

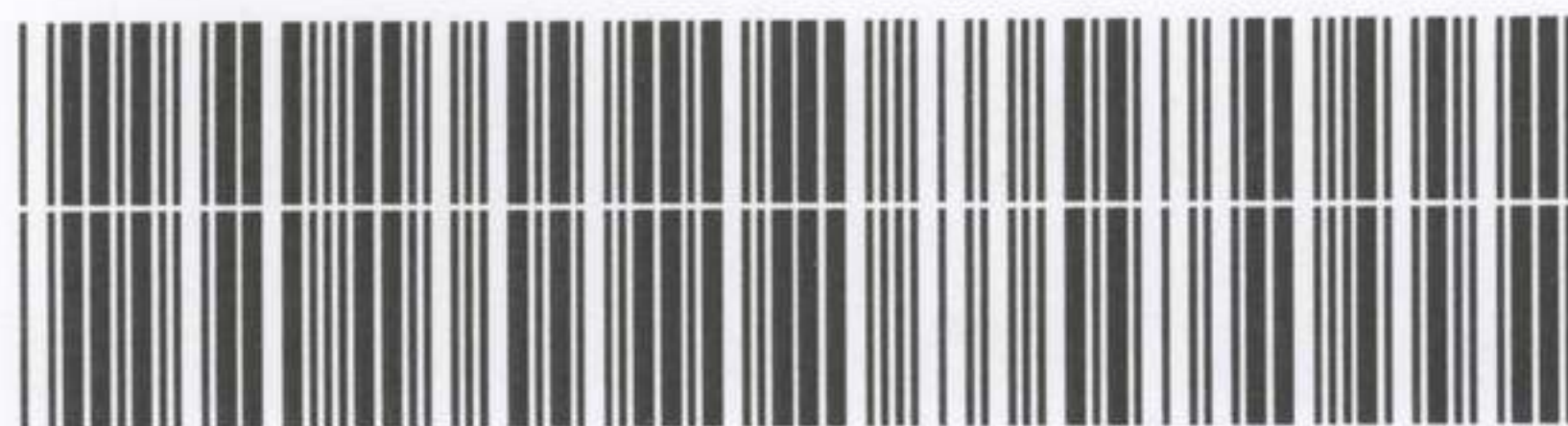
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/4/38

Title: 4th Infantry Brigade

November 1918



AWM4-23/4/38

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ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

FOR

NOVEMBER 1918

[Signature]
..... Major,
Brigade Major,
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Signature of Officer compiling.....

[Signature]

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

Brigadier General
Commanding 4th Australian Inftry Brigade

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2113.

86198

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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PICQ UIGNY	1/11/18		<p>Strength of Brigade -</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Officers.</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Other Ranks.</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Total.</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>13th Battalion,</td> <td style="text-align: center;">38</td> <td style="text-align: center;">554</td> <td style="text-align: center;">590</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">574</td> <td style="text-align: center;">614</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">38</td> <td style="text-align: center;">673</td> <td style="text-align: center;">711</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> <td style="text-align: center;">633</td> <td style="text-align: center;">670</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th T.M. Battery,</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>3</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>52</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>55</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>T O T A L.</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>154</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>2486</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>2640</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Divisional Commander visited the 14th Battalion during the morning to see the training being carried out by that unit. In the afternoon the 13th and 16th Battalions accompanied by a big number of the townspeople marched to the British Cemetery. There the children of the town placed flowers on the graves, and sang the British and French National Anthems. Speeches were then made by the School Master and the cure of the parish. Chaplain H.H.HARPER, of the 16th Battalion next read a translation of the School Master's speech to the Troops. The Officer in charge of the French Mission next spoke. The ceremony over, the Battalions marched back to the square, where the bands played the British and French National Anthems.</p>		<u>Officers.</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	13th Battalion,	38	554	590	14th "	40	574	614	15th "	38	673	711	16th "	37	633	670	4th T.M. Battery,	<u>3</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>T O T A L.</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>2486</u>	<u>2640</u>	<p>French Patriotic Meeting, (All Souls Day).</p>
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"	2/11/18		<p>From 9.a.m. to 1.p.m. all the Troops in the Australian Corps Area were kept on Parade whilst a raid was made on all the villages with the object of clearing up all deserters and absentees. No man was allowed from his Unit for the day. Weather - Rain fell during the morning, but it cleared towards the afternoon.</p>																													
"	3/11/18		<p>Sunday. Church Parades only. Weather inclined to be wet.</p>																													
"	4/11/18		<p>Training continued. The Divisional Commander visited the 15th Battalion during the morning to inspect training. In the afternoon the Divisional Boxing Contest was held at BOVELLES. This contest will be continued tomorrow. Up to date the Brigade is doing very well. Weather, very fine throughout day.</p>																													
"	5/11/18		<p>Training almost out of the question on account of rain. Divisional Boxing Contest continued in the afternoon. The G.O.C. went to a Conference in the afternoon at</p>																													

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WAR DIARY

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PICQUIGNY	5/11/18		1st Divisional Headquarters. subject :- Training.	
"	6/11/18		Rain fell throughout the whole of the day and no training out of doors possible.	
"	7/11/18		Weather better and training continued according to programme.	
"	8/11/18		Dull day but no rain. Training continued. Divisional Order for move into forward Area commencing on 9th instant received, and Brigade Order No. 39 and Administrative Instructions issued. The Brigade Group will move by train on 10th instant and subsequently by Bus and Route March. Late in the day the move was postponed 24 hours.	Bde. Order No. 39. Admin. Instructions issued with Bde Order No. 39.
"	9/11/18		Bright day. Units preparing for move, dumping surplus gear etc. Some training (Musketry) carried out. Move for this Brigade postponed a further 24 hours.	
"	10/11/18		Dull morning with occasional showers. Church parades held by all Units. Much speculation as to the reply which the Huns must give to the Allied Armistice Terms before 11.a.m. tomorrow. Daily Papers report Riots and Revolution in GERMANY and the abdication of the Kaiser.	
"	11/11/18		Bright day. Great excitement everywhere as news was received early that GERMANY had signed the Armistice and that hostilities would cease at 11.a.m. This was subsequently confirmed. Bands of 13th Battalion and 16th Battalion played in the Square at 11.a.m. Divisional Commander visited the Brigade. Move delayed a further 12 hours.	
"	12/11/18		Bright morning. Units all preparing for the move. 13th Battalion Transport moved off about mid-day. Departure was again postponed for 24 hours and 13th Battalion returned to billets.	
"	13/11/18		Move again postponed for 3 hours and subsequently for a further 4 hours but Units finally moved out and entrained. All trains were very late in starting.	
ROISEL	14/11/18		Glorious weather. All Units in the train all day detraining at EPEHY, TINCOURT and ROISEL respectively after dark and marched short distances to billets and camps. Order No. 40 for move to FRESNOY-le-GRAND Area issued.	Bde. Order No. 40.

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FRESNOY-le-GRAND	15/11/18		<p>Bright, frosty morning. Units entrained on Light Railway and proceeded to BRANCOURT and marched to Billets. Brigade Group is now disposed as follows :-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Brigade Headquarters,</td> <td rowspan="6">}</td> <td rowspan="6">FRESNOY-le-GRAND.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13th Battalion,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15th "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16th "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th A.L.T.M. Battery,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th A.M. Gun Company,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th Field Ambulance,</td> <td rowspan="2">}</td> <td rowspan="2">BRANCOURT.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14th Battalion,</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>4th Field Coy. A.E.</td> <td>MERICOURT.</td> </tr> </table> <p>All settled down and rations drawn before dark. Fine, frosty night.</p>	Brigade Headquarters,	}	FRESNOY-le-GRAND.	13th Battalion,	15th "	16th "	4th A.L.T.M. Battery,	4th A.M. Gun Company,	4th Field Ambulance,	}	BRANCOURT.	14th Battalion,			4th Field Coy. A.E.	MERICOURT.	
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"	16/11/18		<p>Clear, frosty morning, followed by glorious day. All Units settling down, cleaning up Billets etc. Divisional Commander visited the Brigade during the morning and remained for lunch. Conference of Brigade Commanders, Brigade Majors etc. held at 13th Brigade Headquarters at 14.30. All available information regarding the advance across the RHINE in terms of Armistice were given. Australian Corps (less 3rd Division) as portion of Fourth Army will take part. Advance of British Armies will commence on 17th instant. but we shall not move till some days later. (vide Advance to RHINE - Series "A" instructions No. 1 issued today). Conference of Unit Commanders of Brigade Group held at Brigade Headquarters at 20.00 when above was explained.</p>	Thanksgiving Church Services.																
"	17/11/18		<p>Bright, frosty morning, followed by fine day. Units training and preparing for an early move. Guards and Sentries and Route Marches now principal forms of training. A company of German Prisoners of War largely employed by all Units cleaning Transport, Billets and Streets.</p>	Advance to the RHINE, Instructions Series "A" No. 1.																
"	18/11/18		<p>Cold day with first fall of snow this winter, followed by light rain. Guard mounted at Brigade Headquarters and daily duties instituted. Training and Sports in full swing.</p>	Advance to the RHINE, Instructions Series "A" No. 2.																

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FRESNOY-le-GRAND	19/11/18		Frosty morning followed by bright day. Word received that the Brigade Group will move to WASSIGNY on 23rd by road and to Area south of AVESNES on 24th. 13th Brigade move on 21st, and 12th Brigade on 22nd instant. Major A.S.ALLEN, D.S.O., 45th Battalion appointed to Command 13th Battalion, vice Lieut-Colonel D.G.MARKS, D.S.O., M.C. and Major W.L.ARRELL, 49th Battalion, appointed to command 14th Battalion, vice Lieut-Colonel H.A.CROWTHER, D.S.O.	
"	20/11/18		Bright, fine day. Majors ALLEN and ARRELL joined their respective Battalions. Training continued. French refugees and released French Prisoners of War continue to flow through the village. To prepare men for the forthcoming long march all Units are carrying out a Route March daily, of not more than 8 miles.	Bde. Order No. 41.
"	21/11/18		Bright day, following frosty morning. Units route marching and preparing for move which will commence on 23rd instant, ST.SOUPLET, being the first stage. 13th Brigade marched out for ST.SOUPLET.	
"	22/11/18		Bright, clear day, fairly cold. 12th Brigade moved out for ST.SOUPLET.	
"	23/11/18.		Brigade Group march out in accordance with Brigade Order No. 40. Portion of the column were delayed en route at a railway level crossing at BECQUIGNY but all Units were in billets by 14.00. 13th and 15th Battalions in tents, 4th Field Ambulance at L'ARBRE-de-GUISE and remainder in ST.SOUPLET village. The village has been considerably knocked about and there are still traces of gas from the enemy's final bombardment. Very cold night.	1st amendment to Bde. Order No. 41. Move Table (2nd Stage) issued with Bde. Order No. 41.
ST.SOUPLET to PRISCHES.	24/11/18.		Bright, frosty morning. Units march out in accordance with table 2 of Brigade Order No. 40. Considerable delay caused on the march by the 3rd. Brigade which was in front marching on same road. To comply with their movements all Units halted for lunch from 11.50 to 13.00. 4th Field Ambulance and 4th Brigade Headquarters pushed on past 3rd Brigade during this halt. Roads were not in good order and Units did not arrive in billets until fairly late. Billets were very scattered and 15th Battalion Transport had to make a detour of several kilometres to avoid a mine crater in main road. The inhabitants here, as in all other villages in the Areas which have been occupied by the Boche testify to the inhuman treatment to which they have been subjected during the past four years.	

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PRISCHES	25/11/18		Wet, miserable day. All Units resting and treating feet, after last two days marches.	Bde. Order No. 42
SAINS	26/11/18		Dull day, very wet underfoot. Brigade Group marched out in accordance with Brigade Order No. 41. Roads were in a very bad state, but few blocks were experienced en Route. The last Unit was in their Billets by 16.30. This is an excellent town and appears to have been very wealthy. There are immense factories and a great number of Chateaux. The main industry is wool and the inhabitants state that a very large proportion of the raw material comes from AUSTRALIA. Units are all very comfortably quartered in factories and are in each case altogether. Conference, which the Brigadier attended, was held at Corps Headquarters to discuss question of Demobilization and to outline the policy.	
"	27/11/18		Bright day. Units busy cleaning up billets which are extremely dirty. Many wagon loads of rubbish and manure being carted away. Some rain fell late in afternoon and at night.	
"	28/11/18		Wet, miserable day. Fortunately all Units have very large floor space in their billets and can carry out training indoors. Process of cleaning up continued. It will be several days before all rubbish is taken away.	
"	29/11/18		Bright day, becoming dull towards evening with some rain. The entire Brigade Group assembled in 14th Battalion billets when the Brigadier outlined in general terms the scheme now in hand for demobilization. Brigade Debating Competition continued. 15th Battalion beat 14th Battalion in opposing the motion that civilization has progressed.	
"	30/11/18		Bright frosty morning followed by fog. At a Battalion Parade of 13th Battalion the Brigadier unfurled the flag presented to the Battalion by the ladies of AUSTRALIA. This is a flag with the Battalion colours, Light Blue over Dark Blue with a rising sun worked in gold in the centre. A letter of appreciation of the work of the AUSTRALIANS in FRANCE, from the citizens of MONCEAU-les-LEUPS was presented to the Brigadier by a representative of that commune. Translation of the letter and the Brigade's reply thereto is attached. Word was received that His Majesty King George V will pass through the Area tomorrow and the Brigade Major set off with the D.A.A. & Q.M.G. to reconnoitre the portion of the route which this Brigade will line. It was decided however that the Route March to and from the point where the Royal Car would pass was too great, so that the Brigade will not go over.	Letter of appreciation from citizens of MONCEAU-les-LEUPS. Reply to above letter.

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SAINS	30/11/18		<p>1914 Officers and Men returned to AUSTRALIA on Leave.</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Officers,</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Other Ranks.</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>13th Battalion,</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16th "</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th T.M. Battery,</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>2</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>18</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Officers,</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>	13th Battalion,	-	-	14th "	-	5	15th "	-	5	16th "	2	8	4th T.M. Battery,	-	-		<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>	
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	<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>																							

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms C2..5/14

Am

ALL SOULS DAY.FRENCH PATRIOTIC MEETING.

31.10.1918.

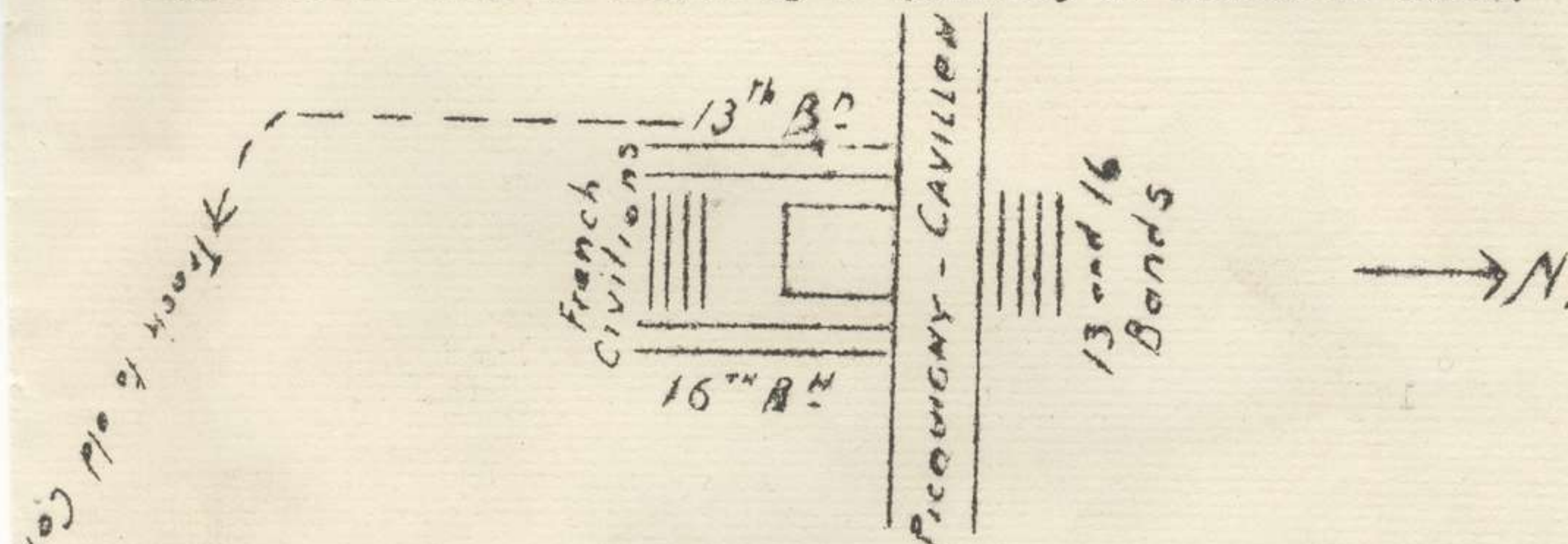
1. The inhabitants of PICQUIGNY are placing flowers on the graves in the British Cemetery, tomorrow, 1st November and have expressed a wish that the Australian Troops billeted in the town attend the ceremony. The 13th and 16th Battalions will attend.

2. Battalions will be at their starting points at 2.p.m. ready to move off.

Starting point, 16th BATTALION. 16th Bn.OFF.MESS. } facing
 " " 13th " 13th Bn.OFF.MESS. } CROUY.

The 16th Battalion will block up close to allow the French people to take their place immediately behind them.

3. Battalions will be formed up at Cemetery as indicated below:-



4. When the ceremony is over at the British Cemetery, the 16th Battalion will march back direct to the starting point and remain there until joined by the 13th Battalion.

The 13th Battalion will proceed by track shown in sketch to old Cemetery where flowers will be placed on the few graves of the British soldiers there. The Battalion will then march via OLD CHATEAU, and steps to Town Square blocking up close to the 16th Battalion.

5. Massed Bands will play French and British National Anthems in the square, after which the troops will move off under direction of the Battalion Commanders.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. H. H. H.
 Captain.
 A/Brigade Major.
 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

4th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 39. Copy No.

Headquarters,
8/11/1918.

Reference.	AMIENS.	17	} 1/100.000.
	VALENCIENNES.	12	
	ST. QUENTIN.	18.	

1. 4th Australian Infantry Brigade Group ("C" Group) comprised as under will move into forward Area by rail and bus commencing on 10th instant in accordance with time-table herewith.

"C" BRIGADE GROUP.

- Commander, Brig-General. E.A. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, C.M.G., D.S.O.
- 4th Australian Infantry Brigade,
- 4th " M. G. Company.
- 4th " Field Company.
- 4th " Field Ambulance.
- 7th Company, A.A.S.C.
- 4th Division Reinforcement Wing.

2. Administrative instructions will be issued separately.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued through Sigs. at 1.p.m.

R. S. Howell

Distribution.

- Extra copies to :-
- 4th A.M.G. COY.
- 4th FIELD COY. A.E.
- 4th DIV. REINFORCEMENT WING.
- Area Commandant, PICQUIGNY.
- " " CROUY.
- " " HANGEST.

Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

F.T.O.

Move Table referred to in BRIGADE ORDER NO.39 para.1.

Entraining Stations.	Detraining Station
A. SALEUX.	A. EPEHY.
B. AILLY-SUR-SOMME.	B. ROISEL.
C. HANGEST.	C. TINCOURT.

Train No.		UNIT.	DATE.	MARCHÉ.	Time of DEPARTURE
A.	B. C.				
13.		13th Bn.	10/11/18.	T51/T93.	06.35
	14	{ H.Q. 4th Bde.			
		{ Bde. Signal Sec.			
		{ 4th A.R.Q.COY.			
		{ 4th A.L.T.M.BY.			
		{ 4th DIV. REIF. WING.	"	H.T22/T84.	07.47
	15	14th Bn.	"	H.T23/T85.	08.27.
16		16th Bn.	"	T55/t87.	10.35.
	17	15th Bn.	"	T.2/T88.	11.47.
	18.	{ 4th FLD.COY. EG.	"		
		{ 4th FLD. AMB.	"	H.T.3/T89.	12.27.
19.		7th COY A.A.S.C.	"	T59/T91.	14.35.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Administrative instructions issued in conjunction with 4th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No.39.

1. ENTRAINMENT. Transport will arrive at entraining Stations 3 Hours, and remainder of Troops 1½ Hours prior of departure of train.
- No Troops to enter Station yard until R.T.O's. are ready for entrainment.
- Entrainment of units must be completed ½ hour before schedule time of departure.
- Breast ropes for horses will be provided by Units. Lashings for vehicles will be provided by R.T.O.

2. ENTRAINING AND DETRAINING OFFICERS. The 15th Battalion will detail Major J.F. RICHARDSON, as entraining Officer, to report to the R.T.O. at AILLY-SUR-SOMME 4 hours prior to departure of the first train. His tour of duty will continue until the entraining of the Division is complete.
- The 13th Battalion will detail Lieut. B.BLYTHAN, as detraining Officer who will travel by the first train leaving AILLY-SUR-SOMME. His tour of duty will continue until the detraining is complete.
- Entraining and detraining Officers to be in possession of a time table of trains.

3. WORKING PARTIES. Working Parties will be supplied at stations as under:-

<u>Number</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Station.</u>
2 off. 50 men.	15th Bn.	SALEUX.
2 Off. 50 men.	15th Bn.	AILLY-SUR-SOMME.
2 Off. 50 men.	14th Bn.	HANGEST.

Parties to report 3 hours prior to departure of first train. They will work in shifts of 1 Off. and 25 Other Ranks will remain until entraining is complete and will travel by last train leaving station.

Working parties for respective detraining stations will be supplied by 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

48 Hours rations to be carried.

Units supplying working parties will be responsible for their billeting arrangements.

MI 1400

4. MARCHING OUT STATES. Marching out states as follows will be handed to Entraining Officer:-

Unit.	Off. O.R.	Person.	Rules.	2 in.	4 in.	Other.	Vehicles.
							Vehicles.

to ensure that the units are properly entrained and that the transport is ready for the march.

Numbered G.P. wagons to be shown as 2 2-wheeled vehicles.

5. AMMUNITION. Units will move with grenades full. Grenades will not be rechecked.

6. BAGGAGE AND SUPPLY WAGONS. Baggage and supply wagons will accompany units and report to Divisional Train as soon as possible after departure.

7. TRANSPORT. Lorries to convey packs etc. to entraining Station will report to units under:-
Lorry will report to each of the 13th and 16th Battalions at 07.00 on 8th instant. After completing the first trip one lorry will return to the 15th Battalion, the remaining lorry will be allotted equally to the 13th and 16th Battalions.
Care will be taken to ensure that there is no loss of time in the loading of these lorries.

8. SUPPLY AREA. Rations and forage as follows will be carried:-

- 1 Iron Ration on the man.
- 5 Days ration on the man or on cooker.
- 5 Days ration in supply section of Div. Train.
- 5 Days forage with animals.
- 1. days forage with supply section of Div. Train.

8th NOVEMBER - Railhead AILLY-SUR-SOMME. Rations for consumption 9th to be drawn by units from dumps by first line transport. Rations for consumption 10th to be drawn from railhead by Divisional Train and dumped at entraining stations.

9th NOVEMBER - Railhead AILLY-SUR-SOMME. Rations for consumption 10th to be drawn from dumps by first line transport. Rations for consumption 11th to be drawn from railhead by Divisional Train assisted by No. 3 Aust. M.T. Coy., and dumped at entraining stations. Supplies for units which have already entrained will be taken forward.

O.F.V.

8. SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS (CONTD).

10th NOVEMBER - Railhead ROISEL. Rations for consumption 11th stated under date "9th November". Rations for consumption 12th to be drawn from Railhead by No. 3 Aust. M.T. Coy. and taken forward to billeting areas and dumped.

9. REINFORCEMENTS. From 9th November until further notice all reinforcements will go to ABBEVILLE for despatch to Corps Reinforcement Depot, MIANNAY.

The location of the Reinforcement Wing in the new Area will be BQHAIN.

10. BLANKETS. The second blanket will be taken forward. 15th Battalion will supply a party of 1 Off. and 20 men to report to 4th Aust. Div. Reinforcement Wing on afternoon of 8th instant for the purpose of transporting blankets to entraining station. Party will be billeted by the Reinforcement Wing and will rejoin their unit prior to entraining.

11. POLICE. The D.A.P.M. will detail 1 W.C.O. and 3 police to be at each entraining and detraining stations during the move.

12. QUARTERING ARRANGEMENTS. 1 Off. and 4 Other Ranks from Each Battalion, 1 Off from 4th A.L.T.M. Battery and representatives from other units of the Brigade Group will report to the Staff Captain at SALEUX and will proceed by the 1435 train leaving that station.

48 Hours rations and bicycles will be taken.

13. COMFORTS. Hot drinks will be supplied by the Y.M.C.A. at each entraining station.

14. DIVISIONAL F.P. COMPOUND. Personnel will not be released but will remain under the jurisdiction of the D.A.P.M. 4th Aust. Div.

15. SANITATION. Steps will be taken to ensure that all billets are left in a clean and tidy condition.

16. SPARE AMMUNITION. All ammunition and grenades over and above the mobile echelon will be collected and dumped handed over to Area Commandant, and receipt obtained. In cases where there are no permanent Town Majors the location of such dump will be notified to the Maire.

P.T.O.

17. CLAIMS. Attention is drawn to D.R.O. para 2335 which reads as follows :-
 "In view of the early move of the Division every endeavour will be made by units to settle claims direct. If this is not possible, units will leave claims with their reports attached, addressed to the D.C.O. at each local Maire, with instructions to the Maire, through the interpreter, that they are to be taken up by the D.C.O. who will call later".
18. CANTEEN. Branch canteens will be returned to bulk Canteen PICQUIGNY by 12.00 on 9th instant under unit arrangement
19. TRAINING MATERIAL. The Area Commandant, PICQUIGNY will take over Training material from Brigade Headquarters, 13th and 16th Battalions on afternoon of 8th instant and from the 14th and 15th Battalions on the following morning.
20. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. In view of the present influenza epidemic C.C. Field Ambulances will arrange that Ambulances will be both at the entraining and detraining stations to evacuate cases that occur on the move.
21. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued through signals, at 3.p.m.

Distribution:-

to all recipients of Brigade Order No.39.

Extra copy to Entraining Officer,
 Detraining Officer.

A. H. Mackinnon

Captain.
 Staff Captain.
 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 40

198

Brigade Headquarters,
14/11/1918.

1. The 4th Aust. Inf. Brigade Group and units of the 4th Aust. Division Group will move by Light Railway to the BRESNOY-le-GRAND Area on the 15th instant.
Transport will move under units arrangements by road as per Route Table overleaf.
2. Entrainment. As per Train Table overleaf. Note. All troops to be at Entraining Station 1 hour before schedule time of departure. 16th Battalion will detail 1 Entraining Officer for EPEHY Group who will report to Light Railway Despatch Officer 1 1/2 hours before schedule time of departure. 14th Battalion will do likewise for TINCOURT Group. Cap't. W.J.D. LYNAS, D.S.O., M.C., will act as Entraining Officer at ROISEL.
3. Transport. 1 Lorry for each of the 13th and 16th Battalions will report to Area Commandant EPEHY at 08.00 on 15th instant for purpose of conveying blankets etc. to Entraining Station. Lorries will proceed loaded to the new area and will then immediately report to Brigade Headquarters.
4. Quartering. Forward parties of all units will report to the Staff Captain at the Office of the R.T.O. ROISEL at 08.00 to-morrow the 15th instant, and will proceed to new area by Lorry. No bicycles will be carried, but the bicycles of the billeting parties joining up at ROISEL will be sent forward by train under guard.
5. Supplies. Rations for consumption on the 16th instant will be delivered to units forward parties on the afternoon of the 15th instant.
4th Pioneer Battalion and 14th Battalion will detail Town Majors in each of their respective billeting areas.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

L. de K. ...

Captain.
Staff-Captain.
4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Issued at 10.1.18. through signals.

Distribution - Normal.

Extra copies to -

- 7th A.A.S.C.
- H.Q. Div. Engineers.
- 4th Pioneer Bn.
- Div. Salvage Coy.
- Div. Sanitary Section.
- 24th M.G. Company.
- H.Q. Div. Train.
- Mobile Veterinary Section.
- 4th M.G. Company.
- 4th Aust. Div. Inf. Wing.
- 4th Aust. Div. H.Q. and Signals.
- 4th M.E. Battalion H.Q.
- 4th Field Coy. A.E.
- 4th Aust. Field Ambce.
- Area Commandant, TINCOURT.
- " " " ROISEL.
- " " " EPEHY.
- R.T.O., TINCOURT.
- " ROISEL.
- " EPEHY.

TRAIN TABLE.

Group of Trains.	Units.	Entraining Station.	Time of Departure.	Retraining Station.	Billeting Areas.
EPEHY Group of 5 trains	13th Battalion. 16th " " 7th A.A.S.C. H.Q. Div. Engrs. 1 Coy., Pioneer Bn. Div. Salvage Coy. " Sanitary Sect. 24th M.G. Company H.Q. Div. Train (if any) Mobile Vet. Section.	TEMPEUX-le-GEURARD.	10.30 on 15th inst.	BRANCOURT-le-GRAND.	4th Pioneer Battalion will billet at MONTBREHAIN. 14th Battalion at
ROISEL Group of 5 Trains.	15th Battalion Bde. H.Q. & Sigs. 1st T.M. Battery. Pioneer Bn. less 1 Coy. 4th M.G. Coy. 4th Div. Rct. Wing.	ROISEL	09.30 on 15th instant.	BRANCOURT-le-GRAND.	BRANCOURT. 4th Field Coy. A.E. at
TINCOURT Group of 4 Trains.	14th Battalion 4th Div. H.Q. & Sigs. 4th M.G. Bn. H.Q. 4th Field Coy. A.E. 4th Field Ambce.	TINCOURT	08.30 on 15th instant.	BRANCOURT-le-GRAND.	MERICOURT. All other units at FRESNOY-le-GRAND.

Accommodation 300 Other Ranks per Train.

TRANSPORT ROUTE TABLE.

EPEHY Group - Via BASSE - BOULOGNE - BELLECOURT - NAUROY - JONCOURT - RAMICOURT - MONTBREHAIN - FRESNOY-le-GRAND.
 ROISEL and TINCOURT Groups less 14th Battalion and Pioneer Battalion - Via HERVILLY - JEANCOURT - LE VERGUIER - BELLENGLISE - LEVERGIES - SEQUEHART - FRESNOY-le-GRAND.
 14th Battalion and Pioneer Bn. - Same as ROISEL and TINCOURT Groups as far as BELLENGLISE thence via JONCOURT - RAMICOURT and MONTBREHAIN.

APPENDIX 4
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Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade,
HEADQUARTERS.
16th November 1918.

C. O.,

CHURCH PARADES, - CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

Day and Date. Sunday, November 17th, 1918.

Time. 11.a.m.

Place. I.11.B. (approx) (Reference Map Sheet 62.B. 1/40,000.

Dress. Drill Order - To be worn over Greatcoats.

The Parade will be split into 3 Groups as follows:-

14th Battalion, Chaplain.F.J. PATON,

15th Battalion,)
16th ") Chaplain H.H. HARPER.

13th Battalion,)
4th Field Amb.)
Bde H. Qrs.)
4th A.L.T.M.Bty.) Chaplain F.H. DURNFORD, M.C.

An Officer each from the 14th, 16th and 13th Battalions will meet the Staff Captain at I.11.B. Cent. at 10.30.a.m.

Bands will not play for services.

The services will be of a special thanksgiving nature to commemorate the cessation of hostilities.

After the Church Parades the Brigade will form up for a parade for the G.O.C., at 12. o'clock after which there will be a march past.

All Roman Catholics will join their respective units for the Brigade Parade.

R. Mackinnon
Captain.
Staff Captain.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

COPY NO. _____

Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade,
HEADQUARTERS.

17th November 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS. SERIES "A" NO. 1.

1. ADVANCE TO THE RHINE. At an early date the Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade Group composed as under will advance to German territory as portion of the Army of Occupation provided for in the Armistice. The advance will be made by either (A) March Route or (B) Rail and March Route. The move will be in three stages:-

1. To the German Frontier.
2. To the Rhine.
3. To the Units of the zone beyond the Rhine provided for in the Armistice.

The Brigade Group is composed of:-

4 Infantry Battalions.

4th A.L.T.M. Battery

4th Machine Gun Company.

4th Field Company A.E.

4th Field Ambulance.

and other Divisional Units which will be notified later.

2. Units will immediately make all preparations for the move and be prepared to leave the present area either by rail or road at very short notice. In this connection the following points, inter-alia will be borne in mind:-

(A). DRESS. Steel Helmets and Box Respirators will be carried. All Badges (Hat and collar) "Australia", colour patches are to be worn by all ranks. Chin straps will be worn. Immediate steps to procure these articles from D.A.D.O.S. if necessary on payment.

(B). TRANSPORT. All vehicles are to be carefully overhauled to avoid break down or other mishaps en route. Spare parts in accordance with Mobilization Store Table for vehicles, Harness, etc. are to be complete. Spare sets of shoes to fit the animals of the team are to be carried on each vehicle.

All animals will be shod with shoes to take frost cobs and a supply of frost cobs will be carried.

The paint on axle caps and Brass work on vehicles will be removed and such brass work polished. All chains will be burnished.

Additional transport will be provided to carry two blankets per man and kits of Officers, above the establishment. Units will move with Gobelons complete.

P.T.O.

3. CONDUCT ON ROUTE. During the march through FRENCH or BELGIUM Territory the greatest consideration is to be shown to the civilian population and their property. The sufferings and privations to which these unfortunate people have been subject, during the past four years of German occupation is to be fully explained to all ranks.

The greatest care is to be taken by all ranks to avoid causing any damage which will lead to claims being lodged by the civilians. Where possible all claims which do arise should be settled prior to units marching out.

The strictest march discipline will be observed throughout the entire move. When passing through villages or towns, units will march either to attention or at ease with bands playing. If marching at ease a uniform method of carrying the rifle will be adopted.

No smoking whatever will be permitted whilst on the march.

All roads are to be kept clear of men and transport between the hours of 17.00 and 05.00.

At the conclusion of each stage of the march, units will immediately notify the next highest formation of the location of their troops.

Upon leaving an Area all billets etc. will be left scrupulously clean and commanding Officers will be held personally responsible that this is done.

Attention is drawn to the Field Service Regulations, Part 1, chapters iii and iv, and to G.S. 724 (July 1918)

"March discipline and Traffic Control" (Fourth Army Routine Order 2639, of 15/5/1918.

4. DIVISIONAL DEPOT. A Divisional Depot will be established in present Area, and the following personnel will be left behind at this depot

- (A) Men physically unfit to stand the march.
- (B) Men of undesirable character who cannot be trusted to behave themselves in a fit and proper manner when in German Territory.

A dump for surplus gear will also be established at this Depot and units will leave there all stores etc. which will not be required in the forward area. Officers kits must be reduced to a minimum.

5. BATHS. Portable Baths apparatus will be carried on the line of march by the Field Company. This will be erected from time to time as circumstances permit. Four pairs of socks per man will be carried

150 extra pairs of Boots per Battalion will be carried by units, and in addition a large supply will be carried by D.A.D.O.S. and may be drawn by units as required. Unit bootmakers will carry out repairs during the move. Foot inspections will be held daily at the conclusion of the march.

6. BOOBY TRAPS, are not confined to landmines etc. but may be looked for amongst the women in occupied German Territory. All ranks will be warned against this danger.

R. J. Powell
Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

198

Headquarters,
 16th November 1918.

ADVANCE INTO GERMANY.

Instructions Series "A" No. 2.

1. The advance of the Allied Forces commenced on 17th instant.
2. The British Forces detailed for the advance are organized into two Armies, the 4th and the 2nd, each of 4 Corps and 16 Divisions.

The 4th Army consists of :-

- 2nd Cavalry Division.
- 6th Corps.
- 4th Corps.
- Aust. Corps.
- 9th Corps.

The Aust. Corps consists of 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Divisions.

The advance of the 4th Army will be carried out in accordance with the attached table.

<u>Stage.</u>	<u>From.</u>	<u>To.</u>	<u>Date of Starting.</u>	<u>Date of Arrival.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
1. Present Line	Line No. 1	Line No. 1	17th Nov.	18th Nov.	
2. Line No. 1	Line No. 2	Line No. 2	21st Nov.	24th Nov.	
3. Line No. 2	Line No. 3	Line No. 3	27th Nov.	2nd Decr.	The Belgian - German Frontier will not be crossed pending further orders.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX 7

3. The enemy is to be clear of the 3 zones referred to above on the date preceding our advance into that zone. Any enemy encountered on the march will be made prisoner, with the exception of detachments left behind by the enemy in charge of war material which the German Army may wish to hand over. Such detachments will be set free as soon as the stores are taken over on charge by British detachments. Enemy detachments must, however, be accompanied by escorts of our own troops till they are clear of our lines.
4. The advance of the 4th Army is being covered by the 2nd. Cavalry Division. The 9th Corps on the right and the 6th Corps on the left will be the two leading Corps. It is not yet decided whether the Australian or 4th Corps will move by train or by road. If the movement is by road the corps will follow the 9th corps moving by two roads with the 4th Australian Division leading on the right and the 1st Australian Division on the left. There will be two divisions preceding the 4th Aust. Division on the same road; the division immediately preceding the 4th Aust. Division will be the 3rd Division.
5. The Division will be organized for the march into four groups, 3 Infantry Brigade Groups and a Divisional Artillery Group. The composition of these groups will be notified. For the present Brigade Groups A, B, and C will remain in being as formed for the move from the CAVILLON Area. During the march the Pioneer Battalion will be attached to the leading Brigade Group, H.Q. and the fourth H.Q. Company of the M.G. Battalion to the second Brigade Group, and the Mobile Veterinary Section to the Divisional Artillery Group. Groups will march in the following order, 13th A.I. Bde. Group, 12th A.I. Bde. Group, 4th A.I. Bde. Group, Divisional Artillery Group. Divisional H.Q. will move in two echelons to be designated "A" and "B" Echelons. "A" echelon will consist of the "G" and "A.Q." Staff, and the administrative staff necessary for the conduct of the march and will move by bounds, probably at 2 or 3 days intervals. "B" Echelon will move with the column, attached to "C" Brigade Group.

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(3).

6. The following general instructions apply to movement by march route :-

- (a) During the advance, all military precautions will be taken.
- (b) The comfort of the troops will be the first consideration during the march. Bands and colours where available, may be taken.
- (c) Helmets and box respirators will be carried.

7. Arrangements for the advance beyond the frontier have not been published.



Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

COPY NO. _____

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 41.

Headquarters,
20/11/1918.Reference. ST. QUENTIN, 18)
VALENCIENNES, 12) 1/100,000.

1. 4th Australian Infantry Brigade Group ("C" Group) composed as under will move to the LA GROISE - PRISCHEES Area by March Route on 23rd and 24th instant in accordance with move table herewith.

The Brigade Group will be composed as follows until further orders:-

Commander. BRIG-GENERAL E.A. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, C.M.G., D.S.O.
4th Australian Infantry Brigade,
4th Field Company A.E.
4th Australian Machine Gun Coy.
4th Field Ambulance,
7th Company A.A.S.C.
1 Sub-section, S.A.A. Section, D.A.C.
4th Australian Divisional Salvage Company.
4th Australian Divisional Sanitary Company.

The 4th Divisional Salvage Company will be attached to 15th Battalion and 4th Divisional Sanitary Company to 16th Battalion for the move for rations and discipline.

2. Supplies will be drawn from railhead by Motor Transport daily and delivered to refilling points which will be notified daily to units concerned by wire.
3. Billetting parties will meet the staff captain at the Mairie, ST. SOUPLLET at 09.00 on 23rd instant and at the Mairie, PRISCHEES at 09.00 on 24th instant.
4. All personnel for leave will depart from FRESNOY, reporting to Divisional Reinforcement Wing the evening before departure. Divisional Reinforcement Wing will remain at FRESNOY.
5. All personnel will move with their units and no dumps will be formed in the Area.
6. Additional Transport will be provided for blankets and stores in addition to baggage wagons and will report on evening of 22nd instant.
Allocation of additional Transport available will be notified later.
7. Brigade Headquarters will be at ST. SOUPLLET on 23rd and night 23/24 and at PRISCHEES on 24th instant.

Issued through sigs at 7.a.m. 21/11/18.

R. J. Fovell
Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution:- Normal.

Extra Copies to -

7th A.A.S.C.
Div. Sanitary section.
4th Field Coy. A.E.
Area Commandant, FRESNOY.

Div. Salvage Coy.
4th M.G. Coy.
4th Aust. Field Amb.
1 Sub. Sec. S.A.A. Sect. D.A.C.

APPENDIX 8
86198

4th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE, MOVE TABLE REFERRED TO IN BRIGADE ORDER NO. 41.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Serial No.	Date.	Unit.	Starting point.	Hour to pass S.F.	Route.	Destination.	Remarks.
1.	23/11/18.	13th Bn.	Railway crossing midway between FRESNOY and BOHAIN.	08.45	BOHAIN - BUSIGNY - LA HAIE MENNERESSE.	ST. SOU PLET.	Tail of Column to be clear of BOHAIN by 10.30.
2.		15th Bn. & 4th Div. Salvage Co.		08.55			
3.		16th Bn. & 4th Div. Sanitary Coy.		09.10			
4.		4th A.L.T.M. Batty.		09.16			
5.		4th Dde. H.Q.		09.21			
6.		4th Field Amb.		09.27			
7.		4th A.M.G. Coy.		09.32			
8.		7th Coy. A.A.S.C.		09.40			
9.		4th Field Coy. A.E.		09.47			
9.	14th Bn.	Cross roads at "Inn" on BRAN-COURT - BOHAIN ROAD.	09.15.	BOHAIN - BUSIGNY - LA HAIE MENNERESSE. "			

March Table for 24th instant (ST. SOUPLLET to PRISCHIES) will be issued later.

S E C R E T.

Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade,
HEADQUARTERS.
22nd November 1918.

COPY NO. _____

1st AMENDMENT TO BRIGADE ORDER NO. 41.

Reference March Table issued with Brigade Order
No. 41, column 6 - ROUTE, Substitute BOHAIN - RECQUIGNY -
BUSIGNY - LA HAIE MENNERESSE -

R. Lovell
Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

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APPENDIX 9

Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade,
HEADQUARTERS.

23rd November 1918.

MOVE TABLE ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER NO. 41, of 20/11/1918.

2nd STAGE - ST. SOUplet to PRISCHEs.

1 Serial No.	2 Date.	3 Unit.	4 Starting point.	5 Hour to pass S.P.	6 Route.	7 Destination.	8 Remarks.
1.	24/11/18.	4th Field Amb.	Road junction just west of "H" in MAZINGHIEN.	09.15	MAZINGHIEN - CATILLON - LA GROISE.	PRISCHEs.	Head of Column not to enter road junction just S. W. of BOIS DE TOAILLON before 11.30. Tail to be clear of above point by 12.30.
2	"	4th A.I.Bde.H.Q.	Railway Bridge on ST.SOUplet - L'ARBRE de GUISE road.	08.30	L'ARBRE de	- CATILLON - LA GROISE.	Serial numbers 3,4,5,6,7,8, & 9, will halt from 12.50 till 13.30 for midday meal. If possible they will draw off the road to adjacent fields.
3	"	16th Bn. & 4th Div Sanitary Sec.		08.33	GUISE - MAZINGHIEN		
4	"	4th Field Coy.A.E.		08.45			
5	"	14th Bn. & 4th A.L.T.M.Bty.		09.00			
6	"	4th A.M.G.Coy.		09.12			
7	"	7th Coy.A.A.S.C.		09.17			
8	"	15th Bn. & 4th Div. Salvage Coy.		09.20			
9	"	13th Bn.		09.30			

R. J. Lovell
Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

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APPENDIX 10

SECRET.

COPY NO. _____

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 42.

Headquarters,
25/11/1918.

Reference.- VALENCIENNES, 10)
 NANUR, 8) 1/100,000.

1. (a) 4th Australian Infantry Brigade Group ("C" Group) will move by March Route to the SAINS Area on 25th instant in accordance with move table herewith.
 (b) Brigade Group will remain as notified in Brigade Order No. 41 of 20/11/18.
2. 4th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters will close at PRISCHES at 09.00 on 26/11/1918 and re-open in SAINS Area on arrival.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Handwritten Signature]
 for Major.
 Brigade Major.
 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

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4th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE MOVE TABLE REFERRED TO IN BRIGADE ORDER NO. 42.

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1 Serial No.	2 Date.	3 Unit.	4 Starting point.	5 Hour to pass S.P.	6 Route.	7 Destination.	8 Remarks.
1.	26/11/18.	4th Field Coy. A.E.	CROSS ROADS VALENCIENNES. 5. J. 80. 10.	09.30	CARTIGNIES - BOULONGE - QUATREMAISONS - ZCREES.	SAINS sub-area.	Head of column not to enter CARTIGNIES before 10.00.
2.	"	4th Field Amb.		09.37			
3.	"	4th A.I. Bde H.Q. etc.		09.41			
4.	"	11th Bn. and 4th A.L.T.M. Bty. }		09.45			The whole column will halt from 11.50 till 13.00 for midday meal.
5.	"	4th A.M.G. Coy.		10.05			
6.	"	13th Battalion,		10.12			If possible Units will draw off the road to adjacent fields.
7.	"	16th Bn. and 4th Div. San. Sec. }		10.23			
8.	"	15th Bn. and 4th Div. Salvage Coy. }		10.35.			To comply with road restrictions Units will march closed up with 300 yards between Units.

APF

MONCEAU-les-LEUPS.
29th November 1918.

Sir,

In the name of a group of refugees from MONCEAU-les-LEUPS, (AISNE) I beg to have the honour of saluting our deliverers through you. We have been suffering so much from the beginning of the War that the sight of your gallant troops has been to us as the glorious sight of the new arising of the Sun of Liberty. You have given to our country and to the whole world the bright, undeniable proof of your being the valorous soldiers allied to our Nation. You are the Soldiers of Right and Civilization against Barbarism.

Your steadfastness has been successful in overcoming formidable and well armed enemies who were more numerous than you were but had not the high spirit, remarkable tenacity, endurance and strong discipline, in fact all the precious qualities which belong the soldiers of your country.

If you have shewn your ardent spirit during the struggle, you have also shewn that you could be merciful and have given your help to the wounded enemies, treating them as your own wounded, giving thereby to the whole world the proof that it was not the men you were fighting so gallantly but the insolent pretensions of a Nation who had the audacity of attacking us.

We must give our best thoughts to honour our dead soldiers who died heroically defending the country.

Those did not have the pride of the success but they fell on the field of honour. If they did not have the supreme joy felt by the conquerers when they see the enemy defeated, we nevertheless owe them all our gratitude and they deserve the same praise and respect.

Sir, we beg to thank you all of us in the name of our country.

Long Live France, Long Live ^{The} Allies.

E. STROMBE.

29.11.1918.

Fourth Australian Infantry Brigade,
HEADQUARTERS,
2nd. December 1918.

To the citizens of
MONCEAU-les-LEUPS,
A I S N E.

Sirs,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo and to state on behalf of those whom I command and for myself our appreciation of your generous tribute to Australian Soldiers.

May I say that the Australian Army consists entirely of volunteers who have travelled many thousands of miles to contribute to the effort on behalf of right and honour against might and dishonour.

We honour the high spirit and patriotism of the French people and rejoice with them on the liberation of their territories from the enemy. We are proud to have been associated with the French Armies in attaining this end and not only this end but the attainment of victory over German Militarism and Brutality.

May I also state that we sympathise most deeply with the people of the districts of France which have been occupied and outraged by the German Army.

Once again let me state how deeply your communication is appreciated by the Australian Soldiers whom I have the honour to command.

I have the honour to be,

yours obediently,

(sgd) E.A.DRAKE-BROCKMAN.
Brig-General.
Comdg. 4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.