

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

Signals

**Item number:** 22/17/18 Part 1

**Title:** 1st Signal Squadron

August 1917



AWM4-22/17/18PART1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

AUGUST 1917

1st Signal Sqn ATNZ Madan

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Painville	Aug	1	Commenced buried cable line from GAMLI to a point half way towards KHARM. Test boxes established at early night. Bright moon enabled work being done at night.	
		2	Finished buried cable line to KHARM from GAMLI. Test good. Over thousand men in 2 1/2 working hours opened up a trench 5 miles long 12" deep 12" wide & after cable was laid by Signal Squadron, test boxes laid in & connected covered the entire 5 miles in the period stated. Half a mile had to be taken across a very rough deeply pitted rutty ground. The working parties were drawn respectively from the 1st & 2nd ALH Bde covered by the NZMR Bde.	
		3	Directed to establish & maintain communication with 3rd ALH Regt operating in ESANI district. Sent No 2 Pack W/T set which opened with us at 0215. Directed to arrange communication from 2nd ALH Bde HQ near KHARM with D HQ FARA by cable, also by visual from FARA. All lines complete & full communication established by 2100.	

WAR DIARY

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Army Form C. 2118. 699

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

AUGUST 1917

1st SIGNAL SQDN AT NZ MTD DIV

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PALESTINE	Aug	4/5	Routine work	
	6	7/8	do do	
	7	7/8	Inspection of Signal Office, location & organization by Director of Army Signals.	
		11	A raid was carried out at on MAGAM by I.C.C. Bde at 2330. The NZMR Bde took up a position near Hill 330 & were put in direct touch with D.H.Q. by cable. One battery of 60-pdrs took up a position near 90Z EL GELEIB & were linked up with NZMR BDE by cable from D.H.Q. Both units were also in usual communication via TEL EL FARA with camp station D.H.Q. The wagon carrying out the laying returned to bivouac at 0530 on the morning of 12 <sup>th</sup> inst.	diagram attached marked AVA I
		12/13	A reconnaissance of the country South of BEERSHEBA was started on the evening of the 12 <sup>th</sup> by the 1st AT NZ Bde with HQ at HILL 910 South of 90Z SHEIHILI. A line from D.H.Q. to run a cable from camp to 1st Bde HQ. This was carried out 2 1/4 miles of line paid out with a drop office at BIR EL ESANI & a patrol requisitioned to watch the line from 90Z MABRUK to HILL 910. A Pack Train Set was also sent with the Bde HQ. All parties arrived back at 1930/13/17	diagram attached marked AVA II

WAR DIARY

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Army Form C. 2118. 699

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

August 1919

(Erase heading not required.)

1st SIGNAL SQDN ATNZ MID DIV

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Palmerie	Aug 14	P	<p>Outings of the 13th and 14th are commencing towards 189E19 was carried out by the 2nd ALH Bde. Bde HQ moved out to KHARM. <del>Cable</del> Buried Cable to KHARM from GAMBI used to connect up Desert Corps with ATNZ HQ at KHARM. Cable from KHARM to <del>ALH</del> KH IMLEIH connected up 2nd ALH Bde HQ + CANTERBURY MID Regt on the line TAWAIL EL HABARI 820. 790. 810 + Northey to 730 exclusive. Trench with Bde HQ Camp Station established. Details returned to Camp at 0800 on morning of 14th.</p>	Diagram attached marked AVA III
	15 <sup>th</sup> / 16	P	<p>Marched out to RESHID BEK Battle HQ of GOC. Established cable communication with HQ 1st ALH Bde from Camp to BIR ESANI extended that line to HQ of GOC at RESHID BEK and to HQ of 1st ALH Bde at IBIN SAID. The 2nd ALH Bde with HQ at GOZ EL BASHA used the Northern wire of the AP pan buried at KHARM + through a Tee from that wire onto the ESANI line to other connecting them with GOC Battle HQ. The NZMR Bde with HQ at TOWAIL EL HABARI using the Southern wire of the AP pan buried to KHARM came through the same Tee to GOC Battle HQ. <del>WAT</del> W/T sets 1. 2. 3. 4 attached to GOC HQ + respective Bde HQ put in some useful work. The "all clear" patrol reports reaching GOC at Battle HQ by that means at 0730. Trench was established with all units except 2nd ALH Bde HQ</p>	Diagram attached marked AVA IV

2953 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D. D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 699

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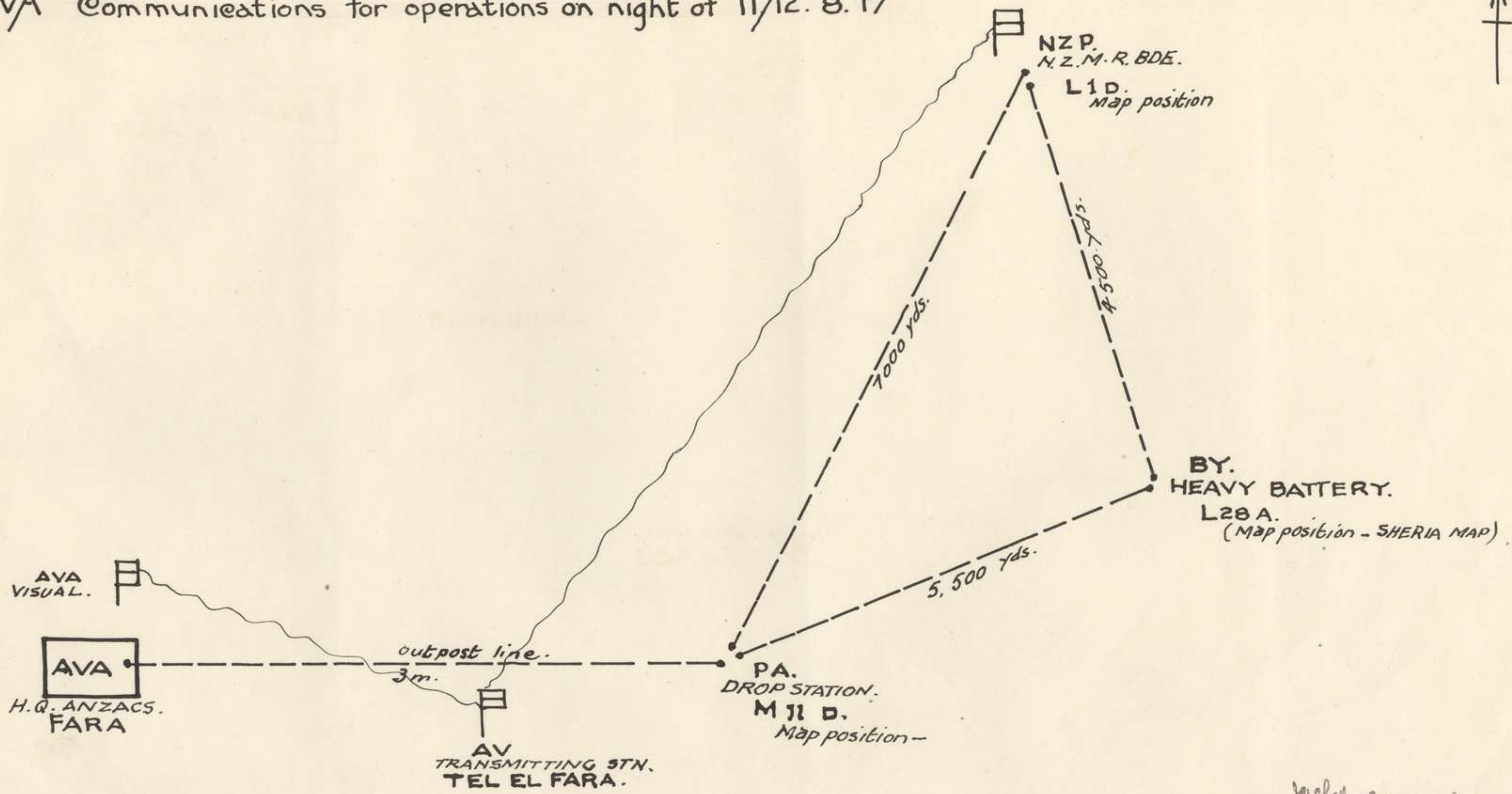
## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Palestine.	Aug. 17		Routine work & preparing to move Camp.	
	18.		Forward party took over line & established office on beach at Marakeb at 1000. Squadron marched from Fara at 0830 and reached Marakeb at 1600. Vehicles and unnecessary stores dropped at Dump under guard at Khan Yunus on way.	
	19/31		Routine work.	

AVA. 1/899

# DIAGRAM of "AVA" Communications for operations on night of 11/12. 8. '17



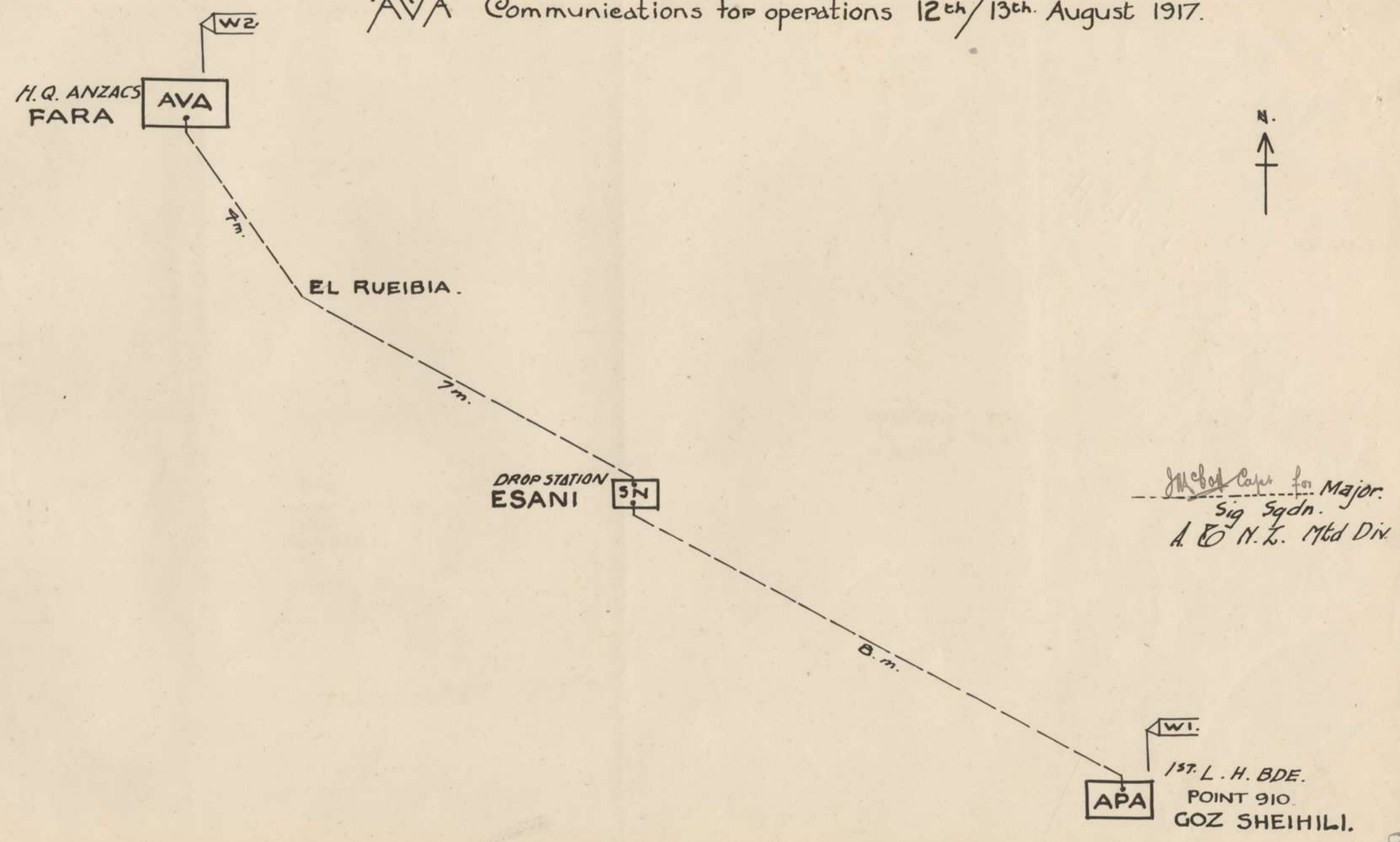
Major Capt. for Major  
 Comdg Sig Sqdn.  
 A. & N.Z. Mtd Div.

APPENDIX.

AVA II 699

DIAGRAM of

AVA Communications for operations 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>. August 1917.



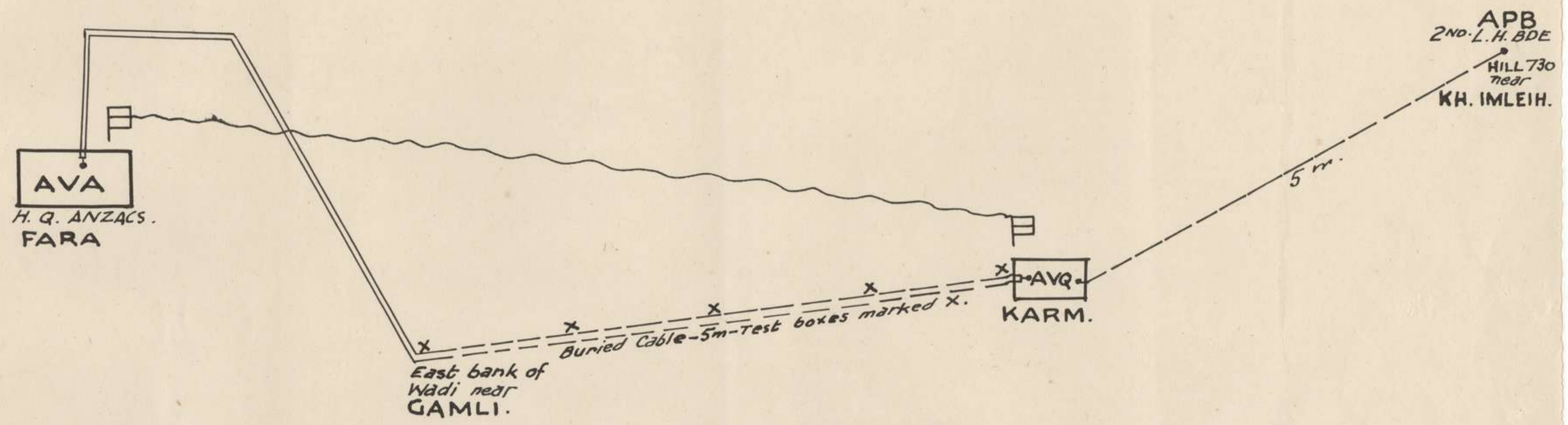
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AVA III

DIAGRAM of

'AVA' Communications for operations night of 13/14. 8. '17.



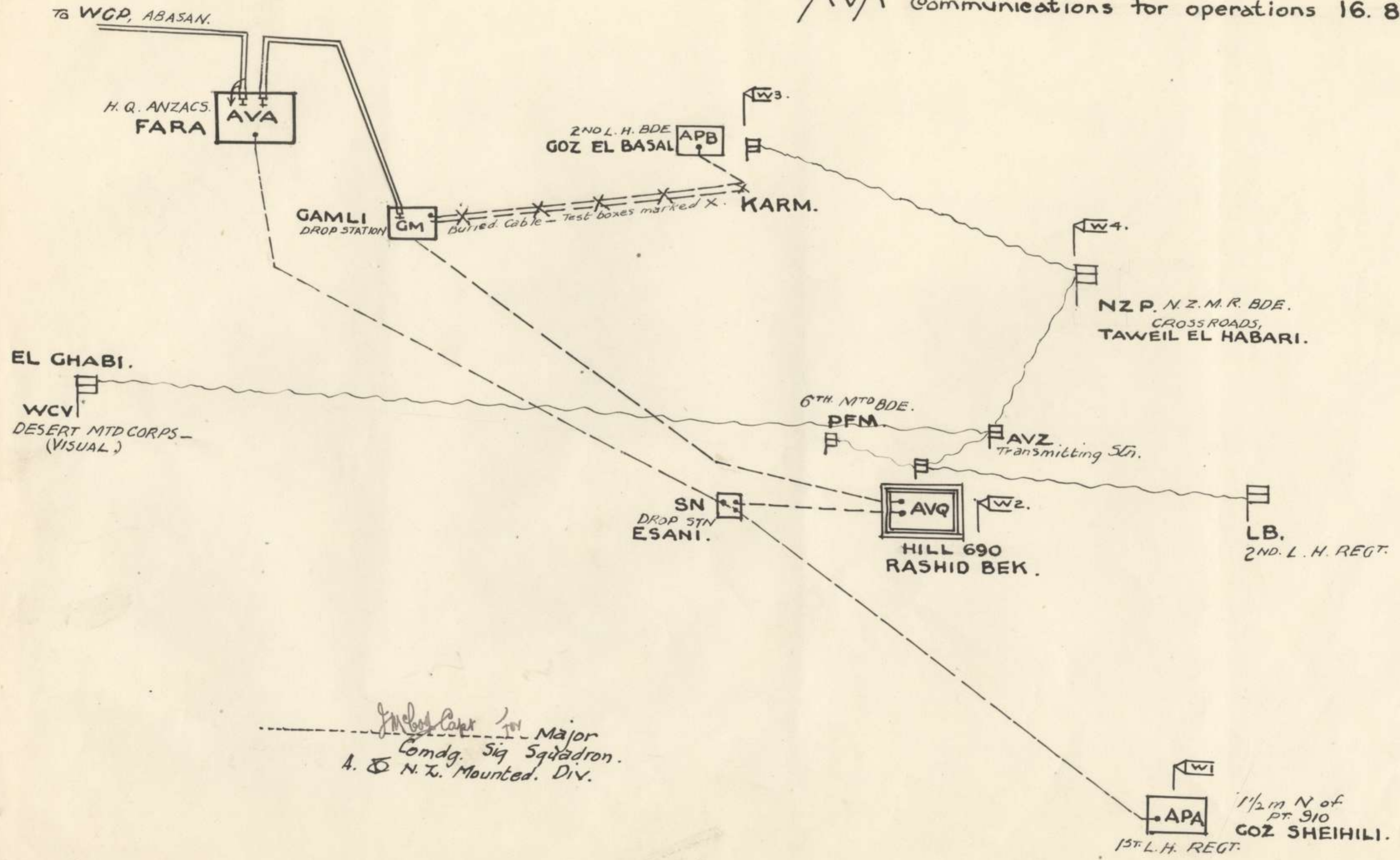
*McCoy* Capt for Major.  
Sig Squadron  
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div.

APPENDIX.



AVA 16/8/17

# DIAGRAM of AVA Communications for operations 16. 8. 17.



*J.M. Coy. Capt. J.M. Major*  
Comdg. Sig Squadron.  
A. & N.Z. Mounted. Div.

APPENDIX.

# SIGNAL SQUADRON, — A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION. —

## ANALYSIS OF MESSAGES DEALT WITH.

MESSAGES TRANSMITTED TO... OR RECEIVED FROM... —

AUGUST

1917.

SIGNAL OFFICE	DATE																															TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
APA, 1 <sup>ST</sup> L.H. BDE	35	26	36	38	42	35	32	43	39	32	26	48	37	51	24	20	42	19	51	42	28	28	38	29	28	32	28	29	26	23	26	1033
APB, 2 <sup>ND</sup> ..	24	24	15	21	45	48	36	42	60	46	40	29	24	27	26	38	41	11	32	23	32	19	30	23	15	21	28	13	16	19	32	900
NZP NZ.M.R. "	46	43	38	28	30	30	32	28	37	33	21	46	40	31	22	29	35	11	37	21	29	26	24	18	11	33	19	19	19	22	21	875
WCP WCO	119	100	105	104	91	124	112	111	144	94	116	126	124	121	122	126	164	75	85	120	88	102	112	82	104	95	107	84	67	74	81	3279
YFZ, 60 <sup>TH</sup> DIV.	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	10	8	9	5	10	12	13	11	8	3	3														150
Outpost (NC, LE, LA)				5	11	15	22	11	15	10	8	11	19	5	12	10	12	6														172
MISCELLANEOUS	21	10	18	16	11	18	15	25	46	18	15	35	6	16	12	3	35	18	17	17	11	14	18	24	27	25	13	11	14	12	11	552
PFM, 6 <sup>TH</sup> MTD BDE																																14
AVQ																																18
<b>TOTAL</b>	254	212	220	220	238	284	257	270	349	242	231	302	262	264	229	266	322	143	222	223	188	189	222	176	185	206	195	156	142	150	171	6993

### PROPORTION OF ABOVE MESSAGES TRANSMITTED OR RECEIVED FOR...

OFFICE.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	TOTAL
A. BRANCH.	51	26	33	33	28	44	43	54	114	49	56	52	48	43	23	38	97	39	86	86	55	58	94	13	44	52	47	42	33	39	35	1555
G. Do.	71	76	76	67	65	86	100	95	85	70	59	102	113	75	68	35	63	47	20	6	29	16	19	30	15	22	14	5	7	22	22	1580
A. D. M. S.	8	3	2	4	5	8	6	6	18	4	3	6	5	6	3	4	5	3	5	2	1	2	4	1	5	3	1	4	3	-	1	129
<b>TOTAL</b>	130	105	111	104	98	138	149	155	217	123	118	160	166	124	94	77	165	87	111	94	85	76	117	44	64	77	62	51	43	61	58	3264

**NOTE:** Figures in **RED**: Messages dealt with on operations of 16<sup>th</sup>.

J. M. Coy Capt for Major  
Comdg. Signal Squadron  
A. & N.Z. Mtd Div.

APPENDIX.

# — SIGNAL SQUADRON — A & NZ MOUNTED DIVISION. —

MONTHLY CHART OF TELEPHONE CALLS. AUGUST. 1917

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SUBSCRIBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	TOTAL
'APA' 1 <sup>ST</sup> L.H. BDE	3	2	9	7	3	3	11	5	11	6	18	4	4	9	7	8	10	4	3	3	6	6	2	5	6	9	12	9	9	4	4	202
'APB' 2 <sup>ND</sup> "	3		3	3	3	3	11	7	7	6	24	8	4	5	4	7	9	7	2	4	4	5	1	5	4	4	8	10	10	8	181	
'NZP' NZMR.	1	4	2	7	3	3	8	8	7	5	20	10	6	11	13	10	14	9	5	4	4	6	2	3	5	5	10	6	8	5	6	210
A.A. GUNS.	3	6	5	4	5	5	7	7	2		3	5	6	1	2	8	5	1														75
'WCP' & 'WCO'	23	32	23	23	26	25	25	33	27	24	47	27	31	30	20	26	33	21	17	16	27	32	12	21	23	25	27	23	20	19	23	781
'A' BRANCH	15	23	12	16	14	21	16	24	25	20	30	27	22	10	18	19	24	19	17	20	20	25	18	30	24	24	21	20	22	26	16	638
'G' BRANCH	25	29	24	27	12	15	19	18	21	15	26	25	30	26	11	20	29	21	8	10	8	15	13	6	13	11	10	13	14	17	14	535
D.A.D.O.S	3	8	13	12	6	7	8	8	10	4	11	9	8	11	12	9	13	4	8	7	6	4	3	17	5	5	7	3	12	6	6	245
CLEARING STN.	2	1	3	1		2	5	2	3	3	4	4	17	9	16	10	7	4														93
SIG. SQUADRON	4	2	6	4	6	6	3	1	7	4	17	14	12	12	5	9	11	1	4	5	8	9	2	5	4	12	6	7	6	4	6	202
A. S. C.	3	3	3	7	6	10	4	12	9	10	20	8	12	7	13	12	11	7														157
C. R. E.	7	5	9	7	9	7	7	8	8	11	16	7	5	15	3	14	7	5	7	16	11	11	7	25	12	11	15	13	15	13	8	314
C. R. A.	2	5	4	4	5	6	7	10	15	9	12	11	3	5	10	5	11	2	10	13	9	14	4	16	9	6	20	17	9	5	7	265
PUBLIC PHONE	3	3	4	2	6	4	7	5	6	2	10	4	12	12	18	14	8	4	3	8	7	10	1	6	3	4	9	8	7	2	2	194
A. D. M. S.	6	4		5	7	6	7	4	7	4	9	7	6	4	7	6	9	6	4	5	8	1	3	5	5	6	7	3	8	6	3	168
SHEIKH NURAN GAMLI.													10	21	15	12	19	11														88
															12	5																17
TOTAL	103	127	120	129	111	123	145	152	165	123	267	170	178	188	186	194	220	126	88	111	118	138	68	144	113	124	152	128	140	111	103	4365

*J. M. ...* for Major  
 Signal Squadron.  
 A. & NZ. Mtd. Div.

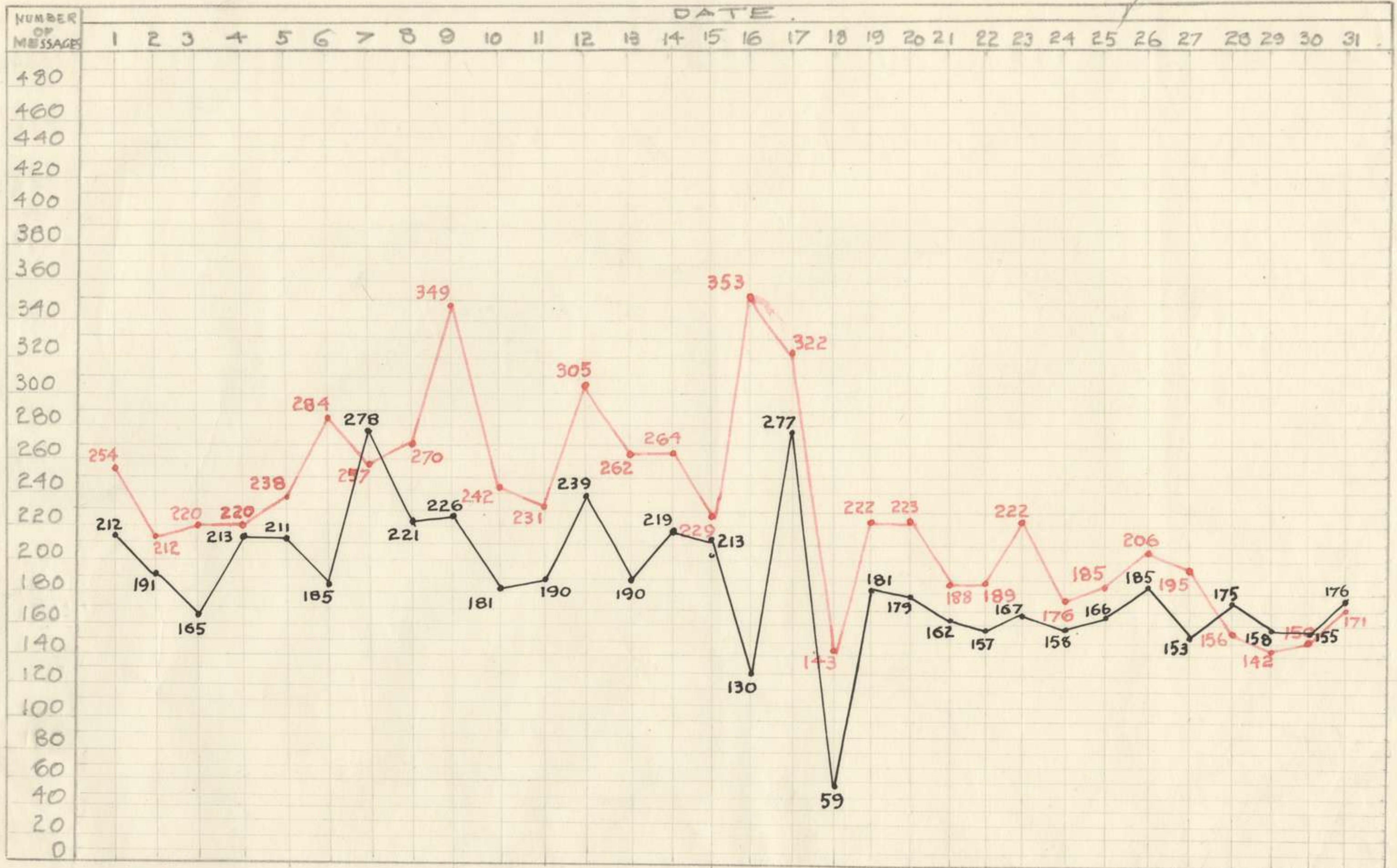
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# SIGNAL SQUADRON - A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.

GRAPH OF MESSAGES DEALT WITH.

AUGUST 1917

699



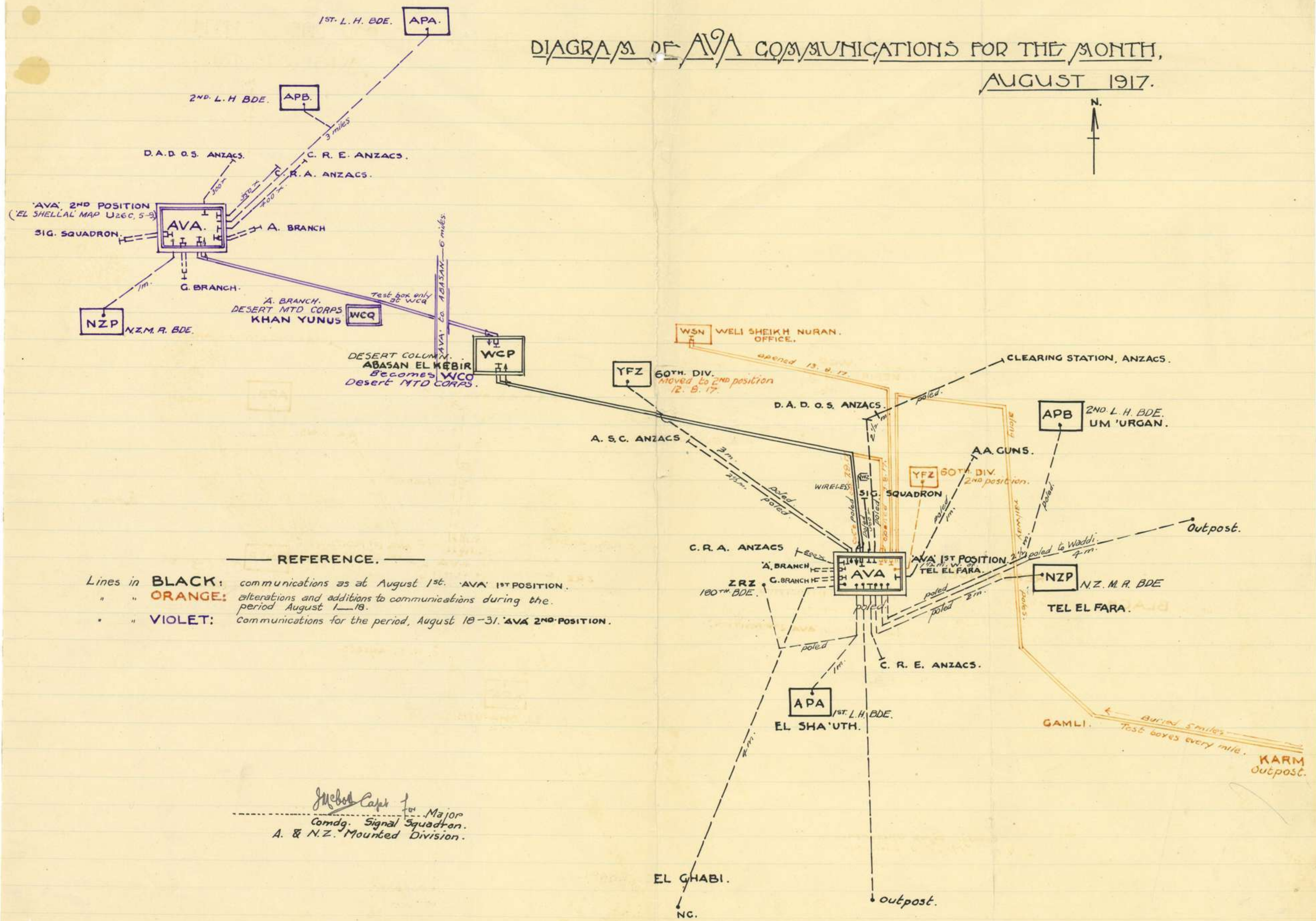
—●— Telegrams.  
—●— Despatches.

J. M. Collier Major  
Sig. Squadron.  
A. & N.Z. Mtd Div.

APPENDIX.

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# DIAGRAM OF AVA COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE MONTH, AUGUST 1917.



### REFERENCE.

- Lines in **BLACK**: communications as at August 1st. 'AVA' 1st POSITION.
- " " **ORANGE**: alterations and additions to communications during the period August 1-18.
- " " **VIOLET**: communications for the period, August 18-31. 'AVA' 2nd POSITION.

*Major Capt J. Major*  
 Comdg. Signal Squadron.  
 A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.