

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

Signals

Item number: 22/12/22

Title: 2nd Australian Division Signals
Company

October 1918



AWM4-22/12/22

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.



FOR

OCTOBER.

1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

H. Kogan

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. M. Grant May

CONFIDENTIAL.

OCTOBER, 1918.

WAR DIARY - SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL
SIGNAL COMPANY.

Army Form C. 2118.

SHEET No. 1.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Reference Map.
Sheet 62 C.

Original.
~~Duplicate.~~
~~Triplicate.~~

84

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DOINGT	1st	-	<p>O.C. Signals left for forward Area for the purpose of locating a Signal Post for a Signal Office and view Bivouac Area. Orders received that Division would relieve 5th Aust Division in that portion of the Front between JONCOURT (inclusive) and MINT COPSE B 19c03 on night of 1st/2nd Octr. 5th A.I. Bde relieved 8th A.I. Bde and portion of 15th Bde in front line, Brigade H.Q. Signal Office at G 16 a 77. All Lines in Divisional Area working well and traffic fairly heavy. 7th A.I. Bde Section closed Signal Office at J.4.a.8.8, at 11 A.M. and reopened at L.10.A.55. same hour. 6th A.I. Bde Section closed Signal Office at J.18.A.05. and reopened at VILLERET at 9 A.M. 2nd D.A.H.Q. Section moved forward to F.27.D.2.1. One relief of Div. Signal Office Personnel went forward to TEMPLEUX LA GUERARD F.27.C.8.4. Communication established with 2nd Aust. Div. advanced who are in communication with 6th 7th A.I. Bdes.. 5th A.I. Bdes in communication via Corps H.A. and 68th Bde R.G.A. to 9 P.M. 5th A.F.A. Bde Section laid lines to 7th A.I. Bde H.Q. to enable communication to be maintained with 2nd Aust Div. owing to Artillery group closing down. A Party moved forward to relieve 4th A.F.A. Bde Section at forward Exchange. Continental time adopted.</p>	
F.27.C.8.4. 2nd.			<p>2nd Aust. Div. Signal Office closed at DOINGT at 9 A.M. and reopened at F.27.C.8.4. same hour. Brigades located at the following places:- 5th A.I. Bde G.16.A.77. - 6th A.I. Bde G.17.B.66. 7th A.I. Bde, G.3.093. 5th Aust. Division was relieved by 2nd Aust. Division during night 1st/2nd as far north as line CABARET COPSE Sq. A.29.D.97. MINT COPSE - B.29.C.03. - TORRENS CANAL at B.20.A.87. and as far South as the Line JONCOURT- WIANCOURT (inclusive). Orders received that 2nd Aust. Division would attack the Enemy at a date and hour to be notified. Lines forward were out for short period owing to heavy Enemy Shelling, but were working well towards the evening. Traffic considerably increased. Wireless Station installed at F.27.C.84. and working well. 5th A.F.A. Bde Section closed Signal Office at 12 noon and moved to new position laying Line to Group H.Q. Great difficulty experienced in locating Battery positions, but Lines were laid to all Batteries by dawn in spite of heavy Shelling and Gas.</p>	
F.27.C.8.4. 3rd.			<p>A locality Exchange was established at G.16.A.86. and was connected to Div. Signal Office by two pairs airline Cable. 5th A.I. Bde and 6th A.I. Bde were connected to locality Exchange and a direct pair laid to 7th A.I. Bde. 5th and 7th A.I. Bdes attacked the enemy at zero hour (6.5 A.M.) and were successful in reaching nearly all their objectives. Lines to AYBR, locality Exchange, held well, but were out at intervals owing to Enemy Shellfire. Business transmitted with little delay. Traffic was disposed of by Wireless, Morse, Telephone and Motor Despatch Riders. Many messages were dropped during the morning by contact Aeroplanes.</p>	

CONFIDENTIAL.

SHEET No 2.

2nd Australian Divisional Signal Coy.

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.

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER 1918.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Original.
~~Supplement.~~
~~Amplification.~~

84

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
F.27.C.8.4.	3rd.	Contd.	Three Battalions of 6th A.I.Bdes attacked at 6-30 P.M. gaining all objectives. Lines held well throughout. 25th Division took over portion of the 2nd Aust. Div. Front, from Northern boundary to TORRENS Canal. 6th A.I. Bde relieved 5th A.I.Bde taking over Divisional Front. 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes concentrated in support. All Telephone Lines from Artillery Brigades to Batteries worked well during operations.	
F.27.C.8.4.	4th.		Orders received that Artillery Batteries would move forward at dusk to positions in front of JONCOURT. Brigade Signal Sections established a forward Exchange a 15th Battery position and Lines were then laidback to the rear positions, which were not complete until 2 A.M. on 5th inst owing to Enemy Bombing, and distance between Stations. Warning Order received that 2nd Aust Div. (less Artillery) would be relieved by the 30th American Division on the night of 5th/6th October.	
F.27.C.8.4.	5th.		6th A.I.Bde attacked the Enemy at 6.5 A.M. and after severe Fighting captured the Village of MONT-BREHAN. Lines to Battalions were repeatedly broken by Enemy Shellfire, but were promptly repaired by Linesmen and were never out for more than a few minutes any one time. Enemy counter-attacked 3 times during the day, but were repulsed on each occasion lines holding well throughout the Bombardments. Telephone and Telegraph Lines from Bdes to Divisions worked well, and business quickly disposed of. Traffic unusually heavy owing to lengthy situation reports. Several messages received by contact Aeroplanes during the day. 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. located in Area West of MARGICOURT.	
F.27.C.8.4. and DOINGT.	6th.		2nd Aust. Division (less Artillery) relieved by 30th American Division at 9 A.M. and opened at DOINGT same hour. 6th A.I.Bde were relieved in the Line during the night by 118 American Regiment. All Brigade Groups moved by Route March to HERVILLY Area. O.C.Signals with a Staff of 7 N.C.O's and men remained with Signals 30th American Division for 48 hours after relief for Liaison Duties. Orders received that Division would move to YZEUX Area by Train and Route March. All Transport to move by road taking 2 days for journey.	
DOINGT and 7th. BELLOY.			2nd Aust. Division Signal Office closed at DOINGT at 9 A.M. and reopened at BELLOY same hour. Personnel entrained at ROISEL and detrained at AMIENS same day. Transport left DOINGT at 6 A.M. and Bivouaced at GLISSY for the night, completing journey the following morning. 2nd D.A.H.Q and Artillery Brigades Signal Sections remained in Line with Divisional Artillery.	

CONFIDENTIAL.

SHEET No 3.

2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER 1918.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Original.

~~Duplicate.~~~~Tripliate.~~

84

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELLOU.	8th.	-	All Infantry Brigades and Machine Gun Battalion in communication as follows. 2 Pairs to 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes and Machine Gun Battalion. 6th A.I.Bde direct Line. Bde Sections situated as follows:- 5th A.I.Bde VIGNACOURT, 6th A.I. Bde YZEUX, 7th A.I.Bde ST OUEN, 2nd Machine Gun Battalion ST LEGER. Traffic for Aust. Corps transmitted through Army H.Q. at FLIXECOURT. D.R.L.S. runs to Brigades and Army thrice daily. All Sections resting.	
BELLOU.	9th.	-	O.C.Signals and Staff rejoined from 39th American Division where they were attached temporarily. Nothing to report as all Sections in rest and ordinary Routine carried out. Artillery Brigades moved to PREMONT at midday; established Headquarters by 4 P.M. All Batteries and D.A. H.Q. Section in communication by 8 P.M.	
BELLOU.	10th.	-	All Sections in rest except Artillery Brigade and D.A. H.Q. Section. Artillery Brigade Sections moved to BUSIGNY and established Office at 4 P.M. All Batteries in connection by 5 P.M, out of touch with D.A. H.Q. all night, but were in communication by Wireless early in the morning.	
BELLOU.	11th.	-	All Artillery Lines working well and all Batteries connected. Remainder of Sections in rest.	
BELLOU.	12th.	-	All Sections (less Artillery) engaged on Section Routine and Training. All gear and Equipment overhauled and deficiencies indented for from D.A.D.O.S.	
BELLOU.	13th.	-	-do-. -do-. -do-.	
BELLOU.	14th.	-	Major J.M.Grant, M.C. took over the Command of 2nd Aust. Div. Signal Company from Capt. F.U.J.Tinkler M.C.	
BELLOU.	15th.	-	Training commenced by all Sections and Recreation Routine carried out. Artillery Lines were broken several times during night owing to heavy Shelling and Transport.	
BELLOU.	16th.	-	Section Routines carried out.	
BELLOU.	17th.	-	27th American Division attacked at 5-20 A.M. covered by 2nd Aust. Div.Artillery. All lines to Artillery Brigades and Batteries held well throughout.	
BELLOU.	18th.	-	-do-. -do-. -do-.	

2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

OCTOBER 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Original.
~~Duplicate.~~
~~main body~~

○

[illegible]

WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

OF

2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COY.

FOR

OCTOBER.

1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Handing over Report.
2.	Report on communications from 2nd to 6th October.
3.	Movement Order.
4.	Graph showing Traffic from 1st to 6th October.
5.	Diagram of Communications 2nd Aust. Division.
6.	Route Diagram of Communications.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

APPENDIX 1

AUSTRALIAN DIV.
SIGNAL COMPANY.Headquarters.
5th. October, 1918.HANDING OVER REPORT.

1. Methods of communication used in Divisional area.

- (a) Telegraph and Telephone.
- (b) Wireless.
- (c) Despatch Riders.
- (d) Visual.

2. Telegraph and Telephone.Lines. (a) Back to Australian Corps two pair airline.

(b) Forward to Advanced Division at G.16.a.6.6., 3 pair on open route, one of which is terminated in Adv. Division Artillery Exchange at G.3.d., and two pair ('phone superimposed) to Advanced Division Exchange at G.16.a.6.6.

From Division and Advanced Division to the open route, cables are poled. - One pair ground cable to the old Brigade position at G.3.c.4.2.

From Advanced Division to Brigades at G.17.b.6.6. and G.16.a.6.6. two pair of poled cables exist with 'phone superimposed.

From Division to Reserve Brigade at L.10.a.cent. one pair cable poled and ground.

From the line Brigade at G.17.b.6.6. 'phone line to Brigade Report Centre at H.2.c.3.7., thence to Bns., Artillery, Machine Gun Companies, etc.

(c) Lateral Lines. One pair from Division to Left Flank Division (25th Division) at F.26.c.8.8.

One earth return cable from Advanced Division Exchange at G.16.a.6.6. to Right Flank Division at La Baraque.

Bde in line is connected to Right Bde of Left Division (at G.3.c.4.2.).

Direct lateral to Bde on right does not exist, the Inter-Divisional lateral through Advanced Exchange being used for this purpose.

(d) Artillery communications are distinct from those serving Infantry, and Machine Guns, and are under the direct control of O i/c Signals, 2nd. Aust. Div. Artillery - Capt. L.C. Lucas, M.C.

All necessary liaison lines between Artillery, and Infantry are in existence - maintenance is mutual.

3. Wireless.

Wilson Set at Division	-	L.3.b.2.8.
Trench Set Line Brigade	-	G.17b.6.6.
" " Support Brigade	-	G.16.a.6.6. also serves Advanced Div.
" " Reserve Brigade	-	L.10.a.cent.
" " Line Brigade Forward Station.		H.2.c.2.8

Signals R.9. between all stations.

4. 84

Despatch Riders.

D.R's are allotted for duty as follows:-

- 7 Motor Cyclist D.R's at Division.
- 1 " " D.R. at each Infantry Brigade.
- 2 " " D.R's at Divisional Artillery.
- 6 Horse D.R's at Division.
- 2 " " at Advanced Division.
- 3 " " at each Infantry Brigade.
- 5 " " at Divisional Artillery.

Motor Cyclist D.R's do all daylight runs, and Horse D.R's night work - these of the latter with Infantry Brigades work forward to Battalions.

The whole work on time tables with special runs as required.

5. Visual.

Stations have been selected for working between Division Advanced Division, and Brigades, but are not permanently manned.

Signal Officers of Infantry, and Artillery Brigades, Battalions, etc. have visual schemes working in forward areas.

As lines have held throughout recent operations visual has not been used to any great extent.

6. General.

(a) List of Code, and Basic Calls of flank formations, etc. are appended hereto.

(b) Personnel distribution as follows:-

At D.H.Q. Office.

Superintendents	-	2.
D.R.L.S. Clerks.	-	2.
Signal Clerks.	-	2.
Telegraphists.	-	6.
Checks.	-	6.
Telephonists.	-	2.
Motor Cyclist D.R's.	-	7.
Light Horse D.R's.	-	6.
Aeroplane Guard.	-	2.
Linesmen.	-	2.

At Advanced Division.

Officers.	-	1.
Superintendents.	-	1.
Telegraphists.	-	6.
Telephonists.	-	2.
Light Horse D.R's.	-	2.
Linesmen.	-	3.

(c) Distribution of Equipment.

At D.H.Q. Office.

Switchboard 20 line.	-	1.
S.C. Sets and batteries.	-	3.
Transformers.	-	3.
Panels 12 line	-	3.

Distribution of Equipment continued.At D.H.Q. Office.

Galvo test, and battery.	-	1.
Magneto 'phones.	-	2.
D III 'Phones	-	1.
Stationery and Date stamp.		

At Advanced Division Office.

Switchboard 10 line	-	1.
S.C.Sets, and batteries.		4.
Transformers.	-	4.
Panels 12 line	-	2.
Galvo test, and battery.	-	1.
Magneto 'phones	-	2.
D III 'Phones	-	2.
Long Distance Lucas Lamp.	-	1.
Short " " "	-	1.

2 Cable Detachments at Advanced Division G.16.a.6.6.
 1 " " " Divisional Artillery G.3.d.
 1 " " " Division L.3.b.2.8. *Corps*
 No.1. Australian Cable Section from Australian Signal
 Company is attached for duty under Lieut Hiscock.

(d) Maintenance of lines.

All airline, and open wire routes - Aust. Corps Signal Coy.

All cable routes - Divisional Signal Company.

Vide:- ~~Australian~~ A.D. Signals, Australian Corps
 Instructions, Order No.3. of 28-9-18.

The duty of No.1. Australian Cable Section is
 to keep 2nd. Australian Division in touch with Australian
 Corps.

(e) List of Subscribers.Division Exchange.

1. 7th.A.I.Bde Rear.
2. Australian Corps.
3. 25th.Division.
4. 2nd.Aust.Div.Art'y.
5. -do-
- 6.
7. "Q" Branch.
8. A.D.M.S., & Camp Comd't.
9. O.C. Signals.
10. G.S.O.l.
11. "G" Branch.
12. G.O.C.
- 13.
14. 7th.Bde.Advanced.
15. C.R.E.
16. Superintendent.
17. Australian Corps.
18. A.Y.B.R.
19. A.Y.B.R.
20. Message 'Phone

Adv.Division Exchange

1. 5th.A.I.Bde.
2. 6th. "
3. Stables No.1. Section.
4. 6th.A.I.Bde.
5. 7th.Imperial Bde.
6. A.Y.B.
7. A.Y.B.
8. 5th.A.I.Bde.
9. 46th.Imperial Division.
10. Message 'phone.

APPENDIX

(f) D.R.L.S. Time table for runs between Division ,
Brigades, viz;

2nd. Aust. Division to Aust. Corps.

Leaves D.H.Q.	8 a.m.	3.30 p.m.	9 p.m.
---------------	--------	-----------	--------

2nd. Aust. Division to Brigades.

Leaves D.H.Q.	8 a.m.	1.30 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	9 p.m.
---------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

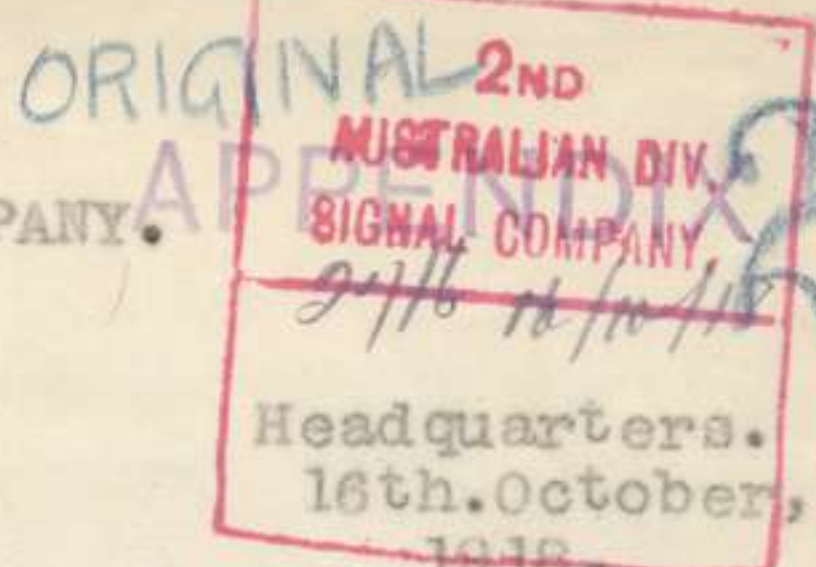
<u>Local Runs.</u>	Leaves D.H.Q.	9. a.m.	2. p.m.	7. p.m.
--------------------	---------------	---------	---------	---------

(g). Dumps of cable and signal stores are located at
C.16.a.6.6., and TEMPLEUX-LA-GUERARD (near Main Dressing Stn).
Contents of the cable dumps will be handed over on
relief.

Diagram of communications correct to date will be handed over on
relief.


O.C. 2nd. Aust. Div. Signal Company. Capt.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.



APPENDIX

Report on Communications during period 2nd to 6th October, 1918.

During the operations extending over the above period the following methods of communication were utilised:-

- (1). Telephone & Telegraph.
- (2). Wireless.
- (3). Visual.
- (4). Despatch Riders.
 - (a) Motor Cyclists.
 - (b) Mounted Horsemen.
 - (c) Cyclists.
 - (d) Runners.

1. Telephone & Telegraph Lines.

Throughout the Division the system worked upon was that of controlled "locality exchanges" - a system which worked efficiently - giving the maximum result combined with a minimum expenditure of material manpower, and time.

From Division (F.27.c.8.4.) to Advanced Division (G.16a6.6.) two pair on poled cable and open wire route, and one pair ground cable were built and maintained - of these the former were "superimposed". For the first 24 hours considerable trouble was experienced on the air-line due to enemy shell fire - and owing to the difficult nature of the country (the Hindenburg line defences) night patrol of this route was extremely arduous.

From Advanced Division (G.16.a.6.6.) two pair poled cable route was built to 6th Brigade at Nauroy, one pair to 7th Brigade (G.3.c.4.2.), and one pair to 5th Brigade which was within 100 yards of the Advanced Division exchange. Traffic from Brigades was received at Advanced Division, and transmitted to Division by telegraph. These poled routes gave practically no trouble throughout the operation.

5th A.I. Brigade Group (H.Q. at G.16.a.6.6.)

When the 5th A.I. Brigade took over the front line on the night 1st/2nd October the only existing communications consisted of one overland line back to 5th Aust. Division Advanced Exchange, and one earth return overland line to two Battalions in the line.

At 9.30 p.m. on the 1st a party set out laying two pair overland from Brigade H.Q. to G.18.a.3.6. where the Brigade forward exchange was established at 11 p.m. The 17th and 18th Battalions were connected here before midnight, and one pair laid to the vicinity of 19th Battalion, though owing to an incorrect map location having been furnished, darkness, and the linesmens unfamiliarity with the country, this Battalion was not connected till dawn, as also were the 20th, and 23rd Battalions.

For the night, communication with the 20th Battalion was through 15th A.I. Brigade - and to 19th and 23rd Battalions by runners.

During the night 2nd/3rd October all Battalions of this Brigade moved their H.Q.'s to Battle positions - lines being estab extended and ready in new positions before arrival of Battalion staffs.

Shortly after Zero hour a party was despatched to JONCOURT in readiness to establish a forward station at B.27 central in the event of Battalions moving - but none were made.

Meanwhile a Brigade Forward Exchange was established in Estrees at H.2.c.2.6. to which all 5th Brigade Battalions were connected, as also were the 22nd and 23rd Battalions by 6 p.m., and during the attack made by the two latter Battalions at 6.30 p.m. these lines remained intact.

6th A.I. Brigade Group (H.Q. at G.17.b.5.5.)

Advanced Brigade Report Centre established at H.2.c.3.7. between which, and Brigade H.Q. three pair ground lines were laid over alternate routes.

From Advanced Brigade Report Centre, lines laid to all Bns of Brigade Group. Although subjected to certain amount of enemy shelling in this area lines held well throughout the operations - prompt action on the part of linesmen prevented the loss of Battalions for more than a few minutes at any time.

During the latter stages of the operations the Brigade was in telephone communication with nine Battalions, three of which occupied the same Battle H.Q. in H.10.a.1.3. to which two alternate routes were laid.

7th A.I. Brigade Group (H.Q. at G.3.c.4.2.)

Advanced Brigade Report Centre established at B.20.a.5.9. between which and Brigade H.Q. one pair, and one earth return were laid (a distance of 4 miles). These lines were in use continuously until Brigade relief and were never down for more than 15 minutes.

Battalions of this Brigade Group connected by cable to the forward station as soon as H.Q.'s were established, and a fairly continuous service maintained.

M.G. Battalion Group (H.Q. at G.16.a.)

Battalion H.Q. connected to Advanced Division exchange. Three men from No.5. Section of the Signal Company were detailed to each M.G. Company who laid and maintained overland lines from Company to the Forward Stations of those Brigades with whom the Companies were operating. From Company H.Q. to Sections and Groups of guns, M.G. Battalion and Company signallers provided necessary communication.

Artillery Lines.

Lines from Divisional Artillery to the Advanced D.A. Exchange were on the same routes - but the latter was separate from the Advanced Division Exchange - this was later moved to the same location as the Advanced Division Exchange, whence ground and poled cables were laid to groups etc.

In the case of sub-groups and Artillery Brigades the same system of locality exchanges was worked - Batteries connecting to these points.

Liaison lines between Artillery and Infantry were laid between Artillery and Infantry locality exchanges, and maintained under arrangements made mutually between Signal Officers. These lines resulted in efficient co-operation between Artillery and Infantry throughout the operations.

Lateral Lines.

This Division observed the rule of laying lateral lines from Right to Left i.e. our formations were in constant touch with those on their immediate Left flank. In fact through these lines (as far as inter Division, and inter Brigade lines are concerned) we handled all telephonic and telegraphic traffic for the 25th Division on our left for a period of 48 hours.

The Division on our right was repeatedly requested to lay to us - an earth return cable was laid to our Advanced Division Exchange which proved useless and no attempt was made to improve the communications in that direction. The matter was referred to A.D. Signals Australian Corps

Great difficulty was experienced in keeping forward ground lines through- breaks being caused through shell fire, cross country transport and tanks. In spite of such telephone communication was kept almost continuously throughout the operations, though speech was faint at times owing to condition and length of lines.

2. Wireless.

Sets in use as follows:-

Wilson Set D.H.Q.

Trench Set 5th A.I.Bde.

" " 6th. "

" " 7th. "

Trench Set 6th.A.I.Bde Adv.

" " 7th. " "

Charging Stations for accumulators were established (a) in Templeux le Guerrard, and, (b) at G.16.a.6.6., - the former providing for the Wilson Set at Divisional H.Q. and the latter all forward Trench, and G.W.Sets.

During the whole of the operations uninterrupted wireless communication was maintained between Division, and sets at Corps, Bdes. Advanced Brigades, and flank formations. Signals R.9 all stations.

In the forenoon of the 2nd inst for about one hour lines between Division, and Advanced Division were destroyed by shell fire - during this period 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes Sets disposed of eight priority messages, at the same time both the 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes signals, each had one important message for Division- both were very long and if encoded and decoded would have been delayed considerably more than necessary. The circumstances and nature of the messages were such as to warrant their being franked by a staff officer on the spot to permit them being disposed of "clear" by wireless. This was not done and the messages were despatched by D.R.

Apart from that period W/T Stations were not called upon to dispose of any great amount of traffic, as telephonic and telegraphic communication remained unbroken.

Taking W/T communications generally, the work of stations was more efficient during these operations than hitherto - ~~more~~ no doubt due to Brigade staffs, and Brigade Signal Officers taking more interest in this method of communication, and employing it to a greater extent.

3. Visual.

Conditions, both topographical, and weather were good.

Forward visual stations were selected, and tried, but were not continually manned or used as lines held well throughout.

Between Division and Brigades, to provide a visual chain would have necessitated the expenditure of a large number of men on stations at a time when economy in personnel was essential. Further the disposal of traffic by visual is slow, particularly so when passing through a series of transmitting stations. Even with first class signallers, the traffic could not be handled as rapidly and efficiently as by W/T, or by wire. For these reasons visual between Division and Brigades was not established.

4. Despatch Riders.

Motor Cyclists carried out the usual duties allotted them working on a set time table - except by night. These runs were done by horsemen attached from 13th.A.L.H.Regiment. Their services were particularly useful at night when working between Division and Brigades their ability to get through heavy traffic, and over roads unsuitable for motor cyclists rendered them of infinite value. The horsemen allotted to Infantry Brigades proved of the greatest value. The knowledge of map reading, and initiative displayed by these D.R's was good.

Cyclist Orderlies, and runners were organised and used to advantage by Bde and Bn Signal Officers in their system of forward inter-communication.

5. Signal Store Dumps.

Dumps containing supplies of all classes of field cable, and small stores were established at Division and Advanced Division Exchange, from the latter units drew signal park supplies upon demand.

6. Traffic.

Throughout the operations signal traffic was heavy both in numbers of telegrams, (the length thereof) and despatches, as will be seen from the attached graph. Although such were the case traffic forward of Division was disposed of well up to time. But on several occasions the Corps circuit became, "choked" resulting in delays to "Urgent Operation" and "Priority" messages. The attention of O i/c Signals, Australian Corps was drawn to this, and the trouble was eliminated.

7. Throughout the operations co-operation between staffs of formations, other branches of the service and the Signal Service was all that could be desired, which in no small degree contributed to smooth, and efficient working.

[Signature]
for O.C. 2nd Aust. Div. Signal Company.

Headquarters.
5th. October, 1918.M O V E M E N T O R D E R .

1. In accordance with 2nd. Australian Division Order No. 225 of 5-10-18, the 2nd. Australian Division will be relieved in the line by the 30th. American Division. Upon relief Headquarters 2nd. Aust. Division will close at present location at 9 a.m. on 6-10-18, reopening at DOINGT at same hour.
2. The Signal Company will move as set out hereunder:-
3. First relief in charge of Sgt Bunn will move off in Column lorry No. 51855 at 6 a.m. together with Orderly Room, Headquarters Cookhouse, and technical gear from Signal Office.
4. Signal Company Lorry No. 28300 will report to Lieut Dunbar at A.Y.B.R. 8 a.m. 6-10-18, pick up A.Y.B.R. personnel and technical gear, proceed to A.Y.B., and pick up last office relief, and C.Q.M.S. Rule (less cable), conveying lot to new office at DOINGT.
5. Column lorry 51855 will return to A.Y.B. after first trip to DOINGT, and convey to same place Officer's Mess, Officers kits, and batmen, and Sgts Mess, also any other gear that may remain.
6. O.C. Wireless Section will have at his disposal Lightning Lorry, and Box car for conveyance of his section, technical gear, and cookhouse, moving off as soon as all equipment, etc. has been brought in from Forward Stations. Personnel of Wireless Section will move by route march to new camp at DOINGT - upon arrival there O.C. Wireless Section will return carrying party to their respective units, carrying 24 hours rations. He will wire 6th. A.I. Bde that these men are reporting back.
7. N.I.V. Lorry will be at the disposal of Equipment Officer for removal of Q.M. Stores, etc., and Artificer's workshop.
8. Lieut. A. Sladdin will arrange for trek of horse transport, and No. 1. Section to DOINGT.
9. C.S.M. Crawford will arrange with O.C. Headquarters Section for personnel to ride push cycles.
10. All billets, cookhouses, offices, and latrines will be left in a clean and sanitary condition.
11. Upon arrival of first relief at DOINGT Sgt Bunn will establish signal office there, and frame D.R.L.S. time table to Infantry Bdes.
12. The undermentioned personnel will remain attached to Signals, 30th. American Division after relief of 2nd. Aust. Division.

Capt. F. U. J. Tinkler, M.C.
 Sgt. R. G. Becker.)
 Cpl. G. H. Herbert.) Headquarters Section.
 Cpl. C. H. Brown.)

Sgt. G. W. Minnis.)
 L/Cpl. McKinley.) No. 1. Section.
 Spr. J. Clapham.)

Sgt McConville No. 3. Section

O 2
12. Continued.

84

No.29 Spr.Smith.E.V. Headquarters Section.
Driver McKenzie, and car.

After completion of tour of duty, the above personnel will rejoin the Company per motor lorry.

Lieut.A.Sladdin will control Headquarters, Wireless, and No.1. Section during the move to rear areas pending arrival of Capt.Tinkler from 30th.American Division.

A. Sladdin
O.C. 2nd. Aust. Div. Signal Company. Capt.

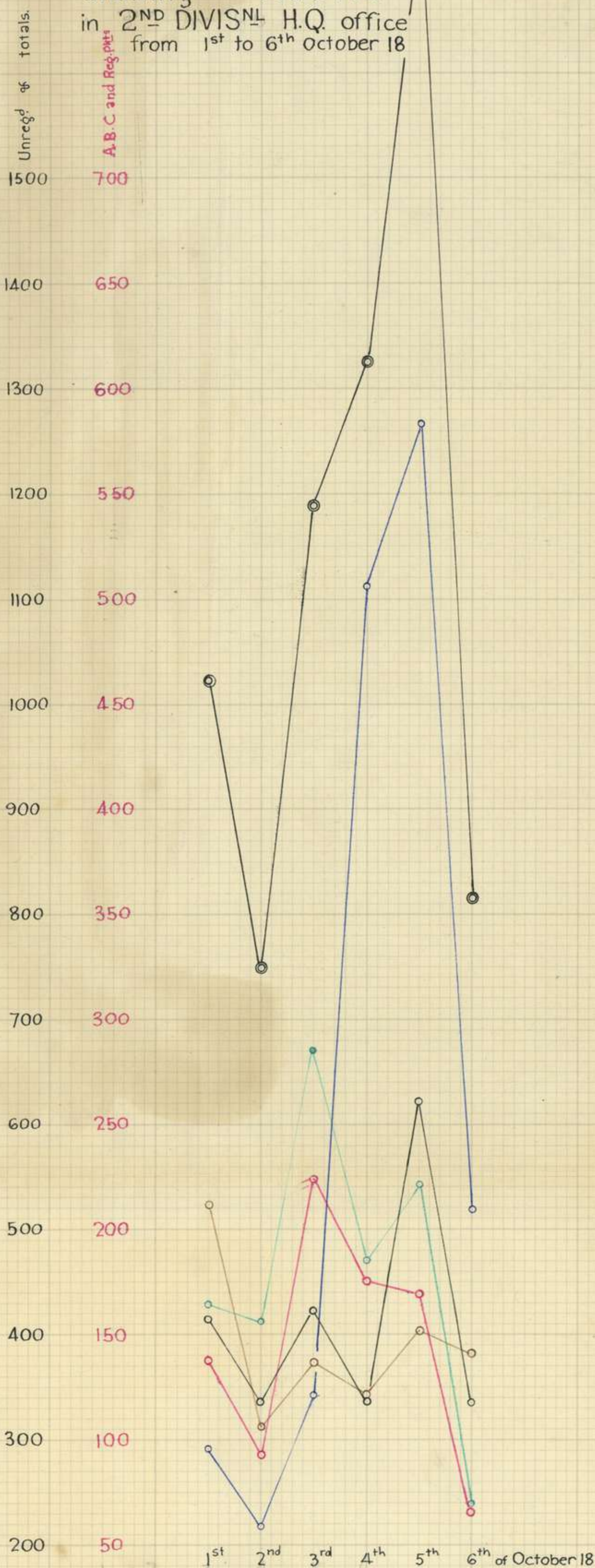
DISTRIBUTION.

Copy	1.	Lieut.A.Sladdin, M.C.
"	2.	Lieut.R.C.Dunbar, M.M.
"	3.	Lieut.J.M.Harrison, M.C.
"	4.	Lieut.R.M.Brennan.
"	5.	W.O.Crawford.
"	6.	Sgt.R.H.Bunn.
"	7.	War Diary.
"	8.	"
"	9.	"

GRAPHS

APPENDIX 4

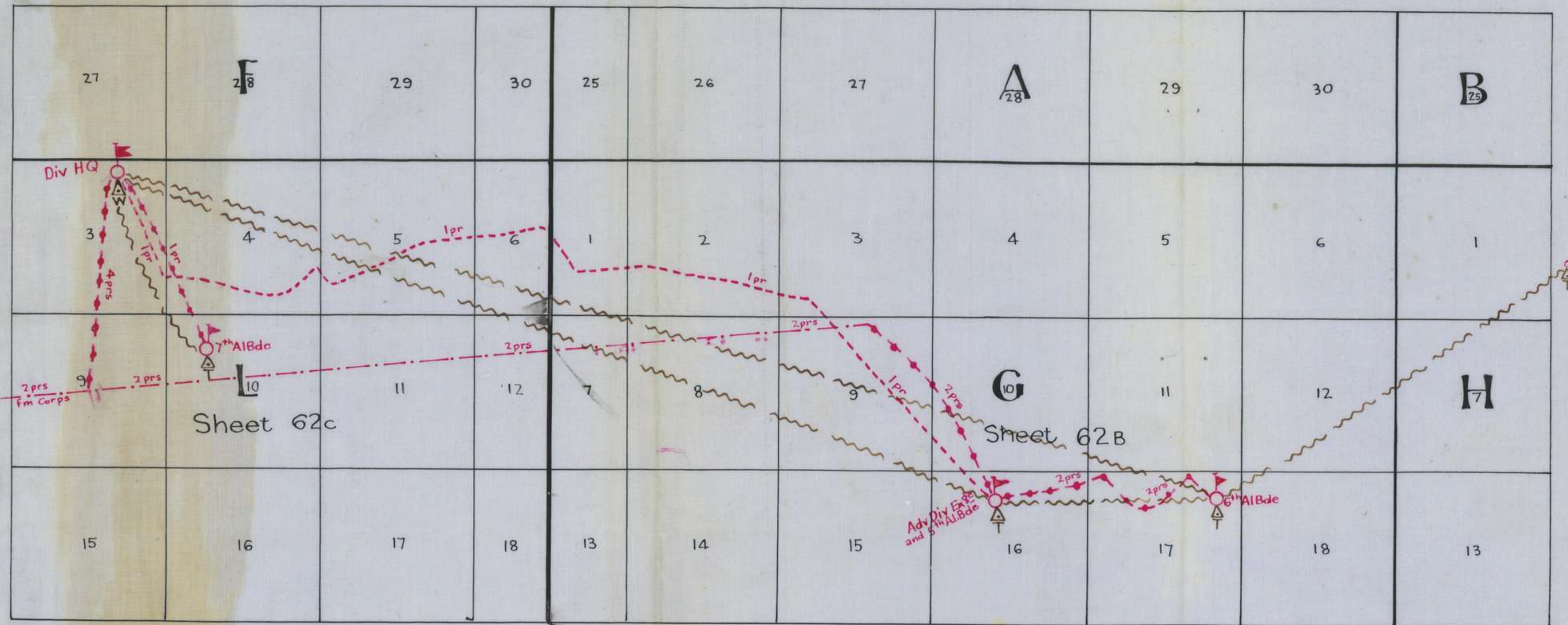
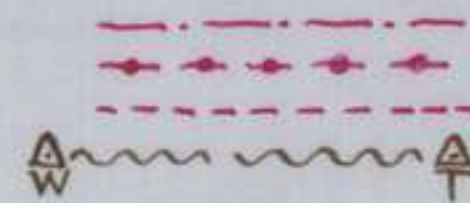
showing TRAFFIC
in 2ND DIVIS^{NL} H.Q. office
from 1st to 6th October 18



A' or Outward messages shown in red
B - Transmitted " " " " blue
C - Inward " " " " green
D - Reg'd Packets shown in brown
Unreg'd Traffic " " " " black
Total Traffic " " " " double black.

Diagram of Communications 2nd Aus. Div.

Air line shown
Poled Cable
Ground Cable
Wireless shown



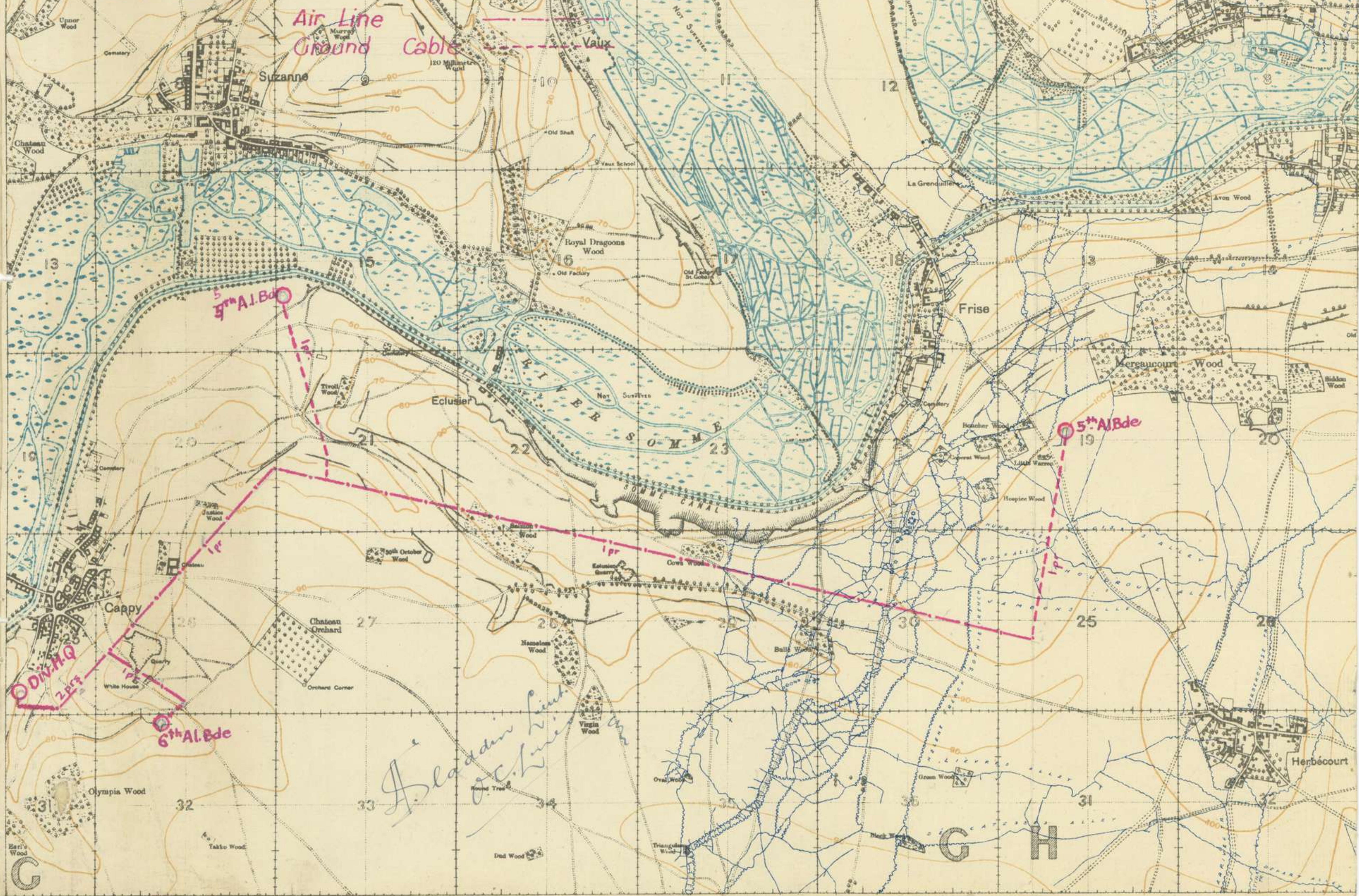
[Signature]
O.C. Signals
2nd Aus. Div
5.10.18

2-10-18
3rd Auz Div
10 C Signals

2nd PAUS. DIV ROUTE DIAGRAM

Air Line
Ground Cable

Vaux



APPENDIX 6