

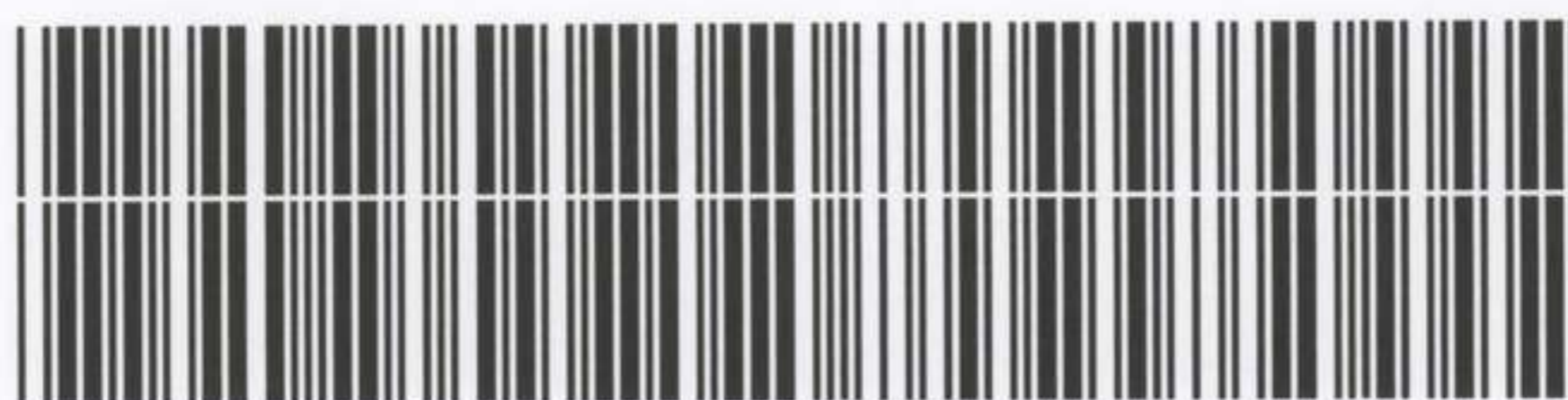
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/18/31

**Title:** 1st Infantry Battalion

May 1918



AWM4-23/18/31

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

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

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

1st. BATTALION.

FOR

MAY

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

J. K. MacKenzie Major.

Signature of Officer Commanding

B. Stannard

WAR DIARY 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Inf Bn

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

May 1918

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
R32 C 95 near METZEH	15/18		<p>Bn in support Corps disposed as follows D right Coy at PHINCBOOM - A Coy centre at X 3 C 9 7 B Coy X C 4 1.5. C Coy left at les 4 Fils Rymore - Corps carried on with consolidation in their respective sectors in the support line. P.S.O II + B.M. 1<sup>st</sup> Bde called during the day to discuss the defence of the Brigade sector.</p> <p>LT H.E. &amp; BECKETT MC + LT W.J. JOHNSTON to 4<sup>th</sup> Army Musketry School. LT K. MORTLOCH to 4<sup>th</sup> Army <sup>Gas</sup> Musketry School. Casualties during day killed 1 OR. Wounded 5 OR.</p>	
do	25/18		<p>Corps as on previous day Advance parties sent forward to 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn - LT T.J. RICHARDS MC evacuated sick. 1 OR wounded. - Bn orders issued at 8 pm for relief of 3<sup>rd</sup></p>	
do			<p>24<sup>th</sup> May</p>	
do	3:5/18		<p>Bn relieved 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust Inf Bn in the left sector of the line relief complete 12.15 am Corps being disposed as follows A Coy Right B Centre C left. D Coy in support Bn HQs X 4 C 1 4. Relief order add map showing Coy dispositions attached.</p> <p>Bde memo received 4.10 pm notifying us that the French troops on our left were advancing their line at dawn morning 4<sup>th</sup> May we would not to advance our line but bore a hell by covering in &amp; fore</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W809/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a. Forms/C/2118/14

1st Aust INF Bn  
May 1918

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Capt WOODMAN Aust M.G. Bn called to give details of M.G. cooperation for French attack 4/5/18</p> <p>BDE order 87 received 8pm re attached states Bn will advance and conform with the French attack 4/5/18 - Bn operation order No 19 attached giving Corps detailed instructions for operations 4/5/18. - At 8:45 pm Brigade Major issued verbal instructions for Co to use his discretion as to force to be employed in the attack as the Co pointed out that point X 17 A 0 6 where he were to establish a post was at present held by the enemy. Instructions to OC. C Coy who was making the attack are attached</p>	
FONTAINE - HOUCR	45 1918	3am	Co visited French Regt Commander on our left - Barrow command 430.	
		7am	French News received that French attack on our immediate left had been unsuccessful & that they had come back to their original line.	
		8:45	LT K. McGOVERN's liaison officer with 401 Regt 1st Bn report attached re French operations	
		8:45	OC C Coy Capt C.B. WITBY reports that he his Coy had reached their objectives & were consolidating. - No 9 Platoon (LT H.H. DAVIS) + No 10 Platoon	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>LT W. H. PARKINSON having established post as per BN <del>Order</del> <del>no</del> <del>76</del> <del>no</del> <del>76</del>            Capt C. B. WITHY's report on operations is attached.</p>	
		9.45a	<p>Linson officer with French report attached actual result of French operations            A detailed report by CO on these operations is attached            CO asks that French be requested to come up and confer with            our left. <sup>5pm</sup> Translations of French orders re establishing International post            at X11C 83 with sketch is attached</p>	
		9pm	<p>CO proceeds to left flank of BN + selected <del>site</del> site for the above            post this was established without opposition + occupied by no 12 platoon            + a section of French</p>	
		9.45pm	<p>Two of the enemy approached post of left Coy one was killed four taken            prisoner who belonged to 96 Inf Regt 39 Division as per receipt attached            prior to this of B Coy LT G STEEN reported that a party of the enemy</p>	

WAR DIARY

May 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>rauping in numbers from 9 to 12 were seen reinforcing lines in X 16 D X 17 B this has reported to Bde + to Artillery which brought down an area shot. The prisoners mentioned above subsequently stated that these parties had intended to counter attack + retake post captured from them <del>the previous night</del> <sup>the same morning</sup>. the artillery fire had dispersed the party before the attack took place</p> <p>During the night the work of consolidating and wiring the new posts has carried out - LT F. L. HAMILTON evacuated wounded LT MORLEY recovered from hospital</p>	
METEREN sector	5.5.18		<p>Quiet morning - enemy shells near areas during afternoon.</p>	
		11.30	<p>B.G.G.S 15<sup>th</sup> Corps &amp; C.E 15<sup>th</sup> Corps called shelled round sector with C.O</p> <p>During night Bn patrols were sent out on the front no enemy were encountered. Consolidation wiring and improving dug outs has proceeded well</p>	
	4.5.18		<p>Quiet day - Enemy artillery quiet</p> <p>6 am Major LONERILLE SMITH &amp; Lt Col BATCHELOR <sup>&amp; Artillery officers</sup> called to ascertain if any special targets were required to be dealt with</p>	

WAR DIARY

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Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	6/5/18		LT F. WILLIAMS rejoined from 1 <sup>st</sup> T. BN	
	7.5.18		Quiet day & night enemy shelled A + D Coy 14 hrs during the day Telephone communication was cut off during the hours 12.30 to 6 pm Communication was kept by usual	
		10 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Special Coy R.E. fired gas projectors into METEREN - no result is known - the enemy did not retaliate	
	7.5.18	8.45	Bde order no 88 received for relief by 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn.	
	8.5.18	1.45 am	Bn order no 21 (attached) re relief by 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn	
		4.15 am	Very heavy bombardment on our left	
		11 am	Regt Comdr 106 Inf Regt called on C.O.	
		1 pm	Bde order no 88 re relief cancelled & advises probable relief by French on night 9 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> May	
		3 pm	C.O. 13 <sup>th</sup> Bn YORKS + LANC'S called to full particulars re our front as he had orders to take over from us the following night Lt Col BATCHelor & other artillery officers called to obtain targets	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			LT PIGOTT 74 Squadron 11 <sup>th</sup> Wing R.A.F. reported at 1400 he had been forced to land at X16 a 95 at 915 am his machine was burnt & totally destroyed later.	
		10.30p	Advance party from 13 <sup>th</sup> YORK & LANE Bn reported	
		9.12p	Bde order <sup>No 89</sup> re relief by 13 <sup>th</sup> YORK & LANE Bn received	
		11pm	Lt F W WELLS + 12 OTR marched out to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army School (XV Corps)	
			Capt R. I. C. MacGREGOR rejoined from wounded list	
			Lt H. E. a' BECKETT PIC + J. W. JOHNSON to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army School	
			Defence Scheme copy attached forwarded to Bde Hdqrs	
			The day was fairly quiet - enemy shelled A + D + B Coy Hdqrs during the day.	
	9/5/18	2.30a	Bde order No 72 re relief copy attached issued to Coy.	
			Fairly quiet day enemy shelling normal.	
		7.30	Bn sent guides to meet incoming Bn at FLETRE - relief was completed at 17.30 am	
			During the period 24/3/1918 to 19/5/19 total casualties were 2 officers wounded 40 R. Killed 16 . . . wounded	



WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	10/5/18	2 am	BN embussed at CAESTRE & proceeded to Reserve <sup>nr</sup> SERCUS more complete	
			5 am BN rested remainder of the day - BN Nucleus repaired BN	
SERCUS	11/5/18		BN rested & bathing parade, was held during the day	
"	12/5/18		" at Brigade Church parade	
"	13/5/18		BN training Close order drill platoons in attack gas drill etc.	
"	14/5/18		Morning BN training afternoon BN sports + competitions for 200 yds bagle won by D Coy C Coy being 2 <sup>nd</sup> B Coy 3 <sup>rd</sup> + A Coy 4 <sup>th</sup> list of winners is attached Lt Chadger rejoined from Field Ambulance BN strength 36 officers 797 OR.	
"	15.5.18		BN training, Close order drill and Specialist training, Football match against 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aust BN for Bde Championship. Won by 1 <sup>st</sup> BN	
"	16.5.18		Holiday. Brigade Sports. 1 <sup>st</sup> BN played 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust BN football final of Brigade competition. Won by 1 <sup>st</sup> BN. List of winners attached.	
"	17.5.18	9 am	BN took part in Brigade manoeuvre which was to attack & capture MORBECQUE. Lt O'Beckett MC from 15 <sup>th</sup> Corps Officers Hostel. Lt W.H. Parkinson to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army Signal School. 2/5 trail from Base.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	19 <sup>th</sup>		<p>The 1st Aust Inf Bn relieved the 5th Aust Inf Bn in the left sector of the Divul line relief being complete at 12 midnight. A Coy in line Right, Coy Hdqrs at X 25 B 46, B left Coy Hdqrs at X 19 D 68 C Coy in support Coy Hdqrs at X 19 a 36, D in Reserve at W 18 D 25. The relief passed off without incident. Sketch showing exact disposition + Coy frontages, Boundaries + R.A.P is attached. The 2nd Aust Inf Bn are on Bn right and 13th East Lancs on our left. The night was comparatively quiet enemy M.G's and T.M. being active periodically during the night. Bn line strength on taking over 26 officers 666 ORanks 804 and Transport 4 off + 73 ORanks Nucleus Coy. 7 off + 83. Casualties Nil.</p>	
	20 <sup>th</sup>		<p>No change in Bn + Coy disposition. Enemy shelled various parts in Bn sector during the day. 2/Lt S.G. VICCARS + 1 OR killed in action during the day. Lt Viccars was killed by</p>	

WAR DIARY

1st Aust Inf Bn

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

May 1918 10

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE	20 <sup>th</sup>		M.G. fire whilst on patrol. His party of himself + 4 O.R. had left the right boundary of the left Coy for purposes of patrolling the Coy front and had not encountered any enemy when he was hit by M.G. fire. Fine day and moonlight night	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Fine and warm moonlight night moderately quiet day. Enemy artillery more active than usual intermittently shelled with Gas. 5.9 + 4.20 areas in Bn sector especially COURTE-CROIX and vicinity of Bn Hdqrs. Patrols reconnoitred Bn front during the night without incident. Our aircraft very active during the day. Bn working at night wiring front line and support systems. Defences one Coy of 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn assisted in the latter work. C.O reconnoitred Bn night and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn left front for purposes of making report re MONTE-de-MERRIS attack. G.O.C + B.M. of 1 <sup>st</sup> B. I. Bde visited Bn sector casualties 1 off 13 O.R. gassed 2 O.R. wounded	

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1st Aust Inf Bde  
May 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE	22 <sup>nd</sup>		<p>Fine and warm. Enemy activity same as previous day shelled various parts of Bde sector during day and night with Phosgene. Bde working on front line wiring and improving defences and wiring support line.</p> <p>Patrols reconnoitering Bde front during the night were not able to move far on account of bright night. Enemy were found in listening post but made off quickly.</p> <p>Casualties Nil. Lt G. Kelleway to Hospital sick.</p> <p>Relief order copy attached for inter-camp relief night 23/24 is attached.</p> <p>Bde operation order for attack on MONTE-DE-MERRIS received 8 p.m.</p>	
STRAZEELE	23 <sup>rd</sup>		<p>Quiet day and night. Enemy shelled front system with T.M. and rear areas with 4.2's.</p> <p>G.S.O. 2 + G.S.O. 3 of 1st Aust Div called during the morning.</p>	

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## WAR DIARY

1st Aust Inf Bn

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

May 1918

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE	23 <sup>rd</sup>	11/10 11.45/2	We fired gas projectors into enemy lines Inter-company relief. D Coy relieved B Coy in line left C Coy relieved A in line Right. Relief passed off without incident. Owing to relief and gas projectors little work was done by the Bn	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Dull day with little rain. Enemy shelling showed decided increase and especially shelled heavily Right Coy during the day and night with T.M.P. at 4.20. Bn working on wiring and improving front and support lines with assistance from 1 Coy of 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn. Lt. T.R.B. Wilkinson M.M. wounded. One other Rank killed and 4 wounded.	
	25 <sup>th</sup>		Dull with light showers. Five patrols operated on our front during the night 24/25 <sup>th</sup> Enemy artillery was quiet during	

WAR DIARY

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1st Army Div Bn  
May 1918

13

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZEELE	25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>The night <del>24<sup>th</sup></del> day but very active at night a heavy concentration of gas shells being put down in W. 18. a + B and W 12, the gas being Yellow. Cross and Green Cross. Enemy attempted to raid Right Bn but were repulsed. At 1.45am our front line was bombarded for about half an hour, during this time the Bn on our left 9<sup>th</sup> Sect. Bn. 9<sup>th</sup> Div was successfully raided. Bn Ration Strength 350ff 748 O.P.</p>	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Dull clearing to fine later in the day. 4 Patrols reconnoitred the Bn front during the night 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> and valuable information gained. Enemy artillery active at periods of the day. B: Major of 1st Bde visited C.O. Major A.K. Mackenzie and Capt Somerset evacuated sick. Lt. H. E. a' Becketh evacuated wounded.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

May 1918

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRZELE	27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather fine. The order <del>received</del> re relief of 1st Bde by 3rd Bde received, morning intermittent shelling by enemy. Afternoon Commanding Officer &amp; I.O. visited D Coy Bde &amp; <del>made arrangements</del> issued instructions re silent raid on enemy post opposite 1st Coy. Bn relieved in line by 9th Bn. Relief complete with exception of No 13 platoon by 11-30 pm. Patrol of 10ff 24 ranks left our lines at 11-50 pm with the object of raiding enemy post at X 269 35.85. Before reaching objective patrol was observed by enemy who opened fire. Post was <sup>eventually</sup> rushed &amp; fight ensued in which patrol leader <sup>of other ranks</sup> was wounded. 30 men succeeded in entering post, <sup>which enemy then vacated.</sup> <del>then</del> party <sup>then</sup> withdrew &amp; returned to our lines at 1-30 am. One other rank who was wounded was reported missing.</p>	



WAR DIARY

1st Aust Inf Bn

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EGERNFEST	28 <sup>th</sup>		Move to new area completed by 5-30 am. Camp situated at V11 D. Sheet 27 SE. During the day enemy shelled with 5.9 High velocity gun causing 3 casualties. Site vacated & battalion advanced in trenches nearby. Company & half proceeded out at 9 pm for work on C. line. Returned at 1 am 29 <sup>th</sup> . Bon Strength 26 off 720 Ranks nucleus reformed Bn.	
do	29 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine & clear. One company detailed for fatigue at 7-30 am on the BOKRE Switch.	
do			Remainder of bn rested. Day passed quietly 26 off 720 Rks. Fatigue of one Coy detailed for work on the C line	
do	30 <sup>th</sup>		Fatigue party returned at 1 am. Weather hot & clear. Enemy observation balloons much in evidence. Fatigue party of one Coy detailed to BOKRE Switch. During the afternoon enemy resumed shelling. 2 other ranks killed, W Griffiths evacuated to hospital.	

WAR DIARY

1st Aust Inf Bn  
May 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EBERNESE	30th		Bn strength 25 off 723 ranks 6 ranks marched in from details. Bn moved to V15 B. move completed by 9pm. Fatigue party of 2 platoons worked on C line. During the night enemy planes were much in evidence.	
V 15 B	31st		Weather clear & bright. Fatigue of 1 Coy to work on BORRE Switch. New camp improved. 10 ranks marched in from details. Bn strength 25 off 728 ranks	

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## WAR DIARY

OF

1ST. BATTALION

FOR

MAY 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Operation Order N° 18.
2.	Sketch map of front in METEREN sector.
3.	Operation Order N° 19.
(4).	C.O. 76. Instructions for co-operation with French
(5)	reason report.
(6)	Report by O.C. Coy on advancement of line left. Sketch attached.
(7).	Operation Order N° 22.
(8).	Location of posts.
(9).	Defence Scheme (Left Bn L Bde).
(10)	Instructions re relief.
(10A)	List of runners at P.M. posts.
(11)	Programme of Bde Sponts meeting.
(12)	Bn Order re move. N° 22. A+B.
(13).	Instructions for the line.
(14).	Sketch map showing dispositions.
(15)	do do
(16).	Bn Order N° 73. (Inter-coy relief).
(17.)	Bn Instructions for Counter attack.

(1)

1<sup>st</sup> AUSTRALIAN INF. BATTALION. OPERATION ORDER NO 18.

Reference map sheet 27 SE.

Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 1918

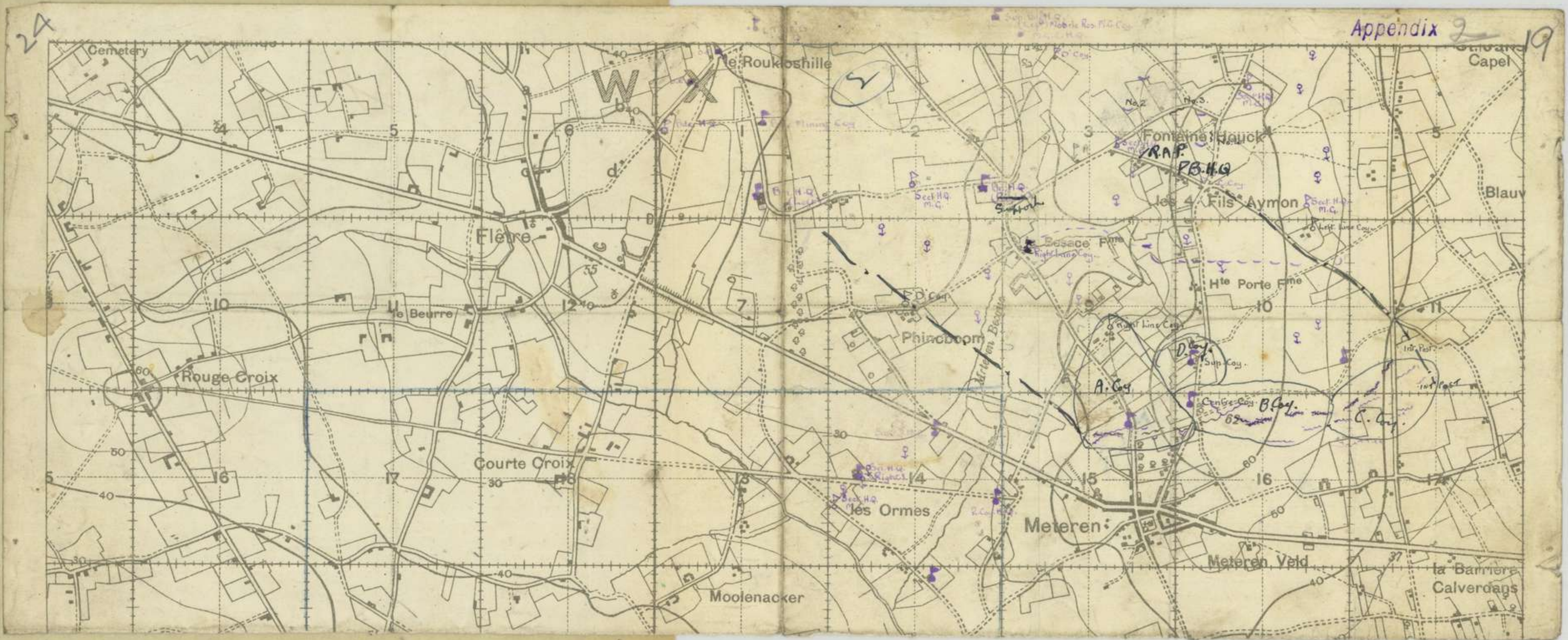
- 1. INFORMATION. The 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Inf. Battalion will relieve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust. Inf. Battalion in line left, on the night of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> May 1918.
- 2. ORDER OF COYS. A. B. C. Coys. relieve Coys. in line in that order from the right. D. Coy. will relieve Support Coy.
- 3. TIME. To commence at 9 p.m. on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1918.
- 4. ADVANCE PARTIES. To consist of 1 officer and 4 other ranks per Coy. who will go forward tonight to respective Coys, and will take part in any patrols which may be going out.
- 5. RECONNAISSANCE. To be completed by O.C. Coys tonight 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> inst.
- 6. STORES. Regimental Equipment will not be handed over. The usual procedure re trench stores. O/C. Coys will make their own arrangements.
- 7. GUIDES. Arrangements will be notified later.
- 8. RATIONS. Fighting order and blanket.
- 9. DRESS. Position will be notified later.
- 10. R.A.P. Position will be notified later.
- 11. BATTALION HQRS. Position will be notified later.
- 12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*C. Lyndon*  
Adjutant 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Inf. Battalion

Issued by Runner at 8 p.m.

Distribution of Copies.

- 1. 1<sup>st</sup> A I BDE.
- 2. A Coy.
- 3. B Coy.
- 4. C Coy.
- 5. D Coy.
- 6. WAR DIARY.
- 7. FILE.



SECRET

1st Australian Infantry Battalion Operation Order No 19

Appendix 3

Hqrs 1st Aust. Inf Bn. 3.5.1918.

3

REFERENCE MAP 27 S.E.

Copy No 6.

1. At dawn tomorrow 4<sup>th</sup> May the French on our left will advance their line.
  2. Objectives of French on our immediate left include Farm-houses at X 11 D 4510, at X 12 C 1505 and corner of hedge at X 12 C 7025.
  3. Time of advance to be notified later.
  4. Barrage is being put down to cover advance.
  5. The North and South road in Sq. X 11 C inclusive, to 1st Bn will become new boundary forward of present front lines.
  6. ~~B Coy will not advance simultaneously with the French.~~
  7. B + C Coys will assist the advance of the French by L.M.G. fire directed on the area South of a line drawn East and West through X 17 A 05 and North of line drawn through X 17 A 00 to X 18 A 00, fire being specially directed at known enemy posts or visible targets.
  8. C Coy will neutralize by L.M.G. fire and Rifle Grenades enemy post at X 17 A 05.
  9. Two white flares fired simultaneously from the front line by the French will indicate that objective has been gained in that locality.
  10. ~~On receipt of signal from C Coy will establish a post in trench north of French at X 17 A 50.~~ Special orders will be issued to C Coy later. They will be prepared to move simultaneously with French and establish a post at X 17 A 6.8.
11. Acknowledge -

Colquhoun Lt

Adjutant 1st Aust Inf Bn

Issued by Runner at

- Copy No 1 to A. I. Bde
- 2 A Coy
- 3 B
- 4 C
- 5 D
- 6 Bn of French ✓
- 7 File
- 8 War Diary

CO 76. (4)

P. Aus. Inf. Battalion  
3<sup>rd</sup> May 1918

Reference Map 27.55.

Re your operation about dawn 4/5/18.


The following further information and instructions are issued  
confirming telephone communication.

1. Your left flank will be advanced simultaneously with the advance of the French: position to be taken up by you being line X 17. A. 0. 6. to X 17. A. 6. 8.
2. An enemy post is reported at the first reference X 17. A. 0. 6.
3. Two posts are to be established by you of platoon strength each at each point.
4. The barrage will be as given you verbally later. It will start four (4) minutes before you but does not touch the objectives to be taken by you but it is being arranged to fire on houses at X 16. B. 7. 0. + X 17. A. 3. 0. On your left, barrage will be of creeping nature and usual methods will be adopted by French. Owing to fact of barrage commencing too far in advance of your objectives it will be impossible for your men to creep under the barrage, but advantage should be taken of the confusion caused thereby to get well forward especially if there is any cover in folds of ground.
5. It may be impracticable to advance frontally on enemy post at X 17. A. 0. 6. Advantage should be taken of our listening post in corner of hedge at X 17. A. 1. 8. as a jumping off place.
6. Post at X 17. A. 6. 8. should be sited slightly N.E. of corner of hedge at X 17. A. 50. 75. to afford some cover from view from S.W. This objective should be gained without trouble and must help party taking post at X 17. A. 0. 6.
7. Provisions must be made for tools. Some should be carried by the party. Bill hooks will be necessary for the Western objective.
8. Every effort must be made to reconnoitre the position to night.
9. Arrangements should be made for Rifle grenades to bombard the post while advance is taking place by men in other posts.
10. Consider the question of moving your Headquarters forward - it is too far back at present.
11. Submit proposed scheme, including strength of each party.

P. Taylor  
Commanding Officer

8u

To The Adjutant 1st Div A.I.F. R. S. 1500  
MC 4 | 4 | A.A.A.

⑤  
 Attack on farms 1 and 2 has not  
 so far succeeded on account of  
 numerous machine guns which were  
 not neutralized by the barrage A.A.A.  
 French losses however are not heavy  
 and they are <sup>probably</sup> asking for a bracket  
 barrage, and ~~will~~ attacking again A.A.A.  
 It is thought that the two left  
 objectives are taken, but on account  
 of very lights fired by the enemy the  
 two white flares could not be  
 distinguished A.A.A.  confirmation  
 has arrived as yet A.A.A.  
 4 prisoners including a captain  
 and a lieutenant passed here  
 from the left <sup>company</sup> A.A.A.  
 Word has just come in that the  
 objective "2 bis" at X 12 c 73 has  
 been reached by 10th Company with  
 slight losses A.A.A.  
 Enemy counter barrage which was  
 intense on front line has now  
 ceased A.A.A.

0700

J.P. Cunnell Lt  
Division 1st Div 40th  
Regt.



Adjutant, 1st Battalion F.I.F. R.D. 19.45<sup>am</sup> <sup>5</sup>

M.C.S. 4

F.F.F.

Centre company only has established itself in its objective A.F.F.

Right company is at present in old front line and has only had slight losses A.F.F.

Left company reached its objective and took about 50 prisoners but only 15 of these arrived in our lines, the escort of the remainder having been killed A.F.F.

The remainder of the company apparently encountered about two hundred of the enemy in shell holes and posts and attacked them but had not sufficient men and ~~was~~ it is thought that ~~at~~ nearly all were killed or taken prisoner A.F.F.

Only three who are wounded have returned A.F.F. There is now a half section of this company dug in about 200 metres in front of the original support line A.F.F.

The supports could not be used as a thick mist prevented them in near from seeing anything that

5/16

With regard to the liaison <sup>post</sup> between the 1st Bn 1st AF and the II Bn (French) I have seen the commandant of the II Bn ~~and~~ who approves the plan of moving the garrison of the present liaison post forward together AFAA He cannot however make any definite plans until he has received confirmation of his orders AFAA

The Cdt II Bn suggests that it would be ~~too~~ wise to wait for an hour or more after dawn before actually moving the post, as there is a chance of a German counter attack at dusk AFAA

I am at present with the II battalion at X 5 a 54 and am in communication with the III Bn by telephone AFAA I have just left the HQ of the III Bn where all was quiet AFAA

J. H. Currell Lt  
Liaison at line  
Batt 401<sup>st</sup> F. Div.

To The Adjutant 1st Battalion AIF R<sup>1</sup> 8 pm.

MC. 6. 4 1918

Translation of French Operation Order.  
To III/401 II/401  
Under No 1340/3, division informs us that the Australians are established at X 17 a 68 and that we have to ensure liaison with them tonight by means of a post AFAA unless I have orders to the contrary I shall withdraw the III<sup>e</sup> Bn to FONTAINE ~~tonight~~.

Your battalion will ~~make~~ establish the liaison post with the Australians whose left is in the point X 17 a 68 and will also direct the occupation of the farm at S 7 b 54, which is actually occupied by Sergeant Poivier\* of the 9th company. It is there that liaison will be made with the 321<sup>st</sup> div who hold Jarville at S 8 a 7.5

You will receive confirmation of this order AFAA  
4 5 18  
Lt Colonel Borueque (Lt 401<sup>st</sup> Bn)

Traps to be used  
II/401 for the execution  
III/401 to supervise the operation give information.

\*The sergeant is believed to have about ten men with him north of the original objective.

Appendix 5.

COPY.

77.

1st Aust. Inf. Bde.

I have to report on minor operation carried out by this Battalion this morning and on the situation generally as follows.

1. You have already received copies of order and instructions issued to Companies.
2. Further verbal orders and instructions were issued at 11 p.m. last night to O.C. "C" Company.
3. Arrangements were made with O.C., L.T.M., Battery to fire on X17. A.0.5. from zero minus 4 minutes to zero, then to fire on houses at X16. B.8.0. and X17. A.3.0.
4. X17. A.0.5. is hereafter referred to as 1st. objective and X17. A.6.8. is 2nd. objective.
5. Patrols were sent out during darkness and encountered no opposition at 2nd. objective. A strong party was then sent out and behind a screen, a trench was dug to depth of a foot. A Section was left there to retain possession and remainder were withdrawn. At Zero plus 4 minutes the whole party consisting of a Platoon under Lieutenant.W.H.PARKINSON advanced and completed the digging of the post which was then occupied without opposition or casualties.
6. Patrols also reconnoitred during darkness towards 1st. objective but opposition was encountered at X17. A25. 50. one man being Killed and the remainder withdrew.
7. The position of a light M.G. was verified at X17. A.0.5.
8. The attacking party consisting of a Platoon under Lieutenant. H.H.DAVIS proceeded to jumping off place at 4 a.m. The plan was for the party to rush the post from a N.E. direction and inside the hedge, covering fire to be provided by L.M.G. in original front line posts.
9. The party before zero moved to covering hedge at X.17.A.20.55 without opposition but they then came under rifle and machine gun fire, from further along the hedge, covering fire was immediately brought to bear as arranged and L.T.M. Battery fired a few rounds. At the same time two bombing parties previously detailed proceeded to work up each side of the hedge. The enemy retired and position was occupied without further opposition and consolidation was proceeded with. No casualties were suffered.
10. Artillery assistance given was most effective.
11. Enemy retaliation consisted only of a few Trench Mortars which were without effect.
12. A haversack containing some letters &c. and a soldiers cap were found and are sent you herewith. Any of them not required for intelligence purposes would be acceptable if returned. The soldier belonged to 96th Regt. at some time.
13. The front line dispositions have now been changed merely by establishment of two new platoon posts at 1st and 2nd objectives. Any necessary readjustment will take place after dusk tonight. In the meantime all precautions have been taken against enemy counter attack of which no signs are yet apparent.

- 14. My liaison Officer with the French reports that attack on two farms on our immediate left flank has not yet succeeded at 9.15 a.m. but that point X.12.C.7.3. had been reached with slight losses. In the first cases strong opposition had been encountered both from Infantry and Machine Guns.
- 15. I visited the Regimental Commander of the French at 3.15 a.m. this morning. Having explained where my left post would be after the operation he pointed out the gap existing between that and his right post which was to be at farm at X.11.D.45.10. and requested that an International Post be established in this gap. I explained that my new left post was my boundary beyond which I could not go but would ask your instructions in the matter which I now do.
- 16. Para.11. refers only to the retaliation in vicinity of advance. The enemy shelled rear areas fairly heavily.
- 17. I am asking the French to join up with me at new post whether they make any further advance or not, but have not yet had any reply.
- 18. I enclose O.C. Companies original sketch of new position.
- 19. I submit with deference that even a small operation of above nature is apt to become a failure when orders are issued so late and are later still countermanded especially in view of the fact that this Battalion had to take over a new line last night. With distances as great as they <sup>must</sup> be in present warfare between Brigade and Battalion Head Quarters and between Battalion Head Quarters and Companies it is most difficult to ensure the completion of any arrangements whatever under 24 hours, where mutual arrangements have to be made with other units.

(sd) B V Stacy  
 Lieut-Colonel.  
 Commanding, 1st Australian Inf. Battalion.

ADDENDUM:

- 1. The French Regimental Commander states that he is back in his old line with the exception of about 50 men at X12. C7.3. who would probably be withdrawn after dark to-night.
- 2. Further that <sup>no</sup> ~~Further attack~~ <sup>and might advance</sup> no further attack is contemplated by him to-day and he is averse to the idea of advancing his right to conform to our left.
- 3. In spite of this I am averse to the idea of withdrawing post at X17. A.6.8. In my opinion it can be held though enemy are reported by French to be fairly strong in house at X11. B45. 10.
- 4. I await your instructions on the above.

(sd) B V Stacy  
 Lieut-Colonel.

6

Consisting of 1 NCO + 4 men met  
with opposition at X17A 25.50

1 man was killed and the  
remainder forced to retire.

Later a light machine gun  
was located at X17A 0.5

The attacking party proceed-  
ed to place of deployment at  
4 AM and advanced to corner  
of hedge at X17A 20.55 with-  
out opposition and they came  
under rifle + m.G. fire from further  
up the hedge. Covering fire from  
L.G.s was immediately brought  
to bear from old right post +  
stokes mortar fired a few  
rounds.

at the same time two bombing  
parties previously detailed  
proceeded to work up each  
side of the hedge.

The enemy immediately  
retired and the position was  
~~was~~ occupied without  
further opposition +  
consolidation was proceeded  
with.

So far no sign of  
enemy counter attack in

To (6)  
1<sup>st</sup> B.N

Rd 8.45 am

I have to report that 'C' Coy has  
established two platoon posts  
at (1) X17A 0.5.  
(2) X17A 6.8.

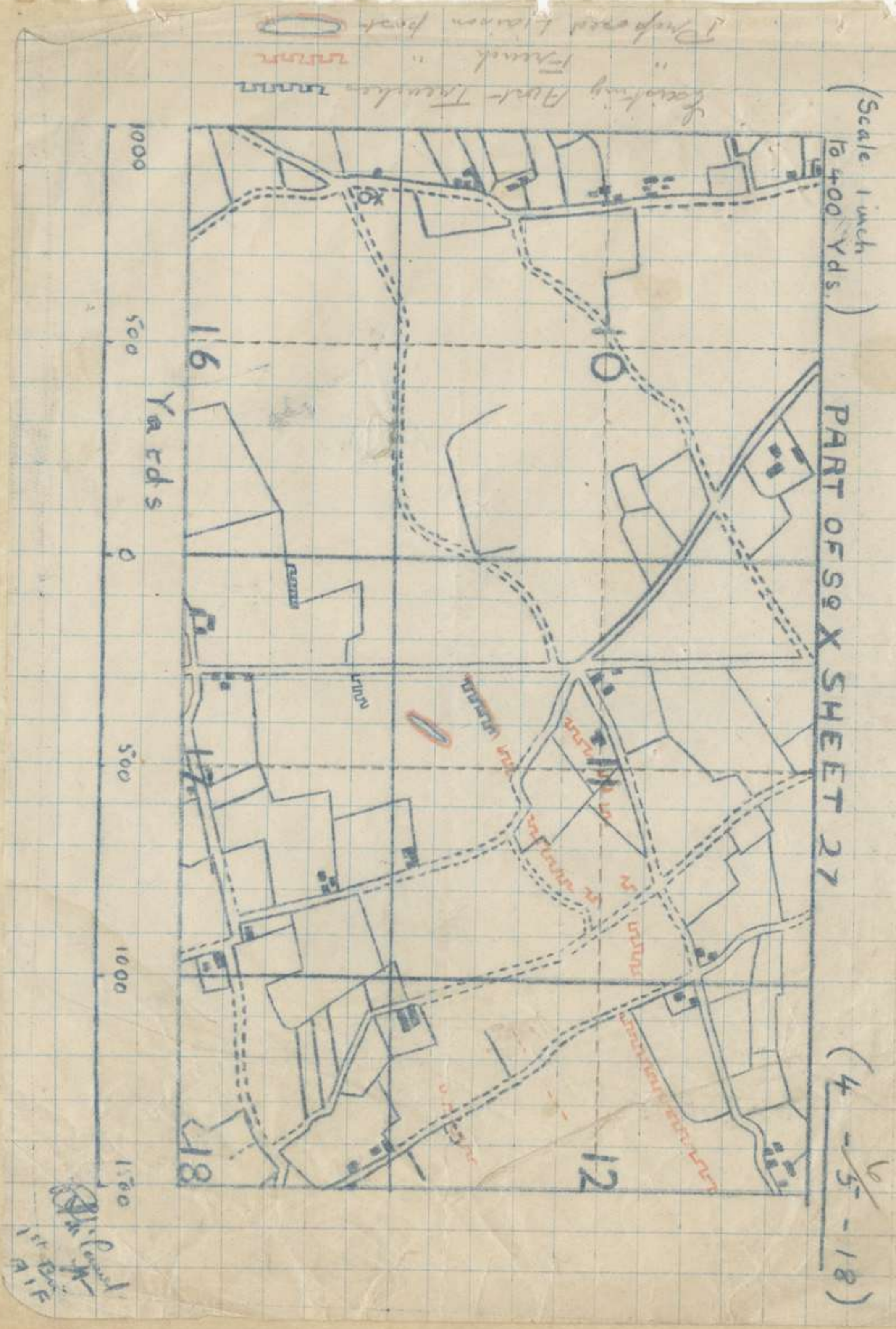
The left post was an easy proposi-  
tion. Patrols sent out were  
allowed to approach the  
spot without opposition.

Lt Parkinson therefore sent  
out a strong party and  
providing covering party put  
the remainder on to working  
out the trench to a depth of  
about a foot. He left  
a section to retain possession  
+ withdrew the remainder.

At 2010 + 4 min he advanced  
+ completed the digging.

I have not yet had  
definite word from him as  
to casualties but from what  
could be seen I think nil.

The right post was more  
troublesome. A patrol sent out



apparent but all precautions  
are being taken.

The artillery assistance  
given was not effective.  
The enemy retaliation was  
only a few trench mortars  
which had no effect.

Since Commercys my  
report a message has been  
received from Lt Parkinson  
stating that he occupied his  
position without casualties  
or opposition.

My garrisons are now as  
follows.

- Old right post.
- 1 Platoon
- Coy. N.C.
- Advanced right post 1 Platoon
- Old Centre post 1 Section.
- New Left post 1 Platoon
- International post as  
before 1 NCO 15 OR.

Sketch attached.

Captain [unclear]  
cc "C" Coy

4.5.16  
7-AM

Appendix B

Appendix 61

1st Gde 200<sup>4</sup>

Received one (1)  
wounded prisoner  
of 38<sup>th</sup> Div. 4/5/18.

Lt. Robt. Sweet

4/5/18.

1<sup>st</sup> AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION. Operation Order No 21Dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 1918

REFERENCE MAP SHEET 27

## 1 INFORMATION

The 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion will be relieved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion tomorrow night 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> May 1918. and when relieved will take over support line vacated by 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust Inf Battalion.

## 2 ORDER OF COMPANIES

Companies will take over from respective Companies in support line in approximately the same positions as before coming into the line

## 3 ADVANCE PARTIES

The usual advance party will come out at 04.00 and proceed to respective Cos.

## 4 STORES

## 5 GUIDES

} Usual procedure.

## 6 R.A.P.

## 7 DEFENCE SCHEME

Positions will be verified later.  
These will be made out in writing and handed over.

ACKNOWLEDGE

*Signature*  
Adj 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Inf Battalion

Issued by runner at 12.45 am

Distribution of Copies

N <sup>o</sup> 1	- 1 <sup>st</sup> AIBDE
2	A Coy
3	B Coy
4	C Coy
5	D Coy
6	TO 10 MW
7	FILE
8	WAR DIARY



## BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO 22

Dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 1918

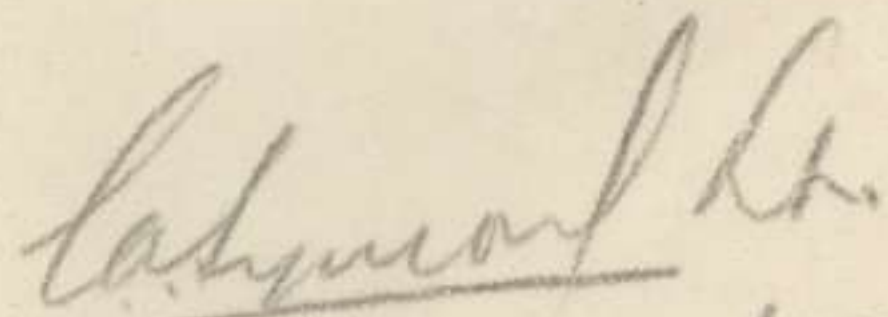
1. Battalion will be relieved tonight 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> by unit of which advance party has already arrived.
2. Nine Companies will be responsible for patrols to cover the relief.
3. Stores A Careful inventory of trench stores will be taken and receipts obtained. Hot Food Containers and Petrol tins will be handed over at a place accessible to relieving units transport. all these things, wire cutters and Bell Hovis must be taken out.
4. Guides For A B & D Coy at LA BESACE Fme. C Coy at Bn H.Q. Time to be notified later.  
The following procedure will be carried out when arranging guides.  
A Coy will be known as A Coy or Right Company and Posts numbered from right to left. No 1, 2, 3 & 4 posts and Company Headquarters.  
B Coy or Centre Coy. Right posts as Support Post. and then No 1, 2, 3 Posts and Coy Hdqrs.  
C Coy or left Coy and posts as follows. Coy Hdqrs = No 1 post, 2, 3, 4 and Support Posts.  
The guides will be given a slip of paper by Company Commanders with No of post and Company on it i.e. No 1 Post. A or Right Company.  
One guide per post and one for Company Headquarters who after guiding in the relief will guide out their respective posts by the same route.  
Lt STOBO will be in charge of guides at LA BESACE Fme.
5. LEWIS GUNS & MAGAZINES  
Lewis Guns and magazines will be carried with the men and all the magazines except 8 per gun may be emptied - a few moments only before relief.
6. Further details later.

ACKNOWLEDGE

ISSUED AT 3am by runner

DISTRIBUTION of Copies

No 1	to BRIGADE
2	A Coy
3	B
4	C
5	D
6	T.O. & Q.M.
7	WAR DIARY
8	FILE



LIEUT

A/ADJ LADY

8

Hagers  
1st Aust Inf Bn  
7.5.1918

1st Aust Inf Bde  
Reference 18/1918  
Strength please find  
location of posts and amount  
of S.A.A in same.

Location	S.A.A.
X 15 B 1555	8000
No 1 Coy X 15 B 4065	8000
X 15 B 75	8000
X 16 A 16	8000
Coy HQ (K9D27)	6000
X 16 A 47	8000
X 16 A 6055	8000
X 16 B 2545	8000
X 16 B 6045	8000
No 2 Coy Hagers (X16A28)	6000
X 16 B 96	8000
X 17 A 05	8000
X 17 A 68	8000
X 11 C 92	8000
No 3 Coy Hagers	4000
X 17 A 28	8000

8

Location	S.A.A.
Support Coy	
No 4 X 10 C 23	8000
B. H. Q.	20.000

7.5.18.   
 Coydly 1st Aust Inf Bn.   
 Limit col

Appendix. 8.

## DEFENCE SCHEME

## LEFT BATTALION - LEFT BRIGADE.

REFERENCE MAP SHEET 27 - 1/40,000

## 1. FRONT.

Boundaries: - NORTH - X 11 C 73 - Cross roads  
X 11 C thence road inclusive to road  
junction in X 3 D.  
SOUTH the line X 15 D 67 to X 2 C 00

## 2. DEFENCES.

- (A) The line of defence consists of a series of platoon posts stretching across the whole front. Three Companies with 4 Platoons in the line form the front line garrison, with one Company in support. Support Company has one platoon detached as close support to the left Company, and this platoon acts directly under left Company Commander's orders.
- (B) Wire: A belt of wire runs across the whole Battalion front, but in many places it requires thickening.
- (C) Flanks: The left Company provides one platoon to garrison an international trench in conjunction with the French. This post is situated at X 11 C 73. Touch with the right is obtained by a continuous trench, the nearest post being only a few yards away.
- (D) Dispositions: As per attached sketch

## 3. SIGNAL.

Communications as per attached diagrams.

## 4. ATTACK.

Action in event of attack. Three Companies will resist to the utmost.

Support Company less 1 platoon detached will be ready to reinforce at any point on receipt of orders.

## 5. DUMPS.

- (1) RE Dumps LABESACE FMS (X 9 A 27)  
B H Q (X 4 C 14)
- (2) AMMUNITION Bde forward Dump (X 2 D 04)  
B H Q (X 4 C 14)

## 6. R.A.P.

At X 3 D 67.

*Adjutant Lt*

Adjutant 1st Aust Inf Bn  
8.5.18

TO O.C. Coy  
all info

Sender's Number. AR 193 Day of Month. 9/5 In reply to Number. AAA

① Guides Guides will report to HQ 5.10.50 at LA BESACE F<sup>me</sup> at 10.30 pm. Reliable guides to posts must be sent.

② Relief One relief Battalion will Embark at Q 82. C. 18. and proceed to main road at WALLON CAPPEL where we will Debus and proceed to C. 11 C. 66 (Sheet 86<sup>a</sup>) near SERCUS. Bullets etc are being arranged from the rear.

③ Route The route out will be LA BESACE F<sup>me</sup> - PHINC BOOM and thence to main FLETRE CASTRE ROAD to Embarking point near

④ Lewis Guns Lewis Guns. Only will be carried on one lamber which will be at LA BESACE F<sup>me</sup>. Magazines and AA Gun will be carried away. CLARK EASON.

From will be in charge of the lamber and  
 Place is responsible that all the guns  
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) over

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.  
 \* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

TO (2)  
all info

Sender's Number. AR 193 Day of Month. 9/5 In reply to Number. AAA

\* AR 193 are put on and C & M of companies will make sure that their guns are put on.

In addition to the above Bill Hooker will also be put on the lamber.

⑤ Petrol tins and Containers Receipts will be obtained for same.

⑥ Maps under 1/20000 will be had. One receipt to be required for reference by O.C. Coy.

From ZOMU  
 Place

Time 7.7pm  
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) Robert West

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.  
 \* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

Appendix 10.

Date.	Event.	Place.	No.	Rank.	Name.	Medal.
15/ 5/18	100 Yards Championship	1st.	3764	Pte.	Kemp, R.H.	Silver.
do.	do.	2nd		Lieut.	H. Boardman.	Bronze.
do.	220 Yards Championship	1st	3764	Pte.	Kemp, R.H.	Silver
do.	do.	2nd	151	Dvr.	Buckleton, E.F.	Bronze.
do.	440 Yards Championship	1st	608	L/Cpl.	Martin, S.	Silver
do.	do.	2nd	96	Cpl.	Egan, W.	Bronze.
do.	High Jump	1st	6947	Pte.	Blackwood, T.J.	Silver
do.	do.	2nd	7820	Pte.	Hatley, W.E.	Bronze
do.	Long Jump	1st		Lieut.	H. Boardman	Silver
do.	do.	2nd	6947	Pte.	Blackwood, T.J.	Bronze
do.	Tug-o-war	1st	5086a 7004 7116 5281 361a 7300 6094 7708	Sgt. L/Cpl. Pte. " " " " "	Scott, D.H. Leverett, W.R. Sloan, F.P. Andreasson, L. Barnes, W.H. Patten, J.C. Sticker, W. Crossingham, E.C.)	Bronze each
do.	Relay Race	1st	873 3351 3002 608 7477 2060 7116	Cpl. T/Cpl. L/Cpl. " Pte. " "	Sharp, C. Hasthorpe, M. Aylward, A. Martin, S. Denniwald, F. Paton, P.P. Sloan, F.P.)	Bronze each.
do.	Stepping 100 Yards	1st	7687	Pte.	Allen, W.	Silver.
do.	do.	2nd	106a	"	Lymberry, P.W.	Bronze.
do.	Three-legged Race	1st	3302 7051	Pte. "	Eagles, W.F. & Scanlon, E.)	Bronze each
do.	Kicking Football	1st	3794a	Pte.	Reeve, G.	Silver
do.	Throwing the Cricket Ball	1st	7042	L/Cpl.	Robinson, W.H.	Silver
do.	Officers' Race	1st		Lieut.	K.C. Mortlock	Silver
do.	do.	2nd		Lieut.	J.F. Mant	Bronze
26/ 4/18 and 15/ 5/18)	Cook Fight	1st		Lieut. and Rev.	F.A. Graham G. Prickett)	Silver each

24  
W. Symonds  
36  
1ST. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SPORTS MEETING.

SERCUS - 16th May, 1918.

Appendix. 11.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

- 12.30 p.m. Presentation of Ribbons by Major General Sir H.B.WALKER, K.C.B., D.S.O.
- 1 p.m. Heats, 100 yards Championship.
- 1.15 p.m. Three legged race.  
Egg and Spoon Race.
- 1.45 p.m. Heats, 220 yards Championship.
- 2.15 p.m. Sack and Bandsman's Race. Bandsmen to be blindfolded, run backwards over a 50 yards course playing their instrument.
- 2.45 p.m. Final, 100 yards Championship.
- 3.15 High Jump.
- 3.15 - 3.45 p.m. Judging Transport Event.
- 3.45 p.m. Fancy Dress Parade, and Potato Race.
- 4.15 p.m. Semi-Final, Tug-O'-War between 1st and 4th, and 2nd and 3rd Battalions.
- 4.45 p.m. 440 yards Championship.  
Running Broad Jump.
- 5.15 p.m. V.C. Race. Competitors to be dismounted at starting point and on pistol being fired mount their horse, ride to position of dummies, dismount, raise dummy on to horse, mount and ride back to starting point. A low brush hurdle is to be jumped both going up and coming down the course.  
Maximum entries 6 per Battalion.
- 5.45 p.m. Tug-O'-War Final.
- 6 p.m. Final, 220 yards Championship.
- 6.15 p.m. Cock Fighting (Post Entries).

JUDGES: Running Championships.

Lt.-Col. B.V.STACY, D.S.O.  
Major A.W.HUTCHIN.

High and Broad Jump.

Lt.-Col. A.B.STEVENS, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Lt.-Col. C.D.SASSE, D.S.O.

Tug-O'-War.

Lt.-Col. D.T.MOORE, D.S.O.  
Lt.-Col. C.D.SASSE, D.S.O.

Fancy Dress Parade.

Major-Genl. Sir H.B.WALKER, K.C.B., D.S.O.  
Brig.-Genl. W.B.LESSLIE, C.M.G.

Novelty Events.

Padre B.C.WILSON,  
Padre R.C.HENRY,

St. Symon

Person

1850-1855

1855-1860

1860-1865

1865-1870

1870-1875

1875-1880

1880-1885

1885-1890

1890-1895

1850-1855

1855-1860

1860-1865

1865-1870

1870-1875

1875-1880

1880-1885

1885-1890

1890-1895

1850-1855

1855-1860

1860-1865

1865-1870

1870-1875

1850-1855

1855-1860

1860-1865

1865-1870

1870-1875  
1875-1880  
1880-1885  
1885-1890  
1890-1895

11

11

## List of Winners at 1st Brigade Sports

			Events	Place	Prize
3764	Pte	Hemp R.H.	270	2nd	30/-
608	L/Cpl	Martin S	440	2nd	30 .
		Mitchell	back-race	1st	20 .
	Pte	Lennard	Sandman Race	1st	30
	"	J. J. Blackwood	High Jump	2nd	30
	Drvr	Buckleton	V.C. Race	1st	30
	Cpl	Crouch	.	2nd	15
					<u>175/-</u>



24  
 (17)  
 FIRST AUST. INF. BATTALION  
 ORDER NO. 22.  
 Battalion Headquarters,  
 17th May, 1918.  
 Reference Maps, sheets 36A & 27 - 1.40.000.

MOVE "A"

1. The 1st Aust. Inf. Battalion is to relieve the 9th Aust. Inf. Battalion at W.S.C. Central on the morning of the 18th inst.
2. Advance Party of 1 N.C.O. per Company under Lieut. A.J.H. STODD will go forward this afternoon at 4 p.m.
3. Battalion assembly at 7.30 a.m. on 18th inst.
4. Route via LONGUE CROIX.
5. Lewis Guns will be packed on litters at Transport Lines by 7 p.m. on 17th inst. "A.A." Guns will be carried.
6. MESS. Battle order, blankets and waterproof sheets to be carried. Packs with greatcoats and hats inside will be stacked by Coys. in Officers' Mess tent by 6.30 a.m. on the 18th inst.
7. Company gear, Officers' valises, etc., will be stacked at Q.M. Store by 6.30 a.m. on 18th inst.
8. Cookers will accompany Coys. Watercarts in rear of Battalion.
9. Waterbottles to be filled before moving.
10. Lines to be left in a clean condition and Certificates to this effect forwarded to Battalion Orderly Room by 7.15 a.m.
11. Rifle of bandamento be at Q.M. Store at 6.30 a.m.
12. Nucleus personnel will accompany Battalion.
13. Battalion Hqs. at W.S.C. 7.9.

MOVE "B"

1. The 1st Aust. Inf. Battalion is to relieve the 5th Aust. Inf. Battalion in line left (approx. W.20. Central - W.25 Central, sheet 27.) on the night of the 19th/20th May 1918.
2. In the event of a three Coy. frontage "A", "B" and "D" Coys. right to left will take over the line. "C" Coy. in reserve.
3. Advance Party of 1 Officer and 4 N.C.O's. per Coy. and 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. from Battalion Hqs. will go forward on the night of the 18th/19th inst. Patrols will be participated in.
4. Maps, Plans of Work, Defence Schemes, etc., will be taken over.
5. Company and Platoon Commanders' sketches will be forwarded to Battalion Hqs. as soon as possible after relief.
6. Lists of French Stores and certificates to the effect that Defence Schemes have been promulgated and troops detailed to the Defences will be forwarded to Battalion Hqs. as early as possible.
7. Lewis Guns together with 24 magazines per gun will be carried into the line.

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- 8. Coy. Quartermaster Sergeants will remain with Q.M.
- 9. Instructions re guides will be issued later.
- 10. Nucleus personnel will remain at W.S.C. Central and await orders.
- 11. Battalion Headquarters and H. A. P. at W.18.B.1.5.
- 12. ACKNOWLEDGE.--

*Transport lines Sheet 27 # V21 B8.3*

*W. J. G. G. G.*  
 Lieutenant,  
 Adjutant, 1st Aust. Inf. Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION.

- |      |    |                         |
|------|----|-------------------------|
| Copy | 1. | 1st A.I. Bde.           |
|      | 2. | "A" Coy.                |
|      | 3. | "B" Coy.                |
|      | 4. | "C" Coy.                |
|      | 5. | "D" Coy.                |
|      | 6. | Battalion Headquarters. |
|      | 7. | Q.M. & Y.O.             |
|      | 8. | File. ✓                 |
|      | 9. | War Diary.              |

Issued by Banner at ..... 17/5/1918.

Battalion Headquarters,  
19th May, 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LINE.

- 54  
Major H. H. Mc  
(13)
1. PATROLS.— In addition to the liaison patrols between posts and on our flanks which will invariably be carried out, Company Commanders will ensure that this front is so patrolled that :—
- Fulllest information is obtained of enemy posts opposite to us.
  - Absolute control of NO MAN'S LAND is kept by us.
  - Every opportunity of killing or capturing any of the enemy is provided for and taken advantage of. This can only be carried out successfully by careful reconnaissance and knowledge of
  - enemy movements and schemes prepared accordingly.
  - That any suitable locality for raiding the enemy's posts can be chosen and reported to Battalion Headqrs. at once.

The success of offensive action by patrols will depend not on their strength but on the skill and ingenuity displayed. Up to the present the enemy troops opposite to us have not shown any offensive spirit.

Any scheme of patrol work involving unusual risk or features will be submitted to Battalion Headqrs. for approval, but O.C. Coys. will use their own discretion where it is necessary to decide such questions immediately and on the spot.

Lately some good opportunities have arisen during the day.

2. DEFENSIVE WORKS.—

(A) One Section of Engineers is attached to the Battalion and their assistance can be obtained by Coys. where it is necessary for the work in hand. Also one Company of Reserve Battalion is available to the Battalion.

Wire and other material will be delivered to Line Coy. Headqrs. on their requisitions which will be forwarded to Battalion Headqrs. each morning showing the night's requirements.

Support and Reserve Coys. will similarly requisition but will provide their own parties to draw the material from Battalion Dump, situated at W.24.B.3.4.

"B" WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT.

(A) Wiring. To be carried out nightly in front line and support line by permanent wiring parties and to be treated as an urgent matter. Gaps between posts to be wired first and gaps to be left for patrols.

(B) In the front line general improvement of trenches as regards draining and sloping the sides of the trenches so that the batter is not too steep, and provision of a few shelters which must be well apart from each other. Steps to be taken or proposed so that posts can consist of a platoon. A platoon post should be 100 yards long.

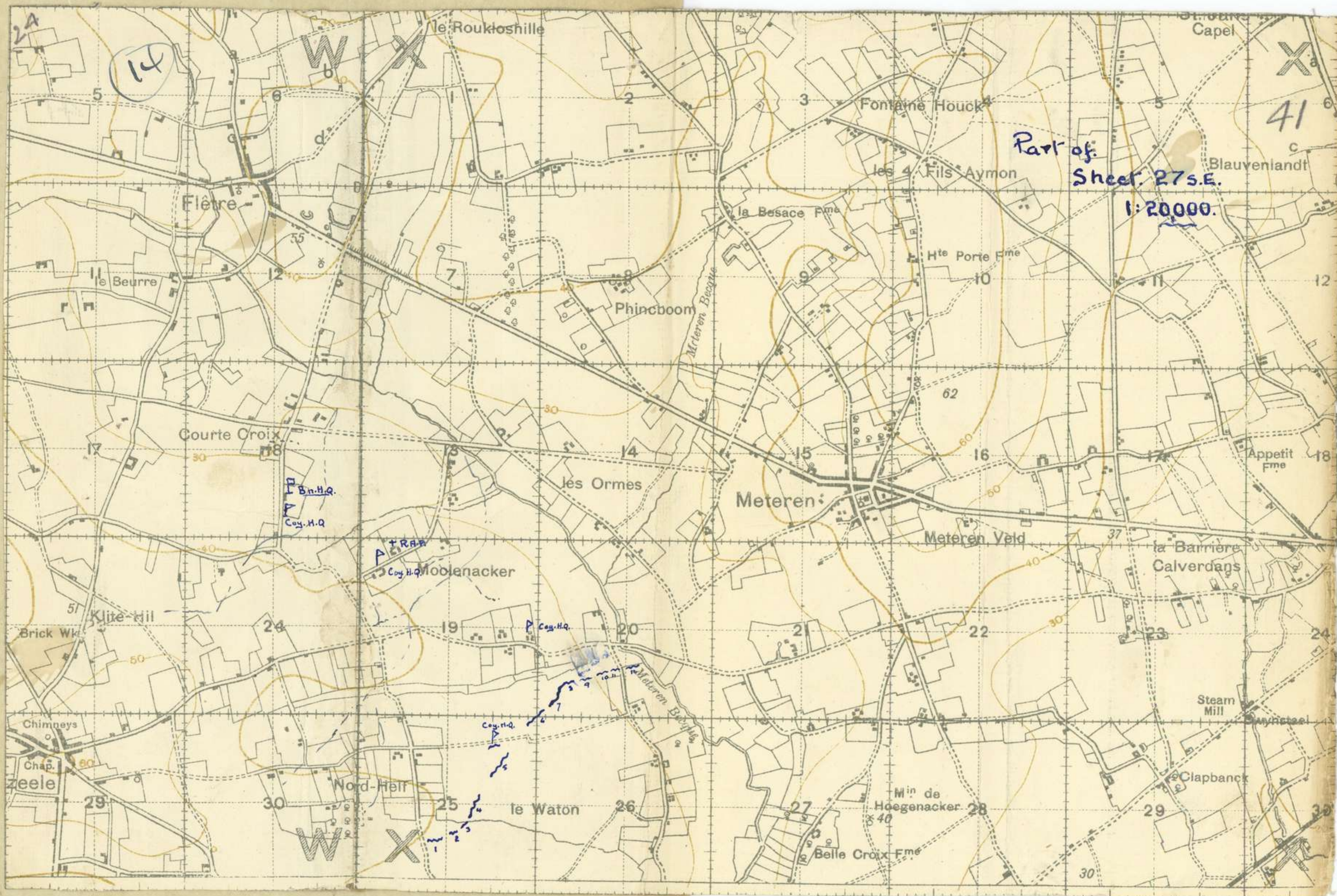
In the Support Line positions will be selected as defensive positions. These will be improved with that object. Other positions preferably should be chosen as living positions and provided with shelters for whole garrison.

(C) Works reports to be furnished on pro-forma provided and forwarded with Intelligence Summary each morning.

3. The enemy should not be allowed to show himself without being fired on and on no account either by night or day is he to be allowed to silence our snipers or L.G. by his fire, the last shot must remain with us.

4. The Battalion Sector is divided into the Right and Left sub-sectors and posts will be numbered right to left.

*Woodman*  
Lieutenant,  
Adjutant, 1st Aust. Inf. Battalion.



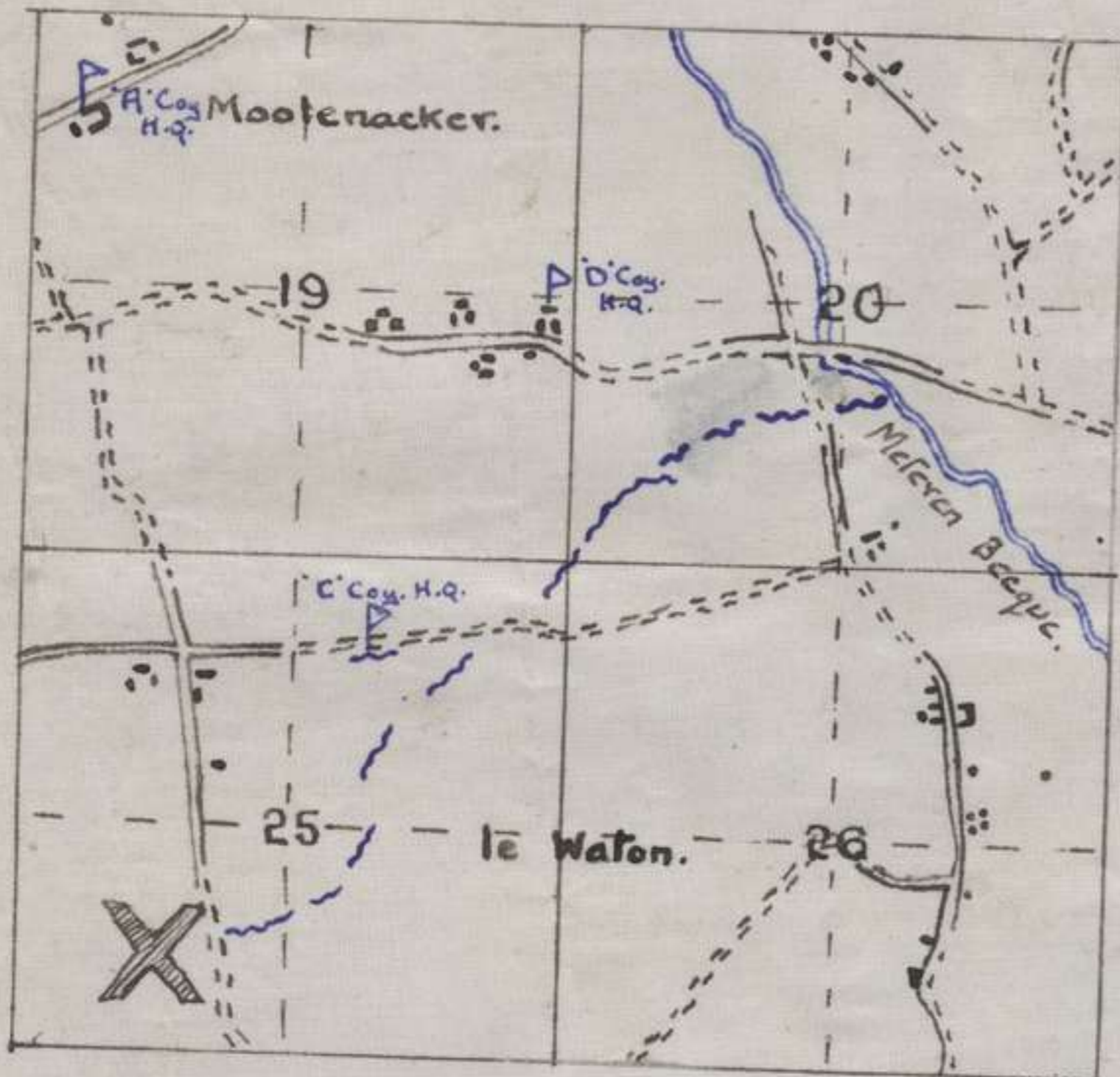
2A  
15

1st. A.I. Bn. Sector.

Part of Sheet 27. SE.

42

Scale. 1:20,000.



24  
Desert

(16)

Hdqrs  
22/5/18

Ref map. Part Sheets 27.5.E & 36.A.N.E 1:20000

- (1). Inter-Coy relief will take place on the night 23/5/18th May 1918.
- (2). 'C' Coy will relieve 'A' Coy in line Right-  
'D' Coy do do 'B' do do left.
- (3). French stores banks policy defence schemes etc will be taken over & lists of same forwarded to  
Brig Hdqrs
- (4). Protective patrols will be pushed out by 'A' & 'B' Corps whilst relief is in progress.
- (5). Rations Hot stew will be carried out to line corps at 10-30pm as usual.  
Sea & dry rations will be retained & collected by 'A' & 'B' Corps at R.A.P. on completion of relief.  
'C' & 'D' Corps will make their own arrangements re collecting same.
- (6) Guides Coy arrangements.
- (7). Relief to be completed by 2am 24th inst & Hdqrs to be notified by code word when same is effected.
- (8) Acknowledge.

Guardian  
H. Ady

Des.  
A  
B  
C  
D  
File  
War Diary

Issued by runner 9-30pm.

FIRST AUST. INF. BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters.  
29th May, 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COUNTER ATTACK.

Reference Maps. Sheets 27.E.E. & 36A.N.E. 1:20,000

1. In the event of an enemy penetration the Battalion will be prepared to counter attack or man any line in the second zone.
2. (A) In the event of a counter attack -  
 (a) Battalions of the Brigade are referred to as follows :-  
 "A" Battalion - 4th Battalion.  
 "B" do. - 1st Battalion.  
 "C" do. - 3rd Battalion.  
 "D" do. - 2nd Battalion.  
 (b) The Battalion will be disposed as follows :-  
 "A" and "C" Coy. in firing line, right to left.  
 "B" Coy. in support.  
 "D" Coy. in reserve.
3. On the order "Battalion will move at ", Battalion will at the time mentioned in the order pass starting point on road at V.18. A.4.5. in the following order - Headquarters, "A", "C", "B" and "D" Coys.
4. (a) Battalion will be prepared to move at one hours notice.  
 (b) Dress - Battle order. 220 Rounds S.A.A., 1 bomb, W.P. Sheet (rolled) Water bottles filled and iron rations to be carried on the man. Each Officer will carry 4 ground flares, 2 Billhooks per Company Headquarters and platoon will be carried.
5. It is impossible to foresee what action the Battalion will take, but it may be necessary to assemble preparatory to counter attacking in any of the following positions :-  
 (a) Locality in Square W.21.B. - Plan "A"  
 (b) do. do. W.18.C. - Plan "B"  
 (c) do. do. W.18.D. - Plan "C"  
 (d) do. do. V.30.D. & B. Plan "D"  
 In each of the above positions "C" Battalion of the Brigade would be on the Battalion's left flank.
6. The role of the Battalion would be -  
 As regards Plan "A" - To counter attack with the object of preventing the enemy penetrating on our left flank.  
 As regards Plan "B" - To participate on the right flank in a counter attack with the object of capturing STRASHEIM.  
 As regards Plan "C" - To counter attack with the object of recapturing the reserve line of the Forward Zone running through Squares W.21.D & B. (It is presumed that ROBIN CROSS is still in our possession.)  
 As regards Plan "D" - To counter attack with the object of recapturing STRASHEIM railway station and any ground lost in the vicinity. (It is presumed that STRASHEIM is still in our possession.)
7. The Battalion will move to assembly positions by overland routes as shown on attached maps.
8. Reconnaissance of overland routes and assembly positions will be made by all officers and a proportion of N.C.O's.
9. Battalion Dump at V.11.D.9.3.
10. Battalion Transport, "A" Echelon. will stand to and await instructions.
11. After deployment all messages will be sent to Battalion Headquarters at Reserve Company.

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Appendix 14 45

= 2 =

Appendix 14

12. If situations different to those mentioned above occur and other orders are issued everything contained in this order will be deemed to be cancelled.

13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

*Handwritten signature*  
Lieutenant,  
Adjutant, 1st Aust. Inf. Battalion.

Distribution.

- Copy. 1. 1st A.I. Bde.
- 2. "A" Coy.
- 3. "B" Coy.
- 4. "C" Coy.
- 5. "D" Coy.
- 6. Battalion Headqrs.
- 7. C.M. & P.O.
- 8. War Diary.
- 9. File.