

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/20/44 Part 2

Title: 1st Field Company, Australian
Engineers

August 1918



AWM4-14/20/44PART2

19

18,000-12/17-8723

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st Field Company A.C.

FOR

August 191*3*

Signature of Officer compiling *[Signature]*

Signature of Officer Commanding *[Signature]*

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.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

19.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RACQUINGHEM	Aug 1.		<p>Disrupted personnel in rest area at RACQUINGHEM - Rifle and general inspection - No 4 (duty section) employed improving camp. - Bathing parade in afternoon company portable shower used at small canal and hot water thus provided LT HETHERINGTON rejoined from hospital. - 1 PR from hospital.</p>	<p>D.G.</p>
	2.		<p>No 1 Section duty Section improving camp. - Reminders rifle drill - Swimming in afternoon - Canal - Section left camp at 4.20 and proceeded to RACQUINGHEM - Raining most of day. LT McCONNEL rejoined by Base Party gave two performances in Y.M.C.A. hall - one at 2.30 p.m. and one at 8 p.m. - Both were good and attended by all units in the vicinity. Lt B and Officers of 1st Bde were present at the latter performance.</p>	<p>D.G.</p>
	3.		<p>Program as usual - Orders received to embark at 5 a.m. on 6th inst</p>	<p>D.G.</p>
	4. 5.		<p>LT MOFFITT proceeds ahead with 1st Bde billeting party. - Luggage cleaning wagons and inspection by Section Officers. LT F.O.W. EARLE left for trip to the mainland in AUSTRALIA - LT LAWRENCE and 1 PR proceeded to course of training at RE. SCHOOL TROVEN - LT HETHERINGTON takes charge of transport.</p>	<p>D.G.</p>

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19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Aug. 6		Company moved from RACQUINGHEM at 1 a.m. and marched to ARCQUES and entrained. Train left at 5.30 a.m. with 1st field Coy, 2nd Coy of Divisional Train and 1 Coy of 2nd a.S. Bn. - CAPT. F.E.G. STEVENSON, O.C. of Train - travelled via ETAPLES to HANGEST arriving at 3.45 p.m. - some delay in unloading owing to lack of locomotives for shunting - Coy marched from HANGEST at 5 p.m. and went into camp at ST OVEN before dusk.	<i>OK</i>
ST OVEN	7		Company standing by for moving orders - Transport moved at 3 p.m. to RIVERY (AMIENS) - Dismounted personnel embarked at 10 p.m.	<i>OK</i>
RIVERY.	8		Sappers arrived at billets in RIVERY at 2 a.m. - in camp all day standing by for orders.	<i>OK</i>
VILLERS BRETONNEUX	9		Company moved out at 6.30 a.m. and proceeded to VILLERS BRETONNEUX arriving at 2 p.m.	<i>OK</i>
	10		Company moved out at 9 a.m. - Brigade requested us to billet at X.20.6. but C.R.E. made a ruling that field companies should move with their Brigades, keeping the sappers from 5000 to 6000 yards in rear of Infantry and their transport from 2000 to 3000 yards in rear of sappers.	<i>OK</i> <i>Sappers</i>

*A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.

20

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WAR DIARY

3.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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69

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
+ HARBONNIERES	Aug 10		Sappers consequently billeted in HARBONNIERES and transport near BAYONVILLERS work commenced on extending Dugout for 1st. A.S. Brigade - Large amount of ROSIERES reconnected - Weather fine & clear - Enemy dropping bombs on BAYONVILLERS and heavy shells around HARBONNIERES. 2nd - 3rd Bde fighting today for LIHONS.	<i>191</i>
	11		Deep dugouts in W. 18. d reconnected - Two large boxes of German orders, maps, letters & pamphlets collected & sent to D. Coy. - LIHONS captured - 1st Bde relieving 2nd Bde on Right Sector - Section Officers visit their respective Battalions - Reconnaissance of water & accommodation being carried out in forward area - Enemy dropping bombs very freely - There does not appear to be sufficient search lights for the anti aircraft. LT MOFFITT and 30/R wounded.	<i>191</i>
	12		1st. A.S. Bde have moved to an old German bunker at W. 24. b having been shelled at their last location. Their policy is now to be <u>active defence</u> . Their front line Battalions therefore require sapper help in wiring and improving their front line - Front line found to be in old British	<i>191</i>

3

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4

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARBONNIERES	Aug 12		<p>Search with numbers of saps extending forward from it - there are a menace to the Garrison require blocking up - LT PETERSON with No 4 Section attending to them tonight - LT KERSLAKE and No 2 Section improving 2nd Bns front trench on left - there are the two front line Bns in our Bde Sector. Remaining sections engaged on Bns by b.d. and posts in support lines. At about 5 p.m. enemy shell burst near Sergeant's Mess, causing 4 casualties, one of whom Sgt. G.W. TAYLOR. D.C.M. M.M. has some dead wounds.</p>	<p>131</p>
	13		<p>1st Division to be relieved by 4th and 5th Divisions - all defence works cancelled for tonight - company employed turning out 250 pitche boards at short notice for banding over. Numbers of big guns going forward this evening - roads very dusty</p>	<p>132</p>
	14		<p>Company busy making and erecting signboards in Bde Sector CAPT. FITZGERALD and 5th rejoined company</p>	
	15		<p>Orders received to move out on 16th inst. to VAUX-SUR-SOMME - No 2 Section labelled the wells which have been located and tested in HARBONNIERES.</p>	<p>133</p>

7

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WAR DIARY 5
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

19

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HARBONNIERES	Aug 15		Americans troops going up in support to 4 th & 5 th Divisions - Our men supply them with drinking water as they pass. Enemy made two bombing raids during the night in the close vicinity of our billets. Artillery also very active.	
	16		Company moved to VAUX-SUR-SOMME - Ladders marched via BAYONVILLERS and HAMEL - Transport proceeded via VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, where they collected pontoons from park. Forecast is that we will be from 5 to 7 days in this reserve area and occupied with re-organisation, rank instructions and inspection by S.O.B.	
VAUX-SUR-SOMME	17		Parade at 10 a.m. - Inspection of arms equipment. Rifles being touched, bullets improved & cleaned.	
	18		Co 2 section employed constructing model tanks for demonstration to the Infantry - Company preparing for inspection tomorrow - Weather cloudy with light rain.	
	19		1st and 3rd Field Bns paraded together in drill order at 10 a.m. Reviewed by MAJOR-GENERAL GLASGOW, who addressed the companies and gave us a message of thanks from GENERAL PLUMER, commanding the 2nd Army.	

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6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAUX-SUR-SOMME	Aug. 19		They latter had telegraphs that no other Divisions on the 2nd Army and probably no other Divisions on the Western Front had equalled the work they had done in the week.	D.P.
	20		Company sent two representatives to L.R. to arrange about Aquatic Sports for 1st Divisional Engineers, but all arrangements have been cancelled owing to operations planned for 23rd inst. by 1st Aust Division. Report of S.O. on General Inspection: Satisfactory.	D.P.
	21		LT McCONNEL, with No 1 and 3 Sections collected two pontoon wagon loads of cupolas etc from Dumps and proceeded to Q.18. Central and commenced work on constructing advanced B.Q. for 1st A.D. Bde - Remainder of company moved out from VAUX at 10.30 p.m. - 10 Reinforcements taken on strength.	D.P.
Q.22.d.5.4	22		Company reached camp in gully at Q.22.d. Central (Ref SHI HARBONNIERES) where they bivouaced for the night. No 3 Section continued work on Bde Dugouts, No 2 Section improving Camp - No 1 & 4 Sections resting preparatory to attack on morning of 23rd.	D.P.
	23		CAPT. FITZGERALD attached to 1st A.D. Bde as Liaison Officer for operations.	D.P.

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1

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19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q.22454	903 23		Attack by 1st Division commenced at 4.45 a.m. - Details of attack and the part played by this company are set out in APPENDIX.	<i>DR</i>
	24		Reconnaissance of SOMME CANAL carried out by LT. PETERSON with special reference to bridges. - Reconnaissance of forward area for accommodation. MAJOR D. G. SINCLAIR rejoined from hospital.	<i>DR</i>
	25		Reconnaissance of water supply, accommodation, railways and dumps. Transport employed taking R. to material for Divisional Dump. Weather cloudy, with light rain in evening. - LT. A. R. WRIGHT 14 days furlough to ENGLAND.	<i>DR</i>
	26		1st Bde patrols advanced 700 yards before coming in contact with enemy. - In conformity with relief of 1st Division by 5th Division, 1st Field company is relieved by 8th Field Coy. - Reconnaissance reports forwarded to C. R. Co. - Company to stay in present camp during period of training and recreation. LT. KERSLAKE 14 days furlough to ENGLAND.	<i>DR</i>
	27		Parade at 9 a.m. and inspection of rifles. - Bathing parade in afternoon. - LT. W. HIGGINS joins from BRIGHTLINGSEA.	<i>DR</i>

17

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q 22 d. 5.4	Aug. 28		LT HETHERINGTON takes charge No 1 Section and CAPT. FITZGERALD takes over Mounted Section. Sections employed improving camp and Mounted Section improving base lines and clearing barrens.	<i>DBI</i>
	29		CAPT J.E.G. STEVENSON proceeds to 4th Army Infantry Training School - Gas Drill and Rifle exercises in morning! Bathing parade in afternoon.	<i>DBI</i>
	30		Gas Drill and Rifle exercises - instruction in use of Lewis Gun - Engineers Reconnaissance. Recreation and Bathing in afternoon. Weather now getting much cooler - cloudy with signs of rain - Soldier Plant erected in MORCOURT for 1st. a. I. Bde.	<i>DBI</i>
	31		Gas Drill - Reconnaissance of German Land Mines - Lewis Gun instruction. Mounted Section parade for Rifle inspection at 9 a.m. - Improvements to camp continued - boophouse completed and barrens Room - Recreation and bathing in afternoon.	<i>DBI</i>
			<i>Phudart</i>	

19

WAR DIARY

OF

APPENDIX

1st Field Coy. A Co.

FOR

August1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I.	<u>Strength.</u>
II.	<u>Engineer Instructions No 3.</u>
III.	<u>Engineer Instructions No 4.</u>
IV.	<u>Report on Operations of 23.8.18.</u>
	<u>To accompany original copy only.</u>
V.	<u>Situation and Distribution</u> <u>Sheet 23.8.18.</u>
VI.	<u>Situation and Distribution</u> <u>Sheet 11.8.18.</u>
VII.	<u>Bomb Blocks.</u>
VIII.	<u>1st A.I. Bde Orders received</u> <u>during August.</u>

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10

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1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Appendix. I. - STRENGTH.	
			Strength at 31.7.18 10 Off 235°R.	
			do at 31.8.18 11 Off 238°R.	
<hr/>				
			Casualties, Evacuations Etc. for month of August.	
			Wounded 1 Off 6°R.	
			Died of Wounds - 3 "	
			To Hospital. 1 " 6 "	
			Transferred. - 1 "	
			To AUSTRALIA 1 " -	
			Reinforcements - 11°R.	
			From Hospital 4 Off 8°R.	
			From F.P. Comp nd - 1°R.	
<i>Bluelair</i>				

APPENDIX

I

10

Secret.

H.Q., Divisional Engineers,
1st. Australian Division,
20th. August, 1918.

1st Australian Divisional Engineer Instructions No.3.

Ref. Map HARBONNIERES 1/40,000
(parts 62D, 62C, 66E, 66D.)

1. Operation by the Corps are to be resumed on Z day. Zero hour will probably be about dawn.
2. (a) 1st. Australian Division is to launch its attack from the present front of the 5th. Australian Division.
(b) The method will be for the 5th. Australian Division to leave its Line Battalions in the line and for the 1st. Australian Division to form up on a taped line during Y.Z. night.
(c) The 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade will attack on the right. 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade on the left. 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade will be in Divisional Reserve.
(d) The objective, the Divisional and inter brigade boundaries are shown on attached map.
3. Moves preparatory to attack will be effected on X day.
4. For these operations the following Engineer personnel will be available:-
 - 1st. Field Company Engineers.
 - 2nd. Field Company Engineers.
 - 3rd. Field Company Engineers. (Reserve Coy.)
 - One Company 1st. Pioneer Battalion.
 - Three Companies 1st. Pioneer Battalion. (reserve)
5. ~~Os.C.~~ Os.C. Field Companies and C.O. Pioneer Battalion will arrange to reconnoitre forward area and consult with the Right and Left Brigades for a suitable place for their Companies, and will move to these places on X day.
C.R.E. to be informed of these locations when move is completed.
6. Field Companies will work with their respective Brigades and One Company of Pioneers will be detailed to work in conjunction with Brigades.
7. (a) The Field Companies will assist in taping out the forming up line and subsequently in consolidating ~~work~~ and wiring also for forming splinter proof Headquarters.
(b) Pioneers will assist in consolidation work and C.R.E. will consult with Brigade as to communications and work required.
8. Detailed instructions as to work required will be issued in a later instruction.
9. Arrangements will be made by companies to carry forward R.E. material and form temporary dumps of barb wire and Pickets also Concertina Barb Wire for use in consolidation. All such material to be carefully concealed and guard placed on same.
Notice Boards will be prepared as required by the Brigades and placed in position by Field Companies.
10. O.C. field Company will get in touch with the Right and Left Field Companies of the 5th. Division as to particulars regarding position of present line stores in Forward ~~area~~ portion of Area etc.
Advanced Headquarters 5th. Australian Division P.7.a.1.3.
All will be reminded of the order as to Secrecy concerning

P.T.O.

Secret.

H. Q., Divisional Engineers,
1st. Australian Division,
21st. August 1918.

1st. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ENGINEER INSTRUCTION No. 4.

Ref. Map HA BONNIERES 1/40,000.
Parts 62D, 62C, 66E, 66D,

1. Australian Corps is to attack the enemy on the front HERLEVILLE-CHUIGNES on 'Z' day. Date and Zero hour will be notified later.
2. The 1st. Australian Division will attack on a two Brigade front on the frontage of 'C' Divisional Sector. The 32nd. Division will be attacking on the Right of 1st. Australian Division and 3rd. Australian Division will be on the Left of 1st. Australian Division but will not be attacking.
3. The method of attack will be a deliberate attack from a taped forming up line. The line on which the Infantry will form up on will run Sq. R.34.b.1.0., R.27.d.8.4., R.3.g.2.0.
4. Assembly of 1st Australian Division will be effected in accordance with move table issued by Division. Field Companies will move with their Brigades Groups and Pioneers as detailed in Move Table attached to Battalion Instructions 'B' No. 2.
5. C.R.E's Office will be located at Divisional Headquarters at Q.13.a. 3.8. for the operation.
6. (a) In connection with operation two Sections will be allotted from each Company to work in connection with their ~~Respective~~ Respective Brigades for consolidation etc.. One Section from each Company for Reconnaissance work - (Deep Dugouts, Shelters, water, roads, etc.) in their Brigade Sector. One Section held in Reserve by O.C. Companies for work as required. Detail of employment to be arranged by O.C. Companies in Consultation with Brigade Commanders.
(b) C.O. Pioneers will detail one Company to each assaulting Brigade for consolidating and erection of Splinter or of cover for Forward Hqrs. for Battalions and Brigades. Detail of these requirements to be arranged direct between C.O. and Brigade. One Company will be detailed for road maintenance in Divisional Area. All roads will be patrolled and repaired where necessary in both Brigade Areas, and cleaned up through PROYART as operation progresses. One platoon will be held in reserve for any work that may be required by the Artillery. C.O. will get in touch with C.R.A. on the evening of the 21st. when a reconnaissance of Forward Area will have been completed by the Artillery and definite information as to requirements will be supplied by C.R.A.. Artillery Brigades ^{may} be drawn from Corps Dump at W.7.d. if required. Remaining Three Platoons will be held in Reserve.
7. (a) Three Supply Tanks will be allotted to each attacking Brigade, and will carry R.E. Stores forward to the Consolidation Line. The position at which these tanks will dump their stores has been fixed by Brigades and Field Company O.Cs. will obtain the necessary information and arrange for collecting same.
Field Companies will arrange with Brigades for loading of Stores onto these Tanks as required. Apart from these Stores Field Companies will form Dumps well forward as instructed in Engineer Instructions No. 3.

P.T.O.

14

19

APPENDIX

19

(b) O.C. Companies will arrange with Brigade for permanent parties for carrying to be detailed from the Reserve Battalion. This has been arranged with C.R.E. with Brigade.

(c) Location of Dumps have already been forwarded with Engineer Instructions No. 5.

8. O.C. Field Companies will get in touch with Brigades as soon as possible.

C.O. Pioneers will get in touch with 1st. Brigade as early as possible on the morning of the 21st. inst. and with the 2nd. Brigade about 3 p.m. on 21st. inst.

9. Progress of operation to be forwarded every two hours and information from all sources is required as to position of our Troops Particulars as to enemy Defences, Direction of Hostile Shelling, Documents, Maps etc., Water Supply Road Reconnaissance.

10. Acknowledge.

S/d. W.A. Henderson. Lieut. Colonel,
C.R.E. 1st. Australian Division.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS OF 23rd. Inst.

The First Australian Division attacked on the morning of the 23rd. August 1918, and, as part of the Fourth Army, its operations were directly connected, with the Combined operations of the Third and Fourth Armies on that day; which resulted in an advance, on a Fifteen Mile Front to a depth in places of Four and Half Miles near BARAUME, so making the fall of that Town eminent.

The First Field Company was attached to the First Brigade First Australian Division, and took part in the attack which advanced the Brigade Front from a line commencing :- R.9.a.3.10. and ending at R.21.d.2.10., to a line R.6.a.4.0., M.7.Central. and ending at M.9.Central a total of approximately 4,000 Yards *advance*.

The brigades on the left and right of the First Brigade advanced approximately a similar depth.

The attack of the First Brigade was made in Three Phases:-

One at 4.45a.m. which opened with an intense bombardment, and proceeded behind ~~existing~~ Barrage to the First Objectives, a line passing through R.9.b., R.10., R.18., M.19., The brigade had gained the objective by 6.30a.m. except on the Right where it was held up for some short while in R.17. The latter half of the attack was assisted by the Cooperation of Tanks.

In Phase Two the line was advanced without Artillery support.

Patrols were pushed out and line was advanced so that at 9.30 a.m. it ran from North to South LUCKWOOD R.3., LONGWOOD, R.4., R.10.B., SUNKEN-ROAD M.13.b.1.9. then South to R.18.C.7.7., M.19.b.3.2.

Third Phase. The brigade advanced with the Third Brigade which had come in from Reserve and taking up position on the Left of the First Brigade. The advance was assisted by Artillery and Tanks and in spite of determined opposition by the enemy advanced to its objective on the line R.6.a.4.0., R.12.a.9.8., M.7.b.5.0., M.19.b.5.0.

The First Field Company carried out various works in the advance the principle being :-

- (a) Taping off the Forming up Line for the whole Brigade Front for attack. This was done on the night preceding the attack by Captain Stevenson Acting O.C. of Company.
- (b) Constructing and wiring Strong Point close to the final objective line viz R.24.a.0.0.

The attacking infantry being held up at R.22. the Engineer Section No.4. under Lieutenant. Peterson passed round the flank of the opposition and arriving on the site fixed for Strong Point Taped same off and were thus ready for the Infantry to commence digging in on arrival of the latter. The Strong Point was constructed for Two Platoons and wired, the work being Completed in 5 hours after ZERO Hour.

While part of the Section were engaged in the Strong Point the remainder commenced to establish Posts in the Objective Line these were completed in M.19., and M.13d.

The Section returned to Company Headquarters at ~~midnight~~ having completed tasks allotted to it. It worked with ~~it~~ throughout. Lieutenant F.T. Peterson was Section Officer and Sergeant T. Austin Section Sergeant throughout operation.

- (c) Constructing Dugouts for Battalion Headquarters at R.9.d. Three Splinter Proof Dugouts were erected immediately after the attack had reached its objective.

A building was also ~~erected~~ prepared as an Aid Post and reconnaissance ~~made~~ of Water Supply on the Left Brigade ~~Front~~ ^{Front}. Lieutenant A.R. Wright was Officer in charge of the Section and had with him Sergeant F. Wicks as Section Sergeant.

The Section returned to Company Headquarters at midnight on the day of attack. It worked with the ~~First~~ ^{First} Aust. Infantry Battalion ^{Throughout}.

Dugouts were also constructed for Third Battalion headquarters at R.16.d.7.6. on the morning of the attack.

These were constructed by No. 2 Section under Lieutenant G.K. Kerslake who had with him Sergeant T.B. Oakes as Section Sergeant. In addition to the above Lieut. Kerslake with his Section made reconnaissance of country captured ~~in~~ the Brigade advance, and duly reported on the following:-

- Water Supply.
- Enemy Dumps.
- Heavy and Light Railways.
- Rolling Stock, and Track captured.
- Dugouts Located

Generally all the above were found to be almost wholly undamaged. Three Sappers were wounded in the carrying out of these works, *and reconnaissance.*

- (c) Consolidation work on night of the 23rd. viz. Digging. Three Posts at R.12., M.7.c.5.0., and M.7.d.5.0. and 60 yards of Front Line Trench in M.7.

This work was done by No. 3 Section under Lieutenant S. McConnell who had with him Sergeant A.J. Stock as Section Sergeant.

- (d) A report on Bridges between K.30., and L.34. in newly captured area

Construction of Seven Splinter Proof Dugouts at Q.18.c. Central. ~~in~~ the Two days preceding the attack.

- (e) Arrangements were made for R.E. Material required, in Forward Dumps to go Forward, and on the attack moving forward Three Supply Tanks followed immediately each carrying the following material:-

Grenades (27).....	5.Boxes.
Grenades (36).....	10.Boxes.
S.A.A.....	10.Boxes.
M.G. Amm.	20.Boxes.
Stokes.	75.Rounds.
Petrol Tins Filled.	50.
S.O.S.	1.Box.
Shovels.	100.
Picks.	50.
Sandbags.	2.Bales.
French Wire.	10.Bundles.
Screw Pickets Long.	100.
Screw Pickets Short.	100.
Concertina Barb Wire.	50.Coils.

Each Tank made Two Trips. Two Sappers went forward in Tanks and took charge of Dumps so formed, and from these Dumps material and tools for consolidating captured Line were drawn.

The country over which the attack was pressed was plateau country whose principal features were Three valleys some 100 to 200 feet deep lying at Right angles to direction of attack. On the Plateaus and in these valleys were considerable areas of woods which were strongly defended by enemy Machine Guns.

The Corps Commander General Monash sent the following wire to the Divisional Commander of First Division, on completion of operations:-

"I Desire to thank you and the First Australian Division and all attached Troops and Services most warmly upon the Brilliant and decisive victory which you have won to-day. Both in territory and in Prisoner captured and in damage inflicted upon the enemy ~~too~~ day's performance has not been excelled. The greatest credit is due to all leaders and staff for their effective preparations and dispositions and to the Troops for their gallantry High Spirit and Determination."

A. E. Bluelain

Major, A.E.
O. G. 1st Field Coy. Engineers

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The brigades on the left and right of the First Brigade advanced approximately to a similar depth.

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One at 4.45a.m. which opened with an intense bombardment, and proceeded behind Hakkind Barrage to the First Objectives, a line passing through R.9.b., R.10., R.13., R.19., etc. The brigade had gained the objective by 6.30a.m. except on the Right where it was held up for some short while in R.17. The latter half of the attack was assisted by the Cooperation of Tanks.

In Phase Two the line was advanced without Artillery support.

Patrols were pushed out and line was advanced so that at 8.30 a.m. it ran from North to South LUCKWOOD R.3., LONGWOOD, R.4., R.10.B., SUHARR-ROAD M.13.b.1.9. then South to R.11.C.7.7., M.19.b.3.2.

Third Phase. The brigade advanced with the Third Brigade which had come in from Reserve and taken up position on the Left of the First Brigade. The advance was assisted by Artillery and Tanks and in spite of determined opposition by the enemy advanced to its objective on the line R.6.a.4.0., R.12.a.9.8., M.7.b.5.0., M.19.b.5.0.

The First Field Company carried out various works in the advance the principle being :-

- (a) Taping off the Forming up Line for the whole Brigade Front for attack. This was done on the night preceding the attack by Captain Stevenson Acting C.C. of Company.
- (b) Constructing and wiring Strong Point close to the final objective line via R.24.a.0.0.

The attacking Infantry, being held up at R.22. the Engineer Section No. 4. under Lieutenant. Peterson passed round the flank of the opposition and arriving on the site fixed for Strong Point Taped same off and were thus ready for the Infantry to commence digging in on arrival of the latter. The Strong Point was constructed for Two Platoons and wired, the work being Completed in 5 hours after 2300 hour.

While part of the Section were engaged in the Strong Point the remainder commenced to establish Posts in the Objective Line these were completed in M.19., and M.13d.

The Section returned to Company Headquarters at having completed tasks allotted to it. It worked with ~~the~~ ^{the} throughout. Lieutenant F. Peterson was Section Officer and Sergeant T. Austin Section Sergeant throughout operation.

- (c) Constructing Dugouts for Battalion Headquarters at R.9.d. Three Sinker Proof Dugouts were erected immediately after the attack had reached its objective.

2.

A building was also erected prepared as an Aid Post and reconnaissance made of Water Supply on the Left Brigade ^{Front} and had with him Sergeant P. Jicks as Section Sergeant.

The Section returned to Company Headquarters at midnight on the day of attack. It worked with the First Aust. Infantry Battalion. ~~throughout~~.

Dugouts were also constructed for Third Battalion headquarters at R. 16. d. 7. 6. on the morning of the attack.

These were constructed by No. 2 Section under Lieutenant G. B. Borslake who had with him Sergeant T. B. Calce as Section Sergeant. In addition to the above Lieut. Borslake with his Section made reconnaissance of country captured by the Brigade advance, and duly reported on the following:-

Water Supply.
Enemy Dumps.
Heavy and Light Railways.
Rolling Stock, and Track captured.
Dugouts located

Generally all the above were found to be almost wholly undamaged. Three Sappers were wounded in the carrying out of these works, and reconnaissance.

- (c) Consolidation work on night of the 23rd, viz. Digging. Three Posts at R. 12., M. 7. c. 5. 0., and M. 7. d. 3. 0. and 60 yards of Front Line Trench in M. 7.

This work was done by No. 3 Section under Lieutenant S. McConnell who had with him Sergeant A. J. Stock as Section Sergeant.

- (d) A report on Bridges between L. 30., and L. 34. in newly captured area.

Construction of Seven Splinter Proof Dugouts at R. 12. e. Central. in the two days preceding the attack.

- (e) Arrangements were made for R.L. Material required, in Forward Dumps to go Forward, and on the attack moving forward Three Supply Tanks followed immediately each carrying the following material:-

Grenades (27).....	5 Boxes.
Grenades (36).....	10 Boxes.
S. A. A. ?.....	10 Boxes.
M. G. Amm.	20 Boxes.
Stokes.	75 Rounds.
Patrol Tins Filled.	50.
S. C. S.	1 Box.
Shovels.	100.
Picks.	50.
Sandbags.	2 Bales.
French Wire.	10 Bundles.
Screw Pickets Long.	100.
Screw Pickets Short.	100.
Concertina Barb Wire.	50 Coils.

Each Tank made Two Trips. Two Sappers went forward in Tanks and took charge of Dumps so formed, and from these Dumps material and tools for consolidating captured Line were drawn.

The country over which the attack was pressed was plateau country whose principal features were three valleys some 100 to 200 feet deep lying at right angles to direction of attack. On the plateaus and in these valleys were considerable areas of woods which were strongly defended by enemy Machine Guns.

The Corps Commander General Menash sent the following wire to the Divisional Commander of First Division, on completion of operations:-

"I desire to thank you and the First Australian Division and all attached Troops and Services most warmly upon the brilliant and decisive victory which you have won to-day. Both in territory and in prisoner captured and in damage inflicted upon the enemy too days performance has not been excelled. The greatest credit is due to all leaders and staff for their effective preparations and dispositions and to the Troops for their gallantry High Spirit and Determination."

J. Menash

1st Australian Infantry Brigade Order No

Backs
11 5 18

Reference Top - HARBONNIERES

1. The line now runs as follows -
 - Canadian held CHALV where new line crosses back to the Railway in A 7 A. Advanced elements are at HALLU
 Our Division holds the line A 9 D 3 8 - S 27 C 0 0 - S 19 B 4 0 - X 17 Central. The present South Divisional boundary is the railway line and the Northern boundary the grid line X 15 Central to X 17 Central.
 An operation takes place this afternoon for the capture of CHAULNES. If this operation succeeds our line will be swung forward to join with the Canadians at A 4 Central. The new front boundaries promulgated in my A 2 A 81 will then take effect.
2. The 1st Aust. Inf. Bde will tonight relieve the 2nd at Bde and portion of the 3rd at Bde in the line. The Bde Northern boundary will be the line S 15 B 5 0 - S 19 B 3 0 - X 26 C 0 0.
 3rd Bde will relieve the 5th Bde and elements of the 3rd at Bde between the South boundary and the line S 21 D 0 0 - S 26 Cent - S 25 D 0 0.
 2nd Bde will relieve elements of the 10th and 12th Bns from the line north to the North Sea coast.
 The 1st Bde will move into support in the area S 25 B and D and A 1 B and D, and the 4th Bde into Bde Reserve in X 29 and F 5.
 Bde HQ will move at 8 pm to Sq W 24 B.
3. Each line Bde will be disposed with 3 Coy in line and one in reserve. Each Coy in line will provide its own local counter attack troops. In the case of boys on the flanks of the line two platoons will be held in hand for a purpose.
4. The 1st Coy will be disposed with 12 Coy in line for direct fire in support of the present line and as Battery of 4 guns in a suitable supporting position.
5. The 10th Bde will be held in reserve and not available to Bde by direct ~~arrangement~~ arrangement.

170

(2)

6. Sketch maps of dispositions of each unit will be forwarded to each other unit of the Brigade and to BdHQs during the forenoon tomorrow.
7. Details of relief will be arranged between commanders concerned and all reliefs will be put through as early as possible and completion reported to BdHQs.
8. Bde Report Centre remains at Cross Roads X. 20. B.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. Hall Gage
 1st Coy. 1st Bde.
 BdHQs. 1st ad. Bde.

Issued to Signals at 3.45 pm.

copy

No

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | File. |
| 2. | 1 st Bn |
| 3. | 2 nd Bn |
| 4. | 3 rd Bn |
| 5. | 4 th Bn |
| 6. | 1 st M.G. Coy. |
| 7. | 1 st L.T.M. Coy. |
| 8. | 1 st Aust. Div. |
| 9. | 1 st Field ambulance |
| 10. | 1 st Field Coy. A.C. |
| 11. | 2 nd ad. Bde |
| 12. | 3 rd ad. Bde |
| 13. | 2 nd Canadian Div. |
| 14-16. | War Diary. |
| 17. | Staff Captain |
| 18. | Signal officer. |

BU/13

BdeHQ
12.8.18

- 1st Aust Bn
- 2nd Aust Bn
- 3rd Aust Bn
- 4th Aust Bn
- 1st Aust LTM Coy
- 1st Aust M Coy
- 1st Field Coy at

The policy of the Bde will be active defence. The present line will be consolidated. In case of attack the Picquet line will be held at all costs.

Possession of the high ground at WYONS and the ridge immediately west of it is vital for observation and the development of effective counter battery work.

Should the Picquet line be forced Battalion Reserve will be utilised for immediate counter attack. Should these be insufficient, organised counter attacks with reserve or support troops will be arranged by Brigade.

The Support Bn will stand fast in selected localities covering the picquet lines unless otherwise ordered.

The Reserve Bn will be used for deliberate counter attacks.

Complete reconnaissances of the forward area will at once be made by all leaders in Support and Reserve Battns.

The LTM Coy is available for tasks as required by Bns in the line. The guns will not be stationed in fixed localities but will be at the disposal of line Bn commanders for employment on any part of his front singly or otherwise as desired.

Bn commanders will issue to their boys short instructions as to their role in case of attack in accordance with the principles set out above. A copy of these instructions will be forwarded to BdeHQ.

The front must be actively patrolled and the command of No Man's Land seized and held.

Communications will be organised for stationary warfare and code balls taken into use. A list of the latest code balls is forwarded under separate cover.

Battalion OPs will be established and daily intelligence reports furnished as usual.

P.T.O.

(2)
An artillery Liaison officer will be with each Line Battalion and artillery assistance can be arranged direct, but special artillery programmes should be referred to Brigade.

WORKS. Units will immediately get posts into fighting condition. Mine them, dig communication trenches between posts where necessary, stock them with SAA, bombs and water. Suitable Post + Coy HQ will be constructed.

The Pioneer Coy will construct a communication trench to each Battalion sector.

Tactical mine for Vickers guns will be put out.

The 1st Field Coy HQ will allot one section of Engineers to each line and support Battalion. The 4th section of the Coy will be employed on jobs generally under Brigade direction.

A large German dump exists at X 56 D. Units will indent for material through their section officer. 1st Field Coy. The 1st Field Coy will deliver to Battalion dumps as far forward as roads and enemy fire permits.

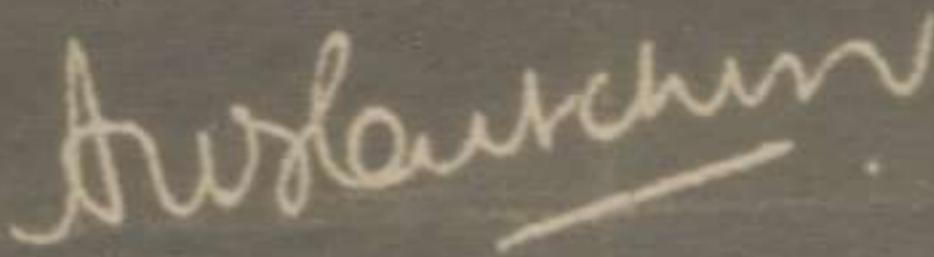
Works reports will ~~be~~ be furnished as usual, a pro forma ~~to include~~ will be forwarded today.

Ambleton Major

Bde Staff, 1st Aust Div Brigade

1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 111.Brigade Headquarters,
13th. August, 1918.Ref. Sheet HARBONNIERES.

1. The 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade will be relieved in the line on the night of the 14/15th. August, 1918 by the 15th., 12th. and 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigades. The 15th. Brigade will relieve troops SOUTH of the EAST and WEST Grid. between Squares "S" and "A", the 12th. Brigade the troops NORTH thereof to the EAST and WEST line through S.20.C.0.5., and the 4th. A.I. Brigade the remainder. Relief will be effected as early as possible under mutual arrangements between Commanders concerned and at time of relief no troops other than protective patrols will be EAST of the Jumping Off line.
2. Details of relief are -
 - 58th. Battalion relieves 3rd. Battalion from A.S.B.5.1. to EAST and WEST Grid. between Squares "S" and "A".
 - 45th. Battalion relieves remainder of 3rd. Battalion.
 - 45th. Battalion relieves 2nd. Battalion from Right boundary up to S.24.B.0.5. approx.
 - 48th. Battalion relieves 2nd. Battalion from EAST and WEST line through S.24.B.0.5. to EAST and WEST line through S.20.C.0.5.
 - 15th. Battalion relieves remainder of 2nd. Battalion.
3. Prior to relief the 2nd. and 3rd. Battalions will peg out the line A.S.B.4.0. - A.2.B.9.0. - S.24.D.9.0. - S.24.B.8.0. - S.20.C.3.0. which is to be the Jumping Off line for an operation the following morning. Flanks of incoming Battalions will be marked and shown to the troops on the ground. These Units will also cut lanes in any wire that exists and label same. Any other assistance which can be given to the incoming troops will be rendered.
4. On relief Units will move to Squares X.13. and 19. in accordance with table attached and subsequently to the area VAUX-sur-SOMME.
5. Advance parties of 1 Officer and 4 N.C.Os per Battalion and 1 Officer or senior N.C.O. of other Units of the Brigade Group will assemble at Square Q.25.D.8.3. at 9 a.m. 14th. inst. where they will be met by the D.A.A.G.
6. Standing Orders regarding march discipline, distances on the march and A.A. defence will be strictly observed during the move.
7. Nucleus Battalion will rejoin the Brigade on arrival in the new area.

ACKNOWLEDGE.


Major,

Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at ... 14.8.18

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.	File.	Copy No.	File.
1.	File.	16.	1st. Aust. L.T.H. Bty.
2-4.	War Diary.	17.	1st. Aust. M.G. Coy.
5.	G.O.C.	18.	2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
6.	Brigade Major.	19.	3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
7.	Staff Captain.	20.	Right Flank Brigade.
8.	Signal Officer.	21.	12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
9.	1st. Aust. Div., "G".	22.	15th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
10.	1st. Aust. Div., "Q".	23.	4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
11.	1st. Aust. Battalion.	24.	1st. Field Coy., A.E.
12.	2nd. Aust. Battalion.	25.	No. 2 Coy., A.A.S.C.
13.	3rd. Aust. Battalion.	26.	1st. Aust. Field Ambulance.
14.	4th. Aust. Battalion.	27.	S.A.A. Sect., D.A.O.
15.	Nucleus Battalion.		

MOVE TABLE.

Serial No.	Date.	Unit.	From	To	Time.	Remarks.	
1.	14/8/18.	4th. Aust. Battalion.	Reserve	X.13.C.	4 p.m.	(a) Staff Captain will meet Advance Parties for this move at 4 p.m. at X.13.B.3.0.	
2.	do	1st. Field Co., A.E.	HARSONNIERES.	X.13.B.	4 p.m.		
3.	do	1st. Field Amb. (less tent subdivision).	do	X.13.B.	4 p.m.		
4.	do	S.A.A. Sect., D.A.C.		X.15.B.	4 p.m.		
5.	do	1st. Aust. M.G. Coy.	Line.	X.13.B.	10 p.m.		
6.	do	1st. Aust. Battalion.	Support.	X.19.A.	8 p.m.		
7.	Night 14/15th.	2nd. Aust. Battalion.	Line Left.	X.13.D.	On relief.		
8.	do	3rd. Aust. Battalion.	Line right.	X.19.B.	On relief.		
9.	do	1st. Aust. L.T.M. Bty.	Line.	X.19.B.			
				S.P.	Time.	Route.	
10.	15/8/18.	4th. Aust. Battalion.	X.13.C.	VAUX-sur-SOMME.	Rd. Junet. Sq. W.18.B.8.8.		
11.	do	1st. Aust. Battalion.	X.19.A.	do	do	8 a.m.	BAYONVILLERS -
12.	do	2nd. Aust. Battalion.	X.13.D.	do	do	8.30 a.m.	
13.	do	3rd. Aust. Battalion.	X.19.B.	do	do	9 a.m.	HAMEL -
14.	do	1st. Aust. L.T.M. Bty.	X.19.B.	do	do	9.30 a.m.	
15.	do	1st. Aust. M.G. Coy.	X.13.B.	do	do	10 a.m.	VAIRE.
16.	do	1st. Field Coy., A.E.	X.13.B.	do	do	10.10 a.m.	
17.	do	1st. Field Ambulance.	X.13.B.	do	do	10.20 a.m.	Guides at VAIRE.
18.	do	S.A.A. Sect., D.A.C.	X.13.B.	do	do	10.40 a.m.	
						11 a.m.	

APPENDIX VIII

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS to
1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No.111.
-----Brigade Headquarters,
13th. August, 1918.

1. Transport will move with Units, water carts and ammunition echelons full.
2. All battle stores, extra water bottles and carriers, pack saddles, hot food containers, water carriers, long-handled wire cutters and surplus petrol tins will be returned to Advanced D.A.D.O.S., Q.32.A.2.3., and receipts obtained.
3. Ammunition and petrol tins in Battalion and Company dumps will be handed over to relieving units and receipts forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.
4. Limbers with Brigade Reserve will return to units transport lines on afternoon of 14th. instant with full complement of ammunition. The limbers attached to the 1st. L.T.M. Battery will return to their respective Battalion Transport Lines. Brigade Headquarters will detail one G.S. Wagon for use of 1st. Aust. L.T.M. Battery.
5. Clean clothing and bathing arrangements will be notified later.

R. Hall

Captain,

Staff Captain, 1st. Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION.

Same as for Brigade Order No. 111.

Issued to Signals at 11a.m. (14th. August, 1918.).

APPENDIX
1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 112.Brigade Headquarters,
20th. August, 1918.

Reference Sheet HARBONNIERES. 1/20,000.

1. The 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade, in conjunction with the 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade on the right, will attack the enemy on "Z" day and capture and consolidate the GREEN line. A map issued under separate cover shows present British Front Line, Infantry Start Line, the GREEN Line, and inter-Brigade and inter-Battalion boundaries.
2. The 4th. Aust. Battalion on the right and the 1st. Aust. Battalion plus one Company 3rd. Aust. Battalion on the left will deliver the assault, 3rd. Aust. Battalion, less 1 Company, being in Support and the 2nd. Aust. Battalion, less details, being in Reserve.
3. The attack will be supported by Tanks, Machine Guns and Trench Mortars and will be made under a creeping barrage. Artillery programme is issued separately.
4. The Brigade Group will move from the VAUX-sur-SOLLE area to the first position of assembly on the 21st. inst. in accordance with the move table overleaf.
5. Advance parties will be sent up during the forenoon of 21st. inst. and will report to Capt. T.G. MANN, 2nd. Aust. Battalion, at cross-roads, Square Q.12.D.6.7. at 11 a.m.
6. First line transport will move in rear of the Brigade to the CERISY area. Advance parties will report at 2 p.m. at the Church, CERISY, to Capt. T.G. MANN.
7. Battle instructions under this Order will be issued in due course.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

R. Hall Capt
Staff Capt. in Major,

Brigade Major, 1st. Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at *1 am 21/8/18*DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.	1.	File.
	2-4.	War Diary.
	5.	G.O.C.
	6.	Brigade Major.
	7.	Staff Captain.
	8.	Intell. Officer.
	9.	Signal Officer.
	10.	Capt. T.G. MANN.
	11.	1st. Aust. Battalion.
	12.	2nd. Aust. Battalion.
	13.	3rd. Aust. Battalion.
	14.	4th. Aust. Battalion.
	15.	1st. Aust. L.T.H. Bty.
	16.	1st. Aust. M.G. Compy.
	17.	1st. Aust. Field Ambulance.
	18.	1st. Field Coy., A.E.
	19.	S.A.A. Scot., 1st. D.A.C.
	20.	No. 2 Coy., A.A.S.C.
	21.	Area Commandant, HAMELET.
	22-25.	1st. Aust. Division, "G" and "Q".
	24.	2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
	25.	3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade.
	26.	27th. Infantry Brigade.
	27.	32nd. Division.
	28.	21st. Aust. M.G. Coy.
	29.	1st. Aust. M.G. Battalion.

MOVEMENT TABLE

TO ACCOMPANY 1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 112.

39

Serial No.	Date.	Unit.	From	To	Relieving	Route.	S.P.	Time.
1.	21/8/18.	1st. Battalion.	VAUX.	Sq. R. 7.	60th. Battalion.	HAMEL - CERISY - HORCOURT Road.	Bridge, J.28.C.1.1.	8.0 p.m.
2.	"	4th. Battalion.	"	Sq. R. 13.	58th. Battalion.	do do	do	8.30 p.m.
3.	"	2nd. Battalion.	"	Sq. Q. 18.	Nil.	do do	do	9.0 p.m.
4.	"	3rd. Battalion.	"	Sq. Q. 12.	Nil.	do do	do	9.30 p.m.
5.	"	1st. L.T.H. Bty.	"	Sq. Q. 18.	Nil.	do do	do	10.0 p.m.
6.	"	1st. H.G. Compy.	"	Sq. Q. 12.	Nil.	do do	do	10.15 p.m.
7.	"	1st. Fld. Coy., A.E., less 2 Sections.	"	Sq. Q. 18.	Nil.	do do	do	10.30 p.m.
8.	"	1st. Field Amb.	"	CERISY Area.	Nil.	do do	do	10.45 p.m.
9.	"	21st. H.G. Coy.	HAMELET.	Sq. Q. 12.	Nil.	CERISY,	K-roads, P.3.C.2.8.	11.30 p.m.

APPENDIX VIII

Brigade Headquarters closes at VAUX at 12 noon 22/8/18 and re-opens at Sq. Q.18.C. Central. at the same hour.

1st. Line Transport will march in same order as Brigade Units with 100 yards distance between transport of Units and vehicles in echelons of six with 25 yards between echelons.
Head of column will pass Starting Point, Bridge J.28.C.1.1., at 11.30 p.m. on 21/8/18.

39

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH
1ST AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 112.

Brigade Headquarters,
21st August, 1918.

1. Trench Shelters, Tents, etc. will be returned to Billet Warden's store opposite the Church, VAUX, before Unit moves out and a copy of the receipt obtained forwarded to Brigade Headquarters before 4 p.m. on the 21st inst.
2. PACKS, Valises and Surplus Kit, will be stored in CORBIE.
3. Transport Lines. Units will advise Brigade Headquarters of the location of their Transport Lines as soon as possible. Transport Lines will not be changed without authority from Brigade Headquarters.
Every effort must be made to comply with instructions already issued to protect horses against hostile aircraft and shell-fire.
4. Sox. Each man will carry two pairs of clean sox. Further supplies will be obtained at advanced Ordnance.
5. Supplies. Supply Dump will be at P.11.A.9.7. and Units will draw from there to-morrow, 22nd inst.
6. Water. In addition to the supplies that will be sent forward to Battalion Dumps Tanks of a capacity of 500 gallons will be dug in in the vicinity of Q.24.A.2.8. and be kept full under Divisional arrangements.
500 patrol tins will also be kept there ready filled with water.
This reserve can be drawn when required on application to Lt. BRETT, the Officer in charge of the Brigade Dump.

7. Ammunition and R.E. Material.

Brigade Mobile Reserve. Each Battalion will detail 1 S.A.A. limber with 22,000 S.A.A., 2 limbers with 10 loaded L.G. magazines per Gun and the Tool Limber complete with tools to report to Lieut. BRETT at Q.24.A.2.8. at 4 p.m. on the 22nd inst.

Units when they require ammunition will send a guide to Brigade Mobile Reserve and demand requirements which will be delivered to Battalions.

Battalion Dumps will be formed by using tanks at the following locations :-

- R.9.A.8.2.
- R.16.D. Central.
- R.17.D. Central.

Tanks will move forward in sufficient time to have these Dumps established by Zero plus 1½ hours.

Each Tank will take forward on each trip the following, making two trips :-

No.27 Grenades.	5 boxes.
No.33 Grenades.	10 boxes.
S.A.A.	10 boxes.
M.G., S.A.A.	20 boxes.
Stokes, 28 rounds.	75 rounds.
S.O.S.	1 box.
Patrol tins filled with water.	50.
Shovels.	100.
Picks.	50.
Sand Bags.	2 bales.
French Wire.	10 bundles.
Screw Pickets, long.	100.
" " short.	100.
Concertina wire.	50 coils.

P.T.O.

2nd. Battalion will detail a party of 1 N.C.O. and 17 other ranks to report to the D.A.Q.M.G. at Q.15.A.5.8. at 4 p.m. on the 22nd. inst. with 24 hours rations in addition to their iron rations, to accompany the Supply Tanks.

The 1st. and 4th. Battalions will detail guides to report to D.A.Q.M.G. at same place and time as above to guide Tanks to their respective dumps. Each guide will carry a flag BLACK over GREEN.

1st. and 4th. Battalions will arrange to have a small party at its Dump to help to unload the tanks and take charge of the dumps.

8. Battle Stores including urgent fighting necessities such as oil, Flannelette and L.G. magazines can be obtained to-morrow, 22nd. inst., at advanced D.A.D.O.S., Q.9.A.9.8.

9. Ammunition, Sandbags, Plares, S.O.S., etc., required by attacking troops will be drawn on the evening of 22nd. inst. from the Brigade Dump, Q.24.A.8.8. Units will send guides to take limbers to locality required.

10. Veterinary. M.V.Ss is at GAILLY.
Advanced collecting station MORCOURT (exact location later).
Daily Remount Casualty Wire will be rendered daily commencing on 22nd. instant.

11. Prisoners of War will be brought in the first instance to Brigade Headquarters. A.P.M. will take over all prisoners of War from there.

12. Stragglers Posts will be arranged by A.P.M. along the line BERISY-MORCOURT - HARBONNIERES.

13. Burial of the Dead. Each Unit will be responsible for the burying of all dead in its area. Location of Cemeteries will be notified later.

German dead. The number of German dead buried will be wired to Brigade Headquarters daily by 8 a.m.

This return will state number of Germans buried up to 6 p.m. the previous day.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

R. Hall .. Capt.,

Staff Captain, 1st. Australian Infantry Brigade.

1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

Brigade Headquarters,
21st. August, 1918.

PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

1. At Zero minus 1 hour the 4th. Battalion, 1st. Battalion and 1 Company of 3rd. Battalion, with attached L.T.H. and V.H.G. units, will be in position on the tapes.

4th. Battalion will move by route "A" and 1st. Battalion by routes "B" and "C".

The 59th. and 57th. Battalions will be in rear of the assaulting troops. Patrols however of the 57th. and 59th. Battalions will cover the Brigade front until Zero minus 15 minutes, when they will rejoin their units.

The 3rd. Battalion will be assembled in the area R.14.C. - R.20.A. 21st. M.G. Company (less 2 Sections) will also concentrate here, as will the Pioneer and Engineer details who are to follow up the attack.

The Tank Company will be deployed on a line some distance in rear of the Infantry start line.

2. At Zero hour the Tanks will pass through the assaulting Infantry and deploy in front of them. The leading Infantry patrols will get into close touch with the Tanks.

At Zero plus 3, as the barrage lifts, the assault will be launched and will follow the barrage up to the barrage halt line approximately 2500 yards in front, and during the 15 minutes the barrage dwells, such reorganization of units and mopping up as are necessary will be effected, prior to the resumption of the forward move.

The 57th. and 59th. Battalions will re-garrison present front line at earliest opportunity.

The 3rd. Battalion (less 1 Company) will move at Zero so as to arrive at the following locations by not later than Zero plus 1½ hours.

1 Company will move to Sq. R.18.B.8.0. and dig in.

1 Company " " " Sq. R.25.A.8.5.

1 Company " " " Sq. R.22.B. Cent.

The 21st. M.G. Company (less 2 Sections) will move at Zero and emplace Batteries in R.10.B. and R.17.B.

The Pioneer Company will put in strong posts sufficient to accommodate 1 Company at the following locations :-

Right Battalion section - Sq. R.17.D.8.2. (in old trench).

Left Battalion section - Sq. R.10.C. & D. (just North of lower road).

These posts will be occupied by the Reserve Companies of 4th. and 1st. Battalions.

1 Section Engineers will put in a strong post for a platoon at Sq. R.24.A.0.0. (in old trench) and connect with a similar post of 5th. Battalion. 4th. Battalion will man this post.

3. The following contact with the 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade will be maintained :-

4th. Battalion will provide a Liaison Platoon to keep touch between the 2 Units. Definite contact will be maintained throughout the advance if possible and, if not possible, then at the barrage halt line (near ST. MARTIN'S WOOD), after having passed the Wood, and at the GREEN line, where a joint post will be put in on the inter-Brigade boundary.

If the 5th. Battalion is hung up at ST. MARTIN'S WOOD the 4th. Battalion will push on Eastwards and endeavor to effect contact with the 5th. Battalion. 1 Platoon 5th. Battalion will operate on North side of the Wood.

The 1st. and 4th. Battalions will each detail a Liaison patrol to guarantee contact between Battalions. At the GREEN line these patrols will establish a joint post on the boundary.

The 3rd. Battalion (less 1 Company) will get in touch with the 7th. Battalion at R.22.B.8.0. to junction effectively the Support Line.

P.F.O.

4. The following are the Artillery arrangements :-

At Zero the barrage will fall on a line 200 yards East of the tapo.
At Zero plus 3 minutes it will lift at the rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes for 3 lifts.

From the 4th. lift inclusive the barrage will lift at the rate of 100 yards in 3 minutes as far as the barrage halt line.

This line runs H.31.B.5.0. - R.23.D.5.8. - R.17.C.7.5. - R.10.D.4.8.
The barrage will halt on this line for 15 minutes and will then lift at 100 yards in 3 minutes up to and beyond the GREEN line.

The barrage will then halt for 15 minutes when it will cease.
Barrage map will be issued later.

5. TANKS. - 1 Section, 2nd. Tank Battalion, is allotted to each of 4th. and 1st. Battalions and 1 Section will operate down the centre keeping touch with the others.

On reaching the GREEN line the Tanks will be withdrawn into a position of close support in Square R.18.B. If there be no further use for them they will move to their rallying point 15 minutes after the cessation of the barrage.

6. Machine Guns are allotted as follows :-

To 4th. Battalion. - 1 Section 21st. M.G. Coy. (forward guns).

To 1st. Battalion. - 1 section 21st. M.G. Coy. (forward guns).

In Support. - 21st. M.G. Company (less 2 Sections).

Operating on the left flank of the attack at Zero hour the 1st. M.G. Company will neutralize woods and low ground along the river.

Subsequently 1st. M.G. Company moves into Divisional Reserve.

7. Two guns of the L.T.M. Battery are allotted to 4th. Battalion and 4 guns to 1st. Battalion. Two are held in Brigade Reserve.

At Zero however O.C., 1st. L.T.M. Bty., will bombard GNEIGNOLLES for 6 minutes.

8. The consolidation of the area and distribution of troops as soon as the line becomes stabilized will be as already explained to C.Os and as set out on disposition map (issued separately).

To assist in the consolidation 1 Section, Field Engineers, is allotted to each of the 1st. and 4th. Battalions. 1st. Field Company (less 2 sections) and Pioneer Company will be employed under Brigade arrangements.

A C K N O W L E D G E.

Andrews
Major,

Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to Signals at *9.30pm*

DISTRIBUTION. - To all recipients of 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 112.

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 2.

Brigade Headquarters,
21st. August, 1916.

INTELLIGENCE AND DISPOSAL OF PRISONERS OF WAR.1. Battalion Intelligence Personnel.

Wherever possible one German speaker and 2 searchers should be allotted to each Battalion for use as follows :-

(a) German Speaker.

1. To secure immediate identification quickly.
2. To secure any immediate tactical information of the enemy required by the Battalion Commander.
3. To be in charge of the two searchers and separate important documents, orders, maps, etc., translate and convey any information of value to the Battalion Commander.

(b) Two Searchers.

The two Searchers should systematically search the battle field, enemy positions, suspected Headquarters, dead, etc., for documents and maps. Unless required by the Battalion Commander for immediate exploitation, documents, etc., should be packed in sand bags properly labelled and sent through the usual channels to the Divisional Cage as quickly as possible.

2. Searching of Prisoners.(a) Officers and N.C.O.s.

Officers and N.C.O.s will be searched as soon as possible after capture by an Officer or N.C.O., and all documents taken will be sent back (in sacks labelled by regiments if the number of documents, etc. is large) to the Divisional Intelligence Officer, whose position as determined by the Situation will be notified to Brigades.

(b) Other Ranks.

Other Ranks need not be searched, but escorts and guards will be warned to take special precautions to prevent prisoners from destroying papers. All ranks should understand that a prisoner's pay-book, identity disc, and personal belongings should not be taken from him.

3. Separation of Officers, N.C.O.s and Men.

Care will be taken that Officers, N.C.O.s and privates, are separated and are not allowed to communicate.

Interrogated prisoners should not be allowed to communicate with uninterrogated prisoners.

4. Notification of locality of capture.

Information as to place of capture will invariably accompany prisoners. The Battalion making the capture is a useful indication.

5. Authorized persons only to converse with prisoners.

No Officer or N.C.O. except those duly authorized should be allowed to interrogate or converse with prisoners.

6. Advanced Divisional Prisoners of War Collecting Cage.

The Divisional Intelligence Officer will be forward at this Cage. The position of the Cage will necessarily be determined by the battle situation, but when decided on it will be notified to all concerned.

7. Disposal of Prisoners.

The A.P.M. will arrange for the evacuation of all Prisoners of War from Brigades to the Advanced Divisional Collecting Station and from there to the Advanced Corps Cage at VECQUEMONT (N.11.B.8.7.) Traffic Control personnel should be made conversant with the method of disposal of prisoners. The evacuation of Prisoners should be as rapid as possible.

P.F.O.

APPENDIX VIII - 2 -

8. Identifications.

The importance of passing on all identifications as rapidly as possible cannot be over-estimated.

The locality of identifications will always be stated.

9. Observation Posts.

The important results advanced or mobile Brigade and Battalion Observation Posts may give to Commanders should be borne in mind.

The possibility of maintaining telephonic or visual communication should also be considered.

If possible locations of Observation Posts should be determined before hand.

10. Searching for and Forwarding of Documents.

Captured Documents except those upon which Battalion and Brigade Commanders can take immediate action, will be forwarded to D.H.Q. as soon as possible. German official instruments and apparatus should also be forwarded.

11. Documents - Location of Capture.

It is essential that the locality where documents are found or captured be reported. The Battalion must always be stated and, if possible, the actual location.

12. Advanced Divisional P.O.W. Cage. - The Cage will be established in the vicinity of the MORGOURT - PROYART Road in Q.17.C. or D. The Divisional Intelligence Officer will be in attendance. Numerous sign boards will be in position indicating the cage.

13. Collection and Disposal of Prisoners.

During recent operations the following points were noticed :-

(1) Escorts lost their way and prisoners were delivered to other Divisional Cages.

(2) Infantry Escorts who should have been fighting were found escorting prisoners several miles behind the firing line.

(3) Unnecessary delay in delivering prisoners to the Cage.

Therefore in order to effect economy in personnel and in time, the following method for the collection and disposal of prisoners during forthcoming operations will be used :-

(a) The A.P.M. will have a screen of mounted Military Policemen stationed along the Divisional front at an approximate distance of 1 mile from the front line. This screen will cover all routes from the front line in the Divisional Area. Adjacent routes in flanking areas will also be watched.

(b) Battalion escorts will be instructed to take prisoners of war to the rear and to deliver them to the first 1st. Aust. Division Mounted Military Policeman they meet, who will hand the escort a typed receipt. Escort will be instructed that in the unlikely event of missing members of the M.M.P. screen they will proceed to the Divisional P.O.W. Cage on the MORGOURT - PROYART Road.

(c) The A.P.M. will keep a reserve of M.M.P. at the Divisional Cage for filling gaps in the screen, and at the Headquarters of Brigades in the line, for prisoners who may be mis-directed.

(d) Close touch between the Divisional Cage and D.H.Q. will be maintained and any information of value gained by the Divisional Intelligence Officer will be immediately forwarded to those concerned.

Attempts will be made to maintain direct touch between Headquarters of Brigades in the line and the Divisional Cage.

(e) A close check will be kept by the A.P.M. of the number of prisoners taken by each Unit.

Arthur Keith
Major,
Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

19

1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS No. 3.

Brigade Headquarters,
21st. August, 1918.A E R O P L A N E S.1. Contact Aeroplanes.

- (a) RED Ground Flares will be lit to indicate Infantry positions. Flares will be lit by the most advanced line of Infantry only. Not the whole of the flares will be lit at the first call, a proportion will be kept back and lit on subsequent calls.
- (b) A contact aeroplane will fly along the line of the objective at Zero plus 2 hours. Call for flares is a succession of "A's" on the Klaxon Horn and the firing of a WHITE Very Light. If the aeroplane fails to mark the line accurately it will call again after 10 minutes. If it fails to obtain a reply it will repeat its call at half hour intervals. These aeroplanes are distinguished by rectangular panels 2 feet by 1 foot and on both lower planes about 3 feet from the fuselage.
- (c) O.C., Div. Sig. Company, will arrange for a message dropping station near advanced D.H.Q.
- (d) Metal discs will be flashed to indicate position of most advanced Infantry. Positions will also be indicated by laying 3 or 4 rifles parallel to one another at regular intervals across the top of the trench.

2. Counter Attack Aeroplanes.

From Zero hour counter-attack aeroplanes will be constantly in the air. The Signal to Infantry when enemy troops are preparing for a counter-attack is a WHITE parachute flare fired in the direction of the impending counter attack.

3. Ammunition carrying aeroplane.

- (a) These machines have the under side of the lower planes painted black for a distance of 2½ feet from the tips.
- (b) Ammunition will be dropped for Vickers Guns. O.C., 1st. M.G. Battalion, will arrange for WHITE "V's" to be displayed at points where ammunition is to be dropped. The arms of the "V" will be 6 feet long and 1 foot wide, the apex of the "V" to point towards the enemy.

C O M M U N I C A T I O N S .

Brigade Headquarters. - Q.18.C.
Brigade Report Centre. - R.14.B.C.O.
Brigade Forward Station. - R.16.D.1.9.

Battalions moving forward will ~~connect by~~ ^{connect by} wire to Brigade Forward Station as soon as Battalion Headquarters is established. 1 Runner per Battalion will also report to Forward Station as soon as Battalion Headquarters is established to inform the Office of their Units location.

Brigade Report Centre will be able to supply extra Signal Rockets if any are required. ^{letter}

The ~~little~~ ^{letter} strips on issue to Battalions will be used to communicate to aeroplanes.

Brigade Forward Station and Report Centre will accept all messages and despatches for Brigade.

L I A I S O N .

Major E.A. LLOYD, 4th. Aust. Battalion, will liaison with the Right Brigade and Capt. F.W. NEWTH, 4th. Aust. Battalion, with the Left Brigade. Battalions will maintain liaison with flanking Units.

All Liaison Officers will take runners.

Capt. T.G. MANN, 2nd. Battalion, will be the Brigade Forward Reconnaissance Officer and will observe and report the progress of the fight. For this purpose the Brigade Signal Officer will lay a line to a point on the CHIPILLY Spur from which a view can be obtained.

P.T.O.

SYNCHRONISATION OF WATCHES.

Units of the Brigade Group will synchronise watches at 6 p.m. and 12 midnight, Forward Units at the Brigade Report Centre and Units in rear at Brigade Headquarters.

SIGNALS.

S.O.S. - The S.O.S. Signal at present is a rifle grenade signal RED over RED over RED. SUCCESS SIGNAL will be a rifle grenade rocket WHITE over WHITE over WHITE.

These Signals will be taken into action by the forward Companies of the attacking troops and fired only from the GREEN line by the order of an Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FOR THE OPERATION.

- 1st. Aust. Division. - Q.15.A.5.8.
- 1st. Aust. Brigade. - Q.18.C.0.0. Control.
- 2nd. Aust. Brigade. - R.26.D.9.3.
- 9th. Aust. Brigade. - K.28.D.7.5.

Handwritten signature

Major, 1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

COMMUNICATIONS.

- Brigade Headquarters - Q.15.C.
- Brigade Report Centre - R.14.D.2.10.
- Brigade Forward Station - R.10.D.1.8.

Units moving forward will carry wire to Brigade Forward Station as soon as Battalion Headquarters is established. I should also report to Forward Station as soon as Battalion Headquarters is established to inform the Office of their position. Brigade Report Centre will be able to supply extra signal wire if any are required. The little strips on issue to Battalions will be used to connect Forward Station and Report Centre will accept all messages and report to Brigade.

LIST.

Major E.A. LLOYD, 4th. Aust. Battalion, will liaise with the Brigade and Capt. R.W. NEWTR, 4th. Aust. Battalion, with the 9th. Battalion. Battalions will maintain liaison with Liaison Units. All Liaison Officers will take numbers. Capt. E. GILMAN, 9th. Battalion, will be the Brigade Forward Station Officer and will observe and report the progress of the attack. This requires the Brigade Signal Officer who will be on the DEPUTY Officer when a view can be obtained.

Copy No. 18

1st Australian Infantry Brigade
FORECAST

1. It has been decided to exploit the attack of the 1st and 1st Battalions, if successful, and push on to the high ground beyond CHURCHES and CAREMM.

The 1st Aust. Inf. Bde will do the first phase of this operation by making good the line M.11.B.S.O. - M.13.B.S.O. - M.7.B.S.O. - R.S.D.O.O. - LUCKWOOD.

The 1st Battalion will make good the line M.9.B.S.O. - M.7.D.S.O.

The 2nd Battalion (less one company) will capture the line M.7.D.S.O. - R.S.D.O.O.

The 3rd Battalion will capture the line R.S.D.O.O. - R.C.P. Central - LUCKWOOD.

3. The 2nd Battalion will move from present location and act as laid down in Instructions No. 1. for the 3rd Battalion.

4. Each Battalion will be supported by 1 section V.M.G.'s, 1 section L.M.B., 1 Battery Field Artillery.

5. Orders will issue later.

Major W. J. ...

Major W. J. ...

Instructions as for Order No. 12.

et.

COPY No 22

1st Aust. Infantry Brigade Order 115.

Bde. Headquarters
25th August 1918.

Reference Map. HARBONNIERES - 1:40,000.

1. Our line is being pushed forward to the approx. line M.2. Central - M.8. Central - M.14.B.4.9 - M.14.B.3.0. - M.20. Central - M.26. Central.
2. The method of moving forward to be adopted by this Brigade will be the "dribbling" forward of small posts during daylight today, 25th inst and reinforcing and definitely establishing line tonight, 25th inst the present front line becoming the line of support companies.
3. The left Bn (3rd Bn) will to-day establish small posts on following approx. line - Northern edge of CANARD WOOD, M.8.C.0.9 - Eastern edge of CANARD WOOD M.8.C.3.7 - small wood at M.8.A.5.1. - No 4 wood at M.8.C.8.6. The right Bn (4th Bn) will establish posts on approx line - corner of LAPIN WOOD at M.8.C.8.2 - M.14.B.3.7 - M.14.B.2.4 - M.14.B.2.0. - M.14.D.1.0. - M.20.A.9.4.
4. The 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. is, in conjunction, pushing forward similar posts on approx. line M.20. Central - M.26. Central. Should however, the 2nd Bde fail to establish on this line the 1st Aust. Bde will form defensive flank by establishing posts along FURIES ALLEY. Posts established will be small with a duty of observation and denial to the enemy of the ground thus gained.
5. Artillery liaison officers will be instructed to assist by arranging harassing shots on known targets forward of ground where posts are to be established. The artillery group covering the Bde front has been advised of operation and will not fire over ground to be covered by our patrols unless asked to do so by Battalion commanders.
6. BdeHQ will be constantly advised of progress and behaviour of enemy.

ACKNOWLEDGE

McLennan
Capt.

of Brigade Major, 1st Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution as for Bde. Order 115.

Secret

Copy No 18

1st Aust. Infantry Brigade.Reference Map. HARBOUR RES: 1:40,000.WARNING ORDER.

1. In all probability the Brigade will be relieved from present positions tomorrow night 26/27th August.
2. To simplify the relief the Inter-Battalion Boundary will be R.H.D.O.O - along grid East to M.10.D.O.O.
3. All front line troops south of this line will be under command of C.O. 4th Battalion from 8 am tomorrow 26th inst., and all front line troops north of this boundary under command of C.O. 3rd Battalion from the same hour.
Acknowledge.

M. Brown Capt.
Lt Col. Major, 1st Aust. Inf. Bde.

SECRET.

COPY NO. 18

1st. Australian Infantry Brigade.
Addendum to. WARNING ORDER.

Brigade H.Q.
 25th. Aug. 1918.

The Division is to be relieved, probably on the night 26/27th. inst. by 5th. and 2nd. Aust. Divs.

(i) 5th. Aust. Div. will take over the line as far NORTH as grid line between Sq. M.8. and Sq. M.14.

(ii) 2nd. Aust. Div. will take over thence to SOMME CANAL.

(iii) 14th. Aust. Inf. Bde relieves 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde and the right Bn 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde in the line.

6th. Aust. Inf. Bde relieves left Bn, 1st Aust Inf Bde and 3rd. Aust. Inf. Bde. in line.

(iv) 54th. Bn. relieves 4th. Bn in front line SOUTH of grid line between Sqs. M.13 and M.19.

55th. Bn. relieves 4th. Bn. NORTH of grid line between Sqs. M.13, and M.19.

(v) Bde group will move to MORCOURT.

ACKNOWLEDGE.


Capt

a/Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde.

1st Aust. Infantry Brigade Order 116

Bde Headquarters
25th Aug

Reference Map: HARBONNIERES, 1:40,000

1. Reports from various sources tend to show that the enemy has made advanced preparations for a withdrawal probably to the Hindenburg line.

2. The 3rd Army is pressing its advance and is now on the outskirts of BAPAUME.

3. The 3rd Aust Div. has taken the SPUR, East of BRYE this morning 25/8/18 and their right Pale line now runs approx L. 24.C.1.1 to L.S. central.

4. The 1st Aust Div. has been ordered to prepare to face any withdrawal of the enemy.

5. Should the enemy withdraw the Divisional method of pursuit will be as follows:-

(a) The Divisional front will be re-adjusted so as to form two Bde. front.

(b) Boundaries will be as under (also in attached map)
DIVISIONAL NORTHERN Bdy: L. 30.C.4.4 - G. 25.D.3.0 hence along grid East to BIACHES exclusive.

SOUTHERN Bdy: R. 36.A.0.0 - M. 32.B.2.8 - M. 34.A.9.4 - M. 36.B.0.0 - X Roads N. 26.C.9.4 - hence along road East to VILLERS-CARBONNET exclusive.

INTER-BRIGADE Bdy along grid from M. 9.D.0.0 east to N. 10.D.0.0.

Inter-Battn Bdy - 1st Bde front

The inter-battalion boundary on the 1st Bde front will be the grid running East through M. 17.B.0.0 - M. 24. Central - N. 24. Central.

6. (a) Should the pursuit be ordered on the 25th or 26th inst the 2nd Bn will become right Bn and will advance through the 2nd Bde by means of patrols followed by supporting parties.

The 4th Bn will be left Bn and will advance in the same way.

The 1st Bn will move into Bde Support in centre of support area at present occupied by 2nd and 1st Bdes.

The 3rd Bn will move into Bde Reserve behind 1st Battalion as soon as 3rd Bde troops have passed through its front.

(b) In view of Bde Order No 115 the 2nd Bn will not relieve the 4th Bn until the night 26/27 August. The 4th Bn then moving into Bde Support to positions vacated by 2nd Bn.

(c) On completion of relief should the pursuit be ordered the role of Bns will become:-

1st Bn will pass through 2nd Bde and become right Battalion

2nd Bn will be left Battalion in the advance.

4th Bn will be in Bde Support

3rd Bn will pass into Bde Reserve as in para (a) above.

A.T.O.

Contd.

In event of pursuit:-

- (1) Brigade Groups of 1st and 3rd Bdes will remain as at present, and 1st and 3rd Bdes are to commence their pursuit.
- (2) 2nd Brigade Group is being composed of present Bde group plus 1st MG Coy and Pioneer Bn, the whole under command of Brig Gen. J. HEANE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and will move into Divisional Reserve.
- (3) Brigade Groups are moving less sent subdivisions of Field Ambulances.

In the advance of this Bde there will be allotted to each of leading Bns-

- (a) 1 section 2nd MG Coy.
1 do 1st L.T.M.B.
1 do 1st Field Coy Engrs
 - (b) a proportion of Artillery to be notified later.
- The 2nd MG Coy, 1st L.T.M.B. & 1st Hd. Coy Engrs. Less details mentioned in sub. para (a) above will move in front of Reserve Bn.
Bde Headquarters will be situated near Reserve Bn.

Principles. The most important principles to be borne in mind are:-

- (1) That closest liaison is maintained between forward Bns. and flanking Bdes - between support and Reserve Bns. of Bde Groups - for this purpose liaison officers and parties will be fully distributed.
- (2) That Commanders are well forward and that every means of communication is exploited, information being forwarded to Bde H.Q. as quickly as possible.

Method. The method of advance suggested is that patrols feel out and secure ground, which will be made good. Patrols will then again advance. Commanders will ensure that ample protection is maintained at all times and plenty of depth and cover from rear is to be insisted upon. when companies become "used up" fresh platoons and companies will be sent through them. scattered sections and platoons will then be reassembled and companies reformed so as to continue the advance. The same will apply to Bns under orders from Bde H.Q.

Bns. H.Q.s should move by definite bounds and only when sufficient ground is secured to justify a move. Support and Reserve Bns. will be moved by definite bounds as the advance proceeds but forward reconnaissance by officers will continually be carried out. It is to be remembered that such an advance will probably be carried out in presence of strong enemy artillery opposition, hence formations to outflank possibility must be adopted.

Full use is to be made of all arms at disposal, units should push in wherever possible, outflank enemy and Bns assist neighbouring units.

P. T. O.

3.

Contd.

10. The actions contained in this order is purely in the nature of a warning order.
 Actions will only be taken on a wire being received from Bde HQ as follows: "Adopt action under Bde Order No 116 and Zero hour....."
 Until such message is sent the method of keeping contact by patrols on this present Bde front will obtain.

Acknowledge.

M. Smith Capt.

Brigade Major, 1st Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution as for Bde order 113.

Secret

Copy No. 18

Administrative Instructions in
connection with 1st Aust. Bde Order 116

On the order as detailed in Bde Order No 116 Para 10 being given, transport lines will move to the vicinity of Q.16.C and Q.24.A. The order will be sent direct to Q.17 from Bde HQ.

Bde Mobile Reserve will move to vicinity of R.14.B.3-5, in the first place, and as the advance progresses to R.17.C.5-8.

Each Bn will detail one pack mule or horse with driver and packs complete and 24 hours ration to report to their present Battalion Headquarters directly the move order is given. These mules are for the use of the L.T.M. Coy.

Battle Stores. Battle stores will be retained by units. Great care will be taken that Hot Food containers and Petrol tins are collected from the front line, as the supply is nearly exhausted and no more can be issued.

Salvage. Special attention is to be paid to salvaging shovels and Picks and concentrating them on one or other of the Battalion Dumps.

Other salvage such as rifles, equipment, etc., can be dumped at advance D.A.D.O.S.

Arrangements are being made for a Divisional Representative to establish a dump in MORCOURT.

R. Hall. Capt.

Staff Captain, 1st Aust. Inf. Bde.Bde HQ.
23.8.18.Distribution - to all recipients of Order 116.

SECRET

COPY NO. 21.

1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade Order No. 117.Brigade. H.Q.
26th August 1918

Reference Map. HARBONNIERES 1/40,000.

1. (a) The operations of the Australian Corps are to be continued.
- (b) The 1st. Aust. Division, less Artillery, is being relieved on the night 26/27th August by the 5th and 2nd. Aust. Divisions.
- (c) Command will pass to G.O.C. 5th. and 2nd. Aust. Divisions on completion of relief.

2. Relief will be effected as early as possible, on the night 26/27th inst.

(i) The 5th. Aust. Division is relieving troops of this Division from the Divisional Southern boundary to as far South as grid line through Square M.8. and M.14 running East.

(ii) The 2nd. Aust. Division is relieving troops of this Division from grid mentioned above to as far North as the SOMME CANAL.

(iii) The 54th. Bn. is relieving that portion of the 4th. Bn. in the line positions South of the grid line between Sqs. M.13. and M.19.

(iv) The 55th. Bn. is relieving the remaining portion of 4th. Bn. in the line positions North of the grid line through Sqs. M.13. and M.19.

Details of Battalion reliefs will be arranged directly between Commanding Officers concerned.

Details of the relief of Support and Reserve Battalions, Medical Engineer and M.G. detachments of the Brigade group will be notified later.

3. On completion of relief Brigade group will move to MORCOURT area by march route via R. 20. A. 8.5. - G. 24. B. 8.8 - MORCOURT.

4. 1 Officer and 4 NCOs. from each of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Aust. Bns - 1 Officer and 2 NCOs. from each of Bde. H.Q. and 21st. Aust. M.G. Coy. and 1 NCO. from 1st. Aust. S.M. Battery will meet the Staff Captain at the branch MORCOURT at 11.30 am. Today, 26th inst. when billeting areas will be allotted. Full strength strength orders will be handed to Staff Captain by above parties.

5. Location of Brigade H.Q. in new area will be notified later.

[6. Standing

Confidential1st Aust. Infantry BrigadeSummary of Intelligence No. 1

Our operations (a) Infantry. Operations at first hour when the Brigade attacked the enemy on a front of 2500 yards immediately south of the bonnet in conjunction with the Brigade on the right. The front line, consisting of the 1st Coy of 4th Bn. on the left, 3rd Bn. and two Coy of 1st Bn. and closely supported by the remaining Coy of 4th Bn. and 11th Bn. advanced under a creeping barrage supported by tanks, 21st T.G. Coy and the 1st T.G. Coy. The initial 1000 yards was rather unopposed due to the barrage, tanks and the speed of the attack but from 1000 yards onward the resistance stiffened and considerable opposition was met with, especially from LUC, LONG, BOULRI and MATTO WOODS, main roads on R.16.D and ridges on R.17.D, R.10.B and R.5.A. These points were effectively engaged by close co-operation with tanks which rendered valuable assistance. CHUGNOLLES was captured during the advance in the first stage with but little opposition. The Infantry last line was ultimately reached along the entire front on suitable terms.

Arrangements with the Artillery had been previously made and the capitulation of our success was immediately commenced.

Perils came under heavy MG fire from ridge on R.17.D and GARENNE WOOD and ridge N.W. of CHUGNOLLES. Acting upon the information this gained by the captives, a further barrage was arranged and at first hour, 2pm 23.8.18 the second stage of the attack was resumed. The supporting Coy of the 4th and 1st Bns and the remainder of the 3rd Bn. in co-operation with 2nd Bde on the right and the 3rd Bde on the left, attacked, passing through front line troops where necessary. Heavy MG fire was encountered but owing to the fact of our troops following closely upon our barrage which was supported by tanks their progress was not seriously interrupted and the ridge on either side of CHUGNOLLES fell. Tanks operating in either side of CHUGNOLLES reported the ridge to be unoccupied and a line was eventually established from R.24 N.S.O. to M.19.B.3.8 - M.18.2.6.3 line N to M.7.D.6.6, M.7.S.0.9 - R.6.C.9.0.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy at all points where resistance was met with and the following unoccupied positions were captured as a result of our operations.

P.T.O.

(c) ARTILLERY. Our artillery besides the opening barrage, which was all that could be desired, in conjunction with the Bde, was used at a second barrage for the last stage of the attack, which was described as excellent. Since then our artillery has been very active shelling enemy forward positions and likely places of occupation, and also in Counter B.T. work.

(d) Machine Guns. The 21st M.G. Coy have constantly engaged enemy forward positions and roads of approach with harassing fire since their participation in the attack.

Our Lewis Guns, besides engaging all enemy machine gun positions, dispersed an enemy working party at M. 15. 7. 6. 6.

(e) Trench Mortars. Our Stokes Mortars have not fired since the attack, owing to our patrolling activity.

(f) Snipers. Several targets have been engaged but results are unobtainable.

(g) Aerial Activity. Our aerial activity showed an increase over the preceding day, and was not heavily engaged by hostile B.B. or M.G. fire.

2. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Infantry. Enemy infantry is very alert and has been frequently engaged in patrols during the period. He also appears to be very nervous, as we put up an S.O.S. signal upon the approach of one of our patrols. He has also been engaged in sniping, on any movement on our part.

(b) Artillery. Enemy artillery has been very active during the period, and appears to be becoming more organized. The method adopted appears to be that of "shell at 100" and shelling is confined to support and command areas, particularly valleys, and consists of direct with a considerable quantity of gas. Several direct hits were obtained in our front posts. The majority of the shelling comes from the direction of the Sugar Factory in M. 10. N. and a few from the direction of CUISINES WOOD, M. 15. 5.

Enemy appears to have at least 3 Bdes of Artillery on other sectors.

(c). Trench Mortars. Nil.

(d). Machine Guns.

Very active upon movement.

(e). Snipers. Active on occasions.

(f). Herid. Enemy aircraft has showed a decrease as compared with the previous 24 hours. An E.H. flew moderately low over our positions from 10.15 pm and our M.C. fire had no apparent effect upon it. Bombing machines were again active during the night.

Enemy balloons were observed on 10.15.0. 78°, 35°, 41° from R.L.D. 75.50.

(g). Enemy Defences. Enemy appears to be consolidating old trench system running along ridge from about M.I.D. 0.0, thence to M.2.S.1.3 thence to M.8.A.7.3.

Posts, M.I.D.1.0, M.I.D.0.0, M.2.S.1.3, M.8.H.1.0, M.8.A.7.3, M.14.B.2.2, M.20.B.9.0, M.15.A.20.25, M.4.D.3.8

Wiring at M.8.A.4.6.

(h). Movement. Two enemy observed to enter post at M.2.S. Movement observed in old trench in rear of enemy line.

(i). Miscellaneous. At 7.20 pm many flares were fired by the enemy, 2 REDS evidently being the 3.015. Line started by our heavy at 11.50 pm on a T.B. of 41° from R.L.D. 75.50. A band of smoke curtain broken up by us during the attack, together with a few men, received a hit from a shell during the day and large volumes of smoke were seen to rise from same to a great height.

Identifications	80	FR. FUSILIERS
	81	I.R.
	232	I.R.
	87	FR. FUSILIERS I.R.
	207	M.G.K.
	27	F.H.R.

Spockey Lieut.

for a/brigade Major, 1st Aust. Div.