

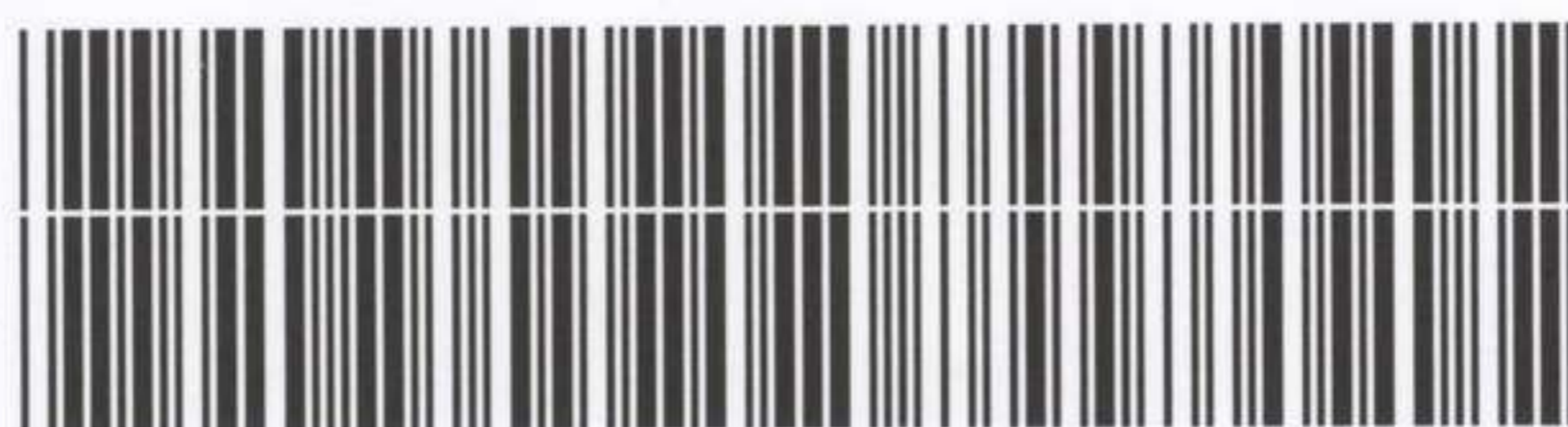
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/8/26

Title: 8th Infantry Brigade

January 1918



AWM4-23/8/26

255
95

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.

FOR

JANUARY

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

Al. Carey
B.M.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Al. Carey M. J. n
B. M. J. n
for Brig. Gen. Comd.
8th A.I. Bde.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 8th AUST. INF. BDE.

(Erase heading not required.)

251

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DESVRES	18 th Jan. 18		<p>BM. returned from leave</p> <p>In accordance with the wishes of the Divisional Commander and because of the very limited terrain available for training - the greater part of the period has been devoted to Sports in which as many men as possible have taken part.</p> <p>The Brigade Commander decided that a Brigade Challenge Cup would be initiated in the Brigade - & the Cup was purchased in England by the BM when on leave. A comprehensive programme of Sports, including football, athletics, Tug of war, boxing and military events, was put in hand, Committees of management formed for the various branches and inter-company events decided to enable Battalion representatives to be chosen for the Brigade Sports -</p> <p>Owing to alternate snow & rain and consequent holding up of all outdoor work the Battalion Competitions & events were not finally decided until 12th Jan. and the Brigade Athletic meeting was held on 14th inst at BELLE CROIX (near Bde. HQ).</p> <p>meetings of Battalion Commanders & of the various committees were held from time to time to decide the points that were to be</p>	

Period 18th Jan - 25th Jan

McCaul

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

8th AUSTR. INF. BDE

25/1

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DESVRES			<p>allotted for the various events in the Brigade Cup.</p> <p>A Boxing Stadium was erected in the SPAINX Cement Works in DESVRES and both Battalion + Brigade Events were decided there.</p> <p>The Brigade Athletic Meeting was successfully held on the 14th inst in the Snow, representatives of both the 14th + 15th Bdes, as well as a large number of spectators being present.</p> <p>As well as the many Sports Events which have kept the men fit and interested, such specialist + general training as has been possible, has been carried out daily. Owing to the majority of the country being under cultivation, general training has been confined mainly to company work on company training grounds. Bombing, rifle bombing, + Lewis Gun work has been carried out daily.</p> <p>The MG Coy, has been carrying out a course including a good deal of firing, stoppages with ball ammo - obstructions drill. The L.T.M. Bty. has put all its later arrivals through a course of gun drill, slung firing + general work.</p>	

Period 1st - 20th Jan

All Company work
15/1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8th AUST. INF. BDE.

255

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DESURES			<p>On wet days lectures by platoon & Coy. Commanders have been given -</p> <p>A Brigade Pigeon course has been held - two Schools under an RE Sergeant - and 16 runners per Bn. have been instructed on a four day course - in the use & handling of pigeons.</p> <p>A large number of vacancies for Schools have been filled by the Brigade including Army & Corps Infantry Schools, Musketry Schools, Intelligence, Camouflage, Cookery & other courses.</p> <p>The Corps commander visited the Division between the 21st & 23rd inst. - attended a Brigade Parade on 21st inst. & presented medal ribbons to recent recipients of honours.</p> <p>Also the Brigade marched past the Corps Commander on the outskirts of DESURES in full marching order with transport on 23rd inst.</p> <p>The Brigade order for the move to the forward area was issued on 26th inst. The Brigade Group Transport moved off on 28th inst.</p>	<p>Code Order 156</p> <p>156</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

(Erase heading not required.)

255

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DESVRES -	28 th Jan 1918.		<p>Wijm 1918 - Bn went forward in GOC, Bn & Bn. Commanders attended the Divisional Commanders Conference at Div. Hdqrs. (SAMER) in the morning.</p>	4
	29 th Jan		<p>Bn went forward by motor lorry to the forward area - called at 1st Aust. Div. Hdqrs. and was taken round the left sector of the Bdes. new front of 850th Aust. Div. & stayed with 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde. in the night.</p>	
	30 th Jan		<p>The Brigade to marched from DESVRES to SAMER and entrained there. On night an engine becoming detailed the times of starting of the Brigade train was put back five or six hours - eventually the route which had to be covered was via BOULOSNE & CALAIS - as the engine was blocking the main direct route. The Bde. Train arrived at DE KENNERAK station at 6.30 or 8 pm. Bn went round the right two Bn. fronts with Bn 3rd Aust. Bde during morning. The Brigade went into camp in the NEUVE ECLISE area with Bde. Hdqrs. at WATERLOO CAMP for the night</p>	7

All carrying on

A6915. Wt. W11422/M1160 35-000 42/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C/2118/14.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 8th AUST. INF. BDE.

255

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NORTH MIDLAND FARM DUSOUF (T6C78.)	31 st Jan. 1918.		<p>WATERLOO Bn to front line RIGHT & RIGHT centre Bns. with Major Farquhar during the morning. GOC & Staff Capt. arrived at NORTH MIDLAND. Dugout from WATERLOO CAMP at 3pm.</p> <p>The day was very misty & visibility very poor.</p> <p>The relief proceeded without incident and was complete by 9.45 pm.</p> <p>Lieut. THOMPSON (31st Bn) has been appointed Bde. Gas officer (in accordance with recent Army letter regarding such an appointment) & took up his duties today.</p> <p>The Bde. has taken over a 4 Battalion front of about 4300 ft., the left two Bn. fronts being new country to this Bde.</p> <p>The area is considerably quieter than when the Bde. was last here - in fact there is practically no shelling at all.</p> <p>The only hostile act undertaken by the enemy being apparently a little long range MG fire by night.</p> <p>The last week has been good fine weather with frosts & heavy mists so that the Bde. starts its tour in the line under good conditions.</p>	8

McCarry
Bn
5

A6917 W.L. W14 1/2 1/11 1/15 1/20 1/25 1/30 1/35 1/40 1/45 1/50 1/55 1/60 1/65 1/70 1/75 1/80 1/85 1/90 1/95 1/100 D. I. & L. Forms C./2118/14

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18,000-12/17 8723

WAR DIARY

OF

8th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters

FOR

JANUARY 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| No. | 1 | Subject. Effect Stokes Shells against Tanks. |
| | 2 | Trial of Incendiary Stokes Shell |
| | 3 | Commanding Officer's Conference on :-
(a) Operations
(b) Training
(c) Brigade Competitions. |
| | 4 | Divisional Commander's Conference on Policy to be adopted during next tour of duty in forward area. |
| | 5. | Brigade Order No. 155
Warning Order for move to forward area |
| | 6. | Brigade Order No. 156.
March Past Corps Commander |
| | 7. | Brigade Order No. 157.
Move to Forward area |
| | 8. | Brigade Order No. 158.
Relief of 3rd A.I. Bde in line. |

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7

Appendix No. 1.

5th Aust. Div.

I

SECRET

In reply to your G19/1170 of 17th Inst.

Experiments to test the effect of Stokes Shell against Tanks were carried out by the 8th L.T.M.Bty in July 1917 in the vicinity of THIEPVAL.

An old derelict tank was fired at with live rounds using both the ordinary pistol head (time fuze) and the ALWAYS percussion head.

It was found that the Stokes shell had practically no effect on the steel plate of the tank although a number of direct hits were made.

A shell was placed in contact with the side of the tank and detonated with no destructive effect except scoring the steel plate.

Flat trajectory fire was not used in the above test, but it is thought that it would not be any more effective than ordinary high angle fire.

8TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.	
No.	919/810
Date	19/1/18

18th January 1918

V.I. Brig. Genl.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Appendix No 2

5th Aust. Div.

121

SECRET.

Experiments have lately been carried out in the Brigade to see if it were possible to evolve an incendiary Stokes Mortar Shell.

Trials have resulted in the production of a shell filled with the phosphorus contents of 2 "P" bombs, together with a small ammonal bursting charge of about 2 ounces.

A shell of this type gave very promising results on trial. The burst was sufficient to break up the shell case and scatter the burning phosphorus over an area of about 25 yards radius.

The smoke effect from the burning phosphorus was very considerable and was generated at once on bursting.

Details of the shell are as follows :-

The ordinary stokes shell is emptied of its ammonal contents and filled about half full of the red phosphorus from ordinary "P" bombs, the phosphorus being carefully rammed down.

A cardboard detonator box is then filled with ammonal (about 2 ounces) and placed centrally in the shell and resting on the phosphorus. More phosphorus is then packed round the box to keep it in position and a piece of paper placed over the ammonal to keep it from coming into direct touch with the phosphorus. The shell is then completely filled with phosphorus and gently tamped down. The gaine is then pushed carefully through the phosphorus and down into the ammonal charge, care being taken that the bottom of the gaine touches the bottom of the ammonal box in order to ensure good detonation.

The top guide is then screwed on and the fuze inserted.

Either the ordinary pistol head, (with timed fuze) or the ALWAYS percussion head can be used.

Further trials are being carried out with varying charges of ammonal and phosphorus to ascertain if even better results can be obtained

It is thought that good results might be obtained by using the above shell for anti-aircraft ~~work~~ fire and trial is being made on these lines.

8TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.	
No.	519/809
Date	19/1/18

18th January 1918

P.I. Brig. Genl.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

255

3

Appendix No 3 9

SECRET.

- 29th Batta
- 30th "
- 31st "
- 32nd "
- 8th M.C. Coy
- 8th L.T.M.B.

The following notes on matters brought up for discussion at the Brigade Commander's Conference on 9th Inst. are circulated for information and necessary action :-

1. (a) The Brigade will probably be moving forward by train on about the 29th or 30th Inst.

(b) OPERATIONS.

In view of the circumstances that arose in the CAMBRAI fighting, it is necessary that we ensure that means exist in every Battalion sector for continuous information about the enemy's position and action to be forwarded by any means available to all concerned i.e. to Bn H.Qrs, Bde H.Qrs and if possible to flank units.

This might well be done by choosing a Battalion Command Post (apart from the Bn O.P.) with a good view of the whole Battalion sector and for this post to be manned by an officer and some runners (and any other means available) when hostile attack appears imminent.

Similar arrangements will be made with regard to the Brigade O.P.

The officers detailed to man both Battalion and Brigade Command Posts will be given definite instructions as to their duties and to whom information is to be forwarded.

(c) Battalion Commanders will ensure that the details of the Defence Scheme for the sector are known to and understood by all officers and M.C.O's, so that their course of action in case of enemy attack is clear to them.

2. TRAINING.

The Brigade Commander emphasized the necessity for both platoon and company schemes (with and without troops) involving counter-attack under various conditions.

The minds of all officers and M.C.Os should be clear as to their probable course of action (the immediate counter-attack) in any circumstance that might arise.

Schemes based on the possibilities that might arise in the MESSINES sector might be worked on with advantage. These schemes will be included in platoon and company training as early as possible.

3- BRIGADE COMPETITIONS.

(a) Dates for events are now as under :-

- Drill Competitions. Morning of 12th Inst.
- Platoon Marching Order Race. Afternoon of 12th Inst.
- Lewis Gun Competition. Afternoon of 13th Inst.

(b) The Field Firing Competition is in abeyance for the present.

(c) The Army Rifle Association Platoon Competition for the Brigade Cup. Details will be communicated separately.

(d) The first 27 men past the post in the Platoon Marching Order Race will be timed and not the whole platoon (29 all ranks), i.e. two casualties will be allowed.

20 points will be given for the winning platoon. For every 10 seconds that the other platoons are behind the winning platoon's time, 1 point will be deducted. All four platoons will score.

(e) The two new "weights" (feather and light-heavy) that have been added to the Boxing Competitions are not to count for points in the Brigade Cup. Separate prizes will be given for these events.

10th January 1918.

8TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.	
No.	51/705
Date

McCasey

Major,
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

255

Appendix 10

SECRET

8TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
<i>96/910</i>

4

- 29th Battn
- 30th "
- 31st "
- 32nd "
- 5th M.G. Coy
- 8th L.P.L.B.
- 2nd Sig. Bact.

The following notes on the Divisional Commander's Conference held at Divisional Headquarters today are forwarded for your information and any necessary action.

The Brigade Commander direct that these notes form the subject matter of a conference of Company Commanders and that the subjects be discussed and explained.

1. The Divisional Commander stated that, provided the utmost vigilance was observed and all preparations made and that nothing in the way of dissemination of information and maintenance of communications was neglected, then we had nothing to fear from hostile attack.
2. Defence Schemes are to be studied and schemes of defence based on those of the next higher formation are to be thought out and put on paper. This is to apply down to Company and Platoon Commanders in as much as it refers to the action of Companies and Platoons in case of the various types of hostile attacks and their action in the counter-attack. Copies of Bn and Coy Commanders' Schemes of Defence will be forwarded to Bde H.Q.s as early as possible after taking over the line. This will also apply to Coys in Support and Reserve.
3. The question of the discipline of units of the Division is to apply to the conduct of small detached working parties (proper carrying out of their orders as far as is possible under all circumstances) as much as to the more evident side of discipline - saluting.
4. All unit Commanders are to make it their responsibility that daylight movement in the forward area is reduced to a minimum, with a view to the saving of casualties whilst holding the line.
5. The Divisional Commander's wish is that the line be held as lightly as is consistent with vigilance and observation of the enemy and the beating off of small raids. Any serious attack will in all probability give its own warning by artillery bombardments. The Defence of the sector, as far as troops on the spot are concerned will be mainly dependent on local reserves well posted, who know, beyond all doubt, what their course of action will be in case of attack. Practice in the movement of these local reserves from their normal positions, to the counter-attack will be carried out by night under arrangements to be notified later from Bde H.Q.s.
6. Confidence of all ranks, (including details such as cooks and batmen, signallers and runners) in the power of the rifle is to be inculcated. The fact of the enemy's attempted breaks through towards CALAIS in 1914 and 1915 being stopped by the RIFLE and not by M.G. or artillery fire is the greatest example of the power of rifle fire. We now have, in addition, the Lewis Gun.
7. The local counter-attack will, in general, be a flank attack and not necessarily a direct frontal attack. The attack from the flank is almost invariably successful owing to the nervousness of most troops to the presence of hostile troops on their flanks.
8. The proper distribution of Lewis guns in the line and in depth is the responsibility of Battalion Commanders, that of Vickers Machine Guns, that of the Brigade Commander. All officers, particularly Coy Commanders, should be made acquainted with and interested in, the dispositions of the M.G.s in the area. Criticism of these dispositions should be made and forwarded to Bde H.Q.s through the proper channels. The siting of Lewis and Vickers guns cannot be done from the map without careful personal reconnaissance.
9. Hostile attacks on large or small scales with or without artillery preparations may be expected. Every precaution, especially at dusk and at dawn or during fog or thick weather, will be taken by all Commanders in order to be in a position to withstand a rush.

P.T.O.

8TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE

2.

10. A "break through" such as at CAMBRAI should be impossible. Every headquarters should have its details organized as a small fighting force, capable of defending the H.Q.s whilst the secret and essential papers (which should be able to be collected together at short notice are got away by some responsible person. All cooks, batmen, runners etc., will be organized into sections under section commanders and will be told off to definite positions for the defence of the H.Q.s in case of alarm.
11. Liason with the artillery should be close and friendly, in order that the best defence of the sector and the saving of ammunition may result.
12. The S.O.S. arrangements now existing on the 1st Aust. Div. front include the following :-
The S.O.S. fired from the front line will bring down the artillery barrage of the whole front covered by the artillery group (approx an Infantry Brigade front). When the raid or attack has been definitely located, the Coy Commander concerned will fire a special light signal (usually the S.O.S. signal in use before the present one) which will bring a concentration of all available artillery onto the Battalion front on which the signal is fired.
13. Coy and Platoon Commanders will ensure that only tried and reliable N.C.Os and men are detailed to hold isolated and dangerous posts and that they are given short written instructions as to their action in case of attack.
14. With regard to hostile tank attacks, efforts are being made to get small quick-firing guns for defensive purposes. The infantry will have to consider their action in dealing with the hostile infantry who would invariably accompany such tanks.
Arrangements will be made by the artillery and engineers to put out range marks with number boards. When sited, the infantry will be made acquainted with their locations in order to assist the artillery in the location and destruction of such hostile tanks as approach these range-marks.
Any roads leading through our sector will be watched particularly and the Engineers have received instructions to prepare these roads with mines.
15. Instructions are to be given to the Signal Coy that during certain times, all wire communication in certain sectors of the Division are to be stopped and all communication carried out by lamp and flag under battle conditions.
16. Dummy attacks with lines of dummies previously put in position in "No Man's Land" are to be carried out at dawn or on misty mornings whilst the Division is in the line.
The forward system will be cleared in order to avoid the hostile barrage and our own artillery will take advantage of the enemy's defences being manned to inflict casualties on him with shell fire.
Opportunity will be given to officers to visit the establishment at AIRB where the working of these dummies is demonstrated.
17. Responsibilities of Commanding Officers regarding the protection of troops in camps was laid stress on,

McCree

Major.

23th January 1918

Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

2255

APPENDIX 2

22

Handwritten signature

SECRET

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Copy No. ¹³.....

Order No. 155.

Reference CALAIS & HAZEBROUCK
(1/100,000)

31st January 1918.

WARNING ORDER.

1. The 8th Aust. Inf. Bde Group is moving from present billets to the forward area as under.
2. Dismounted personnel will move by train from DESVRES on the 30th Inst. detraining at DE KENSBAK and marching to quarters in the RAVELSBURG Area for the night 30/31st Inst.
3. A proportion of unit transport will move by train from DESVRES on 30th Inst., detraining at BAILLEUL WEST and rejoining units in the RAVELSBURG area.
4. Transport (less portion moving by train) will move as a Brigade Group by road on the 28th Inst., staging at ELMS, RENESCURE, and STRAZELLE on nights 28/29th, 29/30th and 30/31st Insts. respectively and rejoining units on the 31st Inst.
5. The Brigade is taking over the MESSINES Sector from the 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde on the night 31st Jan/1st Feb.
The 30th and 32nd Bns will probably take over the front line, right and left respectively.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Handwritten signature
Major
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

PTO

Handwritten signature

DISTRIBUTION

Issued at 12 noon

29th Battalion	bCopy No.1	1
30th "		2
31st "		3
32nd "		4
8th M.G. Coy		5
8th L.T.M.B.		6
2nd Sig. Section		7
8th Field Ambulance		8

Copies to

8th Aust. Div.	9
Brigade commander	10
Staff Capt.	11
File	12
War Diary	13-15

Handwritten signature

Major
Brigade Major

255

Append 6

14

SECRET

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Copy No. 12

Order No. 156

Reference Sketch Map attached.
(1/10,000)

22nd January 1918.

1. The 8th Aust. Inf. Bde will march past the Corps Commander on Wednesday 23rd Inst. as under.
2. Units will be formed up ready to move off in positions as shown on attached map at 10.30 a.m.
The order of march will be as under :-
 - Bde H.Qrs
 - 8th L.T.M.Bty
 - 8th M.G.Coy
 - 32nd Battn
 - 31st "
 - 30th "
 - ~~29th~~ "

Units will keep close touch with the unit ahead in order that the proper distances may be picked up when the column moves off.
3. On the arrival of the Corps Commander at the Saluting Point, the order for the Brigade column to move will be given by the Brigade Commander, when the column will move off in order of march as above.
4. Dress. Full marching order with steel helmets. The S.B.R. will be worn lying on the top of the pack with the sling round the neck and the P.H. helmet carried slung.
The waterproof sheet will be carried folded under the flap of the pack.
Mounted officers will wear Sam Brown belts, dismounted officers, web equipment.
5. Transport will be fully loaded and will march in rear of each Battalion. Cockers and Lewis Gun limbers will march in rear of Coys
6. Distances will be kept as under :-
 - Between Coys 10 yds
 - " Bns 100 "
 - " Bde H.Q. &)
 - 8th L.T.M.B. and between) 10 yds
 - 8th L.T.H.B. & 8th M.G.Coy)
 - Between 8th M.G.Coy and) 50 yds.
 - 32nd Bn)

Battn Transport will move 20 yds in rear of the last coy.
7. On arrival at road corner near Bde H.Qrs (marked "A" on attached map) units will move to billets or to further work by the shortest route.
8th M.G.Coy and 8th L.T.M.B. will halt close to the side of the road between the points marked "B" and "C" until the column has cleared the point "A", when they will return to billets.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

McCann

Major.
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

Issued at 10 a.m.

29th Battn	Copy No. 1	
30th "	2	
31st "	3	
32nd "	4	
8th M.G.Coy	5	
8th L.T.M.B.	6	
8/5 Sig. Sect.	7	

Copies to:-	
5th Aust. Div.	No. 8
Brigade Commander	9
Staff Capt.	10
File	11
War Diary	12/14.

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Appendix No. 7

APPENDIX I

SECRET

Amendment to 8th Inf. Brigade Order No. 157

1. Reference para 6 (b)

Advance parties of 29th and 31st Battalions, M.C.Co. and L.T.M.S. will travel by train leaving SALEM at 5.40 p.m. on Monday 18th inst.

Advance parties of 30th and 32nd Battalions ^{with 14th Coy Bde} will move by the 6-1 a.m. train from SALEM on 29th inst.

All the above will report to 3rd Infantry Brigade H.Qrs (North Midland Farm) on arrival

27
18.1.18

C. P. Lawry
Major
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued to all recipients of Order No. 157

255

Appendix 7

AMM

SECRET

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Copy No.

Order No. 157

Reference Sheet 28 1/10,000
& CALAIS 1/100,000

27th January 1918.

1. The 8th Aust. Inf. Bde Group is moving from present billets to the forward area by rail and road as under :-
 - (a) Personnel by train on 28th Inst. from SAMER
 - (b) Portion of transport by train on 30th Inst. from DESVRES
 - (c) Remainder of transport by road on 28th Inst.

2. The Brigade Group for the move is composed as under :-
 - 8th Aust. Inf. Bde
 - 8th Field Ambulance
 - 5th Pioneer Bn (less 2 Coys)
 - 5th Div. Salvage Coy
 - 18th Coy, A.A.S.C.
 - 15th G. Coy (Transport only)

3. Personnel moving by train will move to SAMER and entrain in accordance with Table "A" attached

4. Transport travelling by road will move under orders issued separately by O.C. 18th A.A.S.C.

5. Transport of units as under will travel by rail from DESVRES on 30th Inst :-

Train leaving DESVRES.

 - Bde H.Qrs - 1 Wagon G.S., 1 R.E. Signal limber, all bicycles
3 riding horses.
 - Each Bn - 4 Cookers, 1 limbered G.S., 1 water cart, 1 Mess cart
all bicycles, 4 riding horses.
 - G. Coy - 1 limbered G.S., 1 water cart, 1 Mess cart, all
bicycles, 2 riding horses.
 - Field Amb. - 1 water cart, 1 Maltese Cart, all bicycles.
 - Pioneer Bn - 2 Cookers, 1 Mess cart, 1 water cart, 5 bicycles.

Every bicycle put on the train must bear a label, showing unit to which it belongs, and one man must be told off to accompany each bicycle.

6. Advance parties as under will move forward on dates shown :-
 - (a) For billeting in RAVALSBERG - **NEUVE EGLISE** Area
1 Off. and 2 N.C.Os from each Bn and other units (except 8th L.F.A. Bty. who will send 1 N.C.O.)
To move by the 14th Inf. Bde Transport Train leaving DESVRES at 8.45 a.m. on the 29th Inst. This party will take bicycles with them and will report to Capt. G. BRIDGEFORD M.C. at **NEUVE EGLISE CHURCH** at 2.30 p.m. on 29th Inst.
 - (b) For line. The following parties will be detailed :-
8 Officers and 12 O.R. per Bn (to include Bn I.O. and 1 Off. per Bn to take over from Bn Works Officer) and 1 Off. and 16 O.R. from 8th M.C. Coy and 1 Off. and 5 O.R. from 8th L.T.A.B. will proceed by train from SAMER at 5.40 p.m. 28th Inst. and will, on arrival, report to Lieut. C.L. LACEY M.C. (Bde I.O.) at 3rd Inf. Bde H.Qrs, **WULVERGHEN** for instructions.
 - (c) Billeting parties for transport group :-
The 29th Bn will detail 1 Off. and 1 N.C.O. and each other Bn and unit will detail 1 N.C.O. This party will be provided with bicycles and will report to O.C. 18th A.A.S.C. LONG FOSSE at 7 a.m. on the 28th Inst. for instructions.

P.T.O.

7. Entrainments

The following officers will be detailed to act in the undermentioned capacities :-

Capt A.M. Robertson	29th Bn	Entraining Officer,	SAMER
Lieut. E. Joy	31st Bn	"	DESVRES
Capt. A.P. Hext	30th Bn	Detrainning Officer	De KENNABAK
Lieut. D. Trimmer	32nd Bn	"	BAILLEUL.

These officers will report to the Officers detailed by Div. H.Qrs at Entraining and Detrainning Stations

Units proceeding by personnel trains will report at SAMER Station 1 hour prior to departure of trains.

Transports will report to DESVRES Station 3 hours prior to departure of trains.

8. States. A complete marching out state for each unit or portion of unit entraining will be handed to Bde representative at entraining stations, who will consolidate and hand to Div. representative.

9. Working parties. 30th and 32nd Bns will each detail a loading party consisting of 1 Off and 35 O.R. for loading transport at DESVRES, to report to Lieut. E. JOY, 31st Bn, at 5.30 a.m. 30th Inst. at DESVRES Station. These parties will detrain on transport train and act as unloading parties at BAILLEUL. On completion of duty, the parties will rejoin their Bns in the New Area.

10. Railheads. Railhead opens at BRULOOZE on 31st Inst.

11. Supplies. Supplies as laid down in appendix "B"

12. Baggage, Stores and Technical Equipment

Baggage and Supply Wagons will report to units at noon on 27th Inst as per 18th A.A.S.C. Order.

Motor transport will report as under to units :-

Bde H.Qrs and 8th L.T.M.B.	1 Lorry
Each Battalion	1 "
8th M.G. Coy	1 "
5th Pioneer Battn	1 "
5th Div. Salvage Coy	1 "

These lorries will report to units at 5 p.m. on 29th Inst. and proceed on journey to new area at 5 a.m. on 30th Inst. The Pioneers and Salvage lorries will be met by Pioneer and Salvage representatives at the Church, KEMMEL at 12 noon and the 8th Bde lorries at Daylight Corner at 12 noon by unit representatives and directed to their destination. All lorries will return to SAMER the same day.

Lewis Guns, 3 panniers per gun, and some Signal gear will be taken on the personnel train. Balance of Sig. gear will go in lorries

L.T.M. Bty guns and essential stores will be dumped at Transport Entraining Station, DESVRES on afternoon of 29th Inst. and left under Guard. These will be loaded on Transport Train of Brigade Group. Motor transport will be provided at BAILLEUL.

No baggage, other than small personal kit, 1 blanket and waterproof sheet on the man and the day's ration in bulk will be carried on the personnel train. Any surplus stores and 1 blanket per man will be taken to the transport entraining station on afternoon of 29th Inst. and left under guard. This will be loaded onto the Transport Train of Brigade Group. Motor transport will be provided at BAILLEUL to move these stores, etc., to new area. Units will arrange for a member of their advance party who is acquainted with destination to meet train at BAILLEUL.

No transport moving by road will have more than its proper load. Any excess may be dumped at the discretion of the Senior Transport Off. (O.C. Bde Transport) and any loss incurred by this action will be borne by the unit concerned.

(contd)

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APP 7

13. Area Commandant. Lieut P.L.FOWLER, 29th Bn will act as Area Commandant, DESBINES Area and will reside at WOLVERGHEE

He will proceed on the 14th Inf. Bde personnel train at 6.1 a.m. on 29th Inst and will take his batman with him. He will take over the area on the 30th Inst.

14. Area Stores. Area Stores will be taken over from 3rd Aust. Inf. B. Units will forward duplicate copies of all receipts given, on the prescribed form, within 24 hours of taking over.

Particular attention must be paid to gum boots, lamps and wash basins etc.

15. Reserve rations. The greatest care must be taken in taking over General purpose and supporting point rations.

16. ACCOMMODATION

John Henry Cunningham
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

Issued at

29th Battalion	Copy No. 1
30th "	2
31st "	3
32nd "	4
8th M.G. Coy	5
3rd L.F.A. B	6
8th Field Ambulance	7
5th Pioneer Battn	8
5th Div. Salvage Coy	9
18th M.A.S.C.	10
15th M.G. Coy	11

Copies to

5th Aust. Div	12
Area Commandant, <u>DESBINES</u>	13
Brigade Commander	14
Staff Captain	15
File	16
War Diary	17/19.

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TABLE 'A'

Appendix

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To accompany

8th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 157 dated 27/1/18.

Date	Unit	Starting point	Time	Entr. ining at	Time	Detr. ining at	Time	Remarks
30th Jan 1918	8th Bde HQ & Sig. Sect	Cross Roads 400 yds S.W. of D of DESVRES (Bde H. Qrs)	2.25am	SAMER	6.1am	DeKENNABAK	11.9am	Route via LONG FOSSE
	29th Bn	"	2.35am	"	"	"	"	"
	30th Bn	"	2.45am	"	"	"	"	"
	8th M.G. Co	M.G. Coy H. Qrs	2.35am	"	"	"	"	"
	8th LTB	as convenient		"	"	"	"	To reach SAMER Station before 5 a.m.
	8th Fld. Amb	"		"	"	"	"	"
	15th Div Signal Co	"		"	"	"	"	"
	31st Bn	Cross Roads 400 yds SW of D in DESRES	3.50am	"	7.21am	"	12.9pm	Route via LONG FOSSE
	32nd Bn	(Bde H. Qrs)	4am	"	"	"	"	"
	5th pm Bn	as Convenient		"	"	"	"	To reach SAMER Station by 6.30
	Trans- port of all Bde Group (portion moving by road)	-	-	DESRES	8.43am	BAILLEUL	12.29 p.m.	To arriv DESRES Station by 5.45am

Table "B".

SUPPLY POSITIONS FOR ROVE.

	27-1-18	28-1-18	29-1-18	30-1-18	31-1-18	1-2-18
Transport -	Supplies	Uncond	Uncond	Uncond	Uncond	Uncond
8th Bde plus	issued for	portion on	ptn on	manptn on	manptn on	portion on
5th Pioneers	consumption	man. 1 day	1 day on	1 day on	man. 1	man. 2 days
less 8th Field	9th to be	on supply	supply wgs	supply	day on supply	ration
Coy A.S.	carried on	wagons.	rations	wgns Rtns	wagons.	to be drawn
moving by road	supply	Rations	issued at	issued	No issue	from S.O.
	wagons	issued this	REMSKURE	at SIRA-	this day	8th Bde in
		night at	for con-	ZESSE for		new area.
		ELNES for	sumption	conspn		
		consumption	on 31st	on 1st		
		30th				
Personnel -						
8th Bde plus	-	-	rations	Uncond	Rations	position
5th Pioneers			issued for	portion	issued	Normal.
(less 2 Coys)			consumptn	on man	for con-	
less 8th Fld			31st to	1 day on	sumptn	
coy, moving			be loaded	train.	1st & 2nd	
by rail			on train	No issue	by S.O.	
					8th Bde	
					New area	

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App 8

Appen. 8

SECRET

Addendum to 8th Infantry Brigade Order No. 158

Reference para 2

Relief Table

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Relieving</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
30th Battalion	12th Battalion	Right
29th " "	11th " "	Right Centre
31st " "	10th " "	Left Centre
29th " "	9th " "	Left

27-1-18

C. Harvey
Major
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

Issued to all recipients of Order No. 158

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Appendix No. 22

SECRET

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Copy No. 14.

Order No. 158.

Reference Sheet 28

1/10,000

27th January 1918.

1. The 8th Aust. Inf. Bde is relieving the 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde in the RIGHT Sector of the Divisional Front on the night 31st Jan./1st Feb.
2. The existing dispositions of the 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde will be taken over as they stand.
The four Battalions will be in the line and will take over from units of the 3rd Inf. Bde from RIGHT to LEFT as follows :-
30th Bn (on right), 32nd Bn (right centre), 31st Bn (left centre)
29th Bn (on left)
3. The boundaries of the right and right centre Battalions are the same as when the Brigade was formerly in the sector.
The approximate left boundary of the Brigade sector is a line due East from OOSTAVERNE Cross Roads.
The boundary between the left and left centre Battalions is the RAVELSBURG
4. The movements of the 8th L.G. Coy in relief will be arranged by the D.M.G.O.
5. Details of relief will be mutually arranged between Commanding Officers concerned.
6. Defence schemes, works policy, maps, air photographs as well as all trench stores and dumps will be taken over and receipts given. Copies of all receipts will be forwarded to Bde H.Qrs by 12 noon on the 1st Inst.
7. Complete disposition maps showing Coy dispositions, positions of R.A.P's, dumps, H.Qrs and all available information will be forwarded to Brigade H.Qrs as early as possible after the relief.
8. Brigade H.Qrs will close at RAVELSBURG Area at 3 p.m. on the 31st Inst and open at 3rd Inf. Bde H.Qrs at the same hour.
Command of the sector will pass to G.O.C. 8th Aust. Inf. Bde on completion of relief.
9. Units will wire completion of relief to Bde H.Qrs by the code word "AGAIN".
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Mulcahy
Major.
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 4.30 p.m.

29th Battalion Copy No. 1

30th " 2

31st " 3

32nd " 4

8th L.G. Coy 5

8th L.T.M.B. 6

2/5 Div. Sig. Co 7

Copies to

5th Aust. Div 8

3rd Aust. Inf. Bde 9

14th Aust. Inf. Bde 10

Brigade Commander 11

Staff Captain 12

File 13

War Diary 14/16