32  
 B and D and N 2 a Left  
 Boundary through N 2 Central  
 27th Bn Right boundary road  
 through N 2 Central 27th Bn  
 to occupy frontage about  
 400 yards

7 25th Bn will follow 26th  
 27th Bn at 400 yards distance



2

Attacking <sup>20</sup> Bn will pass through the village of THILLOY and consolidate a line approximately from SUN MEN <sup>MONOTY POINT</sup> to Fork Roads 18 a 8 b

~~20<sup>th</sup> Bn being responsible for forming a defensive flank~~  
~~approximately along line from~~  
~~THILLOY through~~  
 KICKFIELD <sup>MONOTY POINT</sup>

20<sup>th</sup> Bn will be in reserve in the Ramparts about H 33a

OC of 110<sup>th</sup> Gun Coy will select positions to cover the advance with 3 sections about H 32 c and d. 20<sup>th</sup> Bn will detail one Coy to act under the orders of OC of 110<sup>th</sup> Gun Coy as escort.

One machine <sup>sub</sup> section of 114<sup>th</sup> M Bty will report forward with to OC. 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Bns respectively, remaining section will be in reserve with 20<sup>th</sup> Bn

29<sup>th</sup> Bn when the village of THILLOY has been captured will be withdrawn to occupy TILL TRENCH from H 32 a 3 4 to N 2 b 8 5.

95

- 3
- 10 Tools will be carried for consolidations.
- 11 1<sup>st</sup> line transport will be brigaded under Pde T'port officer and will be moved forward ~~to~~ will be moved to a position about H 33 central.
- 12 Pde HQs will close at BANCOURT at 1.45 pm and will then move to launch side of PAMPARTS about H 33 a 51.

~~Copy~~ <sup>1500</sup> Reclade to representatives of Pde units at 130 pm.

Copies  
 2<sup>nd</sup> line HQ  
 6<sup>th</sup> H & Pde  
 Pde 6<sup>th</sup> port officer  
 Chief Transport  
 Right Pde  
 File - War diary

D

3

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ORDER No. 113.

July 11th 1917.

Reference 1/40,000 Map & Sketch attached.

1. INFORMATION as per Special Idea.

The 5th A.I. Brigade are attacking the 2nd Objective, Brown Line on the frontage O.2.c.5.5. to I.31.d.8.2.

The 6th A.I. Brigade are attacking the 2nd Objective Brown Line on the frontage I.31.d.8.2. to I.31.a.8.8.

2. The 7th A.I. Brigade will capture and consolidate the Black Line.

3. The 7th A.I. Brigade will attach on a 4 - Battalion frontage, each Battalion on a 4 - Company frontage, and each Company in company column on a platoon frontage. Frontages and dividing lines as per attached sketch. Battalions will be formed up at ZERO with leading wave 50 yards S.W. of PERONNE ROAD.

26th Bn.	from	N.11.d.4.0.	to	N.11.d.2.6.
28th Bn.	"	N.11.d.3.6.	to	N.11.a.6.5.
25th Bn.	"	N.11.a.8.5.	to	N. 5.c.2.2.
27th Bn.	"	N.5.c.2.2.	to	N. 4.d.8.9.

4. The 7th Machine Gun Company will detail 1 sub-section of Vickers guns to follow up the attack of each Battalion. When the objective has been consolidated, these guns will occupy the most suitable positions to cover the front of the captured position, preferably from positions in rear. The zones of fire of these guns to be co-ordinated as early as possible after capture of position, by the Company Commander or his representative.

Sub-sections will come under the orders of the Battalion Commander in whichever sector they are emplaced, and will report to him as soon as their position has been selected and occupied.

The remaining 2 sections will be emplaced by ZERO - 30 at about N.5.b. to barrage area N.E. of Green and Brown lines.

On the capture of the Brown Line (to be assumed to take place at ZERO +  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour) these two sections will be moved forward to barrage the area N.E. of Black Line on the capture of the Black line. These guns will again be moved forward to be placed suitably to provide S.O.S. barrage ~~for~~ the Black line.

Machine Gun barrage will lift at the same rate as the artillery barrage.

Other machine Guns of the Division are co-operating in the same manner.

(Machine Gun barrage map not attached)

5. 2 Stokes guns will be allotted to each Battalion, to be in reserve until required to deal with any strong points that may resist capture.

9

6. ARTILLERY. (See barrage map - not attached).  
Creeping barrage will commence, lifting from line 150 yards N.E. of Brown Line, at ZERO + 1 hour. Barrage will lift at the rate of 75 yards per minute, until it reaches the standing barrage on the Black Line. Both barrages will lift at ZERO + 80 minutes, and the creeping barrage will remain stationary 150 yards beyond Black Line until ZERO + 1½ hours, when it will lift at the rate of 75 yards per minute, to permit of patrols going out, until it reaches line I.21.a.central, I.11.c.central, I.28.b.central, and at I.35.a.central, where it will remain until ZERO + 2 hours, when barrage will be stopped, unless further orders are issued.  
The usual standing and H.A. barrages are being provided.
7. Available ground flares will be distributed to N.C.O.'s and selected men. The standing orders regarding the lighting of flares will be observed.  
A contact plane will be in the air from ZERO to ZERO + 2 hours, and will work with the 7th A.I. Brigade from ZERO + 1 hour to ZERO + 2 hours. Plane will be a monoplane.
8. Administrative, medical, and Signal arrangements are attached.
9. Parties of Engineers - 7th Field Company - have been detailed to construct strong points at O.3.a.5.5., I.32.d.9.5, I.32.b.5.7., I.26.b.4.2.  
Each Battalion will detail 1 platoon to report to section of 7th Field Company at the Strong Point to be constructed in Battalion sector half an hour after the Black line has been captured.
10. ZERO hour will be at a time to be notified later.
11. Watches will be synchronized at 8 a.m. with 7th Brigade Signals, and again with the Signal Officer Lieut. KELLINACK at ZERO - 15 minutes on the PERONNE ROAD at the Pumping Station.
12. Reports to Advanced Brigade H.Q., N.6.d, after 9.30 a.m.
13. Acknowledge.

*M. J. ...*

Captain, Brigade Major  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade

Issued to Signals at 9.30 PM

- Copies to :-
1. 25th Bn.
  2. 26th Bn.
  3. 27th Bn.
  4. 28th Bn.
  5. 7th M/G Coy
  6. 7th A.L.F.M.Bty.
  7. Staff Captain.
  8. Sig. Officer.
  9. B.T.O.
  10. 3rd Squad. R.F.C. )
  11. 2nd Aust. Div. ) For information.
  12. WarDiary.
  13. File.
  - 14 to 16 Spares.

S C H E M E .GENERAL IDEA.

The German forces have for six months been established in a trench system extending from the South to O.9.0.central - O.2.c.0.0. - O.1.central - H.36.b.2.2. - along road to H.30.a.6.5. and then Northwards.

Our front line runs about 200 yards S.W. of German front line, and roughly parallel to it.

SEE ATTACHED SKETCH.

SPECIAL IDEA.

The 2nd Australian Division will attack the German trench system on a date to be notified later.

Villages of VILLERS AU FLOS, HAPLINCOURT, BANCOURT, and FREMICOURT exclusive to the Division.

Objectives shown on attached sketch.

5th and 6th A.I.Brigades are detailed to capture Green and Red lines, and the 7th A.I.Brigade the final objective - Brown line.

The 5th Australian Division are attacking on the Right, and the 30th British Division on the Left.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

1. The barrage will be represented as before, by mounted men.  
Each Battalion will detail 10 horses (rides) and riders under an N.C.O. to report to the Brigade Transport Officer at Fork Roads H.36.b.4.0. at 9 a.m. on Friday 13th inst.
2. The Objective black line will be marked out with signal flags. Each Battalion will detail 1 N.C.O. and 2 men with 2 blue and 4 white flags, to report to the Brigade Major at MILL CROSS I.27.a.2.0. at 9 a.m. on Friday 13th inst.
3. The new wire entanglements which have been erected South of BANCOURT will not be damaged.
4. Duties for Friday will be split up between Battalions.
5. Enemy will be represented by a few snipers with felt hats, with Blank.
6. The 2nd in Command of Battalions will be utilized as umpires, and will wear 4" white bands on both arms.  
Umpires will report to G.O.C. at 9.45 a.m. on road at I.31.d.9.3.
7. Personnel ordered to be left behind when units are going into the attack, will on this occasion accompany their units for training purposes.
8. The 2nd objective will also be marked out with artillery flags by the Brigade Observers. Each Battalion will forward three artillery flags to Brigade H.Q. by 12 noon on Thursday 12th inst.
9. Parties mentioned in Paras 1 & 2 will report at 10 a.m. on Thursday 12th inst. at the same places. 3 feet stakes or sticks to be brought instead of the signal flags.
10. The Brigade Major will take representatives of Units over the ground on Thursday morning 12th inst.  
Rendezvous - MILL CROSS 11 a.m.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS issued with 7th Brigade Order No.113.

R.A.P.'s. Units will report location of R.A.P.'s when established.

Location of R.A.P.'s of 5th and 6th A.I. Brigades as follows :-

A.D.S. N.11.2.5.3.

As soon as roads suitable for wheeled traffic have been made, A.D.S. will move forward to vicinity of N.6.d.7.2.

STRETCHER BEARERS. - 20 additional bearers will be allotted to each Battalion.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS issued with 7th Brigade Order No. 115.

DUMPS. S.A.A., Bombs & Engineers material :-

5th A.I. Brigade	Battle Dump	O.1.c.1.0.
6th A.I. Brigade	" "	H.36.d.0.0.
7th A.I. Brigade	" "	N.6.d.9.9.

ADVANCED DIVISIONAL DUMP -- N.5.c.1.2.

1,000 Iron Rations & 500 full petrol tins at each of the above.

On Black Line being captured, Advanced Brigade Dump will be established at QUARRY I.31.d.3.7.

PACK ANIMALS. Each Battalion and M.G. Coy will detail 12 pack horses and leaders to report to Brigade Bomb Officer or Staff Captain at Advanced Divisional Dump at ZERO +  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour (it may be assumed that additional pack saddles or wooden crates are available)

These pack animals will be organized in sections of 6 horses, each under an N.C.O. They will proceed when loaded, as soon as situation permits to establish Advanced Brigade Dump. Remaining horses will stand by in camp until required.

CARRYING PARTIES.

(a) Each Battalion will detail 1 section to report to O.C. Section of L.T.M. Battery accompanying each Bn. H.Q. to assist in carrying Stokes Mortar ammunition, at - 15 minutes ZERO time.

(b) The following parties will not be actually furnished :- 25th & 28th Bns. will each detail 1 Platoon for carrying, to report to Brigade Dump N.6.d.9.9. at ZERO  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

RATIONS. No rations or water will be taken forward on night 13/14th inst, unless further orders are issued.



## SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS.

1. Communication from Brigade H.Q. to Battalion H.Q. will be by visual signal where it is possible to establish direct touch, and by wire - using the Fullerphone in the other case.
2. Forward of Battalion H.Q., visual signalling and runners only will be used.
3. Lateral communication will be by visual or runner.
4. Two men per Battalion should be detailed to work the aeroplane signal ground panel when the contact patrol calls for signals. If possible one man should have previously been to a contact patrol signal course, and should instruct the other.
5. Flares will be lighted when called for, i.e. when aeroplane sends a series of "A.A" on the KLAXON Horn. Flares should be lit in groups of two or three. Ground sheets and signal panels will be used. Code letters of units will be set out on the ground in addition to ground sheet as soon as Battalion H.Q. are established. When messages are sent to aeroplane from the ground, each letter sent will be repeated by the plane, and acknowledged, with the KLAXON Horn.  
At end of message "R.D" will be sent by the plane.
6. Two runners per Battalion, one from M/Gun Coy, and A.L.T.M. Battery should report at Advanced Brigade H.Q. N.S.d. as soon as their unit is in position. Two signallers per Battalion will also report at same place after Battalion has taken up its Headquarters.
7. So far as the supply allows, electric and Lucas lamps will be used, in order to give practice in these methods. The use of flags must be reduced to a minimum. If it is necessary to use flags for calling up a distant station, care must be taken that some screen is between the sender and the enemy.
8. Advanced Forward Report Centre will be at QUARRY J.31.d.5.5. (approx) and will be established at ZERO-20 minutes.
9. Location of Battalion and Unit H.Q. will be notified to Brigade H.Q. and to "Signals, 7th Brigade" by "Signals -- Bn" If any change in location of H.Q. is intended, Brigade H.Q. and Signals will be notified as early as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

7

95  
SECRET.4  
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No 59

Order No 114.

19th July 1917.

Reference 1/40,000 Map and attached sketch.

1. Information as per General and Special ideas. 28th Battalion are holding outpost line from Cross Roads O.2.b.1.8. exclusive to trees at I.25.c.f.5. exclusive.
2. 7th A.I. Brigade, less 28th Battalion, will move from the present bivouacs on the night of the 20/21st inst., and will attack the two lines of German trenches shown on sketch in BROWN and BLUE.
3. The 7th A.I. Brigade, less 28th Battalion, will move to position of assembly in accordance with attached table. No wheeled transport will accompany units, but an echelon will report to the Brigade transport officer as in Table.
4. On reaching the positions of assembly, units will be deployed by ZERO - 60 minutes on the line of the HAPLINCOURT - BANCOURT - FREMICOURT Road as shown in sketch in yellow. Dividing lines and objectives shown on attached sketch.
5. At ZERO - 30 minutes, Battalions will move forward to the jumping off line marked in BLACK on attached sketch, and will occupy frontages on the BLACK line as shown on sketch.
6. At ZERO hour, 26th, 25th, and 27th Battalions will move forward from the BLACK line to attack the BROWN and BLUE lines.  
FORMATION :- 4 waves. Battalions on a Two Company front, each Company in half Company column. 50 yards distance between waves.  
1st and 2nd waves will capture, mop up, and consolidate 1st objective - BROWN Line.  
<sup>3rd + 4th</sup>  
2nd and 3rd waves will pass through and capture, mop up, and consolidate 2nd objective - BLUE Line.
7. 28th Battalion will construct strong points at -
  - (i) I.32.c.4.4.
  - (ii) I.31.b.5.5.
  - (iii) I.25.d.1.1.

These posts will be completed and garrisoned by a platoon and 1 Vickers gun to be detailed by O.C., 7th A.M. Gun Coy by ZERO - 60 minutes.

(a) 28th Battalion will be responsible for patrolling NO MANS LAND, and will ensure that no hostile patrols approach the jumping off line after 1 a.m. on the 21st instant.

(b) As soon as objectives have been taken, the 28th Battalion now holding the outpost line will, with the exception of the garrisons of strong points, withdraw into Brigade reserve at H.36.c. reporting completion of move.

8. The 7th A.M. Gun Coy will emplace 2 sections of Vickers guns during hours of daylight on 20th inst. to barrage the area behind 2nd objective from ZERO + 5 minutes to ZERO + 20 minutes but not nearer than 500 yards to 2nd objective.
- The ground in rear of objective will be searched at intervals during the night and particularly from ZERO - 60 to ZERO + 5 minutes. Section for the strong points to report to 28th Battalion H.Q. by ZERO - 2 hours.
- The 2 sections on barrage work will be prepared to move either forward or into Brigade reserve on the capture of the objectives, under the orders of the Brigade Commander.
9. STOKES MORTAR Battery will be in reserve at H.36.b.2.4.
10. Any special patrols or reconnaissance parties that units may desire to send forward to assist them in maintaining direction will report to 28th Battalion H.Q. before going forward. Location of H.Q. will be notified later.
11. Battalions will be responsible for making all arrangements for move to position of assembly and jumping off line, and for marking the latter.
12. Capture of objectives will be signalled by firing Very Lights as follows :-
- 1st objective:- 2 WHITE Very Lights fired in succession.
- 2nd objective:- 5 WHITE Very Lights " " "
- VERY Lights only to be fired by the Company Commanders in the objectives.
13. DRESS. All ranks will wear the sleeves of their tunics rolled up to the elbows.
- Officers will wear a WHITE patch 6" square on the back.
14. ZERO hour will be notified later.
15. Sign - THRUSH.  
Countersign - THROUGH.
16. The greatest care to be taken to prevent noise prior to the charge on the 1st objective.
17. Signal, Medical, and Administrative instructions are attached.

- 3 -

18. O.C. Battalions will report progress
- (a) On arrival at positions of assembly.
  - (b) On arrival at Jumping off line.
  - (c) On capture of objectives.
19. Reports to H.36.b.2.3. after ZERO - 60 minutes.
20. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*M. J. Smith*

Captain, Brigade.  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Sigs. at 9 PM

Copies to :-

- No. 1. 25th Bn.
- 2. 26th Bn.
- 3. 27th Bn.
- 4. 28th Bn.
- 5. 7th M.Gun Coy.
- 6. 7th A.L.T.M.Btty.
- 7. Staff Captain.
- 8. B.T.O.
- 9. Bde. Bomb Officer.
- 10. Sig. Officer.
- 11. 2nd Aust. Div. )
- 12. Flank Brigades.) for information.
- 13. War Diary.
- 14. File.
- 15/17 Spare.

16

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

TABLE TO ACCOMPANY BRIGADE ORDER No. 114.

Unit.	From	To	Route.
26th Battalion	Camp	I.32.c. & O.2.a.	RIENCOURT - VILLERS AU FLOS.
25th Battalion	"	I.31.d.	Road through H.35.c. & d. and H.36.central.
27th Battalion.	"	I.25.c. & I.31.a.	Track H.35.a. & b., H.36.a. & b.
7th Bde. H.Q. )	"	H 36 b 2 3	To be in position by ZERO - 60 minutes.
7th L.T.M.Btty )	"		
1st Line Transport of units (A echelon)	"	H.35.c.2.2.	To report at ZERO - 60 minutes.
7th M.Gun Coy.	"	Line.	Independently.

Appendix No. 4

Appendix No. 4

## GENERAL IDEA.

reference 1/40,000 Map and attached sketch.

The enemy forces are in process of withdrawing on to <sup>the</sup> BEUGNE-YTRES line North Eastwards covered by strong rearguards.

## SPECIAL IDEA.

On the evening of the 19th instant. the 6th A.I. Brigade captured the greater part of the village of FR EMICOURT, but the attack on the Brown and Blue lines to the S.E. by the 5th A.I. Brigade failed. Our line now runs as shown on attached sketch.

The enemy's positions are shown in BLUE & BROWN.

At 6 a.m. on the 20th inst. the 7th A.I. Brigade is ordered to attack and capture enemy trenches, BLUE & BROWN lines at dawn on the 21st instant.

The 6th A.I. Brigade will co-operate on the left.

151st Brigade are attacking HAPLINCOURT on our Right.

There will be NO ARTILLERY BARRAGE.

Objectives shown on attached sketch.

## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

1. 28th Bn will reconnoitre the outpost line they will hold, and will notify their proposed positions to Brigade H.Q. by 6 a.m. on 20th inst. These positions will be occupied by ZERO - 2 hours.
2. Echelon transport, necessary guards, and anti-aircraft defence personnel will be left in Camp.
3. Supplies will be delivered to units by 17th A.A.S.C. on Saturday 21st instant.
4. Umpires will be furnished to report on operations. 2nd in command of Battalions will report at Bde. H.Q. at 6 p.m. on 20th inst. for instructions. They will wear white arm bands.
5. Objectives will be marked out with flags or tape if sufficient is available.  
Each of 25th, 26th, 27th Bns will send a party of 1 officer, 1 n.c.o. and 4 men each with 2 white flags to report to Brigade Major at X roads O.2.b.O.8. *at 3PM 20th inst*
6. Very Lights, and tape for marking jumping off line will be drawn at Brigade H.Q. between 10 and 11 a.m. on Friday 20th instant.
7. Each Battalion in captured objective will dig a communication trench to join up O.G. 1, and O.G. 2. }

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

(To accompany Bde. Order No 114)

1. The Brigade Bomb Officer will be in charge of Dump at H.35.b.2.3. (front line)  
The Divisional Dump is situated at the Pumping Station N.11.a.5.8.
2. The 28th Battalion will detail the following carrying parties to report to Brigade Bomb Officer at ZERO - 90 minutes at the Brigade Dump.  
1 Platoon to carry STOKES Bombs under the direction of Officer detailed by O.C., 7th A.L.T.M. Battery.  
2 Platoons to carry ammunition to I.32.a.7.2.  

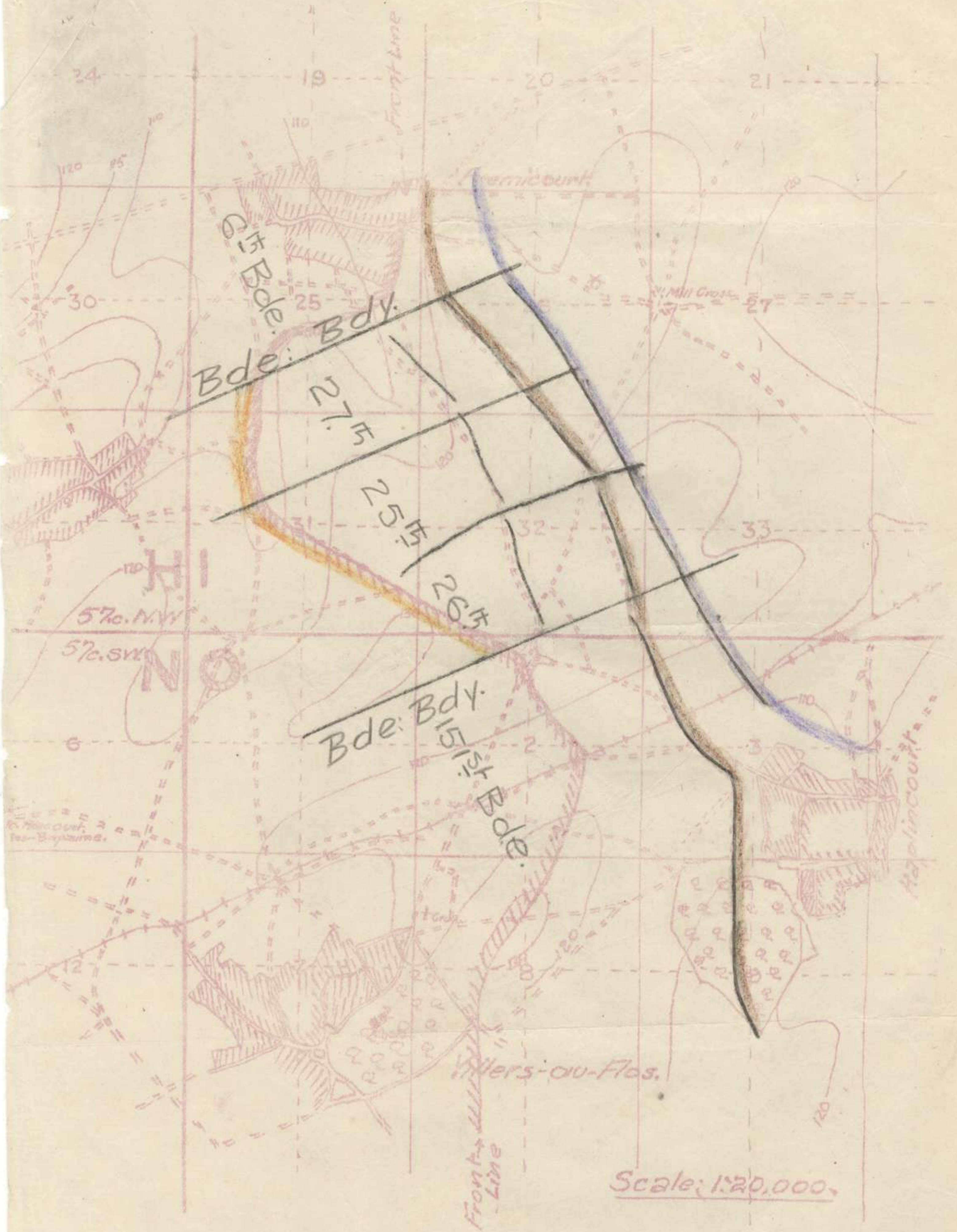
(NOTE) Above parties will not actually report.
3. A reserve of rations and water will be established at the Brigade Dump.
4. The A Echelon of 1st Line Transport will be assembled under cover in vicinity of H.35.c.2.2. under the command of the Brigade Transport officer.
5. Advanced Dressing Station has been established at I.31.a.3.1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Main Dressing Station is situated at I.34.c.9.0.

SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS.

1. Communication between Brigade and Battalion Headquarters will be by visual means. In addition a Power Buzzer and Amplifier will be with centre (25th) Battalion for messages to Brigade Head Quarters. Carrying party for this as below will be supplied by 25th Battalion.
2. Forward of Battalions, Visual Signalling and Runndrs will be used, special care being taken to ensure invisibility of Visual Stations from the enemy side.
3. Lateral communication by Visual and Runner.
4. Aeroplane panels and ground sheets will be carried and set out at Battalion Headquarters.
5. A carrying party from 25th Battalion of 1 n.c.o. and 4 men for Power Buzzer gear will report at Advanced Brigade Headquarters at ZERO - 30 minutes.  
One Signaller and 2 Runners per Battalion will report at same place as soon as their unit H.Q. is in position.
6. Advanced Brigade Report centre will be at I.31.b.5.5. and will be established at ZERO + 30 minutes.
7. Location and proposed changes of location of Battalion and Unit Headquarters will be notified by Units to Brigade Headquarters and also to "Signals, 7th A.I. Brigade" by the Signals of the Unit concerned.

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7th Div: Inf: Brigade:



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5/

SECRET.

SITUATION 1.

Copy No.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

July 31st 1917.

ORDER No. 115.

1. 6th A.I. Brigade attack on the Left has failed, and a heavy enemy counter-attack has driven them back on to the S.W. edge of the village of FREMICOURT.  
The attack of the 151st Brigade did not start.

2. The following readjustments of the 7th A.I. Brigade front will take place forthwith. Mutual arrangements to be made by C.O's concerned :-

3. 28th Battalion will form a defensive flank and occupy from the present N. flank of the captured positions about I.26.a.1.1. and connect with the 6th brigade right at about I.25.a.9.3.

4. O.C. 7th A. Machine Gun Company will detail the reserve section of his Company to immediately occupy positions to protect the Left flank. Remaining sections will be moved as quickly as possible, as follows :-

- 1 sub-section to protect on right flank.
- 1 " " to reinforce the Reserve section on the Left flank.
- 1 section to come into Brigade Reserve in Sunken Road about H.30.b.0.9. and will be emplaced ready to engage any counter-attack from FREMICOURT.

5. 26th Battalion will be responsible for forming the defensive flank on our Right, and for getting touch with the 151st brigade in their original position.

6. 27th Battalion will take over the front now occupied by 25th Battalion.

7. 25th Battalion will, on relief, come into reserve about H.36.c., and will relieve the garrisons of the strong points now being found by the 28th Battalion. Garrisons of strong points on relief will report back to 28th Battalion.

- 8. Report when moves are completed.
- 9. Acknowledge.

*M. Robertson*  
Captain, Brigade Major,  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at  
Copies - Normal.

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SECRET.

## 7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

July 22nd 1917.

ORDER No. 116.

Reference 1/20,000 Map Sheets 57 C. N.W. & S.W.  
and sketches attached:-

- (a) Divisional Objectives,
- (b) Brigade Objectives,
- (c) Artillery Barrage.

1. Information regarding the situation has been already issued.  
The 5th Aust. Division is attacking on the Right, and the 5th Brigade on the Left.  
1st Aust. Division is in Corps reserve.
2. The 7th A.I. Brigade will attack the enemy position BROWN line, as shown in the attached sketch.
3. The 28th Battalion will attack on the Right.  
28th " " " in the Centre,  
25th " " " on the Left.  
27th " will follow the Centre Bn. (28th)  
Inter-battalion boundaries are shown on the attached sketch.
4. Battalions will be formed up in assembly trenches marked in BLUE on attached sketch by ZERO - 60 minutes.
5. The move from Camps will be carried out in accordance with the attached table.
6. Battalions will commence moving forward (from the assembly trenches) on to the Jumping Off line at ZERO - 50 minutes.  
The 6th A.I. Brigade will occupy the assembly trenches as soon as the 7th Brigade has vacated them, and will be in readiness to move forward and attack enemy Switch Line between HAPLINCOURT and FREMICOURT.
7. A Jumping Off Line marked in GREEN on the sketch, will be marked on the ground with TAPE under arrangements to be made with the 7th Field Company.  
Battalions concerned will be responsible for furnishing covering parties and patrols from ZERO - 5 hours.
8. The advance from the Jumping Off Line will commence at ZERO.

FORMATIONS. Battalions will advance from the Jumping Off line distributed in depth in 4 waves.  
Each Battalion will be on a 2 - Company front.  
Each Company on a 2 - platoon front. Each platoon in two lines.

- 2 -

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS. On making good the BROWN line, the 25th and 26th Battalions will extend Right and Left respectively to I.31.d.8.5. and relieve the 28th Battalion, which will withdraw to O.1.central in Reserve. The 25th and 26th Battalions will reorganize at once and be prepared for further action. Connection will be maintained with the units on the flanks.

Battalions will report when in position.

Moppers up to be detailed from each wave.

Battalions to be prepared to form a defensive flank in the event of failure of units on their flank.

9. 27th Battalion will follow the 26th Battalion at 100 yards distance, and will be prepared to act vigorously in support of either 26th or 25th Battalions, should they be held up by the enemy Strong Posts at O.2.a.2.2. or O.1.a.1.9. by attacking these positions from the flank, by one Company in each case. When objectives have been taken, 27th Battalion will dig communication trench, (See para 13)

10. MACHINE GUNS. 7th Machine Gun Company will dispose all guns to provide the following barrages :-

(a) Enemy positions from I.31.d.7.6. to X Roads I.31.a.7.1. from ZERO to ZERO + 30 minutes.

(b) From ZERO + 5 to ZERO + 15 minutes, barrage outwork in I.31.d., O.1.b., and O.2.d. Special attention will be paid to the QUARRY in I.31.d.

(c) From 7th Brigade Right boundary to I.31.d.6.6 from ZERO + 15 to ZERO + 30 minutes.

As soon as the objective BROWN line is captured, one section will be sent up to occupy positions in Strong Points at O.2.a.2.2., I.31.d.8.1, O.1.a.6.7. (2 guns) →

2 Vickers guns for the Strong Point at O.7.a.2.7. should be emplaced in vicinity of Strong Point prior to commencement of operations, and will be employed on barrage work. (see para 13).

{ and 3 Sections will be emplaced to barrage in enfilade the enemy Switch Line and support the attack by the 6th brigade.

O. C.

7th Machine Gun Company will arrange to have Company Headquarters in close proximity to Brigade Headquarters.

11. STOKES MORTARS. 1 Sub-section of Stokes Mortars will be allotted to each Battalion to follow the attack in case required to deal with Strong Points etc.

Reserve sub-section will be situated in close proximity to Brigade Headquarters.

On capture of BROWN line, Reserve section will move up to positions about I.32.c.3.1. and be prepared to support the attack of the 6th brigade on the Switch line I.32.3. & a.

O.C. to report to Brigade Headquarters.

12. ARTILLERY. 7th Brigade will be covered by X Group, 4 - 18 pndrs and 2 - 4.5 batteries, who will furnish a creeping barrage in accordance with attached Barrage Map.

The GREEN, YELLOW, and BROWN lines on the Barrage Map will be known as the "GREEN, YELLOW and BROWN barrages" and will be put down on the order or request "GREEN, YELLOW, and BROWN" barrage.

X Group will have a liaison officer with 7th Brigade Headquarters.

13. ENGINEERS. As soon as the enemy front line is captured, a communication trench will be begun by the 27th Battalion, from N.12.b.3.5. along the road to O.1.a.3.8., thence eastwards to O.1.b.7.9. and thence through to the road at I.32.c.1.2. Arrangements to be made in conjunction with O.C., 7th Field Company.

Strong Points will be established at

- (1) O.7.a.8.7. Garrison 1 platoon 27th Battalion and 2 Vickers Guns.
- (2) O.1.a.6.7. Garrison 1 platoon (27th Battalion, and 2 Vickers Guns.

The above will be constructed with the assistance of the 7th Field Company, who will lay out the tasks.

Garrisons of Strong Points will not be available for counter-attack, and will not be withdrawn without Brigade authority.

13<sup>a</sup> SPECIAL PARTIES.

STOKES MORTAR Carrying Parties:- Each Battalion 1 platoon (less Lewis Gun Section).

O.C., 7th A.L.T.M. Battery to arrange direct regarding place and time of reporting.

ENGINEER PARTIES.

27th Battalion will detail the following parties :-

(a) 3 platoons (Less Lewis Gun Sections). Minimum strength 100 other ranks.

1 platoon to rendezvous Road Junction N.18.a 0.0. at 9 p.m. on 22nd inst.

2 platoons to rendezvous Road Junction N.11.a.7.4. at 2.30 a.m. 23rd inst.

At rendezvous they will draw 100% shovels and 100% picks.

## (b) Garrisons of Strong Points :-

1 platoon for Strong Point at O.L.a.6.7. Rendezvous  
Road Junction N.11.a.7.4. at 2.30 a.m. on 23rd inst.  
1 platoon for Strong Point at O.7.a.3.8. Rendezvous  
Road Junction N.18.a.0.0. at 9 p.m. on 23rd.  
Both above to carry 40% picks and 20% shovels.

The above Engineering parties will be met by  
representative of 7th Field Company.

The Officers commanding above parties will arrange  
to call at 7th Field Company H.Q. at N.18.a.5.2. on  
morning of 23rd to confirm and ascertain duties.

14. SUCCESS SIGNALS. 3 WHITE Very Lights will be fired  
on capture of BROWN Line.

15. Watches will be synchronized with 7th Brigade  
Signals by phone at 7 and 9 p.m., and again by units'  
representatives at X Roads N.11.a.5.7. where the  
Brigade Signal Officer will be stationed for this  
purpose.

16. Administrative, Signal, and Medical arrangements  
are attached.

17. Attention is directed to instructions already  
issued regarding the exercise specially as regards  
withdrawal of ball ammunition - wearing of felt hats,  
and distinguishing marks.

18. ASSISTANT UMPIRES :-

Major P. CURRIE, D.S.O.,	26th Bn.
Major H.F. DARLING, D.S.O.	28th Bn.
Major H.H. PAGE, M.C.	25th Bn.
Major K.A.R. FRIENRICKS,	27th Bn.

Above will wear white arm bands.

19. ZERO will be 3.30 a.m. on 23rd inst.

20. Reports after ZERO - 1 hour to Fork Roads N.5.d.3.0.

21. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Shoran Hamilton*

Captain, Brigade Major,  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 7 a.m.

Distribution on separate sheet.

- 5 -

## Distribution.

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 27th Bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th M/G Coy
6. 7th A.L.T.M. Bty.
7. B.T.O.
8. Bde Bomb Officer.
9. Staff Captain.
10. Sig. Officer.
11. 7th Field Coy. )
12. 5th A.I. Bde. )
13. 6th A.I. Bde. )
14. Right Bde )
15. 2nd Aust. Div. G. )
16. " " " Q. )
17. Div. M.G. Officer )
18. War Diary
19. File.
- 20 to 24 Spare.
25. Major CURRIE
26. Major DARLING
27. Major PAGE
28. Major FRIEDRICKS.

For information.

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7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEMARCH TABLE to accompany Order No. 116,

Unit	From	To	Starting Point.	Time to pass	Route	
26th Bn.	CAMP	Position of Assembly.	Pumping Station.	ZERO - 2 hrs 45 min.	Peronne Road.	
28th Bn.	"	"	" "	ZERO - 2 hrs 30 min.	" "	
25th Bn.	"	"	" "	ZERO - 2 hrs 15 min.	" "	
27th Bn.	"	"	" "	ZERO - 2 hrs.	Bapaume - Concrete Reservoir.	
7th m/c Coy	"	"	Independently			
7th A.L.T.M.Bty	"	Sections to accompany units to report at Starting Point. Reserve section to follow 25th Battalion.				
1st Kine Transport as in Adminis - trative memo.		To report to Brigade Transport Officer at ZERO hour at N.4.c.8.2.				

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7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

July 22nd 1917.

AMENDMENTS to 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 116.

Para 6. Line 3. For ZERO -30 read ZERO - 60.

Para 13. Line 14. N.11.a7.4. should read N.11.a.4.7.

Para 4. Line 3. N.11.a.7.4. should read N.11.a.4.7.  
 line 4. O. 7.a.8.8. should read O. 7.a.8.7.  
 Line 6. Should read - "To carry 20% picks and  
 40% shovels."

Para 15. Line 3. After N.11.a.5.7., add - "Starting Point".

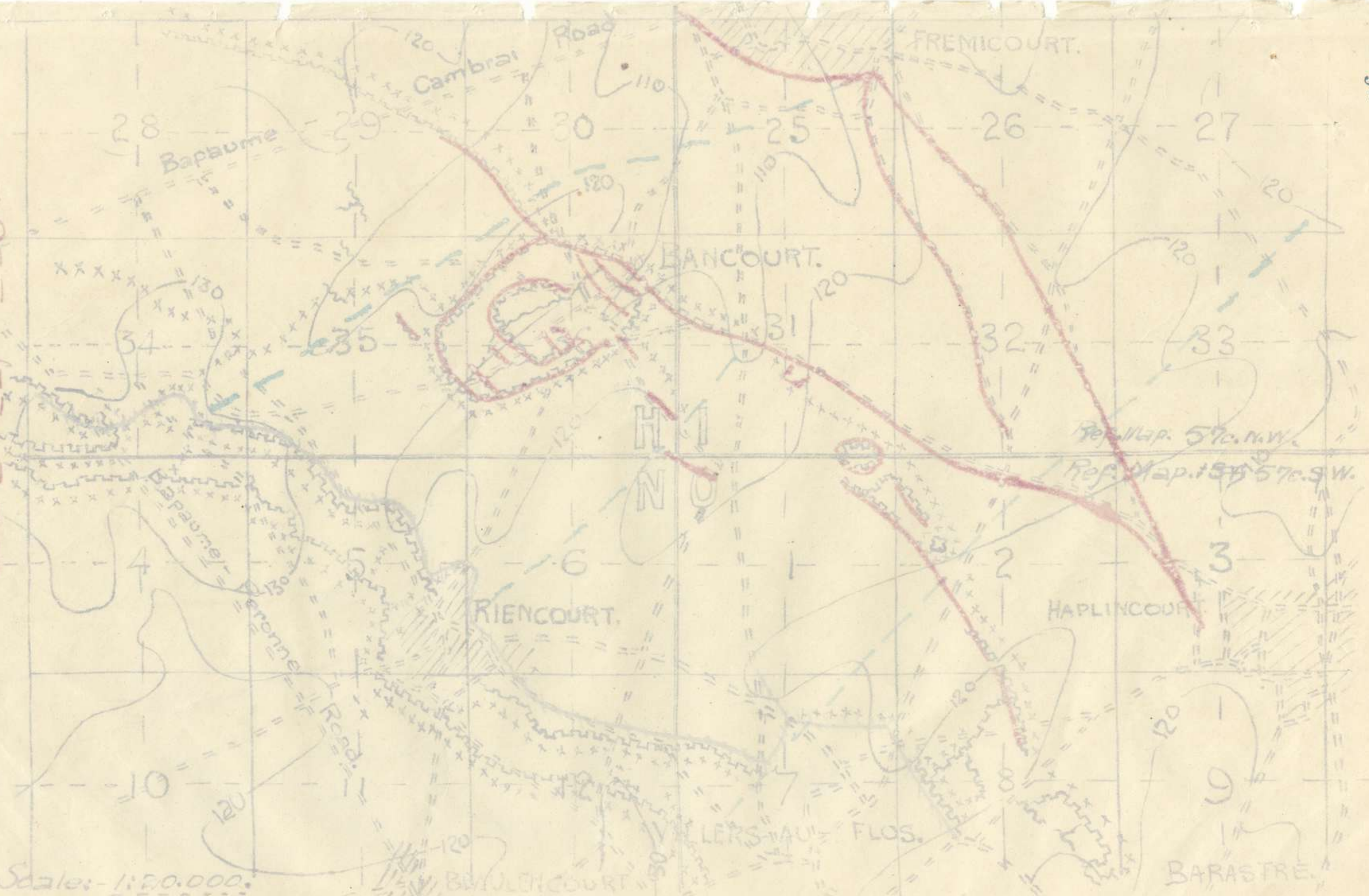
*J. E. M. ...*  
 Captain, Brigade Major,  
 7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution:-  
 As per Bde Order No. 116.

*M*



7th Aust. Inf. Brigade



Scale: 1:20,000

95

Appendix No 6

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95

SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS.  
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1. Between Brigade H.Q., and Battalions communication will be as far as possible by visual and runners. Where it is necessary to lay wires, Fullerphones only will be used.
2. In addition between 7th Brigade H.Q., and 28th Battalion in line power buzzer and amplifier service.
3. Between Battalion H.Q., and Companies by visual and runners only.
4. Lateral communication will be by visual and runners.
5. Aeroplane Signalling gear will be carried and set out.
6. Advanced Brigade Report Centre will open at Zero+ 30 minutes at N.6.central.
7. One Signaller and Two Runners per Battalion and One runner per other unit of Brigade group will report to Advanced Bde. H.Q., as soon as their unit has taken up its Head Quarters.
8. Care must be exercised in the establishing of forward Signalling Stations that such are not in view of the enemy and that forward working cannot be read from the enemy lines.
9. An Amplifier and P.B. stations will push forward with one Battalion H.Q. of right sector (Battalion to use set to be decided upon by Bde. Sig. Officer) This set will work back to a similar station installed at right Brigade Head Quarters and will be used for the transmission of messages.
10. P.B. - Amplifier and wireless stations will not be moved except by instruction from the Brigade Sig. Officer or O.C. Sig. Coy., Brigade Sig. Officer will refer to O.C., Signal Coy. before moving any wireless station.
11. All messages handed in at P.B. - Amplifier and wireless stations must be in cipher.
12. Carrying party of 1 n.c.o. and 5 o'ranks from 28th Battalion will report at Bde. H.Q. at Zero - 60 minutes for Power Buzzer set.

26

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

22nd July 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS to accompany 7th Bde. Order No. 110.1. AMMUNITION.

Brigade Battle Dump is situated at N.11.b.6.9.

Forward Dump will be established at the Quarry I.31.d.1.7. after the objective has been gained.

Divisional Dump is situated at N.2.c.2.8.

Each Battalion will have mobile echelon loaded as follows:-

4 Lewis Gun Limbers containing	69,000	rnds	S.A.A.
3 S.A.A. Limbers	54,000	"	"
1 Grenade Limber			788 No. 5. Bombs.

The mobile echelons will be brigaded under Capt. LITTLE, Brigade Transport Officer at N.4.c.8.2. and be in position at Zero hour.

Battalion Transport officers will reconnoitre alternative routes from N.4.c.8.2. and N.2.c.2.3.

The Brigade Battle Dump will be under the charge of the Brigade Bomb Officer, to whom all demands for ammunition will be made after Zero hour.

The Brigade Bomb Officer will be responsible for maintaining supplies of ammunition and grenades as arranged in dumps.

25th, 26th, and 28th Bns will detail 1 platoon less Lewis gunners to report to Bde. Bomb Officer at N.11.b.6.9. at Zero - 30 minutes, as carrying party.

Supplies of picks and shovels will be on Brigade Dump.  
(NOTE.- These parties will not actually report.)

2. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Advanced Dressing Station will be situated at N.17.a.5.8.

A.M.O's. will select sites for A.A.P's. and notify location to Brigade Headquarters as soon as possible.

The condition of the advance will be such that it will not be possible to evacuate casualties until wagons can be brought up, or a large party of bearers obtained. A.M.O's. will therefore collect cases which cannot walk in groups near A.A.P's. or other convenient positions, and a Field Ambulance detail will be placed in charge of each group.

Each Battalion will detail a special party as stretcher bearers if required.

Slips for casualties will be issued to Umpires for distribution.

P.T.O.

27

- 2 -

3. SUPPLIES. The 17th A.A.S.C., will deliver rations to Q.M. Stores on 23rd instant.

4. STRAGGLER AND TRAFIC CONTROL POSTS.

1. At Advanced Dressing Station N.17.a.5.8.

2. BEAULENCOURT N.17.b.10.0.

3. N.11.a.8.4.

4. H.33.d.10.9.

5. PRISONERS OF WAR.

Handing over Station at Reservoir N.4.b.5.3.

Distribution - As per Bde. Order No. 116.

Copy No.7th. AUST. INF. BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER No. 117.

23rd. July, 1917.

Reference Div. Sketch Map attached.

1. Fifth Aust. Div. have captured trenches in O 8 d and B and O 2 c, but have been ordered to hold on there until Switch line opposite 2nd. Aust. Div. has been captured. 6th. Bde., are attacking objectives in I 32 a and c, I 25 d and I 32 b and d and I 26 c, At 6 a.m. at which hour they will advance from the green line (Divisional Sketch) Limit of 6th. Bde., objective I 32 b 60 to FREMICOURT exclusive.
2. 7th. A.F.Bde., will be responsible for forming defensive flank at point O.2.c.66 to right of 6th. Bde., at I.32.b.6.0.

Ref No

7. Report on the capture of the  
 of the 1st Division Order No 117  
 23rd July 1917

Detailed Report

7. 1st Division Order No 117  
 The 1st Division Order No 117  
 O.C. The 1st Division  
 ordered to hold on the  
 until nightfall when it was  
 2nd Division was captured  
 captured. 6th Division  
 no attack on objectives  
 in I 32 a + c, I 25 d and  
 I 32 b + d, I 25 c. At  
 6 a.m. at which hour  
 they were ordered from  
 the given by the 1st Division  
 Report of 6th Division objectives  
 I 32 b 60 / 6 FRAM 10 RT  
 enclosure.

7. 1st Division will be  
 responsible for the  
 defence of the K at points  
 O.C. 60. 6th Division  
 6th Division I 32 b 60

17

- 2 -

C.R.A. is arranging Artillery barrage to cover this flank.

3. 7th. ~~L~~.M. Gun Coy., and Stokes Mtrs., will cooperate with 6th. Bde., attack as already ordered. 26th Bn. will be responsible for forming the defensive flank, 27th Bn., will commence work on C.T. but will be prepared to occupy portion of brown line vacated by 26th Bn., in the event of hostile counter attack.
- 28th Bn., will remain in present position ready to support the 26th Bn. or 25th Bn.
- 25th Bn., will attend to its right and be responsible for ~~the~~ defence of brown line from I 32 C 42 to present left of Brigade Boundary. 27th Bn., will continue work on C.T. and will be prepared to support 25th. Bn., or 26th Bn. in the event of hostile counter attack.
- As soon as 6th Bde attack has passed through 27th Bn. will withdraw and

27th Oct 1918  
 1st Lt [Name] [Rank]  
 [Location]  
 [Description of events]  
 [Detailed account of military operations]  
 [Mentions of units and personnel]  
 [Concluding remarks]  
 27th Oct 1918  
 1st Lt [Name] [Rank]  
 [Location]  
 [Description of events]  
 [Detailed account of military operations]  
 [Mentions of units and personnel]  
 [Concluding remarks]



- 3 -

assemble in trenches about N 12 b and d to form Div.reserves under one Bn. 5th., Bde is likewise withdrawing to N 5 b and a. Senior Bn., Commander will be in command of Div. Reserve and will report by message to D.H.Q. when in position, his H.Q. will be at fork Roads N.5.d.3.0.

4. As soon as 6th.Bde., objective has been captured 7th. A.M.Gun Coy., will dispose 1 section & Guns to assist 26th. Bn., in defence of defensive flank. Guns in strong point to remain in present position, remainder to join 28th. Bn., approx O 1 Central.

5. Acknowledge.

(Sgd) G. Rowan Hamilton.  
Capt.,  
Brigade Major,  
7th. A.I. Brigade.

Copies to all Bde.Units.  
5th & 6th. Bde.  
2nd. Aust. Div.  
File.

Issued at 5.45 a.m.

3

assembled in trenches about  
 14.12.12 at 6.30 for a reserve  
 under the 3rd Bn. started  
 with the 1st Bn. at 11.15  
 3rd Bn. command will  
 be in 5th. we will be  
 400 yds apart by morning  
 12th of 1st Bn. in position  
 in. HQ will be at foot of  
 N 5 d 30

4

1st Bn. captured 20th Bn  
 in trench. 20th Bn. in  
 defence of defensive flank  
 1st Bn. in trench point  
 20th Bn. in trench point  
 20th Bn. in trench point  
 20th Bn. in trench point

5. 1st Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench

Howland  
 Capt  
 20th Bn.

20th Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench  
 20th Bn. in trench

30

HEADQUARTERS,  
7TH AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,

288/160

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

DIARY - DIVISIONAL EXERCISE 23rd July 1917.

Reference 1/20,000 Sheet 57.C. N.W. & S.W.

95

Time	Message or Order	Action Taken.
A.M.		
2.00	Brigade Headquarters arrived at N.5.d.3.0.	
2.7	28th Bn. reported arrived at Assembly Point. Advance party reported tape in position. In touch with PEN on Left and Blue line on Right.	
2.10	Trench Mortar Battery reported in position N.5.d.3.0.	
2.15	Brigade Headquarters moved owing to shelling, to N.5.d.5.2.	
2.20	All Brigade Units, Division, 5th and 6th A.I. Brigades advised of move of Brigade Headquarters.	
"	7th Field Company reported Jumping Off Line complete. Strong Points well under weigh.	
"	27th Bn. reported arrival at Assembly Point, Bn. H.Q. at N.12.c.8.9.	
"	25th Bn. reported in Assembly positions at 1.25 a.m.	
2.40.	7th Machine Gun Coy reported positions of all guns for barrage.	
2.50.	28th Bn. reported in Assembly position ready to advance. Disposition of Companies given. Bn H.Q. at N.12.b.45.50.	

*Log*

Appendix No 1

47

95

Time	Message or Order	Action taken.
A.M.		
2.50.	26th Bn. reported Bn. has proceeded from Assembly point to Jumping Off line. Everything O.K.	
2.50.	27th Bn. reported "We are moving forward to Jumping Off line.	
3. 5.	7th Field Coy reported (verbally) "Strong Point at N.7.a.8.8. completed and occupied at 2.15 a.m.	Division advised by wire.
3. 7.	28th Bn. reported location of Advanced H.Q. N.12.b.45.50.	
3.17.	28th Bn. reported in touch with 25th Bn. on Left at Jumping Off line. Scouts reported all Sunken Roads ahead clear, Enemy holding trench in force 500 yards in front, (time 3.5 a.m.)	
3.28	26th Bn. reported location R.A.P. Also Bn. in position to attack at Jumping Off line. All O.K.	
3.30.	28th Bn. reported in position in Jumping Off line. Bn. H.Q. N.12.b.45.50.	
"	28th Bn. reported Bn. in position ready to attack. Also advised position of Aid Post.	
3.35.	27th Bn. reported Bn. H.Q. moving forward to N.6.d.9.7.	
3.40.	Location of R.A.P's wired to Division.	
3.50.	26th Bn. reported "Attack started, moving Bn. H.Q. to O.7.a.8.5. Post cyclist at old H.Q. R.A.P. accompanying H.Q."	
"	26th Bn. reported situation normal. PEN in position at Jumping Off line. Visibility good.	

Appendix No 7

48

6

Time	Message or Order.	Action taken.
A.M.		
3.50.	Brigade Observers report barrage opened at 3.30 a.m. Moving forward at 3.35 a.m. At 3.45 a.m. the Unit on Left of our sector met with heavy resistance. 3.48 a.m. the Brigade on the Left sector crossed the BEAULENCOUR T Rd.	
3.50.	28th Bn. reported H.Q. now N.6.d.8.1.	
4. 5.	26th Bn. reported H.Q. at O.7.a.8.5. and also R.A.P.	
"	5th Field Ambulance advise location of R.A.P.	
4.10.	Bns advised to send guides to Bde H.Q. for extra bearers.	
4.14.	26th Bn. reported considerable rifle and M.G. fire reported from enemy position O.1.b.8.9. Now dying down.	Division advised of this.
4.17.	Div. O.P. message reports Success Signal I.31.c.& d. and I.32.c.	
4.14.	Bde Observers report at 3.35 a.m. enemy opened very heavy fire in centre sector and Right sector failed to check advance. 4.10 a.m. strong enemy resistance in centre sector. 4.12 a.m. Success Signals seen on Right and Centre Bn. sectors.	Reported to Division and JAY at 4.25 a.m.
4.25.	Advised Division flank Brigades and all Brigade Units "POPPY H.Q. close here at 4.35 a.m. and reopen at N.6.central at 4.45 a.m.	
4.26.	28th Bn. reported objective taken.	
4.50.	28th Bn. reported Strong Point on Left of Bn. front <sup>mopped up</sup> not <del>loosened</del> .	
"	26th Bn. objectives taken. Casualties slight.	Division informed.

Appendix No 7

95

Time	Message or Order	Action taken
A.M.		
5.00	No report of situation from 25th Bn. Wired them.	
5.10	Div. message received.	7th Brigade Order issued. Copy attached.
5.15.	Intermediate dump established at N.6.b.8.2.	
5.23.	7th Bde Observers reported "Unit that withdrew to O.I.central are digging in and consolidating generally. Our artillery fire normal.	
5.24.	28th Bn. reported objective gained, and in touch with both flanks.	
"	25th Bn. reported first objective captured on Left, at 4.10 a.m. and Right 4.11 a.m.	
"	28th Bn. reported enemy preparing to counter-attack. Advised artillery. Further information later.	Advised <del>28th Bn.</del> Division and JAY.
5.34.	JAY advises their Right Bn. reports attack progressing, in touch with POPPY, under heavy rifle and M.G. fire, from East of BANCOURT. Observers report success signal all along line. 1st objective on 7th Bde front.	
"	JAY reports 18th Bn in possession of trenches immediately S.W. of BANCOUR T. Enemy retiring to village in disorder. Casualties slight.	
"	28th Bn. reported position taken, three Coys holding line, one Coy holding Strong Point. Bn. H.Q. N.6.d.8.1.	
"	26th Bn. reported three VERY Lights from Left of objective. Right reports held up at Strong Point first objective. Have sent Stokes.	

Appendix No 7 50

Time	Message or Order.	Action taken
A.M. 5.34	26th Bn. Reported three White Lights from Right of objective.	
"	25th Bn. reported "Scouts report enemy advanced post located I.31.b.4.7. Garrison about one Company.	
5.42.	JAY reported "17th Bn. hold first objective from I.31.a.6.9. to S.36.b.7.6. Post being pushed out to Vemetery O.31.a. Consolidating proceeding. No reply from Left Bn."	
"	JAY reported "Right Bn. timed 3.45 a.m. states advance commenced at ZERO. Heavy M.G. fire from BANCOURT. No reports back from front"	
"	26th Bn. reported "Taking over frontage of one Coy from PEN. Full reports later"	
"	26th Bn. reported "Left Coy in third objective, reports screen pushed forward and reports all clear. Depth 200 yards. Two Coys of enemy seen retiring in a northerly direction. Have informed QUIET"	
5.45.	26th Bn. "One prisoner identification Pioneer Bn. and one kerosene tin Machine Gun. In touch with 28th Bn. on Left.	Reported to Division.
"	28th Bn. Summary of Intelligence received. Objective taken without serious opposition. Casualties heavy, including Company Commanders. All Strong Posts mopped up and occupied. Lewis Guns pushed out. No further information re enemy. Relief arranged with 25th and 26th Bn. mutually.	
5. 5.	7th Field Coy - "Good progress made with S.P. No.2.	
6.00.	28th Bn. reported Stokes Guns posted in S.P. I.31.d.5.0. Reorganization commenced.	

Time	Message or Order.	Action taken.
A.M.		
6.00.	26th Bn. reported two enemy Strong Points located I.32.c.8.8. approx. 1 Officer 9 ranks prisoners. Require Stokes to deal with Strong Points.	
"	25th Bn. reported Left flank reports gained their objective. In touch with JAY on left. Two prisoners.	
"	26th Bn. require STOKES Guns - Urgent.	26th Bn. advised to apply to 28th Bn. 28th Bn. asked to assist.
6.15.	26th Bn. required more Bombs.	
"	JAY reported "Patrol reports enemy holding HAPLINGCOURT,--FREMICOURT Switch. Wounded prisoner states enemy suffered heavy casualties.	
"	28th Bn. reported (in code) "Consolidation complete".	
6.25.	28th Bn. reported relief complete.	
"	26th Bn. reported relief complete.	
"	26th Bn. casualties 100.	
6.30.	25th Bn. Left Company reported Right Bn. of JAY have gained their objective (time 6.30 a.m.)	
6.50.	28th Bn. reported "All Coys reorganized and in position about O.l.central.	
6.45.	JAY reported "20th Bn. in Reserve with one Bn. of POPPY (27th) in trenches N.12.b. & a. Senior Officer of two Bn. Commanders to take command. Report to Div. when in position!"	

Appendix No 752



Time	Message or Order	Action taken
A.M.		
6.50.	QUAIL reported "Success from 22nd Bn. for first objective observed at 6.37 a.m."	
6. 5.	26th Bn. reported QUAIL moving forward to continue attack on SWITCH Line.	
"	JAY reports "19th Bn. reported (timed 4.30 a.m.) Our objective gained. In touch with units on flanks. Consolidation in progress. S.P. being constructed at H.36.a.6.8. Casualties slight. 18th Bn. reports objective gained and one 5.9 howitzer captured!"	
7.00	28th Bn. reported (per power buzzer) relief complete (in code).	
"	26th Bn. reported Bn. H.Q. moving to O.l.b.7.7.	
7. 3.	Wired 27th Bn. to report movement.	
7.15.	7th Bde Observers reported "At 5.55 a.m. units on Left sector commenced forward movement. At 6.10 a.m. units on Right sector began to move into centre. At 6.20 a.m. began a general flanking movement from the BANCOURT-HAPLINCOURT Road on Strong Points at O.7.a.8.7. and O.8.a.6.7. Strong resistance offered at last Point, failing however to check our advance, which was everywhere steady."	
7.20.	Div. advised work on Communication Trench discontinued in view of QUAIL's success.	
7.25.	27th Bn. reported being in Div. reserve at n.12.a. & b; endeavouring to get into touch with Reserve Bn. of 5th Brigade.	Division advised.
"	27th Bn. advised "20th Bn. as 5th Bde Bn. in <sup>DIV</sup> Reserve."	

Appendix No. 7 53

Time	Message or Order.	Action taken.
A.M.		
7.30.	26th bn. reported Captain GRAY taken over command of Battalion. Defensive flank taken up as follows :- I.32.b.5.5. to O.2.a.7.0. with three Companies. One Company in Support in O.2.b.3.7. to I.32.c.5.1.	
"	Disposition report sent to Division.	

NOTE

140 Messages reported to have been sent from 7th A.S. Bde includes messages sent to Pde Units.

*War diary*

*S*

SECRET.

Copy No. 25

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

July 27th 1917.

ORDER No. 118.

Reference 1/100,000 Map Lens.

1. The 7th A.I. Brigade, 6th and 7th Field Companies, and 17th A.A.S.C. will move from BAPAUME area to RENESCURE area by train, commencing on the 28th inst., in accordance with entraining table attached.
2. (a) ENTRAINING. Entraining Officer  $\nabla$  Major BROWN, DSO, MC, 28th Battalion. He will arrange to have latrines constructed at rendezvous immediately on arrival. Necessary tools to be taken.  
28th Battalion will detail 1 Company for entraining party, to report to R.T.O., MIRAUMONT at 6 a.m. on 28th inst.  
Entraining personnel will entrain with the last train of the Brigade Group.  
  
(b) DETRAINING. Lieut. N.E. WARAKER, Brigade Bomb Officer, will act as Detraining Officer.  
28th Battalion will detail one Company, less one platoon (minimum 2 Officers and 100 o/ranks) as detraining party. Detraining party will proceed by the first train of the Brigade Group, and O.C. Company will report immediately on arrival at detraining station to the R.T.O.  
  
(c) The above parties will rejoin their units on the completion of duty.  
The Company Cooker will move with entraining and detraining Companies.  
48 hours rations will be taken.
3. Personnel will entrain with full water bottles. Horses will be watered, and water carts and cookers filled before entraining.  
All water for drinking purposes will be drawn in water-carts and chlorinated. The detached Companies of Battalions will use water carts of the Field Companies.
4. Units to be entrained will not enter the station until the R.T.O. is ready. A liaison officer will be sent forward to report to R.T.O. for orders 4 hours before departure of train, with entraining state showing :-
  - (a) No. of Officers and other ranks.
  - (b) No. of horses.
  - (c) No. of axles.
  - (d) No. of Bicycles.

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5. Suitable ground for rendezvous exists outside the station just East of railway on the IRLES - MIRAUMONT Road. The latrines and horse water point are at the same place.
6. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.  
3 horse ambulances will report on night of 27th inst. to carry men unable to march to and from stations, and will be distributed as follows :-
- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 to 25th Battalion, |   |
| 1 to 27th            | " |
| 1 to 28th            | " |
- They will entrain with units in accordance with train table, and will return to 7th Field Ambulance on completion of the move to the RENESCURE area.
7. Breast ropes on a scale of 4 ropes per truck of 8 horses will be provided regimentally. Grooms and drivers will travel in the trucks with the horses.
8. No lights in the carriages are provided by the French Railway authorities.
9. Supply and Baggage waggons of 17th A.A.S.C. will entrain with units, and will report to units 12 hours prior to time of entrainment.
10. HORSES. Units in which Mange has lately occurred, will take the following precautionary measures when contact animals are entrained :-
1. The animals at present being treated as "In contact" be kept together, and animals free of disease should not be put in same trucks.
  2. On arrival at destination the trucks in which "In contact" animals have travelled should be marked for disinfection, and R.T.O. concerned so advised.
11. SUPPLIES for 28th inst. will be drawn in the usual way on 27th inst. (a) 7th Brigade H.Q., 7th M/Gun Company, 7th A.L.T.M. Battery, 25th and 28th Battalions. Rations for the 29th will be carried in supply waggons. Rations for 30th, will be drawn in the new area.
- (b) For 27th and 28th Battalions, 6th and 7th Field Companies, drawing of rations on 28th will be notified by the Brigade Supply Officer. Rations for the 30th will be carried in supply waggons. Rations for 31st, will be drawn in the new area.
12. A haversack ration should be carried. Cookers will move with detached Companies.
13. Transport of surplus kits. The following motor transport will be available for the transport of surplus kits and stores :-
- |                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Brigade H.Q. & A.L.T.M. Bty | 1 Lorry  |
| Each Battalion              | 1 lorry. |
- Lorries will report to Brigade and Battalion H.Q. 8 hours prior to departure of trains.

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- 3 -

14. Entrainment of all units to be completed half an hour before advertised time of departure of train.
15. Picquets will be provided at all stops, at each end of the train, to prevent troops straying.
16. 7th A.I. Brigade H.Q. will close at BAPAUME at 6 a.m. on 28th inst.
17. ACKNOWLEDGED

*W. H. H. H.*

Captain, Brigade Major,  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 7.30 a.m.

Copies to :-

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 27th Bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th M/Gun Coy
6. 7th A.L.T.M. Bty
7. 6th Field Coy
8. 7th Field Coy
9. 17th A.A.S.C.
10. 7th Field Ambulance
11. B.T.O.
12. Entraining Officer
13. Detraining Officer
14. Staff Capt (Via 2nd Aust. Div)
15. 2nd Aust. Div. "G" )
16. 2nd Aust. Div. "Q" )
17. Area Commandt "A" Area ) For information.
18. Town Major, BAPAUME )
19. R.T.O., MIRAUMONT )
20. File
21. War Diary.
- 22/26 Spare.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ENTRAINING TABLE -- To accompany Brigade Order No. 118.

ENTRAINING STATION - MIRAUMONT.

Train No.	Time of Departure	Serial No.	Unit	To report to R.T.O.		O.C. Train	Remarks.
				Transport	Dismounted Personnel.		
T. 57.	28th inst. 10.7 a.m.	2A10 2A16 2A17 2A12a	7th B.H.Q. 7th M/G Coy 7th A.I.M.Bty. C.Coy 28th Bn. (less 1 platoon) Detraining party	7.7 a.m.	8.37 a.m.	Capt. N. . . SUNDE COMBE 7th A.I.T.M.Bty.	7th M/G Coy to arrive complete at 7.7 a.m.
T. 61.	13.47	2A11	25th Bn. less 1 Coy	10.47 a.m.	12.07 p.m.	Lt. Col. NORRIE, 25th Battalion.	1 Horse ambulance accompanying 25th Bn.
T. 65.	17.47	2A12	26th Bn. less C. Coy Detraining party	2.47 p.m.	4.07 p.m.	Lt. Col. TRAVERS, 26th Battalion.	Surplus personnel if any, will proceed by train at 10.7 on 29th, and will be attached to D. Coy 28th Bn. while waiting at station.
T. 69.	21.47	2A13	27th Bn. less 1 Coy.	6.47 p.m.	8.07 p.m.	Lt. Col. SLANE, 27th Bn.	
T. 73.	29th inst 1.47	2A14	28th Bn. less Entraining Coy	10.47 p.m.	12.07 a.m.	Lt. Col. READ, 28th Bn.	

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Appendix No. 8

P.T.O.

Train No.	Time of Departure.	Serial No.	Unit	To report to R.T.O.		O.C. Train	Remarks
				Transport	Dismounted personnel		
T. 57.	10.07	2A81 2A11a 2A7f	7th Field Coy 1 Coy 25th Bn. 17th A.A.S.C.	7.7 a.m.	8.37 a.m.	Major WEBB, M.C, 7th Field Coy.	1 Horse ambulance attached 25th
T. 61	13.47	2A82 2A14a 2A13a	6th Field Coy 1 Coy 28th Bn. 1 Coy 27th Bn.	10.47 a.m.	12.07 p.m.	Senior Officer	Field Coys to arrive complete with their trans- port. 1 Horse Ambulance in addition 28th

Appendix No 8

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*War Diary*

*a*

Appendix No 9

60

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
6/11/19
Date
<i>260/4</i>

Headquarters,  
 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th Bns.  
 7th M. Gun Coy.  
 7th T.M. Btty.

The following is a copy of letter to 2nd Aust. Division from the G.O.C., 7th A.I. Bde.

Sufficient copies are forwarded to permit of distribution down to Companies and Platoons.

The principles enumerated will be studied and observed in future by all concerned :-

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"It has been observed that in the advance of platoons in sections in the attack, there is a tendency for platoon commanders to send forward one section at a time thereby exposing them to the concentrated fire of the enemy. It is considered that it would be better if two sections as widely apart as possible were to advance simultaneously so as to spread the target and confuse the enemy riflemen and machine gunners. The principle is, of course, that there must be sufficient covering fire to enable as many as possible to advance at one time. If this is not obtained the whole advance must stop until superiority of fire is obtained, either by means of reinforcements or covering fire by other troops.

In this type of advance, which by the way will be rarely used, the normal formation is not indicated. Every man must use his rifle and it will be better to have the platoon in two waves or lines according to the frontage and depth required. If in two waves or lines the second would be at a much greater distance than in the "normal" formation and would be really a support.

Platoons could also work with three sections in front line and one in support. There is no hard and fast rule and circumstances must dictate the best formation.

In an organized attack this would be settled by the Company or Battalion Commander, or even by higher authority, but it cannot be sufficiently emphasised that once an attack is launched there comes a time when first the Company Commander and then the Platoon Commander cannot control his unit, and it then falls to the section commander to carry on in accordance with the plan which he must make it his business to know and understand thoroughly beforehand.

I am strongly of opinion that the method of attack by alternate advances is the worst and should only be adopted when it is impossible to adopt any other method efficiently. It is the method which has proved most costly in casualties and has most often failed, but it is certain that it may have to be employed for want of opportunities to employ any better, and therefore must be practised. The principle is that as many men as possible should advance to the objective as quickly as possible. Compatible with their getting there with sufficient energy and ammunition to capture it and make it good and be fit after reorganization for further action.

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I place the methods of advance therefore in the following order :-

- (1) Continuous advance in waves behind Artillery barrage.
- (2) In the absence of artillery continuous advance in waves with Machine Gun and Trench Mortar barrage, supported by covering bodies specially posted for the purpose.
- (3) In the absence of Machine Guns and Trench Mortars continuous advance under cover of Lewis Gun fire supported by covering bodies of infantry.
- (4) In the absence of all the above methods of covering fire advance by alternate bodies.

A combination of the 1 & 2, or 2 & 3 above may be possible, but a combination of either 1 or 2 or 3 with 4 should never be necessary.

To come back to method 4, if the situation is such as to make No 3 impossible, a compromise might be adopted by alternately advancing the Lewis Gun Section under cover of the fire of the remaining three sections, and the three sections under cover of the L.G. fire.

In No 4 itself a fault generally noticed is for sections to advance before covering sections have opened fire. The signal for the advance of sections should be the opening of fire by covering sections, and no section should move until that fire commences.

The fire on a well defined target or locality known to be occupied should be continuous but not necessary rapid all the time. The rate and bulk of fire will be determined by the action of the enemy.

Ammunition must be thought of, as the difficulties of replenishment are great during an advance and extravagance may mean utter failure of the attack or an easy victory for the counter attack which is almost inevitable.

*Alvan Hamilton*

Captain, Brigade Major.  
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution :-

21	copies	per	Bn.
1	"		M. Gun Coy.
1	"		T.M. Btty.
1	"		War Diary.
3	"		Spare.

APPENDIX 10.

Statement of Reinforcements received during July 1917.

	Off.	o/r.
7th A.L.T.M.Bty	-	-
7th Aust. M/G Coy	-	2
25th Battalion	5	199
26th "	3	136
27th "	2	43
28th "	-	87
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	10	- 467
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