

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/15/30 PART 2

Title: 15th Infantry Brigade

August 1918 Appendix



AWM4-23/15/30PART2

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

ENGAGED IN. BY

15TH AUST. INF. BDE.

8TH 9TH AUG. 18

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C O N T E N T S

- A Preliminary Instructions and Orders.
- B Map showing position of Units in Assembly Area.
- C Squared Aeroplane Map of Area. (original only).
- D Aeroplane Photographs of Area.
- E Map showing Objectives and Boundaries.
- F Map showing regulation of pace of advance to GREEN LINE.
- G Map showing Enemy's Sector Organisation.
- H Chart showing Aircraft Co-operation.
- I Brigade and Battalion Report on Operations.
- J Telegrams Received and Sent during Operations.
- K Platoon Commanders' Narratives.
- L 5th Aust. Div. Resume of Operations. No. 1/4 (original only).
- M Report by 1st Cavalry Brigade (original only).
- N Report by 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade (original only).
- O Report by 2nd Tank Battalion (original only).
- P Congratulatory Messages.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S No.1.

Ref: Sheet 62 D S.E. 1/20,000

2nd August, 1918.

1. On a day and at an hour to be notified the Australian Corps is to attack the enemy from the VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - CHAULNES RAILWAY exclusive to the River SOMME.
2. The 5th Australian Division will attack within the boundary shown on the attached Map No. 1.
The 2nd Canadian Division is to co-operate on the right and the 4th Australian Division on the left.
3. In order to avoid deluging Units with a mass of orders and instructions just prior to the operations orders will be issued in the form of preliminary instructions each day and these will be summarised in a final order.
4. The Division is to attack on a two Brigade front. The attack will be carried out in two phases. Boundaries and objectives will be as shown on the attached Map No. 1.
 - (a) First Phase: 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group on the right; 8th Australian Infantry Brigade Group on the left will advance in open warfare formation from the first objective passing through the 2nd Australian Division objective (GREEN LINE)
 - (b) Second Phase: 15th and 8th Australian Infantry Brigades Groups will exploit their success and seize the old British Lines of defence (RED LINE) and establish themselves defensively on it.
 - (c) The 14th Australian Infantry Brigade Group will be in Divisional Reserve.
5. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group will comprise:
 - 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters.
 - 57th Battalion,
 - 58th Battalion,
 - 59th Battalion,
 - 60th Battalion,
 - 15th A.L.T.M.B.,
 - 3 Sections Light Horse,
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ Platoon Cyclists,
 - Detachment of Engineers,
 - Detachment of Tunnellers,
 - 1 Brigade Field Artillery,
 - 1 Machine Gun Company,
 - 1 Exploiting detachment,
6. (a) The Brigade Group will move into assembly positions in
 - O.24., 30., 36.
 - P.19., 25., 31.
 during the night 4th/5th August.
 - (b) Detailed Unit areas and orders for move will be issued later.
7. (a) The Line O.36.Central - Cross Roads P.25.C. - thence along Road N.E. to QUARRY CROSSING - HAMEL is taken as a "Start" line for the Brigade Group.
 - (b) The Brigade Group will move from assembly position in suitable formation for engaging in open warfare with advanced and flank guards and special provision for maintaining touch with adjoining bodies on flanks.

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(2)

- (c) It may at any time, particularly after passing the GREEN LINE, be necessary for Units to deploy into Artillery Formation, but the guiding principle will be to avoid premature and over dispersion and consequent loss of control.
- (d) The rate of march is taken as one mile per hour including halts.
- (e) The distance from the start line to the GREEN LINE is 5,050 yards = 2.9 miles.
- (f) The exploiting detachment in the Mark V Tanks will move behind the Brigade Group at a distance of 800 yards until the RED LINE is reached when they will pass through and advance to the BLUE LINE and disembark under orders which will be issued.

8. The following is the provisional distribution of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group:

ADVANCED GUARD
 Commander: Lieut. Col. J. J. SCANLAN D.S.O.
 5th Battalion
 1 Section Engineers
 2 Sections H.G. Company.
 2 Sections L.T.M.'s.

MAIN BODY
 Commander: Lieut. Col. C. A. DENEHY D.S.O.
 14th Aust F.A. Brigade.
 2 Sections Light Horse.
 H.G. Company (less 2 sections).

58th Battalion.
 1 Section L.T.M.'s.
 57th Battalion.
 1 Section L.T.M.'s.
 (One company 57th Bn. to be detached as flank guard to maintain liaison with 2nd Canadian Division).
 1 Section Light Horse.

SUPPORT
 60th Battalion.

EXPLOITING DETACHMENT.
 Commander: Major H. D. G. FERRES, M.C.

SECRET

COPY No.

AMENDMENT
to
PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No.1.

dated 2nd August
1918



-
1. Para 4, sub-para(a).
Add: The 8th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades objective is shown in RED.
 2. Para 4, sub-para(b).
Line 3: For RED Line substitute BLUE LINE.
 3. Para 7, sub-para(f).
For Mark V Tanks read Mark V Star Tanks.

G. F. Tollem

C aptain,
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Addressed to all recipients of
Preliminary Instructions No.1.

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AUSTRALIAN
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 2.

"Intelligence, examination and disposal of prisoners and
Captured Documents".

1. INFORMATION REQUIRED:

The following information is required by Brigade during the operation:

- (a) The position of our troops.
- (b) The position and strength of the enemy.
- (c) The nature and position of enemy defences.
- (d) The nature and direction of hostile shelling.
- (e) Identification of German Units.

2. GERMAN SPEAKERS:

A German Speaker should be at each Battalion Headquarters to check identifications, and obtain from prisoners any information required by C.O. Battalion.

3. Each Battalion should detail special trained searchers, to search Headquarters, dugouts etc. for maps and documents. (Tunnellers will be attached to help in this work). These searchers should also be instructed to count German dead and report same to Battalion Headquarters. Documents should be placed in bags and labelled important or unimportant, and stating the position where they were found.

4. SEARCHING PRISONERS:

Previous instructions concerning separation of Officers, N.C.O's and men, and searching of Officers and N.C.O's will be adhered to. Pay Books and Identity Discs are not to be taken from prisoners. All documents taken from prisoners will be forwarded with the escort.

5. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESCORTS AND TRAFFIC POLICE:

- (a) Special care must be taken that no documents are destroyed by prisoners. Escorts at the rear of columns should be warned about this.
- (b) All Military Policemen and Traffic Police will ensure that all escorts passing them know their way to Divisional Collecting Station.
- (c) Unauthorised speech or interference with prisoners must be strictly guarded against.
- (d) Escorts should ascertain by which Brigade the prisoners have been captured.

6. MILITARY POLICE ESCORTS:

Battalion escorts will take prisoners only as far as Brigade Headquarters. Military Police will be attached to Brigade Headquarters to take over prisoners and escort them to Advanced Divisional Collecting Station, whence they will be evacuated to rear Divisional cage.

7. Acknowledge.

Goldham

Captain

Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at a.m. through signals to;

	Copy No.	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.	Copies to:
58th Battalion	2.	G.O.C. 15th A.I.Bde
59th Battalion	3.	Staff Captain
60th Battalion	4.	5th Aust. Division
15th A.I.T.H.B.	5.	File
14th Aust. P.A. Brigade	6.	War Diary
C.O. Exploiting Detachment	7.	

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SECRET.

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 3.

"Maps and Information Regarding the Enemy".

1. The following Maps will be issued from Division;

62 D (sufficient copies for issue to all Officers concerned
62 D S.E (taking into account those maps already in possession
(of Units).

Trench Maps showing defensive works in the present 2nd
Australian Divisional Area.

Message Maps For all Officers and N.C.O's of Battalions.

2. Aeroplane photographs will be issued as under:

Mosaics for all Officers and N.C.O's.
Obliques -do- -do-

3. Copies of an Organisation Map will be forwarded for distribution
down to Company Commanders. This will show enemy organisation
within the area of operations.

4. A letter and map will also be issued giving a description of the
enemy defences, distribution of enemy forces and topographical
description of country. Sufficient copies for Headquarters and
Company Commanders.
This will be carefully studied and important information marked
on the other maps issued.

5. Acknowledge.

G.R. Jollan
Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at	a.m. through	Signals to:	Copy No.
57th Battalion			1.
58th Battalion			2.
59th Battalion			3.
60th Battalion			4.
15th A.L.P.M.B.			5.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade			6.
O.C. Exploiting Detachment			7.
No. 4 Signal Section			8.
Copies to:			
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade			9.
Staff Captain			10.
5th Australian Division			11.
File			12.
War Diary			13-15.

SECRET.

Copy No.....

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 4.1. MEDICAL:

The A.D.M.S. will make arrangements for the clearing of all wounded from Regimental Aid Posts. Special measures will be concerted to clear the battle-field. Wounded should be conveyed to the nearest road. Corps will be specially searched.

2. MOVEMENT OF RESERVES:

In moving Reserves, discretion will be given to Unit Commanders as to localities in which halts or detours will be made in the advance in order to avoid shelled areas. To this end careful reconnaissances and enquiry will be made in order to ascertain the localities of areas habitually shelled or gassed.

3. FORMING UP AND ASSEMBLY:

It is essential that the arrangements for assembly of troops prior to the attack should be simple and that no efforts should be spared to make such arrangements known to all concerned.

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

- (a) Detailed Signal Instructions will be issued separately.
- (b) To enable the proper and prompt use of Reserves information from the front must be sent back. That communication by telephone etc. has broken down does not absolve subordinate Commanders from fulfilling this necessity. All subordinate Commanders must be reminded that when sending a message from a new position THE MAP LOCATION AT WHICH THE MESSAGE IS WRITTEN MUST BE INCLUDED AT THE END OF THE MESSAGE.
- (c) Attention is directed to S.S.148 - Forward Communication in Battle. Every provision will be made for the use of alternative methods of communication.
- (d) New Code Letters will be issued and prompt measures are to be taken to see that these are adhered to.
- (e) At Battalion Headquarters only the Commanding Officer of the Battalion or the Adjutant, and at Company Headquarters only the Officer Commanding will be allowed to use the telephone. No Other Subscribers will be accommodated on the exchange under any circumstances.

5. DIRECTION:

- (i) Special precautions will be taken to prevent loss of direction during the advance.
- (ii) Advanced Officers will be given a compass bearing on which to march regardless of the fact that there may be conspicuous land marks.
- (iii) A Bearing taken from advanced Brigade Headquarters in O.24.C. to the VAUVILLERS CHURCH will give the approximate boundary between Brigades.

6. FLANK BRIGADES:

The 5th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 2nd Canadian DIVISION (Brig.-General J.M.ROSS D.S.O.) will be on the right flank of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade during the advance to the RED LINE (Brigade Major - Major A.L.WALKER, D.S.O., M.C.,

7. Acknowledge.

[Signature]
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

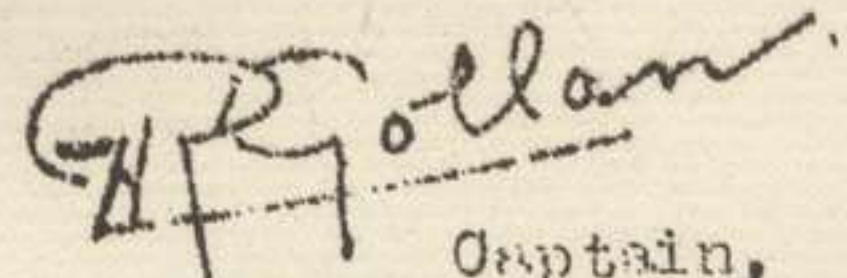
P.T.O.

Issued at	a.m. through	Signals to:	Copy No.
57th Battalion			1.
58th Battalion			2.
59th Battalion			3.
60th Batt. lion			4.
15th A.L.T.M.B.			5.
14th Aust.F.A.Brigade			6.
O.C.Exploiting Detachment			7.
No.4 Signal Section			8.
Copies to:			
G.O.C. 15th A.I.Brigade			9.
Staff Captain			10.
5th Australian Division			11.
File			12.
War Di.ry			13-15.

SECRET.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 5."SECRECY".

1. It is of first importance that secrecy should be observed and the operation carried out as a surprise. Commanders will take all possible steps to prevent the scope or date of the operation becoming known except to those taking part. Any Officer, N.C.O. or man discussing the operation in public, or communicating details regarding it to any person, either soldier or civilian, not immediately concerned, will be severely dealt with.
2. All movement of troops or transport in an Easterly direction will take place by night, whether in the forward or back areas of the Australian Corps, on and after 1st August, except where absolutely necessary to move by day.
3. O.C. No. 3 Squadron A.F.C., is to arrange for aeroplanes to fly over the Australian Corps Army Area during the days when flying is possible, and to report to Corps Headquarters any abnormal movement of troops or transport within our lines.
4. Work on back lines will be continued at present, so that there may be no apparent change in our attitude.
5. Commanders will ensure that the number of Officers reconnoitring the enemy's positions is limited to those for whom such reconnaissance is necessary. Nothing attracts attention to an Offensive more than a large number of Officers with maps looking over the parapet and visiting O.P's. Commanding Officers of Units holding the front line are to report at once to higher authority any disregard of these orders.
7. Acknowledge.



Captain,
Brigade Major,

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at a.m. through Signals to:
Copy No.

57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th A.L.T.H.B.	5.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	6.
O.C. Exploiting Detachment	7.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.
Copies to:	
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	9.
Staff Captain	10.
File	11.
War Diary	12-14.
5th Australian Division	15.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 6.

"Co-operation with Tanks".

1. Tanks have been allotted to the 5th Australian Division as follows:
 - (a) Mark V Tanks: "A" Company 2nd Tank Battalion (Major H.V. DIAMOND) for employment with 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
 - (b) One Company of the 13th Tank Battalion will be operating with the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade.
 - (c) One Company of the 8th Tank Battalion will be employed in support, its special role being to maintain the attack at the Junction of the 4th and 5th Australian Divisions.
2. After the capture of the first objective (GREEN LINE) tanks detailed to the 2nd Australian Division will rally and will be employed to support the advance of the 15th and 8th Australian Infantry Brigades. After the capture of the second objective (RED LINE) tanks will rally. "A" Company 2nd Tank Battalion will remain in close support to both Brigades.
3. Mark V (Star) Tanks: Nine of these Tanks have been allotted to the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade for the capture of the BLUE LINE and will be used to transport the Brigade exploiting detachment. The composition of this detachment has already been notified to Units.
4. Nine Carrying Tanks have been allotted to the Division for the transport of S.A.A., T.M. Ammunition, Rations, Water, R.E. Stores, etc. instructions for which will be issued later.
5. For tactical purposes tanks are placed under the command of Infantry Commanders to whose command they are allotted. Details of employment and co-operation will be notified.
6. Each Battalion will earmark and hold in readiness a selected number of men (liaison men and scouts) for duty on each Mark V Tank operating with them. The exact numbers required will be notified. Each Tank carries one scout and one Liaison man. These men must be very carefully selected. The liaison man must belong to the Unit (platoon: etc.) with which the tank is operating and it will be his duty to ensure that the Tank gets into position with its affiliated Infantry Unit (platoon etc) and to carry out liaison between them generally.
7. Each Battalion will prepare at once a number of boards or similar devices bearing the colours of the Battalion. These will be carried conspicuously on Tanks operating with Battalions concerned.
8. Acknowledge.

H. P. Gollan
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at p.m. through signals to:

	Copy No.	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1. Copies to:	
58th Battalion	2. G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	9.
59th Battalion	3. Staff Captain	10.
60th Battalion	4. 5th Australian Division	11.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	5. "A" Company 2nd Tank Bn.	12.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	6. File	13.
O.C. Exploiting Detachment	7. War Diary	14-16.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.	

AUSTRIALIAN
11/16/50
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS
to accompany
PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No.6

Ref. Sheet 62D

August 4th 1918

1. 9 Carrying Tanks are allotted to the 5th Australian Division
- 5 to 8th Infantry Brigade and 4 to 15th Infantry Brigade.

2. These tanks will be loaded as under:-

Two (2) Tanks, each carrying -	Two (2) Tanks, each carrying -
1 - 6" Newton T.M. with 30 rounds of ammunition with charges.	100 rounds L.T.M. ammunition.
6 boxes M.G. ammunition.	26 boxes M. G. ammunition.
4 boxes S.A.A.	14 boxes S.A.A.
50 petrol tins filled with water.	2 boxes No.36 grenades.
2 boxes preserved meat.	50 petrol tins filled with water
10 S.O.S. Signals.	2 boxes preserved meat.
200 shovels.	2 boxes biscuit.
100 picks.	10 S.O.S. Signals.
5 bales sandbags.	200 shovels.
10 bundles French wire.	100 picks.
150 long screw pickets.	10 bundles French wire.
150 short screw pickets.	150 long screw pickets.
40 coils barbed wire.	150 short screw pickets.
2 boxes biscuit	40 coils barbed wire.
	5 bales sandbags.

3. Tanks will be named and numbered as under:

<u>8th BRIGADE (5 Tanks).</u>		<u>15th BRIGADE (4 Tanks)</u>	
	<u>Officers Name.</u>		<u>Officers Name</u>
116 DUBLIN	-	135 EASTBOURNE	-
122 DARLINGTON	Lt.W.ASHFORD	109 BATH	2/Lt.W.SAUNDERS
120 ELSWICK	2/Lt.T.SCOTT	146 JARROW	-
125 ELY	-	101 CHARLTON	Capt.H.CRAXTON
104 FOLKESTONE	Capt.G.SUNNUCKS		

4. In the 8th Brigade Group Tanks No.116 DUBLIN and 120 ELSWICK will each carry the loads of which the 6" Newton T.M. form part. In the 15th Brigade Group Tanks 135 EASTBOURNE and 146 JARROW will each carry the loads of which the 6" Newton T.M. form part. The 8th Brigade Tanks will each carry a board painted yellow and the 15th Brigade Group a board painted red, as distinguishing marks.
5. Each Battalion will detail 2 men to report to Lieut.J.H. ANDERSON (Brigade Bombing Officer) at CHURCH CAMON at 8 a.m. tomorrow 5th inst.
6. These men will assist in loading tanks and will subsequently go forward with them and act as unloading party and form Brigade Dumps on arrival at final objective.
7. They will carry 24 hours rations plus 2 complete Iron Rations.
8. Acknowledge.

W. H. A. J.
Captain,
Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all recipients of
Preliminary Instructions No.6.

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SECRET.

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 7.

1. The following Officers have been detailed for duty with flank Brigades:

Name	Unit	Liaison with	Remarks.
Lieut. C.G.FORREST M.C.	57th Bn.	5th Canadian Inf. Brigade. (Right Brigade).	Report when ordered.
Lieut. E.A.O'MALLEY M.C.	58th Bn.	8th Australian Inf. Brigade. (Left Brigade)	-do-

2. Liaison Officers will be supplied with two runners and bicycles from the 57th and 58th Battalions respectively.
3. The C.O. 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade will be located at Brigade Headquarters. Arrangements for liaison between Artillery and Infantry Battalion Commanders will be arranged and notified. Battalion and Company Commanders will make every endeavour to get and keep in touch with Artillery Commanders during the operation.
4. The C.O. 2nd Tank Battalion will be located at Brigade Headquarters. One Infantry Liaison man will be carried in each Mark V Tank (See Preliminary Instructions No. 6. Para 6).
5. A Liaison Officer with two runners from the Reserve Brigade will be located at Brigade Headquarters.
6. Battalions will arrange for the exchange of Liaison Officers with the Battalions on their flanks. Runners will accompany these Officers.
7. The greatest care will be taken to inform neighbouring formations and Units of changes of location of Headquarters.
8. Acknowledge.

T.P. Gollan

Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at p.m. through signals to:

	Copy No.	Copies to:	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.	G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	9.
58th Battalion	2.	Staff Captain	10.
59th Battalion	3.	5th Aust. Division	11.
60th Battalion	4.	8th A.I. Brigade	12.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	5.	14th A.I. Brigade	13.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	6.	5th Canadian Brigade	14.
O.C. Exploiting Detachment	7.	File	15.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.	War Diary	16-18.

Copies to:

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 8.

"Communications"

Two pairs on buried route connect Advanced Division at O.25.C. with Brigade Headquarters (8th and 15th) at O.24.C.3-2. Telephonic communication forward will be by bury to Cable head at P.25.B.7-7. From thence the Brigade Forward Station will lay a line to present front line at P.32.B.8-9 by Zero hour. As soon after Zero as possible Brigade Forward Station will move forward following approximately the road through P.25.B. - P.26.C. - P.33.A. & B. and establish a station at approximately P.34.D. to receive and transmit messages from Unit Scouting Officers who will be with the 7th Australian Infantry Brigade. This station to be in working order by Zero plus 2 hours at latest. This should ultimately become Advanced Brigade Headquarters. Brigade Forward Station will await arrival of Advanced Guard (59th Battalion) and follow behind them adopting a central position amidst Battalions still along road through V.5.A. & B. - V.6.A. & B. and thence at discretion of Commander to a fixed location at approximately W.8.B. or D. Divisional Signals are arranging for a poled cable route to be pushed forward along boundary between 8th and 15th Brigades and should be through one day after Zero day.

Visual: A central Visual Station will be located at P.25.B.7-7. (Cable head)

Visual Communication by lamp, trench flapper, flag and helio will be maintained on move between battalions and with Brigade Forward Station who will communicate with Central Visual Station until out of reach when an intermediate station will be dropped approximately at P.34.D. near to position likely to become Advanced Brigade Headquarters.

Aeroplane: Popham Signal Panel will be carried by each Battalion and will be set up on final position of Headquarters. Brigade Headquarters Panel will be at O.24.C.3-2 until a new Headquarters is formed when Panel will be moved to that position.

Pigeons: Each Battalion will be issued with at least two pairs of pigeons prior to Zero hour. The scale of issue thereafter will be two pairs per Battalion per day.

Wireless: Awireless set will be installed at Brigade Headquarters working with Division. Brigade Forward Station will take forward two sets, one for final position of station and one to be dropped at position to become Advanced Brigade Headquarters.

Runners: There will be runner relay posts from the Brigade Forward Station back to Brigade Headquarters along cable route at approximately the following points:

P.25.B.7-7.
P.32.B.8-9.
P.34.D.
V.6.B.
Brigade Forward Station.

Mounted D.R's: Will stand by ready for use as occasion offers between Brigade and Brigade Forward Station.

[Signature]

Captain,
Brigade Major,

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all
Recipients of
Preliminary Instructions.

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APPENDIX 8[#]

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SECRET

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 9

COPY NO. 14.

Ref. Sheet 62D

August 5th 1918

1. The following are Medical arrangements for clearing of wounded.
2. The C.O. 15th Field Ambulance will detail a party of 3 Officers and 114 Other Ranks who will act as stretcher bearers.
3. To maintain contact an extra squad of 4 bearers will be attached to each R.M.O.
4. The main party will move forward in extended order about 500 yards in rear of rear party of Brigade Group until the GREEN LINE is reached where they will halt temporarily.
5. On arrival at MED LINE the contact squads will get in touch with main party at GREEN LINE from where the C.O. 15th Field Ambulance will arrange a system of relay posts from forward to rear.
6. Motor Post will be established at V.5.A.5-3 (Roads) and at P.36.A.0-9.
7. Wounded not dealt with by bearers and in such position that they may be overlooked, will if possible be left on the side of nearest road.
8. Acknowledge.

R. Dalmon Capt

for Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all recipients
of Preliminary Instructions No. 8

S E C R E T.



Copy No. 18

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S N o . 1 0 .1. CONSOLIDATION:

- (a) As soon as the RED LINE has been captured the position will be thoroughly consolidated. Arrangements have been made to ensure a supply of engineering material for this.
- (b) When the BLUE LINE is attained it will be organised and consolidated as the main line of resistance.
- (c) If the enemy is able to develop an immediate counter attack or if he has definite plan, and the troops available in close reserve for the defence of the BLUE LINE - it may not be possible to reach the BLUE LINE. In this case the RED LINE will become the main line of resistance and will be consolidated and organised in depth accordingly.
- (d) Definite plans will be prepared to deal with either case. The Brigade must be prepared, as early as possible, to fight stiff defensive battle on the main line of resistance.

Acknowledge.

Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

4th August, 1918.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 6 p.m. through signals to:
Copy No.

57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	5.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	6.
O.C. Exploiting detachment	7.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.
14th Field Company A.E.	9.
15th Machine Gun Company	10.
Copies to:	
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	11.
Staff Captain	12.
5th Australian Division	13.
5th Canadian Brigade	14.
File	15.
War Diary	16-18.

265

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S No. 11.

"Co-operation of Infantry and Aircraft".

1. CONTACT AEROPLANES:(i) Indication of position by Flares:

(a) Red Ground Flares will be used to indicate the Infantry positions to Contact Aeroplanes. The Flares will be lit by Infantry in the most advanced positions only.

(b) A Contact Aeroplane will fly along the line of the second RED Objective at Zero plus 6 hours 30 minutes. Flares will be called for by the aeroplane sounding a succession of "A's" on the KLAXON HORN and by firing a WHITE VERY LIGHT. If the aeroplane fails to mark the line accurately it will repeat its call ten minutes later.

Should the Infantry not have reached the line of the objective at the time laid down above, the contact aeroplane will return at half hour intervals until flares are shown.

(c) A Contact aeroplane will fly over the third objective at Zero plus 8 hours 30 minutes when the procedure laid down for the second objective will be observed until the flares are shown.

(d) Divisional dropping ground will be located at O.25.C.3-3.

(ii) Other means of Identifying the position of the Infantry:

(a) Rifles: Three or four rifles laid parallel across the top of the trench.

(b) Metal Discs: Metal Discs will be used as reflectors by flashing in the sun. This method has been successful even on days which have not been particularly bright. The Disc is most easily carried on the inside of the flap of the Small Box Respirator.

2. COUNTER-ATTACK PLANES:

(a) From Zero, counter attack planes will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentrations or abnormal movement.

(b) In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter attack plane will signal this information to the artillery by wireless. In the case of a counter attack actually developing a white parachute flare will be fired by the plane in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter attack, for the information of the Infantry.

3. AMMUNITION CARRYING AEROPLANES:

(a) Aeroplanes will be detailed to transport ammunition from Zero plus 7 hours .

(b) Vickers guns will display a white "V" at the point where ammunition is to be dropped. The arms of the "V" to be 6 feet in length and 1 foot in width. The Apex of the "V" to point towards the enemy.

(c) Ammunition aeroplanes will have the underside of the lower planes painted black for a distance of 2½ feet from the tips.

4. COMMUNICATION BY POPHAM PANEL:

Communication between Infantry and Aircraft will be by means of the POPHAM PANEL. The following distinguishing letters are allotted to Unit POPHAM PANEL Stations:

Right Infantry Brigade	A.
Left Infantry Brigade	B.
Reserve Infantry Brigade	C.
31st Battalion	I.
57th Battalion	N.
58th Battalion	R.
59th Battalion	W.
60th Battalion	Y.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX #

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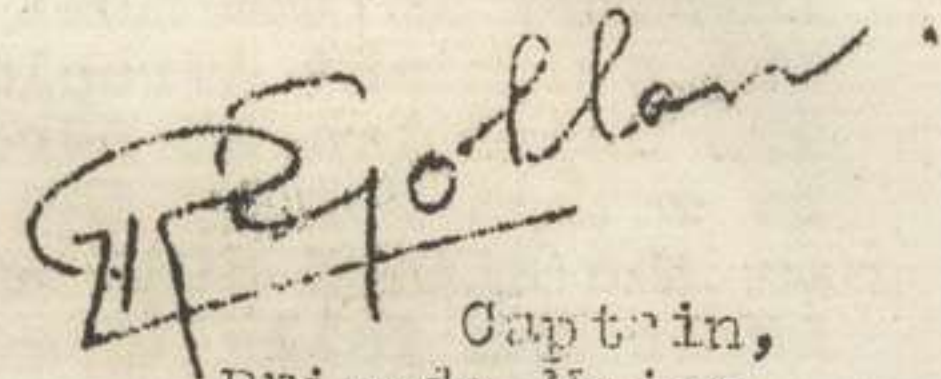
(2)

These letters will be made with White Strips beside the Panel in manner laid down in Appendix "B" S.S.135 and should be shown by observer on his form.

5. LOW FLYING E.A.:

Arrangements must be made by Units to deal with low flying Enemy Aircraft.

6. Acknowledge.



Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at p.m. through Signals to all recipients Preliminary Instructions No. 10.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.FIRST AMENDMENT TO PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 11.

cancel para 4 and substitute the following:

4. COMMUNICATION BY POPHAM PANEL:

The following Brigade and Battalion Code Calls will come into operation in the 5th Australian Division from 12 noon, 7th August, for communicating between Infantry and Aeroplanes.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters	N.
29th Battalion	N.W.
30th Battalion	N.X.
31st Battalion	N.Y.
32nd Battalion	N.Z.

14th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters	O.
53rd Battalion	O.W.
54th Battalion	O.X.
55th Battalion	O.Y.
56th Battalion	O.Z.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters	P.
57th Battalion	P.W.
58th Battalion	P.X.
59th Battalion	P.Y.
60th Battalion	P.Z.

Brigade and Battalion Headquarters indicate their position by means of ground signal sheets laid on ground near the Headquarters concerned, whilst their identity is disclosed by the above code letters made by ground signal strips laid alongside the sheet.

Acknowledge.

R. Gallah.

Captain,
Brigade Major,

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 1:20 p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

SECRET.

Copy No. 16

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 12."Light Signals, Message Rockets, Smoke."1. LIGHT SIGNALS:(a) Australian Corps.

The following light signals will be employed in the Australian Corps:

S.O.S. Signal, No. 32 Grenade showing Green over Green over Green. - Allotment 500 per Division.

Success Signal: No. 32 Grenade showing White over White over White. - Allotment 600 per Division.

Instructions as to whether these are to be used will be issued.

(b) Other Formations:

Light Signals of other formations are as follows:

<u>Formation</u>	<u>Signal</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
(i) Cavalry Corps	White Star turning to red on a parachute fired from 1½" Very Pistol	"Advanced troops of Cavalry are here".
(ii) 1st Corps	No. 32 Grenade, green over green over green	"S.O.S."
	No. 32 Grenade white over white over white	"Success Signal i.e. we have reached objective"
	One white Very light	"Barrage is about to lift".
(iii) Canadian Corps	No. 32 Grenade, red over red over red *	"S.O.S." will also mean (a) we are held up and cannot advance without help. (b) enemy is counter attacking.
	No. 32 Grenade, green over green over green	"(a) Lift your fire We are going to advance. (b) Stop firing."
	Three white Very Lights in quick succession.	"We have reached this point."

* REMARK - In the case of (a) a smoke rocket (No. 27 grenade) will also be fired in the direction of the obstruction to indicate its position.

P.T.O.

- (c) Special care must be taken by the Artillery on the right flank of the Division, that all officers and N.C.O's. are acquainted with these signals so that no mistake may arise as regards the difference in the S.O.S. Signals of the Australian and Canadian Corps.

2. SMOKE

Screening beyond the First Objective

15th Wing R.A.F. will arrange to screen the advance of the Tanks and Infantry from special localities in advance of their first objective by dropping phosphorous bombs.

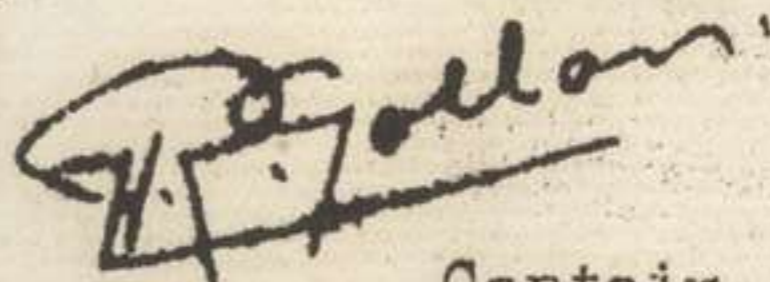
Divisions are to inform Australian Corps Headquarters as early as possible of the localities which they desire screened.

A map will be issued showing times at which it is anticipated that the infantry will make good certain zones.

Phosphorous bombs will not be dropped within these zones at any time after it is anticipated that the infantry will have occupied them.

3. Allotment of above Signals will be made by the Staff Captain. Smoke rifle grenades to screen disabled tanks will be required. These will be supplied by "Q" Branch in consultation with 5th Tank Brigade.

4. Acknowledge.



Captain.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at _____ to all
recipients of Preliminary Instructions No.10.

SECRET

COPY NO. 13

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEP R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S N O . 1 31. TANKS

Tanks will be moving into position on Y/Z night. To cover this movement the air service will maintain machines over the forward area from 9.30 p.m. to 12 midnight on Y day, and from ZERO minus 1 hour on Z day during which time tanks will be on the move.

2. SMOKE

The Air Service will drop Smoke Bombs as under :-

On BAYONVILLERS at about ZERO plus 4 hours.

On O.35. Eastern MORCOURT Valley at about ZERO plus 5 hours.

On HARBONNIERES at about ZERO plus 6 hours.

3. APPROACH

The arrangements for the approach march of units will be carefully arranged. Men will be ordered to sit down when halts or checks occur.

4. RESTING TROOPS

On "Y" Day troops are to be rested. One officer per Battalion will be detailed to see that this order is observed. No swimming, football etc. will be permitted. Men are to have a complete rest.

5. SUNSET AND SUNRISE

Sunset	August 7th	8.20 p.m.
Sunrise	August 8th	5.24 a.m.

6. ENEMY GUN POSITIONS

To facilitate capture of enemy guns, a map showing positions of these will be issued. If possible Units should carry tie-on labels to attach to trophies captured.

7. CABLE BURIES

Cable in the new area will be buried commencing at Battalion Headquarters backwards - a reversal of former procedure.

8. CAVALRY, WHIPPET TANKS and ARMOURED MOTOR CARS

Details with regard to the action of the Cavalry, Whippet Tanks, and armoured motor cars will be issued later.

9. CLEARING WOUNDED FROM FRONT OF TANKS

SMALL PARTIES WILL BE TOLD OFF BY BRIGADES TO CLEAR OUR WOUNDED FROM THE FRONT OF THE TANKS AND THUS PREVENT THEM BEING CRUSHED. ESPECIAL CARE WILL BE TAKEN IN CROPS AND IN THE ASSEMBLY AREA WHEN TANKS ARE PASSING THROUGH THE INFANTRY IN THE DARK. SENTRIES SHOULD BE DETAILED TO WARN MEN IN SHELTERS

10. Acknowledge.

G. E. Golden
Captain.
Brigade Major.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at _____ to all recipients
of Preliminary Instructions No.10.

SECRET

COPY NO. 16.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEPRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No.14

1. Assembly positions
Orders for the assembly will be issued.
2. Command
At ZERO plus 4 hours, responsibility for the battle front is to pass to G.O.C. 5th Australian Division.
3. Light Horse
O.C. Light Horse will detail 3 sections including Hotchkiss Gun Section to report to 15th Australian Infantry Brigade at 12 noon on Y day.
- Cyclists
O.C. Cyclists will allot cyclists as under to report at 12 noon on "Y" Day:
15th Infantry Brigade - 1 Officer and $\frac{1}{2}$ platoon.
4. Heavy Artillery
(a) Throughout the advance beyond the GREEN Line, enemy centres of resistance will be kept under fire as under. All troops will be warned accordingly.
- | | |
|------------------|--|
| BAYONVILLERS | fire lifts at ZERO plus $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours |
| EASTERN MORGOURT | " " " ZERO plus $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours |
| VALLEY Q.35. | " " " ZERO plus 6 hours. |
| HARBONNIERES | " " " ZERO plus 6 hours. |
- (b) Special measures are to be concerted to deal with a deliberate gas bombardment of VILLERS BRETONNEUX on ZERO night.
5. Roads.
(a) Two roads will be developed by the C.R.E. in the area East of the GREEN LINE
- Right road through V.6.a and b. W.1.a and b passing South of and avoiding BAYONVILLERS, W.3.c. - W.9.b.
Left Q.31.a and d - Q.32.a - passing N. and avoiding BAYONVILLERS - Q.33.c and d. - W.4.a and b.
- (b) THE AMIENS-LONGEAU-VILLERS BRETONNEUX MAIN ROAD AS FAR EAST AS THE CROSS ROADS IN N.26.c. WILL BE RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE CAVALRY CORPS FROM 3. 9.30 p.m. on "Y/Z" NIGHT UNTIL 8 a.m. on "Z" DAY. AFTER 8 a.m. ON "Z" DAY IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR AUSTRALIAN CORPS AND CANADIAN CORPS. A.P.M. AUSTRALIAN CORPS IS TO ARRANGE TRAFFIC ON THIS ROAD THROUGHOUT.
6. Acknowledge.
- Z/R. Allan.*
Captain.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
- Issued at _____ to all recipients
of Preliminary Instructions No.10.

SECRET.

Copy No.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 15."Aircraft"1. LOW FLYING SCOUTS:

The low flying scouts of the 22nd wing are being detailed on an even distribution to each Corps front. This distribution will be changed later, if necessary, to meet any special circumstances. They will operate in two phases, viz:

- (a) From Zero to Zero plus four hours eastwards from the GREEN Line.
- (b) From Zero plus four hours onwards eastwards from the RED Line.

In each phase very favorable targets will be engaged in addition to the targets marked by the GREEN and RED lines.

2. MARKINGS OF PLANES:

The following will be the special markings of machines allotted to special duties:

- (a) Contact Patrol Machines: Rectangular Panels 2' by 1' on both lower planes about three feet from the fusilage.
- (b) Machines working with Tanks: Black band on middle of right side of tail.

3. AMMUNITION CARRYING SQUADRON:

Aeroplanes carrying S.A. Ammunition will drop it at points as laid down in PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 11 para 3 b.

4. The contact aeroplane will fly over the 3rd objective at Zero plus seven (7) hours, not at Zero plus eight (8) hours 30 minutes as laid down in PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 11 para (c).

5. Acknowledge.

[Signature]

Captain,
Brigade Major,

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at _____ p.m. through signals to:

	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	5.
Copies to:	
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Brigade.	6.
Staff Captain	7.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	9.
5th Australian Division	10.
"A" Coy. 2nd Tank Battalion	11.
"C" Coy. 2nd Tank Battalion	12.
O.C. Exploiting Force	13.
14th Field Coy. A.L.	14.
Capt. CRAXTER (Supply Tanks)	15.
15th Machine Gun Company	16.
File	17.
War Diary.	18-20.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 16.

1. ARTILLERY:
All ranks will be warned that the trajectory of the 2nd Australian Division Barrage Guns from Zero to Zero plus 45 minutes has only a very small clearance over the 15th and 8th Brigade "Start Line". This will be taken into account when selecting routes for the approach to the "Start Line".
2. HEADQUARTERS:
Headquarters of 5th Canadian Brigade will be established at N.35.B.2 approximately by noon 5/8/18.
3. WOUNDED: if
All ranks should be warned that wounded in a crop or a depression of the ground where they cannot be seen they should fix their bayonets if not already done and stick the bayonet in the ground to draw attention of stretcher bearers and also to prevent Tanks from running over them.
4. ENEMY'S WIRE:
Enemy lateral signal wires and signal wires running eastwards from enemy's Headquarters will be cut.
5. ENEMY'S AMMUNITION DUMPS:
Great care should be exercised in destroying enemy's ammunition dumps in order to avoid loss from Gas Shell which may be on the dump.
6. All ranks are to be warned to keep clear of Mark V Star Tanks as they swing very rapidly when starting and when in motion and are thus liable to crush men who are close to them.
7. BOUNDARIES:
The inter battalion boundary has been fixed as follows:
"From a point where the "start line" crosses the gridline at O.30.D.3-0. thence to P.32.Central. - P.34.C.3-0. - W.1.C.8-0. to W.18.B.2-1.
8. (a) Each Battalion will have attached to it :
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ Section Light Horse.
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ Section Cyclists.
 These will report at noon on "Y" Day.
 (b) 57th and 59th Battalions will each have attached:
 - 2 Sections "I" Coy. 2nd Tank Battalion.
 - 1 Section 14th Field Coy. A.E.
 - 2 Sections 15th A.L.T.M.B.
 (c) 58th and 60th Battalions will each have attached:
 - 2 sections 15th Machine Gun Company.
9. Attached Units will act under the orders of the Unit to which they are attached.
10. The 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade will support the attack. One section of the 2nd Australian Tunnelling Coy. will operate within the line as the O.C. 14th Field Company A.E. may direct. They will especially look out for mined dugouts and will mark any found.
11. Our stretcher bearers should be instructed to attend to any wounded personnel of the Tank Corps.

[Handwritten Signature]

Captain.
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

265

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 17.

1. Armoured Cars of the 17th Armoured Car Battalion are to push through our line as soon as possible after the Capture of the GREEN Line. The object of these cars is to ascertain the next defensive positions the enemy is holding.
2. The I.O. 58th Battalion will be responsible for establishing a post (marked with a Blue and White flag) on the Main WARFUSEE ABANCOURT - ST.QUENTIN Road in conjunction with the I.O. of the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade for the interception of despatch riders returning from the armoured cars with despatches. These messages will be copied with the least possible delay and despatched to the Brigade Advanced Report Centre at once.
3. Runners returning to the Brigade Advanced Report Centre will be instructed to show their messages to any Officers they may pass.
4. The 1st Cavalry Brigade (Brig.General SEMELL) 1st Cavalry Division will, after the capture of the RED LINE, push out with the same object as the Armoured Cars.
5. Runners returning from the Cavalry Brigade will also be intercepted. The intercepting post will advance so as to keep as near as possible to the Advanced Report Centres of the 8th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades.
6. All ranks will be told of the appearance of our Armoured Cars to prevent them being mistaken for enemy and fired upon when returning.


 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 1³⁰ p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

S E C R E T

Copy No...*17*.....15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S No. 19.

-
1. Wednesday, August 7th will be "Y" Day.
 2. Zero hour will be notified in writing to all concerned by 4 p.m. on "Y" Day.
 3. An Officer from Brigade Headquarters will synchronise with Battalions and 15th A.L.T.M.B. at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on "Y" Day. Attached Units to Battalions will synchronise with Battalions.
 4. Acknowledge,

[Signature]
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at *130* p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 29.

"Employment of Tanks".

1. "A" Company 2nd Tank Battalion, (Major H.V. DIAMOND) will co-operate with the Brigade in the capture of the RED LINE and will assist in clearing the area between the GREEN and the BLUE Lines.
2. Two sections (6 Mark V) Tanks have been allotted to each of the 57th and 59th Battalions.
3. (a) Tanks allotted to Units pass in column of route through the troops during the approach to the GREEN LINE reaching rallying points West of the line at Zero plus 3½ hours.
- (b) Tanks of "A" Company, 2nd Battalion allotted for work with this Brigade will rally and meet scouts and Liaison men as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 57th Battalion: | V.5.C. Central |
| 59th Battalion: | P.35.D. Central |
- Scouts are for the purpose of Liaison between Tanks and their Battalion.
- (c) Tanks may manoeuvre in rear of the GREEN LINE before actually moving off. When ready to advance to the RED LINE each Tank will hoist a White and Green Flag for about three minutes before leaving as a sign to the troops that they are moving off. Thereafter Flags will be used for signalling as already laid down for inter-communication between Infantry and Tanks. Any Tank returning from the front will fly the Tricolour
4. "A" Company 2nd Tank Battalion will move forward in line approximately 200 yards in front of the Infantry ^{screen} and at approximately 140 yards interval. The screen is to be approximately at 10 yards interval. Troops will follow the screen at a further distance of 200 yards. Usual connecting files will be provided. The attack will be pushed vigorously against all opposition encountered. The Tanks will crush any enemy Machine Guns and Strong points which may have escaped our Artillery fire and assist the 59th Battalion in mopping up HARBONNIERES, and the area between the RED and BLUE Lines
5. Several Sections of the Tanks allotted to the capture of the GREEN Line have been detailed to assist the 58th Battalion in "Hopping Up" BAYONVILLERS and others to assist in clearing the area between the GREEN and the RED lines.
6. Mark V (Star) Tanks: Nine of these Tanks, carrying 16 Vickers and 16 Lewis Guns, in charge of Major H.D.G. FERRES M.C., will advance through the RED LINE at Zero plus 6 hours and skirting HARBONNIERES on either side will disembark the guns and crews on the BLUE LINE and assist them to consolidate.
7. The Brigade I.O., established at the Brigade Forward Station will ensure that information regarding the progress of operations is forwarded to the O.C. "C" Company, 2nd Tank Battalion (exploiting Company) in order to enable him to regulate the forward movements of the Mark V (Star) tanks.

P.T.O.

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APPENDIX

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(2)

265

Re-assembly:

As soon as the BLUE LINE has been reached and all enemy resistance has ceased, C.O's. 57th and 59th Battalions will be held responsible for informing the tanks when they may return.

9. One Reserve Company of Tanks is remaining in close support in the MORCOURT VALLEY, in case of counter attack.

10. Units will ensure that a supply of smoke rifle grenades accompanies each Infantry Detachment detailed to the BLUE LINE and which accompanies each of the Mark V (Star) Tanks.

11. Supply Tanks: Four Supply Tanks have been allotted for the use of the Brigade. These Tanks will be loaded as notified in Administrative Instructions to accompany Preliminary Instructions No. 6. and will arrive at the BLUE LINE shortly after its capture. These supply Tanks are to make two trips if possible.

12. Acknowledge.

[Handwritten signature]

Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 1.30 p.m. to all recipients Preliminary Instructions No. 15.


S E C R E T

Copy No. 1700

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S No. 204

1. (a) Dress: Fighting Order; Officers dressed the same as the men.
 (b) The two supporting companies of each Battalion will carry 50% shovels and 25% picks.
 (c) Each man will carry:
 Two No. 36 Rifle Grenades (Rifle Grenadiers four).
 One ground flare for signalling to contact aeroplanes.
 Two Sandbags.
 One extra waterbottle.
 The unexpired portion of the days ration and 48 hours Iron ration.
 (d) S.O.S. Signals have been issued at the rate of one per Officer.
 (e) At least one pair of wirecutters will be carried by each platoon.
 (f) Two message rockets per Battalion will be carried.

2. Acknowledge.



Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

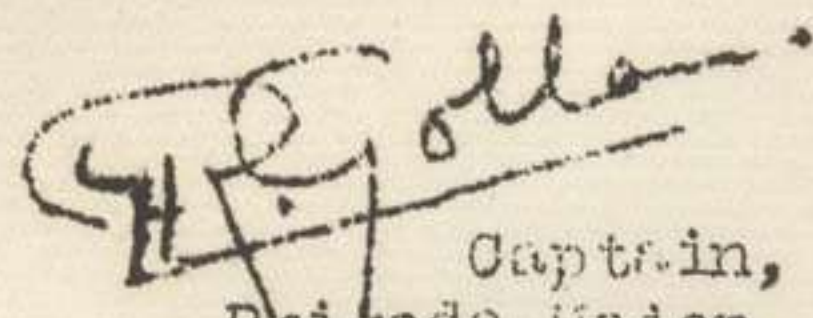
Issued at 1³⁰ p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 154

S. E C R E T.

Copy No. 7...

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.P R E L I M I N A R Y I N S T R U C T I O N S No. 21.

1. 1st Cavalry Brigade, plus one Company of Whippets attached, comes under the Command of the Australian Corps at 9 p.m. on "Y/Z" night.
2. Its function is to assist in carrying out the main Cavalry role by seizing any opportunity which may occur to push the Australian Corps front.
3. 1st Cavalry Brigade will operate North of the AMIENS-CHAULNES Railway in conjunction with 5th Australian Division. It will move from its assembly position in Square N.32. under orders of 1st Cavalry Division, via the Southern bank side of BOIS de L'ABBE. It will cross to the North Side of the Railway East of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.
It will push forward patrols to keep in touch with 8th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades.
After crossing the Railway the main body of 1st Cavalry Brigade will march roughly parallel to it, keeping close touch with the remainder of 1st Cavalry Division to the South.
4. If a break in enemy's resistance occurs the remainder of the 1st Cavalry Division may be employed in support of 1st Cavalry Brigade.
5. The roles assigned to the 17th Armoured Car Battalion may carry the cars forward for a considerable distance into enemy territory and may necessitate their returning through other Divisional Sectors than that of the 5th Australian Division.
6. British Armoured Cars can be recognised by the Red and White band markings which are similar to those of the British Tanks. This Battalion also flies the French Flag (tricolour).
7. All troops will be warned of the possibility of our armoured cars coming into our own sector, and of the way in which they will be marked.
8. Acknowledge.



Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 4 p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

S.G.16/60.

SECRET.

Copy No.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 22.

The 14th Field Company A.M. will co-operate with the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade as follows:

Details of wiring in front of RED and BLUE lines:

1. Lieut. LITTLE in command of No. 3 Section Right Battalion Sector.
Lieut. MORRISON in Command of No. 4 Section Left Battalion Sector.
2. Each Section with attached Infantry Party of one Officer and 50 Other Ranks will assemble in rear of 15th Brigade Assembly Lines at ZERO MINUS ONE and will cross GREEN LINE immediately in rear of 58th and 60th Battalions respectively at ZERO PLUS FOUR.
3. Each Section will keep in touch with the two supply tanks which have been detailed by Division to convoy stores forward as per Appendix "A". Supply Tanks and wiring parties will proceed forward in rear of 60th and 58th Battalions and will pass through them at RED LINE.
Details for wiring RED LINE will begin as soon as Stores are dumped from Supply Tanks.
Two Supply Tanks will dump near RED LINE at W.10.C.9-2. and W.5.C.2-2.
Two Supply Tanks will dump near BLUE LINE at W.17.A.5-2. and W.12.D.7-2.
Details for wiring BLUE LINE will proceed forward in rear of Supply Tanks and will pass through 57th and 59th Battalions respectively who will be holding BLUE LINE.
Wiring Parties will be covered by Infantry and Battle Tanks.
4. On completion both No. 3 and No. 4 Sections together with attached Infantry will rendezvous at 14th Field Company's Advanced Headquarters at Quarry at V.12.B.5-2.

H. J. Follen

Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 4 p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No.15.

S E C R E T.

Copy No. *24*...15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 23.

With reference to Preliminary Instructions No. 1. Zero hour will be 4.20 a.m. on the 8th instant.

Acknowledge.

W. J. G. Gollan

7th August, 1918.

Captain,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 5 p.m. to all recipients of Preliminary Instructions No. 15.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 185.

Ref: FRANCE

62 D.S.E. 1/20,000

7th August 1918.

-
1. (a) The 5th Australian Division is to attack the enemy on "Z" Day at an hour to be notified later.
 - (b) The attack is being carried out on the Divisional Front by the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade on the right and the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade on the left. The 5th Canadian Brigade is attacking on the right of the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
- 2; The objectives, inter brigade, and inter battalion boundaries are as shown on maps already issued to Units.
3. (a) The 57th Battalion will attack on the right, being supported by the 60th Battalion.
 - (b) The 59th Battalion will attack on the left, being supported by the 58th Battalion.
- 4; (a) The assembly on Y/2 night will be carried out as detailed hereunder. All Units will be in position at Zero minus 30 minutes.
- (b) Assembly tapes will be laid on lines already given to Battalions by Lieut. BEST, 14th Field Company A.E. in consultation with Battalion Intelligence Officers. Battalions will take steps to insure that any de-arrangement of the tapes by Tanks and Troops passing through is immediately rectified.
- (c) The 57th and 60th Battalions with attached Units will proceed to the assembly position (in the order named) by previously reconnoitred routes South of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX. 59th and 58th Battalions (with attached Units) will proceed to the assembly positions (in the order named) by previously reconnoitred routes North of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.
- (d) Routes will be previously clearly marked and picketed and every precaution taken to prevent straggling.
- (e) The Artillery clearance over the heads of troops in the assembly position will be very small. All troops in the assembly position will therefore be warned to lie down until Zero plus one hour and then take advantage of all cover. To avoid alarm men should be warned that the shells will appear very close above them in the lie position.
5. The attack will be carried out in three phases:
- Phase 1. Advance from lie position to GREEN LINE Zero plus 1 to Zero plus 4 hours.
- Phase 2. (Zero plus 4 hours) to Zero plus 6 hours.
- 57th Battalion: (a) Will attack on the right and capture the RED LINE South of the Inter-Battalion boundary.
- (b) As the Canadian Corps is advancing echeloned to our right rear to be prepared to form a defensive flank along the railway. The men left to watch this flank are to be relieved and sent forward to join their Units by the 60th Battalion successively as they move up.
- (c) Parties will be dropped to contain any occupied dugouts or posts in the area until these are taken over by the 60th Battalion.
- 59th Battalion: (a) Will attack on the left and capture the RED LINE, North of the inter battalion boundary. The Battalion will skirt BAYONVILLERS as the C.O. may arrange. Parties will be left to mask BAYONVILLERS and to contain all occupied dugouts passed until taken over by the 58th Battalion.

60th Battalion (a) Will advance from the GREEN to the RED LINE and mop up the intermediate area of the enemy taking over all posts established by the 57th Battalion and sending all men of the latter Battalion to rejoin their Unit.

(b) Be prepared to assist the 58th Battalion in mopping up BAYONVILLERS if necessary.

(c) To hold a defensive flank along the Railway at any stage of the attack until the troops on the right advance up to them.

(d) If called upon, to support the 57th Battalion

58th Battalion: (a) Will mop up BAYONVILLERS with the two leading companies in co-operation with Tanks to be detailed and the area between the GREEN and RED line North of the inter-Battalion boundary.

(b) Be prepared to assist the 59th Battalion if called upon.

(c) Establish a defensive flank to the North if the 8th Brigade fail to get on.

Phase 3. The Brigade Exploiting Detachment in 9 Mark V (star) Tanks at zero plus 6 hours will pass through the RED LINE and advance straight to the BLUE LINE where the Vickers and Lewis Gun Teams will disembark and consolidate the line.

57th Battalion. (a) Will advance to the BLUE LINE, clearing intermediate area.

(b) Consolidate in depth on the BLUE LINE and in rear of it not more than 600 yards.

(c) Establish an outpost line beyond the BLUE LINE.

(d) Be prepared to assist the 59th Battalion to mop up HARBONNIERES.

59th Battalion. (a) Will detail special parties to follow tanks into HARBONNIERES and mop up the village.

(b) Advance to and consolidate in depth on the BLUE LINE and in rear of it.

(c) Establish an outpost line not more than 400 yards beyond the BLUE LINE.

The 60th and 58th Battalions will

consolidate on and hold the RED LINE in depth and be prepared to counter attack in support of the maintenance of our hold on the BLUE LINE.

6. 57th and 59th Battalions will each detail Officers and Scouts to go forward close upon the troops attacking the GREEN LINE. These Officers will forward at the earliest possible moment information as to the situation to the Brigade Forward Station at P.34.D.5-2. and to their C.O's;
7. (a) The BLUE LINE will be the main line of resistance.
 (b) Brigade Exploiting Detachment will on the arrival of the 57th and 59th Battalions come under the orders of the C.O's. 57th and 59th Battalions respectively.
 (c) The position of the outpost line will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters as soon as established to enable Artillery protective arrangements to be made.
8. (a) Formations for the attack of Battalions will be in two lines of platoons as already ordered.
 (b) During the advance to the GREEN LINE men must be kept strictly in hand and at all costs must be prevented from going in the fight. Thereafter Officers and N.C.O's must be held responsible for preventing men breaking their ranks for purposes of plunder and on no account will they be permitted to search prisoners or dead unless specially detailed for this task.

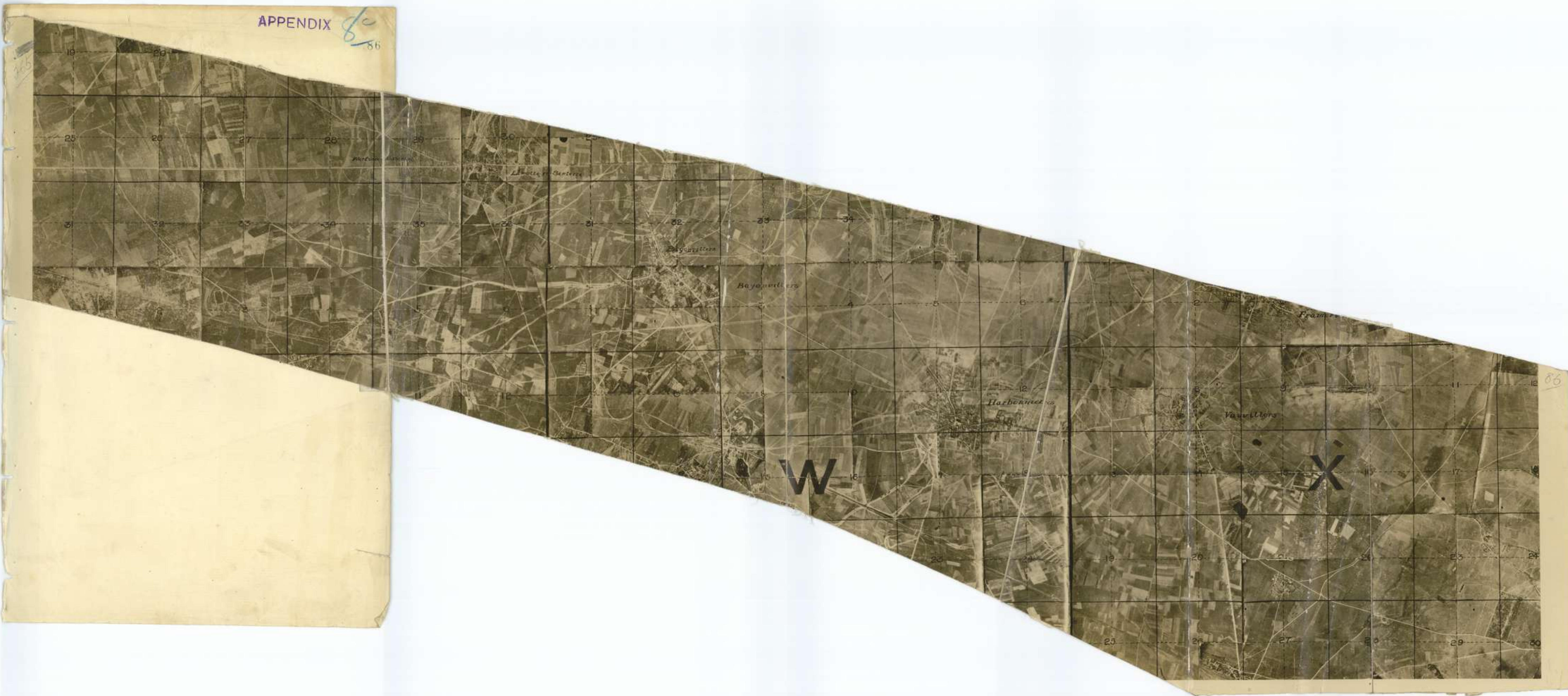
- (c) Units attached to Battalions will be as shown in preliminary Instructions No 16 para 8.
9. (a) At Zero hour Artillery will open a creeping barrage on line P.26.D.3-5. to V.I.B.1-6. This barrage will progress as shown hereunder :-
- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Zero plus 30 minutes | Barrage reached line P.27.D.5-2 -
V.2.B.1-1. |
| Zero plus 1 hour | Barrage reached line P.34.B.3-9 -
V.3.C.9-6. |
| Zero plus 1½ hours | Barrage reached line P.35.B.164 -
V.4.C.5-2. |
| Zero plus 2 hours | Barrage reaches line P.36.A.6-3 -
V.II.A.1-8. |
| Zero plus 127 minutes | Barrage reaches GREEN LINE. |
- Artillery then maintain protective barrage on line P.38.B.6-1. V.II.B.1-5. ceasing at Zero plus 4 hours. Heavy Artillery will continue bombardment of special targets.
- (b) Bombardment of BAYONVILLERS will cease at Zero plus 4½ hours and bombardment of HARBONNIERES will cease at Zero plus 6 hours.
- (c) The advance of the leading columns of the 57th and 59th Battalions will be regulated as shown on attached map. Columns in rear to conform. After crossing the GREEN LINE the rate of advance will be controlled by the progress of the Tanks. In event of these failing all ranks must understand that it is their duty to press on without them to their objectives as laid down.
- (d) The 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade will support the attack from the GREEN LINE closely and with energy.
- (e) F.O.O's with complete signalling equipment will report to 57th and 58th Battalions at 6 p.m. on "Y" Day.
- (f) One section to be detached will have a roving commission and closely following the Infantry will especially deal with Anti-Tank guns.
10. Special instructions regarding the undermentioned have been issued to all concerned in the form of preliminary instructions.
- Tanks.
 - Trench Mortars.
 - Machine guns.
 - Engineers.
 - Light Horse.
 - Cyclists.
 - Tunnellers.
 - Communications.
 - Medical arrangements.
 - Armoured Cars.
 - Cavalry.
11. (a) A Contact aeroplane will fly along the line of the 2nd (RED) objective at Zero plus 6 hours 30 minutes. Flares will be called for by the plane sounding a succession of A's on the Klaxon Horn and by firing a white Very Light. If the aeroplane fails to mark the line accurately it will repeat the call 10 minutes later. Should the Infantry not have reached the line of the objective at the time laid down above the Contact Plane will return at half hour intervals until flares are shown. The 58th and 60th Battalions will be responsible for answering these calls.
- (b) A Contact Plane will fly over the 3rd (BLUE) objective at Zero plus 7 hours when the procedure in para (b) will be repeated. The exploiting detachment party will be responsible for answering this call.
- (c) Auxilliary methods of signalling to the aeroplane may be employed in addition to the flares.
12. Prisoners will be sent to the rear under instructions which will be issued separately. Forward Battalions will hand prisoners over to supporting Battalions who will detail a minimum of escorts for despatch to the rear. Any Civilians encountered should be sent back to the Divisional Collecting Station at O.24.C.3-2.

(4)

13. Instructions for the synchronisation of watches have been issued. There will be no synchronisation by telephone.
14. (a) Battalion Headquarters will move by bounds in accordance with S.S. 143 "Inter communication in Battle".
 (b) Flank Units and higher formations will be notified of every change of location of headquarters.
15. (a) Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be established at O.24.C.3-2.
 (b) Brigade forward Station will be established as soon as possible after Zero in the vicinity of P.34.D.5-2. This Station should be opened by Zero plus 2 hours.
 (c) After the advance from the GREEN LINE the Brigade Forward Station will push forward to the vicinity of W.8.B. or D. This Station should be opened by Zero plus 5½ hours.
16. Reports to Brigade Forward Station with the greatest possible speed.
17. Acknowledge.

(Sgd) H.R. GOLLAN Captain.
 Brigade Major.
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at	a.m.	through Signals to	Copy No.
57th Battalion.			1;
58th Battalion.			2
59th Battalion.			3
60th Battalion.			4
15th A.L.T.M.B.			5
No.4 Sig. Section.			6
14th Aust. F.A. Bde.			7
14th Field Coy. A.E.			8
Light Horse Section.			9
Copies to -			
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Bde.			10
Staff Captain.			11
5th Aust. Div.			12
8th Aust. Inf; Bde.			13
14th Aust. Inf. Bde.			14
5th Canadian Bde.			15
O.C. "A" Coy. 2nd Tank Bn.			16
O.C. "C" Coy. 2nd Tank Bn.			17
File			18
War Diary			19-21





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87



3. BS. 30.
H° 4-900f°
3-7-18

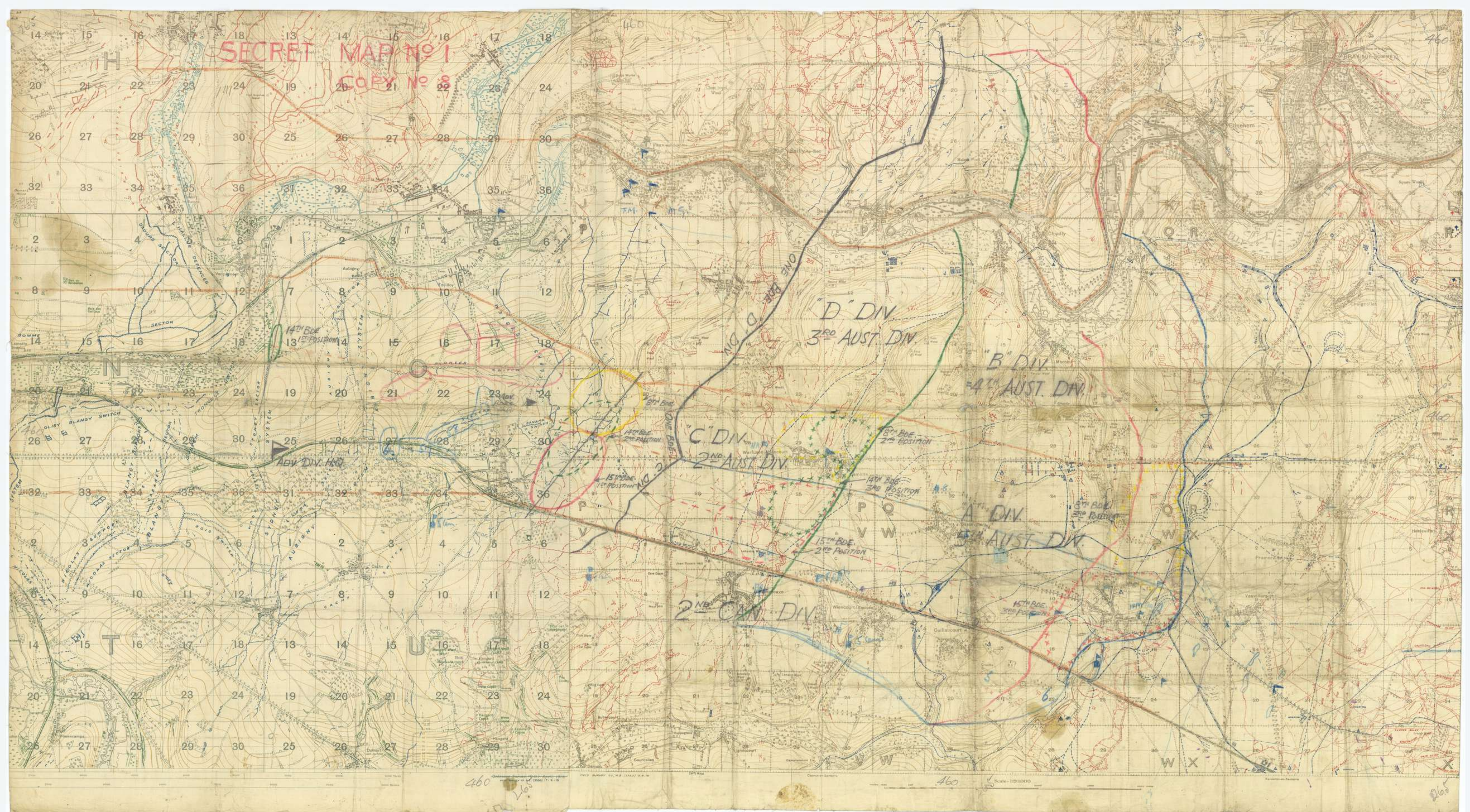
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APPENDIX

81D

88

SECRET MAP NO 1
COPY NO 8



265

460

APPENDIX RE

SE
15 Page

205

1:20,000

NOTE CHANGE OF COLOUR.
Enemy Trenches in Blue.
British Trenches in Red.

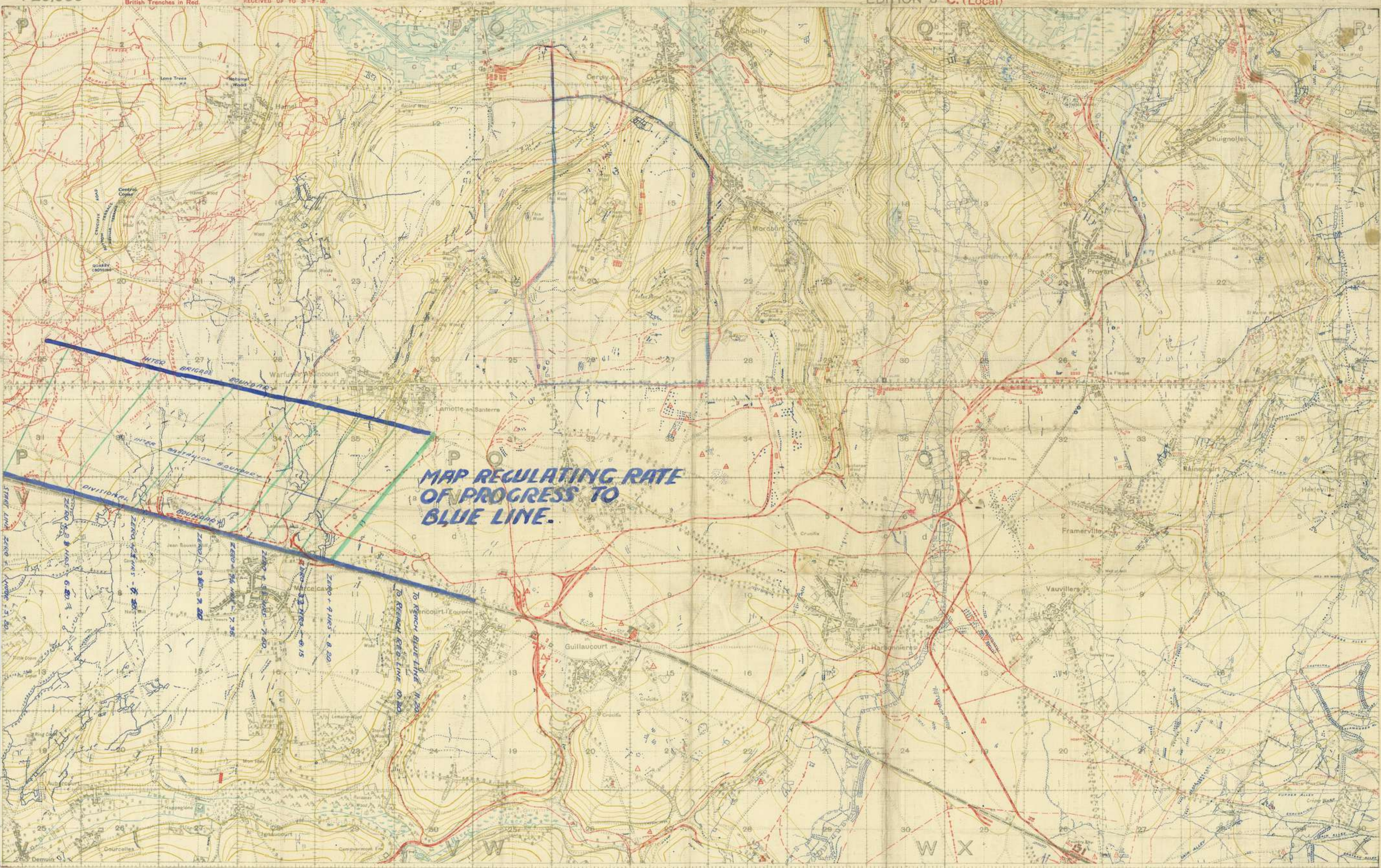
TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION
RECEIVED UP TO 31-7-16.

FRANCE

EDITION 3 C. (Local)

SHEET 62^D S.E.

MAP REGULATING RATE
OF PROGRESS TO
BLUE LINE.



265 CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METRES. ALL HEIGHTS IN METRES

Scale 1:20,000

FIELD SURVEY BY R.E. (1915) 2-1-16

89

NOTE - The fact that an altitude is not represented on the map does not necessarily mean that there is none there. It is often impossible to distinguish whether or to identify their character. It may be assumed that there are no trenches in front of all the trenches (shown by thick line).

REFERENCE

Any trench apparently organ- ised for fire	Buried Pipeline or Cable	Hedge, Fence or Ditch	Normal Gauge, Double
Other Trenches	Airline	Ditch with Permanent Water	Single
Important ones are shown by thick line. Old or disused by dotted line.	Supply Dumps	Observation Posts	Light
British Trenches	Gun Emplacements	Listening Posts	Trench Tramways
Wire Entanglement or Other Obstacle	Machine Gun	Mine Craters	Metre Gauge Railways or 60 cm.
Enemy's tracks	Earthworks	Fortified	
	Dug-outs	Organised Shell Holes	
	Mine		
	Works reinforced by concrete		

Conspicuous Points
(Position of point is centre of circle. Dist. from
shows that point is trigonometrically fixed.)

Houses

Shrine

APPENDIX 8F

FRENCH

10000

285

R.A.F. INFORMATION FOR GROUND SERVICES FOR FORTHCOMING OPERATIONS.

Corps Work	Northern Sector	Centre Sector	Southern Sector.
Squadron	No. 35 Squadron	3rd Sqdn A. F. C.	No. 5 Squadron
Location	FLESSELLES	FLESSELLES	BOVELLES
Advanced Aerodrome	-	-	AMIENS DRILL GROUND
Aeroplane	A.W.	R.E.8.	R.E.8
Markings.	(C.P) Black streamers on struts; coloured streamer on tail..	(C.P) Square black discs trailing edge of wings; black line under wings	(C.P) Square black discs trailing edge of wings; black line under wings. (Art.Liaison) 2 streamers on tail.
Call for flares	A's on Klaxon; White Very's light.	A's on Klaxon; white Very's lights.	A's on Klaxon; white Very's light.
Counter attack indication	White parachute flare over objective.	White parachute flare over objective.	White flares on wing tips smoke bomb over objective.
Tank Work			
Squadron	No. 35 Squadron	No. 8 Squadron	No. 8 Squadron
Location	As above	VIGNACOURT	VIGNACOURT.
Aeroplane	do	A.W.	A.W.
Markings	do	Black band under tail plane both sides.	(Inf. tanks) Black band under tail near (left) side. (Cav. tanks) Black band under tail off (right) side
Signals	do	Green light low over dropping station.	Green light low over dropping station.
Counter attack indication.	do	Disc signals on plane preceded by red light. Coloured smoke bombs on objective (purple, yellow and light blue)	Disc signals on plane preceded by red light. Coloured smoke bombs on objective (purple, yellow and light blue).
Cavalry Work.			
Armoured Car Work			
Squadron	...	...	No. 6 Squadron
Location	...	...	BOVELLES
Advanced Aerodrome	...	...	AMIENS DRILL GROUND
Aeroplane	...	...	R.E.8
Markings	...	...	Coloured streamers on struts.
Call for flares	...	...	A's on Klaxon; white Very's lights.
Counter attack indications.	...	...
Ammunition Dropping.			
Squadron	No. 9 Squadron	No. 9 Squadron	
Location	QUEVAUVILLERS	QUEVAUVILLERS	
Advanced Aerodrome	AMIENS DRILL GROUND	AMIENS DRILL GROUND	
Aeroplane	R.E.8	R.E.8	
Markings	Outer 2½ feet of planes painted black.	Outer 2½ feet of planes painted black.	Nil
Method	Max. of 20 boxes S.A.A. at Zero + 7 hours on demand ("V" on ground)	Max. of 40 boxes S.A.A. at Zero + 7 hours on demand ("V" on ground).	
Smoke Screen.			
Squadron	Nil	No. 9 Sqdn. (as above)	No. 9 Sqdn (as in Col. 3)
Method	...	At zero + 4hrs, + 5 hrs, + 6 hrs, on selected points	At Zero + 4hrs. 10mins (& possibly + 4 hrs 30mins) on selected points.
Ground strafing.			
Squadrons	No. 80 Sqdn "Camels" No. 48 Sqdn "Bristol Fighters"	No. 201 Sqdn "Camels" No. 84 Sqdn "S.E. 5" No. 41 Sqdn "S.E. 5"	No. 209 Sqdn "Camels" No. 23 Sqdn "Dolphin" No. 24 Sqdn "S.E. 5"

5th Brigade, R.A.F
6th Aug: 1918.

1205

APPENDIX

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Churchcraft

*engaged
8.8.18*

APPENDIX