

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/20/39

**Title:** 3rd Infantry Battalion

May 1918



AWM4-23/20/39

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF  
3rd Australian Bn.

FOR

May, 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

*Stowrie*  
*Laphradji*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*L Moore* 1168

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3<sup>rd</sup> Bn  
Grieg  
May

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	1918			
Sub sector.	MAY	1 <sup>st</sup>	<p>Battalion has been situated in the front line system of METEREN Sub sector since 28<sup>th</sup> April 1918. 3 Companies in front line system and one in support - casualties up to and including 30<sup>th</sup> April - 2. - Battalion nucleus is situated at RAILWAY CAMP. BORRE -</p> <p>Our artillery was very active both day and night - 18 Pds particularly - During the afternoon the Battery Commanders of 18 Pds Batteries of 113<sup>th</sup> Army Bde carried out a combined shoot with 18 Pds + 4.5 Hows on positions in front of our 'A' Coy posts - very good results were observed from our forward O.P.s. 6 direct hits were observed on House in X 21 C S. 9 and 3 on CHATEAU X 15 d 07. whilst balance of shots were well placed over enemy defences - As a result of this shoot a number of enemy were forced to evacuate at post near</p>	

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METEREN Sub Sector	MAY	1	<p>the CHATEAU. METEREN - they were immediately fired upon by our Lewis Gunners and riflesmen who claim several hits - at dusk enemy stretcher bearers under a red cross flag came out to this position and carried away wounded - Our 2-M<sup>2</sup> Lewis Gunners, Snipers &amp; Bombers were active throughout the day and night - 7 Hits are claimed by snipers and between 90 + 100 bombs were fired from new Bomb Discharge. - Our planes were very active during the day. At 11 am a squadron of 10 planes flew over METEREN and dropped 32 bombs thereon - Our patrols maintained communication with flanking units and kept control of No mans land - 3 patrols were sent out by Corps - Enemy Artillery was very quiet in our area. His attitude was passive. Very little MG work was done on his part - His planes were also very inactive - Only 1 being observed</p>	<p>64 2</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
METEREN. Sub sector	MAY 1		<p>over our sector. This plane was engaged by our Lewis Anti Air craft guns and down off. - We successfully mined and blew up roads at X15 a 2.2. and X14 b 2.7</p> <p>23 men - 9 new men - joined the B from Nucleus. -</p> <p>Strength 40 Officers 857 other ranks.</p> <p>Fighting strength actually in forward area with unit 27 Officers 620 other ranks.</p>	
			<p>Lt. H.F. BAILEY evacuated to Hospital.</p>	
	MAY 2		<p>Our artillery was again very active and carried out usual destructive shoots - on our call 18 Pdr. battery fired twice during the night on suspected enemy trench mortar position at X15 P 5.9. -</p> <p>Our Lewis gunners, snipers &amp; bombers were active during the day and night - Our snipers claim hits. Our Mitrera guns. fired indirect fire during the night - Our patrols were active in 'romans' land</p>	<p>at. w</p>

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METEREN. Sub Sector.	MAY	2	<p>Throughout the night and lateral communication was maintained with flanking units - A slight increase in artillery activity was noticeable in our sector - his infantry are very quiet and are not patrolling - Our planes were active patrolling over enemy lines and support positions and low flying planes fired at enemy posts - Dde order received re relief in front line against 4th Aust Bn - reconnoitering parties of 4th Bn came to our front posts and we sent parties back to position held by 4th Bn - Bn Order No. issued. Copy attached. - CAPT. F.C. KEMP. rejoined Bn from Australia.</p> <p>Strength 39 Officers 814 other ranks. Fighting strength actually with unit. 27 Officers. 635 other ranks.</p>	
	2		<p>Clear. Visibility good. Battalion same location</p>	<p>4</p>

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METEREN. Sub Sector. FRONT LINE.	MAY	3	<p>Our artillery were active and shelled enemy positions throughout the day &amp; night. - A registration shoot on CHATEAU METEREN by 4.5 How Battery at 3pm resulted in 12 direct hits on building. - Our patrols maintained contact with flanking units and during the relief screens were placed out in front of our positions. - Our Lewis Gunners, snipers and Bombers were active throughout the day and night. - Vickers guns carried out indirect fire. - Our snipers claim 7 hits. - Our planes were active. As result of a combat one of our planes crashed at X 7 B 37. An SE 5 pilot unhurt. Enemy art. quite quiet. - Enemy artillery fired intermittently.</p>	
	May	3/4	<p>2nd Aus B was relieved in the front line system by the 4th Aus Inf Bn. relief being completed without incident by 1am, on 4th inst.</p>	<p>6th</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Strength 38 Officers. 801 Oth ranks. Fighting strength with unit in forward position 27 Officers. 630 Oth ranks. Casualties. 2 killed. 2 wounded.	
	MAY 4.		Battalion was relieved in the front line system by 4th Aust Bn. Relief complete at 1 a.m. - at 4.30 a.m. a heavy barrage was placed on enemy defenses opposite the left end section to cover an advance by trench troops on our left. 3rd Bn moved to trench system vacated by 4th Bn - becoming Reserve Bn and situated at A Coy. X 3 C. HQ. at X 3. 8.35.30 B Coy. X 8 a Coy HQ. at X 2 C 1.2. C Coy X 7 b Coy HQ. at X 7 b 7.5.10 D Coy X 3 D Coy HQ. at X 3 D 4.0.00 B HQ. FARM HOUSE at X 1 D 2.5.30. RAF at X 1 D 5.1. Sheet. 27 S.E.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MEEREN Sub Sector Support.	MAY	4	<p>Same location. Day Line. - Our artillery was active throughout the day - Counter Battery work was done at our call and an enemy 4.2 Battery silenced. Our positions were but lightly shelled - searching fire being employed. - Our planes were active - enemy planes not so active as usual. One is reported to have fallen in enemy lines at 4 pm. Casualties 1 killed 1 wounded. A working party of 4 officers and 120 men was provided and worked wiring support system. 250 yds of wire, 4 yds in depth was erected (approx fashion) 250 pickets and 50 coils of bank wire being used. 5 Officers and 150 men worked on positions in key locations improving accommodation - working party provided 1 and 20 building accommodation at Pw S.A. and strengthening cellar. Strength 38 Officers 806 other ranks. Fighting strength actually with unit. 27 Officers 635 other ranks.</p>	

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Reserve Position METEREN. Sub Sector	MAY 5		<p>Fine - though rain fell throughout the night Visibility was poor throughout the morning but improved during the afternoon - Our artillery active - Slight increase in enemy artillery activity - Our 4.5 Hows bombarded BREWERY - METEREN. Our planes were very active and constantly patrolled our lines - Enemy were fairly active - At about 3pm 3 enemy plane crossed our lines and at 4.16 dropped a couple of small bombs over the side of plane. They fell in waste ground exploding harmlessly. - Working party of 12 Officers and 300 men employed wiring support system - 820 yds of wire was completed 18 yds wide and 290 yds commenced 1050 feet and 134 coils of single Barb wire being used. 20pm 181 employed improving accommodation + 20 OKs working on new B.N.A. Casualties 7 all wounded. Strength 38  Officers 802 Oks ranks Fighting Strength  with arms 27 Officers 630 Oks ranks.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN. Sub Sector	MAY 6	6	<p>Line. Visibility good Same location. - Enemy artillery was more active than usual. and B Coy + Bn HQ were shelled intermittently with 5.9s and 4.2s. Our planes were active. - Stuns not so active as usual.</p> <p>15. Osmiston, HADFIELD and CHRISTOE joined nucleus on and 23 other tanks marched in. - The following working parties were supplied - 8 Officers + 240 other ranks wiring an support system. and they completed 640 yds by 18 yds of double apron and 500 yds was commenced but is not yet completed. 4 Op + 124 other tanks were employed on work in sector, improving trenches, building accommodation, strengthening sheet pite and used 1500 sand bags.</p> <p>Strength 38 Officers 799 Other ranks.</p> <p>Fighting Strength with unit forward 27 Officers</p> <p>625 Other ranks.</p>	<p>P</p> <p>B<sup>#1</sup> B<sub>1</sub></p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN Sub Sector RESERVE	1918	-	Same location. Day Fine. Visibility good. - Our artillery and aircraft were again active as usual - Artillery harassing enemy works & aeroplanes patrolling his lines. Enemy artillery was more active than usual and harassed our roads and communications with his light guns. His planes appeared to be searching for balloons.	
	May 7		Strength 38 Officers 788 other ranks Fighting strength with unit forward 27 Officers 618 other ranks 7 casualties.	
	8		Fine. Visibility good. Same location. - Guns and artillery as usual. - enemy artillery less active. At 6.50pm 3 planes of enemy attacked 1 of our patrol machines which when attacked fired red flare which was seen by our men. engaged enemy plane who made off. In Order No issued. & cancelled later - Advance parties of West Yorks reconnoitred our position prior to relief.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
INTERREN Subjects RESERVE.	May 8.		Working party supplied as on the 7 <sup>th</sup> inst 10 Officers 1300 men being engaged wiring support position on night of 7 <sup>th</sup> + morning of 8 <sup>th</sup> inst. Approx. 850 yds of double approx wire 18 yds wide was completed - Last party of 8 Officers + 250 men engaged improving position + wiring - Strength <del>20</del> 41 Officers 708 816 Ods ranks. With unit forward 30 Officers 708 Ods ranks. Casualties Nil.	
"	9		Line visibility good. Same location - Advanced parties of 10th East Yorks Battalion. - Bde order for relief received, and Bn Operation Order No. issued to Coy. - Each Coy detailed 4 Runners who reported to Bn HQ. on 9 <sup>th</sup> at 4 am and who reconnoitred the routes to guide incoming unit to Coy positions and to guide our Coy to Buses. - The day was quiet.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WALLOIN CAPPEL Fred.	MAY 9/10		<p>our artillery fired as usual throughout the day - Enemy artillery was not very active - Our planes were active - enemy planes quiet - Our companies commenced to move out of positions at dusk and moved, Hqs. 8.30 pm. E Coy, B Coy, A Coy, D Coy, by route march to Busses at CASTRE. moving by bus to WALLOIN CAPPEL from there tented camp at U 18 C. - Company being complete in new camp at 2.30 am on 10th inst. 1 Officer, 1 signaller and 1 guide per platoon + 1 Officer, 1 Sig, 1 Runner + 2 linesman for Bn HQ, remained behind in benches to hand over to incoming unit. They reported to new area at 3.45 am - Transport moved by road arriving at 8 pm. Trucks moved by Route March arriving at 6 pm. - Casualties. Nil</p> <p>Strength. 42 Officers 807 other ranks.</p>	<p>b4</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WALLON CAPPEL AREA	MAY	10.	Day Line. Battalion housed in tents and shelter - Morning was devoted to "cleaning up" parades, preparation of Storage kits, and the reading of Standing Orders to Musts parade of boys. Afternoon - Organisation of companies. Battalion Routine attached. - Day parades held. Strength. 42 Officers 807 Other ranks.	
"	"	11	Same location. Day Line. Morning - Company parades. specialist training - Afternoon - Foot Route March and recreational training: Strength 42 Officers 803 Other ranks. Lt J.R. SMITH reported back from Liaison 2nd Aust Inf Bde.	
"	"	12.	Same location. Day Line. Church service held. Bn parade. Major Nelson - delivered the service. Strength 42 Officers 804 Other ranks. Lt C.I. McDONALD left unit and proceeded to 1st Corps Rest Home, STOMER.	13

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WALLON CAPPEL H.R.E.A.	May 13		Day Line Training as per syllabus attached. - Strength 43 Officers 819 O/R ranks.	
	" 14		Day Line Training as per syllabus attached. Lt J. W. Taylor left unit for XV <sup>th</sup> Corps Gas School. - In 200bae team played 4 <sup>th</sup> Aust Bn team and defeated them by 16 to Nil. Strength 42 Officers 814 O/R ranks.	
	" 15		Line: Training carried out as per syllabus. - Lt CL STURT reported back to unit from wounded. Strength 42 Officers 815 O/R ranks. Lt DESBOIS attached 29 <sup>th</sup> Imp Div as Instructor. Rifle change.	
	" 16		Line: Brigade Sports meeting held. - Programme attached. Battalion won Transport Events with 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn. 2 <sup>nd</sup> place. We also won 220 yds Championship. Long Jump High Jump and 2 <sup>nd</sup> in 100 yds Championship. - Lt HADFIELD left unit and is appointed OC Divisional Field Punishment Company. Lt C. S. McDONALD returned to unit from XV Corps Rest Home. Strength 42 Officers 816 O/R ranks.	

b.t. 14



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WALLON CAPPEL AREA	May 17		Battalion located in same area. Training was carried out as per syllabus. CO and 2nd Lt & Sq. Officer attended a demonstration by Flying Corps in contact work etc. 2/Lt R.D. DESBOIS MC reported back to unit today from instructional work with 88th Imp Bde. Strength 42 Officers, 816. o/r ranks	
"	" 18		Dir. Same location. Br Order No 81 issued. Copy attached. Br paraded on Br parade ground in fighting order and moved by route march to the following locations being billeted in tents, shelters and barns. Br HQs at V10C 75 - A Coy at V10C 32. B Coy at V10C 85. C Coy V10C 26. D Coy V10D 43. - Transport and 18/19 Q.M. located at V15 D 54 - Lt C.G. PRESCOTT MC evacuated to Hoopl - sick - Lt A.J.S. CROLL, evacuated - wounded. Strength 43 Officers, 813. o/r ranks. - Casualties one.	15

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Support Position.	MAY 19		<p>Line - Same location. - Mucki for town in line paraded at 10.30 today and moved to new location at V 27 D 2.7 under the command of Capt G.E. BLAKE. - Strength of his command 13 Officers - 109 other ranks. - Dr moved forward to front line system of the Bode area and took over the line - right - from 8th Aust Inf Bn. 'C' Coy in line right. Coy HQs at E 11 A 2.1. 'B' Coy in line left. Coy HQs at E 11 A 4.9. 'A' Coy in Support. Coy HQs at E 4 C 8.9. 'D' Coy in Reserve. Coy HQs at W 27 D 6.5. Battalion Headquarters situated at E 3 C 0.8. Transport and Q.M. stores did not move and are still situated at V 15 D 2.3. - Relief was complete without incident at midnight: Casualties Nil. - Lt M. McL. KESHAN, evacuated ill -</p>	
Front Line RIGHT STRAZLEELE SUB SECTOR.	20		Same location day fire. Visibility very good.	64 16

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Front Line RIGHT STRAZEELE Sub Sector	1918. MAY 20		<p>During the early morning and throughout the day our artillery was active and at midday observed an enemy 5.9 battery firing on right line positions. Our Lewis guns were active and our patrols maintained liaison and protected front - No enemy were encountered. Our planes were very active doing reconnaissance work &amp; patrolling. At night they were heard bombing over enemy area. Enemy attitude was very quiet. Shelling light - Front line boys engaged wiring their front and improving existing defenses - Support by and 1 Coy 4th Aust Bn attached for work were engaged improving support line and wiring same - Reserve Coy carried rations, food and material to 2 front line Coy. - Lt. WL LAMROCK and Lt. DC KELLNER marched in to Nucleus, the former from wounded - Invalided and the latter from reinforcements - Casualties Nil.</p>	

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Front Line. RIGHT. Strazeele but Sects	MAY 20		Strength actually with unit in line - 28 Officers 699 other ranks: Strength 40 Officers 810 other ranks	
		21	Same location. Day Line - Visibility good. Day night were very quiet - Our Lewis gunners were active - as were our Stokes & Birch mortars. In order to create a diversion whilst the division on our right carried out a raid on enemy posts our batteries engaged enemy defences in E6 A.B.C. & D. at 11.26 pm. Enemy retaliation was light and fell over our posts - At about 11.15 pm an enemy plane could be heard in the air and it fired 'tracer' bullets to earth - immediately 'onion' clusters of white light shot up from enemy lines evidently acquainting the Hun airmen of the location of their line - Enemy planes were active - 5 Bombs were dropped	

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Front Line RIGHT	1918 MAY 21		<p>on STRAZEELE STATION. doing no damage - Our patrols maintained liason with flanking units throughout the night - Strength actually with unit forward.</p> <p>28 Officers 694 Other ranks. Fighting strength</p> <p>42 Officers 811 Other ranks. Work was proceeded with wiring the front and support systems and the front line defences and support defences were improved.</p> <p>A Coy of 4th Aust Bn again worked on our support system.</p>	
STRAZEELE Sub Sector.				
	May 22		<p>Day Fine. Visibility good - A patrol of 10 other ranks under Lt. LR. BAIRD. left our line at E 11 A 99. at 12.15 am to reconnoitre enemy positions in vicinity of road in E 11 b - Patrol moved to hedge at E 11 b 55.40 where they came under heavy M.G. fire from 2 enemy posts at E 11 b 6.3., suffering 2 casualties. Posts were about 10 yds</p>	

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Front Line STRAZEE LE Sub Sector		1918	<p>apart and enemy attempted to leave one post and approach our patrol under cover of fire from the other post - but he was dispersed by rifle fire and bombs. A belt of wire was found to run across the front of the 2 enemy posts. Another patrol of 1 Officer and 10 other ranks left our line at 2.45 am at E 5 D 114. to reconnoitre farm at E 5 D 74. - patrol returned at 3.45 am located post at</p>	
	MAY 22		<p>E 5 D 77 - Other patrols located listening post in the vicinity of Farm House at E 11 B 69. - enemy equipment was found - Sgt. L. L. BRUGGAY of 'b' company, by himself, at 6 am, crawled out to a House beyond our line at E 11 D 34, which he believed to be occupied. - He killed 3 enemy, badly wounded a fourth and returned to his Coy HQs. with their identity discs. - A little later he, together with C.S.M. KINCHINGTON of 'c' Coy again made their way to the House and obtained further</p>	<p>b4 20</p>

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Front Line RIGHT	MAY	22	<p>identification which proved enemy to belong to 7th Coy 176 I.R. of 29th Division - Enemy shelling throughout the day was light. - A further report on the operation by Sgt J. BRUNY shows that the Sgt. started out to investigate a house at EHC 47. He found it necessary to crawl all the distance. Just before reaching the house he came upon a garrison in a small trench. He fired killing one. - the remainder showed fight so he rushed the post and severely wounded the remainder. at 7 am. accompanied by C. S.M. KINCHINGTON he again visited the post and obtained further identification. - Our Lewis guns and trench mortars were active. Our artillery was again active and set various buildings alight - Our 6" mortars co-operated with Artillery - Enemy attitude was very quiet - Enemy planes were active throughout the day.</p>	

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Front LINE			Strength with unit forward 27 Officers 688 other ranks.	
RIGHT STRAZELLE Sub Sector	MAY 22		Work consisted of wiring front line and support systems and improvement of the defences of both. As previously a Coy of 4th Aust Bn worked a Support System	
	23		Day Line. Visibility good. - during early morning our patrols were out continuously and liaison was maintained with flanking units - A patrol of 1 Officer and 10 other ranks left our line at 12.25 am at E11A5.1. to get in touch with enemy forward posts and endeavour to get identification. Patrol moved to E11D 4.8. where a large enemy patrol about 30 strong was encountered. - Protected by flanking fire from 2 MGs at E11D58 and E11D45, enemy patrol made endeavours to surround our party who withdrew a short distance and engaged enemy with	



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Front LINE RIGHT STRALEELE Sub Sector	1918		<p>bomb and rifle fire successfully driving them off. Patrol then returned to our lines at 2.30 am at E 114 51. - Usual harassing fire was carried on by our batteries. 2 MGs + MGs throughout the 24 hours - At 11 pm 1250 gas projectors were fired on to enemy positions only 2 are reported as falling short in our sector one at E 5 D 50-65 and one at E 5 D 88. - In connection with the gas projector attack our artillery fired - Enemy attitude was very quiet. New work is observed on his front. - More individual movement was observed than heretofore. - Working was pushed on with in front line and in support system - defences were improved both in front and support lines - 1 Coy of 4th Bn were attacked for work. Casualties 2, 1 killed. Strength with unit in line.</p> <p>27 Officers 700 other ranks. Strength 42 Officers 809 other ranks.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918		Day Fine. Visibility good. - Harassing fire on enemy approaches, trenches and centres of activity was carried out by our batteries. - An enemy working party reported by our right Coy was dispersed by 18 pds in E12 C. - Our Stokes Mortars fired 30 rounds on enemy positions at E6A58. and E6A83. - Our Lewis guns were active. Enemy artillery was much more active than usual especially in forward zone. A short in the nature of a barrage was placed on our line from 12.30 am to 2.30 am	
	MAY 24		Our patrols were again active. Liaison was maintained between flanking units. At midnight a patrol of 1 NCO + 3 men left our lines at E5D88. to work enemy posts opposite by front. Patrol moved to E6C38 to E6C26. Here back to our line at E5D88. at 1.15 am. An enemy patrol was seen at E6C08. and engaged	

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices										
STRAZEELLE Sub Sector	MAY 24	Front Line	<p>by rifle fire. - Enemy threw several bombs then withdrew. A patrol of 1 Officer 15 other ranks left our line at E 5 D 5.8 at 1 am. to ascertain if rails had been removed from railway in vicinity of E 12 a. 06. Patrol moved to E 11 B 96. but no signs of rails having been moved was seen. No enemy were seen or heard and patrol returned to our line at E 11 a 9.8 at 2.15 am.</p> <p>Work was done wiring front line and support line and fortifications were improved in front line and support line. Dugout was built at B.H.C.</p> <p>bag dumps were established in STRAZEELLE STATION for the forthcoming attack. Strength with unit forward</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>702</td> <td>other ranks</td> <td>Strength</td> </tr> <tr> <td>43</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>827</td> <td>Other ranks</td> <td>Casualties</td> </tr> </table>	27	Officers	702	other ranks	Strength	43	Officers	827	Other ranks	Casualties	
27	Officers	702	other ranks	Strength										
43	Officers	827	Other ranks	Casualties										
-	25	Day Line	<p>Visibility good. - Enemy attitude was</p>	<p>64</p>										

(A9475) Wt W2358/P360 600,000 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Forms/C2118/15.

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE Subsector Front Line	1918 MAY 25.		<p>more aggressive than usual and an increased activity in M.G. fire was noticeable - enemy artillery was again active: STRAZEELE Station and roads in vicinity were shelled - Hostile planes were not very active only a few single planes being observed - Our artillery was extremely active and harassed the enemy's communications, roads and front line systems. Our MGs and trench mortars were active as usual. - Our patrols were very active - Liaison was maintained with flanking units - A patrol of 1 Officer and 4 other ranks left our line at E 5 D 9.9 at 12.20 am. to locate enemy forward posts on Coy front - Patrol moved to E 6 C 16 and located an enemy post at E 6 C 10 72 - Patrol continued to move forward and engaged enemy with bomb and rifle fire. 26 garrison replied vigorously and our patrol</p>	

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZELLE Sub sector.	1918		was forced to withdraw - They moved to E6C 30. 95 then back to our lines at 1.45 am. One man was slightly wounded. - Another patrol of 10 pr broke ranks after patrolling for 1 hour came under heavy MG. fire and were forced to withdraw returning at 2 am. - A patrol of 10 pr, 19 other ranks left our line at E11A 70. 75 at 1.30 am to locate enemy posts and engage enemy patrols if met. patrol moved to E11B 5. 5 and observed enemy movement on road at E11B 7. 5 which they engaged with rifle grenades. 2 other patrols went out one of them engaging enemy with rifle grenades. - Work was performed as usual. Front line wired also support line and work was done improving defenses in front support systems. 1 Coy of 4th Bn attached. Strength with unit. 27 Officers 700 other ranks. Strength 40 Officers 872 other ranks	
Front. LINE - Right.	MAY 25			

(A9475) Wt W2358/P360 500,000 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Forms/C2118/15.

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE	1918		Casualties. 2. wounded.	
Sub Sector.	MAY 25		Day Line: Visibility good. Our artillery was very active also our M.G.s. and 2 M.G. 6" Newton	
FRONT LINE RIGHT.	26		Mortars engaged selected targets - Enemy artillery was quieter than usual during the day but increased towards dusk - Whilst raid was in progress on our right enemy placed fairly heavy shelling on our front line - Enemy planes were very active. Our patrolling was again very active and patrols were out in "NO MANS" Land continually. Liaison was maintained between flanking units - A patrol of 1 officer and 6 other ranks left our lines at 1am at E5D15 to locate enemy post opposite bay front - Patrol moved to E5D45 when an enemy whining party was heard at E6C05.30 - Patrol	

64  
88

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE Sub Sector			Moved to a suitable position and engaged enemy with rifle grenades. Then moved forward to E 11599 and located another enemy working party	
Front Line			at E 11695. 70 which was engaged by rifle fire and grenades. Patrol returned to our lines at E 51000.05 at	
MAY 26		2.30 am.	- A fighting patrol of 1 Officer + 17 other ranks were out for 3 hours and gained contact with enemy. 2 other patrols were out and engaged enemy with bombs and rifle grenades. - 1 man was killed and 3 wounded on patrol. Coy of 4th Bn was attached for work. Worked on Support System improving defenses. Work was continued in front line and support systems - wiring and improving defenses - strength with unit. 28 Officers 728 other ranks strength 40 Officers 810 other ranks.	64 69

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE. Sub Sector. Front Line	MAY	27	<p>Day Line. Visibility good. - Our patrols were again very active and on several occasions contact was gained with enemy posts - 3 fighting patrols were out during the night and early morning. - At 10.15pm a raiding patrol under Lieut JH Nixon moved out some 200 yds from our line and formed up to assault a known enemy post. Under cover of No 76 Rifle Bomb and supported by Lewis Gun 2 Ricars with flank the assaulting party of Lieut NIXON and 7 other rants dashed forward a distance of between 70 and 80 yards and captured the <del>post</del> post.</p> <p>The garrison of the post was 1 Lewis Gun and 8 men. 2 enemy were killed and 2 brought back unwounded to our lines. - The remainder of the garrison fled to the rear and bombs were thrown at them as they ran. - The machine gun was</p>	

04 30



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE			being brought to our lines but became entangled in the wire and had to be abandoned.	
Sub sector.				
Front LINE	MAY 27		<p>The prisoners captured belonged to 5th Coy. 2nd Bn. 57th P.I.R. 13 Res division. They were in a "double post" garrison of 4 men in each. - They stated that no attack was contemplated on this front. - Enemy attitude was quiet. His artillery was more quiet on front sector and more active in rear than usual. Hqs. were also more active and at night enemy is very alert. Our artillery was active as usual. also our Stokes machine guns. Aeroplanes on both sides active.</p> <p>At 9.30 pm a verbal message was received from Pde holding the Bn forward even if relieved. At 11.45 the Bn had been relieved in the line by the 12th Aust Lnt Bn.</p> <p>The line Coy's 'D' and 'A' then moved to B4</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FrontLINE RESERVE Line. STRAZEELE Sub Sector. and Bde. Support	1918 MAY 27/28	a position in the Reserve Line and "b" and "B" Loys moved to "b" LINE near PRADELLES in anticipation of enemy attack. Reliefs in these positions were completed at 1.15 am and 2.15 am on 28.5.1918 respectively. At 5 am on 28th orders were received to complete the move and the Bn moved to support Bde location. Move being complete at 9 am. - Battalion went through Divisional Baths - clean underclothes received. - Rested for balance of day. A request of 1 Officer + 20 other ranks was sent to STEEN VORDE and CASSEL and 1 request of 1 Officer and 20 other ranks detailed for police duty along BORRE BECQUE. Nuclear personnel rejoined. - Strength 38 Officers 797 Other ranks.		
	29	Day Line. Locations as follows:	b+ 32	

(A9475) Wt W2358/P360 600,000 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Forms/C2118/15.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA KREULE Support Area.	1918. MAY 29.		<p>In Hqs. situated at V. 10. C. 75. 85.            "A" Coy at V. 10. a. 35. 20. Day Hqs at V. 10. d. 75. 50.            "B" Coy at V. 10. c. 65. 95 Day Hqs at V. 10. d. 40. 40.            Transport P.M. Store situated at V. 20. b. 00. 85.            Parades were held as per syllabus attached.            2 Coy went forward and worked for 4 hours on the support line system, under the supervision of Engineers. - Work being trying and improvement of support system.            Capt L. E. McDONALD rejoined unit from Training Battalion ENGLAND. Strength 38 Officers 801. Oth ranks.</p> <p>30 Day Line same location. - Training as per syllabus. Working parties as under were provided.            1 Officer 1 platoon of D Coy working at V 17. D.            C Coy 12 platoons of A Coy working with Engineers at "B" Line            2 Officers 12 platoons of "B" Coy working on "D" line.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA KREULE	May 30		7 other ranks marched in Strength 38 Officers 801 other ranks.	
Support Area.	"	31	<p>Day Line: Training was carried out as per syllabus attached. - Working parties comprising in all 8 Officers and 9 platoons were supplied to engineers and worked on support systems. - 2 other ranks were wounded on STEENVORDE frequent. Lt J.S. NIXON relieved Lt E.E. BROWNE on CASSEL frequent and Lt BROWNE and 1 other rank reported to Camouflage factory at MARTINE Dump for duty.</p> <p>Strength. Lt. R.D. DESBOIS MC. and Lt. A. LITTLEJOHN MC. left unit for Rest Hotel St OMER.</p> <p>Strength. 36 Officers. 802 other ranks.</p>	<p>Approve till Commanding Lt 7.</p>

# WAR DIARY

OF

MAY, 3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

FOR

May, 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No.   | Subject.                                                                                   |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ 1.  | Appreciation by Divisional Commander, Major-General Sir. H.B. WALKER, K.C.B., D.S.O.       |
| ✓ 2.  | Appreciation by the G.O.C.                                                                 |
| ✓ 3.  | Programme of Sports Meeting, 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade - 1 copy.                             |
| ✓ 4.  | List of events - 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade Sports.                                           |
| ✓ 5.  | 3rd. Australian Battalion Order No. 77.                                                    |
| ✓ 6.  | Works Policy, 3rd. Bn., Meteren Sub-Sector.                                                |
| ✓ 7.  | 3rd. Australian Battalion Order No. 78.                                                    |
| ✓ 8.  | Defence Scheme - Left (METEREN) Brigade Area.                                              |
| ✓ 9.  | 3rd. Australian Battalion Order No. 79.                                                    |
| ✓ 10. | Works Policy, 3rd. Bn., -Reserve.                                                          |
| ✓ 11. | 3rd. Australian Battalion Order No. 80.                                                    |
| ✓ 12. | " " " " " 81.                                                                              |
| ✓ 13. | " " " Training Syllabus. week end. 18/5/18.                                                |
| ✓ 14. | " " " Order No. 82.                                                                        |
| ✓ 15. | " " " " " 83.                                                                              |
| ✓ 16. | " " " Operation Memo. No. 1.                                                               |
| ✓ 17. | " " " Order No. 84.                                                                        |
| ✓ 18. | Defence Scheme, STRAZEELE, Sub-sector.                                                     |
| ✓ 19. | Works Policy, 3rd. Bn., STRAZEELE, Sub-sector.                                             |
| ✓ 20. | Return shewing S.A.A., Bombs, etc. in STRAZEELE Sub-sector.                                |
| ✓ 21. | 3rd. Aust. Battalion Training Syllabus, SUPPORT Area.                                      |
| ✓ 22. | Telephonic communications - Reserve Area.                                                  |
| ✓ 23. | Telephonic communications - STRAZEELE Sector.                                              |
| ✓ 24. | Dispositions - Reserve Area.                                                               |
| ✓ 25. | Brigade Order No. 91 & map.                                                                |
| ✓ 26. | Receipt for 2 prisoners of war.                                                            |
| ✓ 27. | Dispositions - STRAZEELE Sub-sector.                                                       |
| ✓ 28. | Account of 1st Bde Sports Meeting - SERCUS.<br><del>Medical Officer and Q.M. Report.</del> |

Appendix 1

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.Appendix No 1  
118/351.Headquarters.  
27th April. 1918.3rd Australian Battalion.  
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I desire to express my deep appreciation of the work of the Division since it came into its Present sector. The zeal and energy shown by all ranks is beyond all praise - We took over a sector scarcely touched as regards defensive preparations - Tho' much remains to be done we have now a position on which we can confidently engage and defeat the enemy should he be rash enough to attack us. And every days work will add to our security - I thank all Staff, Commanders, and the members of every unit for so ably maintaining and adding to the reputation of the 1st Australian Division. Yesterday the Field Marshall Commanding in Chief paid a visit to Divisional Headquarters and expressly desired me to convey his personal thanks to the Division for all they have done and his confidence of their being able to hold their line against any attack, and I have the greatest pleasure in now conveying his message to all ranks of the Division.

(Sgd) H.B.WALKER.  
Major-General.  
Commanding 1st Australian Division.

The G.O.C. desires to circulate the following extract from "THE TIMES" of Tuesday, 30th. April, 1918, for the information of all ranks :-

--- --- --- --- ---  
"SUPERB" AUSTRALIANS.

The Commander-in-Chief, in his despatch of April 22, in company with a number of Divisions from the British Isles made special mention of the 3rd. and 4th. Australian Divisions for their gallant behaviour at MERICOURT l'ABBE and DERNANCOURT, and also of the 5th. Australian Division for services South of the SOMME. To this Sir. Douglas HAIG has added special messages of thanks to General BIRDWOOD and the whole Australian Corps for their "Gallant conduct and magnificent achievements", with special mention of the "Splendid service" of the Australian Division on the North.

The whole behaviour of the Australians in these battles since they first came in to help to hold the German advance at the end of March has been superb. It is not always permissible in my messages to give at the time identifications of the particular troops engaged in any operation, but in the light of the despatches of the Commander-in-Chief, reference can now be made to several exploits of the Australians without specifying the individual Divisions which had to be anonymous at the time. It was the Australians who shattered the German attacks over the high ground about DERNANCOURT on April, 5th, and below here to the South of MORLANCOURT it is believed that no less than 3,000 Germans were killed. When the line North of the SOMME, fell back to SAILLY - MERICOURT l'ABBE to conform to the retirement to HAMEL and VAIRE WOOD on the South of the river, the Australians held the chord between the streams and have beaten off every attack since. On April 24th especially, in conjunction with their attack on VILLERS-BRETTONNEUX, the enemy made two determined attempts by SAILLY, both of which were completely shattered by the steadiness of the Australians with the rifle. Meanwhile, throughout this period Australians had been holding the line along the Railway to and around ALBERT, and several times I have referred to the futility of the German attacks here and the heavy casualties inflicted by rifle fire and bombing, and in hand to hand fighting.

To the share of the Australians in the recapture of VILLERS-BRETTONNEUX On April 24th and 25th all justice was done at the time. It was an admirably planned 'coup' and was vigorously executed, resulting, besides the recapture of ground, in taking a large number of prisoners and killing a great number of the enemy.

In the North, where the Commander-in-chief mentions that the 1st. Division had been engaged, Australians took over the line East of the Forest of NIEPPE to MERRIS, and I have told of the splendid spirit of our troops in that section and the uselessness of all German attacks to make headway. There was never a moment in this fighting when, to use the slang phrase, the Australians were not "all over" the enemy. I told in my despatch yesterday of the fine work of the Australians in the METEREN area, where their patrol work has been beyond praise, and they pushed the Germans back into the edges of the town, earning the heartiest admiration of the French Troops fighting in their proximity.

Altogether theirs has been a splendid record, and no one in the Army or out of it will grudge the Australians the praise which the Commander-in-chief has given them.

In his earlier message Sir. Douglas HAIG also mentions the New Zealanders, and it has been largely owing to them that the Germans have, during the last month, totally failed to make any progress in the HEBUTERNE Area. They tried again and again, and every time they have fallen off, shattered, from the New Zealanders defence, and in counter attacking the New Zealanders have several times flung the enemy back on to his positions with very heavy casualties.

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War Diary

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1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SPORTS MEETING.

Appendix 1/6 2

SERCUS - 16th MAY, 1918.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

- 12.30 p.m. Presentation of Ribbons by Major-General Sir H.B.WALKER, K.C.B., D.S.O.
- 1 p.m. Heats, 100 yards Championship.
- 1.15 p.m. Three legged Race.  
Egg and Spoon Race.
- 1.45 p.m. Heats, 220 yards Championship.
- 2.15 p.m. Sack and Bandsman's Race. Bandsmen to be blindfolded, run backwards over a 50 yards course playing their instrument.
- 2.45 p.m. Final, 100 yards Championship.
- 3.15 p.m. High Jump.
- 3.15-3.45 p.m. Judging Transport Event.
- 3.45 p.m. Fancy Dress Parade, and Potato Race.
- 4.15 p.m. Semi-Final, Tug-O'-War between 1st and 4th, and 2nd and 3rd Battalions.
- 4.45 p.m. 440 yards Championship.  
Running Broad Jump.
- 5.15 p.m. V.C. Race. Competitors to be dismounted at starting point and on pistol being fired mount their horse, ride to position of dummies, dismount, raise the dummy on to horse, mount and ride back to starting point. A low brush hurdle is to be jumped both going up and coming down the course. Maximum entries 6 per Battalion.
- 5.45 p.m. Tug-O'-War Final.
- 6 p.m. Final, 220 yards Championship.
- 6.15 p.m. Cock Fighting (Post Entries).

JUDGES:

Running Championships.

Lt.-Col. B.V.STACY, D.S.O.  
Major A.W.HUTCHIN.

High and Broad Jump.

Lt.-Col. A.B.STEVENS, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Lt.-Col. C.D.SASSE, D.S.O.

Tug-O'-War.

Lt.-Col. D.T.MOORE, D.S.O.  
Lt.-Col. C.D.SASSE, D.S.O.

Fancy Dress Parade.

Major-Genl. Sir H.B.WALKER, K.C.B., D.S.O.  
Brig.-Genl. W.B.LESSLIE, C.M.G.

Novelty Events.

Padre B.C.WILSON,  
Padre R.C.HENRY.



1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

The Brigade will hold a Sports Meeting on Thursday afternoon, 16th inst., at 1st Battalion Sports Ground, commencing at 1 p.m.

The following is a list of the events:-

1. Football Final.
2. Tug-O'-War semi-final and final.
3. 100 yards championship.
4. 220 " "
5. 440 " "
6. High Jump.
7. Running Broad Jump.
8. Three legged race.
9. Potato Race.
10. Egg and Spoon Race.
11. Sack Race.
12. Bandsmans Race.
13. Best sustained Fancy Dress Character.
14. V.C. Race.
15. Transport event -
  - (a) Best turned out Cooker.
  - (b) Best turned out S.A.A. Limber complete.
  - (c) Best turned out Pack Horse.
 The three events to be judged as one.

Entries for championship events will be sent to Brigade Headquarters by 9 a.m. on 16th inst. Entries for novelty events will be taken on the ground.

Judges will be as follows:-

Lieut.-Col. B.V.STACY, D.S.O.	}	Championship events.
Major A.W.HUTCHIN,		
Padre B.C.WILSON,	}	Novelty events.
Padre R.C.HENRY,		
Capt. R.HALL, M.C.	}	Transport events.
Capt. C.ABEY, M.C.		
Capt. MORKIS, 1st D.S.C.)		

Starters.

Capt. C.HOWIE,  
Capt. C.K.MILLAR, M.C.

Each Battalion will detail 3 Officers and 3 Senior N.C.Os. to act as Stowards.

Bde. H.Qrs.  
13/5/18.

Battalion Headquarters.  
May 2nd 1918.

Reference Map. Sheet 27.S.E.

1. The 4th Battalion will relieve the 3rd Battalion in the Right sub-sector of the Brigade front tomorrow night 3rd/4th May 1918.
2. On relief 3rd Battalion will move to positions now occupied by 4th Battalion and 3rd Battalion will become RESERVE Battalion.

ADVANCED PARTIES.

Advance parties of 1 Officer, 4 Other ranks and 1 Runner per Company, 2 Signallers, 1 Scout, and 1 Runner from Battalion Headquarters will move to-night 2nd/3rd inst and take over accommodation and stores from 4th Battalion.

Particular attention will be paid by these Officers to Defence works in course of instruction, to ensure no break in continuity of the work.

"A" Coy 3rd Battalion	will occupy position now held by "B" Coy 4th Battalion at;-	X.9. a.3.7.	
"B" "	do	X.2. c.2.3.	"A" "
"C" "	do	X.7. b.6.9.	"C" "
"D" "	do	X.3. d.0.0.	"D" "
Bn H.Q.	do	X.1. d.4.3.	Bn H.Q.

Advanced parties will return on night 3rd/4th and guide their companies to new location. 4th Battalion will send in advanced parties to-night 2nd/3rd.

DEFENCE SCHEME.

All surplus maps, and documents of value, including Operation Memos 1 and 2 will be handed over and receipts obtained.

TRENCH STORES.

All Trench stores, S.A.A. Bombs (except 170 rounds per S.A.A. and 2 bombs per man), Picks and Shovels, S.O.S. signals will be handed over and receipts forwarded to Battalion H.Q. by 12 Noon on 4th inst.

REGIMENTAL EQUIPMENT.

Such as Very lights pistols, Rifle grenade dischargers, Bomb buckets and Cups will be carried out by companies.

REPORTS

Completion of relief by 4th Battalion will be notified by wiring the word "MAISEY"

Arrival at new location will be notified by wiring the word "SMITH"

GUIDES?

Each company will detail 1 Guide per post, to rendezvous at Company Headquarters at 10.30 pm on 3rd inst, to guide incoming units to their posts.

DISTRIBUTION.

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| No 1. "A" Coy.       | No 2. "B" Coy.           |
| " 3. "C" "           | " 4. "D" "               |
| " 5. Q.M.            | " 6. 1st Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| " 7. 4th Bn.         | " 8. 7th Bn.             |
| " 9. R.M.O.          | " 10. File.              |
| 11.12.13. War Diary. |                          |

*Brown*  
Capt & Adjutant.  
3rd Battalion.

*Handwritten signature*

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METEREN SUB-SECTOR.

FRONT LINE DEFENCE.

WORKS POLICY.

The work in progress in the Battalion Sector consists of :-

- (1) Work on front line zone, including improvement of
  - (a) existing trenches and accommodation therein, construction of fire step, snipers posts, L.G. positions, etc.
  - (b) Wiring.

(2) Construction of Support Position. Posts were commenced at

- X. 14. A. 8. 4.
- X. 14. C. 5. 5.
- X. 14. C. 7. 4.
- X. 14. C. 9. 7.

FRONT LINE. Considerable improvement has been made in trench system and sufficient accommodation for garrison has been built therein. Firing steps have been built sufficient for garrison, bombing and L.G. positions ~~established~~ constructed. On Right Company front (left post) 3 snipers' positions have been constructed. Latrine accommodation has been built.

WIRING. The Company fronts are now wired.

LEFT COMPANY FRONT - 140 pickets and 14 coils of wire have been put out.

CENTRE COMPANY - 90 pickets and 10 coils of wire used on front.

RIGHT COMPANY - 140 pickets and 12 coils of wire have been put out.

SUPPORT COMPANY - NIL.

SUPPORT POSITION. The posts as shown in (2) are each capable of housing 1 platoon, but require further improvement.

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS. Construction of H.Q. dugout.

WORKING PARTIES. (1) Front line - parties have been detailed from garrison.  
(2) 1 Officer and 45 men working for a period of 5 hours nightly. 10 other ranks construction of H.Q. dugout.

BATTALION DUMP is at X.13.E.7.0. and material can be transported there by limber.

*Handwritten signature*  
Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

26

Appendix

M.

SECRET

Appendix No. 7

Copy No. 10

WON

3rd Aust. Battalion Order No. 18

Battalion Headquarters  
7th May 1918

REF. MAP SHEET 27. S.E.

1. The 3rd Aust. Bn. will relieve the 4th Aust. Bn. in the Right Sub-Sector of Brigade front on night 8/9th May 1918. The 4th Aust. Bn. will take over positions in Reserve vacated by 3rd Aust. Bn.

"A"	Co	3rd Bn	will	relieve	Co	of	4th Bn	in	Line	centre
"B"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Support
"C"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Right
"D"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Left

TIME Companies will move from present locations before 10 pm. but not earlier than 9.30 pm. and will give the word "GO" on leaving.

ROUTE Companies will select the best Route and move accordingly.

ADVANCE PARTY - Each Company will send 1 Officer, 1 H.C.O. per Platoon, 1 Runner, and 1 Signaller to line to reconnoitre position and take over Trench Stores etc. To be in Line by daylight tomorrow the 8th inst.

TRENCH STORES All Trench Stores, Maps, Defence Schemes, Documents of value, Works Policy etc, will be taken over and receipts signed.

Similarly all Trench Stores etc, will be handed over to incoming Unit, and, with L.A.A. and Bombs, the location and amount in each post will be stated. Lists to be forwarded in duplicate to each Battalion Headquarters by 9 pm. on 9th inst.

GUIDES Advance officers will send back dispositions of Line Battalion to company commanders and will arrange to meet their companies to guide them to Posts.

p. 2.

Appendix. ~~N.~~

- A.M.C. R.M.O's will arrange relief mutually
- RATIONS Hot meal and dry rations will be delivered to companies in the new Sector on completion of relief.
- RATION PARTY - O.C. "B" Coy will detail ration parties as previously. To rendezvous at ESTAMINET at 11.30 pm. on 8th inst.
- WORKS Advance officers will take over Works programme and Companies will ensure that the work is at once taken in hand.
- DISPOSITIONS - A Sketch showing Dispositions will be forwarded to reach Battalion Headquarters by 9 pm. on night 9th inst.
- RELIEF Completion of relief will be reported to Battalion Headquarters by wire by code word "RAY"

Stowell  
 Capt + Adjutant  
 2nd Aust. Battalion

ACKNOWLEDGE

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War Diary

Appendix No 8  
Battalion Headquarters, 44  
6th. May, 1918.

DEFENCE SCHEME.

Copy No 8

RESERVE BATTALION - LEFT (METEREN) BRIGADE AREA.

1st. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SECTOR.

REFERENCE MAP - SHEET 27 S.E. 1:40,000.

SECTION 1.

- 1. FRONT. The Left Brigade holds the line on a two battalion frontage from the METEREN BECQUE on the South - Northern outskirts of METEREN - Cross Roads X.11.c.
- 2. BOUNDARIES - NORTH - Cross Roads X.11.c. - Cross Roads X.4.c.  
Cross Roads X.3.D. - R.31.A.4.6. thence West.  
  
SOUTH - The line of the METEREN BECQUE from X.20.Central to X.13.Central thence due West.  
  
INTER-BATTALION BOUNDARY - The line X.15.D.6.7. - X.2.C.000.
- 3. TOPOGRAPHY - The main feature of the Spur Hill 62 which runs North and South from FONTAINE HOUCK to METEREN. Westward of the Spur is the re-entrant of the METEREN BECQUE, and Eastward the low ground leading into ST. JANS CAPPEL. The spur is an outlier from the high ground MT.KEMMEL - MT.DES CATS.
- 4. DEFENCES - (1) The lines of defence are now approaching completion.  
(2) The defences are organised in two zones :-  
    (a) Forward zones.  
    (b) Second zone.  
(3) The forward zone consists of -  
    (a) Outposts.  
    (b) Support Line.  
    (c) Reserve Line.  
(4) (a) The Outpost System is a line of platoon posts with supporting points.  
    (b) The supporting system is a defensive line running from COURTE CROIX on the Right to HTE PORTE FARM on the Left and including the defended localities of PHINC BOOM - LA BESAGE FARM - FONTAINE HOUCK. On Hill 62 the line is pushed forward to the forward slopes with a view to putting up the main fight there and retaining what is considered the key of the position.  
    (c) The Reserve Line is a continuous trench across the sector 600-800 yards in rear of Support System.

SECTION 2

- DISPOSITIONS. (1) Each successive system will resist to the utmost.
- (2) The Support Line will be manned by the Support Battalion in case of attack.
- (3) LINE BATTALIONS. have <sup>three</sup> their Companies in the Line and one in support.

SUPPORT BATTALIONS. has:-  
 One Company in Square X.10.c & D. (Support line)  
 One Company " X.9. C & D. (In Posts )  
 One " at PHINC BOOM.  
 One " at FONTAINE HOUCK.

RESERVE BATTALION.  
 Battalion Headquarters at Farm House at X.1.d.2.3.  
 No 1 Company ~~XXXXXX~~ (D Coy) at X.3.C. and D. and X.9.A. and B. with Coy.H.Qrs. at X.3.B.4.0.  
 No.2 Company (A.Coy.) at X.3.C. with Coy.H.Qrs at X.3.C.3.3.  
 (No.3 Company (B.Coy.) at X.7.B. and X.8.A. with Coy.H.Qrs at X.2.A.0.2.  
 Reserve (No.4 Company (C.Coy.) at X.7.B. with Coy.H.Qrs at X.7.B.6.7  
 Line. SUPPORT LINE at LA BESAGE FARM.

- DISPOSITIONS - (4) V.M. Guns. Distribution shewn on attached map.  
 (5) L.T.M's. " " " " "  
 (6) The Reserve Line is not manned by RESERVE BATTALION.

SECTION 3.

ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK.

- (1) PROBABLE FORMS OF ATTACK. An attempt to seize Hill 62 by an advance up the valley on the East or up the METEREN BECQUE on the WEST - or both.
- (2) ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK.  
LINE BATTALIONS stand fast and resist to the last. Local penetrations of the outposts will be dealt with by BATTALION reserves.  
SUPPORT BATTALION will man the Support Line and arrest any penetration of outposts and gain time for deliver of counter-attack by RESERVE BATTALION.  
RESERVE BATTALION will "Stand to". Companies will send patrols forward to gain information and report all information gained to BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.  
 Companies will be prepared to counter-attack on any portion of the Brigade front or to reinforce troops on either flank.  
 At "Stand to" two men per section will assemble entrenching head and helve and carry them stuck in the waist belt. These men will be employed as section scouts and will be available for cutting paths thro ugh hedges, etc.
- (3) Two plans for co unter-attack by RESERVE BATTALION are ~~now~~ here outlined to guide officers and N.C.Os. in their study of the Brigade sector. It must be borne in mind, however, that the unexpected usually happens and an attack by Companies may have to be made in other directions.

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COUNTER ATTACK "A".

TO RE-ESTABLISH THE LINE ON HILL 62.

<u>FIRST LINE.</u>	<u>ASSEMBLY POINT.</u>	<u>DIRECTION OF ATTACK.</u>	<u>METHOD OF ADVANCE.</u>	<u>PROBABLE LOCATION OF BATTALION H.QRS.</u>
Right Coy. No.2 Coy.	In trenches now occupied from X.3.C.3.2. to X.3.C.6.4.	Right of Coy. to march on Left of COPSE at X.16.A.0.4. Left of Coy. to march on X.16.A.7.9.	Leading Companies artillery formation. Leading platoons covered by one Section as skirmishers.	X.16.A.15.85.
Left Coy. No.1 Coy.	In trenches now occupied from X.3.C.7.3. to X.3.D.4.3.	Right of Coy. to march on X.16.A.7.9. Left of Coy. to march on X.10.D.5.0.	do.	X.10.C.2.3.
Support Coy.No.3 Coy.	In communication trench at X.3.C.5.6.	Centre of Coy. to march on Road Junction X.10. <sup>C</sup> .4.5.	Artillery formation of Sections in file.	With Left Coy. X.10.C.2.3.
Reserve Coy.No.4 Coy.	In trenches X.3.Central.	This Company may be required to extend the front of BATTALION to either flank.	do.	
BATTALION HEADQUARTERS - Present location of No.1 Company at X.3.B.4.0.				

NOTE - "B" and "C" Companies and Headquarters will move to Assembly Point in Artillery formation, making use of hedges, etc., to cover the movement from observation by the enemy.

Appendix, N.S.



SECTION 4.

COMMUNICATIONS.

- (1) TELEPHONES. All Companies and Battalions of Brigade are connected by telephone.
- (2) RUNNER.
- (3) PIGEON.
- (4) DOG.
- (5) VISUAL.

The attached map shews locations of all Headquarters. In the event of a forward move any headquarters will accept messages for transmission providing their telephone lines are intact.

Lamps and Phones will be carried forward by Companies and Battalion.

Contact signal panels will be carried by Battalion Headquarters.

SECTION 5.

APPENDICES.

- (1) Ammunition supply.
- (2) Medical.
- (3) Cemeteries.
- (4) Cooking.
- (5) Stragglers posts.
- (6) Prisoners of war.

*Stow*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

APPENDIX "B"

- (1) AMMUNITION SUPPLY. Brigade Dumps at X.1.B.3.2. and X.2.D.0.4. Reserve Battalion Dump at X.1.D.2.3. holding 60,000 rounds S.A.A. and 24 boxes of grenades. Companies hold 100 rounds per rifle and 5,000 rounds per Lewis Gun, distributed throughout trenches occupied by them, in addition a small reserve is held at each Coy.H.Qrs. The Reserve Battalion Aid Post at X.1.D.5.2. Support Battalion Aid Post at X.3.C.0.3.
- (2) MEDICAL.
- (3) CEMETERIES. X.1.D.15.60. W.12.D.9.91
- (4) COOKING. Evening meal, less tea, is cooked at wagon lines and brought up with dry rations by limbers. Tea for evening meal and breakfast is cooked at Battalion and Company H.Qrs.
- (5) STRAGGLER POSTS. In the event of battle the Reserve Battalion will mount straggler posts of 3 men each at following points  
W.12.B.8.3.  
X.1.A.7.8.  
Adjutant will keep written orders prepared for men in charge of these posts.
- (6) PRISONERS OF WAR. All prisoners of war will be searched and papers taken from them, they will then be sent under escort to Battalion Headquarters. All papers will be sent with the escort.

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SECRET.Appendix  
COPY NO. 8

No 948

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 79REF. SHEET 27.Battalion Headquarters,  
9th. May, 1918.

1. The 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade will be relieved tonight 9/10th. May, 1918 by 93rd. Brigade.
  2. The 3rd. Aust. Bn. will move out this afternoon, 9th. inst., when the movement cannot be observed by the enemy, and as early as possible, and in accordance with attached Move Table by march and bus to Square U.18.
  3. RELIEF. 1 Officer and 1 signaller, with Phone, per Company will remain in present location, and await arrival of incoming Unit, and hand over, reporting completion to Battalion Headquarters by wiring the word "DAWN".
- DEFENCE SCHEMES. Surplus maps, programmes of work, etc., will be handed over and receipts obtained.
- TRENCH STORES, including food containers, small cooking dixies, Soyer stoves, trench covers, reserve S.A.A. and bombs, will be handed over and receipts obtained.
- GUIDES. Of the 4 other ranks now at Bn. Hd. Qrs, 3 will guide in the incoming Companies and one will return to guide our Companies out.
- SANITATION. All Headquarters, trenches, latrines, etc., to be handed over in a clean condition.
- GEAR. A limbered wagon will call at Company dumps to collect Cooker boilers only. One man will be left to load these by each Company and Battalion Headquarters.
- REGIMENTAL EQUIPMENT. Lewis guns and magazines, grenade dischargers, Very pistols, etc., will be carried out by Companies.
- S.A.A. O.C. Companies will ensure that each man moves out with ~~the~~ his full compliment of S.A.A. and that all Lewis Gun magazines are filled.
4. REPORTS. Companies will report to Battalion Headquarters in new area on completion of move.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Browne*  
Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

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Appendix. No. 9.

MOVE TABLE.

1. Companies will move out in Bus Groups of 25, each number under an Officer or N.C.O. Groups will move in small sections.
2. On arrival at Embussing Point each Group will embuss and move off to new area where guides will be met.

EMBUSSING POINT. Main road Q.32.C.1.8.

DEBUSSING POINT. Main road near WALLON CAPPEL.

EMBUSSING OFFICER. Capt. A. McDERMID.

UNIT.	March to Emb.point Q.32.C.1.8.	Move by Bus to main Road near WALLON CAPPEL.	Time to leave present location.
Hd.Qrs.Details	"	"	8 p.m.
"C" Company	"	"	8.30 p.m.
"B" "	"	"	8.40 p.m.
"A" "	"	"	8.50 p.m.
"D" "	"	"	9.5 p.m.

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Appendix 10

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*Max Dary*

Appendix No 10

3rd. Australian Battalion.  
9th. May, 1918.

WORKS                      POLICY.

DISPOSITIONS.      The 3rd. Australian Battalion is Reserve Battalion to 1st. Australian Infantry Brigade in Line, METEREN sub-sector, and is situate as follows:-

BN. H.Q.	-	X.I.D.25.25.
1 Coy.		X.7.6.
"		X.7.6. & X.8.a.
"		X.3.C.
"		X.9.a. & b.

WORK.                      FIRSTLY -      WIRING.

- (a) Wiring and straightening existing wire defences in X.8. ( Support Right)
- (b) Employment as detailed by Brigade in construction of wired M.G. drives and wiring of S.Ps.

SECONDLY.

- (a) Improvement of existing ~~positions~~ trenches in Reserve Area and maintenance thereof.
- (b) Wiring Reserve Line.
- (c) As detailed by Brigade.

TYPE OF WIRE. Double apron barb wire - 18 yards in depth.

MATERIAL. Is drawn from Field Company R.E. attached to Brigade, and is delivered by Engineers to location named.

STRENGTH. 75% of Company Strength or 3 platoons per Company work in Support Area.

Area.                      Balance of Company employed on work in Reserve

Each man to do 4 hours work on defences per day.

*Browne*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

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Appendix 11

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SECRET.

Appendix No 11  
COPY NO. 7

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 80.

Battalion Headquarters,  
15th. May, 1918.

1. The 3rd. Australian Battalion will march to Brigade Sports tomorrow 16th. instant.
2. The 3rd. Battalion, (less Transport Section) will parade on Battalion Parade Ground at 9.40 a.m. tomorrow, 16th. instant.

Every Officer and man will attend.

3. DRESS. Football team and men entered for championship events - to wear waist belt and carry haversacks.

Battalion will parade in Fighting Order and will carry waterproof sheets.

MIDDAY MEAL, will be carried on the man.

TRANSPORT. Transport Officer will arrange for necessary transport and 2 cooks.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Gun Officer will arrange for 4 A.A. Lewis Guns to accompany the Battalion, and that they are mounted at Sports Ground.

The Divisional Commander, Major-General Sir H.B. WALKER K.C.B., D.S.O. will present ribbons at 12.30 p.m.

*for* *W. Elliott*  
Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

ISSUED BY RUNNER.

DISTRIBUTION.

No. 1	Copy	-	"A" Company	-	Nos. 7, 8, 9	Copy	-	War Diary.
2	"	-	"B" "	-	10		-	Q.M.
3	"	-	"C" "	-	11		-	T.O.
4	"	-	2D" "	-	12		-	M.O.
5	"	-	H. Gns.	-	13.		-	Brigade.
6	"	-	File.	-	14.		-	C.O.

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Appendix. 12.

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Appendix No 125  
COPY NO.

SECRET.

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 81.

REFERENCE MAPS -  
SHEETS 27 & 36a 1:40,000.

Battalion Headquarters,  
17th. May, 1918.

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MOVE "A".

The 3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION will move into Divisional Support and relieve the 10th. Australian Battalion on 18th. Instant, in accordance with Move Table attached.

MOVE "B".

On night 19th/20th. instant the 3rd. Australian Battalion will relieve the 8th. Australian Battalion in the line Right, in accordance with instructions attached.

RELIEFS. On each relief Companies will relieve equivalent Companies.

DEFENCE SCHEMES. Defence schemes, plans of work, trench stores, will be taken over in both areas and lists forwarded to reach Battalion Headquarters before 9 p.m. on 20th. instant.

ADVANCE PARTIES. Separate instructions have been issued to all concerned.

DISPOSITION MAPS. Original Company Commanders sketches and dispositions will be forwarded to reach Battalion Headquarters before 9 p.m. on 20th. instant.

DRESS. Fighting order, plus blanket and shaving gear. Packs to be dumped at MARQUEE on parade ground at 6.45 a.m. Officers' valises and Company boxes to be at Q.M. Store at 7 a.m. tomorrow.

RELIEF. In each position will be wired to Battalion Headquarters by B.A.B. Code.

*Browne*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

ISSUED BY RUNNER.  
DISTRIBUTION.

No. 1	Copy	-	"A" Company.	-	No. 7, 8, 9 Copy	-	War Diary.
2	"	-	"B" "	-	10	-	Q.M.
3	"	-	"C" "	-	11	-	T.O.
4	"	-	"D" "	-	12	-	R.M.O.
5	"	-	Headquarters.	-	13	-	Brigade.
6	"	-	File.	-	14	-	C.O.

es

MOVE TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 81.

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MOVE TABLE "A".

UNIT.	Unit to be relieved.	H.Q. on relief.	ROUTE.	STARTING POINT.
3rd. AUST. BATTALION.	10th. AUST. BATTALION.	V. 10. C. 9. 7.	Road junction V. 7. D. 6. 7. thence V. 8. D. 4. 5. to destination.	Battalion Parade Ground. Battalion will be ready to move off at 8 a.m.

MOVE TABLE "B".

3rd. AUST. BATTALION.	8th. AUST. BATTALION.	E. 3. C. 0. 8.	Reconnoitered by Companies.	LINE RIGHT.
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Apppe

Appendix, 121

"A" "B" "C" "D" Companies.  
O.C.....Company.

Appendix 13.  
Battalion Headquarters,  
10th. May, 1918.

ROUTINE.

REVEILLE	-	7 a.m.
BREAKFAST	-	7.30 a.m.
SICK PARADE	-	8 a.m. at AID POST.
COMPANY PARADES	-	9 a.m.
DINNER	-	12.30 p.m.
COMPANY PARADES	-	2 p.m.
TEA	-	5 p.m.
TATTOO	-	8.45 p.m.
LIGHTS OUT	-	9 p.m.

ALARM. Battalion call blown twice all lights will be blown out.

Approach of hostile aircraft will be denoted by 3 blasts of whistle by A.A. guard all men will take cover.  
All clear - 1 long whistle.

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.





*18th May*3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.SYLLABUS OF WORK FOR WEEK ENDING 18th. MAY, 1918.

Appendix

No 13

COMPANY PARADES.MONDAY.

- 9 - 10. Training in use of rifle. Rapid loading and standard tests.
- 10 - 11. Route march - drill order and rifle.
- 11 - 11.15. Smoko. Lecture by platoon leaders. Instruction in the development of the employment of light machine guns in the attack.
- 11.15 - 12 NOON. Lecture and instruction in use of rifle grenade discharger.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  hour saluting and section drill.

TUESDAY.

- 9 - 10. COMPANY PARADES.  
 Musketry. Rapid loading positions and muscle exercises
- 10 - 11. Bombing. Rifle grenade discharger and cup attachment, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour section drill.
- 10 - 11.15. Smoko. Lecturette "Esprit de Corps" and German method of penetrating at weak spots and endeavouring to save losses by refraining from direct attacks on defended positions.
- 11.15-12 NOON. Platoon in attack.

WEDNESDAY.

- 9 - 11. Route march by Companies. *M.O. less pack.*
- 11 - 11.15. Smoko. Lecturette, use of the rifle, employment of bombs and rifle grenades in trench and open warfare.
- 11.15-12 NOON. Musketry. Snap shooting at silhouette targets. Rapid loading and fire discipline training, and 10 minutes saluting.

THURSDAY.

- 9 - 10. BATTALION PARADE.  
 Inspection by C.O. Thence to Company parade.  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour section drill.
- 10 - 11. Musketry, rapid loading and field discipline training.
- 11-11.15. Lecturette: "Principles governing the attack"
- 11.15 - 12 NOON. Bombing. Platoon attack on defended S.P.

FRIDAY.

- 9 - 11. Route march. Full marching order.
- 11 - 11.15. Smoko. Lecturette: History of regiment and standing orders.
- 11 - 12 NOON. Rapid loading and bombing.

SATURDAY.Model platoon training.  
 -----

- 2 -

Appendix No. 13.

TRAINING HOURS - 9 a.m. to 12 NOON.  
 RECREATIONAL TRAINING - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

---

Companies will parade at 9 a.m. ready to commence training and will form up again at NOON for a few Company movements by Company Commander before dismissal.

The main objects of the training is

- (1) to harden the troops
- (2) improvement of musketry
- (3) Tactical handling of small units and the training will be carried out with this object in view

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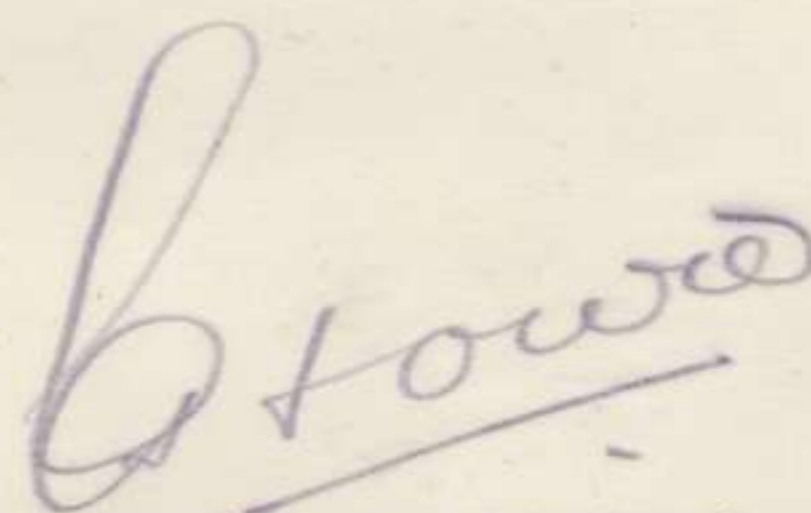
The afternoon will be devoted to Recreational Training and every man should take part.

To ensure this men who do not take part daily in recreational training during the afternoon will be detailed to carry on ordinary military training during these hours.

----

Signallers and Intelligence Personnel are training under syllabus of work laid down by Signalling and Intelligence Officers.

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Capt. & Adjutant,  
 3rd. Australian Battalion.

075



26  
SECRET.

Appendix 14

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Appendix  
COPY NO. 26 1/2

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 82.

Battalion Headquarters,  
20th. May, 1918.

1. On a night to be decided, of which you will be advised later, a gas projector bombardment will be carried out, for the purpose of killing enemy in and about Squares E.6.B. C & D. and F.I.A.

1259 Livens projectors have been installed approx. E.4.D.5.5., E.4.D.6.8., E.5.A.1.6., E.5.B.2.5., E.5.F.2.7. W.29.D.8.3. and W.29.D.9.3.

2. The operation will not take place unless the wind be between N by W through W to W by S.

Should it be necessary on account of weather conditions or for any other reasons to postpone the operation for 24 hours the word "COOMA" will be wired to all concerned.

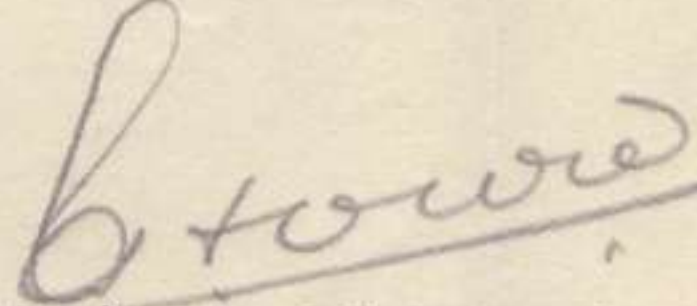
3. The LEFT Platoon of the RIGHT COMPANY and all LEFT COMPANY with the exception of Coy. H. Qrs. will withdraw 100 yards.

RIGHT Company H. Qrs. and 2 LEFT Platoons of RIGHT COMPANY and all LEFT COMPANY will wear box respirators from minus 10 minutes to zero plus 60 minutes.

4. If some batteries fail to go off at zero hour, efforts will be made to fire them at zero, plus 15 minutes.
5. Companies in the line will notify Battalion Headquarters that front line posts have been re-occupied by sending code word "HOP".
6. Companies in the line will send out patrols after zero plus 2 hours with the object of securing identification and discovering the results of the operation. Gas respirators ~~will~~ not be worn by these patrols but deep shell holes and dugouts should be avoided.
7. Zero hour will be 11 p.m.

Should it be necessary for any reason to alter this zero hour a plus or minus correction in minutes will be wired to all concerned. Thus if zero hour be altered to 1 a.m., plus 120 will be wired.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

  
Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.



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Appendix 15. 58  
SECRET.

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 82.

Appendix No 15  
COPY NO.

REFERENCE MAP -

Battalion Headquarters,  
23rd. May, 1918.

1. (a) The 1st. Australian Infantry Brigade will capture and hold MONT DE MERRIS as a moonlight operation on a date and at a zero hour to be notified separately.  
(b) The attack will be carried out by 2nd. and 3rd. Australian Battalions..
2. The 3rd. Australian Battalion will attack on frontages shown on attached map.  
"A" and "D" Companies will form the assaulting Companies, "A" Company on Right.  
"C" Company will establish contact with the new line by pushing forward their left flank.  
"B" Company will occupy present front line posts North of Railway and will move forward to the assault should the attack be held up.

3. FORMING UP. Tapes will be laid in front of our wire in "No man's Land" under Battalion arrangements. Assaulting Companies and platoons of "C" Company to advance will be formed up on the tape at zero minus 30 minutes. "B" Company will occupy present front line North of Railway by same time.

FORMATION. "A" and "D" Companies will form up in waves. Three platoons will form 2 waves, the fourth platoon will be Company Commanders Support Platoon to be employed against any centre of resistance or for mopping up.

SUPPORTS. Should "B" Company be required to move forward to assist attacking Companies in gaining objective a Company of Support Battalion will move up and occupy trenches vacated.

ARTILLERY. The attack will be delivered under an artillery barrage which will be put down 150 yards in front of tape line where it will dwell for one minute to allow the troops to close up to it, and will then travel at the rate of 100 yards in 3 minutes to a line covering the objective where it will dwell until no longer required.

WICKERS GUNS. Will cover the flanks of the attack from zero onwards. On attaining the objective two sections of Vickers guns will move from present front line to positions covering the new line.

TRENCH MORTARS. L.T.M's and 6" inch Newton Mortars will co-operate.

ENGINEERS. On the capture of objective one section of Field Engineers will move up and assist in consolidation.

021

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO. 82. (cont'd).

SIGNALS. The following signals will be used for the operation:-

- (a) S.O.S. RED over RED over RED.
- (b) Objective gained - 1 GREEN Very Light.
- (c) Barrage may cease - 2 BLUE Very Lights.
- (d) Reinforce - RED over GREEN over YELLOW.
- (e) Lengthen range 100 yards - Golden Rain.

DRESS. Fighting order, filled water bottle, 24 hours ration in addition to iron ration. 1 ground flare.

Each section will carry one bill hook and 1 pair wire cutters.

Riflemen 170 rounds S.A.A. and 2 bombs.

Rifle Grenadiers - 120 rounds S.A.A. 6 grenades No.36.

A proportion of picks and shovels will also be carried.

1. REPORTS. To 2nd. Australian Battalion Headquarters at E.5.A.O.8.

*Acknowledge*

*Stowe*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION.

BY RUNNER.

No.1	Copy	-	"A" Company.
2	"	-	"B" "
3	"	-	"C" "
4	"	-	"D" "
5	"	-	Q.M.
6.	"	-	M.O.
7-9	"	-	War Diary.
10.	"	-	C.O.
11.	"	-	File.
12.	"	-	1st. Aust. Inf. Bde.
13.	"	-	2nd. Aust. Battalion.
14.	"	-	21st. Aust. M.G. Coy.
15.	"	-	1st. A.L.T.M. Bty.
16.	"	-	Medium Trench Mortar Bty.
17-18	"	-	Spare.



Appendix No 16

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION OPERATION MEMO NO. 1.

Battalion Headquarters,  
19th. May, 1918.

1. INFORMATION.

It is important that every means possible of obtaining information of the enemy is made use of.

By night patrols will be out continuously.

Each line Company will arrange for at least one patrol per platoon each night.

For night 19th./20th. instant patrols will be directed to locate the enemy and ascertain if there is any change in his dispositions to those reported by unit relieved.

Information regarding enemy wire and obstacles is required.

Prisoners are also required for identifications.

2. WORK.

For night 19th. and 20th. will be directed mainly by all Companies to strengthening existing wire, and improving fire trenches. Fire trenches. Steps will be taken by O.Cs. Companies to ensure that trenches are examined, and prepared for use. It has been noticed that trenches are often dug so deep that it is impossible for a man to use his rifle. In this case fire steps must be made.

3. Lewis Guns will not be lent by one Company to another.

4. Relief. 88th. Infantry Brigade will take over line South of line E.22.c.95.75.- E.20.B.80.00. tonight 19th. instant.

Inter-Company reliefs will probably take place every 4 days. "A" Company will change with "C" Company, and "D" Company with "B" Company.

*S. Howard*

Cap t. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.



26

Appendix 14

61

SECRET.

3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION ORDER NO.84.

Appendix No 17  
COPY NO.

Battalion Headquarters,  
26th. May, 1918.

- (1) The 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade will be relieved in the STRAZEELE Sub-Sector by the 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade on the 27th. Inst., and night 27th/28th. May, 1918.

The 12th. Aust. Battalion will relieve the 3rd. Aust. Battalion in the line RIGHT on the night 27th/28th. May, 1918.

"A" Coy.	12th. Bn.	will relieve	"D" Coy.	3rd. Bn.
"B" "	" "	" "	"A" "	" "
"C" "	" "	" "	"C" "	" "
"D" "	" "	" "	"B" "	" "

On completion of relief the 3rd. Battalion will move to locations vacated by 12th. Aust. Bn. in Square V.10. Guides will be met at LA KREULE.

- (2) ADVANCE PARTY. Advance party of 12th. Bn. will move into line tonight 26th. Inst. O.C. Nucleus will arrange that advance party from Nucleus will "take over" new area for Companies.

TRENCH STORES. Trench stores, maps, photos, plans for operations, etc., will be handed over on pro-forma issued, receipts obtained in duplicate and forwarded to reach Battalion H.Qrs. by 12 NOON on 28th. inst.

GUIDES. 1 guide per platoon will be sent by Companies to reach Battalion Headquarters at dusk on 27th. inst., to guide incoming unit to posts, etc.

ROUTE. The same route will be used by Companies as when moving to line, and distances will be maintained as usual.

RATIONS. Hot meal will be issued in new area.

REPORTS. To Battalion Headquarters on completion of relief in this area by code word "DARBY", and on completion of move to new area by code word "JOAN".

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.



DEFENCE SCHEME.

Appendix No 18

Right Battalion - STRAZEELE - Sub-Sector.1st. Australian Division.REFERENCE MAP. Sheet 27 S.E. )  
" " " 36A.N.E. ) 1:20,000.Battalion Headquarters,  
24. 5. 18.

1. Boundaries, Front, and defences are shown on attached map.
2. The STRAZEELE RIDGE is the most important feature and will be held at all costs.
3. DISPOSITIONS. The Front Line is held by 2 Companies, one Company in Support in E.4., one Company in Reserve in W.27.D. Battalion Headquarters at E.3.C.0.8. Regimental Aid Post at E.4.D.4.0.  
Locations of Headquarters of flanking units shown on Appendix 1.
4. ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK.
  - (a) FRONT LINE. Companies stand fast and hold their positions at all costs.
  - (b) SUPPORT. Company mans support line and resists any penetration by the enemy.
  - (c) RESERVE. Company "Stand to", and is available for counter-attack to restore the line should the enemy penetrate it.
  - (d) BATTALION HEADQUARTERS. Mans reserve line at RAILWAY.
5. DUMPS.  
Locations are shown on Appendix B.
6. COOKING and WATER.  
Front line and Support line Companies cook at W.27.D.7.6.  
Reserve Company cooks at W.27.D.7.5.  
Water is obtained from wells at W.27.D.6.5. - E.3.C.0.8. & E.4.C.8.9.
7. WORK. Wiring FRONT and SUPPORT lines, improving fire trenches and making shelters, draining front line and support trenches.
8. COMMUNICATIONS.
  - (1) Telephone to all Companies, Brigade, Support Battalion, Left Battalion, M.G. Coy., and supporting Artillery Brigade.
  - (2) Lamp to Brigade, Support & Reserve Companies.
  - (3) Runners.
  - (4) Medical. R.A.P. is established at E.4.D.4.0.  
Relay bearer posts at E.3.D.15.75.
  - (5) Reports to Battalion Headquarters at E.3.C.0.8.

*Howie*  
Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.



APPENDIX "A".

Appendix 18.

RIGHT Battalion H.Q. ( Right.Div.)	E.8.C.4.9.
SUPPORT " " (Right Div.)	E.7.B.9.7.
RESERVE Section M.G.Coy. (Right Div.)	E.3.C.0.8.
LEFT Battalion	E.4.B.9.9.
M.Gun Coy.	W.27.D.6.0.
6" Newton Mortars	E.4.D.4.2.
L.T.M.Battery H.Q.	W.28.B.3.7.
SUPPORT Battalion H.Q.	Brewary, PRADELLES.

DUMPS.

Brigade Dump - E.3.D.4.6.

Battalion Dump )  
for S.A.A., Bombs.) - E.3.D.15.65. & E.3.D.35.00.

Battalion Dump for)  
Engineers material) - E.3.D.15.65.

Company Dumps - RIGHT Co mpany - E.11.A.25.10.  
" " - LEFT " - E.11.A.9.4.



WORKS

(1). ENGINEERS. One Section 1<sup>st</sup> Field Coy, Engineers has been allotted to tasks in 3<sup>rd</sup> Pz area and an Engineer office works in liaison with Battalion.

(2). DUMPS + MATERIAL. E. 3. D. 4. 6, STRAZEELE STATION, E S. C. O. O. Battalion dump at E 3. Dis. 65.

3. WORKS. (a). Wire. Front line wire is not complete, there are 2 good belts of wire in front of Support Line.

Each Company has a permanent working party of 1 N. C. O + 8 men who work nighty in the improvement of wire defences in this area.

(b). Front line posts + Support line system is being improved + kept in a state of repair by garrison.

The following improvements are receiving attention :-

- (i). Drainage.
- (ii). Widening + deepening.
- (iii). Shelters.

The support line is now an almost continuous trench in various stages of completion. It has been found necessary to build above the surface in this system.

(4). RESPONSIBILITY. 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion is responsible for TRENCHES, + SUPPORT SYSTEM WORKS in STRAZEELE Sub-section. RIGHT.

The Reserve Battalion supplies 1 Company each night to supplement battalion working parties. The system worked under provides, that, where possible working parties are permanent.

Browne  
Cap. AMI.

No. 20

3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Battalion A.I.F. Return of S.A.A. Bombs. GRENADES &c. STRAZELLE Sub Section May. 1918

20

Position.	Location.	S.A.A.	Bombs.	Grenade, N <sup>o</sup> 36.	Grenade N <sup>o</sup> 23	S.O.S.	Flares.	Very light.
E 10. d. 9.1.	Front line.	4.000	48		12			20.
E 10. d. 9.3.	"	9.000			60			
E 11 c. 10.45.	"	3.000	24		12			20
E 11. c. 1.7.	"	10.000	48		80			40
E 11. c. 3.7.	"	9.000			76	2	6	40.
E 11. c. 5.8.	"	3.000	24		36.	2		40.
E 11. c. 60.85	"	20.000	48		72	5		20
E 11. A. 6.3.	"	3.000			60			
E 11. A 75.40	"	2.000	24		12			
E 11. A 95.65	"	5.000	48.		36	2		
E 11. A 70.75	"	5.000	N <sup>o</sup> 5. 24		36	2. (damaged).		
E 11. A 95.95	"	6.000	" 72			2		
E 5 C. 90.15	"	6.000	" 96	30.				
E 5 D. 10.40	"	6.000	" 72		36	2	23	20
E 5 D. 25.50	"	6.500	" 66	36		1		
E 5 D 30.25	"	4.000	" 84					
E 5 D 50.65.	"	5.000	" 96	48.		1		
E 5. D. 2.8	"	5.600	" 96	96		1		20.
E 4. C. 85.85	Support.	8.000	" 108.					
E 4 C. 85.60	"	21.000	" 240			2		
E 4 B. 60.85	"	21.000	" 250					
E 11 A 49.	Corp. Hd. Inc.	10.000	" 36.	20 Smoke.				100.
H. 27. D. 6.4	Reverse.		" 108.			2.		
E C. 3. 0.8.	Pln. Hd.	68.000	" 156	156		4		
E. 4 D. 1.1.	Pln Dump.			240				
					240			
Total		239.000	1762	70. 606.	768	28	29	320.

Appendix. No 90. 65

176  
3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION TRAINING SYLLABUS.

FOR PERIOD IN SUPPORT AREA.

Appendix 1/21

28th. May. Baths. Shortage lists.

29th. May. MORNING. Section close order drill, and rifle exercises.  
Saluting.  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour gas helmet drill.  
AFTERNOON. Route march by platoons - 2 miles - drill order.

30th. May. MORNING. Route march by platoons, 2 miles.  
Rapid loading practice.  
AFTERNOON. Section and platoon close order drill and saluting.

31st. MAY. Bayonet fighting, muscle exercises,  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour gas helmet drill. Saluting and Guards and Sentry.  
AFTERNOON. Patrols.

1st. June. Route march by platoons, 2 miles, drill order.  
 Section and platoon close order drill.  
AFTERNOON. Ceremonial drill - Company "march past" by sections and platoons in line, and column of route.

2nd. June. Church services.

3rd. June. Route march by platoons - 2 miles - drill order.  
 Rapid loading, muscle exercises,  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour gas helmet drill.  
AFTERNOON. Organised games.

4th. June. Bayonet fighting. Guards and sentries.

-----

1. At every parade there will be a thorough inspection of turn-out of the men by each platoon commander, and every endeavour is to be made to smarten the men up in their turn-out.
2. Billet guards will be thoroughly inspected and properly instructed in their duties.
3. ROUTE MARCH. Men will be made to march to attention for periods during the march, and at all times strict march discipline must be maintained. "March easy" will not be given.
4. Roll calls will be held
  1. At Reveille.
  2. All parades.
  3. 6 p.m.
  4. Tattoo - 9 p.m.

5. ROUTINE -

Reveille	-	7 a.m.
Breakfast	-	7.30 a.m.
Sick	-	8 a.m.
Parade	-	9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Dinner	-	12.30 p.m.
Parade	-	2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Tea	-	5 p.m.
Tattoo	-	9 p.m.
Lights out	-	9.30 p.m.

Appendix No. 21 <sup>67</sup>

6. Barber will be allotted as under -

- 29th. - "A" Company.
- 30th. - "B" "
- 31st. - "C" "
- 1st. June. - "D" "
- 3rd. " - Battalion H.Qrs.

7. When the Brigade moves into Reserve Area a model platoon competition will be held. Companies will at once endeavour to work up their platoons to a high standard of drill, in anticipation of representing the Battalion in the Brigade Competition.

8. Box helmets will be inspected daily. In addition gas drill will be carried out as per Syllabus.

9. Steel hats will be worn by all ranks while in this area.

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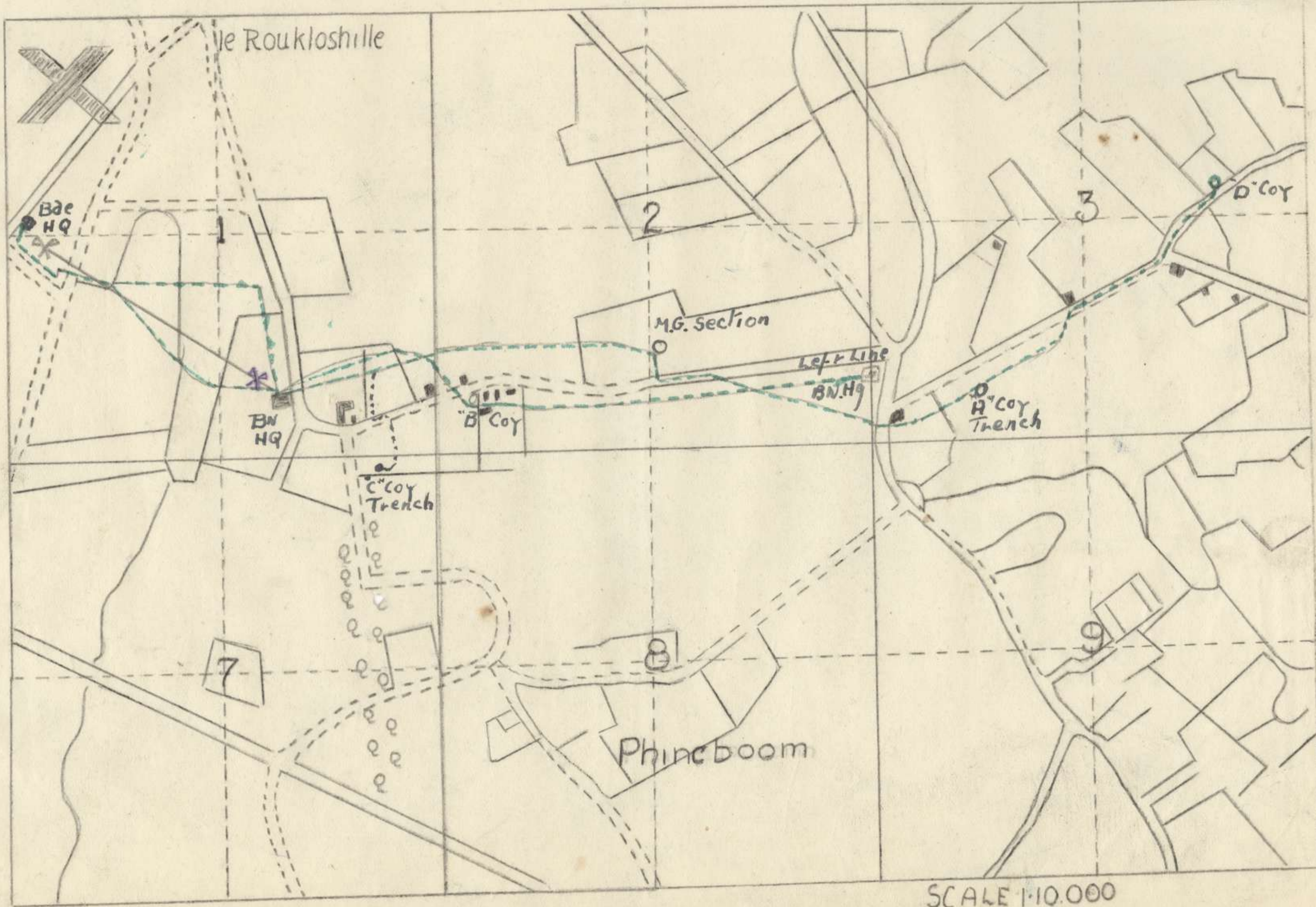
*Stowie*

Capt. & Adjutant,  
3rd. Australian Battalion.

3<sup>rd</sup> Bn Communications

No 22

26



All Metallic Circuits  
Visual Bde to Bn

SCALE 1:10,000

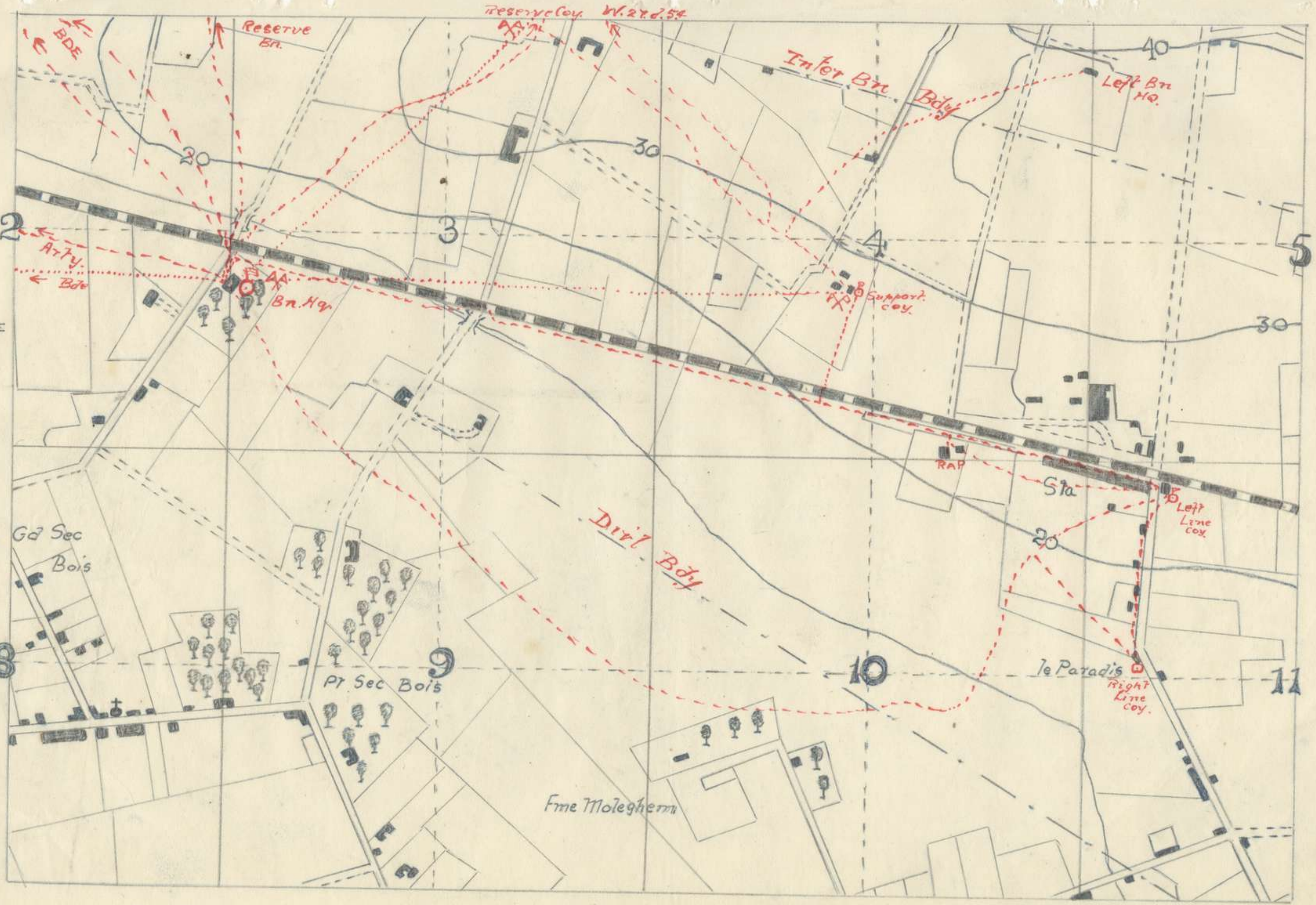
Appendix 22 68

No 23

26



12.2°W



1:10000

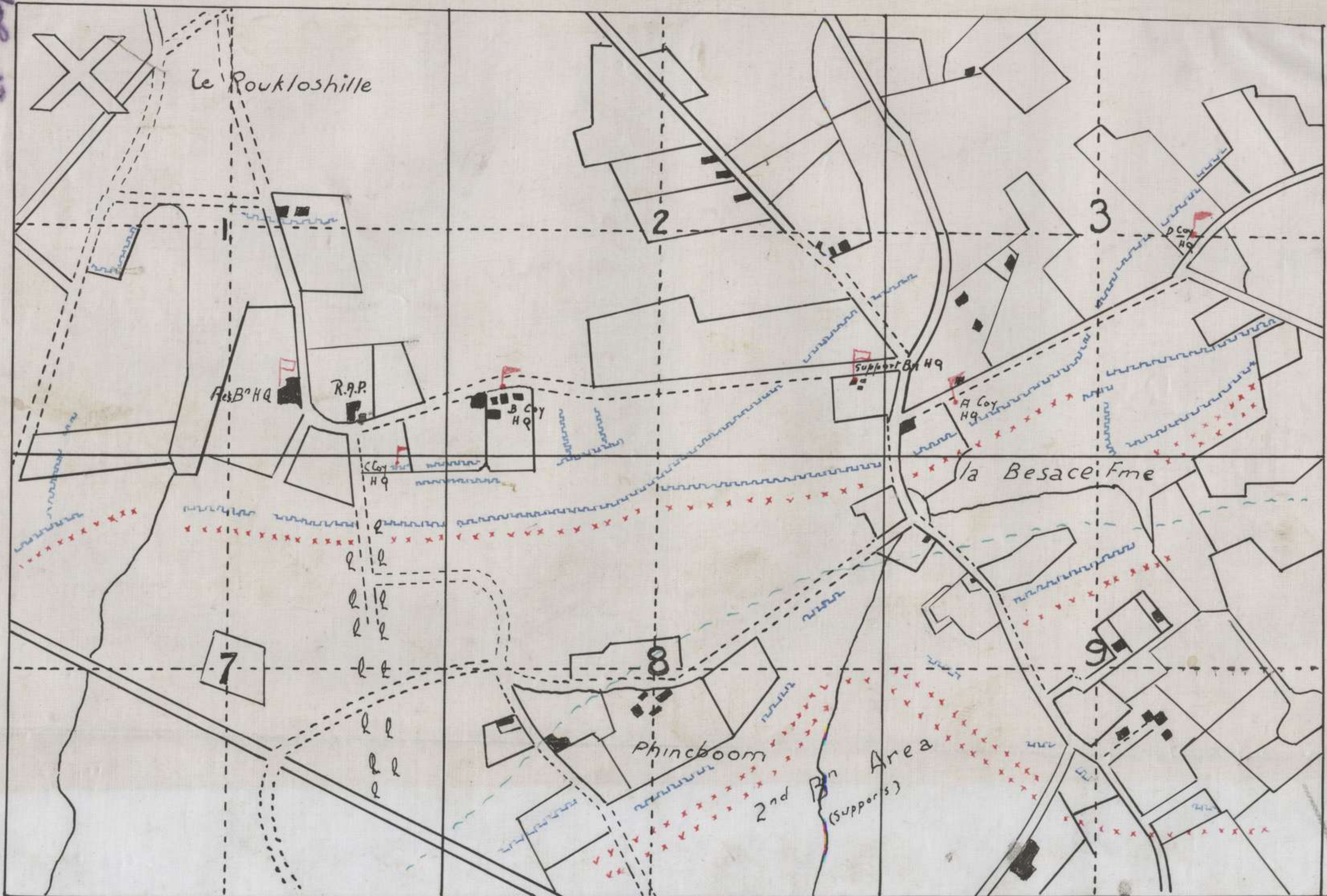
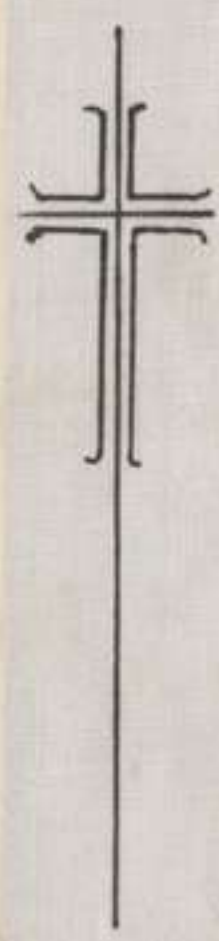
APPENDIX. 23

69

# 3rd Bn Dispositions (RESERVES)

No 24

26



Appendix 24  
70

Appendix No 24

70

METEREN

Part of Sheet 275E

Scale - 1-10000



1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 91.Brigade Headquarters,  
20th May, 1918.REFERENCE MAPS, SHEETS 27 S.E. & 36A N.E., 1:20,000.

1. On a night to be decided, of which you will be advised separately, a gas projector bombardment will be carried out by No. 2 Special Coy. R.E. for the purpose of killing enemy in and about Squares E.6.B., C. & D. and F.1.A.  
1259 Livens Projectors have been installed at approx. E.4.D.5.5., E.4.D.6.8., E.5.A.1.6., E.5.B.2.5., E.5.B.2.7., W.29.D.8.3., and W.29.D.9.3.
2. The operation will not take place unless the wind be between N. by W. through W. to W. by S.  
Should it be necessary on account of weather conditions or for any other reasons to postpone the operation for 24 hours, the Code Word "COOMA" will be wired to all concerned.
3. All troops will be evacuated from the Area painted YELLOW on attached map (issued to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions only) and will wear Small Box Respirators in the Area shaded RED from Zero minus 10 minutes to Zero plus 60 minutes.  
C.Os. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions will be responsible that these precautions are observed by all troops in their respective areas.
4. If some batteries fail to go off at Zero Hour, efforts will be made to fire them at Zero plus 15 minutes.
5. (a) During the operation, O.C. No. 2 Special Coy. R.E. will establish his Headquarters at Brigade Headquarters and will keep in touch with Officers in charge of firing parties by means of telephone and runners from Zero minus 3 hours onwards. O.S.C. Sections will be at 2nd Battalion Headquarters at E.4.B.9.9. from Zero minus 3 hours onwards.  
(b) For the purpose of the operation, all Officers of No. 2 Special Coy. R.E. will have "Urgent Priority" rights over the whole of the communications in the Brigade Sector.
6. Battalions in the line will notify Brigade Headquarters that front line posts have been re-occupied by sending the Code Word "HOP".
7. Battalions in the line will send out patrols after Zero plus 2 hours with the object of securing identifications and discovering the results of the operation. Gas Respirators need not be worn by these patrols but deep shell holes and dugouts should be avoided.
8. Zero Hour will be 11 p.m.  
Should it be necessary for any reason to alter this Zero Hour a plus or minus correction in minutes will be wired to all concerned. Thus if Zero Hour be altered to 1 a.m., plus 120 figures will be wired.

-----  
A C K N O W L E D G E.  
-----HOP  
Louch  
A. J. Lawrence  
Major,  
Brigade Major 1st Australian Infantry Brigade.  
Issued by D.R. at 3 p.m.

Left Pln of Right Co & all Left Co To withdraw 1000.  
Right Co Hqs & Two left Plns & all B Co to wear.  
Box Respirator  
P.T.O.

77  
Appendix 25

DISTRIBUTION.

- Copy No:- 1. File,
- 2-4. War Diary,
- 5. G.O.C.
- 6. B.M.
- 7. Staff Captain,
- 8. Signal Officer,
- 10. No. 2 Coy. A.A.S.C.
- 11. 1st Aust. Division "G",
- 12. 1st Aust. Division "Q",
- 13. 1st Aust. Battalion,
- 14. 2nd Aust. Battalion,
- 15. 3rd Aust. Battalion,
- 16. 4th Aust. Battalion,
- 17. Nucleus Battalion,
- 18. 1st Aust. L.T.H.Bty.
- 19. 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 20. 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 21. 87th Infantry Brigade.
- 22. 92nd Infantry Brigade.
- 23. 1st Aust. M.G.Battalion,
- 24. 1st Aust. M.G.Coy.
- 25. 2nd Aust. M.G.Coy.
- 26. 1st Aust. Pioneer Bn.
- 27. 1st Field Coy. A.E.
- 28. Artillery Liaison Off.
- 29. No. 2 Special Coy. R.E.



Area to be evacuated ■  
 Respirators to be worn ■

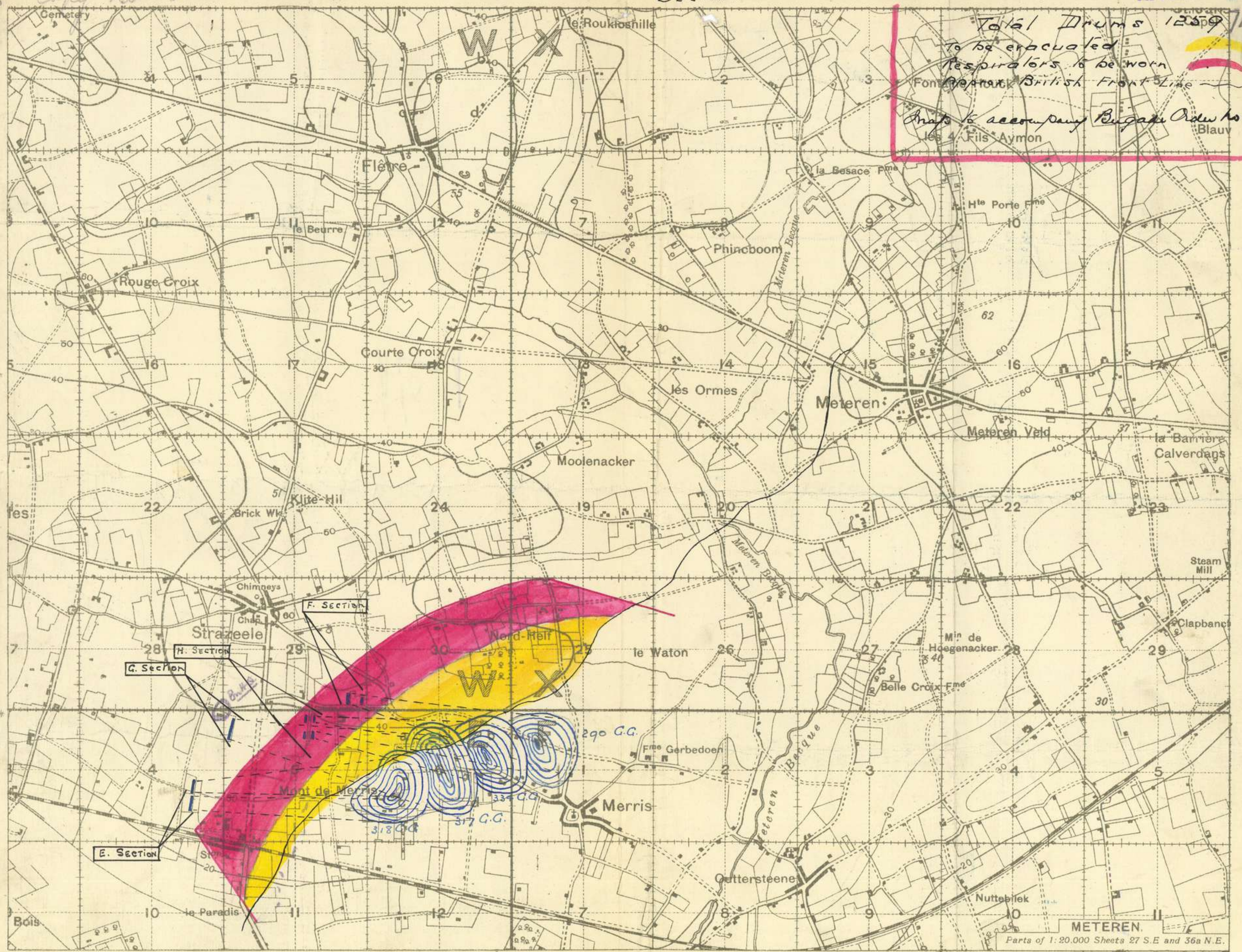


26

Copy No. 8.

SECRET.

APPENDIX 25



Total Drums 1259/4  
 To be evacuated  
 Respirators to be worn  
 British Front Line  
 Map to accompany Brigade Order No. 97  
 les 4 Fils Aymon  
 Blauv

F. SECTION  
 H. SECTION  
 G. SECTION  
 E. SECTION

METEREN.  
 Parts of 1:20,000 Sheets 27 S.E. and 36a N.E.  
 Ordnance Survey, (O.B.) April, 1918.

Appendix 25.

Appendix 25.

1/6 1/1

26

Appendix. 26.

25

"A" Form  
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121  
(In pads of 100.)

Prefix.....Code.....m.	Words	Charge.	No. of Message.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Sent	This message is on file of: <i>N6</i>	Recd. at.....m.
	At		Date..... <i>26</i>
	To	Service.	From .....
	By	(Signature of "Franking Officer")	By.....

TO {


Sender's Number. <i>SC 320</i>	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------------	---------------	---------------------	-----

*Taken over from 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn.*

*Two prisoners of war.*

*18. 5. 18*

*2.15 am*

*Flowerhewer*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Aus Inf Bde*

From	
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name

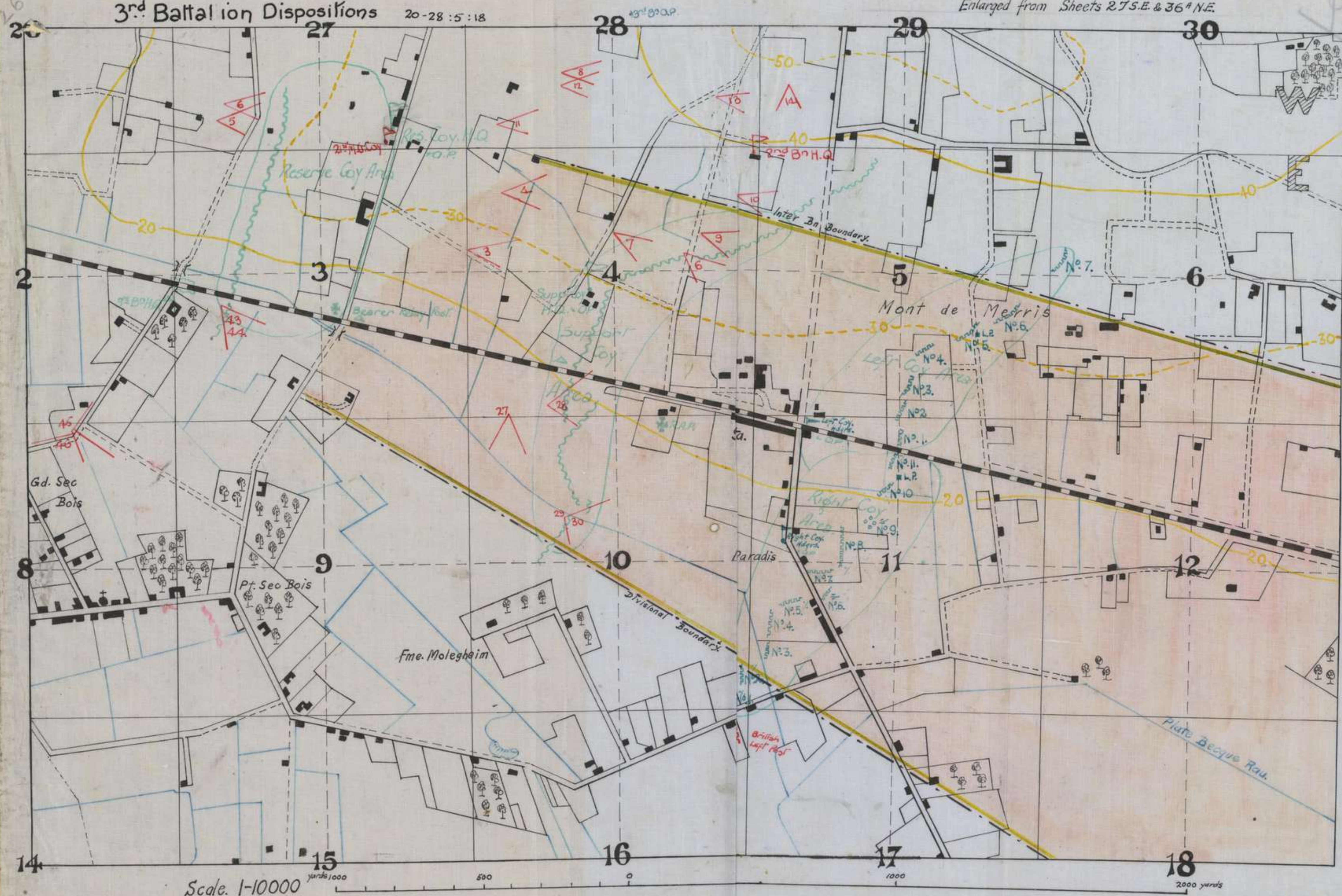
\* This line should be erased if not required.

Order No. 1625. Wt. W3253/ P 511. 27/2. H. & K., Ltd. (E. 2634).



3rd Battalion Dispositions 20-28:5:18

Enlarged from Sheets 27 S.E. & 36 N.E.



LEGEND.  
 Vickers Guns   
 LEWIS   
 Trenches   
 Dumps

Scale. 1-10000

The idea of Brigade Sports is not usually popular. Past experience has been against them. Either there has been too little interest in the preparation for them or too little variety on the programme, or else they have been badly managed on the actual day.

But the Brigade Sports at SERCUS on Thursday, the 16th. instant, were of a different quality from those in the past, and combined all the elements which were previously lacking, viz:- Interest beforehand, variety and management to make a distinct success of them. It was a magnificent day, clear, bright, and hot. The country looked its best in the first freshness of spring and the ground was picturesquely placed on the side of a hill. The general conditions and setting therefore were all that could be desired. At an early hour large numbers of men assembled on the ground.

*Not only drawn from the Brigade, but also from other units within reach.*

The first thing which claimed general attention was a football final. The Battalions in Brigade had previously played qualifying games with the result that the 1st. Battalion team had to play the 3rd. Battalion team for the final. The game was followed with intense interest all through and was punctuated with bursts of applause for the good work of either side. The 1st. Battalion team, though the stronger on paper, was pressed heavily all through the 1st. half which ended in favour of the 3rd. Battalion by 3 points to nil. In the 2nd. half the 1st. Battalion more than equalized the score both by good play and good luck, and the final result was 1st. Battalion 14 points 3rd. Battalion 6. The day was certainly too hot for football, but everyone who witnessed the game enjoyed it to the full and it was remarkable that so high a standard was maintained from beginning to the end of an exciting game.

The preliminary heats of the running events were quickly disposed of, and there was much interest shewn by the various units in their nominees. One of the features of these events was the fact that Officers competed with the men, and in one instance with very outstanding success.

General Sir. Harold WALKER took advantage of the gathering to make a presentation of medals and ribbons, which had been awarded both for recent and earlier acts of gallantry in the field. This presentation made a welcome break in the proceedings, and drew the attention of the majority of the men on the ground.

Among the many elements which contributed to the general success of the day, were the character impersonations. There were prizes for the best sustained characters, and an unusually large number of entries were received. There is NO question that these men kept things going. A Parisienne Model paraded the grounds in an evening gown. Chidley, the crank, was as good as there in person. Frequent lecturettes were delivered by this impersonator, and if these exceeded the limits of that "Natures Crank", they were cleverly conducted along the same lines and showed genius and care in their preparation. The man who was awarded 1st. Prize, (Chidley and the Parisienne if not equal in virtue were placed equal in merit (2nd.)) put up a remarkable performance. He impersonated an Egyptian and he never varied in living his character to the limit. For the day he was an indefatigable "Gypsy" hawk with oranges "two for a 'alf". Not even his pals could get him to be anything else, and he crowned a very fine performance, in the ring, where judgement was given on the entries, by sitting down and "chatting" himself in the natural Egyptian way. There were other characters well sustained. For instance the Swagman, who touched as many as he could for a loan, looked as if he really knew the game first hand. The man who represented what must be a common sight nowadays - a ship wrecked sailor with very little to bless himself with. These and the others who entered into the competition caused endless amusement, and as has been said made a big personal contribution to the pleasure of the day. Another feature which deserves special mention was the clever impersonation of a cheap jack at a show. Three took part in this. They worked their show up carefully beforehand and gave several performances which delighted everyone. The patter was particularly good and topical, and effective disguises were worn in keeping with the several parts. Florence Bartello, as queen of the rolling globe, drew up on a wide experience in supporting the show and made elocutionary and musical advances to the public. The star artist was the cheap jack himself. His verbal camouflage was remarkable and his quick wit in answering interjections took well with the many who surrounded the stall.



26

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But none of these side shows or impersonations took away from the main sports, they weaved themselves in naturally to the gathering and the races were promptly and without undue delay. All were stoutly contested and generous rounds of applause greeted the winners of the events.

There was one horse event - a V.C. race. It drew a crowd and proved a close contest, moreover no one was injured, this in spite of the fact that some horses were asked to do things they have never been in the habit of doing before.

As a grand finale there was a buck jumping contest. A horse with a reputation was led into the ring, and men invited to try conclusions with him. Only one man was necessary, as he mastered what could be mastered in an ill mannered horse at the 1st. attempt. Of course, everybody crowded closely into the square formed and equally naturally the horse being a rogue and not a frightened animal, decided as soon as he was mounted to clear the decks, by breaking the cordon round him. This he did very effectually, and amazing as it sounds only one man failed to get clear and he only received a nasty shaking by being knocked down and almost trampled on.

The Committee arrangements for wet canteens on the ground and these were used to the full, but the whole behaviour throughout the day was exemplary. As an indication of this the 3rd. Battalion which marched to the ground in the morning, a distance of 5 kilometres, marched back at night with only two absentees, who joined very shortly afterwards.

Altogether the day was most successful, most enjoyable, and formed an excellent break in routine, which freshened the men up and almost took them back home to similar gatherings there. The greatest credit reflects on those who inspired, organised, and managed the sports, and the fact that every battalion took previous interest in the events to be contested, helped largely to make this the first really enjoyable Brigade Sports we have ever had.

-----

*P. Curzon  
Chaplain 3rd class.  
3rd Bn AIF*

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.

OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			3rd Aust. Battalion <u>NUCLEUS</u> , Diary 28.4.18 to 9.5.18.	
	28/4/18		Strengths 12 officers & 109 O/R. marched in 11 O/Rs from Bn. Marched out 1 O/R to Bn.	
	29/4/18		Battalion moved into front line. The Nucleus remained in huts at junction of road & railway 1600 yds. N.W. of BORRE. Weather - fine Strengths 12 officers & 117 O/Rs. Marched in 4 O/Rs from Bn. Marched out - Lieut. J.M. Morton, Sgt. A.R. Dawes, H/sgt. J.M. Phillips, Cpl. A.H. Hooke to 1st Inf. Bn. ENGLAND. Lieut. F.J. JARVIS Lieut. A.N. BUCKLEY & 1 O/R to Bn.	
			<u>TRAINING.</u> One Lewis Gun was available for instructional purposes and a class was formed under Cpl. P. TURVEY consisting of 4 O/Rs from each Coy. Details. A signalling class under Lieut. CECLATION was formed consisting of 12 O/Rs. Selected men. A 25 yds Rifle Range was renovated & made ready for use. Route march, 2-3 pm. Band practice for Bn. Bands. The railway on the West side & adjoining the Camp was shelled by enemy "4.2" Batt. between 1.30 and 3 pm, also between 9.30 & 10 pm. Gas shells were recorded during	Appendix

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			the latter period. Weather - fine.	
	20/4/18.		Strength 9 off. 417 ops. Marched in. 5% from Hospb, 9% Recip from Base, 3% from Br. Marched out. 1% to Hospb 4 1/2% to Br. Training. Lewis Gun & signalling classes. Range practice under Lieut. D.R. DRIBOIS on 25 yds range. Route march 2-3 pm. Band practice for Br Bands. Railway adjoining camp & farm on East side of Camp were shelled by enemy 4. 2" Batt. 4 gas shells between 9.30 pm & 11 pm. Weather - fine.	
	1/5/18.		Strength 9 off. 4132 ops. Marched in 5% from Br. Transport. Marched out 24% to Br. Lieut F.J. MAISEY, 2nd LIEUT. A.D. ARNOLD, & 13% to 2nd Army Musketry School. 2nd Lieut. N. BAYLEY & 1% to Hospb. Training. Lewis Gun & signalling classes. Range practice under Lieut. J.S. NIXON. Route march 2-3 pm. Band practice for Br Bands. Br bootmakers commenced work on men's boots. Weather - fine.	Appendix
	7/5/18.		Strength 6 off & 99 ops. Marched in 6% from Hospb. Marched out	

HRW. 8

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			NIL. <u>Training</u> . Lewis Gun + signalling Classes. Range practice under LIEUT. D.R. DESBOIS. Route march 2-3pm. Officers' revolver practice at 7pm. Band instruments were packed + returned to store. Area West of CAMP was shelled by enemy 4.2" Batt. + gas shells between 8pm + 10pm. Weather - fine.	
	3/5/18.		Strengths. 6 off. + 105 Qrs. Marched in. Capt. F. CKEMP from Base 2 Qrs. from Command. Marched out. 1 Qr to Bn. Transport 1 Qr to Command. <u>TRAINING</u> . Lewis Gun + signalling class. Band carried out Range practice under LIEUT. D.R. DESBOIS. Route march 2-3pm. Area West of Camp + farms S.E. of CAMP were shelled by enemy 4.2" Batt. + gas shells between 1 + 2pm + between 9 + 11.30pm. Capt. F. CKEMP assumed command of Bn. Nucleus. Weather - fine.	
	4/5/18.		Strengths 7 off. + 105 Qrs. Marched in 3 Qrs from Hospb., 5 Qrs from Base + 1 Qr from Bn. Transport. Marched out. 2 Qrs to Hospb., 1 Qr to Command. No 2600 4 Qrs. GRIFFIN V.C. to ENGLAND.	
			<u>TRAINING</u> . Lewis Gun + signalling Classes. Band carried out Range	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			practice under LIEUT. D. R. DESBOIS. Officers revolver practice at 7 pm. Troops bathed at Div. Baths at 2 pm. Railway shelled by enemy 4.2" Batt. 5-6 am + 10-11 pm. Weather - fine.	
	5/5/18 (SUNDAY)		Strengths 7 officers + 110 O/As. Marched in AM. Marched out 1 PM. to Bn. transport. <u>TRAINING</u> . More carried out. Voluntary Church Parade was attended by 45 members of the Unit. Military Medal Ribbon was formally presented to N <sup>o</sup> 5208 Pte J. DOUGHTY by Capt F. C. KEMP at a parade for the purpose at 2 pm. Area surrounding Camp was shelled by enemy 4.2" Batt. + gas shells between 6 pm + 9 pm. No hits on the Camp were obtained. Weather - Hot + Cloudy.	
	6/5/18.		Strengths 7 off. + 109 O/As. Marched in LIEUT. I. W. L. ORMISTON, LIEUT. G. B. CHRISTIE, 2 <sup>nd</sup> LIEUT. R. D. HADFIELD + 23 O/As. from Base, LIEUT. M. W. KESHAN. + 1 O/A from Command. Marched out, 2 pm to HOSP. <u>TRAINING</u> . Signalling Class, Musketry instruction, bayonet fighting for Bn. Band. Lewis Gun was mounted for A.A. purposes + guard posted. Thus the Gun became unavailable for instructional	

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HRB

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## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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### INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7/5/18		<p>purposes. Area surrounding CAMP was shelled by enemy 4.2" Batt. Gas shells 4am - 6am + 9pm - 10pm. Weather - Wet + Cloudy.</p> <p>Strength 11 off. + 131 O/s. Marched in 10% from BN. Marched out 10% to Hoopl. 20% to BN. Capt. F. CKEMP to BN. Transport lines.</p> <p><u>TRAINING.</u> Signalling class, Range practice for Band and others under LIEUT. J.S. NIXON. Route march 2-3 pm.</p> <p>Orders were received from NUCLEUS BDE H.Q. to move to a new position at CAESTRE. This move was postponed owing to heavy rain.</p> <p>Area surrounding CAMP was shelled by enemy 4.2" batt + gas shells 12 noon - 1 pm + 10 pm to 11 pm. Weather - Heavy rain.</p>	
	7/5/18		<p>Strength 10 Officers + 111 O/s. Marched in LIEUT. J.H. STANGER + 10% from BN. Marched out 4% to BN. TRANSPORT, 1% to Hoopl, 1% to Command (School). <u>TRAINING.</u> None carried out. At 9am Nucleus moved to a position 300 yds S.W. of CAESTRE on the LE PEUPLIER - CAESTRE road where they dug in on Western side of a high hedge. Nucleus Brigade H.Q. was in a house adjoining the blunch in</p>	Appendix

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	9/5/18		<p>CAESTRE. Enemy 4.2" &amp; 5.9" Batt. Shelled CAMP area. 3 AM. - 4.30 am &amp; direct hit was obtained on a hut &amp; killing 4 gas &amp; wounding 14 gas. The 3rd Bn. Details sustained no casualties but it was necessary to move men from the CAMP while the shelling lasted. Weather - fine &amp; hot. Strength 11 off. &amp; 115 gas. Marched in N.H. Marched out. Lieut JH STANGER &amp; 10 gas to Command (schools). TRAINING. Move was carried out. At 2 pm All Bn. Details marched to WALKON-CAPPEL area where they went into Camp &amp; billets about 1 1/2 miles N.E. of WALKON CAPPEL &amp; were in position at 7 pm. Lieut. J.S. NIXON was in charge of funds which conducted prisoners of 10th. A.I. BDE. to the new area. Lieut. I.W.L. ORMISTON. was in charge of party locating foodstuffs in the BORRE area with a view to salvage. Battalion arrived from the line at about 1.30 pm. on the morning of 10.5.18 &amp; NUCLEUS was absorbed the same day. Weather - fine &amp; hot. Health of troops - Very Good.</p>	
				Appendix
				N. Higginbotham Capt 3rd Bn A.I.F.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
(Sheet 27) W21 C21	9 <sup>th</sup>		Moved from present location to M 18 B.5.5. into Billets.	
M 18 B.5.5	10 <sup>th</sup>		Indents were called for from Coy. to complete clothing & equipment of the men.	
"	14 <sup>th</sup>		Stores & equipment issued, condition of clothing & necessaries of the men is very good, hats have been received from Ordnance the first issue for a considerable time.	
"	16 <sup>th</sup>		Bde sports at SERCUS. the B <sup>n</sup> won transport event for the best turnout of Cooker, limber and Packhorse, competition was very keen and all entries were exceptionally good, the cookers were taken over to the grounds & tea was prepared for the men at 1 p.m., a Bde canteen supplied beer etc. on the ground, after the tea was finished cookers were sent back to camp and a hot meal prepared for the men when they marched in.	
	18 <sup>th</sup>		B <sup>n</sup> marched out & transport lines established at V 15 D 5.2.	

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WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>3rd. AUSTRALIAN BATTALION NUCLEUS 19.5.18 to 27.5.18.</u>	
	19.5.18.		Nucleus left Battalion and marched to billets 2000 yards N.E. of HAZEBROUCK, between LA KREULE and L <sup>h</sup> HOFFAND. Strength - 11 Officers & 110 O.R. Billets consist of a farmhouse and buildings handed over by 8th. Battalion Nucleus, and which are clean, roomy and comfortable. Shelling - NIL. Weather - hot and calm.	
	20.5.18.		Strength - 11 Officers and 115 O.R. Marched in - 7 O.R. Marched out - 2 O.R. to Transport. <u>TRAINING. ROUTE MARCH - 8.30 - 11 a.m.</u> Lew is Gun and Grenade Discharger 2 - 3 p.m. Cricket match 5-9 p.m. Band practice. Started Sergeants' mess. Shelling - 8.30 - 9 a.m. 5 shells 4.2" 300 yards S. of billet. Weather - hot and calm.	
	21.5.18.		Strength - 12 Officers and 121 O.R. Marched in - Lieut. M. McL. KESHAN from line, Lieuts. W.L. LAMROCK, and C.O. KELLNER, and 30 O.R. from Base, 4 O.R. from Transport Lines. Marched out - Lieut. M. McL. KESHAN to Hospital, Lieut. B.H. JACKSON D.C.M. to line, 1 O.R. to Hospital. <u>TRAINING - NIL.</u> Working party to BORRE defences wiring S.Ps. Regimental bootmakers and tailor commenced work. Shelling - 8-9.30 a.m. 8 shells 4.2" S. of billet. Gas shell bombardment during night S. of billet. No effect here. Weather - hot and fine. Dry canteen opened at billets. Cricket match 4 - 8 p.m.	
	22.5.18.		Strength - 13 Officers, and 125 O.R. Marched in - 4 O.R. Lieut. F.W. TAYLOR from school. Marched out - NIL. <u>TRAINING - Route march 8.30 - 11 a.m.</u> Working party to PRADELLES defences 1 p.m. Sent 20 O.R. forward to Battalion in the line. Red German propaganda balloon brought down by our M.G. fire near HAZEBROUCK at 5 p.m. Cricket match 5 - 9 p.m. Shelling - 8 - 8.30 a.m. 6 shells 4.2" East of billet. Weather - Hot and dry.	
	23.5.18.		Strength - 14 Officers, and 109 O.R. Marched in - from Hospital Lieut. M. McL. KESHAN and 2 O.R. From school - 2 O.R. Marched out - To line - 20 O.R. <u>TRAINING - NIL.</u> Party of Officers reconnoitred PRADELLES defences. Working party to BORRE for wiring S.Ps. Shelling - Nil. Weather - cold and windy. Football match 4 p.m. Supplied H.Qrs. guard of 1 Officer (2nd. Lieut. ANDERSON) and 20 O.R. for last 24 hours. Relieved at 4.45 p.m.	

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## WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24.5.18.		Strength - 15 Officers, and 118 O.R. Marched in - From Hospital 11 O.R. From school Lieut. J.H.STANGER and 9 O.R. Marched out - To escort duty 5 O.R. TRAINING - NIL. Two working parties to BORRE defences at 7 a.m. These were cancelled at 9 a.m. and sent home owing to heavy rain. Party of Officers reconnoitred PRADELLES defences with C.O. Nucleus Battalion. Practice manning of PRADELLES defences 9 p.m. to 12 MIDNIGHT. During this an enemy gas shell bombardment was encountered and it was necessary to don respirators for half an hour. Shelling round billet - NIL. Weather - Wet and fairly cold.	
	25.5.18.		Strength - 12 Officers, and 116 O.R. Marched in - 1 O.R. from line. Marched out - Capt.G.E. BLAKE, Capt. S.F.P.WHITE, Lieut.C.J.McDONALD, and 7 O.R. to schools, 1 O.R. to F.Compound. TRAINING - NIL. Working party to PRADELLES defences. Garrison of 1 N.C.O. and 1 man was sent to man each post of these defences - tour of duty to be 24 hours. Shelling - NIL. Weather - fine and warmer.	
	26.5.18.		Strength - 11 Officers, and 81 O.R. Marched in - W.O. DOUGLAS B.A. and 4 O.R. from line. 4 O.R. from Hospital, 3950 Pte. WILLIAMS H.H. under arrest - S.I.W. from Base. Marched out - 40 O.R. and Lieut. J.H.STANGER to line. TRAINING - Nil. Working party to PRADELLES at 8 a.m. Cricket match 2-5 p.m. Shelling - Nil. Weather - fine and cool.	
	27.5.18.		Strength - 9 Officers, and 75 O.R. Marched in - 1 O.R. from line, 1 O.R. from Base. Marched out - Lieut. W.L.LAMROCK, 2nd.Lieut.C.L.WAINWRIGHT M.M. 8 other ranks to XV Corps School. TRAINING - NIL. Supplied the following Officers & O.R. for Picquet Duty :- Lieuts.SMITH & ANDERSON in charge of 4th. Bn. troops at HAZEBROUCK. Lieuts. BUCKLEY & KELLNER in charge of 4th.Bn. troops at CASSEL and STEENWORDE. Lieut.STURT and 15 O.R. at HONDEGHEM. Sgt. CULLEN and 14 O.R. at ST.MARIE CAPPEL. Nucleus moved to LA BREARDE Area and rejoined Battalion which came out of the line. Shelling - NIL. weather - fine and cool.	
			N.B. "Marched in" and "Marched out" refer to previous 24 hours.	

*W. Hjimbokau*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bn A.I.F.

*HRD*

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
(Sheet 27) V15 D5.2	May 19 <sup>th</sup>		B <sup>m</sup> moved into line tonight, cookers were taken up to E 3 B 33 and W 27 D, all meals were cooked there and taken forward to front line Coy in Hot Food Containers by the reserve Coy at 10.30 pm and 2.30 am, <del>Hot</del> Tommy cookers were used by men in trenches to make cocoa & milk etc in the day, the latter being supplied by The Aust Comforts Fund.	
"	27 <sup>th</sup>		As B <sup>m</sup> is to be relieved tonight, rations etc. have been sent to V10. <del>E</del> Word was received at 10 pm. That rations had to be sent forward again, this was done and two Coy & Hqs dumped at E 3 C 0.8 and two Coy at W 25. B, cookers were brought back to V14 C E as transport lines and O.M. Stores have been established here.	
"	30 <sup>th</sup>		Indents were called for from Coy to re. equip.	
V14 C	31 <sup>st</sup>		With few exceptions that have not yet been received from	

Appendix



1.  
WAR DIARY

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OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	9.V.18		<p>On 28.4.18 the battalion <del>was</del> relieved the 9th Bn. in the line opposite <del>the</del> RAP, situated about 27 SE. Lee Ames' X 14 C. 6. 2. - consisted of a double cellar in basement of farmhouse. 1 Squad of S. Amb. Troop also occupied the same cellar. During the 40 days in the line there were 3 casualties. Conditions in the line were excellent. Hot meals cooked in a farmhouse behind the Bn. Hq. were sent out at night consisted of Stews + tea for dinner and porridge + tea for breakfast.</p>	
			<p>On 3.V.18 the Bn. was relieved and went into a position in Reserve, Bn Hq. being situated at X 1. d 22, and the RAP at X 1. d. 5. 1. The RAP also used as a Beresford Relay Post. 3 Squads of Troop occupying the same house. Here a few casualties from the posts occupied by the Corps. At the RAP any casualties of a serious nature, from other units who had passed through their own RAP were seen and redressed if necessary. At night a few sick were seen but the health throughout was excellent except in the case of 2 officers and 1 batman who ran an irregular temperature</p>	<p>Appendix MM</p>

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WAR DIARY

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Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>accompanied by very severe headache and a general feeling of weariness, any definite pains in the legs or throat was lacking, but they all complained of being "sore all over". nausea and vomiting was present in one case and insomnia present in all 3 cases. The headache pain and sleeplessness was relieved almost at once by the administration of 10-15 grs. of Aspirin or Phenacetin followed in 2 hours and again later in 4 hours time of 10-15 grs. Sodi. Sal. During the apyrexial period <sup>all 3</sup> patients said they felt no better than they had for some considerable time, then the temperature would rise gradually again from normal to 102° F. and the symptoms (above) return. All three were sent to join the medical battalion where the attacks decreased and finally subsided for several days.</p>	
Reserve Area.	16. V. 18		<p><sup>night of</sup> On 9. V. 18 the Am. was relieved by a battalion of E. Yorks. marched to a point on Bywater-Copelle road <del>west</del> Cookie road near the Plow crossing and embarked in motor wagons etc. &amp; Debussed at</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>and marched into Camp. about 2 Kilos from Waller Copelle. Sheet 30A.</p> <p>U. 18. 2. 6. about <del>midnight</del> 3 AM. Here training is carried on during the forenoon, and the afternoons are given over to recreation. On 10. 5. 18 a Scobie inspection of the whole unit was held. When 7 cases were found. These procured to BRS run by 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Aub. Sanitation in the camp has been improved. The pan system of latrine has been replaced by box seats over deep pits, and mouse traps have been constructed and used by Coy Cooks. Water was obtained at W. points at Waller Copelle, and Subblanglow, and later from a beehive in the vicinity of the camp, the water of which proved to be of excellent quality. Health in the whole is good except for a large number of cases of boils, and one or two cases of P.M.O. and diarrhoea.</p>	
R.A.P.	23. 5. 18		<p>On 18. 5. 18 Bn moved to Camps in V. 20 - the Coy. occupying lights and huts.</p> <p>On 19. 5. 18 the Bn. relieved the 8<sup>th</sup> Bn in the line. R.A.P. situated E 106. 4. 9. in a farmhouse wh. had not been shelled to any extent. Accommodation good.</p>	Appendix

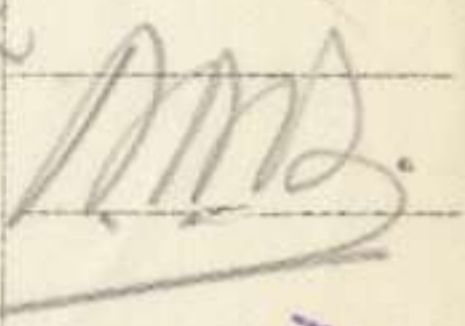
WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Support Camp.	30-V-18		<p>Up till the present there have been few casualties. Sick parade held at night time when dressing etc were done.</p> <p>On 27-V-18. the Bn. was relieved by the 12th Bn. and the Bn. moved back to Support trenches in front of Padesles and Borri. The RAP was established at Bn. Hq. at E.3 @. 15. On morning of 28-V-18 the Bn. moved to Support Bde. area to camp in Vio. Health is good; boils and a few cases of diarrhoea and gassed cases have reported. Gas burns have been noticed in one or two cases in the form of large blisters, 2 such cases have been evacuated. The troops occupy billets and huts. Sanitation is good. Water procured from tank at Borri Becane, after passing through a? Listic Steriliser</p>	
				
				Appendix
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