

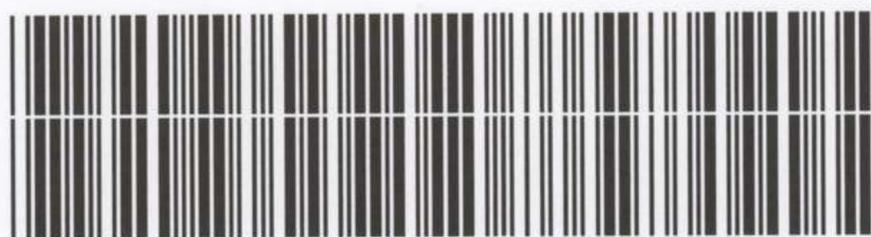
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/7/26

Title: 7th Infantry Brigade

October 1917



AWM4-23/7/26

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.

November 11th 1917.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Front Line	1917			
	October.			
	1.		The 7th Australian Infantry Brigade took over the Left sector of the 2nd Australian Divisional front line area on night 30th September/1st October, from D.27.b.65.25 on the Right, to the YPRES - ROULERS Railway at D.21.d.1.1. on the Left. 6th A.I. Brigade on Right flank, and the 11th A.I. Brigade on the Left. 5th A.I. Brigade in Divisional Reserve. See Appendix No.9. for distribution of units.	App. 2.
	2.		Orders issued for coming Operations. Appendix 3. See Appendix 1. for preliminary instructions.	App.1 & 3
	2/3.		Redistribution of units in Brigade area. Appendix 2.	App. 2.
	4.		7th A.I. Brigade advanced its front to BROODSEINDE RIDGE in conjunction with the 8th A.I. Brigade on Right, and 11th A.I. Brigade on Left. The attack was launched in two phases :- 25th Battalion attacking the RED line, and 26th Battalion attacking the BLUE line. 27th Battalion were in Support, and 28th Battalion in Reserve. The attack was successful, and the BLUE line was reported captured according to schedule. Report on Operations Appendix No.9.	
	5.		On the night 5/6th October, the 7th A.I. Brigade was relieved in the line by 5th A.I. Brigade and went into Divisional Reserve. See para 12 Appendix 9.	App. 4.
	6.		On night 6/7th October, consequent on the re-adjustment of Divisional boundary, 27th Battalion took over the line from 2/6th Manchester Regiment. 25th Battalion in Support, and 26th and 28th Battalions (composite under Lieut. Colonel J.A. TRAVERS, D.S.O.) in Reserve. See para 12, sub-para 2, Appendix 9.	App. 5.
7.		On the night 7/8th October, the 5th A.I. Brigade relieved the 7th A.I. Brigade, which moved into Divisional Reserve. See para 12, sub-para 3, Appendix 9.	App. 6.	
8.	At 6.50 am.		On the night of 9th October, whilst in Divisional Reserve, the 25th and 26th Battalions were placed under the Command of the G.O.C., 5th A.I. Brigade, and the 27th, and 28th Battalions were placed under the Command of the G.O.C., 6th A.I. Brigade. See para 13, Appendix 9.	App. 7.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 95

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
	1917		(Continued)	
LINE	9.		The 7th A.I. Brigade were relieved in the Line by the 45th and 49th Battalions, A.I.F. and moved back to GORDON AREA.	App. 8.
	10.		Brigade embussed for billets in STEENVOORDE area.	
STEENVOORDE	10th to 26th		Brigade resting, re-organizing and training. Lieut. Colonel H.B. COLLETT, D.S.O. reported to Brigade. 12/10/17, and took over temporary Command of 28th Battalion (vice Lieut. Col. G.A. READ.	App. 10.
	19.		Preliminary instructions for relief issued.	
	15th to 26th		Brig. General E.A. WISDOM, C.B., D.S.O., went on English leave. Lieut. Colonel H.B. COLLETT, D.S.O. took over as Acting Brigade Commander.	
SWAN AREA	26.		Brigade moved by bus to SWAN AREA.	App. 11.
LINE	27.		x Brigade relieved 15th A.I. Brigade in the Line.	App. 11a.
	30/31.		/ 7th A.M. Gun Company relieved by 22nd A.M. Gun Company.	App. 12.
	31.		/ Inter-Battalion relief in the line.	App. 13.
	31.		/ Brigade established anti-aircraft defences in forward area.	App. 14.
	Nov. 1.		/ Brigade relieved in the line by 5th A.I. Brigade, and moved to WALKER CAMP.	App. 15.
	28th Oct.) 2nd Nov.)		Summaries of Intelligence during tour of 7th A.I. Brigade in Line. Nos. 1 to 6.	App. 16.

95

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			(Continued)	
			Statement of Reinforcements for month of October 1917, Appendix 17.	App. 17.
			Statement of Casualties for month of October 1917, Appendix 18.	App. 18.
			Statement of work done by Bde in the line from Oct 27/Nov. 1. Appendix 19.	App. 19.
<p><i>Manawson</i></p> <p>Brig. General, Commanding 7th Australian Infantry Brigade.</p>				

3

App I

95

WD

SECRET.

Copy No. 8

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

261/101

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

Series No. 2.

September 30th 1917.

reference { Sheet BECELAEERE 1/10,000.
{ Sheet 28 N.W., 1/20,000.

- 1. (a) At a date and time to be notified later, the 2nd Army in co-operation with 5th Army will advance its front.
- (b) The 2nd ANZAC Corps will be on Left of 1st ANZAC Corps. The 7th A.I. Brigade will attack on the Left of 2nd Australian Division, with 11th A.I. Brigade, 3rd Australian Division (2nd ANZAC Corps) on its Left again. The 6th A.I. Brigade will attack on the Right of 7th A.I. Brigade.

2. The final objective of the 2nd Australian Division will be the line of the ridge MOORDELL HOLEK - BROODSEINDE, between D.29.b.1.5. and D.23.a.8.8.

3. The operation will probably be in two stages - each stage constituting one objective (shown on attached sketch as RED LINE (1st Objective) and BLUE LINE (2nd Objective).

- 4. (i) The 25th Battalion will attack and capture the RED LINE.
- (ii) 26th Battalion, with 27th Battalion in close support, will attack and capture BLUE LINE.
- (iii) 28th Battalion will be in Brigade Reserve.

5. FORMATIONS.

The attack will be carried out on a one Battalion front, with four companies in the line, each on a one-platoon frontage, and distributed in depth.

- (i) 25th Battalion will be disposed as follows :-
 - 1st Wave. 4 platoons extended to cover Battalion front in normal formation for trench-to-trench attack, with 15 yards between lines.
 - 2nd Wave. 4 platoons in line of section columns in single file, the outer sections of each platoon echeloned to the rear.
 - 3rd & 4th Waves. (Moppers up)
3rd wave as for 1st wave, and 4th wave as for 2nd wave.
 - 5th wave. (Carriers) 1 Company 28th Battalion as for 2nd wave.

(2).

(ii), 26th Battalion same as for 25th Battalion.

(iii) 27th Battalion, four waves in lines of section columns.

6. A precis of all available intelligence will be issued later. A sun-print showing latest enemy dispositions was issued to units on 29th inst.

7. BARRAGES.

(a) There will be two stages marked RED and BLUE. The barrage at ZERO will be put down 150 yards in advance of the front line for three minutes. Our front line will be taken as shown on the barrage map.

The barrage will then advance for 200 yards at the rate of 100 yards in four minutes.

From that point to the RED protective barrage line (200 yards in advance of RED line) it will advance at the rate of 100 yards in 6 minutes.

It will advance from that line at ZERO plus 130 minutes at the rate of 100 yards in 8 minutes to the BLUE protective barrage line (200 yards in advance of the BLUE line)

Posts will be established about 100 yards in advance of the BLUE line.

Creeping barrages in depth will then be carried out.

(b) The 2nd and 4th Australian Divisional Artillery will cover the attack in addition to the Heavy Artillery.

(c) One F.A. Brigade and probably two 6" Howitzer Batteries will be at the call of the Divisional Commander to deal with special targets. Battalions will inform Division through this office immediately a suitable target presents itself.

8. 5th and 22nd Australian Machine Gun Companies, under the Command of the Divisional Machine Gun Officer, will supply the creeping barrage beyond the 18-pr. creeping barrage, and also S.O.S. barrages.

7th A.M. Gun Company will be mobile in the hands of G.O.C. 7th A.I. Brigade.

6 Hotchkiss guns are being detailed for anti-aircraft work in the forward area.

9. SUCCESS SIGNALS will not be fired by assaulting troops, but capture of an objective will be reported by signal service - lamp, runner, power buzzer, pigeon, or telephone.

Detailed Signal instructions are being prepared, and will be issued later to all concerned.

7th A.I. Brigade Headquarters at D.26.c.1.3. are being connected to the buried cable at WESTHOEK RIDGE. Another cable is being buried through TOKIO via ANZAC RIDGE.

(3)

10. Administrative, Medical, and Signal instructions will be issued separately.
11. All tracks, dumps, Headquarters, etc. are to be clearly marked. Staff Captain will notify units when and where notice boards may be drawn. Headquarters and Dumps will also be marked at night by lights, with the three sides nearer the enemy blinded by means of a tin or box.
12. Watches will be synchronized twice daily with Brigade Headquarters when in the line.
13. (i) All telephones will be withdrawn forward of Battalion Headquarters except :-
 (a) Telephones for Artillery F.O.O's.
 (b) One telephone for each Company Commander.
 (ii) Messages between Brigade and Battalions will be sent by Fullerphone.
 The sending of messages by Buzzer is prohibited.
 Visual will be used where possible.
 (iii) Position calls will not be used in this area.
 The new "Station Code Calls" alone will be used.
14. Contact patrol work will be carried out by 4th Squadron R.F.C. and communication with aeroplane will be established in accordance with the principles laid down in S.S. 135.
15. Extra wirecutters (14" handle) will be drawn and issued to Battalions by Staff Captain.
16. Steel helmets of attacking battalions will be marked with a small diamond on the back as under :-
- | | |
|----------------|------|
| 25th Battalion | RED |
| 26th " | BLUE |
| 27th " | BLUE |
17. The jumping off line is being reconnoitred, and will be taped out on ZERO night, both laterally and forward - the latter to assist in maintaining direction.
18. S.O.S. as in G.S. Circular Memo No. 40 issued to all Unit Commanders personally on 30/9/1917..
19. POINTS OF JUNCTION WITH FLANKING BRIGADES.
 Battalions will send patrols to connect up with neighbouring units as under, as the advance progresses :-
On the RED Line :-
 25th Bn, with 6th A.I.Bde on Right, at Pill-box N.W. of "C" in "CEMETERY"
 25th Bn. with 11th A.I.Bde on Left at D.22.b.20.18 (N.E. edge of THAMES FLOOD)

(4)

On the BLUE LINE :

28th Bn with 6th A.I. Brigade on Right, N. of "E"
in BROODSEINDE on Road.
28th Bn. with 11th A.I. Brigade on Left, D.23.a.40.65,
Road Junction (3rd Aust. Div. Point 'K')

20. Energetic patrolling will be carried out by 28th Bn. previous to and during the forming up of Battalions on their jumping off lines.

21. Headquarters will be as follows :-

2nd Aust. Div. Advanced H.Q.	YPRES RAMPARTS.
7th A.I. Bde Advanced H.Q.	D.26.c.1.3.
" " Rear H.Q.	I.12.c.3.5.
11th A.I. Bde	D.26.a.70.50.
5th A.I. Bde	Railway Dugouts.

22. PRISONERS OF WAR.

All prisoners except those who are seriously wounded, will be sent under escort to Advanced Brigade H.Q., where escort will report the number to Brigade Major. Prisoners will then be sent to KIT and KAT where selected prisoners will be examined by the Divisional Intelligence Officer, after which the whole party will be sent to the CAGE, where the escort will demand a receipt for the number of prisoners handed in.

Previous instructions regarding disposal of Documents etc. found on prisoners will be adhered to, and neither the paybook nor identity disc will be removed from the person of the prisoner.

23. LIAISON.

(a) Battalions will arrange for liaison with units operating on their flanks.

Captain J. ROYDHOUSE, M.C. will be Brigade Liaison Officer with 11th A.I. Brigade.

(b) All Liaison Officers will report to units with which they are to carry out liaison duties, on the day preceding ZERO.

24. The following material will be taken forward on the man :-

220 rounds S.A.A.
48 hours' rations.
2 Mills Bombs.
Normal allotment of Rifle Grenades,
4 Sandbags.

25. Attention is drawn to paras 6 (a, b, c, d, e, & f) and 16 of Preliminary Instructions No.1., 1st Series :- "Arrangement for Guiding Troops & Keeping Direction", and "Prisoners of War"
The above two paras apply also for this operation.

95

(5),

26. . MOPPING UP.

Units will allot up areas as under, and will detail special parties for special tasks in these areas :-

(i) Between Jumping Off Line and RED LINE : 25th Bn.

(ii) Between RED LINE and BLUE LINE : 26th Bn.

27. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. J. Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 10 pm

Distribution:-

Copy no.	1.	25th Bn
	2.	26th Bn.
	3.	27th Bn.
	4.	28th Bn.
	5.	7th M.G. Coy.
	6.	7th A.L.F. Bty
	7/8	War Diary
	9.	File
	10.	G.O.C.
	11.	Staff Captain.
	12.	B.M.
	13.	Bde Sig. Officer
	14.	Bde I.C.
	15.	Bde T.O.
	16.	Bde Bomb Officer
	17.	17th A.A.S.C.
	18.	11th A.I. Bde.
	19.	5th A.I. Bde
	20.	6th A.I. Bde
	21.	9th A.I. Bde.
	22.	Capt. Roydhouse M.C.
	23.	C.A.A.
	24.	C.A.A.
	25.	A.D.M.S.
	26.	7th Field Coy A.E.
	27.	2nd Aps. Div "G"
	28.	" " " " "Q"
	29.	7th Field Ambulance.
	30-35	Spare.

S E C R E T.

App 21

Copy No. 22

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 1st 1917.

ORDER No. 132.

Reference BECELAREE Sheet 1/10,000.
Sheet 28 N.W. 1/10,000.

1. The following moves will take place on the night 2/3rd October 1917 :-
 - (a) 25th Bn. will relieve 28th Bn. in the front line.
 - (b) 28th Bn. on relief will move back to BELLEAARDE RIDGE.
 - (c) C.O., 27th Bn, will move another Company forward to the vicinity of trench at J.l.b.80.70., the remainder of the Battalion being at WESTHOEK RIDGE.
 - (d) 26th Bn. will move from YPRES to GORDON CAMP. (GORDON CAMP is in the CANAL Area - Area Commandant BELGIAN CHATEAU).
2. The C.O. 28th Battalion will arrange to leave a proportion of specialists and one officer per Company in the line with the 25th Battalion until the night 3/4th October, when they will rejoin their Unit. 28th Battalion will arrange to provide the necessary guides as required by 25th Battalion.
3. Details of moves and reliefs will be arranged mutually between C.O.'s concerned, subject to the terms of this Order.
4. Units moving forward will come fully equipped for the coming operations.
5. Where existing accommodation is not sufficient, troops will dig themselves in.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 12.30 am

- Copies to :
- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 25th Bn. | 11. Staff Capt. |
| 2. 26th Bn. | 12. B.T.O. |
| 3. 27th Bn. | 13. Bde Bomb Officer |
| 4. 28th Bn. | 14. 6th A.I.Bde |
| 5. 7th A.M.G. Coy | 15. 5th A.I.Bde. |
| 6. 7th A.L.T.M. Bty. | 16. 11th A.I.Bde. |
| 7. Area Comdt (CANAL Area) | 17. 2nd Aust. Div. |
| 8. 17th AASC | 18. 7th Field Amb. |
| 9. G.O.C. | 19. 7th Field Coy. |
| 10. B.M. | 20/21 War Diary |
| | 22. File |
| | 23 - 26 Spares. |

L. H. H. H. H.

App. 2

SECRET.

Copy No. 59

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ORDER NO. 133.

October 2nd 1917.

Reference Sheet BECHLAERE 1/10,000.
Sheet 28 N.W. 1/30,000.

1. 1st ANZAC Corps in conjunction with Corps on the North and South will advance its front at a time and date to be notified later.
On the 1st ANZAC Corps front the attack will be carried out by the 1st Australian Division on the Right, and the 2nd Australian Division on the Left.
The 6th A.I. Brigade on the Right, and the 11th A.I. Brigade (3rd Australian Division (2nd ANZAC)) on the Left will attack simultaneously with the 7th A.I. Brigade.
2. Maps showing boundaries and objectives of 7th A.I. Brigade have already been issued to Units with Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series 2.
3. The attack will be in two stages - each stage constituting one objective, viz:-
 - (1) Capture of RED LINE
 - (2) " of BLUE LINE.
4. (i) The attack will be carried out leapfrog fashion.
(ii) Battalions are detailed to Objectives as per para 4 of Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series 2.
5. Formations as in para 5 of Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.2.
30 yards between waves.
6. JUMPING OFF.
Jumping off lines and positions of assembly will be marked out by Battalions as under :-

JUMPING OFF	(	25th Bn.	approx.	D.27.b.65.25	to	D.21.d.1.1.
LINES	(	26th Bn.	"	D.27.c.90.75	to	D.27.a.15.50
POSITIONS	(	27th Bn.	approx.	J.2.b.0.8.	to	D.25.d.80.13.
of ASSEMBLY	(	28th Bn.	"	WESTHOLK RIDGE.		

25th Battalion will be in position on these lines by 11 p.m. on ZERO night, and other Battalions by one hour before ZERO.

7.

BARRAGES.

"Creeping" Field Artillery barrages will be supplied as per barrage map which will be issued later, by 2nd and 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

In addition, there will be a heavy artillery barrage beyond the Field Artillery barrage.

Attention is drawn to para 7 (c) of Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.2.

8.

ACTION OF BATTALIONS.

At ZERO hour the 25th Battalion will move up to the barrage, and capture and consolidate the 1st Objective RED LINE.

The 26th Battalion will jump off at ZERO plus 3 minutes, and will follow the 25th Battalion at 500 yards distance.

On capture of RED LINE by 25th Battalion, 26th Battalion will halt, but will commence to move forward again and pass through 25th Battalion, so that they are close up to the barrage in time for the lift at ZERO plus 130 minutes. They will then move forward, capture and consolidate the 2nd Objective (BLUE LINE)

27th Battalion will move off at ZERO and will form up on the ground vacated by 26th Battalion, and jump off from there at ZERO plus 70.

27th Battalion will halt in the vicinity of D.22.central, and be prepared to vigorously support the 26th Battalion in case of necessity. The senior officer on the spot will judge of the necessity, and will act on his own initiative.

28th Battalion will commence to move at ZERO plus 30, to the vicinity of 26th Battalion jumping off tapes, where they will be held in Brigade Reserve.

As soon as consolidation is in progress, and the situation permits, the 27th Battalion will dig a communication trench up to the ridge forward of 1st Objective. This communication trench will be continued through the crest, and on to the consolidated line of shell holes on the 2nd Objective, after dark. This line will be taped out and dug under engineer supervision.

Battalions must at all times be prepared to form a defensive flank or flanks.

9.

5th and 22nd A.M.Gun Coys under the command of D.M.G.O. will provide a creeping machine gun barrage beyond the Field Artillery barrage, and also S.O.S. barrages.

7th A.M.Gun Coy will be mobile in the hands of G.O.C., 7th A.I.Brigade, and will provide 4 guns to cover the advance and consolidation of each of the 25th and 26th Battalions.

10.

TRENCH MORTARS.

C.C., 7th A.L.T.M.Bty will detail 4 guns to go forward with 25th Battalion to RED LINE. 2 of these guns will then be made available for the 26th Bn.

2 mobile guns will be held in readiness in Brigade Reserve near Brigade Dump, near MUHLE.

Appendix No 3
 Example 1/10

- 3 -

10 (cont) The remaining 2 guns will be held in reserve to replace casualties, and crews will be used in preparing ammunition at Brigade Dump until required to go forward.

Section Commanders of guns detailed to accompany Battalions will report to the C.O. of the Battalion to which they will be attached, not later than the afternoon on the day before ZERO day.

On capture of RED LINE the section of guns placed at the disposal of 26th Battalion will send a representative to 26th Battalion H.Q.

11. Capture of each objective will be reported to Brigade H.Q. immediately, through the best means available.

Success signals will NOT be used.

12. CONSOLIDATION.

During the consolidation of the BLUE LINE a Strong Post will be constructed at D.22.b.90.35 under engineer supervision.

1 Officer + 25

27th Battalion will supply one platoon (not less than ~~35~~ 30 o/ranks) to dig and garrison this Strong Post. An engineer party of 1 Officer and 12 o/ranks will assist.

At ZERO hour the above party will be assembled at BELLEJAARDE FARM, and the Officer will report

Engineer to
 Liaison Office
 stationed at Rear B.H.Q.

This party will move forward under the direction of the Engineer Officer.

13. CAR RYING PARTIES.

(a) 28th Battalion will detail the following carrying parties :-

(i) 1 Company (not less than 100 men) to report to Brigade Bomb Officer for Brigade Carrying party. Time and place of reporting will be notified later.

(ii) 1 Company - carrying party for 25th Bn. Time and place of reporting to be arranged mutually between C.O's. each

(b) 25th and 26th Battalions will detail a carrying party of 2 N.C.O's and 20 men for carrying Stokes Mortar Ammunition forward with mortars for 1st and 2nd Objectives. C.O., 7th A.L.T.M.Bty will arrange with C.O. Battalions; time and place of reporting for these parties.

14. Bayonets will not be fixed until the bombardment opens at ZERO.

- 4 -

15. Headquarters of Battalions at ZERO hour will be :-
- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 25th Bn. H.Q.) | D.26.d.5.f. |
| 26th Bn. ") | Overflow in trenches in vicinity. |
| 27th Bn. H.Q. | D.26.c.1.B. |
| 28th Bn. H.Q. | BELLE AARDE RIDGE. |
| 7th A.M.G. Coy, | In vicinity of Brigade H.Q. |
| 7th A.L.F.M.B. | In vicinity of Brigade Dump near LUHLE. |
- Headquarters of 25th and 26th Battalions will move forward on the capture of Objectives so that C.O's may direct the consolidation.
16. ADMINISTRATIVE and SIGNAL Instructions are issued herewith.
17. S.O.S. Relay Stations will be established at 25th Bn. H.Q., Brigade H.Q., and on WESTHOEK RIDGE.
Other S.O.S. arrangements were issued with Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.2.
18. Instructions issued in Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.1. regarding method of dealing with low lying aircraft, will be adhered to. Battalions will mount Lewis guns between their support and front lines for this purpose.
19. LIAISON. As in Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.2. except that Captain J. ROLDHOUSE, M.C. will be Brigade Liaison Officer with 6th A.I. Brigade and not 11th A.I. Bde.
20. Points of junction with neighbouring units and mopping up as in Preliminary Instructions No. 1.
21. The 7th A.I. Brigade will be prepared to hold the position at least 48 hours after capture. During this time consolidation is to be continually improved.
22. Matches will be sent out to Units each morning and each evening, so that Units may synchronize with Brigade time.
23. ACKNOWLEDGE.

H. Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Bde.

Issued to Signals at 9 am

Distribution as for Preliminary
Instructions No.1. Series No.2.

S E C R E T.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 2nd 1917.

SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS to accompany Brigade Order No. 133.

1. Advanced Brigade H.Q. will be approximately D.26.c.1.3. CABLE HEAD will be at TOKIO (D.27.d.9.6) Position of Brigade Forward Station will be at approximately D.22.d.5.5. which is also Command Post of 25th Battalion.
26th and 27th Battalions will select approximate positions for Command Posts, and will notify this office by 8 p.m. 2nd inst. of their location.
2. Earth induction set will be installed with up and down working from Brigade Forward Station to a Station at approximately D.27.b.9.1., and then to Advanced Brigade H.Q. at D.26.c.1.3.
3. Communication will be maintained in all cases to the Unit on the Right, although if the unit on the Left does not maintain touch, every endeavour should be made to reach them by runner or visual.
4. (a) Secret Code Calls as issued to Units will be taken into use as soon as Units move from Stations at which "Position Calls" are in use.
(b) Station Calls for Forward Stations will be the same as Battalion Code Calls prefixed by letter " A "
5. Aeroplane signal sheets will be taken forward. Care is to be taken to hide these from sight except when a plane is in position to receive a message. Sheets should not be set out on forward slopes
6. PIGEONS are allotted as follows :-

Brigade Forward Station	10 birds.
25th & 26th Bns - - -	8 birds each

Brigade Forward Station will be refilling point for Battalions at a time which will be notified later.
7. The main Brigade Visual Station will be at D.26.c.1.3. and will receive D.D. - D.D.M. messages from the front. Forward visual stations will work with Daylight Lamps and folding shutters only.
There will also be a transmitting station at CABLE HEAD - D.27.d.8.7.
8. The Brigade Forward Station under Lieut. HILL, 25th Battalion, will move forward with third wave of 25th Battalion.

Appendix 3

- 2 -

9. (a) Owing to the incomplete state of the buried system in the area being taken over, it is anticipated that some difficulty may be experienced in maintaining lines during operations. Every effort must be made to keep touch by other means, viz. visual, pigeons, power buzzer, and runner. It is absolutely necessary that all messages should be curtailed both in length and number as far as possible.

(b) Should it not be possible to obtain an acknowledgment for a message, the message should be sent in duplicate, and by alternative methods or routes.

10.

Intelligence Officers of 25th and 26th Bns. each accompanied by two snipers or observers, will accompany the Brigade Forward Party Detachment "A". Their duties will be to keep in touch with the situation and keep their Battalions and Brigade H.Q. fully informed through the Brigade Forward Station. They will also be available for coding and de-coding messages.

This party will report to Lieut. HILL at 25th Battalion at least 2 hours before ZERO.

Personnel as under have reported to Brigade Signal Officer for duty during active operations:-

10 runners per Battalion (including 1 N.C.O.),

28th Battalion - 2 pigeoneers.

S E C R E T.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 1st 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM to accompany Brigade Order No. 138.

1. ROUTES. Attention is drawn to 2nd Aust. Division Administrative memo No. 176.
2. SUPPLIES. As per Divisional Administrative Memo. except when taken by 1st Line Transport. B.T.O. (Captain J.C. LITTLE), will arrange route forward. Units forward of the Dump will arrange carrying parties to take rations forward from Brigade Dump D.27.c.8.8. (near MUHLE), and Units in rear will arrange to have rations taken direct to them by 1st Line Transport. The 500 emergency rations laid down in Administrative Memo. No. 176 will be dug in at the Brigade Dump, near MUHLE.
3. WATER. Extra water bottles will be issued to Battalions, which will be filled before going in. 500 tins of water will be dug in at the Brigade Dump, and will form the Brigade Reserve. Units will send water forward each day with the rations. *This will be drawn from water point at IHD 54.* Four extra water carts are available, and will be dug in near SANS SOUCI the evening before ZERO day. This water will be used to augment Battalion supplies.
4. AMMUNITION. Ammunition to be carried on the man, 220 rounds, and 2 bombs have already been drawn. The Brigade Dump will be at D.27.c.8.8. For approximate amounts on this dump, see Appendix "A". All ammunition demands will be sent to the Officer in charge, Lieut. BOYLE. On the capture of the 1st Objective, the Brigade Bomb Officer will arrange to establish a Forward Dump at approximately MOULIN FARM D.22.d.5.6. Units will arrange to form Battalion Dumps in suitable places.
5. R.E. STORES. The forward R.E. Dump will be at J.2.a.3.5. (a) SIGN BOARDS are available here for issue today. (b) TAPE for 25th and 26th Battalions will be available for issue today. 27th and 28th Battalions will be issued as soon as C.R.E. has it available.
6. PRISONERS OF WAR. The Divisional Cage will be at SHRAPNEL CORNER (See Brigade Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series No.2. para 22).

7. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The forward area will be cleared by 6th Field Ambulance, with the following details in addition :-

From 5th Field Ambulance - 2 Tent sub-Divisions and Bearer Division.

From 7th Field Ambulance - Bearer Division.

The Medical Dispositions will be as follows :-

R.A.P. Left Bde (will be notified later)	
THE TUNNELS, J.2.d.1.4.	} These Ambulance Posts will be established.
WESTHOEK J.7.d.8.8.	
BELLE AARDE RIDGE J.7.a.4.5.	
SIMONS POST J.12.c.8.7	
BIRR X ROADS J.17.b.2.8	

WALKING CASES. These will come back along duckboard track which passes close to MUELE D.27.c.95.80 - DRAUGHT HOUSE - KIT & KAT thence to MENIN ROAD Dressing Station. Walking wounded requiring assistance must not be attended by more than one man, and only if absolutely necessary.

8. Each Unit will arrange to increase number of Battalion Stretcher-bearers to 48.

R.M.Os will arrange to establish R.A.Ps in vicinity of Battalion H.Q. as the advance progresses, notifying Brigade Headquarters and the Field Ambulance of the location.

Units will place notice boards indicating R.A.P's Signboards will be available today.

9. BATTLE STRAGGLER POSTS. 28th Battalion will detail 1 N.C.O. and 3 men to be on duty at KIT & KAT. This post will prevent from leaving the forward area all unwounded men except carriers and others whose duty takes them to the rear.

The number, name and unit must be taken of any stragglers retained at KIT & KAT until they can be sent back. Either an Officer or N.C.O. of their own or any other unit, going forward to the line.

A. Roast

Major, for Staff Captain,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution as for
Preliminary Instructions No.1.
Series 2.

NOTE Appendix 'A' will be issued later

Appendix No 3

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

APPENDIX "A" to ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS
issued with Brigade Order No. 133.

October 2nd 17.

S.A.A.	1,000 boxes	
Bombs No. 23 (1")		
Cartridges)	10,000	plus 25% extra cartridges.
Stokes mortar A.M.	1,500	rounds
" " Ctgs	1,500	and 25% extra.
" Ring Charges	500	
" Smoke Bombs	200	rounds.
Ground Flares RED	100	
S.O.S. Grenades	100	(Held at Rear Bde H.Q.)
Water	500	tins
Rations	500	iron
Screw pickets large	300	
" " small	300	
Barbed wire coils	100	
Concertina Barb "	100	
French wire "	100	
Sand bags	3000	

*War Diary**Appendix No. 3*SECRET.7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 2nd 1917.

Reference 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 133.

CORRIGENDA. Positions of Assembly. For "J.2.b.0.8" read
"J.2.a.0.8."Reference Administrative Memo. to accompany 7th A.I.
Brigade Order No. 132.ADDENDA. Para 7. MEDICAL DISPOSITIONS.R.A.P.'s - Left Brigade.25th Bn. Aid Post is established at
Advanced Brigade H.Q., and will remain
there unless a more suitable position
is found after capture of RED LINE.26th Bn. Aid Post will move with
Battalion H.Q.*ACB Boase*Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.Distribution as for
Bde Orders nos. 132/133.

S. E. C. 111. P.

Copy No. 8

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Order No. 134

October 5th 1917.

Reference Maps BRILLIANT 1/10,000
Sheets 28 N. and N.E. 1/20,000.

1. The 7th A.I. Brigade will be relieved in the front line of Left Brigade, sector of 2nd Australian Division by two Battalions of the 5th A.I. Brigade, and portions of the 5th A.L.T.M. Battery and of the 5th Aust. Machine Gun Company, tonight 5th/6th October.
2. (i) Map showing dispositions of 7th A.I. Brigade on relief is attached.
(ii) 28th Battalion may keep half the Battalion in RAILWAY BOOB. Trenches.
(iii) The CHAPEL, the RECTORY, and LAKE FARM are in 7th A.I. Brigade area.
KITE & KAT, RED LODGE, and BELLEMARDE FARM are in 6th A.I. Brigade area.
3. MACHINE GUNS. 7th A.I. Gun Coy will leave two sections (8 guns) as mobile guns, which will come under the Command of G.O.C., 5th A.I. Brigade on relief of 7th A.I. Brigade.
4. TRENCH MORTARS. Two mortars only of 5th A.L.T.M. Battery will relieve the 7th A.L.T.M. Battery.
5. (a) Dumps of ammunition, bombs, strombos horns, and other battle stores will be handed over by units. Receipts in duplicate for stores handed over will be obtained by units handing over, and the duplicate forwarded to Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of completion of relief.
(b) Captain F.R. CORNER, M.C. will hand over Brigade Battle Dumps to Bomb Officer of 5th A.I. Brigade.
6. Subject to the terms of this order, all details of relief will be arranged mutually between units concerned.
7. The 7th A.I. Brigade on completion of relief, will be responsible for maintenance of duckboard tracks in rear of RED LINE whilst in the area.
8. (a) Relief to be completed by 5 a.m. on 6th October 1917.
(b) On completion of relief, Command of the front sector will pass to G.O.C., 5th A.I. Brigade.
(c) Completion of each relief is to be notified immediately to Brigade H.Q. by code wire, and a disposition report forwarded.

(2)

9. Rations for tomorrow's consumption will be drawn as follows :-

From Brigade Dump (MURLE) - 27th Bn., 25th Bn.,
7th A.M.G. Coy.

From Brigade H.Q. RAILWAY FOOD - 28th Bn.

From GORDON CAMP - 26th Bn.

Trench Mortar Battery have already drawn.

10. 7th A.I. Brigade H.Q. will close at D.26.c.1.3. on completion of relief, and will reopen at the same hour at RAILWAY FOOD Dugouts.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. J. Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 3.30 p.m.

Copies to :

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 27th Bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th A/Gun Coy
6. 7th A.L.I.M. Bty
7. G.O.C.
8. B.M.
9. S.C.
10. Capt. Corney.
11. Bdo I.O.
12. Bdo Sig. Officer
13. Bdo Transport Officer
14. 2nd Aust. Div. 'G'
15. " " " 'Q'
16. 17th A.A.S.C.
17. 7th Field Coy.
18. 7th Field Amb.
19. 9th A.I. Bdo.
20. 10th "
21. 11th "
22. 5th "
23. 6th "
24. War Diary
25. " "
26. File
- 27/30 Spares.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

MOVE TABLE to accompany 7th A.I. Brigade No. 131, 5/10/1917.

Date	Unit	Relieved by	Moving to	Route	H.Q. at	Remarks.
Sept. 1917 5/6th	27th Bn.	17th Bn (Portion) 1 Coy in line to be relieved by 19th Bn	Trenches in D.27.c.	As selected by units	D.28.d.5.5.	Units going out must give way on the duckboard track to incoming troops.
"	25th Bn	19th Bn (portion)	Positions in vicinity of WESTHOEK RIDGE.	ditto	As selected by C.O. 25th Bn.	ditto. KIT KAT is in 6th Bde sector
"	28th Bn.	17th Bn (portion)	RAILWAY WOOD trenches & BELLE- WAARDE RIDGE up to WESTHOEK (exclusive)	Left duck- board track.	ditto	Half Bn. in RAILWAY WOOD Half Bn. BELLEWAARDE RIDGE
"	26th Bn.	19th Bn (portion)	GORDON CAMP	ditto	GORDON CAMP.	Left duckboard track
"	7th ALTY Bty	^{5th} A.L.F.M.Bty	ditto	most direct.	ditto	Arrange quarterings with C.O. 26th Bn.
"	7th A.M.G. Coy (less 2 sections)	5th A.M.G. Coy (2 sections)	RAILWAY WOOD	ditto	As selected by C.O.	

Units going out must give way on the duckboard track to incoming troops.
 Guides from units are to meet incoming units at junction of duckboard track just West of KIT & KAT
 unless otherwise arranged between units.

Appendix No. 22

SECRET.

App 5
Copy No. 73

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Order No. 135

October 6th 1917.

Reference sheets
 BOULBERRIE 1/10,000.
 ZONNEBEEK 1/10,000.
 28 N.E. 1/20,000.

1. The boundary between 2nd Australian Division and 6th Division is being adjusted as follows :-
 From present northern boundary at D.22.a.5.0., along FRES-ROULERS railway towards ROULERS (Railway line inclusive).
2. Consequent on readjustment of boundary, 7th A.I. Brigade will, on night 6th/7th October, take over that portion of the front line at present held by 199th Brigade 6th Division, and will rearrange its dispositions as under:
3. Brigade boundaries will be :-
RIGHT : SANS SOUCI (exclusive - St. JOSEPHS INST. (inclusive) - along ZONNEBEEK-BaOODSEINDE road to junction at D.22.d.5.5., thence to D.23.a.40.65 - through N.W. corner of DALRI WOOD to road junction at B.13.c.15.95.
LEFT : The FRES-ROULERS Railway (inclusive as for Divisional Right Boundary).
4. (a) 27th Battalion will take over the front line from the 2/6th Manchester Regiment, with the same dispositions.
 (b) 25th Battalion will take over the present support line from the 2/5th Manchester Regiment.
 (c) The 26th and 28th Battalions will move up into reserve position, and will take over positions at present held by 17th Australian Battalion, including the platoon S.F.
 (ii) The present available strength of 26th Battalion will be attached to 28th Battalion, and will come under Command of Lieut. Colonel J. TRAVERS, D.S.O.
 (iii) Major F. CURRIE, D.S.O., 26th Bn. will collect and reorganize all details of 26th Battalion from Battalion transport lines forward.
 (d) (i) The 7th A.M.G. Coy will take over positions at present held by 204th Machine Gun Coy in the Brigade sector, emplacing not more than 5 guns in this area.
 (ii) Captain BURNELL on arrival, will assume Command of the guns in Brigade sector.
 (e) O.C., 7th A.L.F.M. Bty will take over the Trench mortar positions at present held by 199th Brigade T.M. Battery.
5. (i) Relief to be completed by 5 a.m. 7th inst.
 (ii) Completion of each relief to be notified to Brigade H.Q. immediately when completed.

appendix 5

(13)

(iii) On completion of the relief, the G.O.C., 7th A.I. Brigade will assume Command of the sector.

(iv) Subject to the terms of this order, all details of reliefs will be arranged mutually between C.O.'s concerned.

6. Rations for tomorrow's consumption will be sent forward in limbers as far as SANS SOUCI, where units will send ration parties or a guide to lead limbers to rendezvous where ration parties will be waiting.

7th A.I. Brigade H.Q. will remain at D.26.c.l.3. but will move into that portion of dugout at present occupied by 199th Brigade.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

AG Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 4 p.m.

Copies to :

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 27th Bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th M/G Coy
6. 7th A.L.I.M. Bty
7. B.M.
8. S.C.
9. G.O.C.
10. Major CURRIE.
11. 2nd Aust. Div. 'G'
12. " " " 'Q'
13. 199th Brigade
14. 5th A.I. Bde
15. 17th A.A.S.C.
16. B.F.O.
19. Bde Bomb Officer.
20. 7th Field Cby.
21. 7th Field Amb.
- 22 to 25 Spare.

App 6

Copy No. 19

7TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

S E C R E T.

O R D E R N O . 136.

7th October 1917.

Reference Sheets BECELBALE and PASSCHENDALE 1/10,000.

1. The 7th A.I. Brigade will be relieved in Left Brigade Sector 2nd Aust. Div. by 5th Aust. Infy. Brigade tonight 7/8th Oct. in accordance with accompanying move table.
2. (i) 2 Sections of 7th M/G/Coy. at Present with 5th A.I. Bde will be relieved by the 6th A.M.G. Coy. and rejoin 7th Bde.
(ii) Guns at Present in the Left Bde sector will remain in and be increased to a total of 8 on the withdrawal of guns in Para. 2 (i) The whole coming under command of G.O.C. 5th A.I. Bde.
3. i. On relief 7th A.I. Brigade will be disposed in depth from ZONNEBERKE to RAILWAY LOD.
ii. Command of Left Brigade Sector will pass to G.O.C. 5th A.I. Brigade on completion of relief.
iii. Relief to be completed by 4 a.m. 8th inst.
iv. Completion of each relief to be notified to Brigade Headquarters in code by Priority message.
v. Location on new Headquarters to be sent at same time as completion of relief is reported.
4. All details of relief will be arranged mutually between G.O.'s concerned.
5. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will remain at D 26 0 1 3.
6. A C K N O W L E D G E .

Agase
Major,
Brigade Major,
7th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at ___ p.m.

Distribution -

Copy No. 1	25th Bn.	
2	26th Bn.	
3	27th Bn.	
4	28th Bn.	
5	7th M/G/Coy	
6	7th A.L.T.M. Battery	
7	B.T.O.	
8	Staff Capt.	
9	B.M.	
10	G.O.C.	
11	5th Aust. Infy. Bde.	
12	6th Aust. Infy. Bde.	
13	2nd Aust. Div	
14.	199th Bde.	
15.	14th A.I. Bde.	
16.	7th Field Coy A.S.	19/20. Lab Diary
17.	7th Field Amb.	21. File.
18.	17th A.A.S.C.	22/25. Spare.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

MARCH TABLE to accompany 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 136.

7/10/1917.

Date	Unit	Relieved by	Moving to	Route	Remarks
Sept 17. 7/8th	27th Bn. (Front line)	17th Bn.	RAILWAY WOOD	Most direct	
"	25th Bn. (Support)	20th Bn.	" "	" "	To be completed in daylight if possible
"	26th Bn. (reserve)	} 18 Bn	BELLEWAARDE RIDGE	" "	
"	28th Bn. (reserve)		18th Bn.	WESTHOEK	" "
"	7th A.M.G. Coy (less 5 guns)	6th A.M.G. Coy	WESTHOEK (except 8 guns to Left Bde Sector)	" "	(i) O.C. 7th A.M.G. Coy will arrange to carry out reliefs of gun crews left in the line with 5th A.I. Bde
"	7th A.L.F. Bty	5th A.L.F. Bty	RAILWAY WOOD	" "	(ii) O.C. of detachment coming under orders of G.O.C. 5th A.I. Bde, will report for instructions.

Guides to be arranged mutually

Memoirs

95

App 7

Copy No. 26

B. G. C. S. D. 1.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

October 8th 1917.

OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS No. 1. Series No. 3.

Reference Sheets (BUCHDALAN)
(PASSCHENDALE) 1/10,000.

- 1. (i) The 1st Anzac Corps in conjunction with the Corps and Army to the North, will advance at a date and time to be notified later.
- (ii) The 2nd Australian Division will carry out the advance on the 1st Anzac Corps front.
- The 6th A.I. Bde on the Right, and the 5th A.I. Bde on the Left will carry out the attack on the 2nd Aust. Div. front.
- The 7th A.I. Bde will be held in Divisional Reserve.
- (iii) The 197th Bde, 66th Division (2nd Anzac Corps) will attack on the left of 5th A.I. Bde.

2. The attached map shows Brigade and Divisional boundaries and objectives.

- 3. The operation will be carried out in two stages, viz:
 - (i) The advance to the RED LINE (1st Objective)
 - (ii) The advance to the BLUE LINE (2nd Objective)

- 4. (a) At ZERO hour units of 7th A.I. Bde will be disposed as under:
 - A. & B. Battalions: TOKIO SPUR D.27.a,c,d.
 - C. & D. " " ANZAC SPUR D.26.d. - J.2.b - J.3.d.

- (b) At ZERO plus 1 1/2 hours:
 - "A" Battalion about line D.28.b.5.2.-D.28.d.1.2.
 - "B" " " " " D.28.c.6.2.-D.28.c.4.7.
 - "C" " " " " D.28.c.4.6.-D.28.a.0.3.
 - "D" " " " " between TOKIO and ANZAC.

NOTE:-

- "A" Battalion 28th Bn.
- "B" " " 26th Bn.
- "C" " " 25th Bn.
- "D" " " 27th Bn.

Reconnaissances will be made forthwith.

- 5. (a) The 2nd Aust. Division will be covered by the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Aust. Div. Artilleries - 1st and 4th (C, 1, & C, groups) covering the 6th A.I. Bde, and 2nd (D, group) covering the 5th A.I. Bde.
- (b) The barrage will be put down for four minutes on the opening barrage line. It will then move forward to the RED LINE at the rate of 100 yards in 4 minutes.
- The RED protective barrage which will be placed 200 yards in advance of the RED LINE will lift at ZERO plus 100 minutes. It will then move forward at the rate of 100 yards in 4 minutes to the BLUE LINE.

- 2 -

6. MACHINE GUNS.
 (a) Machine Gun Instructions No. 1. Series No.3. have been issued to O.C., 7th A.M.G.Coy.
 (b) The 22nd A.M.G.Coy and half of each of the 5th, 6th, and 7th (6 guns) A.M.G.Coys will be employed for barrage work as per Machine Gun Instructions.
 (c) Remainder of each Company is at the disposal of each Brigadier.
7. Success Signals will not be used, but capture of an objective will be reported by message.
8. (a) Signal Instructions will be issued later.
 (b) Cable Head will be MOULIN FARM.
9. ENGINEERING. Platoon Strong Points are being constructed by attacking Brigades under Engineer Supervision as follows :-
 Left Brigade : (D.17.d.4.8.
 (Astride railway at D.18.a.7.7.
 Right Brigade: D.25.b.4.2.
10. PARIS time will be sent out twice daily to units.
11. All prisoners of war will be sent to Brigade H.Q. D. 26.c.1.3. where the Divisional Intelligence Officer will be stationed.
 Brigade Intelligence Officer will arrange to provide necessary Intelligence personnel to assist the Divisional Intelligence Officer in interrogating selected prisoners.
 Divisional Prisoners of War Cage is at SHRAPNEL corner.
12. LIAISON. Captain J. ROYDHOUSE, M.C., 28th Bn. is detailed as Liaison Officer from 2nd Aust. Division with 66th Division.
 Brigade Liaison Officers with 5th and 6th A.I. Brigades will be detailed later.
13. HEADQUARTERS.
 2nd Aust. Div. Advanced H.Q. YPRES RAMPARTS.
 66th Div. H.Q. MENIN GATE, YPRES.
 5th A.I.Bde D.26.c.1.3.
 6th A.I.Bde SANS SOUCI J.2.a.3.6.
 7th A.I.Bde D.26.c.1.3.
14. Units are to reorganize and complete to 200 rounds S.A.A., 2 Bombs, 48 hours' rations, and 4 sandbags per man.
15. Contact patrol arrangements will be similar to those for the two previous attacks.
16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. J. Boase

Issued to Sigs at 11.45 am

Major, Brigade Major,
 7th Australian Inf. Brigade.

For distribution
 See separate sheet.

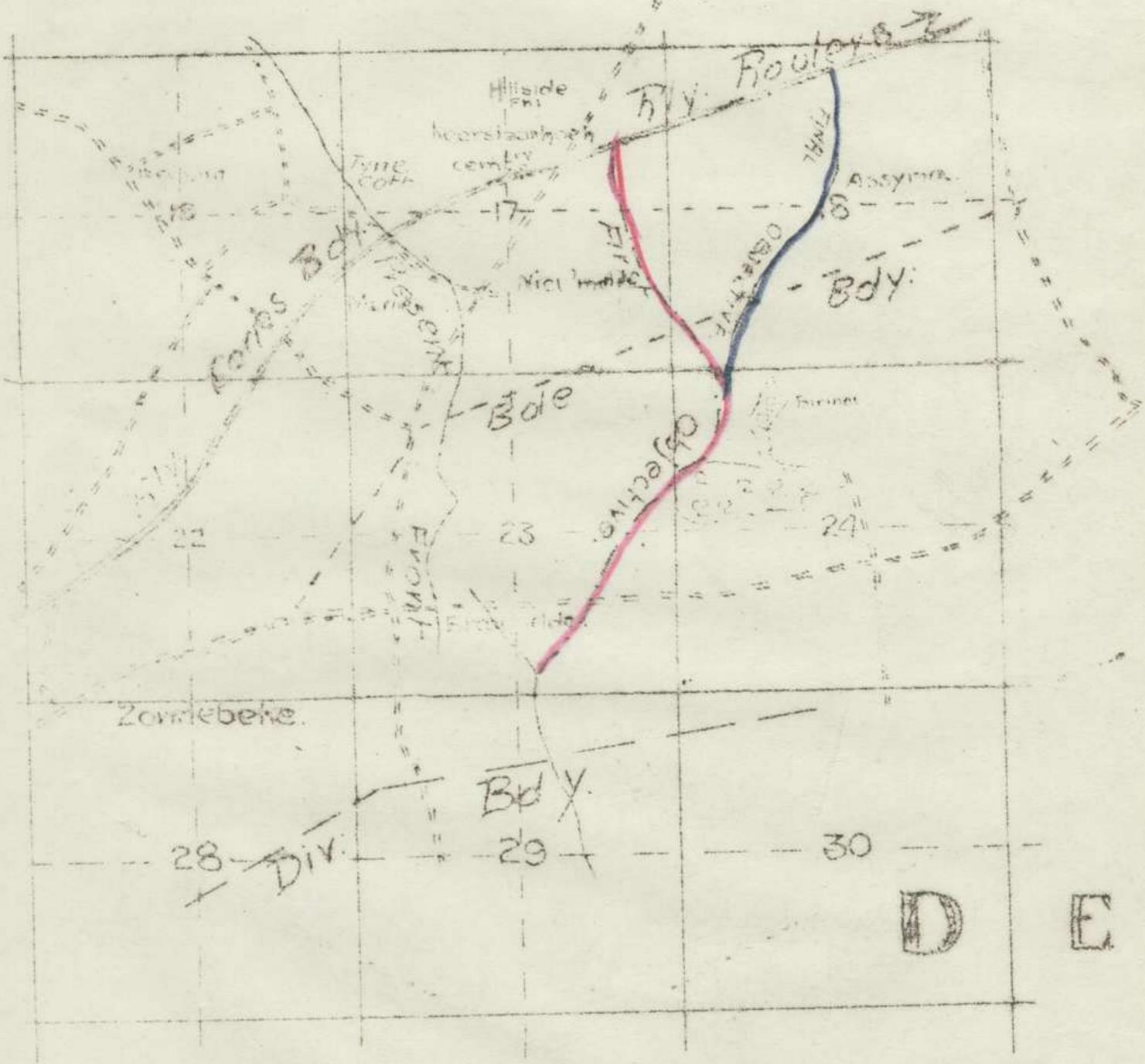
Appendix No 7

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Distribution : PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No.1. Series 5.

- | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| No. 1. | 25th Bn. | 15. | Staff Capt. |
| 2. | 26th Bn. | 16. | Bde Bomb Officer |
| 3. | 27th Bn. | 17. | " Sig. " |
| 4. | 28th Bn. | 18. | " I.O. |
| 5. | 7th M/G Coy | 19. | C.M.A. |
| 6. | 7th A.L.F.M.B. | 20. | C.M.E. |
| 7. | 2nd Aust. Div. 'G' | 21. | 7th Field Coy. |
| 8. | " " " 'Q' | 22. | 7th Field Amb. |
| 9. | 5th A.I.Bde | 23. | 14th A.I.Bde |
| 10. | 6th A.I.Bde | 24. | War Diary |
| 11. | 6th Div. | 25. | " " |
| 12. | 197th Bde. | 26. | File |
| 13. | G.O.C. | 27/30 | Spares. |
| 14. | B.M. | 31. | A.D.M.S. |
| | | 32. | Capt. J.ROYDHOUSE, M.C. |
| | | 33. | Liaison Off with 5th Bde |
| | | 34. | " " " 6th Bde |

SECRET



Ref. Map. Polygon Wood. Scale - 1:20,000.

SECRET

Appendix No 7

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 8th 1917.

ADDENDA to Preliminary Instructions No. 1. Series 53

Para 2. Insert :-

- (i) Mobile guns of 7th A.M.G. Coy will move up to vicinity of old Machine Gun H.Q. at D.22.c.4.6. by Zero hour.
- (ii) Personnel of 7th A.L.F.M.Bty will move up to vicinity of Brigade H.Q. by Zero plus 1 hour.

O.S.C.

of the above units will report to Brigade H.Q. when the unit is in its new position.

Anti-aircraft guns will be mounted as follows :-
 1 Lewis gun at MURLE, near Cellar at D.27.c.90.85. by "B" Battalion.
 1 Lewis gun at Railway Arch at D.26.b.9.4. by "C" Battalion.

In addition to the above, each Battalion will detail 1 mobile Lewis Gun exclusively for anti-aircraft duties during the various phases of the operation.

A. J. Boase

Major, Brigade Major,
 7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Appendix No 7

S.O. 1.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 8th 1917.

AMENDMENT

to PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 1. Series 3.

Cancel para 4, and substitute the following :-

" At Zero hour the reserve Brigade will be disposed as follows :-

"A" Battalion in trench D.29.a.1.6 - D.22.d.7.3.

This Battalion will come under the orders of G.O.C. 6th A.I. Brigade at Zero.

"B" and "C" Battalions. TOKIO SPUR D.27.a., c., & d.

"D" Battalion - - ANZAC SPUR D.26.d, - J.2.b.

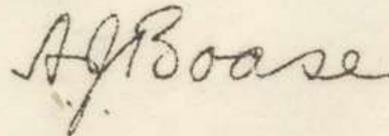
At Zero plus 1½ hours :-

"B" and "C" Battalions about the line D.22.c.9.3. -
D.22.c.7.7.

These Battalions will come under the orders of the G.O.C. 5th A.I. Bde, at Zero plus 1½ hours; each Bn. will at that hour send an officer to 5th A.I. Bde Advanced H.Q. at D.22.f.15.45 to receive orders.

"D" Battalion - TOKIO SPUR D.27.a., c, & d.

This Battalion will keep communication by signal with its own brigade H.Q., and also with 5th A.I. Bde Advanced H.Q.

ACKNOWLEDGE.


Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution as for
Preliminary Instructions No.1. Series 3.

SECRET

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Copy No. 12

ORDER No. 137.

October 9th 1917.

Reference Sheets 27 & 28 1/40,000.

APP 8

1. 7th A.I. Bde (less 7th A.M.G.Coy) will be relieved by 45th and 49th Battalions in the Forward Area as soon as possible on the 9th inst., under arrangements to be made by the G.O.C. 5th and 6th A.I. Bdes. On completion of relief, units will move to GORDON AREA, whence they will move by bus to STEENVOORDE on the 10th inst. Time and place of embussing will be notified later.
2. Units will send advance parties immediately to report to Staff Captain at Rear Brigade H.Q., RAILWAY DUGOUTS.
3. Trench Mortar Battery will move back independently to its Billets in YPRES on receipt of instructions from this office.
4. O.C., 7th A.M.G.Coy will arrange to replace casualty barrage guns from his Reserve Guns. Remaining guns will be placed at the disposal of 6th A.I. Bde as reserve. The relief of the 7th A.M.G.Coy will be arranged by the G.O.C., 6th A.I. Bde.
5. All battle stores in possession of units will be handed to incoming units; duplicates of receipt obtained will be forwarded to this office within 24 hours of completion of relief.
6. Completion of relief and map reference of new H.Q. will be wired priority to this office.
7. Bde H.Q. will close at D.26.c.1.3. on completion of relief, and will re-open at the same hour at INFANTRY BARRACKS, YPRES.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

APP 8 base

Issued to Sigs at 12.45 p.m.

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Bde

- Copies to :
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. 5th A.I.Bde.
 8. 6th A.I.Bde.
 9. Staff Capt.
 10. 2nd Aust. Div.
 11. War Diary.
 12. File.
 13. Spare.

Ward diary

App 9



SECRET

Copy No.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Oct. 13th 1917

REPORT ON OPERATIONS: Period 4th October to 9th October 1917.

Reference map: SCULLAR 1/10,000.
Sheets 38 N.W. & N.E. 1/20,000.

i. DISPOSITIONS.

(a) On day prior to attack; units of the 7th A.I. Brigade were located as follows :-

Advanced Brigade H.Q.	..	D.26.c.1.3.
near Brigade H.Q.	..	RAILWAY DUGOUT.
25th Battalion	..	LINE: (H.Q. D.26.d.55.55)
27th "	..	SUPPORT: (H.Q. KIT & REF J.1.d.3.7)
		3 Coys in vicinity J.1.b.80.70.
		2 Coys WESTHOEK RIDGE.
28th "	..	BELLEWAARDE RIDGE.
26th "	..	GORDON CAMP (CANAL AREA, VPRES)
7th A.M.G. Coy.		4 Guns in Line: H.Q. and remainder at RAILWAY DUGOUT.
7th A.L.T.M.B.		Dug in on MUHLE RIDGE D.27.c.8.8.

(b) For the attack, units formed up on the night 3/4th October as under :-

25th Battalion	on line approx. D.27.b.65.25 - D.21.d.1.1.
26th "	on line approx. D.27.c.90.75 -
	.. D.27.a.15.50.
27th "	on line approx. J.2.a.0.3. - D.25.d.80.13
28th "	3 Coys WESTHOEK RIDGE.
	1 Coy in trench at J.1.b.80.70.
	1 " Carrying for 25th Battalion.
7th A.M.G. Coy.	H.Q. D.26.b.6.2. 1 Section holding the MUHLE - St. JOSEPHS RIDGE.
	1 Section to support each of 25th and 26th Battalions in the capture and consolidation of 1st and 2nd Objectives.
	1 Section in Brigade Reserve in vicinity of Brigade H.Q.
7th A.L.T.M.B.	H.Q. DRAUGHT HOUSE, D.27.c.25.55.
	2 Mortars emplaced to deal with machine Gun positions at D.21.d.43.46 and D.21.d.65.23.
	4 Mortars to accompany 25th Bn. to 1st Objective, and afterwards be available for 26th Bn. if required.
	2 Mortars in Brigade Reserve at D.27.c.8.8.



Appendix No 9.

- 3 -

2. BOUNDARIES & OBJECTIVES, were as shown in attached map. Objectives were allotted to units as follows :-

RED LINE	(1st Objective)	25th Battalion.
BLUE "	(2nd Objective)	26th Battalion with 27th Battalion in close support.

3. FORMATIONS As for Battle of MENIN ROAD, except that 25th Battalion was allotted 1 Company of 26th Battalion for carrying, so that a larger number of "McPears up" could be detailed to clean up the ruins of ZONNEBEKE and the number of "pillboxes" in the vicinity.

4. FORMING UP.

25th Battalion moved into jumping off position early (before 11 p.m.) to avoid showing up in the bright moonlight on the forward slope, as would have occurred if they had waited until the latter part of the night when the moon had got into the west.

Other Battalions (being further to the rear, and not on the forward slopes, were assembled by 5 a.m.

All positions of assembly had been selected after a careful preliminary reconnaissance and study of the normal Boche barrages, as was done for the previous operation, and the value of this reconnaissance was again thoroughly demonstrated by the comparatively light casualties sustained before ZERO - in spite of the fact that hostile shelling was much heavier than usual, owing to the hostile preparation for an attack on the sector immediately on our right.

5. ACTION OF UNITS.

1st PHASE. At 6 a.m. our artillery and machine gun barrage opened, and at the same time, two previously emplaced mortars opened a hurricane bombardment on the hostile machine gun positions at D.21.d.43.46 and D.21.d.45.23., and smothered them.

The attack was launched to time in spite of the fact that an S.O.S. had been sent up on 2nd A.I. Brigade front at about 5.55 a.m., owing to the enemy having formed up for an attack on our line between POLIGNON OOD and ZONNEBEKE.

Our attack however, just preceded the enemy attack, and after a little work with the bayonet, the enemy, who were thoroughly disorganized and demoralized by our barrage, began to surrender freely.

By 7.10 a.m. prisoners had arrived back, and were identified as the 212th A.I.A., which was one of the regiments detailed for the attack.

27th Battalion began to move up in close support of 26th Battalion, to D.22.central.

The wire with 25th Battalion was cut at 6.40 a.m., but from reports of wounded, everything appeared to be going well. Our troops followed the barrage closely, and quickly overcame any opposition which was offered by isolated groups of the enemy.

At 7.55 a.m. wounded confirmed the report that 25th Battalion were on the RED LINE and were consolidating.

- 3 -

By 7.57 a.m., Brigades on both flanks reported that they were on the RED LINE and in touch with us.

At 7.50 a.m. a forward Brigade Dump was being established at MOULIN FARM

2nd PHASE.

The 26th Battalion had moved forward at ZERO in rear of 25th Battalion, passing through a heavy barrage in the neighbourhood of ZONNEBANK, and suffering rather heavy casualties in doing so.

On capture of the RED LINE the 26th Battalion reorganized under cover of the protective barrage, and moved forward up to the barrage. Practically no opposition was encountered until the line of the North and South road through BROODSLIDE was reached. Here there was a fair amount of sniping and heavy machine gun fire from DAISY WOOD and the undergrowth to the west of it.

Owing to this opposition, and the fact that the best tactical position was on a line between 40 and 100 yards East of the BROODSLIDE Road, the 26th Battalion dug in on the line as shown in attached sketch. The strength of the 26th Battalion in the front line was then about 200 rifles and 2 Companies of the 27th Battalion (approx. 100 rifles) were pushed up to fill in the gap between 26th Battalion and 22nd Battalion on the Right. Touch was also obtained on the Left with 41st Battalion North of the

Road Junction at D.23.a.4.7.

At 12.40 p.m., 19th Battalion came under the Command of the G.O.C. 7th A.I. Brigade, and were moved up in Reserve to line D.27.a.1.2. - D.27.c.5.8, with Headquarters at D.26.c.55.55.

6. CONSOLIDATION. (Vide attached sketch)

(i) On capture of the RED LINE, 25th Battalion immediately began consolidation by connecting up shell-hole positions, and putting out a line of wire.

(ii) A platoon Strong Point was dug and garrisoned by 27th Battalion under Engineer supervision, at D.22.b.90.55.

(iii) On capture of BLUE LINE, a communication trench was immediately put through by 27th Battalion over the crest of the ridge between (approx) D.22.d.8.8. and D.25.c.5.9.

(iv) A continuous line was constructed in an old Boche trench, and shell-hole posts pushed out ahead.

(v) On the night 4/5th October, Battalions were re-organized, and one Company of the 27th Battalion withdrawn to Support position.

7. ACTION OF MACHINE GUNS & TRENCH MORTARS.

Four machine guns were detailed to cover the advance and consolidation of each of the 25th and 26th Battalions on the 1st and 2nd Objectives respectively. The guns for 1st Objective got few targets, but the guns for the 2nd Objective were used with effect on enemy massing in DAISY WOOD, and also on hostile machine guns which were causing trouble from both flanks. One section was emplaced on St. JOSEPHS RIDGE, and supported the attack until its fire was masked by the advance. One section remained at Brigade Headquarters as Reserve.

- 4 -

Two French Mortars dealt with hostile machine guns at D.21.d.43.46 and D.21.d.65.23 from ZERO to ZERO plus 3, and were successful in knocking out the crews.

Four guns moved forward to the 1st Objective and dug in on the Left flank.

Two guns were held in Reserve at MUHLE RIDGE.

8. BRIGADE PLANS.

Were again used for dealing with suitable targets during the operation, and were pushed forward independent of Battalions.

9. COMMUNICATIONS.

Prior to the attack, the buried cable had been laid as far as ZONNBAKE CHURCH, and communications were maintained in accordance with the principles laid down in S.S. 138.

There was a noticeable improvement in the use of visual, which was used between Advanced Brigade H.Q. and Brigade Forward Station almost continuously. Some Battalions however, still did not make sufficient use of this means of communication, and in fact did not use the Brigade Forward Station as much as they should have, for rendering frequent reports to Brigade H.Q.

The Earth Induction set was blown out before it could be got into position.

10.

ENEMY ATTEMPTS TO COUNTER ATTACK.

At 3.30 p.m. S.O.S. was sent up on a sector on our right, and also on the 11th A.I. Brigade sector. No attack materialized.

At 5.30 p.m. enemy were reported to be concentrating in DAISY WOOD, and again at 6.25 p.m. They were dispersed by machine gun and rifle fire.

At 6.35 p.m. enemy were reported moving down road from direction of PASSCHENDAELE.

At 6.45 p.m. S.O.S. was sent up on sectors on both our flanks, and on our own sector at 6.46 p.m. Artillery opened, and no attack materialized.

At 7.15 p.m. all quiet on our sector.

At 9.57 p.m. S.O.S. along the whole front. Enemy attack dispersed.

S.O.S. on 3rd Australian Divisional front several times during the remainder of the night, but no action on our front.

11. HOSTILE SHELLING.

About 5.30 a.m. 4th October, enemy shelled old front line heavily, and also MUHLE RIDGE, besides scattering 5.9's in the back area.

At about 5.55 a.m. shelling became intense.

About 6 a.m. he lifted on to MUHLE RIDGE and later confined his retaliation mainly to the duck-board tracks and railway, moving back to old front

- 5 -

line at 6.37 a.m.

At 7 a.m. hostile shelling became scattered and rather lighter.

At 8.8 a.m., enemy barrage appeared to be mainly on the jumping off line (25th Battalion) and for 500 yards forward of it.

At 8.37 a.m. enemy got on to RED LINE and shelled it continuously during the morning, decreasing somewhat about 10.4 a.m.

At 1.7 p.m. hostile artillery fire was heavy on BLUE LINE, which was shelled intermittently during remainder of tour.

The vicinity of ZONNEBEKE, THAMES OOD, and the RED LINE were most frequently shelled.

13. RELIEFS.

- (i) On the night of 5/6th October, 7th A.I. Brigade (less 2 sections 7th A.M.G. Coy) was relieved by a portion of 5th A.I. Brigade, and on relief was disposed as under :-

Brigade H.Q.	remained at	D.26.c.1.3.
27th Battalion	moved to	trenches in D.27.c.
25th "	"	" WESTHOEK RIDGE.
28th "	"	" RAILWAY OOD and
		BELLEVAAR DE RIDGE.
26th "	"	" GORDON CAMP.
7th A.L.F.M.B.	"	" PRES (Post Office)
7th A.M.G. Coy	"	" WESTHOEK RIDGE.
	(less 2 sections)	

- (ii) On the night of 6/7th October, consequent on re-adjustment of boundary, the following moves took place:

- (a) 27th Battalion took over front line from 2/6th Manchester Regiment, between 5th A.I. Brigade and PRES - ROULERS Railway.
- (b) 25th Battalion took over Support Line from 2/5th Manchester Regiment (approx. along road from D.23.a.40.65 North West to Railway)
- (c) 26th and 28th Battalion (composite under Command of Lieut. Colonel J. TRAVERS, D.S.O.) to reserve position on RED LINE.

- (iii) On night 7/8th October, 5th A.I. Brigade relieved 7th A.I. Brigade which moved into Divisional Reserve into the following positions :-

27th Battalion	RAILWAY OOD.
25th "	BELLEVAARDE RIDGE.
26th "	WESTHOEK
28th "	WESTHOEK
7th A.L.F.M.B.	RAILWAY OOD.
7th A.M.G. Coy.	WESTHOEK and vicinity of
	D.26.b.f.2.

- 6 -

13. ACTION WHILE IN DIVISIONAL RESERVE.

At 5.20 a.m. on 9th October:

- (a) 28th Battalion had moved forward to trench at D.29.a.1.6 - D.22.d.7.3, and was placed under the orders of G.O.C., 6th A.I. Brigade.
- (b) 25th and 26th Battalions had moved to TOKIO SPUR D.27.a., c, & d.
- (c) 27th Battalion to ANZAC SPUR D.26.d. - J.2.b.
- (d) 6 guns of 7th A.M.G. Coy were handed over to D.M.G.O. for barrage work. 8 guns were kept as mobile reserve at D.22.b.6.2.

At 6.50 a.m. 25th and 26th Battalions had moved to line D.22.c.9.3. - D.22.c.7.7. and were placed under the orders of G.O.C. 5th A.I. Brigade.

27th Battalion to TOKIO SPUR D.27.a., c & d.

At 8.55 a.m. a report was received from 28th Battalion that 1 Officer and 30 o/ranks had been sent forward to reinforce QUAD (24th Bn) and had established a Strong Point at D.23.b.1.5.

At 9 a.m. 5th A.I. Brigade moved 26th Battalion up to occupy old front line, and were using 50 men of 25th Battalion as a carrying party.

At 10.35 a.m. On receipt of a telephone message from Lieut. Colonel SAIDGES, D.S.O., G.S.O.1, 27th Bn. was instructed to occupy the old front line North of BROODSEINDE - MOORSEINDE Road in D.23.a. and c., and was placed under the orders of G.O.C. 6th A.I. Brigade.

At 10.40 a.m. A report was received from 6th A.I. Bde that 28th Battalion had been put in to reinforce attack on DAISE OOD.

At 11.10 a.m. 25th Battalion (less carrying parties) was ordered up to occupy old Support Line (RED LINE)

A part from supplying carrying parties, Battalions remained in these positions until the relief of 7th A.I. Brigade on the night 9/10th October by 45th Battalion, when Battalions and Trench Mortar Battery moved back to GORDON AREA (PRES)

The 7th A.M.G. Coy remained in the line until the night 10/11th October, when they were relieved by the 13th A.M.G. Coy, and the mobile reserve guns were placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. 6th A.I. Brigade. Two of these guns only were used, and they were sent forward to occupy positions in the front line at 1.30 p.m. 10th inst.

14. CAPTURES.

In the operation on the 4th October, the following were captured:-

<u>PRISONERS:-</u>	5 Officers	244 o/ranks.
<u>MATERIAL :-</u>	Machine Guns	12.
	Trench Mortars	6

- 7 -

15. CASUALTIES. From 1st to 11th October 1917.

Unit	Killed		Wounded		Missing	
	Off.	o/r	Off.	o/r	Off.	o/r
7th A.L.I. Bty	-	-	-	8	-	-
7th A.L.I. Coy	-	11	3	54	-	3
25th Battalion	3	42	11	240	-	17
26th Battalion	2	38	8	266	-	40
27th Battalion	3	45	9	137	-	4
28th Battalion	1	44	8	102	-	7
	9	140	39	705	-	71

71
866

16.

LESSONS LEARNED.

The following points were noted as being worthy of consideration for future guidance :

1. The minimising of Casualties at jumping off positions and during the approach to same, as a result of careful previous study of enemy's habits and barrages, and consequent selection of the best jumping off positions.
2. The plan of the Barrage was, in my opinion, bad, and was evidently laid down without sufficient regard to the action of the Infantry. If the Infantry are to work to the best advantage, and with the minimum of loss, it must be able to follow the barrage closely. This is extremely difficult to do, and at the same time maintain direction if the barrage is not parallel or nearly so to the objective.
The result of the bad plan was that the barrage was ragged and irregular. Some batteries or guns seemed to open later on the extreme left, and caught our men. It is hard to know exactly what happened here, but we had casualties from our own barrage, which appeared to be uncertain and ragged.
It is suggested that Infantry Officers be consulted if it is thought necessary to depart at all from nearly parallel lines to the objective.
3. The disorganization was considerable owing to the broken and swampy ground and the barrage. All attempt at line was quickly abandoned, and the attack developed into an irregular mass of small columns. This however was quite effective owing to the aggressive spirit of the men, and good leadership on the part of junior officers and the N.C.O's.
Reorganization was difficult and slow on the forward slope, and impossible in daylight.
4. Great difficulty appeared to be experienced in determining the actual line finally held, and reports were very contradictory and mostly wrong. Some special arrangements might be made beforehand for a special reconnaissance by expert officers to determine this point. This will be done in future by this brigade.
5. Reports were again meagre, and all means for communication were not fully availed of. Visual was much better, and used more than last stunt, but there is still room for much improvement.
6. Reports on the condition of trenches etc. were proved to be misleading. The communication trench through the ridge was reported by an officer to be six feet deep; with the exception of a few yards it was only about four feet deep. It was also reported to be a good trench, whereas it was by no means such.

- 9 -

7. S.O.S. The new arrangement providing for a time limit was, in my opinion, very successful, and must have saved thousands of rounds of ammunition. The S.O.S. was most widely used particularly on our left. On this Brigade front, 3 S.O.S. only were reported by our Observers. One of these only is acknowledged, and the Battalion in the line absolutely deny having fired the other two. I still do not think there was sufficient cause for firing the S.O.S.
8. The machine gun positions for the mobile guns were well selected, and no casualties to guns occurred. 5 out of the 8 barrage guns however were destroyed.
The Brigade Staff make most careful reconnaissance of the area for positions for the Infantry, and the information thus gained has proved most valuable. This is of course at the disposal of the D.I.G.O., and might be of use to him, he not perhaps having the same opportunities for such.
9. The Hurricane Barrage put up by the Trench mortar Battery on machine gun positions at D.21.d.43.45 and 65.23, was most effective. It was laid down at ZERO plus 1, and ceased at ZERO plus 3. Later reconnaissance showed that the enemy crews had been killed by this barrage.
10. Specialists from the Camp at CAESTRE were used for fatigues, and as Stretcher Bearers. This I think is wrong, and is destructive of the principle on which the CAESTRE Camp is based.
11. There was a tendency to push beyond the BLUE Line simply to gain ground. In most cases this ground was of no tactical use, and the pushing forward left the line at a tactical disadvantage, inasmuch as a line nearer the crest was the better tactically, and the forward line only made communication and support more difficult, and placed more troops on the forward slope than was necessitated by the tactical situation, more or less at the mercy of enemy artillery and machine guns.
I take it the duty of a Commander capturing a final objective is to select and consolidate the best tactical position in the vicinity of that line, and make it good. If there are tactical points in front, the possession of which is important, he should occupy them, but an advance beyond the best tactical position merely to gain ground of no tactical value, should be deprecated.

Alan Watson

Brig. General,
Commanding 7th Australian Infantry Brigade

App 10

SECRET

Copy No. 17

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Order No. 138

19th October 1917.

Reference: BELGIUM Sheet 28 N.E.

Preliminary Instructions - Reliefs.

1. The Second Australian Division will relieve the Fifth Australian Division in the line (Right Divisional Sector) about the 27/28th inst. .
The front for which this Division will be responsible will extend from J.5.b.30.15 to about D.23.central.
The 1st Australian Division will be on the Left of the 2nd Australian Division.
2. The front system will be held by "A" Brigade - the 7th Australian Infantry Brigade, which will extend back to the neighbourhood of GANDE POINT. *Ganckel*
The 5th A.I. Brigade, "B" Brigade, will be in Support from WESHOEK ALDER (inclusive) to the LILLE ROAD (exclusive)
The 6th A.I. Brigade - "C" Brigade - will be in Divisional reserve in the OUDERDONK Area. (of this Brigade, one Battalion may be quartered in the Support Brigade Area to assist in work).
3. The role of the Division will be primarily a defensive one, though it will be prepared to advance its Left to conform with any forward movement of the troops further North.
4. The chief tasks will therefore be :-
 - (a) Preparation and maintenance of a good defensive system. This will include not only defensive works, but plans for counter-attacks.
 - (b) The preparation and maintenance of good communication duck-board tracks, roads, tramlines, etc.
 - (c) The improvement of Signal communications, buried cable routes, visual signal stations, etc.
 - (d) The improvement of accommodation for troops in the area, both in front line and behind, i.e.
 - (i) Dry places where men can rest, sleep, and change their socks.
 - (ii) Positions of sentries.
 - (iii) Positions for snipers and observers.
 - (iv) Headquarters for Companies, Battalions, Brigades, and accommodation for signal personnel, N.A.P.'s etc.
 - (v) Marking the above and erecting sign posts.
5. A Field Company of Engineers will be affiliated to the Brigade in the front system.

- 2 -

6. Pending the issue of a revised Defence Scheme, the policy laid down in the Defence Schemes taken over on relief will be carried on as regards Infantry, Artillery, machine gun tasks, and Works programmes.
7. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.

1/6 Lee

Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 9.30 p.m.

Copies to :

1. 25th bn.
2. 26th bn.
3. 27th bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th M/G Coy
6. 7th A.S.I. Bty.
7. 2nd Aust. Div. "G"
8. " " " "Q"
9. C.A.M.
10. G.O.C.
11. S.O.
12. B.M.
13. Sig. Officer.
14. File
- 15 to 17 War Diary.
- 18 to 20 spare.

War Diary

App 11

Copy No. 23

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ORDER No. 139.

October 24th 1917.

Reference maps - Sheets ~~27~~ 28, 1/40,000.

+ 28 NE 1/20,000

1. The 2nd Australian Division will relieve the 5th Australian Division in the right sector of the Corps front between 26th and 28th October 1917.
The 7th A.I. Brigade (less 7th A.M.G. Coy) will relieve the 15th A.I. Brigade on the day 27th inst., and the night of 27/28th October.
The 7th A.M.G. Coy will relieve the 15th A.M.G. Coy on the night 26/27th October.
2. (a) The relief and necessary moves will be carried out in accordance with the attached march Table and further orders to follow.
(b) Maps showing disposition of Forward Brigade, and overland routes etc. have been issued.
3. Para 2 of 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 138 is cancelled, and the following substituted :-
The 7th A.I. Brigade will be responsible for the defence of the front system including the defences on the eastern slopes of the BROODSPLENDE RIDGE, the RIDGE itself, and westwards to TOKIO SPUR.
The 5th A.I. Brigade will be in Support, and will be quartered at HALFLAT HOUSE, and S. AM AREA, but will be prepared to move forward and occupy WESHOEK and ANEAC RIDGES in case of need.
The 6th A.I. Brigade will be in Divisional Reserve in the DICKBUSCH AREA.
4. The Machine Gun Company will receive separate orders for the Machine Gun Defence.
The 7th A.M.G. Coy will find :
 - (a) direct fire defence guns (eleven)
 - (b) anti-aircraft guns for the front system (two)
 - (c) Machine Gun Coy reserve (three)

There will also be an S.O.S. group posted under the orders of the D.M.G.O. but in direct touch with the Commander of the Brigade in the line, and under his orders for S.O.S. work.
The reserve machine Guns of the Company will remain at BELGIAN CHATEAU, which will be the D.M.G. Headquarters, with the Machine Gun personnel, instead of going to the Reinforcement Camp.
5. Reference 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 138 -
The 7th Field Company A.E. will be affiliated with 7th A.I. Brigade in the front system.
6. Subject to the terms of this order, the relief will be carried out by mutual arrangement between the Commanders concerned.

Until the Divisional relief is completed, troops on arrival in or forward of the DICKLBUSCH AREA will come under the Command of the G.O.C. 5th Australian Division for tactical purposes.

7. Administrative orders will be issued separately.
8. Completion of relief will be reported by wire in code to Brigade H.Q. at J.L.D.3.2.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

H. Lee
Major, A/Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade

Issued to Signals at 11 am

Copies to :-

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 27th Bn.
4. 28th Bn.
5. 7th A.I.F. B.
6. 7th M.G. Coy.
7. 3rd Aust. Div "G"
8. " " " " "C"
9. 15th A.I. Bde.
10. 7th Field Coy A.
11. A.D.M.S.
12. 5th A.I. Bde
13. 6th A.I. Bde.
14. B.I.O.
15. G.O.C.
16. B.M.
17. S.C.
18. Area Commandant (S.I.A. VOORDE)
19. " " (S.I.A. AREA)
20. File
- 21 to 23 War Diary
- 24 to 26 Spare.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

MARCH TABLE to accompany Brigade Order No. 139.

October 24th 1917.

Date	Unit	From	To	Route	Remarks
1917. Oct. 25th.	7th A.M.G. Coy	STEENVOORDE	BELGIAN CHATEAU	-	By bus from STEENVOORDE SQUARE at 8 a.m. 25th inst.
" 26/27.	-do-	BELGIAN CHATEAU	FRONT LINE	ZONNEBEKE B. w Anzac duckwalks.	Come under command of G.O.C. 15th A.I. Bde until completion of Brigade Relief.
" 26th	7th A.I. Sde (less 7th A.M.G. Coy)	STEENVOORDE	SAN AREA	-	By train from ABELLE to YPRES, thence by route march.
" 27th	27th Bn.	SAN AREA	Right Support Battalion.	HELLES duckwalks.	To be completed in daylight.
" 27th	25th Bn.	" "	Left Support Battalion.	ZONNEBEKE - B. w Anzac duckwalks.	To be completed in daylight.
" 27/28	7th ALTB.	" "	Front Line - - -	do - - -	
" 27/28	28th Bn.	" "	Right Batta- lion Front Line	HELLES duck- walks.	
" 27/28	26th Bn.	" "	Left Battalion Front line.	ZONNEBEKE - B. w Anzac duckwalks	

Distances to be maintained between units when moving by road west of YPRES :-

300 yards between Battalions and other units.
 400 " " Transport, horsed units, and other troops.
 200 " " Companies.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 25th 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS to accompany
7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 139.

Ref. Sheet 27 - 28 1/40, 000.

1. The Transport will move brigaded under the Command of Captain J.C. LITTLE, to pass Road Junction at K.32.d.5.0. by 11 a.m.
On arrival in the new area, the transport lines will be situated near CAFÉ BELGE.
There will be no baggage wagons from the train, but units' stores will be carried by motor transport. Probably two lorries per Battalion will be available.
2. KITS. There will be no dump in STERVOORDE. Units will arrange to carry all stores, and these will be dumped under canvas in the vicinity of the transport lines.
3. When units embuss, they will carry packs, waterproof sheet, and two blankets in the busses. On arrival in the new area, packs and one blanket will be dumped at the Brigade Kit Store.
4. Advanced parties of 1 Officer and 2 N.C.O.'s will meet the Staff Captain at CAFÉ BELGE tomorrow 26th inst. at 10 a.m.
5. All area stores will be handed to Area Commandant tomorrow and receipts obtained. A copy of these receipts will be forwarded to Brigade H.Q. by 12 noon on 27th inst.
6. Billets must be left in a clean and sanitary condition. Certificates will be obtained that they are clean.
Units should leave a small party under an officer, to clean up. These parties will then march to STAE AREA.
Units will arrange for the officer left behind to ascertain whether there are any claims, and if so, to settle them if they are reasonable. The Interviewers will be available to assist units.

Captain, Staff Captain,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

SECRET.

War Diary

Copy No. 23

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 25th 1917.

ADDENDA 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 139.

Reference maps Sheet 27 & 28, 1/40,000.

1. The 7th A.I. Brigade (less 7th A.M.G. Coy) will move on the 26th inst. to SWAN AREA by bus, and not as stated in 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 139.
The 22nd A.M.G. Coy will move with the 7th A.I. Bde and proceed to BELGIAN CHATEAU and take over the S.O.S. barrage guns on the 27th inst.
2. The embussing point is on the CASSELL - ABEELE Road. Head of column K.34.c.9.4.
Units will reach the embussing point at the following times :

23th Battalion	8.00 a.m.
25th "	8.20 a.m.
26th "	8.40 a.m.
27th "	9.00 a.m.
7th A.L.T.M.B.	9.20 a.m.
Brigade H.Q.	9.25 a.m.
22nd M.G. Coy	9.30 a.m.
3. Each unit will detail an officer to act as embussing officer, and to report to Captain A.V. GALLASCH at the embussing point at 7.45 a.m. tomorrow 26th inst. (7th A.L.T.M.Bty and Brigade H.Q. to send an N.O.).
4. The de-bussing point is H.30.d.5.3. facing South - Sheet 28.
5. Reference Administrative Instructions issued today.
 - (a) The transport of the Brigade will pass the starting point at 7.30 a.m.
 - (b) Advanced parties will meet the Staff Captain at 9 a.m. at CAFE BELGE, H.29.b.8.6. Sheet 28.
6. On arrival in SWAN AREA units will at once get in touch with units of the 15th A.I. Brigade whom they are relieving in the forward brigade area, and make arrangements for the relief on the following day.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

K. Lee
Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 6.30 p.m.
Distribution as for Bde Order 139,
plus 22nd A.M.G. Coy.

App 11A

War Diary

SECRET

Copy No 19

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Addenda bde. Order No. 139.

30/10/1917.

Reference : sheet 28. 1/10,000
38 A.L. 1/10,000.

(1) The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. less 7th M. Gun Coy. will relieve the 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. less 15th M. Gun Coy. on the 27th and the night of 27/28th instant.

(2) Reliefs will be carried out in accordance with attached March Table.

Subject to the terms of the Order all details of relief will be mutually arranged between Commanders concerned.

(3) All trench and Area Stores, local maps and aeroplane photographs will be taken over.

(4) (a) Until completion of Brigade relief Units will be under the command of the G.O.C., 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. for tactical measures.

(b) Completion of relief will be reported to bde. headquarters in code by wire.

(5) Brigade headquarters will close at 3 AM AUSA at 3.30 p.m., and open at J.L.D.4.2. at same hour.

(6) Acknowledge:

Major, Brigade Major.
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Sigs. at 6 a.m.

Distribution :-

- No. 1. 25th Bn.
- 2. 26th Bn.
- 3. 27th Bn.
- 4. 28th Bn.
- 5. 7th A.L.T. & Stry.
- 6. 7th M. Gun Coy.
- 7. 5th A.I. Bde.
- 8. 6th A.I. Bde.
- 9. 2nd Aust. Div. "G"
- 10. -do- "Q"
- 11. 5th Aust. Div.
- 12. 15th A.I. Bde.
- 13. G.O.C.
- 14. S.M.
- 15. S.C.
- 16. Bde. Sig. Officer.
- 17/19 War Diary.
- 20. File.
- 21. Area Commandant "Swan" Area.
- 22. 7th Field Coy A.L.

PTO

March table to accompany order No 139.

Appendix No 1/A

95

Unit.	Will relieve	Route	Remarks.
25th bn.	60th bn. Left support.	WARRINGTON ROAD, BIRN X ROADS - ZONNEBEKE "B" track.	Guides on the ZONNEBEKE "B" track at J.l.d.3.8. at 3 p.m.
27th bn.	59th bn. Right support.	WARRINGTON ROAD - HELLERS Track.	Guides at Junction of HELLERS Track & plank road J.7.b.9.1. at 3 p.m.
26th bn.	58th bn. Front line left.	WARRINGTON ROAD - BIRN X ROADS - ZONNEBEKE "B" track ANZAC Tracks.	Guide at ZONNEBEKE "B" track. at J.l.d.3.8. at 5 p.m.
28th bn.	57th bn. Front line right.	WARRINGTON ROAD HELLERS & JABBER Track.	Guides at Junction of HELLERS Track and plank road J.7.b.9.1. at 5.30 p.m.
7th Coy. Bty.	15th Coy. Bty.	As convenient.	Relief to be arranged independently and to be completed by 5.30 p.m.
7th Bde. H.Q.	15th Bde. H.Q.	WARRINGTON ROAD - BIRN X ROADS - ZONNEBEKE "B" track.	

- (a) Distance of at least 50 yds between sections and 200 yds between companies will be maintained.
- (b) Guides from outgoing units will meet incoming units as follows :-
1 per company at rendez-vous.
1 per post at Battalion Headquarters.
- (c) ZONNEBEKE "B" track is now called CAMBRIDGE track.
HELLERS track forward of junction with JABBER track is to be avoided during relief.

95

War Diary

HEADQUARTERS,
7TH AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. 275/13
Date.....

52

App 12

Copy No.

SECRET

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 29th 1917.

Map ref. SECLAR Sheet 1/10,000.
Sheet 28 N.W. 1/20,000

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS - RELIEFS.

1. The 22nd A.M.G. Coy will relieve the 7th A.M.G. Coy in the line on the night of 30/31st October; relief to commence as soon as dark enough to conceal movement.
2. The 4 guns etc. of the 7th Coy at present in use with 22nd Coy will be taken over and manned by the 5th Coy.
3. On completion of reliefs the 7th A.M.G. Coy will return to their rear Coy H.Q. and remain in Reserve.
4. Subject to the terms of these instructions the reliefs will be carried out by mutual arrangement between Company Commanders concerned.
5. Completion of reliefs will be reported to Brigade H.Q. in code.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Lee Major, A/Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at p.m.

- Copies to :
1. 25th Bn.
 2. 26th Bn.
 3. 27th Bn.
 4. 28th Bn.
 5. 7th M/G Coy
 6. 7th A.L.T.M.B.
 7. 22nd M.G. Coy
 8. 2nd Aust. Div.)
 9. 62nd Bde) for information
 10. 2nd A.I. Bde)

App 13

SECRET

Copy No. 17

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Order No. 140.

Reference Map BEGELAERE 1/10,000.

October 30th 1917.

1. The following inter-battalion reliefs will take place on the 31st October/1st November.
2. The 37th Battalion will relieve the 38th Battalion in the front line (Right Sub-sector), commencing at 9.30 p.m.
The 35th Battalion will relieve the 26th Battalion in the front line (Left Sub-sector) commencing at 8.30 p.m.
3. All maps, air photographs, trench stores etc. will be taken over.
4. Works policy and system of patrolling will be carried on by the incoming units.
5. Subject to the terms of this Order, details of relief will be arranged mutually between Commanding Officers concerned.
6. Completion of relief will be reported to Brigade H.Q. by Code.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. E. Lee

Major, A/Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at 9.15 p.m.

Copies to :

1. 25th Bn.
2. 26th Bn.
3. 37th Bn.
4. 38th Bn.
5. T.M. Bty
6. 22nd M.G. Coy
7. 2nd Aust. Div. "G"
8. " " " " "Q"
9. 5th A.V. Bde
10. 6th A.I. Bde
11. 3rd A.I. Bde
12. 62nd Bde.
13. 5th A.M.G. Coy
14. B.M.
15. to 17 War Diary
18. File.
- 19/20 Spare.

95

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

54

Ref. Map BECELAERE 1/10,000

October 31st 1917

HEADQUARTERS
7th AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. 200/38
Date

War diary

1. ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENCE

1. The Brigade in the line is responsible for the anti-aircraft defence of the area from the front line to and including TOKIO SPUR.

2. (a) Battalions have posted Lewis Guns in the following positions (1 Lewis Gun in each)

Right Line Battalion	J.5.a.40.90 J.4.b.78.48.
Left Line Battalion	D.28 central. D.28.b.00.75. D.29.a.30.85. B.29.a.50.00.
Right Support Bn.	D.28.c.7.0. D.28.c.4.2. J.4.a.70.65. J.4.a.9.5.
Left Support Bn.	D.28.c.1.4. D.28.c.25.45. D.28.c.35.55. D.28.c.10.85.

(b) The L.T.M. Battery has placed two mortars in each of the following positions :-

1. J.5.a.7.7.
2. D.29.c.5.6.
3. D.23.c.15.10.

(c) The Machine Gun Company in the line has anti-aircraft guns in the following positions :

1. J.4.b.6.3.
2. D.28.b.75.85.

3. (a) Unit Commanders concerned will arrange for the relief of gun crews, who will be provided with written instructions regarding their duties. Each position will have a reserve of ammunition.

(b) Unit Commanders will change the positions when the safety of the detachments necessitates a change. Brigade Headquarters will be informed at once of any such changes.

(c) Gun crews will be notified of other anti-aircraft positions in their vicinity.

4. Machine and Lewis Guns forward of the BROODSEINDE Ridge will not fire at enemy aircraft unless a very favorable opportunity is presented.

H. Lee Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Bde.

- Copies to :
1. 25th Bn.
 2. 26th Bn.
 3. 27th Bn.
 4. 28th Bn.
 5. T.M.Bty
 6. 2nd M.G.Coy
 - 7/8. 2nd Aust.Div.
 9. 5th A.I.Bde
 10. 6th A.I. Bde
 11. File

November 1st 1917.

ORDER No. 141.

App 15

Reference Sheet 28, 1/40,000.
BECHLAERE, 1/10,000.
HOOGE, 1/10,000.

1. The 7th A.I. Brigade (less 7th A.M.G.Coy) will be relieved on the 2nd November and night of 2/3rd November, by the 5th A.I. Brigade (less 5th A.M.G.Coy)
Reliefs will be carried out in accordance with attached March Table.

2. Subject to the terms of this Order, reliefs will be carried out by mutual arrangement between the Commanding Officers concerned.

3. All maps, photographs, trench stores etc. will be handed over and receipts obtained. Duplicate receipts to be forwarded to Brigade H.Q. by 10 a.m. 4th inst.

4. East of IPRES the following distances will be maintained :
In daylight - 50 yards between sections.
At night - 20 yards between platoons.

West of IPRES, troops will maintain the following distances:
800 yards between Battalions.
400 " between transport of units and other troops
200 " " Companies.

5. On completion of relief, the Command of the Sector will pass to the G.O.C., 5th A.I. Brigade.

6. Completion of relief will be reported in code to Brigade H.Q.

7. The 27th Battalion will take over on the 4th inst. the work being carried out by the 21st Battalion.

8. On completion of relief Brigade H.Q. will close at J.l.d.4.2. and will open at WALKER CAMP H.27.b.7.7. at the same hour.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

H. Lee
Major, Brigade Major,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at _____ p.m.

Copies to :

- 1. 25th Bn.
- 2. 26th Bn.
- 3. 27th Bn.
- 4. 28th Bn.
- 5. 7th A.M.G.Coy
- 6. 7th A.L.T.M.B.
- 7. 5th A.I.Bde
- 8. 6th A.I.Bde
- 9. 22nd M.G.Coy
- 10. 5th A.M.G.Coy
- 11. 2nd Aust. Div 'G'
- 12. " " " 'Q'
- 13. 3rd A.I.Bde
- 14. 64th Bde
- 15. Area Comdt, DICK EBUSON
- 16. Capt. Gallasch,
- 17. G.O.C.
- 18. B.M.
- 19. Bde Sig. Off.
- 20/22 War Diary
- 23 File

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

1/11 1917.

MARCH TABLE to accompany 7th A.I. Brigade Order No. 141

Date	Unit	Relieved by	To	In relief of	Route in	Route out	Guides	
							Place	Time
1917 Nov. 2nd	28th Bn.	17th Bn.	H.26.b.6.7.	23rd Bn.	HELLES Duckwalk	HELLES D.V. Warrington Road Shrapnel Corner	J.7.d.9.2.	2 p.m.
"	26th Bn.	19th Bn.	H.20.c.9.1.	24th Bn.	CAMBRIDGE D.V. - ANZAC Duckwalk.	ANZAC D.V., CAM- BRIDGE D.V., BIR- R X Roads, WARRING- TON Rd, SHRAPNEL CORNER.	J.1.d.4.2.	3 p.m.
2/3rd	27th Bn.	20th Bn.	H. ¹⁷ .d.9.1.	21st Bn.	HELLES D.V. JABBER D.V.	JABBER D.V. HELLES D.V., Warrington Road Shrapnel Corner.	J.7.d.9.2.	5 p.m.
"	25th Bn.	18th Bn.	H.26.b.6.7.	23rd Bn.	CAMBRIDGE D.V. ANZAC D.V.	ANZAC D.V. Cam- bridge D.V. BIR R X Rds, Warrington Rd, Shrapnel Cnr	J.1.d.4.2.	6.30 pm
"	7 ALTBty	5th ALTBty	H.26.b.6.7.	6th ALTBty	As convenient. - do -		Arrange mutually	
"	7th Bde H.Q.	5th Bde H.Q.	H.27.b.7.7. (Walker Camp)	6th Bde H.Q.				

*Junction of Helles
D.V. + Corderoy R*

*ANZAC D.V. at
Bde H.Q.*

- (a) guides from outgoing units will meet incoming units. 2 per Company as above - 1 per platoon or post at En. H.Q.
- (b) 7th Brigade units will arrange to be met at CORNER WITH 1 guide per platoon.
SHRAPNEL
- (c) KONNEBEKE "B" duckwalk has been renamed CAMBRIDGE Duckwalk.

Appendix No
 15.
 56

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

No. 1.

App 16

October 28th 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 4 p.m. 27/10/17 to 6 a.m. 28/10/17.

Reference Map Sheet 28.

1. OPERATIONS. The 7th A.I. Brigade successfully relieved the 15th A.I. Brigade in the forward area by 8.45 p.m.
PATROLS. (a) At 11 p.m. a patrol of 1 Officer and 3 s/o/ranks went out from D.29.b.25.25. and made their way to D.29.b.55.25, thence to N.W. corner of CELTIC WOOD, returning to D.29.d.30.35 at 12.30 a.m. Nothing was seen or heard of the enemy.
 (b) Two patrols each of 1 Officer and 5 s/o/ranks patrolled our front to a depth of 500 yards between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. No enemy patrol was encountered. Flares were fired by the enemy laterally from approx. 800 yards in front of our line.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.
3. ENEMY SHELLING. Normal throughout the period. BR OODSEINDE ridge and its rear slopes were intermittently shelled throughout the night. From 9.50 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. enemy shelled our Supports and DESEHOEK RIDGE with 77's and 4.2's, with a few gas shells mixed, from direction of DROOGENBROODHOEK. REMUS WOOD was occasionally searched with .77 c.m. shrapnel.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet. No patrols encountered, nor has any movement been seen.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Machine guns fired at intervals from CEMETERY WOOD (J.3.a.8.5. approx)
Sniping - nil.
6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 6.15 p.m. four enemy planes flew over our Support lines for a short time, returning to their own lines. At 2 a.m. four planes passed overhead going East. At 5.30 a.m. enemy balloon up to N.N.E.
7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Nil.
behind lines.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Fire observed in direction of DROOGENBROODHOEK. A number of enemy searchlights active behind his lines. Condition of ground 400 yards in front of our line is fairly good. CELTIC WOOD and CEMETERY WOOD appear to be wet and very boggy.

J. B. Ormeroy

Captain, for G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 29th 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 6 a.m. 28/10/17 to 6 a.m. 29/10/17.

reference map Sheet 29.

1. OPERATIONS.

Our patrols were active during the night.

(a)

A patrol of 1 Officer and 8 o/ranks went out from our lines at 9.30 p.m. at point D.29.d.25.25, working in direction of D.30 central. On reaching point D.30.c.25.80 approx. an enemy sniper opened fire from direction of D.30 central. A number of white flares were fired from eastern edge of CELTIC WOOD, and a machine gun opened up from approx. D.30.c.50.65, without causing casualties.

The ground in this neighbourhood is badly churned up and the shell holes full of water, the condition getting worse on moving East.

(b)

A patrol of 1 Officer and 8 o/ranks moved out from J.E.b.30.75 working towards JUSTICE WOOD. The WOOD was not penetrated, but no movement was observed in the vicinity.

(c)

A party of 1 Officer and 12 o/ranks left our lines in the vicinity of FLINT COPSE at 10 p.m. and returned at 2 a.m. Broken trenches were passed about 20 yards North of FLINT COPSE in a very broken and boggy condition, and showed no sign of recent occupation. No wire was seen in the vicinity. Continuing approx. East through ANVIL WOOD and then to the road at D.30.a.8.8. still no signs of wire or occupation were seen, and the party was prevented from reconnoitring further owing to our artillery activity. The boggy nature of the country in the valley would make it almost impossible to keep troops there.

(d)

Another patrol of 1 Officer and 12 o/ranks left D.29.a.9.3. and patrolled to a depth of 800 yards. All pill boxes in this vicinity were entered and found to be unoccupied. The party then reconnoitred TABLE WOOD and found same unoccupied. Searching as far as D.24.c.8.7. our artillery prevented further progress.

(e)

A standing patrol of 1 N.C.O., 6 men and a Lewis Gun was established at approx. D.24.c.central at 11 p.m. and returned at 4.45 a.m. A machine gun was in action well behind TABLE WOOD and flares were fired from this locality.

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Desultory shelling was maintained over practically the whole of our area throughout the day and night, consisting of 5.9's, 4.2's and .77 H.E. and shrapnel, with a considerable quantity of mustard and lachrymatory gas. The shelling is most intense when his balloons are up & almost any movement draws fire, particularly around GARTER POINT and WESTHOEK RIDGE. Full details of the day's shelling are attached.

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Except for his artillery activity, the enemy appears to be adopting purely defensive tactics, sniping and machine gun activity being at a minimum.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

See patrol report. No new defences have been discovered from ground observation.

- 2 -

5. AIRCRAFT. Extremely active on both sides. During the morning flights of enemy aircraft were observed to drop from the low lying clouds, fly around at a low altitude, and disappear. Although there was considerable fighting in the air, no planes were seen to be brought down.
Eleven enemy balloons were observed during the day.
6. MOVEMENT. The smoke from a train is constantly seen behind the PASSCHENDALLE RIDGE, and a bearing will be taken on the place.
7. FLARES. Red flares were used freely during the night, and were usually followed by a few rounds of H.E. on our front line area.
Yellow clusters are usually sent up when our artillery becomes active.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Fires caused by our artillery were observed at approx. D.30, K.1, and E.19.
The ground is rapidly drying, but shell holes are still full of water.
Enfilade fire from 5.9 battery constantly came from 480 T.B. from J.4.b.88.60.
9. WORKS. The duckboarding, wiring, and connecting up of front line posts is well in hand, material having been taken up and work proceeded with during the night.
A line of posts each capable of holding one platoon has been dug from D.23.c.8.5. to D.23.c.0.f. forming a defensive flank.

G. H. ...
Lieut., For G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Appendix No. 16

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 29th 1917.

COR RIGENDA. Intelligence Summary 29/10/17.

Para II. (c) For "Vicinity of FLINT COPSE" read D.29.b.0.5.

Para I. (a) For "D.29.a.9.3." read "D.23.d.05.40."

G. Harry

Lieutenant, or G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

No. 3.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 30th 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 6 a.m. 29/10/17 to 6 a.m. 30/10/17.

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) PATROLS. A party of 1 Officer and 20 o/ranks with Lewis Gun left our lines at 10 p.m. from J.5.b.30.75, and proceeded along road to junction at D.30.c.05.30, where it split into two sections and thoroughly searched CELTIC WOOD. No enemy were encountered or hostile movement observed until parties emerged from the N.E. corner of the WOOD, when a machine gun opened fire from about D.30.c.60.80. Flares were fired from about D.30.c.60.90. Pill boxes and huts in the WOOD were examined and found to be badly smashed and uninhabitable.

The ground in the valley running through D.29.b. and D.30.c. is slightly boggy but not impassable.

Patrol then moved east along the road as far as D.30.c.7.4., then turned South and moved into JUSTICE WOOD. Enemy were found in strength along Eastern edge of WOOD, notably from D.30.d.14.10 to J.6.b.25.90.

Main road to KEIBERG is in good condition, and the ground passable. Pill boxes were discovered in good condition as follows :

- 1 at D.29.f.7.4.
- 3 at D.30.c.8.7.

- (b) A party of 1 Officer and 9 o/ranks proceeded from D.29.b.25.05 at 10 p.m. and moved in a N.E. direction for 500 yards, then South towards CELTIC WOOD and S.E. corner of D.29.b. No enemy were encountered and nothing of interest observed.

The ground passed over was extremely swampy and a large area is impassable.

- (c) Another patrol of 1 Officer and 22 o/ranks with Lewis Gun started from D.29.a.9.8. at 9.30 p.m. and moved E. and N.E. in tactical formation until CHINA WOOD was reached. This was searched and nothing discovered but a quantity of trip wire. The ground was very wet but passable.

The party then moved towards ANVIL WOOD, and on approaching this they were fired on by machine gun from approximately D.30.a.9.8. Flares bursting into two reds were fired from this place, which brought a light artillery barrage down between our line and CHINA WOOD. Flares were fired for some time and the machine gun continued firing.

A machine gun and flares then opened up from the rear of TABLE WOOD.

Owing to machine gun activity and the extremely bright night, it was considered inadvisable to go further, so after engaging the enemy with Lewis gun, the party withdrew.

The ground North of CHINA WOOD is rapidly drying up and is passable for troops.

- (d) 1 Officer and 20 men with Lewis Gun left our Left flank to examine BUSH WOOD and TABLE WOOD and to establish a standing patrol at D.34.d.2.7.

Moving along the DREGENBROODHOEK road until the

the/

edge of TABLE WOOD was reached. Machine Guns then opened fire from approx. D.24.c.75.60 - D.24.a.5.1. - D.24.c.f.9.

Golden flares bursting into two reds were fired from these places, which brought an artillery barrage on the line BUSI WOOD - along MILITARY Road - and back towards CHINA WOOD.

Three of the enemy were observed moving in vicinity of M.G. at D.24.c.75.60, who disappeared as soon as our patrol was discovered.

The standing patrol was eventually posted at D.24.c.2.6. and withdrew at 4 a.m.

The following information was elicited - TABLE WOOD is occupied by enemy. BUSI WOOD was shelled by enemy - therefore is unoccupied.

Roads passed are in good condition.

2. HOSTILE SHELLING.

A general decrease during the day. Towards dusk our duckboards, GARTER POINT, WESTHOEK RIDGE were fairly heavily bombarded with 5.9's .15 cm and a liberal quantity of gas shells.

Details of shelling are attached.

3. ENEMY AT ALTITUDE.

Less aggressive than usual. Machine guns and sniping at a minimum. See patrol reports.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

See patrol reports. At intervals bursts of indirect fire came from direction of CEMETER. Rd.

5. AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Great activity was observed throughout the day on both sides. Hun planes constantly flew over our forward area at very low altitude, dropping light bombs and firing on our troops with M.G.'s, but were quickly driven off by our A.A. M.Guns. Towards dusk the activity increased until 24 enemy planes were over our lines at once, and although numerous duels took place, no planes were driven down.

6. BALLOONS.

Five enemy balloons were seen at intervals during the day.

7. MOVEMENT.

Observation post is suspected in tree at E.19.c.8.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Battery flashes were seen from O.P. at J.4.b.88.60 as follows :- 31° True, 97° True, 99° True 108° True.

Our Stokes mortars were busy engaging hostile planes, and it is anticipated that with practice, good results will be obtained.

G. H. W. G.

Lieut., for G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

ADDENDUM.

WORKS. Front line posts are being duckboarded, wired, and connected up. This work will be completed as soon as the necessary material is available.

Duckboards between WESTHOEK RIDGE and the front line have been repaired.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

October 31st 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 6 a.m. 30/10/17 to 6 a.m. 31/10/17.

1. OPERATIONS.

PATAOLS. (a) A patrol of 1 Officer and 9 o/ranks left our line at 10 p.m. from point J.5.b.50.75, proceeded eastward and established a post at J.6.a.50.75. Flares were fired from D.30 central and D.30.d.25.30. No hostile movement was observed. The ground was very wet and slippery, and in some places boggy. Post was withdrawn at 5 a.m.

(b) A patrol of 1 Officer and 9 o/ranks left our line at 10 p.m. from point D.29.d.3.4. Patrol worked through CELTIC WOOD to point D.30.c.45.70. Flares were fired from approximately D.30.c.60.90, and also from a post about 100 yards to North. Patrol then moved South to point on Road at D.30.e.40.50, where a post was established. No machine gun or rifle fire was heard at all. A further examination of pillboxes in CELTIC WOOD obviously shows that they have been purposely destroyed to render them uninhabitable. No enemy movement was observed, and post was withdrawn at 2.45 a.m.

At intervals during the night CELTIC WOOD was searched with .77 and 4.2 shrapnel, each salvo being followed by a pair of red flares fired from D.30 central.

(c) A patrol of 1 Officer and 20 o/ranks with a Lewis Gun left our line at D.29.a.9.8. at 9.30 p.m. CHINA WOOD was searched and no trace of enemy found. Patrol then moved eastward and were not fired on by machine gun from D.30.a.9.8. as in the night previously. Two men were seen near this point moving northward. Machine guns were fired from ANVIL WOOD about D.30.a.8.3. Patrol remained for 1½ hours near point D.30.a.9.8. but no further enemy movement was observed. Patrol returned to our lines about 2.30 a.m.

(d) A patrol of 1 Officer and 16 o/ranks with a Lewis Gun left our line at 9.30 p.m. at point D.23.d.3.5. to proceed to X Roads at D.24.d.2.7. When about 300 yards from our line enemy shelled patrol with whizbangs and machine gun firing from D.24.c.75.60. held up patrol. Two machine guns also opened fire from direction of TABLE WOOD. The enemy's attitude proved that patrol's movements were seen as each time they moved, the machine guns opened up. Patrol withdrew to D.23.d.8.6. and searched ground in vicinity. A post was established at D.23.d.6.5. which withdrew at 4.30 a.m. to report no enemy movement seen.

- 3 -

2. HOSTILE SHELLING. During the morning it was heavier than usual, but fewer gas shells were used. About midday the forward slope of BROODSEINDE Ridge was searched with .77 and 4.2 shrapnel, with occasional .15 c.m. from direction of MOLENHOEK. Between 9 p.m. and midnight D.28.d. and D.29.c. were intermittently shelled with shrapnel and 5.9. Towards 1 a.m. activity increased, more than 300 gas shells being distributed over area J.4.b. and J.5.a. Details of shelling attached.
3. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Fairly active during the day, but quietening down considerably during the night.
4. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Notable decrease of hostile activity on this sector. Two machines flew along our line dropping white flares at 5.30 a.m. During the day isolated planes made their appearance for a short time only. As a result of A.A. gunfire one of our planes was forced to land near ZONNEBEKE.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. During the night short bursts of machine gun fire came from J.6.b. Observation post consisting of a platform fixed in tree has been verified at E.19.c.8.5.
6. BALLOONS. Nil.
7. MOVEMENT. Troops were observed apparently massing at E.13.b.8.6 approx. and were dispersed by our shelling. Several of the enemy were seen moving about in the vicinity of PASSCHENDAELE Church carrying timber. They were dispersed by our shelling.
8. MISCELLANEOUS.
Explosions. Loud explosions from direction of PASSCHENDAELE bearing 24° true from J.4.b.88.60. at 7.25 a.m. Red Cross flag observed in position on rough shelter E.21.b.75.70. No movement visible.
Battery Positions. Taken from point J.5.b.25.80. 83° true, 94° true. Battery position located between X roads E.21.c. and CEMETERY E.21.d.

J.R. Conway

Captain, for G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Confidential

No. 5.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

November 1st 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 6 a.m. 31/10/17 to 6 a.m. 1/11/17.

1. OPERATIONS. The two Support Battalions successfully relieve the two line Battalions during the night. On account of enemy's heavy gas shelling of WESTHOEK and ANZAC Ridges and valley in between, the relief was somewhat delayed. The Left Battalion relief was not completed until 4.5 a.m. leaving no time for patrolling.

PATROLS. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 o/ranks left our line at a point J.5.b.3.7. at midnight. The ground in vicinity of CELTIC WOOD was found to be very swampy. After clearing CELTIC WOOD patrol worked through Western part of JUSTICE WOOD, returning to our line at 2.10 a.m. No opposition was met with, and no enemy seen.

2. HOSTILE SHELLING. During the day, enemy shelling was exceedingly slight; communications in J.4.b. & c were lightly shelled in the forenoon, and at intervals. ANZAC and WESTHOEK Ridges received slight attention.

Shortly after 5 p.m. enemy commenced shelling ANZAC and WESTHOEK Ridges with gas shells. GARTER POINT and its vicinity received particular attention, and the bombardment increased to a heavy nature, gas shells of all calibres being used, mixed with a few H.E.

The shelling was very consistent for several hours, but diminished to a great extent shortly after midnight. Casualties so far reported have been very slight. There was a notable absence of MUSTARD GAS, Phosgene and Lachrymatory being prevalent.

Between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. desultory shelling of back areas, and from 5 a.m. shelling practically ceased

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Apart from the heavy gas bombardment during the night, a decided quietness has existed on our front.

4. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Slightly below normal, the period of activity lying between 1.50 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. Several machines flew over our lines, but only for a short time. Between 6.30 a.m. and 8.45 a.m. enemy balloons were observed from J.3.b.5.5. at following bearings :- 93°, 112°, 48°, 75°, 117°, all M.B.

5. MOVEMENT. Man observed entering buildings at D.24 .d.3.8 appeared to be carrying a rifle and bag.

J. H. ...

Captain, for G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade

No. 6.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

November 2nd 1917.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE from 6 a.m. 1/11/17 to 6 a.m. 2/11/17.

1. OPERATIONS.

PATROLS.

(a) A patrol of 2 Officers and 17 o/ranks left our line at 10.15 p.m. from J.5.b.40.75, proceeding along road running through South edge of CELTIC WOOD. When patrol reached D.30.c.4.4. an enemy patrol of between 30 - 40 men was seen moving from West side of JUSTICE WOOD towards our lines. This patrol was moving in sections in single file with 20 yards between sections, and with a screen of scouts 30 yards ahead. To avoid being cut off our patrol moved back to D.30.c.1.2. and when enemy patrol came within 50 yards, opened fire on it with Lewis gun and rifles. The enemy stampeded for JUSTICE WOOD, and RED flares immediately went up from J.6.a.8.8. Within three minutes an enemy barrage was brought down on our patrol. Numerous WHITE flares were fired from JUSTICE WOOD.

A standing patrol was established at D.30.c.4.4., which withdrew at 5 a.m., reporting that nothing more of enemy was seen.

It seems that there are enemy strong posts from J.6.a.9.6. to D.30.c.6.1. along eastern edge of JUSTICE WOOD.

(b) A patrol of 2 Officers and 20 o/ranks left our line at D.23.c.9.3. proceeding in direction of D.24.c.2.5. along main road running East to Military Rd. At junction of these roads D.24.c.4.6. is a dump of about 80 coils of barbed wire. The patrol then moved along Military road but were fired on by machine gun from TABLE WOOD. Patrol then moved S. to N.W. corner of CHINA WOOD. An enemy listening post was encountered at D.24.c.1.0. Two double RED flares were fired by post, which then fell back into CHINA WOOD, and this signal was repeated. It was again repeated from about D.24.c.8.0. and then a light enemy barrage fell on S.W. corner of CHINA WOOD. Machine gun fire from ANVIL WOOD prevented any further reconnaissance of CHINA WOOD. The patrol returned at D.29.a.8.6. at 1.30 a.m. Light guns were observed firing continuously from direction of EFFECT COPSE.

2. HOSTILE SHELLING. Throughout the period enemy shelling was normal. At 6.15 a.m. enemy put down a barrage of .77's and 5.9's in D.29 and D.28 c & d. lasting about 20 minutes. At 11 a.m. a few PHOSGENE gas shells were fired in D.29.c. During the afternoon at intervals enemy searched the corduroy road in J.2.d. and J.8.a. and b. with .77 shrapnel and 21 cm H.E. From 10 p.m. onwards there was an appreciable increase in artillery fire on this sector.

A consistent gas shell bombardment was put down on WESTHOEK - ANZAC Valley and around J.3.a.central. PHOSGENE and LACHRYMATORY gas were used chiefly. This activity continued until 12.30 a.m., and from then onwards there was an intermittent light shelling in J.2.c. & d., J.8.a., and on ANZAC Ridge.

- 2 -

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE. More active than usual (See patrol report) but no noticeable increase in artillery fire.
4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Machine Gun - Short bursts of indirect fire from M.G. 108⁰ true taken from J.9.a.30.55.
5. AERIAL ACTIVITY. During the morning two enemy planes flew repeatedly along our lines from D.29.a. to J.5.b. At 1.10 p.m. five enemy planes flew across our sector, but remained for a short time only.
6. MOVEMENT. At 2.15 p.m. three small parties of enemy were observed in vicinity of E.19.d.2.6. Small parties were seen at 3 p.m. moving near PASSCHENDAELE Church. They were dispersed by our artillery.
7. MISCELLANEOUS. Fire was observed at E.25.d.1.9. evidently a dump. Red Cross flag observed at E.19.b.4.8., also over large building in MOORSLEDE.

J. Bonney

Captain, for G.O.C.,
7th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX 17.

7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

App 17

Statement of ARRIVALS during the month of October 1917 :-

	Off.	o/r.
7th A.L.T.M. Battery	-	23
7th A.M. Gun Company	1	57
25th Battalion	-	249
26th "	-	243
27th "	1	248
28th "	3	263

<u>TOTAL</u>	5	1,083
	=====	=====

APPENDIX 18.7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

App 18

STATEMENT OF CASUALTIES for month of October 1917 :

Unit	Killed Off. o/r.		Wounded Off. o/r.		Missing Off. o/r.	
7th A.L.T.M.Bty	-	-	-	8	-	-
7th A.M.Gun Coy	-	11	3	60	-	1
25th Battalion	3	60	14	379	-	9
26th Battalion	3	48	9	326	-	11
27th Battalion	3	46	9	176	-	2
28th Battalion	1	65	11	159	-	4
	10	230	46	1108	-	27

56

230
27

1365

APPENDIX 19.7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

HEADQUARTERS, 7TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. 298/6 No..... Date.....

November 3rd 1917.

Headquarters,
2nd Australian Division.

App 19

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT FROM 28/10/17 to 2/11/1917.1. IMPROVEMENTS TO FRONT LINE.

Weather-proof shelters have been constructed to accommodate the garrison along the entire sector.

All posts are duckboarded and wired, and in the Left Battalion sector are connected by a trench about 5' deep.

Six new posts - each about 30 yards long, have been made from D.23.c.5.5. to D.23.c.0.5. to form a defensive flank.

2. COMMUNICATION TRENCHES.

(a) A communication trench has been constructed in Right Battalion sector running from approx. D.29.c.65.10. to D.29.d.15.30. Dimensions - 4' deep, 5' wide at top, 2' wide at bottom, and length about 400 yards.

(b) A communication trench has been constructed in Left Battalion sector running from approx. D.29.a.15.75 to D.29.a.95.85 (about 400 yards long). Dimensions - 4' wide, 4'6" deep. Duckboarded in places.

3. IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORTS.

(a) Extra shelters have been erected in J.3.d. to accommodate 150 men.

(b) Trenches have been dug and shelters erected on western slope of TOKIO SPUR from D.28.c.50.75 to D.28.c.90.20. Shelters made of sheets of iron and sandbags with sufficient accommodation for 90 men.

Altogether extra shelters have been put up in the sector to accommodate 400 men.

4. WIRING.

Wire has been placed out in front of all posts. Low broad belts of wire now exist in front of each post, total length about 350 yards in each battalion sector; width of wire 30 feet.

Wiring has been commenced on TOKIO SPUR on regimental reserve line. The Left battalion sector was wired, the Right battalion sector remaining to be done.

5. MAINTENANCE WORK.

All duckboard tracks in our sector from Brigade H.Q. forward have been kept in good condition. Carrying parties have carried forward about 800 yards of duckboards, 50 coils of wire, 15 bundles long pickets, 30 bundles short pickets.

app 19

- 2 -

6. ANTI-GAS ARRANGEMENTS.

250 blankets have been used in making dugouts and shelters gas-proof, and at present all places of accommodation have been made as gas-proof as possible.

7. DUMPS.

All stores in the Brigade and Battalion dumps have been raised from the ground and properly covered with iron sheets and camouflage.

(signed) J.E. LEE, Major,
For Brig. General, Comndg 7th Australian Inf. Bde

19 29/11

100



ANTI-GAS ARRANGEMENTS.

250 blankets have been used in making dugouts and shelters gas-proof, and at present all places of accommodation have been made as gas-proof as possible.

DUMPS.

All stores in the Brigade and Battalion dumps have been raised from the ground and properly covered with iron sheets and camouflaged.

For Brig. General, Comd. 7th (Signed) J. A. ...

