

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/15/14

**Title:** 15th Infantry Brigade

April 1917



AWM4-23/15/14



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

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Headquarters

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAULENCOURT	April 1st		<p>Showery and cold. The 59th Bn working on roads - the 58th &amp; 60th Bns working on trenches. Church parade (first possible for months) was held.</p> <p>The 57th Bn moved to the front line.</p> <p>A Provisional Defence Scheme was issued (Appendix 158)</p> <p>Draught proceeding as far as possible. Reinforcements - Nil. Casualties * H O R K 9 O R W</p>	Appendix 158
do-	2nd		<p>Very cold in morning but day was fine.</p> <p>Our Battalions were "standing to" all day ready to meet a possible German attack which did not come however.</p> <p>5th Div Order No 135 received (Appendix 159) The Order was verbally amended by GSOI so that 2 Battalions were to leave VILLERS-AU-FLOS and proceed to BEAULENCOURT.</p> <p>15th Brigade Order No 94 issued (Appendix 159a)</p> <p>Reinforcements - 64 O.R. Casualties - 3 O.R. W</p> <p>* The casualties were due to the 57th Bn taking part in the attack on DOIGNIES - they pushed forward a chain of Pts and came under heavy M.G. fire. This task would have been much easier had the 14th Bde carried out the attack before dawn.</p>	Appendix 159 do-159a
do-	3rd		<p>Squally in morning - heavy fall of snow in evening. The 57th Bn was relieved in the front line and returned to VILLERS-AU-FLOS. The 58th Bn was kept ready for action. The 59th Bn was kept on roads etc.</p> <p>5th Div. Order No 136 received (Appendix 160).</p> <p>We drew tents to house our Battalions coming from VILLERS-AU-FLOS.</p> <p>The Div. Commander visited Bde H.Q. during the evening.</p> <p>Reinforcements - Nil Casualties - 1 O R K 3 O.R. W</p>	Appendix 160



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133



Headquarters

Remarks and  
references to  
Appendices

Place Date Hour

Summary of Events and Information

BEAULENCOURT 4th

Heavy rain and snow. The 60th Battalion moving into the Sugar Factory  
at 12.4 d 1.9 found a very wet and cheerless billet. The 59th Bn went into the  
Front Line at DOIGNIES under the orders of the 14th Brigade.  
The 58th Battalion supplied all working parties.  
The 59th Bn had a very quiet time in the line.  
Reinforcements - 48 O.R. Casualties - 1 O.R. W

do- 5th

Fine and warm and very effective on the men's spirits.  
The 57th Bn & 58th Bns are pitching tents for their own accommodation near  
Beaulencourt owing to the 1st Division requiring Villers-au-Flor.  
The 60th Bn & 58th Bn are supplying Div. fatigues today.  
Before leaving our old trench area we carefully collected all our anti-gas  
equipment and stored it. Now our stored supply is the only equipment  
available and Division H.Q. are frantically trying to get this stock forward  
for transfer to the 1st Division. Other Brigades in the trenches merely walked  
off and left their equipment. The 59th Bn was relieved by 11.30 pm & returned to old quarters.  
5th Aust. Division Order ~~138~~ received (Appendix 161) Appendix 161  
Reinforcements - Nil Casualties - 2 O.R. K 3 O.R. W

do- 6th

Excellent day at first but from 4 pm it rained heavily all night.  
7.6 cm. mine for No 3040 captured by the 58th Bn sent to Division. H.Q.  
One Battalion on roads and 2 Companies on intermediate line.  
Sick & wastage return for March is attached (Appendix 162)  
A report on our cooperation with 7th Bde is attached (Appendix 153a)  
Reinforcements - Nil Casualties - Nil

Appendix 162

2



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WAR DIARY  
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.



Headquarters

134

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAULENCOURT	7th.		Raining very cold at first but fine later. One Battalion on road work - some work was also done on the Intermediate line. Our various Schools are now working. Brigadier & Bde Major attended a Divisional Conference at 3 pm. re future policy and also re support of other Divisions in attack. <u>Reinforcements</u> - Nil <u>Casualties</u> - Nil	
do-	8th.		Easter Sunday. An exceptionally fine day. Church services for all denominations were held in the forenoon. Four Companies were on roads and four Companies were digging the Intermediate Line. Major Cameron, 57th Bn, temporarily took over the Command of the 60th Bn from Lt Col. Davies who returns to the 8th Inf Bde. A gymnastic Instructor from Army H.Q. reported for duty. (A NCO's class of 16 was put under him) Strength Return for 7th April attached (Appendix 163) We received an order to bring up all ammunition from the dumps in our old sector as FLEPS. and clear the area generally. St. Edgar & 50 men were put on the job. We now have 4 Vickers Guns detailed and emplaced for anti-aircraft work, also 2 Lewis Guns. A Memo giving a description of the fighting at BEAUMETZ is attached (Appendix 164) 5th Div. Order No 139 received (Appendix 165) <u>Reinforcements</u> - Nil <u>Casualties</u> - Nil	Appendix 163 Appendix 164 do-165
do-	9th		Rain at first but fine patches later. Four Companies at work on roads. The 57th had 4 Companies at work digging the Intermediate line trenches. The 58th Bn is standing by to assist the 1st Division in their assault on HERMIES. (Later - they were not required.) Brigade Order No 95 issued (Appendix 165 a) At 11 pm a verbal message from G.S.O.1 said the 10th was Zero day & Units were warned accordingly. <u>Reinforcements</u> - Nil <u>Casualties</u> - Nil	do-165 a Nil



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135



Headquarters

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAULENCOURT	10th		One inch of snow fell in the forenoon - afterwards alternate patches of sleet and sunshine. Very cold. Owing to the Brigade standing by as "Corps Reserve" no work was done away from the Camps. Verbal warning was received from H.Q. 5th Div. that the Brigade would be ready to march at 5 am on 11th inst. Verbal warning was at once passed on to Battalions. 5th Div order 112 140 received (appendix 166) 15th Div order 96 issued (appendix 166 b) Newforcements - Nil Casualties - Nil	appendix 166 appendix 166
ST AUBIN	11th		Snowing, with fine patches. Snow from 2 to 3 inches deep. Instructions issued by Division HQ attached (appendix 166) Units had been standing by from 5 am. Breakfast was at 4 am. Definite Orders were received at 9 am that we were to move today. Owing to the changed arrangements two Columns were formed. One, consisting of 57th Bn, 58th Bn, 59th Bn & 15th Huss. Coy. moved at 10.40 am via BEAULENCOURT, BATHCOURT, to the BEUGNATRE old German line NORTH of BEUGNATRE which they garrisoned on a front of 2500 yds. The other Column, consisting of Brigade HQ, 60th Bn, and 1/2 Section 5th Bn, marched at 10.20 am via BAPAVME to ST AUBIN (suburb of BAPAVME on the BEUGNATRE road) and went into a Reserve Camp. All units of both Columns were in position by 1 pm. The accommodation taken over, except in the case of the 60th Bn, was very poor. A heavy snow storm took place and it became very cold. A message from 4th Aust. Div. warned us that we would probably return to BEAULENCOURT on 12th inst. Newforcements - Nil Casualties - Nil	appendix 166 a



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Headquarters.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ST AUBIN	12 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Fine at first but heavy snow during the afternoon</p> <p>We found working parties of 450 for 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division</p> <p>11 am. Definite order received from 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division that we were to return to our old camp. on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst and no longer to be Corps Reserve.</p> <p>4 pm 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Brigade Order No 97 issued (appendix 167)</p>	
BEAULENCOURT	13 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Fine clear day with one slight shower at 1 pm.</p> <p>All units reported in camp and settled at 1 pm.</p> <p>10 am Brigade Major departed on leave for England. (Lieut Salmon assisted with forms work)</p> <p>11:30 am G.O.C. held meeting of Battalion Commanders Second in Command &amp; Adjutants</p> <p>2:30 pm General Birdwood handed ribbons to recruit recipients of Honours. The parade was held at Div. H.Q., N.H. central. All officers in the Brigade who had not met General Birdwood were also present at the parade and were introduced to him by the G.O.C. Brigade</p> <p>No work was done by Battalions during the afternoon beyond straightening up the camps making themselves comfortable.</p> <p>Reinforcements. Nil. Casualties. Nil.</p>	<p>appendix 167</p>



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137

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EAULENCOURT	14 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Fine clear day with fairly strong cold wind.</p> <p>The 57<sup>th</sup> &amp; 58<sup>th</sup> Battalions were employed on the Intermediate Line 2 boys of the 59<sup>th</sup> Bn &amp; 2 boys of 60<sup>th</sup> Bn were on Road Work. The remaining boys of these Battalions followed out their training programmes.</p> <p>7.15pm Word received from Division that our 4th Bn Battery would be required for temporary detachment to 2nd Aus. Div at an early date and that the Battery was to be ready to move at short notice after 9am 15<sup>th</sup> inst.</p>	
do.	15 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Reinforcements nil. Casualties 3 (accidental)</p> <p>bold with steady rain throughout the day.</p> <p>6.30am Telephone message received from Division that LABRICOURT had been captured &amp; further developments likely. The 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Battalions were despatched to the Intermediate Line also 2 sections of the M.G. Coy. The 59<sup>th</sup> &amp; 60<sup>th</sup> Battalions were ordered to stand by ready to move at a moment's notice. 57<sup>th</sup> &amp; 58<sup>th</sup> Battalions were established in the line at 8.30am at 9.20am word was received that counter attack had been successful 57<sup>th</sup> 58<sup>th</sup> &amp; 60<sup>th</sup> Battalions then carried on with work on the Intermediate Line 59<sup>th</sup> Battalion was employed on the roads. Two sections of M.G. Coy were withdrawn</p>	



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138



Headquarters

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EAULENCOURT	15 <sup>th</sup>	12-30 4-30pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Division order N <sup>o</sup> 141 received (Appendix 168) 15 <sup>th</sup> M. G. Coy ordered to report to 8 <sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Brigade to assist in holding BEUGNY-YTRES line. On reporting was told that they would not be required until 9 am 16 <sup>th</sup> inst. The Coy then returned to camp.	Appendix 168.
		7-20pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Division Order N <sup>o</sup> 142 received (Appendix 169) 15 <sup>th</sup> ALTM B stood by all day ready to move on receiving notice from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aust Div but were not sent for.	Appendix 169.
do	16 <sup>th</sup>		Strength return for 14 <sup>th</sup> April attached (Appendix 170) <u>Reinforcements</u> 77 OR. <u>Casualties</u> nil Fine and clear until 4 pm. when rain set in & continued all night 57 <sup>th</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> & 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalions were on the construction of the Intermediate Line 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalion was working on the roads. 9 am 15 <sup>th</sup> M. G. Coy moved out to BEUGNY-YTRES line. HQ PREMICOURT. 125 & 55- The day passed without incident	Appendix 170.
		7-40pm	<del>5<sup>th</sup> Aust Div Order N<sup>o</sup> 142 received (Appendix 171)</del> <u>Reinforcements</u> nil <u>Casualties</u> nil	<del>Appendix 171</del>



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139



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAULENCOURT.	17 <sup>th</sup>		Squally and cold with showers. The wind died down in the evening & the sky was clear. Some snow fell during the night.	
		7.30 am	Div order N° 143 received - table of moves attached (appendix 172). This order was cancelled at 11.50 pm	Appendix 172.
		12.40 pm	15 <sup>th</sup> Brigade order N° 98 issued (appendix 173). The 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalion worked on the roads. 57 <sup>th</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> Battalions & 2 Coy of the 60 <sup>th</sup> Bn were employed on the construction of the Intermediate Line. 1 Coy of the 60 <sup>th</sup> Bn were bathed at Bn H.Q. where some tubs had been procured for this purpose. 1 Coy 60 <sup>th</sup> Bn were training. All arrangements were made for carrying out of Div order N° 143. The 59 <sup>th</sup> Bn had done a great deal of work on their camp at Reincourt were very disappointed at having to leave. Arrangements were also made for 60 <sup>th</sup> Bn to construct a new camp near VILLERS-AN-FLOS. But when Div order N° 143 was cancelled. The work was not continued.	Appendix 173.
do.	18 <sup>th</sup>		<u>Reinforcements Nil</u> <u>Casualties Nil</u> Dull and misty all day with a few slight showers. 57 <sup>th</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> and <sup>60</sup> <del>59</del> <sup>th</sup> Battalions were employed on the construction of the Intermediate Line. 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalion was employed on the roads. 9.55 am Warning order received by wire from Division. The warning was that the 5 <sup>th</sup> Div was being relieved by the 11 <sup>th</sup> Div and was going back to J area.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAULENCOURT.	18 <sup>th</sup>	4 pm	15 <sup>th</sup> Inf Brigade order NO 99 issued (appendix 174).	Appendix 174
	Contd.		Reinforcements NIL. Casualties NIL	
do	19 <sup>th</sup>		Misty and a very slight shower now & again during the day.	
		7.30 am	Divisional order NO 144 received (appendix 175).	Appendix 175
			57 <sup>th</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> & 60 <sup>th</sup> Battalions employed on the construction of the Intermediate line. The 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalion was employed on the roads.	
		11 am	General Birdwood inspected the 57 <sup>th</sup> 58 <sup>th</sup> and 59 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Camps. After inspecting the camps and speaking to a number of the men. General Birdwood accompanied by General Elliott inspected the Intermediate line and expressed his pleasure at the amount and quality of the work done. The 60 <sup>th</sup> Battalion camp was then inspected. General Birdwood left at 2 p.m.	
			15 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Order NO 100 issued with Administrative addendum attached.	Appendix 176
		2 pm	G.O.C. 32 <sup>nd</sup> Inf. Brigade and the B.M. came to arrange some details concerning the relief.	
do	20 <sup>th</sup>		Reinforcements nil. Casualties nil. Very pleasant and fine day. The sky was overcast but it was not cold. The first Battalion of the relieving Brigade arrived at 11 am and relieved the 60 <sup>th</sup> Battalion. All Battalions and the posts in the Intermediate line were relieved by 2.30 pm when command of the area was handed over. No hitch occurred in the relief arrangements and all relieving units expressed their	



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141

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAULENCOURT	20 <sup>th</sup>	Contd	<p>Measure at the way the relief was carried out and the nature and state of the accommodation handed over to them. The march from BEAULENCOURT to MAMETZ camps was very good no men fell back further than the Battalion rear-guard and only two or three from each Battalion fell back that far. Some of the men suffered from sore feet which was attributed to the march over the duckboards. All troops were settled in the new camp by 5.30 pm. The camp was in rather a dirty condition especially the part taken over by the 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. The 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade were the last occupants of the camp.</p>	
MAMETZ	9.30 pm		<p>The G.O.C. held a meeting of Battalion commanders when the training of the troops was discussed.</p>	
do.	21 <sup>st</sup>		<p><u>Reinforcements</u> <u>the</u> <u>Casualties</u> <u>NIL</u></p> <p>Overcast but fine with fairly strong wind. No training was carried out. The day was devoted to cleaning and improving the camp and tidying the men. The officers and men were playing football at different times during the day.</p> <p>2 pm The G.O.C. spoke to all officers of the Battalions and impressed on them <sup>officers</sup> the necessity of fitting themselves for their commands.</p> <p>8 pm A meeting was held of the Brigade Sports Committee and a programme compiled for sports to be held on ANZAC DAY - 25<sup>th</sup> April 1917</p>	



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142

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ.	21 <sup>st</sup> <sup>Contd.</sup>	10.50p	The 15 <sup>th</sup> M.S. Coy. arrived in camp after marching from FREMICOURT. The Coy had been temporarily detached to the 8 <sup>th</sup> Brigade since 16 <sup>th</sup> inst.	
			<div>Reinforcements 146.</div> <div> 15<sup>th</sup> ALTM B ... 4      58<sup>th</sup> Bn ... 41  15<sup>th</sup> M.C. Coy ... 6      59<sup>th</sup> Bn ... 53  57<sup>th</sup> Bn ... 38      60<sup>th</sup> Bn ... 4 </div>	Casualties nil
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		<p>Fine day with strong NE wind</p> <p>9.30am Church parades of all denominations was held. The S.O.C. attended The O.P.D. Service. At 11 am. The S.O.C. addressed the troops. The afternoon was spent in company "try-outs" for the sports to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> inst.</p> <p>3pm S.O.C. 5<sup>th</sup> Div called to see General Elliott.</p> <p>8pm Battalion Commanders met at Brigade HQ to compile a syllabus for the first 5 days training. The syllabus, Appendix 177, was agreed upon</p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> Inf Brigade Syllabus of training for first 5 days issued (Appendix 177) Appendix 177</p> <p>Reinforcements nil Casualties nil</p>	
Ad.	23 <sup>rd</sup>		<p>Fine day with fairly strong NE wind.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Day's programme on training syllabus (Appendix 177) carried out by Battalions. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn were put through The FRICOURT. Baths. Working party on preparing sports ground</p> <p>Battalion try outs for sports were held during the afternoon and the sports committee met at Bde. HQ at 8 pm</p> <p>The S.O.C. and Staff Captain dined with the 59<sup>th</sup> Battalion</p> <p>Reinforcements 31. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn 8. 58<sup>th</sup> Bn 15. 59<sup>th</sup> Bn 8</p> <p>Casualties 1 (accidental)</p>	

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*Headquarters*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ.	24 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Beautiful day Fine and clear</p> <p>Second day's programme of Training on Syllabus (appendix 177) carried out.</p> <p>60<sup>th</sup> Battalion was bathed at The FRICOURT baths. About 50 men were employed on making the sports ground. Great interest is being taken in the sports and each unit expects to win the day. In the afternoon all the competitors were practising for the events.</p> <p>10 am General Elliott visited Corps HQ at Juwiler</p> <p>Reinforcements 3. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. - 3. Casualties nil</p>	
do	25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Fine but cold with the sky overcast and strong winds</p> <p>ANKAC DAY. No work was done a whole holiday being granted.</p> <p>1-30 pm The units marched down to the Sports ground by companies Dress - Belt and Sidearms. They were well turned out and looked smart. General Birdwood and General Hobbs attended. The sports went off very well the 57<sup>th</sup> Bn were champions of the day. After the sports were over the troops were marched past General Birdwood</p> <p>Reinforcements. nil Casualties. nil.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ	26th		<p>Time but fairly cold. The G.O.C. Division visited the Bde. Camp and with the Brigadier inspected the travelling kitchens and transport. This day's programme of training as laid down in Syllabus (Appendix 177) carried out. 59th Battalion was backed at the Tricourt Bunkers.</p> <p>Reinforcements 2 off. 15 O.R. 57th Bn - 4 O.R. 59th Bn. 2 off. 6 O.R. 58th Bn - 3 O.R. 60th Bn. 2 O.R. Casualties. nil.</p>	
do-	27th		<p>Fine day. The 59th Bn &amp; 60th Bns had a game of football during the afternoon. Training as per 4th day of Syllabus carried out. G.O.C., Bn. &amp; Bn. Commanders attended D.W.H.Q. Conference re proposed reduction of rations. The Brigade Major returned from leave. A Brigade Concert was held in the Y.M.C.A. (The Div. troupe provided the entertainment.)</p> <p>Reinforcements - 14 off. 35 O.R. = 36 Casualties - 10 off. 35 O.R. = 36 nil</p>	<p>MAJOR BDE. MAJOR 15th AUS. INF. BRIGADE</p> <p>Certified</p>
do-	28th		<p>Fine day. Training as per 5th day of Syllabus carried out. The G.O.C. inspected all Brigade transport.</p>	
do-	29th		<p>Fine, sunny day. Church parade in forenoon. - Reinforcements - nil</p> <p>The poll for the Federal Elections commenced. - Reinforcements - nil</p>	
do-	30th		<p>Strong Return for 28th April attached (Appendix 178)</p> <p>Copy of Training Syllabus for week ending 5/5/17 attached (Appendix 177a)</p> <p>Ballot papers forwarded to <del>22nd</del> Horseferry Road.</p> <p>Casualties - nil. Reinforcements - 14 O.R.</p>	<p>Appendix 178 do 177a</p>
General -		6pm	<p>The rest &amp; improved weather has greatly benefited the men who are now in great spirit. There is very little sickness and training is proceeding steadily. Uniform &amp; equipment are satisfactory. Serious crime is on the decrease. It is quite certain that better training is being done than if the Brigade had been withdrawn to billets in a civilian area also there is less danger of men contracting disease.</p>	





Headquarters,  
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.  
2nd April 1917.

Headquarters,  
5th Aust. Division.

The Army Commander on 27th March stated that he was informed by G.O.C. 7th Brigade that owing to the delay in the counter-attack by the 15th Brigade on 26th March an opportunity was lost for making a number of prisoners. In order to prove the inaccuracy of the information supplied to the Army Commander and to show that no fault or blame can be charged against this Brigade, I submit the following :-

1. This Brigade laid a telephone line direct to the H.Q. of the 2nd Division's Advanced Battalion but had difficulty in preserving communication owing to lack of interest at the 2nd Division end. On two occasions our linesman found the line had been disconnected from the switchboard and dropped.
2. This Brigade provided a liaison officer with the Right Battalion of POPPY but no liaison officer was supplied in return.
3. The nearest point where reserves of this Brigade could be massed was 3500 yards from the most advanced point reached by the German counter-attack.

4. Precise of various messages passed between the two Brigades, as under :-

	TIME SENT a.m.	TIME RECEIVED a.m.	FROM	TO	PURPORT
(a)	8.45.	9.40	POPPY	BOOK	Asking BOOK'S left flank to be advanced owing to POPPY'S troops having gone 800 yds beyond objective.
(b)	10.10		BOOK	BINDER	Binder directed to comply with (a)
(c)	10.15.		BOOK	BINDER	Instructs BINDER to allow POPPY full control over BINDER'S Reserves.
(d)	10.20		BOOK	POPPY	Authorises POPPY to demand Reserves direct from BINDER.
(e)	11.30	11.50	POPPY	BINDER	Asking BINDER to make a counter-attack.
(f)	12.25	1.5.	POPPY	BOOK	Asking for counter-attack urgent.
(g)	12.35	1.28	POPPY	BOOK	do----- do-----
(h)	1.30	1.50	TOOLS	BOOK	States POPPY reported enemy attack eased off at 12.45 p.m. and that POPPY was grateful for BOOK'S assistance.

It will be noticed that only 55 minutes elapsed between the receipt by BINDER of POPPY'S request and the defeat of the German counter-attack. In view of the fact that BINDER'S troops had to advance 3500 yards it is considered that our attack was developed remarkably quickly.

Again it will be noticed that although a direct line existed from BINDER to POPPY'S advanced Battalion the messages of POPPY were conspicuously slow in getting through.

With a view to assisting POPPY in the event of counter-attack 3 extra Companies were given to O.C. BINDER at least 3 hours before our assistance was asked for.

In view of the above circumstances it appears obvious that there can be no foundation for the G.O.C. 7th Brigade's assertion.

(Sgd) *W. E. Elliott*

BRIG. GENERAL  
COMMANDING 15th AUS. INF. BDE.





RIGHT BRIGADE SECTOR - RIGHT DIVISION.

Provisional Defence Scheme.

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

Reference - 57 C.N.W.  
C.S.W.

1st April 1917.

1. The main defensive line of the Division in Reserve conforms generally to the old German BEUGNY - YTRES line. An Intermediate line is under construction in front of the line VILLERS-AU-FLOS - BANCOURT.
2. The defensive area allotted to the Right Brigade falls within the following limits :-  
FRONT LINE - 0.5.B.3-0 to I.27.Central.  
INTERMEDIATE LINE - 0.8.D.6-2 to I.31.C.8-8.  
RIGHT BOUNDARY - A line passing through 0.5.Central and 0.9.Central.  
LEFT BOUNDARY - A line passing through I.27.Central and N.5.Central.  
SUBSECTOR BOUNDARY - The old German light railway line passing through 0.2.C.,D; 0.3.A.,B; I.34.C.,D; I.35.A. divides the Brigade Area into a RIGHT and a LEFT Subsector.
3. GARRISONS - (a) The Front Line Garrison will consist of one Battalion with 4 Vickers Guns attached. The line will be divided into 4 Company frontages and each Company Commander will allot definite posts and frontages to his sections. Company sectors will be held by nucleus garrison furnished by troops quartered in HAPLIN COURT. All ranks of the garrison must know where they have to go and the quickest way to get there. No portion of this line will be given up. If the enemy gains a footing within the position a counter-attack will be launched by Reserve units under the orders of the Brigadier.  
The front line has been sited to utilise, as far as possible, the old German wire. Between I.35.C.8-2 and 0.5.B.2-0 it was found necessary to break through the wire and occupy the old German fire trench.  
(b) The Intermediate Line garrison will consist of One Battalion with 4 Vickers Guns attached. The line will be divided into 4 Company Sectors and constructed as soon as possible by the Companies detailed as garrison. At first Strong points with support trench and C.T's will be dug in each Company Sector. Only nucleus garrisons will be maintained at present. The Battalion quartered in VILLERS-AU-FLOS will garrison the Intermediate Line.  
When the Strong points are completed they will be connected by a continuous fire trench.  
A reserve line will shortly be selected between VILLERS-AU-FLOS and REINCOURT and Reserve Battalions will be allotted as required.

*Robert W. R.*  
MAJOR  
BDE. MAJOR  
15th AUS. INF. BRIGADE



SECRET.

Appendix 159



## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 135.

Headquarters,  
2nd April 1917.

1. The 1st Australian Division (less Artillery and units detached to the Corps) is to relieve the 5th Australian Division (less Artillery and units detached to the Corps) in the right forward area of the Corps front between 4th and 6th April.
2. The 5th Australian Divisional Artillery and the 3rd Australian (Army) I.A. Brigade will remain disposed for the defence of the sector, and will come under the orders of the G.O.C. 1st Australian Division on the 7th April. Orders will be issued shortly regarding the move of batteries forward to cover the forward line of resistance.
3. One Squadron 13th Light Horse and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Company Corps Cyclists will be attached to the 1st Australian Division on relief of the 5th Australian Division on 7th April.
4. On relief, the 5th Australian Division will be disposed in the second line system, the front of which is a line VILLERS AU FLOS - BANCOURT - H.22.c - H.13.b. The Division will furnish the garrison of this system, and will develop it under special orders.  
Infantry Brigades will be quartered as follows:
 

15th Brigade	BEAULENCOURT - RIENCOURT (tents should be indented for)
8th Brigade	BAPAUME - BANCOURT - TILL TRENCH.
32nd Bn.	GUEDECOURT &c.
14th Brigade	LE BARQUE - LIGNY THILLOY and THILLOY.
5. The 1st Australian Division is to occupy the sector with two Brigades forward, and one in reserve. The dividing line between the forward Brigades will be the crossroads I.27.c.10. 95 - DELSAUX FARM - Crossroads I.23.b.25.15 - BEAUMETZ
6. Moves will be made in accordance with the attached table.
7. Details of relief in forward line of resistance will be arranged by G.O.C. 1st and 3rd Brigades with G.O.C. 14th Brigade.  
G.O.C. 1st Brigade will assume command of the sector south of the BAPAUME-CAMBRAI Road when the relief of the front line is complete on the night of the 5/6th April.  
The Advanced Guard, as such, will then cease to exist and the G.O.C. 14th Brigade will remain in command of the left sector until relieved in that also.  
G.O.C. 3rd Brigade will assume command of the left (north) sector when the relief of the front line is complete on the night 6/7th April.



-2-

8. Separate instructions are being issued regarding the disposal of Pioneer Battalions, Field Companies Engineers, and Medical Units. Special administrative instructions will be issued by "Q" of the Division.
9. Headquarters 5th Australian Division remain at H.11.central. Headquarters 1st Australian Division are being established at H. 35.c.5.7. The G.O.C. 1st Australian Division will take over command of the right sector at 9 a.m. on 7th April.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*Cumwag Staff.*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 9 a.m. to:

	Cony No.
8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade	3
5th Pioneer Battalion	4
Divisional Artillery	5
Divisional Engineers	6
Divisional Signal Co.	7
Divisional Train	8
S.S.O.	9
A.D.M.S.	10
A.D.V.S.	11
A.P.M.	12
D.A.D.O.S.	13

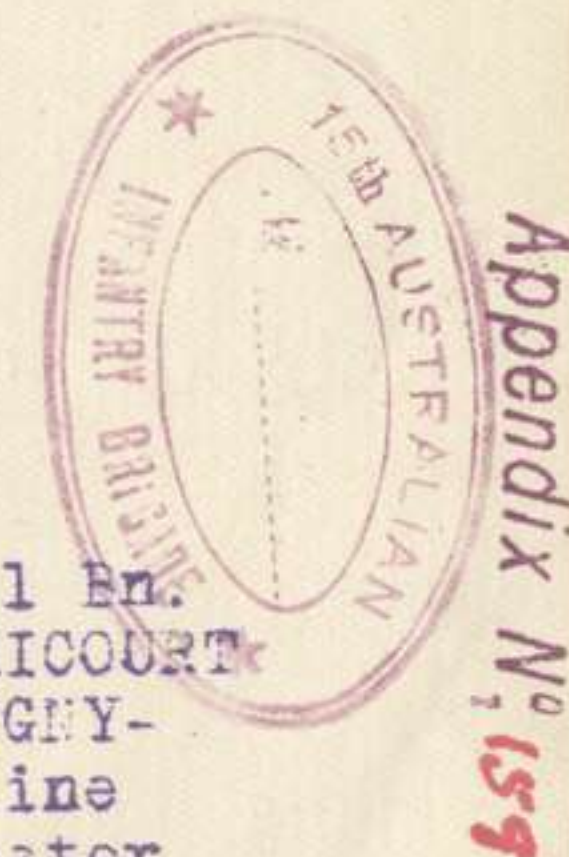
Copies:

20th Division	14
4th Australian Division	15
1st Australian Division	16
1st ANZAC Corps	17
ANZAC Heavy Artillery	18
Div. Infantry School	19
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	20
"G"	21
"Q"	22
War Diary	23.



Date	Formation or Unit	From	To	Routes and times	Remarks
April 4th	1st Inf. Brigade	MONTAUBAN	FREMICOURT HAPLIN COURT	Troops by duckboards. Transport by LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEDECOURT.	
	Squadron 13th L.H. Cyclists	HAPLIN COURT	VELU WOOD	To clear HAPLIN COURT by 2 pm	
	1 Bn. 15th Inf. Bde	BEUGNY-YTRES line, right sector	BEAULENCOURT Camp	To be relieved by detach- ments of 1st Inf. Bde.	
April 5th	Details, 14th Bde 3rd Inf. Bde	FREMICOURT MONTAUBAN	BEUGNY FREMICOURT HAPLIN COURT	Troops by duckboards. Transport by LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEDECOURT.	
	1st Inf. Bde (less 1 Bn.)	FREMICOURT HAPLIN COURT	Line - right sector	After dark	Leaves one Bn. in BEUGNY- YTRES line right sector
	2 Bns. and details 14th Brigade	Line - right sector	LE BARQUE	On relief	
	1 Bn. 8th Brigade	BEUGNY-YTRES line - left sector	TILL TRENCH	To be relieve by detach- ments of 3rd Inf. Bde	
April 6th	2nd Inf. Bde	MONTAUBAN	VILLERS AU FLOS 1. HAPLIN COURT 2 FREMICOURT 1	Troops by duckboards. Transport by LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEDECOURT.	
	1 Bn. 15th Brigade	VILLERS AU FLOS	Camp near N.11.c.	To clear VILLERS AU FLOS by noon	
	3rd Inf. Bde (less 1 Bn.)	FREMICOURT HAPLIN COURT	Line - left sector	After dark	Leaves 1 Bn. in FREMICOURT and BEUGNY- YTRES line left sector
	2 Bns. and details 14th Brigade	Line - left sector	LIGNY THILLOY	On relief	

NOTE. On 4th, 5th, and 6th April, the LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEDECOURT Road is reserved for transport of Infantry Brigades of 1st Aust. Div. between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.



Appendix No. 159



33  
S E C R E T.

Appendix No 159 a

Appendix 159 a

Copy No. 19

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 94.

Reference - 57 C.N.W.  
C.S.W.

2nd April 1917.

1. The 1st Australian Division is to relieve the 5th Australian Division in the forward Area between 4th and 6th April.
2. The 15th Infantry Brigade will be withdrawn to the Second Line System, which is on the line VILLERS-AU-FLOS - BANCOURT. (now known as the Intermediate line).
3. The following moves will take place viz :-  
4th April - The 60th Battalion, with one section 15th M.G. Coy. will be relieved by equivalent units of the 1st Infantry Brigade, and after the relief will proceed to tent accommodation at BEAULENCOURT.  
6th April - The 57th and 58th Battalions will be relieved by Battalions of the 2nd Infantry Brigade and will move to tent accommodation near BEAULENCOURT.  
VILLERS-AU-FLOS to be clear by noon.
4. On 4th, 5th and 6th April the LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEUDECOURT Road is reserved for transport of the 1st Australian Division between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
5. The 58th Battalion, with one section 15th M.G. Coy. will construct and garrison Second Line. At present only nucleus garrisons need occupy the Company sub-sectors.
6. The 15th M.G. Coy. will supply anti-aircraft machine guns at each of the following places :-  
    REINCOURT - 1.  
    VILLERS-AU-FLOS - 1. (Remove to BEAULENCOURT on 6/4/17.)  
    BEAULENCOURT - 1.
7. Brigade Headquarters will remain at N.24.D.1-9.

*Geo. J. Smith*  
Major.  
Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 2 p.m.

- No. 1. 57th Battalion  
2. 58th Battalion  
3. 59th Battalion  
4. 60th Battalion  
5. 15th M.G. Coy.  
6. 15th A.L.T.M.B.  
7. 15th Field Coy.  
8. War Diary.  
9. Staff Captain.  
10. Brigade H.Q.



SECRET

20

Appendix 160



## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.136.

Headquarters,  
3rd April 1917.

1. Owing to the occupation of LOUVERVAL and DOIGNIES it will be necessary to relieve some units of the Advanced Guard.
2. A table is attached showing how battalions acting with the Advanced Guard will be employed and disposed until the Division is finally relieved in the forward area.
3. G.O's.C. 8th and 15th Infantry Brigades will arrange direct with G.O.C. 14th Infantry Brigade regarding the moves of the 29th and 59th Battalions.

*Cluwaq staff*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 5.0 p.m. to:

## Copy No.

8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade	3
5th Pioneer Battalion	4
Divisional Artillery	5
Divisional Engineers	6
Divisional Signal Co.	7
Divisional Train	8
S.S.C.	9
A.D.M.S.	10
A.D.V.S.	11
A.P.M.	12
D.A.D.O.S.	13
Copies to:	
1st Australian Division	14 - 15
1st (W.S.W) Inf. Bde	16
20th Division	17
4th Australian Division	18
1st ANZAC Corps	19
ANZAC Heavy Artillery	20
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	21
"G"	22
"Q"	23
War Diary	24.



TABLE OF MOVES TO ACCOMPANY 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 136

Location	Night 3/4	Night 4/5	Night 5/6	Night 6/7	Remarks
DOIGNIES and front line	53	59	A/1st Bde	A/1st Bde	
LOUVERVAL and front line	54	54	29	A/3rd Bde	
Posts on right. H.Q. LE BUCQUIERE	51	55	B/1st Bde	B/1st Bde	
Posts on left. H.Q. MORCHIES	56	56	54	B/3rd Bde	
Reserve on Right. VELU	55	Nil (a)	C/1st Bde	C/1st Bde	(a) 31st move direct back to BAPAUME on relief.
Reserve on Left. BEUGNY	Nil (b)	29	Nil (c)	C/3rd Bde	(b) 57th move to BEAULENCOURT after relief (c) 56th move back to LE BARQUE on relief.



Appendix No. 160



3  
SECRET

Appendix No 161

SECRET 22

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 138.



Headquarters,  
5th April 1917.

1. The left boundary of the Divisional front will be amended as follows:  
A line drawn through H.23.central - I.4.central - C.12.d.O.4 -to C.6.central.  
The right forward boundary is amended to a line - K.25.d.O.O. to L.25.b.4.O.
2. The new portion included on our left (LAGNICOURT) will be taken over on the night 6/7th April by the 3rd Australian Infantry Brigade.
3. G.O.C. 3rd Australian Infantry Brigade will arrange all details of the relief with G.O.C. 13th Australian Infantry Brigade, and will report to 5th Divisional Headquarters when the front has been taken over.
4. C.R.A. will arrange for the 14th A.F.A. Brigade to cover the extra front in addition to its special task.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*C. W. G. Stubb.*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff.  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 6.30 p.m. to:

	Copy No.
3rd Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
1st Infantry Brigade	3
C.R.A.	4
Copies to:	
1st Anzac	5
1st Australian Division	6
4th Australian Division	7
ANZAC Heavy Artillery	8
20th Division	9
Divisional Train	10
Signal Co.	11
8th Infantry Brigade	12
15th Infantry Brigade	13
C.R.E.	14
A.D.M.S.	15
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	16
"G"	17
"C"	18
War Diary	19.





4th April 1917.

23

During the present period of training and re-organisation the following principles will be generally observed viz :-

(1) The Platoon organisation laid down in recent pamphlets and circulars will be completed at once.

(2) All training Courses for new specialists will last for one week.

Trained specialists will receive one days refresher training each week otherwise they are available for general work.

(3) Lewis Gun - A range is available near Brigade Headquarters and is allotted to units on days as under :-

57th Battalion - Mondays

58th Battalion - Tuesdays

59th Battalion - Wednesdays

60th Battalion - Thursdays

15th M.G. Coy. - Fridays

Battalion Schools of 16 men each should commence at once.

(4) Grenade Course - A bombing course is available and the Brigade Bomb Officer will supervise unit practice with live grenades on the same days laid down for Lewis Gun practice.

(5) Visual signal practice will commence at once.

(6) A Training Syllabus will be submitted by Battalions to Brigade H.Q. as soon as possible. Each Battalion will require to make provision for one Company per day being on work (this must be an organised Company and not platoons &c drawn from different Companies)

It is anticipated that 3 weeks will be available for training.

Major.  
Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



*Appendix 162*

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Return of Sick Wastage for Month of MARCH 1917.

U N I T.	D A T E.																															R E M A R K S.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
15th Bde. H.Q.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15th M.G.Coy.	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	27
15th A.L.T.M.B.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
57th Battalion.	3	8	1	4	2	2	3	2	3	6	4	4	15	3	1	1	7	2	4	3	14	6	-	1	-	1	-	8	1	2	4	115
58th Battalion.	11	2	8	4	-	2	1	-	1	6	3	11	7	6	5	3	2	3	10	4	2	1	-	-	22	-	4	3	26	11	3	161
59th Battalion.	1	1	3	1	7	7	2	8	6	3	2	4	1	3	7	2	9	-	-	2	-	7	20	3	10	24	0	1	3	6	1	144
60th Battalion.	4	2	2	1	4	8	3	3	12	9	4	5	3	-	1	3	12	1	3	1	1	4	16	19	9	7	18	8	5	3	3	174
TOTAL.	21	13	15	11	14	19	10	14	25	25	13	24	26	15	15	9	33	7	17	12	17	18	38	27	48	32	23	21	36	28	11	625

\* Days spent in advance of Brigade Headquarters.

\* 60% in advance of Brigade Headquarters.

\* 50% in advance of Brigade Headquarters.

*After the 18th inst. The 59th Bn had the heaviest work in the open with the 60th Bn next. The heavy sickness in the 58th Bn is not understood - their work was not specially severe, but their M.O. is known to be more sympathetic than other M.O.s & possibly evacuates readily.*

*Rev. J. Wickett*

Major,  
Brigade Major, 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Appendix No 162





# Daily Strength Return

7<sup>th</sup> April 1917

Appendix 163

	ACTUALLY WITH UNIT			IN HPL			DETACHED			TOTAL EFFECTIVE STRENGTH			REMARKS
	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	
15. B.H.Q.	7	18	25		2	2				7	20	27	
15. A.L.I.M.B.	4	32	36		8	8		2	2	4	42	46	
15. M.G. Coy.	3	154	157	2	7	9	2	9	11	9	170	179	Excludes 2.O.R.A.M.C. attached
57. Bn	31	796	827	3	61	64	7	74	81	41	931	972	Excludes 3.O.R.A.M.C. attached 1 interpreter "
58. Bn	24	764	788	3	51	54	4	50	54	31	865	896	Excludes 4.O.R.A.M.C. attached
59. Bn	23	790	813	3	59	62	6	60	66	32	909	941	Excludes 3.O.R.A.M.C. attached 1 interpreter "
60. Bn	37	840	877	3	80	83	7	28	35	47	948	995	Excludes 5.O.R.A.M.C. attached.
Total	129	3394	3523	14	268	282	26	223	249	171	3885	4056	



# Detached Details.

15 M.G. Coy	O	OR	57. Bm	O	OR	58. Bm	O	OR	59. Bm	O	OR	60 Bm	O	OR
M.G. School (Lt. FITZGERALD, G.F.)	1	2	A.G.'s office A.H.Q. 5 Div Inf School Capt. LINTON Davis DICKINSON	1	2	A.H.Q. DAADOS. 5 Div. 29. A.S.C. Lewis Gun School Div Bomb Dump A.W.L.	3	1	5 Div. Inf School A.J. BECK J.H. WADESON T.J. GANNON	3	8	29 A.S.C. Div Salvage Coy Rly Construction	2	2
Anti Aircraft School (Lt. HEATHCOTE, N.C.)	1	4	Lewis Gun school 29. A.S.C. Div Draughtsman Leave Cinema Water wardens	1	4	Div School of Inst. L.S. DAVIS H.S. Mc COLL	1	5	Decauville Rly. Grenade school Div Police Concert Party 29. A.S.C. A.G.'s office	1	7	Traffic Control Camp wardens A.G.'s office A.W.L. Detention 5 Div School	1	3
29. A.S.C.	1	1	Bootmaker DAADOS Armourer Fatigue, Meaulles (Lt. MORROW)	1	1	8. Inf Bde 5 Army Inf School (Lt. S.J. TOPP)	1	2	Camp Comdt. & wardens D.G. TOOHEY H.W. REID	1	1	5 Div Sig School Leave (Capt. DOIG, K.M.K.)	1	1
On leave	2	2	5 Army school (Capt. MORGAN) Stokes Gun School Div Sig Coy L.G. School 1st Angas School A.P.M.	2	2	Detention 5 Division Cinema theatre 5 Sanitary Section 1st Angas workshop Water supply FRICOURT Div Sig Coy Leave (Capt. N.M. FREEMAN)	2	2	5 Army Inf School (Lt. J.W. FRANCIS) 5 A.D.B.D. 5 Army Sig School 5 Army I.M. School Div. H.Q. 5 Div Supply Line 5 Army L.G. School On leave 5 Army Telescopic Sight School R.E. Guard	2	15	5 Army School (Lt. LOVE, H.K.) 5. A.D.B.D. (Mjr. TRICKY, F.V.) 5 Army Stokes Gun Sch Aldershot School (Mjr. CAMERON, H.G.) Lewis Gun School	2	5
Total	2	9	5 Army L.G. School (Lt. WHITE) Cookery school Telescopic Sight School (Lt. MARXEN) 5 Army Stokes Gun school Supply guard	1	3	5 Army Inf School Detention 5 Division Cinema theatre 5 Sanitary Section 1st Angas workshop Water supply FRICOURT Div Sig Coy Leave (Capt. N.M. FREEMAN) Armourer school 5 Army Stokes Gun school Perth Camp wardens Supply fatigue A.G.'s office	1	2	Total	6	60	Total	7	28
15. A.L.I.M.B.			Total	7	74	Total	4	50	Total	6	60	Total	7	28
Ink 1st Angas School	1	1												
A.W.L.	1	1												
Total	2	2												



BEAUMETZ-lez-CAMBRAI.

Details of its capture by the 15th Infantry Brigade A.I.F. and subsequent hostile attempts to retake it.

Reference - Sheet 57 C 1/40000.

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On the 19th March 1917 our outposts were established on the line BEUGNY-LEBUCQUIERE-VELU. Our right flank was much exposed owing to the slow advance of the Division on our right.

The advance was continued at 11 a.m. on 20th March and to the 60th Battalion, operating south of the BAPAUME-CAMBRAI Road (exclusive) fell the task of taking BEAUMETZ.

Two Companies (each about 140 rifles) in artillery formation covered by a screen of patrols, advanced from LEBUCQUIERE directly against BEAUMETZ; One Company occupied VELU WOOD as a Right Flank Guard, and one Company was in Reserve. A 13th Light Horse observation post was stationed on the ridge in J.32.D.

When the patrols arrived within 1000 yards of the village they came under brisk rifle fire from two Machine Guns and from 90 to 100 rifles most of which appeared to be posted in three short trenches 100 yards from the village on the western side. At the same time our Light Horse patrols on the BERTINCOURT Ridge were shelled by hostile field guns.

At 1 p.m. the hostile fire was very intense and our patrols were forced to halt 500 yards from the village. The enveloping tactics found successful against other villages were adopted and leaving the chain of patrols to contain the hostile posts the Company Commanders, taking advantage of undulations, moved up on the flanks of the village at a distance of 800/900 yards and as they proceeded, establishing posts to keep connection. The Reserve Company moved up and occupied the Central position in support of the chain of patrols.

The intention was, if possible, to capture the garrison rather than drive him out, therefore, the operation was permitted to develop without undue haste.

At 3.30 p.m. this movement had made good progress and the 4th Battery A.F.A. directed effective fire on the village with the result that the enemy attempted to withdraw under difficult conditions.

At 4.30 p.m. when we had practically surrounded BEAUMETZ our Light Horse Observation Post (specially posted to watch this flank) reported a strong hostile counter-attack developing along the railway line from the direction of HERMIES. A reconnaissance reported the enemy to be from 300-400 strong and within easy reach of a position from which he could attack our right Company in reverse. The position was serious for on the one hand there were no formed bodies of Infantry to meet this attack and on the other hand the enemy was still resisting within BEAUMETZ. The mist prevented the Artillery from locating the advancing enemy and interfered with communications.

The Senior Infantry Officer cleverly withdrew his enveloping Companies and established a line along the western edge of the village.

By 7 a.m. on 21st March our Field Artillery had been brought up to close range and under cover of its fire the enveloping movement was again launched and, profiting from the knowledge of the ground gained on the previous day, moved so rapidly that the enemy scattered and retreated in disorder. By 7.30 a.m. we were consolidating the position.

#### FIRST COUNTER-ATTACK - 23rd March.

After BEAUMETZ was captured its Eastern edge was incorporated in our outpost line. One outpost Company held the line from J.13.A.7-7, along the edge of the village to J.20.A.8-5; another Company extended the line from J.20.A.8-5 to VELU WOOD. One Company was in support in BEAUMETZ and another in LEBUCQUIERE.

The outpost line consisted of platoon picquets with sentry groups thrown forward. Owing to the misty weather active patrolling was necessary.

At 4.30 a.m. (winter time) the enemy opened a vigorous bombardment against BEAUMETZ. This fire was to some extent a surprise for the night had been fairly quiet. At 4.45 a.m. under cover of a thick mist the enemy approached our line in 3 columns, separated from each other by about 1000 yards. The Germans were specially trained men of STURM-TRUPPEN-; they were lightly equipped and carried the Cavalry Carbine and bayonet as well as bombs. The left column came into contact with the right Company of the Battalion NORTH of the road but owing to the







(2)

measures taken by the latter when the bombardment commenced the Germans were attacked with Mills grenades and Lewis Guns and quickly defeated.

The centre column appears to have waited for the development of the right column's attack and did not act vigorously.

The right column (300 strong) evidently passed between the flanks of the Companies at J.20.A.8-5 and was not seen until it reached the rear of the village. Here its sudden appearance caused much confusion and the Support Company in BEAUMETZ had to rally on the NORTHERN edge of the village where it was joined by the elements of the outpost Company.

The right support Company of the left Battalion, having ascertained the situation by an officers patrol launched a vigorous counter-attack from CHAUFORS WOOD obliquely against the Germans who were still disorganised by their own advance and with the Lewis Guns well in front soon drove the enemy out of our position. As the disorganised German troops fled from the village they came under the cross-fire of two of our Vickers Guns which had been placed in anticipation when the N.C.O's judged the fight to be progressing in our favour.

At 6.30 a.m. the position had been entirely restored.

The success of our troops was due largely to the initiative of the Company Commander who delivered such an effective counter-attack outside of his own Battalion sector. The action illustrated the ease with which, under certain conditions such as weather and knowledge of the ground, the enemy can penetrate an outpost line. In this case our patrols were active close to and on our line but not well out in front (the mist was very thick and some of the patrols would certainly have lost themselves).

#### SECOND COUNTER-ATTACK - 24th March.

Our line was approximately the same as on the 23rd but the incoming fresh Battalion had advanced the posts, after dusk, to 300 yards in advance of the buildings.

At 3 a.m. 25th March a heavy bombardment opened, not on BEAUMETZ alone as was the case on 23rd March, but also on LEBUCQUIERE, our gun positions, and on certain points in our front line such as Sunken roads, cross roads (we learned to keep away from these later) etc.

At 4 a.m. a party of 50 attacked our posts in front of BEAUMETZ. These posts fell back on the picquets. A few minutes later a body of 300 Germans attacked the NORTH EAST corner of BEAUMETZ and two picquets were driven in. Our Support Company which was standing to arms having ascertained the position attacked the enemy who resisted strongly but had to retire. Our Vickers Gunners acting under previous instructions had two guns waiting and inflicted heavy loss.

The enemy left a few snipers in the last house of the village and before they could be located they caused us eight casualties. Our Artillery was acquainted with the position and the house was demolished.

These attacks were delivered by the enemy with specially trained troops brought from a distance and were carried out with energy. It is likely that German night attacks will nearly always be carried out by specially trained troops and the need for good organisation of our outpost lines is apparent.

The following is an instance of what might be done by a careful picquet Commander.

After the second attack it was noticed that the enemy used certain sunken roads on both occasions. These were at once blocked with wire obstacles and a Lewis Gun posted to cover the obstacles; had the precautions been taken in time the enemy's attempts might have been still more disastrous to him.



SECRET

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 139.

Headquarters,  
8th April 1917.

1. On a day known as zero day - which will be notified in due course, the 4th. Australian Division will be making an attack about BULLECOURT in conjunction with operations further north.
2. The 5th. Australian Division is required to find two Infantry Brigades as a Corps Reserve for the operation.
3. The 14th. and 15th. Brigades, each consisting of Brigade Headquarters - 4 Battalions - and 1 machine gun company, are detailed for the duty.
4. On zero day these Brigades will be assembled ready to move forward as follows:-

14th. Brigade between THILLOY and BAPAUME, about  
N.2. Central.

15th. Brigade in N.11.d. and N.18.a.c.

Each Brigade will send a mounted staff Officer to 5th. Australian Divisional Headquarters to be ready to take instructions.

5. Troops will be required to move with 1st line Transport.
6. 14th. and 15th. Brigades will reconnoitre the following routes forthwith.

14th. Brigade BAPAUME - BEUGNATRE - VRAUCOURT.

15th. Brigade RIENCOURT - BANCOURT - FREMICOURT - VAULX.

Cross-country routes should be selected if possible.

## 7. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*W.H. King* Major for

Lieut-Colonel  
General Staff

5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Issued at 7.30 p.m. to:-

14th. Infantry Brigade  
15th. Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Signal Company

Copies to:-

1st. Anzac  
4th. Australian Division  
"Q" Branch  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary  
File  
1st. Australian Division  
Divisional Train  
8th. Infantry Brigade.

Copy No.

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SECRET.

Appendix 165a

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 95

Copy No. 7...

Reference 57 C.S.W.

9th April 1917.

1. On a day known as Zero day -which will be notified in due course the 4th Australian Division will be making an attack about BULLECOURT in conjunction with an attack further NORTH.
2. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade is detailed as Corps Reserve for the operation.
3. The Brigade, less 15th A.L.T.M.B. will assemble ready to move forward, as under :-
 

Brigade Headquarters	-	N.11.D.
57th Battalion	-	"
58th Battalion	-	"
59th Battalion	-	"
60th Battalion	-	N.18.A and C.
15th M.G. Coy.	-	"
4. First line transport will be required to accompany troops.
5. If required to move the Brigade will march in above order via REINCOURT - BANCOURT - FREMICOURT - VAULX .  
Transport should remain close to the road until the unit moves.
6. Blankets will not be carried.

*Geo. F. Wicks*

Major.

Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 10 a.m.

- No.1. 57th Battalion
2. 58th Battalion
3. 59th Battalion
4. 60th Battalion
5. 15th M.G. Coy.
6. 15th A.L.T.M.B.
7. War Diary.
8. Filed.

Copy



Appendix 166



S E C R E T

Copy No.....

## 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 140.

Headquarters,  
10th April 1917.

1. The 4th. Australian Division is to attack the HINDENBURG line about BULLECOURT to-morrow morning 11th instant, and is to push on to RIENCOURT.
2. 5th. Australian Division, less Artillery, is detailed as Corps Reserve.
3. 15th. Infantry Brigade (Headquarters, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions and Machine Gun Company) will be held ready to move forward at half an hour's notice after 5 a.m.
4. Advanced Divisional Headquarters Signal detachment. 14th and 8th. Infantry Brigades, 8th Field Company Engineers and S.A.A. Section of D.A.C. will make arrangements to call in their working parties and transport when ordered, so as to be ready to move at four hours notice.
5. A.D.M.S. will make special arrangements regarding Field Ambulances as ordered by D.D.M.S.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*Curragh Staff*Lieut-Colonel  
General Staff  
5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Issued at 10.30 p.m. to:-

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
C.R.E.  
A.D.M.S.

Copy No.

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Copies to

1st. Anzac  
4th. Australian Division  
1st. Australian Division  
"Q" Branch  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary  
File.

6  
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*Appendix 166 a*  
 INSTRUCTIONS FOR G.O.C. 15th INFANTRY BRIGADE.



32

1. The operations of the 4th Australian Division have been so far successful.
2. Your Brigade (Headquarters, 4 battalions, and M.G.Co.) is placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. 4th Australian Division.
3. The Brigade will march at 10.0 a.m. to BEUGNATRE (3 batt<sup>ns</sup>) and H.28.a.24 (HQ and 1 batt<sup>n</sup>).
4. At H.28.a.24. further instructions will be issued regarding halts.
5. You should get into touch with G.O.C. 4th Australian Division (Headquarters, H.15.c.4.6) forthwith.
6. Please endeavour to let Headquarters 5th Australian Division know your situation, at least twice daily.

*C. W. G. Staff.*

Lieut-Colonel,  
 General Staff,  
 5th Australian Division.

11th April 1917.

Issued at 9.30 a.m. to:  
 15th Infantry Brigade.

Copies to:  
 4th Australian Division.  
 1st Anzac  
 "Q".



SECRET.

Appendix 1666

Appendix 1666



33

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO 96.

Reference - 57 C. 1/40000.

10th April 1917.

1. The 4th Infantry Brigade has been ordered to attack the HINDENBURG LINE and certain objectives beyond as shown in accompanying maps.

The 62nd Division is co-operating on the left and certain Cavalry and Tanks are taking part.

2. The Zero hour and date will be notified separately.
3. The 15th Infantry Brigade is detailed as "Corps Reserve" and if ordered forward will march via REINCOURT, BANCOURT, FREMICOURT, VAULX. Units will pass the starting point N.5.D.3-0 at Zero hour.  
H.Q. 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.  
60th Battalion  
58th Battalion  
57th Battalion  
59th Battalion  
15th M.G. Coy.  
15th A.L.T.M.B.
4. The baggage train will rendezvous at FREMICOURT. Wagons will report at Units lines one hour after Zero. Surplus blankets and other equipment will be left in Camp under a small guard. Units will also leave their camps under the charge of a guard of reliable men.
5. Ration refilling point will be notified later.
6. All Units will halt for 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour.
7. Unless otherwise ordered Units will be ready to march daily at 5.0 a.m. or at very short notice any time thereafter.

*Geo. J. Wint*

Major.

Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at *9 pm*

- No. 1. 57th Battalion  
2. 58th Battalion  
3. 59th Battalion  
4. 60th Battalion  
5. 15th M.G. Coy.  
6. 15th A.L.T.M.B.

Copies to 7. 5th Aust. Div.  
8. War Diary.

9. *7*  
10. *Filed*



SECRETAppendix 167Appendix N<sup>o</sup> 167Copy N<sup>o</sup> 7

34

15th Aust. Infantry Brigade Order N<sup>o</sup> 97

Reference - 57C 40000



12th April 1917

- 1 The 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade is being withdrawn from the Left Divisional Sector on 13th April and will return to former Camps.
- 2 The following march arrangements are made:—
  - (a) Brigade H.Q. will march at 8.30 am.
  - (b) The both Bn, with transport will march at 9 am.
  - (c) The 57th, 58th, 59th Bns ~~and~~, less transport, will march independently via BANCOURT between 9 am & 10 am.
  - (d) The 15th M.G. Coy. will march via BAPAUME at 9 am.
  - (e) Transport of units mentioned in (c) will march via BAPAUME and will pass H 17 at 7.3 at following times —
    - 57th Bn - 9.30 am.
    - 58th Bn - 9.40 am.
    - 59th Bn - 9.50 am.

All transport must be clear of BAPAUME by 11.45 am and 800 yds distance must be kept by units.

- 3 Baggage wagons will report early on 13th inst.
- 4 Brigade H.Q. will close at H 22 Central at 8 am. and will reopen at H 24 d 1.9 at same hour.
- 5 The 57th & 58th Bns will make arrangements for the whole of their units to be employed on Second Line work on 14th April. Working to be commenced.

Geo. F. West Guesp  
Brigade Mesp 15th Bde

Desired at 4 pm

- N<sup>o</sup> 1 57th Bn
- 2 58th Bn
- 3 59th Bn
- 4 60th Bn
- 5 15th M.G. Coy.
- 6 15th M.G. Coy. B.

Copy — 7 War Diary



S E C R E T

THE CONTENTS OF THIS  
ORDER ARE NOT TO BE COMMUN-  
ICATED TO ANY UNITS OTHER THAN  
RECIPIENTS, UNTIL ZERO DAY  
IS NOTIFIED.

*JK King* Major.  
General Staff  
15/4/17. 5th. Aust. Div.

Addressed, 8th, 14th, 15th  
Inf. Brigades, Divisional  
Signal Co. A.D.M.S. "Q" Branch



SECRET.



Copy No. 3

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 141.

Headquarters,  
15th April 1917.

1. The attack on the HINDENBURG line about BULLECOURT is to be renewed on a date and at an hour to be communicated later. The attack is to be carried out by the 2nd Australian Division and 62nd Division. The 5th Australian Division will be in Corps Reserve.
2. The dividing line between the attacking Divisions will be U.28.c.2.5 - U.28.a.6.6 - thence to the Cross Roads (exclusive to 2nd Australian Division) at U.22.c.98.20 - thence along the Sunken Road (exclusive to 2nd Australian Division) to U.22.b.8.5 - U.17.central - U.12.c.0.0 - U.12.c.6.6.
3. (a) The three objectives of the 2nd Australian and 62nd Divisions are shewn on the attached map. The advance is to be carried out simultaneously by both Divisions as follows:-
 

At ZERO.	Advance to 1st Objective
At ZERO plus 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours	Advance to 2nd Objective
At ZERO plus 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours	Advance to 3rd Objective.

 (b) The advance of 2nd Australian Division to the third objective will be carried out in three phases.
  - (i) The capture of the outskirts of RIENCOURT and the trench system in U.23.b. and U.17.c.
  - (ii) Completion of the capture of RIENCOURT.
  - (iii) The establishment of posts in U.18.a and c to connect RIENCOURT with the 62nd Division in HENDECOURT.
 (c) The 4th Objective is an indication of future plans. The advance to this objective will depend on the tactical situation when the 3rd Objective has been captured.
4. The attack is to be preceded by a preliminary bombardment by the Corps Heavy Artillery. The advance to successive objectives will be covered by a shrapnel barrage moving forward at a rate of 100 yard in three minutes. A protective barrage is to be formed in front of each objective whilst the consolidation is carried out.
5. The units shewn in the margin will be attached to the 2nd Australian Division for the operations.
 

8th M.G.Co.
14th M.G.Co.
8th L.T.M.Batt.
15th L.T.M.Batt.





6. (a) The 15th Infantry Brigade will be assembled ready to move, in the vicinity of BEAULENCOURT at ZERO Hour. On receipt of orders this Brigade will move to the area about BEUGNATRE, where on arrival it will come under the orders of G.O.C. 2nd Australian Division.
- (b) The 8th and 14th Infantry Brigades will make special arrangements for the immediate recall of all road working parties at short notice.
7. The O.C. Divisional Signal Company will arrange to synchronise watches at 6.0 p.m. on "Y" day between 2nd Australian Division Signal Co. and 15th Infantry Brigade.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*St. King*

Major.  
General Staff,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 12 noon to:

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Signal Co.  
A.D.M.S.

Copy No.  
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Copies to:  
2nd Australian Division  
First ANZAC Corps  
"G"  
"C"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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*Order was not carried out as  
Brigade were relieved before it came off*



Appendix 169



S E C R E T.

## 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 142.

Headquarters,  
15th April 1917.

1. The 1st. and 2nd. Australian Divisions successfully drove back a strong enemy attack this morning. Our defences at LAGNICOURT were penetrated, but the enemy was promptly driven out.  
It is possible that the enemy may renew his attack.
  2. The moves shown in attached table will be carried out at once.  
(a)
  3. The 8th. Australian Infantry Brigade (less 8th. Machine Gun Company and 8th. Light Trench Mortar Battery) will take over the defence of the whole BEUGNY-YTRES line in 1st. Australian Division Sector, with 2 Battalions and 1 Machine Gun Company by noon to-morrow -16th inst.  
  
(b) The relief will be arranged direct with 1st Australian Division and completion reported to both 1st and 5th. Australian Division Headquarters.
  4. 15th. Australian Machine Gun Company is placed at the disposal of G.O.C. 8th. Infantry Brigade.
  5. The 8th. Infantry Brigade and 15th. Machine Gun Company will be held in readiness from now onwards for immediate movement at short notice.
  6. G.O.C. 14th. Infantry Brigade will detail two Battalions forthwith for the defence of the left Sector Corps 2nd line. 15th. Infantry Brigade will continue to furnish the garrison of the right sector Corps 2nd. line.
  7. Headquarters of 8th. Infantry Brigade will move to FREMICOURT
- c ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*SHKrip*  
Major  
General Staff  
5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Issued at 7.15 p.m. to:-

8th. Infantry Brigade  
14th. Infantry Brigade  
15th. Infantry Brigade ✓  
Divisional Signal Company  
A.D.M.S.  
Divisional Train

Copy No.

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Copies to:-

Divisional Engineers  
5th. Pioneer Battalion  
1st. Australian Division  
1st. Anzac Corps  
"G"  
"C"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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Cancelled 11 June 1917



TABLE OF MOVES TO ACCOMPANY 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 142.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FORMATION OR UNIT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
April 15th.	Hd. Qrs. 8th. Inf. Bde.	BAPAUME	FREMICOURT	
" "	32nd. Battalion	GREVILLERS	BANCOURT	
" "	55th. Battalion	LE BARQUE	BAPAUME - -	- To 30th Bn. Billets
" "	56th. Battalion	LE BARQUE	GREVILLERS - -	- To 52nd. Bn. Camp
April 16th	30th. Battalion	MORCHIES	BEUGNY-YTRES line	(Relieving
" "	32nd Battalion	BANCOURT	BEUGNY-YTRES line	(2 Battalions (of 1st Australian Division



15<sup>th</sup> Aust Inf. Brigade.

Daily Strength Return

14<sup>th</sup> April 1917.

Unit	ACTUALLY WITH UNIT			IN. HPL			DETACHED			TOTAL EFFECTIVE STRENGTH			REMARKS
	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	Off	OR	TOTAL	
15. B. H. Q	7	18	25	.	2	2	.	.	.	7	20	27	Excludes 1 interpreter attached.
15. A.L.I.M.B	4	32	36	.	8	8	.	2	2	4	42	46	
15 M.G. Coy	4	156	160	3	5	8	2	6	8	9	167	176	Excludes 2 OR. AMC attached
57. Bn	33	804	837	4	57	61	4	71	75	41	932	973	Excludes 5 OR. AMC attached 1 interpreter
58. Bn	22	726	748	5	53	58	4	57	61	31	836	867	Excludes 5 OR. AMC attached
59. Bn	23	785	808	4	38	42	7	58	65	34	881	915	Excludes 6 OR. AMC attached 1 interpreter ..
60. Bn	36	813	849	3	93	96	8	31	39	47	937	984	Excludes 5 OR. AMC attached
Total	129	3334	3463	19	256	275	25	225	250	173	3815	3988	



Appendix No. 176



### Details of Detached

[illegible]



SECRET.

Copy No. 3

42

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 143.

Headquarters,  
17th April 1917.

1. The moves shewn in the attached table will be carried out on April 18th.  
Completion of moves will be reported to Divisional Headquarters.
2. Special administrative instructions regarding tentage will be issued by "Q" Branch.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

Major,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 5.0 a.m. to:

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
S.S.O.

Copy No.

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Copies to:

Divisional Engineers  
A.D.M.S.  
D.A.D.C.S.  
Area Commandant, BAPAUME  
1st Australian Division  
First ANZAC Corps (Adv)  
"G"  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C  
War Diary.

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TABLE OF MOVES ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 143.

Date	Formation or Unit	From	To	Remarks.
18th April.	Headquarters 14th Infantry Brigade and 14th L.T.M. Battery	THILLOY	BAPAUME	To take over late Headquarters of 8th Infantry Brigade.
18th April.	(53rd Battalion	THILLOY	BAPAUME	Hands over tentage to 31st Battalion.
	(31st Battalion	BAPAUME	HAPLIN COURT	Hands over accommodation to 53rd Battalion.
18th April	(54th Battalion	LIGNY-THILLOY	RIENCOURT	Hands over tentage to 59th Battalion.
	(59th Battalion	RIENCOURT	VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	Hands over accommodati to 54th Battalion.

ALL MOVES TO BE COMPLETE BY 6.0 p.m.



Appendix No 173

44

SECRET.



Copy No. 6.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 98.

1. The 59th Battalion will move to VILLERS-AU-FLOR on the 18th inst.
2. The 54th Battalion will take over the accommodation of the 59th Battalion at RIENCOURT and will hand over their tentage at LIGNY-THILLOY to the 59th Battalion.
3. The move is to be completed by 6 p.m.
4. 59th Battalion will select a site for their Camp on the 17th inst. and will advise Brigade Headquarters of position.
5. Baggage waggons and arrangements for transport of tentage is being arranged by Q Branch Division and will be notified.
6. The 59th Battalion will notify Brigade Headquarters on completion of move.

*McMahon*  
 acy Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade. Major.

Issued at 12 noon

- |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| No.1. | 57th Battalion. |
| 2.    | 58th Battalion. |
| 3.    | 59th Battalion. |
| 4.    | 60th Battalion. |
| 5.)   | Filed.          |
| 6.)   |                 |



SECRET.

## 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 99.



Reference Maps - 57 C.S.W.1/20000.  
57 C.H.W.1/20000.

1. The defence of the Intermediate Line between O.S.D.6-2 and I.31.C.8-2 is allotted to the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
2. The nucleus garrison for this sector is :-  
One Battalion and Two Sections of the M.G. Coy.
3. The 57th Battalion is detailed as nucleus garrison for the Sector and will permanently occupy the strong points with a part of the garrison - 1 M.G.C. and 8 men for each strong point - and will be responsible for safeguarding the defensive works and keeping them in a state of repair.  
The garrison must at all times be ready to man the line at short notice.  
Note :- The Machine Gun Coy. are temporarily detached to the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade.
4. The 57th, 58th and 60th Battalions will forward a sketch of the strong points under construction by them. This sketch is to reach Brigade Headquarters not later than 8 p.m. on the 18th inst.
5. The Garrison Battalion will forward a sketch of the sector showing the strong points, the garrison which will man these posts in the event of an attack, and the position of reserves.
6. The remaining three Battalions, M.G. Sections, and A.L.T.M.B. may be required to assist in the defence of the line or be held ready as a mobile force for a counter-stroke.  
The ground must be studied and the routes from billets reconnoitred for this purpose so as to effect a rapid concentration at any point.
7. The permanent garrison will be relieved every 12 hours so that all ranks will have an opportunity of gaining a thorough knowledge of the localities to be defended.

*W. H. H. H. H. H.*  
a/ Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade. Major.

Issued at 4 p.m.

- No. 1. 57th Battalion
2. 58th Battalion
3. 59th Battalion
4. 60th Battalion.
5. 15th M.G. Coy.
6. 15th A.L.T.M.B.
- 7.) Filed.
- 8.)



## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 144.



Headquarters,  
19th April 1917.

1. (a) The 5th Australian Division (less units shown in the margin) will be relieved in the BEUGNY-YTRES Line and Corps "M" Area by 11th Division on 20th and 21st April.  

5th Australian Divisional Artillery	
5th D.A.C. (less S.A.A. Detachment)	
5th Mobile Veterinary Section	
8th and 14th Machine Gun Companies	
8th and 15th Light Trench Mortar Batteries	

 (b) The relief of the units shown in the margin will be postponed to a date which will be notified later.
2. Units of the 5th Australian Division on relief, will march to camps in the Corps "J" Area, i.e. FRICOURT, LA BOISELLE, CONTALMAISON, BAZENTIN, MONTAUBAN, MAMETZ.
3. The moves will be carried out in accordance with the attached table.
4. The following intervals will be maintained on the march:-
  - 200 yards between battalions.
  - 200 yards between transport and other units.
  - 100 yards between companies.
5. (a) All orders, instructions, maps, schemes, and plans of work, relating to the BEUGNY-YTRES Line and Corps Second Line, are to be handed over to relieving units by Brigades and Field Companies concerned.  
 (b) All remaining anti-gas equipment held on charge as trench stores, will be handed over to relieving units.  
 (c) Entrenching tools on the establishment of units will not be handed over on relief.
6. (a) The relief of nucleus garrisons in the Corps Second Line will be reported to 5th Australian Divisional Headquarters.  
 (b) The relief of 8th Infantry Brigade in the BEUGNY-YTRES Line will be reported to 1st Australian Divisional Headquarters, and repeated to 5th Australian Divisional Headquarters.
7. C.R.E. will arrange reliefs of Field Companies and Pioneers with C.R.E. 11th Division, under orders from C.E. 1st ANZAC Corps.
- A.D.M.S. will arrange reliefs of Field Ambulances with A.D.M.S. 11th Division, under orders of D.D.M.S. 1st ANZAC Corps.
  - (a) All transport other than that allotted to units shown in the margin will march to the margin will march to "J" Area by the BEAULENCOURT - GUEUDECOURT - FLERS - LONGUEVAL Route.
 

14th Infantry Brigade (less M.G.Co. and L.T.M. Battery)	
14th Field Company	
8th Field Company	
15th Field Ambulance	
  - (b) Units shown in the margin above will use the main BAPAUME - ALBERT Route.
  - (c) Transport columns will move under the command of the Senior Transport Officer of Brigade Groups.



-2-

10. Baggage Sections of Divisional Train will report to Units at 8.0 a.m. on 20th and 21st April.
11. Special Administrative Instructions regarding ammunition, supplies, accommodation, and the relief of working parties will be issued by "Q" Branch.
12. Supply railhead on 19th instant will be BAZENTIN.
13. The command of the Corps Reserve in "M" Area will be handed over to G.O.C. 11th Division at 12 noon on 21st April. Divisional Headquarters will close at N.11.central and open at THE DINGLE (X.27.b.3.9, near ERICOURT) on 21st April at 12 noon.
14. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.



Major,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 5.30 a.m. to:

Copy No.

8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade	3
5th Pioneer Battalion	4
Divisional Artillery	5
Divisional Engineers	6
Divisional Signal Company	7
Divisional Train	8
S.S.C.	9
A.D.M.S.	10
A.D.V.S.	11
A.P.M.	12

Copies to:

11th Division	13
Advanced First ANZAC Corps	14
First ANZAC Corps	15
1st Australian Division	16
2nd Australian Division	17
Divisional Infantry School	18
Area Commandant "J" Area	19
Town Major BECORT	20
"G"	21 - 22
"Q"	23 - 24
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	25
War Diary	26.
Camp Commandant	27.




TABLE OF MOVES ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 144.

Date	Formation or Unit	From	To	Routes and Times.	Relieving Units.	Remarks
April 20th	14th Brigade Group. 14th Inf. Bde (less M.G.Co.)	THILLOY - LE BARQUE and GREVILLERS	BAZENTIN Camps for night 20/21 April only.	BAPAUME - LE SARS - GUNPITS ROAD (M.25. d.6.5). To march after 12.30 p.m. when relieved, and be clear of BAPAUME - ALBERT Road by 3.45 p.m.	34th Inf. Bde	Hand over command Left Brigade Sector Corps Second Line.
	14th Field Co.	BAPAUME			86th Field Co.	
20th	15th Brigade Group 15th Inf. Bde (less M.G.Co. and L.T.M.Batt.)	SUCRERIE - RIENCOURT and N.11.d.	MAMETZ Camps.	BEAULENCOURT - GUEUDEECOURT - FLERS - LONGUEVAL. Troops. By duckwalks. To march after 11.30 a.m. when relieved.	52nd Inf. Bde	Hand over command Right Brigade Sector, Corps Second line.
	15th Field Co.	BEAULENCOURT			67th Field Co of 11th Div.	
21st	8th Brigade Group. 8th Inf. Bde (less M.G.Co. and L.T.M.Batt.) 15th M.G.Co.	FREMICOURT BANCOURT HAPLINCOURT BAPAUME	MONTAUBAN DARWIN (S.21.b.7.8) ALBURY (S.21.b.5.5) BENDIGO (S.15.d.1.1) HOBART (S.15.b.5.5)	BEAULENCOURT - GUEUDEECOURT - FLERS LONGUEVAL. Troops. By duck- walks. To march after 12 noon when relieved.	33rd Inf. Bde.	Hand over command of the BEUGNY - YTRES Line in 1st Aust. Div. area



Appendix No. 125



Date	Formation or Unit	From	To	Routes and Times	Relieving Units	Remarks
April 21st.	Div. H.Q. Group. Div. P.Q. Div. Engineers H.Q. Div. Signal Co. S.A.A. Detachment Div. Train H.Q.	N.11.central BEAULENCOURT. N.4. d.9.9	THE DINGLE X.27.b.3.9	BEAULENCOURT - GUEUDEECOURT - FLERS - LONGUEVAL Troops. By duckwalks To march at 11 a.m.	11th Division Units	
21st	8th Field Co. H.Q. and 1 section 3 Sections	BAPAUME GUEUDEECOURT	BERNAFAY Camps.	<i>Flers. Longueval.</i> BAPAUME - to follow D.H.Q. Group	60th Field Co of 11th Div.	NOTE. Permanent quarters in BAPAUME to be handed over to 11th Div.
21st	5th Pioneer Bn.	FLERS and S.12.b	BERNAFAY Camps	FLERS - LONGUEVAL; to follow 8th Field Co.	6th East Yorks Pioneer Bn.	NOTE. 5th Pioneer Bn's permanent quarters in I.26. a., b., and c and I.32.a. new vacant, are to be taken over by 6th East Yorks.
21st	14th Brigade Group. 14th Inf. Bde (less M.G. Co.)  14th Field Co.	BAZENTIN Camps	BECOURT Camps	CONTALMAISON - FRICOURT	Nil	

8th Field Co. and 5th Pioneer Battalion will be affiliated to and administered by 8th Brigade Group on arrival at BERNAFAY CAMPS.

Appendix No 175.



83  
S E C R E T.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION



Appendix No 175

Copy No. ....

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER No. 144.

Headquarters.  
19.4.17.

1. SUPPLIES.

14th Aust. Inf. Bde., (less 14th M.G. Coy.) will draw at BAZENTIN on and after the 20th inst.

15th Aust. Inf. Bde., (less 15th M.G. Coy. and 15th L.T.M. Battery), will draw at BAZENTIN on and after the 20th inst.

8th Aust. Inf. Bde., (less 8th M.G. Coy. and 8th L.T.M. Battery), plus 15th M.G. Coy. will draw at BAZENTIN on and after 21st inst..

Divisional Headquarters, Divisional Signal Coy., Divisional Engineers, H.Q., will draw at BAZENTIN on and after 21st inst.

5th Australian Divisional Artillery, D.A.C., 5th Mobile Vet. Section, 8th and 14th M.G. Coys., 8th and 15th L.T.M. Batteries, will draw from Supply Officer, Divisional Troops, (Capt. Stevenson), BEAULENCOURT, Bapaume Road, N.4.a.9.9.

2. AMMUNITION.

Units will move out with ammunition echelons empty. All S.A.A., Grenades, etc. in possession, (including establishments of mobile echelons), will be handed over to 11th Division.

The 120 rounds S.A.A. on the man will be carried.

List of ammunition handed over will be forwarded /  
to "Q" branch. all in duplicate

3. TRENCH STORES.

Any trench stores in possession of units will be handed over to 11th Division. Lists of stores handed over will be forwarded in duplicate to "Q" branch.

4. ACCOMMODATION.

No trench shelters, tents, or marquees will be moved out of "M" Area by units. All accommodation now occupied by Headquarters of Brigades, and units, will be handed over to 11th Division. Lists showing number of marquees, tents and trench shelters handed over will be forwarded in duplicate to "Q" branch. This also applies to any baths that may have been established. For accommodation allotted to units see Appendix "A".

5. PACK SADDLERY.

No pack saddlery will be handed over to 11th Division. Pack saddlery on charge surplus to establishment will be returned forthwith to D.A.D.O.S..

6. RATIONS IN SUPPORTING POINTS.

Any rations now in supporting points will be handed over to 11th Division. Lists showing quantities handed over will be forwarded in duplicate to "Q" branch.

7. EXTRA KIT AND BLANKETS.

Motor transport will be provided for the transport of extra kit and blankets, on application to "Q" branch.

*J. H. H. H.*

Colonel.  
A.A. & Q.M.G., 5th Aust. Div..





APPENDIX "A"

ACCOMMODATION IN "J" AREA ALLOTTED TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DIV. HEADQUARTERS  
DIV. ENGINEERS  
DIV. SIGNAL COMPANY

The Dingle

X.27.d.3.7

14th AUST. INF. BDE. - for night 20th/21st only - Bazentin Camps.

Het Cross Camp	-	30 Nissen Huts
S.8.d.1.4	-	36 " "
S.8.a.9.5	-	Field Co. Camp
S.8.b.0.0	-	6 Nissen Huts
S.9.b.8.2	-	40 Amiens Huts
S.9.c.9.7	-	31 Nissen Huts
Bearer Camp S.13.b.3.4	-	14 Nissen Huts

14th AUST. INF. BDE. - for night 21st/22nd April and until further orders.

Beccourt Brigade Camp - 152 Nissen Huts

8th AUST. INF. BDE. - for night 21st/22nd April and until further orders.

Montauban	Brigade Camp	72 Nissen Huts
Bondigo	S.15.d.1.1	28 " "
Hobart	S.15.b.5.5	19 " "
Darwin	S.21.b.7.8	20 " "
Albury	S.21.b.5.5	22 " "

15th AUST. INF. BDE. - for night 20th/21st April and until further orders.

Mametz Brigade Camp - 140 Nissen Huts

ENGINEERS.

8th FIELD CO.	-	Bernafay D Camp
14th " "	-	Beccourt Brigade Camp
15th " "	-	Mametz " "

FIELD AMBULANCES.

15th AUST. FIELD AMB. - Bearer Camp  
S.13.b.3.4. 14 Amiens Huts

SANITARY SECTION - To be notified later

5th PIONEER BATTALION. - Bernafay E Camp

DIVISIONAL TRAIN Div. Train Camp (X.30.b).



19th April 17.



1. The 15th Brigade Group -  
15th Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Coy. and 15th A.L.T.M.B.)  
and 15th Field Coy. Engineers - will be relieved in M area on the  
20th inst. by 32nd Infantry Brigade and 67th Field Coy. respectively.  
The relief of the 15th A.L.T.M.B. will be notified later.  
The 15th M.G. Coy. will be relieved on the 21st inst. under orders  
from the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade.
2. Units will march to HAMETZ Camps via BEAULIEUCOURT - GUEUDECOURT -  
FLERS - LONGUEVAL. Troops will march by duckwalks after 11.30 a.m.  
when relieved.
3. Moves will be carried out in accordance with attached table.
- 4.(a) All orders, instructions, maps, schemes, and plans of work relating  
to the Corps Second Line are to be handed over to relieving Units  
by Battalions.  
(b) All remaining anti-gas equipment held on charge as trench stores  
will be handed over to relieving Units.  
(c) Tools on the establishment of units will not be handed over.
5. The following intervals will be maintained on the march :-  
200 yards between Battalions.  
200 yards between transport and other units.  
100 yards between Companies.
6. The relief of nucleus garrison in the Corps Second Line will be  
reported to Brigade H.Q. H.24.Central.
7. Transport will move under Lieut. VARLEY, 60th Battalion in the  
following order :-  
15th Brigade Headquarters.  
15th Field Company.  
60th Battalion.  
59th Battalion.  
58th Battalion.  
57th Battalion.  
The head of the column will pass the starting point ~~at 11.30 a.m.~~ <sup>N17 66.9</sup> at  
11.30 a.m.  
Transport officers of Units will report to Lieut. VARLEY, 60th Battalion  
H.24.Central at 7.30 p.m. this evening to arrange detail.
8. Baggage Sections of Divisional Train will report to Units at 8 a.m.  
on 20th inst.
9. Instructions regarding ammunition supplies and relief of working  
parties will be notified later.
10. Billeting Officers will report to the Staff Captain at HAMETZ Camp  
at 1 p.m. 20th inst.
11. Route to be followed by Units must be reconnoitred beforehand.
12. Watches will be synchronised at 9 a.m. 20th inst. with Brigade H.Q.  
Signal Office.

Brigade Major 18th Australian Infantry Brigade.



553

## Issued at

- No. 1. 57th Battalion.
2. 58th Battalion.
3. 59th Battalion.
4. 60th Battalion.
5. 15th Field Coy. Engineers
6. 15th M.G. Coy.
7. 15th A.L.T.M.B.
- 8.) *Filed. 32nd Inf. Brigade*
- 9.) *Filed*

- Copies to
10. 5th Aust. Division.
  11. C.R.E. 5th Aust. Div.



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

TABLE OF MOVES.

DATE	UNIT	TIME PASS STARTING POINT	ROUTE	DESTINATION	REMARKS.
20th inst.	15th Brigade H.Q.	11.30 a.m.	BEAULENCOURT- GUEUDECOURT- FLERS	MANETZ Camp.	If units are not relieved and ready to pass the starting point by the time they are tabled, they will immediately notify Brigade H.Q. When a Battalion is relieved it will stand by ready to move at a moments notice. As in case of one Unit not being ready another Unit will take its place.
"	15th Field Coy. Engineers.	11.45 a.m.	" "	"	
"	60th Battalion.	12 noon	" "	"	
"	59th Battalion.	12.30 p.m.	" "	"	
"	58th Battalion.	1 p.m.	" "	"	
"	57th Battalion.	1.30 p.m.	" "	"	
"	15th Field Coy Engineers	2 p.m.	" "	"	



SECRET.

Copy No. 9...

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

55

Administrative addendum to 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade Order No. 100

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1. SUPPLIES - 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Coy. and 15th A.L.T.M.B.) will draw at BAZENTIN on and after the 20th inst.
2. AMMUNITION - 120 rounds S.A.A. on men will be carried. Units will move out with ammunition echelons empty. All S.A.A., Grenades (with the exception of a small quantity of the latter for training purposes) in the possession of units to be handed over to relieving Battalions.
3. TRENCH STORES - Any trench stores in possession of units will be handed over to incoming Battalions.
4. ACCOMMODATION - No trench shelters, tents or marquees will be moved out of "M" area. All accommodation will be handed over to incoming units. Lists showing number of marquees, tents and trench covers handed over will be forwarded in triplicate to Brigade H.Q.
5. PACK SADDLERY - No pack saddlery will be handed over to the 11th Division. Saddlery on hand in excess of establishment will be returned forthwith to D.A.D.O.S.
6. Extra kit and blankets.  
Two motor lorries are available for the transport of extra kit and blankets. One has been allotted to the 57th and 58th Battalions and will report at 9 a.m. at N.11.D.4-4 on the road opposite those Battalions' Camps to collect blankets which should be stacked there in bundles of 20 by that time. The other lorry will report at 59th Battalion H.Q. REINCOURT at 8.30 a.m. and when blankets of 59th Battalion are loaded will report to 60th Battalion H.Q. the SUCRERIE, and collect the blankets belonging to that unit.
7. RECEIPTS - Receipts for everything handed over to 11th Division will be rendered in triplicate to Brigade H.Q. before 6 p.m. 20th inst.

*Norman B Lovett Lt*

Staff Captain 15th Australian Infantry Brigade. Captain.



# 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Syllabus for training for period commencing 23rd April 1917.



283

1st Day.	8.30 a.m.- 9.30 a.m.	Organisation of Platoons.	Afternoons.	Lecture 6 - 6.30 p.m.
	9.30 a.m.-10.30 a.m.	Musketry Exercises. Close order drill.		
	10.30 a.m.-12 noon.	Organisation of Platoons.	Organised Games.	Advanced guards.
	12 noon -12.30 p.m.	Handling of Arms. Smartening up. March back to Camp.		
2nd Day.	8.30 a.m.- 9 a.m.	Rifle and close order drill		
	9 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Normal formations in attack in open warfare.		
	10 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.	Close order drill.	do-	Outposts.
	10.30 a.m.- 12.20 p.m.	Platoon in attack.		
	12.20 a.m.- 12.30 p.m.	General smartening up and march back to Camp.		
3rd Day.	8.30 a.m.- 9 a.m.	Close order drill.		
	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Platoon in attack in open warfare. (particular attention to be paid to Advance Guard Work)	do-	Discipline.
	11 a.m. -11.30 a.m.	Bayonet fighting.		
	11.30 a.m.-12.20 p.m.	Musketry exercises.		
	12.20 p.m.-12.30 p.m.	Rifle exercises.		
4th Day.	8.30 a.m.- 9 a.m.	Close order drill.		
	9 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	Outposts.		
	11.30 a.m.-12.20 p.m.	Gas drill -including bombing and bayonet fighting with exercises.	do-	Gas.
	12.20 p.m.-12.30 p.m.	Smartening up and march back to Camp.		
5th Day.	8.30 a.m.- 9 a.m.	Steadying Drill.		
	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Patrols.		
	11 a.m. -11.30 a.m.	Bayonet fighting, using dummies.	do-	Concert.
	11.30 a.m.-12.20 p.m.	Co-operation with other Platoons and the Platoon as part of the Company in open warfare.		
	12.20 p.m.-12.30 p.m.	Smartening up and return to Camp.		

NOTE :- In the above Syllabus the rules set out in the pamphlet "Instructions for the training of Platoons for Offensive action -1917" will be adhered to. Each Company Commander will forward to Battalion H.Q. by 8 p.m. each evening his syllabus in detail for the work to be carried out on the following day. During the period of training the greatest attention must be paid to Discipline. Saluting must be rigidly enforced. and men must be turned out tidily.

Appendix 177

Appendix No. 177

56



Appendix 17a

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE, A.I.F.  
Syllabus of Training for week ending 5th May 1917.



DATE	DAY	FORENOON (8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)	AFTERNOON.	EVENING LECTURE 6 - 6.30 p.m.
30th.	Monday.	<p>½ hour. Care of Arms.</p> <p>1 hour. Aiming Instruction and Trigger Pressing.</p> <p>½ hour. Loading and Rapid Loading.</p> <p>1 hour. Firing positions.</p> <p>1 hour. Visual Training (fatigue men to be used for practice in quickness of vision).</p>	RECREATION	Mutual Support.
1st.	Tuesday.	<p>2 hours. (Loading and rapid loading. (Firing positions behind cover.</p> <p>1 hour. Bayonet Fighting - blob sticks to be used.</p> <p>1 hour. Fire discipline Exercises - both stationery and moving.</p>	do-	Precautions after occupying villages and enemy positions. (Dangers of lax discipline).
2nd.	Wednesday.	<p>1 hour. Grouping practice, 5 rounds, J.D.</p> <p>3 hours. Rapid wiring - last ½ hour devoted to wiring competitions between platoons.</p>	do-	Leakage of Information.
3rd.	Thursday.	<p>1 hour. Rapid practice, 5 rounds, J.D.</p> <p>1 hour. Control of fire.</p> <p>2 hours. Movement from one fire position to another, when within close ranges.</p>	do-	The fighting value of the Infantry soldier.
* 4th.	Friday.	<p>Platoon Vanguard Scheme. A tactical point to be attacked. On completion, the most probable disposition of enemy's garrison to be discussed and men actually placed to represent it.</p>	do-	Other Arms.
* 5th.	Saturday.	<p>Wood fighting. Remnants of FRICOURT WOOD to be used for purposes of illustration.</p>	do-	Concert.
* These days are alternative, FRICOURT WOOD is allotted to 57th and 58th Bns. on 4th May.				

*Geo. W. T. R.*

MAJOR  
BDE. MAJOR  
15th AUS. INF. BRIGADE

APPENDIX N-177 a



15<sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Brigade

Daily Strength Return

28<sup>th</sup> April 1917

283

Unit	Actually with Unit			In Hospital			Detached			Effective Strength			REMARKS
	Off	OR	M	Off	OR	M	Off	OR	M	Off	OR	M	
15 <sup>th</sup> B.H.Q.	7	21	28	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	21	28	
15 <sup>th</sup> C.L. T. & M. B.	4	31	35	.	8	8	.	3	3	4	42	46	
15 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy	5	164	169	3	7	10	1	5	6	9	176	185	Excludes 2 OR. AM.C. attached
57 <sup>th</sup> Bn	49	851	880	3	51	54	9	75	84	41	977	1018	Increase 7 OR. Reinf Decrease 1 OR. Transf Excludes 4 OR. AM.C. attached
58 <sup>th</sup> Bn	25	749	774	2	48	50	4	60	64	31 <del>857</del>	857	888	Increase 10 OR. 9 OR. Reinf Decrease 15 OR. Evac Sick Excludes 5 OR. AM.C. attached 1 Interpreter
59 <sup>th</sup> Bn	28	838	866	2	30	32	7	67	74	37	935	972	Increase 9 OR. Reinf 20 OR. from Hpl Excludes 5 OR. AM.C. attached 1 Interpreter
60 <sup>th</sup> Bn	37	881	918	2	74	76	9	38	47	48	993	1041	Increase 10 OR. from Hpl Excludes 5 OR. AM.C. attached
Totals	135	3535	3670	12	218	230	30	248	278	177	4001	4178	

Appendix No 178

58



# Details of Despatched

15 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy			57 <sup>th</sup> Bn			58 <sup>th</sup> Bn			59 <sup>th</sup> Bn			60 <sup>th</sup> Bn		
Off	OR		Off	OR		Off	OR		Off	OR		Off	OR	
A.S.C.		1	A.G. <sup>s</sup> Office		1	A.S.C.		2	A.S.C.		2	A.S.C.		2
Leave CAPT. MUIRSON K.B.	1	2	Armourer (Albert)		1	A.W.L.		3	A.G. <sup>s</sup> Office		1	A.W.L.		5
M.G. School (Canniers)		1	A.S.C.		3	A.G. <sup>s</sup> Office		1	5 <sup>th</sup> A.D.B.D.		1	5 <sup>th</sup> A.D.B.D.		1
D.W. Gas School		1	A.P.M.		1	Anzac Workshop		2	A.P.M. Bapaume		1	5 <sup>th</sup> A.D.B.D. MAJOR TRICKEY	1	
			Anzac L. Rlys		1	Amma		1	Batman 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.			A.P.C. H.T.D.G.S. LINDSAY		1
			Bootmaker DADOS		1	D.W. H.Q. (Batman & Cook)		3	Camp Comd <sup>t</sup> Bernajay	1	2	A.G. <sup>s</sup> Office		2
			Corps. Store		2	D.W. Bomb Dump		1	Camp Comd <sup>t</sup> Perth	1	11	Camp Warden		1
			Amma		4	DADOS. 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1	H.W. REID			Cook 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1
			D.W. H.Q.		2	Detention 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1	Concert Party		2	Detention		
			L.W. Reg Coy		3	Trucourt Water Supply		1	Decauville Track		7	Leave		
			D.W. Draughtsman		1	Trucourt Baths		7	15 <sup>th</sup> Field Amb		1	LT. W.W. EGGATT	2	5
			Fatigue (Meaulle)	1	25	Leave		7	Sanitary Sec 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		4	" H.N. RICHARDS		3
			LT. MORROW			CAPT. V.M. COPPLESON	1	7	Leave		7	Rly Construction		
			Leave			8 <sup>th</sup> Inf Brigade		1	Post Office 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1	School 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Inf	3	6
			CAPT. J.B. LIAING MC			Perk Camp Warden		1	Police 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1	CAPT. S.J. NICHOL		
			" BOOTHROYD			5 <sup>th</sup> Sanitary Section		2	Supply Line		3	" H.M. ROLLAND		5
			MAJOR. RITCHISON	4	7	Supply Officer Bazentin		5	Sig Coy 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		1	" 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Gas		2
			LT. MC CALLUM			Supply Depot		6	Schools 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Inf			" 5 <sup>th</sup> Army	1	1
			Supply Guard		2	School 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Inf		2	LT. A.J. BECK	3	8	LT. H.M. LOVE		
			School Cookery		2	LT. L.S. DAVIS	2	6	" J.H. WADSON			" Musketry		1
			" Lewis M.G.			LT. H.S. McCOLL			" T.J. GANNON			" Cookery		
			" 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Inf			" 5 <sup>th</sup> Army		2	" Grenade 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.		3	" Aldershot	1	1
			CAPT. R.V. LINTON	3	5	LT. S.J. Fopp	1	2	" 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W. Gas		2	MAJOR. CAMERON		2
			LT. DICKINSON			" Armourers		1	" Transport		1	D.W. Salvage Coy		1
			LT. ED. TWOMEY			" Lewis M.G.		1	" 5 <sup>th</sup> Army Lewis G		1	Traffic Control		
			" 1 <sup>st</sup> Anzac		1	" Cookery		2	" " Cookery		1			
			" 5 <sup>th</sup> Army		1	" Gas 5 <sup>th</sup> L.W.			" Musketry		1			
			CAPT. MORGAN						" 5 <sup>th</sup> Army Inf	1	2			
			" A.L.T.M.B.		3				LT. J.W. FRANKIS					
			" D.W. Gas		7				15 <sup>th</sup> Training Bn	1				
			Water Wardens						LT. E.M. YOUNG					
									Trainsmiths Heavy		2			
									Mobile Workshop					
Total			Total			Total			Total			Total		
			9	76		4	60		7	67		9	38	





Appendix 179

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Return of Sick wastage for month ending *April*.....1917.

UNIT.	DATE																															Total	REMARKS.	
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.			
15 Bde H.Q.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
15 A.L.T.M.B.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	
15 M.G. Coy.	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	
57 Battalion	-	-	-	2	-	4	1	1	5	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	2	11	3	4	5	-	3	2	3	8	3	2	-	-	-	67	2.0
58 Battalion	5	1	-	2	4	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	11	-	6	7	3	7	12	5	1	2	4	6	1	2	7	-	1	1	-	-	117	3.9
59 Battalion	-	6	2	5	-	8	4	4	7	1	3	2	4	4	1	4	1	5	4	12	-	1	4	-	1	4	1	5	1	3	-	-	97	3.0
60 Battalion.	3	5	5	2	8	10	11	1	6	5	3	16	1	7	2	5	9	8	8	3	5	4	2	6	-	2	3	5	12	12	-	-	164	5.5
TOTAL.	20	12	7	12	12	24	20	7	20	11	28	19	16	14	9	17	17	18	35	23	10	14	10	17	4	11	19	14	17	16	-	-	465	15.5

The m.o. of the 60th Bn reports an epidemic of trench fever  
she considers this to be the cause of the high rate in that unit.

(The original of this return is filed with diary  
for May 1917 as Appendix 179)

*Arthur Wicks*  
MAJOR  
BDE. MAJOR  
15th AUS. INF. BRIGADE

Appendix No 179  
6/5/17



NOTE BY A.W.R.S.

The original copies of the following 6 pages are filed with diary for May 1917 as Appendix No.199.



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

15<sup>th</sup> A. L. T. M. B. (Erase heading not required.) Sheet No. 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field.	1/4/17		The morning was devoted to training, principally gun drill. During the afternoon considerable improvements were made to the men's quarters. These are now very comfortable.	CHK
	2/4/17		Morning parade inspection of arms equipment & thorough overhaul & cleaning of machines. Coming into action & constructing emplacements in the open were practised during the afternoon.	CHK
	3/4/17		Morning parade drill & marching. During the afternoon ammunition was drawn from Dursornal Dump & prepared for practice purposes, the ammunition being withdrawn & used & substituted.	CHK
	4/4/17		The morning being too wet for work in the open the men were paraded in billets & lectured on the facts & working of the Stokes bomb. During the afternoon ranging practices were carried out.	CHK



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

15<sup>th</sup> A. L. T. M. B. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	5/4/17.		Firing practices with dummy shells were carried out. The rapid firing was very good, two detachments attaining a rate of forty rounds per minute.	CHK
" "	6/4/17.		Parade route - marching, smartening - up drill, & range firing practices	CHK
" "	7/4/17.		Weather too inclement for parades during morning & lectures were given in field. During the afternoon dummy trenches & wire were constructed on range.	CHK
" "	8/4/17.		Church parade was the only parade during day.	CHK
" "	9/4/17.		Parades were devoted to gun drill & coming into action against mine. The detachments have improved considerably during the past week & the slowest time made by any one detachment was 2 min. 10 secs.	CHK



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

15<sup>th</sup> A. L. Y. M. B. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	10/4/17		The whole of battery were on fatigue work, breaking floor of stables for transport animals.	CKB.
" "	11/4/17		Battery received orders to be in readiness to move at 5 a.m. if called upon, but were not required to do so & at 10 a.m. received orders to stand down.	CKB.
" "	12/4/17		Parade route - marching and gun drill.	CKB.
" "	13/4/17		During the day 200 rounds of ammunition were drawn from Divisional Dump & fixed & loaded on limbers as a mobile reserve.	CKB.
" "	14/4/17		Parade route - marching & firing practice.	CKB.
" "	16/4/17		Battery has been attached to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aust. Division for an operation against the Hindenburg Line & stands ready to move when required. Capt. Freeman proceeded to 6 <sup>th</sup> Royal Wiltz to obtain particulars of proposed operation.	CKB.

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 730,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/15.

Appendix A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z.

61



# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

15<sup>th</sup> A.L.T.M.B.

Sheet 4.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field.	16/4/17		During the morning a bath & copper were installed in our billet & every man had a hot bath. Afternoon parade, route-march.	EKB.
" "	17/4/17		Raining heavily all day. No parades.	EKB.
" "	18/4/17		Parades for the day, gun drill & drumming-firing.	EKB.
" "	19/4/17		Guns were cleaned & inspected. All N.C.O.'s were given instruction in bayonet fighting, they in their turn instructing their detachments.	
" "	20/4/17		Parades bayonet fighting & gun-drill.	EKB.
" "	21/4/17		Parades route-marching & gun-drill.	EKB.
" "	22/4/17		All available officers & N.C.O.'s attended a demonstration of attack under barrage by the 6 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde. This was really a practice for the attack on the Hindenburg Line.	EKB.



## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

15<sup>th</sup> A L Y M B

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field.	23/4/17		Morning parade rifle exercises & drill. In the afternoon a football match was played against our Heavy Mortar Battery. We scored an easy win.	ENR.
"	24/4/17		At 11 a.m. battery, marched out of camp & joined the 6 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde near Tautse. Men are comfortably quartered.	ENR.
"	25/4/17		Today being Angas Day in work, other than necessary fatigues, was done. A football match was played against the 6 <sup>th</sup> A L Y M B. We lost by a small margin.	ENR.
"	26/4/17		Lt. Keys & Lockwell proceeded to our front line & examined the front on which the attack is to be made. Ammunition dumps were also visited & arrangements for supply of ammunition made.	ENR.
"	27/4/17		Two officers & four detachments of battery co-operated with the 6 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde in a practice of assault under barrage.	ENR.



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

15<sup>th</sup> A.L.T.M.B. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field.	28/4/17.		Battery carried out gun drill & digging-in practice	AKH
" "	29/4/17.		Church parade was the only parade held	AKH
" "	30/4/17.		Another assault practice was carried out by the 6 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bn. Two officers & four detachments of this battery co-operated.	AKH