

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/5/23

Title: 5th Infantry Brigade

May 1917



AWM4-23/5/23

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2118

Volume #213

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5th A.I. Bde.

Page 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NOREUIL	19 th May	1 st	<p>Weather fine. During night of 30th Apr. / 1st May Bde HQ moved to NOREUIL and 19th + 20th Bns relieved right support Bns of 7th A.I. Bde in vicinity of NOREUIL. Relief completed 7.15 am. Our guns heavily bombarded enemy lines and obtained good results in cutting wire east of BULLIECOURT. Otherwise quiet day and night. Admin. memo No 11 issued. Enemy patrols active during night. Two encounters.</p>	<p>app 1 " 2 " 3 " 4 " 5</p>
		2 nd	<p>Weather fine. Visibility fair. Order No 101 issued giving march table for operation ordered in O.O. 99. Evening quiet and units moved forward into position without hitch. During day Lt. Col LLOYD D.S.O. Command 5th F.A. Bde reported for duty as artillery liaison, also Engineer Pioneer liaison officers, and representatives from 6th A.I. Bde, 1st and 2nd A.I. Bdes. Officers from 14th M.G. Co, 8th A.L.T.M. B, X2a T.M. Battery, and Special Bde RA officer reported for final instructions. Major Scott D.S.O. 19th Bns reported for duty as Brigade observing officer and took up his duties at Brigade O.P.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ NOREUIL C10C9.1	1917 May 3 rd	1.45 am.	Capt Steele, 5 th Field Co. reports "Line Taped out; all correct."	
		2.30 am.	All Battalions cleared starting point at C10C7.9. Everything quiet; very few flares; Mts. fire not very frequent; hostile artillery below normal, but a few gas shells in earlier part of evening.	AMM 6
		3.30 am.	Enemy started shelling C5 central and C6 fairly heavily.	
		3.40 am.	17 th + 18 th Bns "OK". Barrage easing off. Lt. Graham getting up 200 ^{more} Stokes mortar bombs from Rear Battle Dump to Forward Battle Dump	do 7
		3.45 am.	Barrage on tick of time	
A Boast map		3.49 am.	18 th Bn report good start. Boche barrage on railway line	
		3.50 am.	20 th Bn report barrage falling mainly on 6 th A.I. Bde front - not much on ours.	
		3.53 am.	Bde obs. Officer. - Red flares all along front. Clumps, ^{Red} from RIENCOURT 2 green flares QUEANT. Heavy barrage Shrapnel + H.E.	
		3.58 am.	20 th Bn report heavy barrage just coming down + reaching right on to Railway. Light barrage only, previously	
		4.1 am.	1 Pair red flares straight up in air (Bde obs.)	
		4.5 am.	Confirmed - OG, Success signal seen both by Bde O.P. + 20 th Bn	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ	3 rd			
NOREUIL C10Cq.1.	4.9am		6 th Bde success signal (white flare) reported by 18 th B ⁿ	
	4.15am		Liaison report OG1 gained easily. Bde O.P. confirms white flares.	
	4.27am		20 th B ⁿ report OG2 captured.	
	4.33am		Report attack on OG2 held up by machine gun fire. Capt. Parker reports men coming back. Instructed him to reorganise them and take them forward.	
A. Boase major			Spoke in turn to Col Murphy, Col. Pyle, Col. Ralston and Col Martin in turn. Instructed them to reorganise and send men forward again immediately. 6 th Bde report they are ^{OG2} Red + white flares also reported for OG2	
	4.45am		M.G. fire reported from direction of BULLECOURT by 20 th B ⁿ	
	4.52am		Bde O.P. report red + white flares alternately from this side of RIENCOURT	
	5am		6 th Bde reports men of three battalions coming into cutting from right.	
	5.7am		Col. Martin had nothing fresh. Spoke Col Murphy who reported that about 150 of his men had been reorganised and men going forward again. Stated he had reports of 23 rd B ⁿ going back. Told him that 6 th Bde were in OG2.	
	5.20am		Col Ralston reports ^{own} men moving forward on our front.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BaethQ NIREUIL C.10291	3 rd	5:20am	6 th Bde report they had received written messages to the effect that they were in touch with 5 th A.I. Bde in OG ^r	
		5:30am	Genl. GELLIBRAND reports that he has borrowed 1 Coy of 26 th Bn + sent them forward with stragglers of 5 th Bde from limbankment. Expects them to move in 5 minutes	
		5:37am	Genl. Wisdom stated that barrage had been held upon 2 nd objective for an extra 30 minutes	
		5:45am	Spoke Col. Pye who had not yet cleared up situation. Instructed him to clear up situation and take steps to prevent right flank being left in the air.	
A Roast major		5:50am	Col. Murphy has taken line forward himself. Red flares from enemy line.	
		5:53am	Mls fire from front of 17 th Bn + enfilade from direction of QUEANT very severe. All our people going forward.	
		5:55am	Enemy Mls + Rifle fire dying down	
		6:20am	General Gellibrand rang up to say that he had got the 2 nd objective and that 24 th Bn reported still being in touch in 2 nd objective. Badly knocked about on right by enfilade Mls fire from QUEANT + also from front.	
		6:21am	Heavy Mls fire heard in direction RIENCOURT impossible	
		6:22am	Bn of 62 nd Bn seen going back from BULLE COURT.	

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5th A.I. Bde

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ HOREVIL	1917 May 3 rd	6.23am	Spoke Div. Commander, told him GOC 6 th A.I. Bde considered we could only get 2 nd objective & would have to reorganise again for attack on RIENCOURT. Asked for "Blue Banage" 1 Coy 28 Bn being sent forward to reinforce right flank. 1 Bn of 7 th A.I. Bde attacking BULLECOURT.	
		6.40am	Informed Col. Pye at 6.48 am	
		6.50am	Ordered Bde Bomb Officer to send 18 men each with bombs to OG 1 and OG 2	
		7.4am	Report from 20 th Battalion Observers states that men are coming down from RIENCOURT with picks & shovels and are digging in near road. Think they are our people	
		7.15pm	Report Lt Irvine states that we hold OG, & Boche is within 15 yards of road (? road V 29 B).	
		7.20am	6 th A.I. Bde report some of their people in RIENCOURT on line of 1 st phase 3 rd objective.	

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5th A. I. Bde

Page 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bailla NOREUIL	1917 May 3 rd	7:35am	90. 18 th B ^{ns} reported that we were holding only about 200 yards continuously in 1 st Objective & that the Boche was being bombed back in an easterly direction	
		7:40am	Dir. rang up re "Blue Barrage" & Lt Col. was in favour of putting it down if 6 th A. I. Bde were agreeable. Decided to put it down	
		7:45am	Rang 20 th B ^{ns} who stated they had men in ^{50 yards on either side of} at point 200 yards east of U29686 and also in trench from left boundary to 200 yards to east.	
		7:50am	Informed Dir commander of situation and asked for a new protective barrage north & south through U24070. Dir. Commander consented to barrage asked Artillery Liaison to arrange accordingly.	
		8:50am	Boche reported to be working round our right from shell-hole to shell-hole ^{through U30 central} evidently with a view to cutting us off. Arranged to extend flank & barrage further south.	

A. I. Bde
map

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5th A.I. Bde Page 7

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bdette NORREUIL	1917 May	3 rd 9 am	<p>Right flank threatened. We hold 200 yards right of ^{Bde} left boundary in O.G.1. No news of O.G.2 or sunken road. Instructed Col Pye to hold trench to right of road at all costs to protect 6th A.I. Bde flanks. Informed Div. Cdr. of situation & asked for Bn to attack on right of original front to consolidate 2nd objective. General Wisdom rang up to say Travers Coy had entered O.G.1 and entered into a lively bombing fight at U 29 a 7.7. General Wisdom rang up later to say that PEN^(H) had been placed at our disposal under orders from Div. and that they were at present out of touch as Bn was moving up to railway embankment. Issue orders through QUAIL.</p>	
		9.5 am	6 th Hows falling ^{by 700 to be} down E side.	
		9.10 am	Boche reported coming down road from 23d to 29 a c	
		9.20 am	Ordered Stokes Mortars in reserve at Adv. Report centre to move forward up sunken road in 29 a to O.G.1. to assist.	

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maps

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5th A. I. Bde Page 8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Adett NOREVIL	1917 May 3 rd	9.33am	Apparently we are only holding small portions of OG ₁ , OG ₂ + 2 objectives. Therefore necessary to form defensive flank	to protect 6 th A.I. Bde
		9.40am	Informed Divl Cndr of situation and told him that defensive right flank was being formed on road in Uzga with left flank resting on OG₁ ^{OG₂ + 2 objectives} . Suggest attack on remainder of OG ₁ east of road covered by artillery barrage	
		9.41am	Told 6 th Bde of dispositions and informed them that intended cleaning up OG ₁ and OG ₂ eastward from sunken road in Uzga to line west of CT, in Uzga central with blocks in CT's leading up west east of RIFEN COURT respectively.	
A/Broase map		9.55am	Informed Col Reid + instructed him to ring up quon clear when he got his maps.	
		10.15am	Instructed Col 20 th B ⁿ to collect all stragglers + reorganise in sunken road & railway cutting. This order to be passed to	

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5th A. I. Bde Page 9

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NOTREUIL	1917 May 3 rd	10:15 am	Informed Col. Bridges of scheme + learnt that heavies were firing on U29 & 7.6 to U29 & 9.6 + 18 prs about 15 open up between the two sunken roads in U29. Liaison arranged to cancel. Told 6 th Bde arrangements	
		11:5 am	Apparently none of our people east of the U29 central sunken road which is being held by about 150 men.	
		11:7 am	2 nd B ^{de} reported moving up road by Bde Obs. Officer	
		11:15 am	Instructed Rabston to send an officer to take over from major TREN 6 th Bde in sunken road in U29a.	
		11:30 am	Instructed of 5 th Aust M.S. Co to ascertain whereabouts of Col. Murphy from Col. Martin and arrange to give him support with the 3 reserve M.S.'s.	
Approach of major		11:50 am	Report from Col. Martin: Party in OG, bombed out mainly by minenwerfer fire-in showers. Enemy sweeping wire with low bursting shrapnel from direction of QUEANT. Informed Col. Martin of proposed scheme and instructed him to collect fragments of B ^{de} .	

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5th A.I. Bde Page 10

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ NOREVIL C10C91.	1917 May 8 th	12.25pm 1240pm 1250pm 1pm 1.5	<p>26th Bn report enemy counter-attacking 17th Bn</p> <p>No news or particulars can be obtained regarding</p> <p>Capt BAZELEY 6th A.I. Bde reports counter-attack developing rapidly along OA2 from direction of QUEANT.</p> <p>Enemy shelling road in U29c and a very heavily.</p> <p>Bazeley reports 28th Bn moving down. Wants to know how we wish them to act. Informed that Col. Reid should use his own discretion, moving across open if he thought he could rush OA1 and OA2 quickly before he could be much damaged by m.b.s. otherwise to bomb down trenches.</p> <p>Message from Col Murphy by Lt. Britten they he would like smoke barrage to east of U29b. Would unfavourable - cannot be done. Fair number of men with Col. Murphy near wire in U29b - getting hot time from direction QUEANT.</p> <p>Unable to withdraw till dusk!</p>	

Approach
- map

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5th A. I. Bde Page 11

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ NOREUIL	1917 May 3 rd	1.20pm	20 th B ⁿ reported bombing going on in OG 1	
		1.25pm	Lt Gritted, from 18 th B ⁿ HQ reports 150 enemy seen passing down road from HENDECOURT to U22a 7.5. 6 th A.I. Bde Artillery Liaison dealing with matter. Also Boche gun exploding sunken road in Q5a and b	
		1.45pm	Bde O. Officer reports 28 th B ⁿ on line at just in front of sunken road in Q5a & b. Instructed Col. Read to send runner to ascertain exact position of B ⁿ	
		2.25pm	Instructed Col. Martin to inform other B ⁿ commanders to reorganise, draw bombs, ammunition etc, ready to move off at an hours notice to attack 2 nd objective after 28 th B ⁿ capture OG 1 and OG 2.	
Approach map		2.27pm	Dr Cude rang and was informed of intentions	
		2.50pm	Corps observer reports that our people have apparently bombed east down OG 1 as far as U29 & 8.6. He states that about 7 of our men acting in a very determined manner had bombed from west to east to U29 & 8.6. Apparently unsupported. Rang B.T. and asked Col. PYE to arrange with	

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5th A. I. Bde Page 12

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917 May 3 rd			
		3.45pm	<p>Col RALSTON to support party which has bombed up to U29686. If this information proves to be correct 25th Bn report that they have bombed up to U2969.6 in OA1 and U2967.9 in OA2. Unit requires more bombs. Arranged with Bde Bomb Officer to get bombs ^{handbag} forward to OA1 and OA2 as quickly as possible</p>	
		3.55pm	<p>Instructed Lt. Harrison, 15th Bn to send message to Col Murphy to get as many men into OA1 as possible and hold on Instructed Col Ralston to send message to officer in charge strong point at U29647 to reinforce 25th in OA1 with men + bombs immediately Lt Harrison to send forward the 1440 bombs at X roads in CSA to OA1 immediately.</p>	
		4pm	<p>GOC Div informed of situation also sent wisdom. Arranged with General Wisdom to send 2 Stokes mortars ^{handgun} ammunition up to U29985.70 + select positions to come into action</p>	

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5th AI Bde Page 13

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NOREUIL	May	4.20pm	Informed 6 th AI Bde of situation	
	3 rd	5.30pm	18 th Bn Strong post reports that 28 th Bn have been pushed back to within 40 yards in OA1 but are holding in OA2.	
		5.50pm	Davis, 19 th Bn report 28 th Bn pushing enemy back in OA1. OA2 stationary at U23d 4 1/2. Instructed Davis to order Bombing Parties to make good all CT's before bombing forward.	
H. Poase Major		6pm	7 th Bde report 3 flanking posts on right blown out by artillery & TM fire & ask for some of 8 th M.S. Co guns. Arranged	
		6.19pm	Sgt. Dir rang up & was informed of situation	
		6.40pm	Instructed Lieut KURTS to get Medium TMS (2) up to junction of road & OA1 in U2qa. Complete with ammunition immediately & to send a representative to 19 th Bn HQ to await instructions from Bde.	

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5th A. I. Bde Page 14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bde HQ NOREUIL	1917 May 3 rd	7.50pm.	Spoke Col Murphy (1 st Bn) and later to Col Martin giving full instructions for counter-attack which is being organised. Col. Martin to pass instructions on to Co's 19 th + 20 th Bns	
		8.40pm	Party in OG, back close to road in U29a. No change as far as is known in OA 2. Heavy Boche barrage opened on sunken roads in U29 a+c and the C5 a+b.	
		9.7pm	5 green flares on his front. 2 nd Bn report enemy barraging whole front heavily	
Approach maps		10.90pm	Put up proposal for new battalion to go through our battalions and bomb up OG, and OA 2 in an easterly direction. Divl Cmr. apparently favours suggestion & will inform us later.	

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5th A.I. Bde Page 15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NOREUIL	1917 May 4 th		<p>On the night 3rd/4th 2nd and 4th Battalions relieved the 19th and 20th Battalions who on relief moved back to VAULX. Operation App. 8. Memo N. 5 was issued at 9.30 am. As a result of the bombing attack ordered in Op. Memo N. 5 O₁ and O₂ were cleared from road in U29a to U30a 20.65 and U30a 1.9 respectively & again consolidated. At midnight 11th and 12th Bns relieved 4th + 2nd Bns respectively and the latter came under orders of 1st A.I. Bde again. At the same time the 9th and 10th Bns relieved 17th and 18th Bns who were then withdrawn to the BIEFVILLERS area. The M.S. Co + T.M. Battery were also relieved by their opposite numbers of 3rd A.I. Bde.</p>	
		5 th	<p>G.O.C. + B.M. remained at NOREUIL to assist in running the action. A number of hostile counter-attacks were dispersed before they could materialise. B.M. returned to BIEFVILLERS in evening.</p>	
		6 th	<p>Fine day, Brigade resting in BIEFVILLERS area, G.O.C. still at NOREUIL</p>	
		7 th	<p>G.O.C. arrived back from NOREUIL. Weather wet. Brigade resting</p>	
		8 th	<p>moved by train from BAPAUME to ALBERT then marched to FRIECOURT Camp.</p>	<p>App. 9 " 10th</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tricourt	9/5/17		Bungade Major (Major A. J. Boase) 10 days leave to England weather fine units re-equipping & reorganising	
	10/5/17		weather fine units devoting whole time to organised games & entertainments.	
	11/5/17		ditto	App. 11.
	12/5/17		G.O.C. visited Aunies. Training not yet commenced. equipping pretty well complete	
	13/5/17		Cops Commander presented medals & ribbons during the morning. after Church Parade Gen. Smythe & Staff present.	
A. J. Boase map	14/5/17		Conference at D. H. Q. of G.O.C. Staff Captains & Commanding Officers with regard to the use of Dr. Cantrew's money. decided that no money should be set aside by units for use after the war.	
	15/5/17		Army Commandant inspected 17 th & 19 th Bns at their training. 18 th & 19 th Bns went through a Gas Practice	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	14/5/17		in Saurage Gully during morning & afternoon respectively rained all day interfered greatly with the training Transport Show of whole Bde held in the afternoon Gen Smythe present. Oper Order No 103 for move of Bde to	App. 12.
Sculis	17/5/17	1.30pm	Order issued at 1pm. Move of Bde to Sculis completed - wet.	
Rubcamp	18/5/17		Opera Bde Ad Q. 17 & 20 Ptns moved to Rubcamp. 18 & 19 Ptn 5 Ptn G Coy & 5 ALTA Ptn moved to Contay move completed by 3.30 pm.	
	19/5/17		G.O.C. visited WARLOY & CONTAY with G.S.O 2 to find training grounds. Troops trained for 1 1/2 hours. remainder of day spent at games.	
A. J. Brown - Insp	20/5/17		G.O.C. visited Contay. Meeting at 4pm. at Bde H.Q. of C.O. units & Transport Officer to discuss a Transport & Horn Show. Committee of 2 in Command & Jcs formed to carry out Horn Show & Sports	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ruebanpre	21/5/17		Brig Maj returned from Pean - Maj W. J. R. Scott, D.S.O. reported for duty as A. Staff Capt. Training carried out during day, somewhat interrupted with in morning by rain.	
	22/5/17		Fine day. GOC visited AMIENS. B.M. visited 19 th & 20 th Bns, M. G. Co + T.M. Battery in CONTAY. Brigade training in progress. Training hampered by lack of ground for manoeuvring. Staff Capt. proceeded on leave.	
	23/5/17		Fine weather. GOC + B.M. visited Battalions in CONTAY. Bde Training. Musketry on 25 yards Ranges commenced.	
	24/5/17		Fine weather. GOC + B.M. visited Units at CONTAY and also the 5 th Army Sniping School at VADENCOURT. Arranged with Commandant to send 90 O.R. of the Bde to do the Course in addition to the usual complement. Training + Musketry continued.	
A Boase -map	25/5/17		Fine weather. Visited 17 th + 20 th Bns on their training ground on the HERISSART-CONTAY Road. Divl. Commander dined with Brigadier. Training continued.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUBEMPRE	1917 May 26 th		<p>Fine day. Church parade. Training + musketry in morning.</p>	
	27 th		<p>Fine weather. Church parades at RUBEMPRE + CONTAY in morning.</p>	
	28 th		<p>Fine weather. G.O.C. visited CONTAY in morning. In the afternoon a demonstration was given near "H & I" Woods (on HERISSART-CONTAY Road) of the method of consolidating the flank of a captured trench system using all infantry arms in co-operation. Method illustrated was to fill in 40 yards of the fire trench on the exposed flank and put wire out across the filled in portion about 30 yards from the portion held. Hold the C.T. with on exposed flank with Lewis gun and rifle bombers with trench mortars about 200 yards in rear of them, and Vickers guns disposed according to ground + tactical requirements.</p>	
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-style: italic;">A.P. Base maps</p>				
<p>1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.</p>				

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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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

5th F. I. Bde Page 20

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUBEMPRE	1917 May 28 th		This method was found to be very effective in stopping the continual fluctuation backwards + forwards from the exposed flank after the 1st 1 st objective in the HINDENBURG line had been gained when the Brigade attacked east of BULFECOURT on May 3 rd .	
	May 29 th		Slight Rain. GOC ^{+B.M.} visited units in CONTRY. Training + Musketry continued. Very fair standard of shooting throughout the Brigade.	
	30 th		GOC visited Amiens in afternoon. Training + musketry continued. Bde Major visited units training.	
	31 st		GOC visited CONTRY. B.M. visited 17 th + 20 th Bns on training ground. Weather fine. Men very fit.	
	3			

H. Boase
maps

War Diary

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

Brigade Headquarters
1st May 1917.

①

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 11.

1. QUARTERS.

(a)

Units will leave all tents standing, but all trench shelters will be struck and returned to D.A.D.O.S., the number returned being reported immediately to Brigade H.Q.

(b)

All Transport will be Brigaded under Captain McNABB, 18th Bn at H.18.b.

(c)

The personnel detailed in Amendment to S.S. 135, "Instructions for the training of Divisions for Offensive Action", to remain out of the line, will be concentrated under Major J.M. MAUGHAN, D.S.O., 20th Bn., in old 18th Bn. Camp at H.20.a. (55 tents). Lieut.-Col. W.J. BATEMAN, 23rd Bn., will act as Commandant for the Divisional Details Camp.

2. SUPPLIES.

(a)

Rations will be delivered from railhead from 2nd May inclusive by DECAUVILLE to I.7.d., where Q.M's. will take them over.

(b)

The personnel remaining out of the line in the Divisional Concentration Camp, will join the Camp with 48 hours rations from 2nd instant onwards. The Q.M. of the above camp will draw rations for them as a whole. Captain McNABB will detail a water cart for the use of the Brigade Details.

3. BAGGAGE.

All surplus baggage, stores etc., will be dumped at old Brigade H.Q. FAVREUIL.

W. J. Bateman

Captain,
Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution.

File		19th Bn	
War Diary (2)		do	Q.M.
G.O.C.		do	T.O.
17th Bn		20th Bn	
do	Q.M.	do	Q.M.
do	T.O.	do	T.O.
18th Bn		5th A.M.G. Coy.	
do	Q.M.	do	Q.M.
do	T.O.	do	T.O.
C/Comdt.	Details Camp	Major J.M. Maughan.	D.S.O.
	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.		

War Diary

Appendix No. 2.

22

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

Brigade Headquarters,
1st May 1917.

Reference Brigade Operation Order No. 99, Para 10.

2

5TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.	
No. 9/	179
Date	

Medium

The following further instructions for X.2.a. Trench Mortar Battery are issued.-

- (a) Two Mortars will go forward, Vbz.,
 - (i) One to be established in O.C.1. to enfilade trench east of block at U.30.a.50.45.
 - (ii) One to be established in O.C.2. to enfilade trench east of block at U.30.a.55.70.
The remainder will be held in reserve in cutting at C.5.b.1.7.
- (b) (i) A reconnoitring party with base plates will accompany the 3rd wave on the right, and select positions.
- (ii) The two guns, ammunition and carrying party, will move forward in rear of 8th wave.

AfBoase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

X.2.a.T.M. Battery
19th Battalion
20th Battalion
C.R.A.
2nd Aust. Division.

(3)

Fifth Australian Infantry Brigade

Intelligence Summary for 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 1/5/1917

Our Operations:

Reliefs. The 19th and 20th Battalions relieved the right support Battalion of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. Relief completed by 4.15 a.m. The 19th Bn then became forward support battalion, and the 20th Battalion, rear support battalion.

Artillery

Heavy batteries shelled BULLECOURT, HENDICOURT, and RIENCOURT, intermittently throughout the period. Enemy wire in U.28.b., U.29.a. and b., U.28.b. and c. and C.T. in U.23.d. was shelled during the day. Strong points in U.17.a., c., and d., U.23.b., and d., were shelled with 6" Hows. Good observation of results obtained.

Patrols.

Communication with units on flanks was maintained. No enemy patrols were encountered. A party working on enemy wire at approx. U.30.a.1.4. was dispersed by our artillery and M.G. fire. Gas shells hampered movements of patrols.

Aircraft.

Several of our planes were over enemy lines during the day, flying low.

Enemy Operations.Artillery.

Shelling below normal. The flash of a heavy gun was observed firing on bearing of 31° mag. from C.10.a.8.2. Its shells fell in the NOREUIL - VAULX valley. At 11 a.m. C.9.b. was shelled with 5.9 H.E. (12 shells). Table of shelling hereunder:-

Taken from O.P. C.10.b.5¹.6.

Time	Locality Shelled	Rounds	Calibre	Intervals	Direction of Fire	Remarks
6.45 am	C.4.b. & C.5.a.	11	10.5 cm 77 mm	10 secs	45° T.B. 15° T.B.	-
7.	C.10.a.	2	10.5 cm	1 min	25° "	
7.35	U.27.c., U.27.d.	5	" 77 mm	30 secs	45° "	
7.45	U.27.d.	8	10.5 cm 77 mm	1 min	45° "	Several burst in BULLECOURT
8.15	C.4.a. C.4.d.	5	10.5 HE Shrap	1½ min	45° "	
8.20	C.10.a.	2	10.5	1 min	50° "	
8.45	C.10.b.	3	"	1 min	50° "	Burst near Tank.
8.50.	C.9.a.	7	" HE Shrap	1 min	50° "	High Bursts
9.10	U.27.c.	5	10.5 HE	1½ Min	45° "	
10.45	C.10.b.	8	" Shrap	2 Mins	25° "	Burst Near Tank
10.55	C.4.a. C.5.b.	3	77mm	Quick fire	35° "	
12.	C.9.d.	19	10.5 cm	"	45° "	
12.15	C.10.b.	4	"			
			15. cm	1 min	60° "	
12.45	C.3.a.	5	10.5 cm 15 cm	1 min	50° "	
			15 cm	1 min	55° "	
13.55pm	C.5.a.	14	10.5 cm	1 min	55° "	
2.55	U.28.d.	4	15 cm	2 min	40° "	
3.20	U.28.c. and d.	5	10.5 HE	2 min	45° "	
4.15	C.10.b.	10	77mm	30 secs	45° "	
4.25	C.10.b.	14	77mm	10 secs	45° "	
4.55	C.10.b.	8	10.5 HE	5 secs	50° "	Burst hear front line
5.55	C.4.b.	7	15 cm	1 min	45° "	

At 4 a.m. an enemy barrage was opened on NO MANS LAND on left of our sector. Mostly 5.9 H.E. used. Barrage was not heavy and ceased at 4.10 a.m.

5th Australian Infantry Brigade

Intelligence Summary for 24 hours ending 8 a.m. 1/5/17

- 2 -

Int. Summary 1/5/17.

Machine Guns. Were very active, firing on our planes and occasional bursts over NO MANS LAND during the night.

Movement. At 9.45 a.m. enemy party of 5 was seen moving in trench in U.24.c. A machine gun is suspected in this point. At 4.45 p.m. an enemy working party of about 10 men was seen in vicinity of U.18.d. and appeared to be making dugouts. At 6.20 p.m. a party of 6 was seen working in U.6.c. At 6.35 p.m. enemy parties were seen continually moving along road in U.6.a. and d. At 2.20 p.m. enemy party was observed working upon a series of new trenches, fresh earth being easily discernible in vicinity V.7.a. and V.13.b. Trenches are apparently being connected up here.

Miscellaneous. About 3. a.m. enemy sent over gas shells in vicinity of our front line. Gas was heavy for half an hour.

Signals. Enemy flash lamp was again active at 8.30 p.m.

R. Smith
Brigadier General,
Commanding 5th Aust. Inf. Bde

Time	Location	Remarks
8.35	C.4.b.	1 m
4.35	G.10.b.	5 sec
4.35	G.10.b.	10 sec
4.35	G.10.b.	10 sec
8.30	U.28.a. and A.	2 min
8.30	U.28.a.	2 min
8.30	U.28.a.	2 min
12.55pm	C.5.a.	14
12.45	C.3.e.	8
12.15	C.10.b.	4
12.	C.9.d.	10
10.55	C.4.e.	8
10.45	C.10.b.	8
9.10	C.27.a.	8
8.30	C.9.a.	7
8.45	C.10.b.	8
7.55	U.27.c. U.27.d.	8
7.	C.10.a.	8

At 4 a.m. an enemy barrage was opened on NO MANS LAND on left of our sector. Mostly G.9.H.E. used. Barrage was not heavy and ceased at 4.10 a.m.

SECRET

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Disposition Report as at 8 a.m. 1st May, 1917.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Map Reference</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
Brigade H.Q.	NORWIL	C.10.c.88.10.	
17th Battalion		Encamped vicinity H.20.a.8.4.	
18th Battalion		Encamped H.20.a.8.3. (vicinity)	
19th Battalion	FORWARD SUPPORT Bn.	(H.Q.) C.16.a.8.1.	2 Coys - LAMNIGOURT NORWIL ROAD. Less 1 Platoon No. 1 Post C.17.c.1.7. " 1 platoon No. 2 Post C.16.b.88.30. " 1 Platoon No. 3 Post C.16.a.3.6. No. 5 Post C.10.d.3.3. 2 Coys. - NORWIL - MORCHIES ROAD.
20th Battalion	REAR SUPPORT Bn.	(H.Q.) C.16.a.8.9.	1 Coy. Sunken road C.16.a.4.2. 1 Coy Sunken road C.9.a.4.8. 1 Coy. Sunken road C.9.d.7.6. 1 Coy vicinity C.9.d.6.9. with posts at C.10.a.7.0., C.10.c. 8.8. and C.9.d.7.9..
5th A.M.G. Coy.	Coy. H.Q. - C.10.a.7.0.	1 Gun C.8.a.7.2. 1 Gun C.8.d.7.7. 1 " C.11.a.3.7. 1 " C.11.b.8.3. 1 " C.10.a.7.0. (A.A. duty) 1 " C.10.d.1.4. 1 " C.10.d.16.10. (A.A. duty) 1 " C.16.b.80.88. 1 " C.17.c.3.7. 1 " C.9.d.9.5. (Reserve A.A. Gun) 1 " C.10.d.0.1.	1 gun C.8.d.8.9. 1 " C.8.d.8.6. 1 " C.11.a.75.38. 1 " C.11.d.8.4. 1 Gun C.16.d.88.90.
5th A.L.T.M. Bty.	H.Q. VAULX - VRAUCOURT	C.16.a.8.3.	

Forecast 17th and 18th Battalions moving to VAULX at noon today.Brig.-General,
Commanding 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

NB Disposition of 27th Bn in front line unchanged

War Diary

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

S E C R E T

copy No. 2 ✓

OPERATION ORDER No. 101.

Brigade Headquarters
2nd May 1917.

1. With reference to Operation Order No. 99, para 4, the 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade and units attached for the operation, will be formed up in position on the "jumping off" line (approx. U.29.d.90.15. - U.29.c.7.2.) at 3 a.m. on night 2nd/3rd May 1917.
2. Battalions will file past the Rear Battle Dump (C.10.c.7.7.) by platoons, with "Mat-men" at the head of the platoon, and carrying parties in rear, collecting their loads as they pass.
3. Starting Point. Junction of roads C.10.c.75.30. (marked with a light in kerosene tin)

Order of March.

17th Battalion	to pass starting point	at 12.30 a.m.
19th	" " " "	" 1 a.m.
18th	" " " "	" 1.30 a.m.
20th	" " " "	" 2 a.m.

Route. From starting point along road to C.10.c.65.90., to road junction C.5.c.55.70., thence to "jumping off" tapes; 17th and 18th Bns moving up left fork road, and 19th and 20th Bns moving up right fork road from C. .c.55.70.

4. Engineers, Pioneers, Machine Gun and Trench Mortar personnel accompany battalions to which they are attached, and will send representatives for instructions to their various battalion H.Q. by 6 p.m. tonight.
5. Reserve carrying parties of 1 Officer and 50 o.r. per battalion, will report to Lieut GRAHAM at Forward Battle Dump (C.5.central) at 2.30 a.m.
6. Absolute silence, except when it is necessary for officers to give verbal instructions, is to be maintained after passing the starting point, and no smoking or lights will be permitted.
7. "Direction Officers" will lead their battalions into position on "jumping off" tapes.
8. A C K N O W L E D G E.

A.J. Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 4.30 p.m.

Issued to all recipients of O.O.99.

Fifth Australian Infantry Brigade,

Intelligence Summary for 24 hours ended 6 a.m. 2/5/1917.

Brigade Headquarters,
2nd May, 1917.Our Operations.

Artillery. BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT were shelled with 18-ndr shrap. and heavies, also enemy wire and trenches in U.29.a. and b. and U.30.a. Heavies were active shelling HENDICOURT and strong points in U.25.b. Dense clouds of smoke from RIENCOURT rose about 2.45 p.m. apparently caused by our heavies.

M.G.'s. Vickers Guns dispersed an enemy party moving near the Moulin Sans Souci in U.30.b. Bursts were put on to gaps in enemy wire throughout the night.

Patrols. A patrol left our lines at 3 am and encountered and bombed an enemy patrol, moving along the road running through U.29.a. at a point about 150 yards from the enemy wire. 2 of the enemy were seen to fall. Rapid fire was opened on the enemy but its effect could not be observed. Moving along wire to east, patrol met another enemy patrol about 30 strong moving along road in U.29.b. When within 120 yards range, our patrol opened rapid fire and enemy hurriedly retired to his line. Owing to activity of enemy patrols observation of wire could not be obtained. Communication with units on flanks was maintained during the night.

Aircraft. Our planes were very active during the day and flew very low over enemy lines in spite of A.A. artillery and M.G. fire.

Enemy Operations.

Artillery. Enemy shelling on front line area below normal. Intermittent fire with single shots from a 4.2 battery to the N.E. of RIENCOURT was maintained on Cross roads in C.11.a. Principal enemy activity was directed on NOREUIL valley which was shelled during afternoon.

Table of Shelling - Taken from C.P. C.10.b.5¹.6.

Time	Locality Shelled	Rounds	Calibre	Intervale	Direction of fire.
7.20 am	C.10.a.	6	15 cm	3 mins	26° TB
7.45	C.10.b.	4	"	2 "	45
10.	C.5.c.	8	77mm	1 1/2 "	50
11.25	C.9.b.	12	77mm	2 "	50
11.30	C.2.d.	4	15cm	2 "	45
12.35pm	C.4.central	9	10.5cm	30 secs	45
1.30	C.10.b.	6	10.5cm	1 1/2 mins	40
2.	C.10.a.	2	77mm	1 "	45
2.50	C.10.b.	2	10.5cm	1 1/2 "	40
3.	C.10.b & d.	9	"	1 1/2 "	40
3.27	C.10.b.	9	"	1 1/2 "	40
4.	C.10.b.	10	"	1 "	40
4.10	C.15.a.)		"	1 "	60
	C.15.d.)	6	"	1 "	60
4.35	C.10.b.	12	"	1 "	60
4.40	C.15.b.	2	15 cm	30 secs	50
4.50	C.9.b.	24	77mm Shrap	30 secs	45

A small dump of artillery ammunition in NOREUIL valley was hit during the afternoon.

M.G.'s.

Were active firing on our planes during the day.

Patrols.

Were active during the night as far as a distance of 200 yards from his wire.

Movement. At 10.50 a.m. three men were seen to enter trench at U.12.a.4.2. At 8 p.m. a limber with several horses was seen leaving a recently-located battery position at U.12.b. central at the gallop owing to our artillery fire being directed on the spot. A few men were seen standing in the vicinity later. At the same time a party of enemy was seen at approximately U.23.b.9.1. These men stood about for a short time and then moved to the rear.

Appendix No 6

Intelligence Summary for 24 hours ended 2 a.m. 2/4/17.

- 2 - Intelligence 2/4/17.

Movement (continued).

At 7.15 a.m. two enemy G.S. waggons each drawn by two horses were observed moving along road in vicinity of U.6.c. and U.6.d. and appeared to contain road metal. At 7.30 a.m. enemy working party of about 20 men was seen moving along road vicinity of U.6.c. and appeared to be repairing road. Considerable movement of enemy in small parties was observed in U.17.b. and U.6.c. At 6.25 p.m. large enemy party seen moving towards series of trenches in U.6.b. and were observed to enter trench and fresh earth was seen to be thrown out. Artillery were directed to the above party.

Aircraft.

At 6.20 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. 1st instant an enemy plane flew over our lines but was driven off by one of our machines. At 10.15 am an enemy plane remained over our lines for 15 minutes in spite of our A.A. artillery fire. Enemy balloons were seen at the following true bearings from C.10.a.8.2. - 43°, 45°, 24°, 50°, 20°.

Signals. A large number of red flares were fired in enemy lines during the night, particularly from BULLCOURT to North West. Single red flares were fired from enemy front line and these were repeated at intervals, and carried right back to the rear.

Miscellaneous.

At 11.30 p.m. ammonol bombs were discharged into enemy's wire. Results could not be observed. At 8.30 a.m. a patrol heard sounds of transport moving in QUEANT. Between 11 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. two enemy searchlights were working over our sector from rear of HENDICOURT.

J. J. Smith
Brigadier-General,
Commanding 4th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Table with columns for Time, Locality, and other details, containing mirrored text from the reverse side of the page. The table is partially obscured by a large scribble and is difficult to read.

War Diary

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

S E C R E T

Copy No. 2

Brigade Headquarters
2nd May 1917.

7

9/83

Reference Brigade O.O. No. 99.

1. Zero hour will be 3.45 a.m. 2nd/3rd May, and not as given out verbally at C.O's. conference this morning.
2. Reference Brigade O.O. No. 101. Add 15 minutes to all times shewn in the order.
3. Please acknowledge and certify by wire that this communication has been destroyed when noted.

A. J. Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 3 p.m.

Distribution as for O.O. 99.

Appendix No: 7

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

OPERATION MEMO. No. 5.

Copy No. 3

8

Brigade Headquarters

4th May 1917.

1. To complete the cleaning up and consolidation of ground gained, the right brigade will capture and make good from the road U.23.c. - U.29.a. and c. to the C.T. from U.30.a.38.75. - U.30.a.4.5.

2. Objectives. O.G.1. and O.G.2. with C.T. U.30.a.1.6. - U.30.a.2.9.

3. Boundaries. 2nd Bn. U.30.a.1.6. to U.30.a.2.9. (inclusive) back along O.G.1, and O.G.2. to U.23.d.6.0. to U.29.b.6.6. (exclusive)

4th Bn. U.23.d.6.0. - U.29.d.6.6. inclusive, back along O.G.1. and O.G.2. to N. and S, road in U.29.a. (inclusive) and joining with Brigade on left.

4. Distribution & Action of Infantry

(a) 2nd Bn. 2 Companies enter O.G.1. and 2 Companies O.G.2. from Sunken road in U.29.a. and c., follow barrage closely, bombing up to their final objective. The 2nd Bn consolidates as it goes, leaving special parties to garrison C.T.'s. between O.G.1. and O.G.2. and block all north of O.G.2.

(b) 4th Bn. Follows up closely in rear of 2nd Bn., relieving garrisons left by 2nd Bn in 4th Bn area, and completing consolidation. As soon as these garrisons are relieved, they rejoin their unit, any Vickers Guns attached to the unit accompanying it.

2 Coys each to 091 1062

5. Machine Guns

(a) To cover the advance 1 Gun of 5th A.M.G. Coy. will be dug in in vicinity of U.29.central to enable fire to sweep the front during the advance.

(b) As objectives are gained one gun will be established in the vicinity of each of the following points :-

- U.23.c.85.05.
U.23.d.3.0.
U.29.b.8.9.
U.29.a.2.9.
U.29.a.1.6.

5th A.M.G. Coy, will detail the necessary guns to accompany attacking battalions.

6. Stokes Mortars.

1 Gun each to follow up the bombing attack along O.G.1 and O.G.2, to be finally established as follows :-

- 1 Gun to cover C.T. running N.E. from O.G.1. towards east of RIENCOURT. To be available to cover hostile portion O.G.2. also if required.
1 Gun to bring fire to bear on hostile portion O.G.1.
1 Gun to fire on C.T. running from O.G.2. to west of RIENCOURT.

1st A.L.T.M. Battery will supply the necessary mortars and personnel, and will send them forward to junction of Sunken Road in U.29.a. and c. and O.G.1. to be there one hour before zero. They will also establish dumps of ammunition in/vicinity as soon as possible. that

5th A.I.Bde.

- 2 -

Operation Memo. No. 5.

6. Stokes Mortars (contd.)

4th Bn will arrange to supply carrying parties at the rate of 16 men per gun for carrying Stokes Mortar ammunition.

7. Artillery Action

A barrage rolling west to east on O.G.1. and O.G.2. with the eastern flank of the barrage for the present on C.T. U.30.a.4.4. - U.30.a.4.8.

The C.Ts. running north towards RIENCOURT, the village of RIENCOURT and trenches in vicinity, and QUEANT will be heavily barraged. Barrage on O.G.1. and O.G.2. to move eastwards at the rate of 25 yards per minute. Barrage to commence at ZERO, 75 yards east of Sunken road in U.29.a. and c.

Infantry will enter O.G.1. and O.G.2. east of the road, at this hour.

8. Ammunition Supply.

2nd and 4th Bns will, if they have not already done so, complete to 6 bombs per man, drawing them from Lieut. GRAHAM at Forward Battle Dump at C.5.central.

9. Carrying Parties.

Except where otherwise specified will be supplied by 17th and 18th Battalions, who will be notified as to parties required.

10. Reports to Brigade Headquarters, NOREUIL, or Forward Report Centre (C.5.b.1.7.)

11. ZERO HOUR will be notified later.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

A. Roase

Issued at 9.30 a.m

Major,
Brigade-Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------|------------------|
| 1 | File | 14 | Lieut. GRAHAM |
| 2/3 | War Diary | 15 | 17th Bn |
| 4 | C.O.C. | 16 | 18th Bn |
| 5 | 2nd Bn | 17 | 19th Bn |
| 6 | 4th Bn | 18 | 20th Bn |
| 7 | 1st A.I.Bde. | 19 | 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. |
| 8 | 2nd A.I.Bde. | 20 | 1st A.L.T.M.Bty. |
| 9 | 6th A.I.Bde. | 21 | 5th A.M.G.Coy |
| 10 | 3rd A.I.Bde. | 22 | 8th A.L.T.M.Bty. |
| 11 | 2nd Aust. Div | 23 | X.2.a. T.M.Bty. |
| 12 | Staff Captain | 24 | 'P' Group Art. |
| 13 | Capt. CHRISTIE | 25 | 'Q' " " " |
| | | 26 | 'M' " " " |
| | | 27/30 | Spares. |

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

SECRET.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No. 2

OPERATION ORDER No. 102

Brigade Headquarters,
7th May, 1917.

Reference: Sheet 57c

ALBERT Combined Sheet } $\frac{1}{40,000}$

- War Diary*
Cancelled by wire
1. Fifth Aust. Inf. Bde. will move by march route to OVILLERS on the morning of 8th May, 1917.
2. (a) Starting Point - H.19.d.1.4.
(b) Route - BIEFVILLERS - AVESNES - BAPAUME Road thence along main BAPAUME ROAD to X.9.c.7.8. then to OVILLERS.
(c) Order of March -
- | | A.M. |
|--------------------------------|------|
| 17th Bn to pass Starting Point | 4.00 |
| 18th Bn | 4.10 |
| 19th Bn | 4.20 |
| 5th A.I.Bde.H.Q. | 4.30 |
| 5th A.M.G.Coy. | 4.40 |
| 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. | 4.50 |
| 20th Bn. | 5.00 |
- Cookers will move with units.
- (d) All Transport will be brigaded under Capt. McNABB, Bde. Transport Officer, and will move via the MONUMENT (H.15.c.), head of column to pass that point at 5 a.m.
3. Billeting Parties of 1 Officer & 4 o.r. per Bn. and 1 representative each from M.G.Coy. and T.M.Bty., will report mounted to Staff Captain at Bde. H.Q. at 4.30 a.m. 8th inst.
4. (a) Mobile Echelon will be dumped under arrangements which will be notified by Staff Captain.
(b) Blankets and waterproof sheets will be carried on transport, not on the man.
5. Completion of moves to be notified to Bde. H.Q. by wire.
6. Bde. H.Q. will close at BIEFVILLERS at 4.30 a.m. and re-open at OVILLERS at 6 a.m. 8th instant. Reports in the interim to centre of column.
7. A C K N O W L E D G E.

A.J. Boase

Issued at 2 pm

Major,
Brigade-Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.Distribution

Copy 1	File	10	5th A.L.T.M.Bty
2/3	War Diary	11	2nd Aust. Div.
4	G.O.C.	12	A.D.M.S.
5	17th Bn	13	Sig. Officer
6	18th Bn	14	Staff Captain
7	19th Bn	15	15th Coy. A.A.S.C.
8	20th Bn	16/20	Spares
9	5th A.M.G.Coy.		

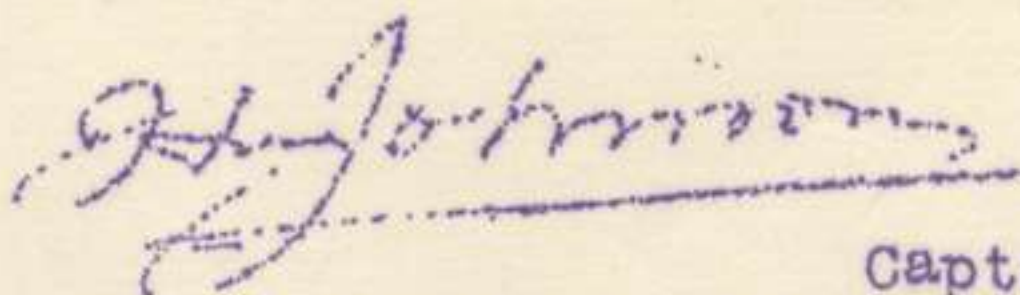
10

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
7th May, 1917.

Administrative Memorandum No. 12

1. Supplies: Supplies for 9th inst. will be filled into Train Supply Wagons on 7th inst. and will be delivered to units in their Lines at OVILLERS on afternoon of 8th May.
Supply Wagons will then report back to their Company Lines. Further supply arrangements will be notified later.
2. Transport: One motor lorry per Battalion will report to units on morning of 8th inst. at a time to be notified later, to carry surplus gear.
All gear transported by lorry will be dumped at FRICOURT on 8th inst. and will be sent on from there to final destination on 9th inst. together with stores, etc., already dumped there.
Two baggage wagons per bn. will report to Bn. Lines at 4 p.m. 7th instant.
3. Mobile Echelon: Mobile Echelon will be dumped this afternoon at the Div. Bomb Dump (H.11.d.4.7.) Statement of quantities so handed over will be forwarded to Bde. H.Q. by 6 p.m. 8th instant. Units will retain S.A.A. and grenades required by them for practice purposes.
The transport made available by doing this will be utilised for the transport of men's blankets and waterproof sheets.
4. Soyers Stoves: These will be returned to D.A.D.O.S. to-day.
5. Surplus Underclothing.: All surplus underclothing will be returned to Baths at FAVREUIL and receipts obtained.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE



Captain,
Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

War Diary

Appendix No. 11

5/52

SECRET,

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Report showing Dispositions as at 8 a.m. 11th May, 1917.

<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Map Reference.</u>
Brigade H.Q.	CRUCIFIX CAMP	X.28.a.4.5.
17th Bn.	" "A"	X.28.a.2.0.
18th Bn.	" "B"	X.28.a.2.5.
19th Bn.	" "C"	X.28.a.2.7.
^{20th Bn} 5th Aust. M.G. Coy.	Pioneer Camp Headquarters at Details Camp.	X.23.a.2.7 X.28.c.8.6.
	1 Section on duty ALBERT defences	
	1 Detachment (1 Gun) MEAULTE RAILHEAD.	
	1 " (1 Gun) VIVIER MILL Railway.	
5th Aust. L.T.M. Bty	Headquarters at DETAILS CAMP. Battery at DETAILS CAMP.	X.28.c.5.9.

Johns Cap

Brigadier-General,
Commanding 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Went to wing

(12)

SECRET.

Copy No. 2...

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

OPERATION ORDER No. 103

Brigade Headquarters,
16th May, 1917.

Reference: Map LENS 11, 1/100,000.
ALBERT Combined 1/40,000

1. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move to the SENLIS Area on the 17th and 18th inst. in accordance with attached March Table.
2. The following intervals will be maintained on the road:-

200 yards between Battalions
 200 yards between Transport of Units, and other Troops.
 100 yards between Companies,

3. Baggage Wagons will report to Units at 6 pm 16th inst. Units will move with empty S.A.A. and Grenade Limbers; these will be filled in the SENLIS area under arrangements which will be notified later. The empty S.A.A. and Grenade Limbers will be utilised for general transport purposes. Blankets are not to be carried on the man. Motor Transport will report as follows :-

		Destination
5 Lorries	17th inst. CRUCIFIX CAMP	SENLIS.
3 Lorries	18th inst. SENLIS	RUBEMPRE
2 Lorries	18th inst. SENLIS	CONTAY.

Units will detail a N.C.O. to meet the lorries at Brigade H.Q. on 17th instant at 7 am and on 18th instant at Noon.

4. Usual billeting parties - mounted - will report to Staff Captain at Bde. H.Q. at 8 a.m. on 17th and 18th inst.

5. Supply arrangements:

Date	Railhead	Draw from R*head by	Refill- ing Pt.	Remarks.
16th	ALBERT	Train Wagons	-	15th AASC remain full and moves full next day.
17th	ALBERT	5th Bde Supply Wagons	SENLIS	-
18th	ALBERT	Supply Column	CONTAY	15th AASC deliver to units at RUBEMPRE & CONTAY return to CONTAY, refill & stand full.
19th	ALBERT	do.	CONTAY	- as on 18th.

6. Ordnance will remain at ALBERT, but Ordnance Stores will be delivered to and indents collected from 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. at WARLOY daily.

7. Sanitation -

Units will ensure that all Camps are left clear that no kit or food is left about, and that any salvage is left collected in a proper dump. All camps will be inspected by an Officer after the Unit moves out and a party sent back if necessary, to complete the cleaning-up. This Officer will hand the Camp over to the Area Commandant or his representative and receipt from him, stating the condition of the camp when handed over.

obtain

Copy of receipt to be forwarded to this Office by 9 pm 17th instant.

Particular attention will be paid to Sanitation in the new area. Steps will be at once taken to see that latrines and incinerators are either in proper order or put in proper order without delay. All manure from horse lines will be burned. Each Unit will thoroughly clean up its billets and the streets, etc. in their neighbourhood, daily.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Captain,
Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued atc 1 pm

Distribution:

- Copy No. 1 File
- 2/3 War Diary
- 4 G.O.C.
- 5 17 Bn
- 6 18 Bn
- 7 19 Bn
- 8 20 Bn
- 9 5 A.M.G. Coy.
- 10 5 A.L.T.M. Bty.
- 11 2nd Aust. Div.
- 12 15th Coy. A.A.S.C.
- 13 A.D.M.S.
- 14 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
- 15 Bde. Transport Officer
- 16 Bde. Q.M.
- 17 Staff Captain
- 18 Area Commandant "J" Area
- 19/20 Spares.

MARCH TABLE - TO ACCOMPANY BDE OPERATION ORDER No. 103

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Appendix No.

Date	Unit	From	To	Route	Starting Point	To Pass S.P. at
17th May	17th Bn *	CRUCIFIX	SENLIS	BECOURT - LA BOISSELLE AVELUY - BOUZINCOURT	X.19.b.05.95.	9.15 a.m.
"	18th Bn	"	"	do.	do	9.30 a.m.
"	19th Bn	"	"	do.	do.	9.45 a.m.
"	20th Bn	PIONEER CAMP	"	CONTALMAISON - LA BOISSELLE AVELUY - BOUZINCOURT.	do.	10. a.m.
"	Bde.H.Q. 5th A.MG.Coy. 5th A.L.T.M.Bty.	CRUCIFIX	"	BECOURT - LA BOISSELLE AVELUY - BOUZINCOURT.	do.	10.15 a.m.
18th May	17th Bn	SENLIS	RUBEMPRE	WARLOY - VADENCOURT - HERISSART.	V.16.a.8.7.	10 a.m.
"	20th Bn	"	"	"	do	10.15 a.m.
"	19th Bn	"	CONTAY	WARLOY - VADENCOURT	do	10.30 a.m.
"	19th Bn	"	"	"	do	10.45 a.m.
"	{ 5th A.M.G.Coy.	"	"	"	do	11. a.m.
"	{ 5th A.L.T.M.Bty.	"	"	"	do	
"	{ 5th Bde. H.Q.	"	RUBEMPRE	WARLOY - VADENCOURT - HERISSART.	do.	

NOTES: * Head of Column on 17th inst. to cross River ANCRE at 10 a.m.

Transport on 17th inst will be Brigaded under Captain McNABB and move via CONTALMAISON -
LA BOISSELLE - AVELUY, passing X.19.b.05.95. at 10.30 a.m.
On 18th inst. Transport will move with Units.
On 18th inst. Units will reconnoitre routes to SENLIS.

Appendix No. 12

37

CASUALTIES

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Evacuated</u>	<u>Total</u>
1/31-5-17	91	808	540	191	1630

Appendix No 13