

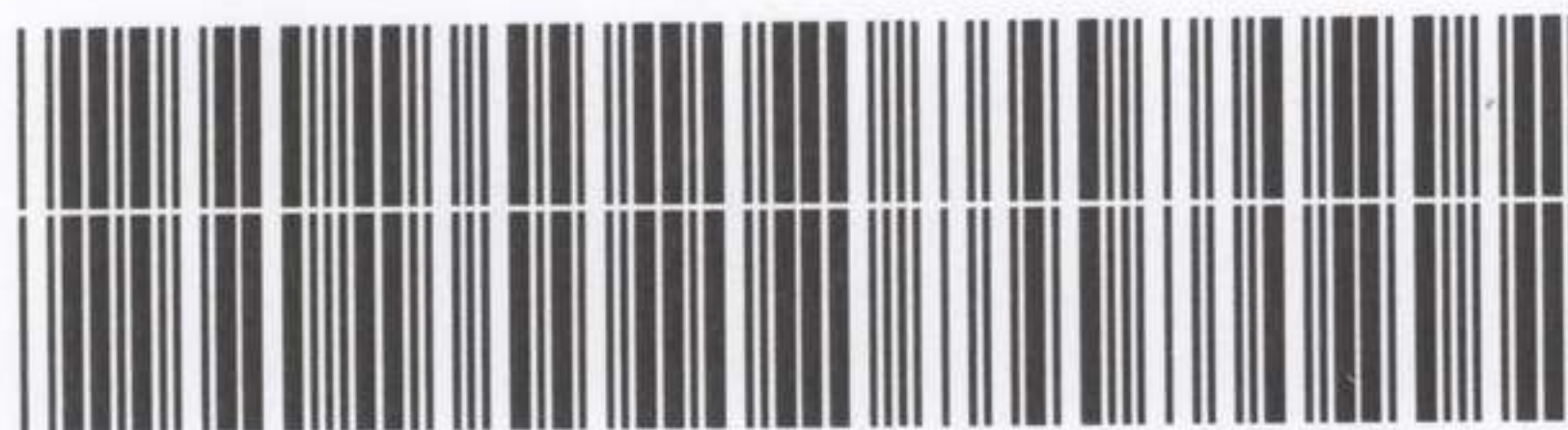
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/5/25

Title: 5th Infantry Brigade

July 1917



AWM4-23/5/25

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

5th A. I. Bde

Page I

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 1st		<p>Showery day. Church parades. Nothing of importance.</p> <p>2nd Fine, bright day. 17th Bⁿ completed field firing. Results fair. At 3pm demonstration, under Divl arrangements of platoon in attack in open warfare, illustrating use of Scouts, role of various arms, and covering fire. Lt. Generals BIRDWOOD and WOOLCOMBE (IVth Corps Cmr), GOC 48th Div and 2nd Aust. Div. present. Afterwards demonstration of methods of firing Lewis gun whilst advancing, with one man and with two men respectively operating the gun.</p> <p>3rd GOC. & B.M. watched 20th Bⁿ at field firing. In afternoon a memorial service in honour + respect of the late Major-Gen HOLMES (GOC. 4th Aust. Div) was held and the GOC and Staff of 2nd Aust. Div attended.</p> <p>4th GOC inspected sanitary arrangements for M area. Slight rain in morning. Fine bright afternoon. GOC. & B.M. attended 5th Aust. Div. assault at arms at HENENCOURT. 20th Bⁿ completed field-firing.</p> <p>Field firing commenced by 19th Bⁿ. B.M. met Col JERVIS IVth Corps on range. In afternoon GOC, B.M. & Bdeing Officer & Unit commanders</p>	

2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D. D. & L. A.D.S.S. Forms/C. 2118.

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5th A.I. Bde

Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 5 th		renewed - worked at VILLERS AU-FLOR and reconnoitred ground over which Bde is to work in Div. Scheme.	
	6 th		Major visited Field Firing Range. Collective Training continued Fine day.	
	7 th		Major & B.M. visited Corps School with Col. BRIDGES to witness demonstration of platoon training arranged by Commandant 4 Officers per Bn. also visited school for same purpose. The demonstration was excellent and the Commandant was asked if a similar demonstration could be arranged again at an early date to enable Coy. & Coy. Commanders to witness it. Fine, bright day.	
Ag Boase Major	8 th 9 th		Sunday. Church parades cancelled owing to heavy rain. Divisional Scheme. Practice in passing through a captured line into semi-open warfare and dealing with isolated strong points, counter attacks etc. and finally consolidating gains. Exercise fairly satisfactory except as regards maintaining communications.	I.O. 1 X V

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5th A.I. Bde Page 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July		<p>10th Fine day. Platoon Field Firing Competition - not completed. GOC BM + Lt. Col MARTIN, CO 17th Bn reconnoitred ground for Brigade Exercise. Suitable ground between MALT TRYZOUPART WOOD. Col. Martin to command 17th, 19th + 20th Bns, 5th A.M.G. Co. and 5th A.L.T.M.B. in attack on position held by 18th Bn and $\frac{1}{2}$ 22nd A.M.S. Co.</p> <p>11th Fine day. Platoon field firing competition concluded. Results 17th Bn 163 points, 18th Bn 153, 20th Bn 150, 19th Bn 130. Bn + Lt. Col Martin with COs 17th, 19th + 20th Bns, GOC 5th A.M.S. Co. + 5th A.L.T.M.B. reconnoitre position for Bde Exercise after Col. Martin had put forward his plan. Conference of GOC's Bdes, B.M's CO 2nd Pioneer Bn, C.P.B., ADMS, and others at Div H.Q. to hear criticisms of Chief Umpire and General Smyth on Div Exercise of 9th inst. also to discuss difficulties which occurred. nothing of importance. Fine and warm.</p> <p>12th Training. Brigade Scheme. Attack from MALTTR on GREVILLERS system and then through LOUPART WOOD. 17th, 19th + 20th Bns, 5th A.L.T.M.B. and $\frac{1}{2}$ 5th A.M.S. Co attacking force; 18th Bn + $\frac{1}{2}$ 5th A.M.S. Co. in defence. Lt. Col MARTIN DSO.</p>	<p>App 2</p> <p>App 4</p>

A. J. Boase
Major

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5th A.I. Bde

Page 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 13 th		<p>commanded attack and Lt Col MURPHY D.S.O. the defence. Exercise fairly well carried out, but lack of covering fire noticeable in advance and officers & NCOs exposed themselves too much; Scouts fairly good but in some cases failed to send back information; Defence failed in retiring - no covering parties left behind and finally on reaching the rear edge of the wood they attempted to hold the edge instead of taking up a position clear of wood to catch the attack debouching from the wood somewhat disorganised, with the result that the attacking force got to within about 10 yards of the defenders under cover of the thick undergrowth before they were discovered. Decision in favour of attack.</p> <p>Weather fine and warm. Conference of Bnlt & Coy Comdrs in evening to discuss exercise. G.S.O. also passed on remarks of Lt Col Muskety instructor who was visiting the division and laid down the policy of "more actual practice" and not so much banack square elementary musketry instruction owing to limited time for training.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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5th A.I. Bde.

Page 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 14 th		<p>Isoc. proceeded on leave to England. Lt. Col. MARTIN DSO 17th Bn assumed command of Brigade. Weather fine and warm during day with light rain in evening. All Bn Commanders and 26 other officers proceeded to Corps School to witness latest methods in platoon training.</p> <p>Nothing of importance.</p>	
	15 th 16 th		<p>Church Parades. Nothing of importance. Fine and warm.</p> <p>Training. Divl Commander rang up to say that for the Divl Exercise on Monday next 5th A.I. Bde would be in reserve near BEAULENCOURT and would probably end up by carrying out an attack 'leap-frog' fashion through 6th or 7th A.I. Bdes. Advantage to be taken to practice ammunition supply.</p> <p>Conference of Battalion Commanders and Bomb officers to discuss laying down a system as a guide for an organised bomb attack on a large scale. Scheme put forward by Bde Major accepted by Bn Commander as basis of training. Awaits approval of Isoc. on his return from leave.</p>	

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5th A. I. Bde Page 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 17.		Heavy rain all day. 19 th and 20 th B ⁿ schemes cancelled. Training carried on as weather permitted.	
	18 th		Rain in morning but clearer in afternoon. 18 th B ⁿ carried out attack Scheme in vicinity of FAVREUIL. Other B ⁿ s collective and individual training. 20 th B ⁿ practised organised bombing attack with special attention to systematic reliefs, constant supply of ammunition by means of a chain of men along the trench, and co-operation of arms, and construction of blocks.	app 5
	19 th		Slight showers. 20 th B ⁿ carried out organised bombing attack practice in TILL TR east of THALLOY with live ammunition, 2 mortars of 5 th A. I. TMB Co-operating. Div. Commander and "G" Staff of Div. present. Chief faults: Tendency for men to bunch up close in support of the attack, Lewis guns and Rifle grenadier sections failed to make full use of ground and co-operate from the flanks, platoon commanders failed to control their platoons sufficiently strongly.	app 6
	20 th		Fine day. Bde Tactical exercise in evening. Practice in turning out on alarm, moving to position of assembly and then deploying for attack. Exercise generally successful. Slowest B ⁿ took 25 minutes to turn out. Very little noise except equipment rattling.	app 7

A. J. Boase
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WAR DIARY
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

5th A. I. Bde Page 7⁸⁵

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 21 st		Sure day. Morning parades cancelled owing previous night's exercise. Nothing of importance.	
	22 nd		Sunday. Church parades. At 7.30 p.m. Bde began to move out to position of assembly north west of RIENCOURT. Ces-BAPAUME in readiness for Div. Exercise. Battalions formed up on jumping off line (Training Order No. 4) at 3 a.m. and at 3.30 began advance on BANCOURT and the BANCOURT - VILLERS-BAVILLERS HAPLINCOURT line. 18 th + 19 th B ⁿ attacked BANCOURT "leaps frog" fashion whilst 17 th B ⁿ attacked on right. Exercise carried out very well except that units were slow in pushing out patrols on gaining objective, kept a little too far in rear of barrage, and pushed Vickers guns forward too recklessly. Communications were not all that could be desired, as 'Fullerphones' only were in use & the Div line became congested. Exercise finished about 7.15 a.m. Conference of Brigadiers P.M.'s, C.R.E., ADMS & O/C Sig Coy held at D.H.Q. at 5 p.m. to discuss exercise. Above were main faults noted. It was decided that numerous success signals should in future be fired from points which were held in objective previous to attack commencing. More use to be made of runners.	App 8. H 9 App 10

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WAR DIARY

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5th A.I.B. de Page 8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 24 th		<p>6 am 5th A.I. T.M.B. were asked to give demonstration of Stokes mortars supporting bombing attack along trench using indirect fire. Demonstration spoilt by faulty ammunition.</p> <p>11 am B.M. attended lecture and demonstration of method of maintaining forward inter-communication in battle (as in S.S. 148). To carry out method shown it was estimated that an extra officer and about 30 more signallers would be required. Also the A.D. Signals stated "2 Bⁿ Intelligence Officers should be at Advanced Report Centre".... and one Bⁿ I.O. "should be detailed to do nothing else but encode and decode messages to be sent on power buzzer", which leaves one battalion intelligence officer available for duty with his battalion. A.D. Signals also mentioned Bⁿ "Observation and Scout Officers". At present the duties of Intelligence Officer cover "Intelligence", "Scouting", "Observation" and in most battalions Intelligence officers are also Lewis Gun Officers owing to shortage of officers.</p>	

AG Boase
Major

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Page 9 85

5th A.I. Bde

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIEFVILLERS	1917 July 25 th		Heavy rain in morning and evening. Lecture on 'Courts-martials' by Capt. JOHNSON Corps Expert, & Senior Officers. Capt. SMITH Army Gymnastic Staff inspected 20 B ⁿ NCOs class working under Army Gym. Staff - Sgt Instructor. Staff Capt. left at 7pm. to go north to RENESCAURE area to make bulleting arrangements for Bde.	
	26 th		Advanced parties of Bde Group units left. 2 nd Aust. Div. Order NO. 134 received. All B ⁿ Transport Officers, Mls. Co. Transport Officer, reconnoitred route to BEAUCOURT with Bde Entraining Officer. Decided best route for transport was through BEAUCOURT. ACHMET-LE-GRAND and ACHMET-LE-PETIT. Admin. istrative Memo and Bde Order NO. 105 issued. Weather fine. Fine day. Div. Admin Memo NO. 107 giving entrainment table etc. received during morning. Bde Admin memo NO. 16 issued.	
ARQUES	28 th		Bde H.Q. moved in 1 st Train from BEAUCOURT at 9.7am. G.O.C. arrived back from leave in England at 2am. and proceeded with Bde H.Q. Arrived ST. OMER about 7pm. and marched to ARQUES. Remainder of Bde Group came up in 7 other trains at intervals of about 4 hours. Move completed about 1am. 30 th inst. Entrainment carried out well and Station cleared of transport rapidly.	App 11 App 12 App 13 " 14

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5th A.T. Bde.

Page 10

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARQUES	1917 JULY 29 th		<p>as each train unloaded.</p> <p>Dispositions of Bde Group - Bde H.Q., 19th & 20th Bns in ARQUES, 5th Aust. M.B. Co and 5th A.T.T.M.B. in HAUTE ARQUES. 17th and 18th Bns in tented camps north west outskirts of ARQUES.</p> <p>Div. Commander called in afternoon about 5.30 p.m., accompanied by Lt. Col. Genl. SMYTH told the Brigadier it was intended to send Brigades in turn to 2nd Army Training Area in vicinity of ACQUIN and LUMBRES. 5th Bde would route march to the area on 31st July and commence training 1st August.</p> <p>Lt. KAEPPPEL 18th Bn attached Bde H.Q. for instruction in duties of Staff-Capt. Sligh Fine day</p> <p>G.O.C., B.M. and Lt. KAEPPPEL proceeded by car to reconnoitre new area</p> <p>Brigade order No 106 issued for move of Complete group by march route on 31st July. Conference of O/C Units in evening to discuss proposed programme of training. Dull, misty day with showers.</p> <p>Brigade group complete moved to billeting area in vicinity of BUVELINGHEM, where Bde H.Q. were established. Conference of unit commanders assembled at 6 p.m. to discuss first scheme for 1st August. Dull misty day. Heavy rain throughout night</p> <p>Brigade scheme postponed owing inclement weather. Conference of unit commanders</p>	
BUVELINGHEM	31 st			

AP Board
Majors

August
1st

App 15

App 16
17

85

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
-----C A S U A L T I E SFrom 1st July to 31st July 1917.

<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Evacuated</u>
-	5*	-	308
	<u>TOTAL</u>	...	313.

*Accidentally

85

TRAINING ORDER No. 1

Brigade Headquarters,
7th July 1917.

Reference (Sketch attached
(Sheets 87.c.N.W. and S.W. 1/20,000

1. (a) The 50th Corps have attacked and captured that portion of the MONUMENT WOOD - BANCOURT - VILLERS - AU-FLOS line shewn in red in attached sketch.

(b) The enemy is in a disorganised condition.

2. 2nd Aust. Div. has been detailed to push through on the BANCOURT - VILLERS-AU-FLOS line (both inclusive) to exploit the success, finally securing the line THILLOY - ridge in N.15.c. & d. (both inclusive).

3. (a) The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will attack on the left, while the 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. attack on the right of 2nd Aust. Div. The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be in Div. Reserve.

(b) The 201st Brigade will be attacking on our left flank at the same time.

4. Attack will take place on 8th instant. ZERO hour will be notified later.

5. (a) Boundaries for attack :-

5th Bde. Right Boundary:

O.1.central - along southern edge of RIENCOURT - LEZ-BAPAUME (exclusive) - Road junction at N.9.d.7.3. to trees at N.9.c.2.3.

Inter-Battalion Boundary:

O.7.a.8.7. - N.11.d.5.0. - N.16.c.0.0. to N.14.c.75.00.

5th Bde. Left Boundary:

VILLERS-AU-FLOS - BEAULENCOURT - BEAULENCOURT - GUEUDECOURT Road - to N.21.b.6.0. (all inclusive).

(b) A jumping off trench has been dug along road in O.1.c. to junction with red line north of VILLERS - AU - FLOS, thence along red line to Brigade left boundary.

17th and 18th Battalions will be in position 20 minutes before ZERO. 20th and 19th Battalions will occupy trench line through O.2.a. and c. and O.8.b. and d.

(c) All Battalions will advance at ZERO, the 19th and 20th Battalions halting in the jumping off line west of VILLERS-AU-FLOS until the 18th Bn (less two companies) and 17th Battalions have captured O.G.1. and O.G.2.

6. (a) There are three stages in the attack - remainder of the

(i) Capture and consolidation of the RIENCOURT - VILLERS - AU-FLOS system (including Bunker road in N.18.d.)

(ii) Capture and consolidation of BEAULENCOURT and the line of the BAPAUME - BEAULENCOURT Road.

(iii) Capture of system in N.16., after which troops will be pushed on to make good the ridge in N.15.c. and d. and N.21.b. (This will include the capture and consolidation of the line STORMY and BACON TRENCHES.

(b) With regard to the above.-

(i) The 20th and 17th Bns will carry out the 1st stage, attacking respectively in the right and left battalion sectors.

(ii) The 18th (less 2 Coys detailed as enemy) and 19th Bn (respectively right and left Bns) will complete the 2nd stage.

- 2 -

6. (b) (contd)
(iii) The 20th and 17th Bns (right and left Bns respectively) will complete the 3rd stage.

7. ACTION: ZERO - 20th and 17th Bns. attack and capture O.G.1. and O.G.2. of RIENCOURT - VILLERS-AU-FLOS line.

18th and 19th Bns then move through and capture and consolidate BEAULENCOURT and the BAPAUME - BEAULENCOURT Road.

19th Battalion sends out strong patrols to test the line in N.16. 20th and 17th Bns having reorganised move forward in Artillery Formation and halt just east of the BAPAUME - BEAULENCOURT Road until the situation is clear.

20th and 17th Bns. then advance and capture trench system in N.16., and under cover of strong patrols push forward and make good the ridge in N.15.c. and d. and N.21.b.

N.B. Each Battalion on gaining its objective will immediately reorganise and hold itself in readiness to act as a reserve and move forward to further the attack.

8. MACHINE GUNS. To assist the advance the O.C. 5th Aust. M.G. Coy. will attack Vickers Guns to Battalions as follows :-

18th and 19th Battalions 4 guns each.

17th and 20th Battalions 2 guns each.

These guns will report to Battalions 2 hours before ZERO and a representative will be sent to each battalion on the day previous to attack, to receive instructions from the battalion commander, under whose orders he will be.

The 4 remaining guns will be held in reserve at Brigade Headquarters.

9. STRONG POINTS.

(i) On capture of BEAULENCOURT, C.O. 19th Bn will immediately arrange to put in a state of defence, and will arrange for strong points in vicinity of N.17.a.7.9. and N.17.c.7.6. 1 Officer and a section of the 5th Field Coy. A.E., will be attached to 19th Battalion and follow the advance. 200 shovels and 100 picks will be made available at N.18.a.2.0.

(ii) On completion of 3rd stage strong points will be put in in vicinity of N.9.d.8.0., N.15.b.7.5., N.16.c.4.9., N.16.c.8.2. Tools for this will be available at N.18.a.2.0. The 18th Bn. will detail a party of not less than 100 other ranks with a proportion of officers for this work, and they will report to N.18.a.2.0. and collect tools as soon as the final objective has been gained.

10. 5th A.L.T.M. Battery will be held as a mobile reserve at Brigade Headquarters, at the call of battalions to deal with hostile strong points.

11. Battalions will adopt the normal formations and distances for the attack on trench systems on a 2 Coy. front. Mopping-up parties are to be detailed, but no men are to go down dugouts in existing trench systems.

12. Touch will be maintained on the flanks by means of patrols, and battalions on the flanks of brigade will maintain touch with the neighbouring brigades in the same way.

13. Signal instructions have been issued separately.

14. (a) Dumps will be established at O.2.b.0.8. and O.7.d.2.3.

(b) On capture of BEAULENCOURT a forward dump will be established at N.18.a.2.0.

(c) Carrying parties are being supplied by the X Bn.

- 3 -

15. SUCCESS SIGNALS.

1st Stage - O.G.2. - 2 Red Very Lights in quick succession.
 2nd Stage - Alternate red and white Very Lights.
 3rd Stage - Pairs of reds and whites alternately.

16. LIAISON. Lieut. HENDERSON Liaison Officer, with 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Major P. Liaison Officer with 201st Brigade.
 Battalions will arrange mutually for Liaison.

17. Dress: Fighting Order - with Felt Hats. No ball ammunition to be carried.

18. Advanced Dressing Station at O.2.a.6.9.

19. Brigade Headquarters will be at O.8.c.central, moving later to Church, BEAULENCOURT, when 2nd stage is completed.

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

A. J. Boase

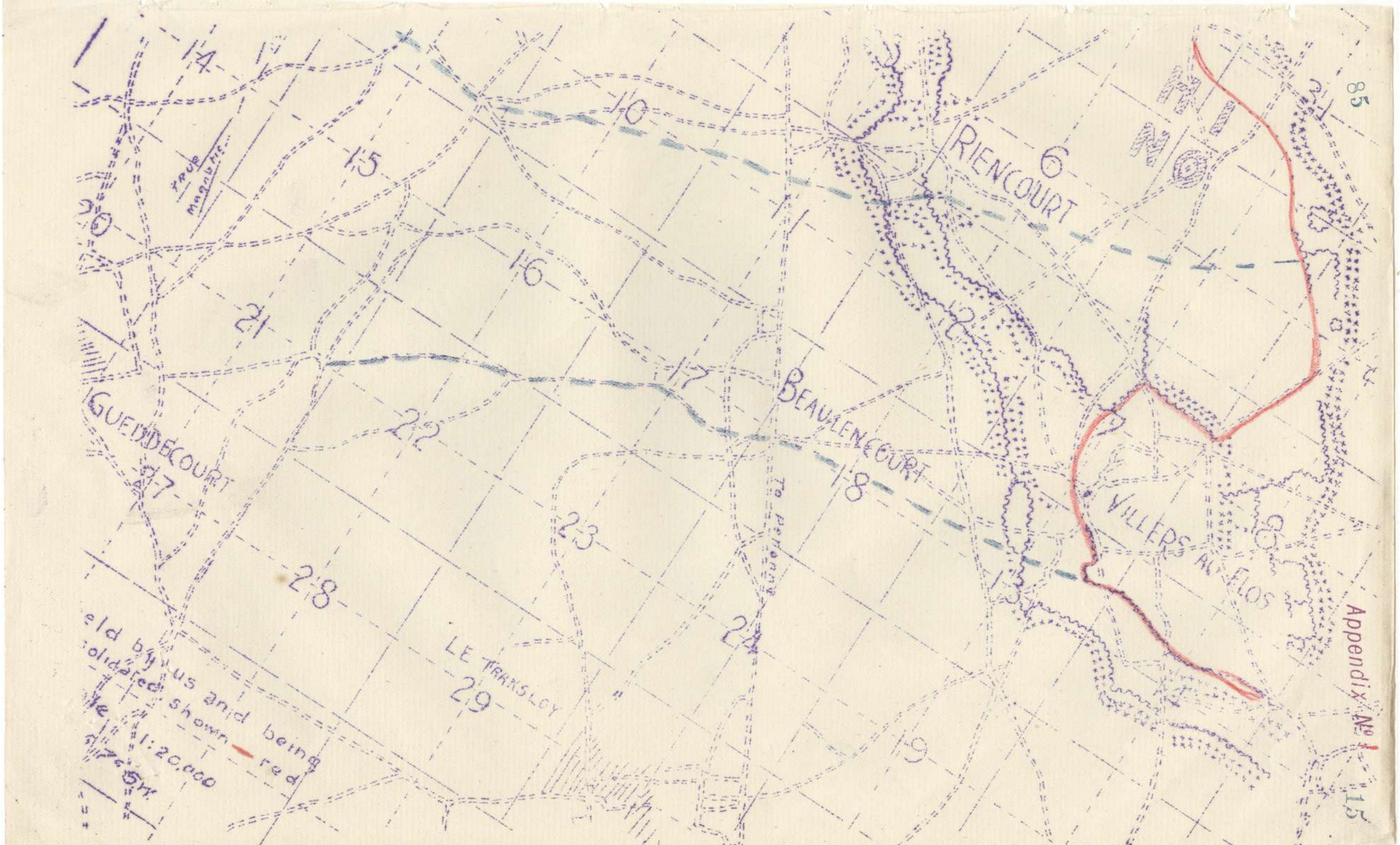
Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 8.45 a.m.

Distribution.

Copy No. 1	File
2/3	War Diary
4	G.O.C.
5	Staff Captain
6	17th Bn
7	18th Bn
8	19th Bn
9	20th Bn
10	5th A.M.G. Coy.
11	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
12	2nd Aust. Division.
13	6th A.I. Bde.
14	Chief Umpire (Brig.-Gen GELLIBRAND)
15	5th Field Coy. A.E.
16/21	Spares.



Appendix No 1

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Copy No. 3

TRAINING ORDER No. 2

2

Brigade Headquarters,
8th July 1917.

Reference : Sheet 57.c. 1/40,000

1. The 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade will assemble in vicinity Cross Roads at O.2.b.O.8. on 9th instant previous to carrying out the exercise ordered in Training Order No. 1.

2.(1) Starting Point: SUGAR FACTORY, BAPAUME (H.27.a.9.1.)

Order of March:

17th Bn & 5th A.L.T.M.Bty.	to pass starting Point	6 a.m.
19th Bn & 5th A.M.G.Coy.	" "	6.10 a.m.
18th Bn	" "	6.20 a.m.
20th Bn	" "	6.30 a.m.

(ii) Route Sugar Factory BAPAUME - to H.34.c.2.7. thence along road through H.34.c. and d., H.35.c. and d. south of BANCOURT thence along BANCOURT - HAPLINCOURT Road to position of assembly.

(iii) 20th Bn to clear BANCOURT by 8.30 a.m.

3. On arrival at position of assembly units will halt at the following positions and issue tea to all ranks from cookers.

17th Bn and A.M.G.Coy. along HAPLINCOURT Road from O.2.b.O.8.

19th Bn and 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. on road from I.32.d.1.3. north towards BEUGNY.

18th Bn. on road from I.32.d.1.3. northward towards PREMIECOURT.

20th Bn. on BANCOURT - HAPLINCOURT Road north-west of O.2.b.O.8.

4. (a) All ranks will carry the unconsumed portion of the days rations and cookers will accompany the battalions to provide tea at the position of assembly. All ranks will breakfast before starting on the march.

(b) The mobile Echelon of S.A.A. and Grenades will not be taken.

5. The 2 Coys. of 18th Bn detailed to represent the enemy will move under the orders of C.O. 2nd Pioneer Battalion and will wear steel helmets.

6. (a) Equipment will be inspected before leaving Camp and unit Commanders will render a certificate to Brigade H.Q. by 9.30 a.m. that their men are not in possession of any ball ammunition. (Ball ammunition will be left in tents).

(b) For the exercise the entrenching tool will be carried in front as per attached diagram, and battalion commanders will after the exercise render a report on this method of carrying the entrenching tool to Brigade Headquarters by noon 10th instant.

7.(a) 17th and 20th Battalion will each detail a party of 1 N.C.O. and 5 o.r. to report to Brigade Signal Officer 1 hour before ZERO at Brigade Headquarters O.8.c.central.

(b) With regard to Signal Instructions previously issued, Wireless and Power Buzzer Amplifier Sets will be erected and will move according to situation. Messages handed to them in cypher will be accepted, but will be transmitted by some other method.

- 2 -

8. On arrival at place of assembly the O.C. 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. will detail a representative to report to each Battalion H.Q. to keep in touch with the situation and to meet and conduct any T.M's. up that may be required.

9. Blank ammunition may be used sparingly.

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

A.J. Boase

Major,

Issued at 1.30 p.m.

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution.

Copy No.	1	File
	2/8	War Diary
	4.	G.O.C.
	5.	Staff Captain
	6.	17th Bn
	7	18th Bn
	8.	19th Bn
	9	20th Bn
	10	5th A.M.G. Coy.
	11	5th A.L.T.M.Bty.
	12	2nd Aust. Division.
	13	5th A.I.Bde.
	14	7th A.I.Bde.
	15	Chief Umpire (Brig.-Gen. GELLIBRAND)
	16	5th Field Coy. A.E.
	17	Lieut. LUCAS
	18/22	Spares.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,
10th July 1917.

Headquarters,
2nd Aust. Division.

Report on 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. part in Divisional
Exercise on 9th July 1917.

Reference Sheet 57.c. S.W., 1/20,000

1. Battalions assembled in accordance with Training Order No. 2 in the vicinity of O.2.b.O.8. and at 9.15 a.m. units began to move forward to their respective jumping off lines in artillery formation.

2. All units reported that they were in position at 9.45 a.m. and dispositions were as follows :-

Bde. H.Q. O.S.c. central

20 13th Bn &
2 Vickers M.Gs. On the line of sep in O.1.c. and O.7.a. north of VILLERS-AU-FLOS.

17th Bn &
2 Vickers M.Gs. along "red line" through VILLERS-AU-FLOS.

18th Bn & *on right* } On line O.2.a.O.8. to O.8.d.95.00.
4 Vickers M.Gs. }
19th Bn & *on left* }
4 Vickers M.Gs. }

5th A.L.T.M.Bty. (Mobile) }
5th Aust.M.G.Coy. (less 3 sections) } At Bde. H.Q.
5th Field Coy. A.E. }

3. At 10 a.m. 20th and 17th Bns (each on 2 Coy. frontage) attacked O.5.1. and O.5.2. of RIENCOURT - VILLERS-AU-FLOS - Line. At the same time one Coy. of 17th mopped up remainder of VILLERS-AU-FLOS. Opposition was comparatively light and the task was completed by 11 am. with few casualties, except in the case of "D" (left) Coy. 20th Bn., which suffered 10% casualties from M.G. fire from BEAULENCOURT direction. 17th Bn now pushed forward and cleared the Sunken Road in W.12.d. by Bomb fight.

The Vickers guns attached to 20th and 17th Bns covered these operations.

On capture of O.5.2. patrols were pushed forward and inflicted casualties on small parties of the enemy retiring on BEAULENCOURT.

The 18th and 19th Bns now moved through the 20th and 17th Bns respectively to attack the village of BEAULENCOURT and the line of the BEAULENCOURT - BAPAUME Road. Information was slow in getting back owing to faulty communications so 18th and 19th Bns moved forward in extended order from the jumping off line covered by strong patrols.

19th Bn moved forward from the Sunken Road in W.12.d. and O.13.a. in 4 waves with 2 Coys. astride the BEAULENCOURT - VILLERS-AU-FLOS Road with two in support in the same way.

Vickers guns accompanied 4th wave, 2 stokes mortars and 2 Vickers Guns being held in reserve at Battalion H.Q. at W.7.c.8.3.

Touch and direction were maintained well by the 18th and 19th Bns.

- 2 -

On reaching the line N.12.c.5.5. - N.12.a.0.0. patrols of 18th Bn came under heavy M.G. fire from BEAULENCOURT and lost 10% casualties.

The Coy. on the right flank therefore worked up valley in N.11.b. and N.12.a., while two Vickers and two Lewis Guns came into action from that flank and one Vickers and ⁴ Lewis Gun engaged the hostile guns in the eastern portion of BEAULENCOURT. These guns were knocked out and the 18th Bn. continued the advance to the line N.11.b. 033. - N.12.d.8.0. where they were again held up.

At 11.14 a.m. an enemy M.G. was located by 18th Bn about N.12.a.0.8. and Stokes Mortars were pushed forward to deal with it.

At 11.40 a.m. a success signal was observed at the north end of BEAULENCOURT and at 11.45 a.m. the enemy began to evacuate the southern end.

At 11.55 a.m. 2 Coys of 18th were mopping up the village while 4 patrols and 2 Lewis Guns were sent out to follow up the retreating enemy.

Consolidation was then begun by 2 Coys and 2 strong points respectively near N.17.a.7.9. and N.17.c.7.8. were begun under direction of 1 section 5th Field Coy. A.E.

2 reserve Vickers Guns were moved forward into positions to deal with any counter attack on the village. Meanwhile the left Coy. 18th Bn. had attacked and threatened to outflank an enemy strong point at N.11.d.5.0. which was also engaged by a Machine Gun from the right flank.

After 5 minutes fight the enemy began ~~to~~ to leave the north end of the village by road N.17.b.4.9. - N.17.a.7.8. - N.17.a.35.85. and the road was rushed at 11.48 a.m. Two Vickers and several Lewis Guns were pushed forward and these with the rifle fire of the troops in position on the west of the BAPAUME - BEAULENCOURT road inflicted very severe casualties on the enemy.

The 20th and 17th Bns then passed through the 18th and 19th Bns covered by 18th Bn patrols who reported that everything was clear for 1000 yards due west of BEAULENCOURT but that FIRE TRENCH (N.16.d.) was occupied by an apparently disorganised body.

At 12.30 p.m. 5th Field Coy, 5th Aust. M.G. Coy. (less sections attached to battalions) and 5th A.L.T.M. Bty. (less guns attached to 19th Bn) were ordered up to BEAULENCOURT.

20th Bn and 17th Bn still maintained 2 Coys each in front line but "C" Coy of 20th had absorbed "D" of that unit owing to latter's heavy casualties so that 20th had only one Coy in support. Touch was well maintained between these two battalions until 12.30 p.m. when it was lost owing to heavy casualties of right Coy. of 17th Bn. At the same time the left Coy. of 5th A.I. Bde. was wiped out and ~~the~~ a platoon from support Coy. of 20th Bn had to be thrown into the gap.

Enemy was retiring along whole of our front at 1 p.m. and at 1.45 p.m. word was received that trenches in N.16. had been captured and heavy losses inflicted on enemy. Headquarters 17th Bn had now moved to N.17.d.2.8. and N.G. 20th Bn to bank in N.11.d. At 2.40 p.m. a heavy enemy counter attack took 20th Bn in flank and recaptured trench in N.16.a.

At 3 p.m. two Coys 18th Bn were pushed up to reinforce 20th Bn and to assist in recapturing trenches. At the same time parties of the enemy in N.16.a. were observed massing for a flank attack on troops in N.16.c. and d. Two Vickers Guns at 1200 yards (from N.17.a.1.9.) and a platoon and 2 Lewis Guns of 18th Bn at 700 yards opened up a heavy fire taking the enemy in enfilade. (No umpires were present to see this).

At 3.25 p.m. 2 Stokes Mortars were sent forward at the urgent request of 20th Bn Coy. Commanders who stated that in spite of their heavy and much superior fire they could not put the enemy out of action.

The cease fire sounded shortly after this.

Brig'-General,
Commanding 5th A.I. Bde.

Bde. H.Q.
10/7/17

Copies to units for information.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

TRAINING ORDER No. 3

Copy. No. 3...

Brigade Headquarters,
12th July 1917.

REFERENCE - LE BARQUE, 1/20,000

1. (a) The enemy is holding the sector G.35.d.5.0. - G.34.c.2.6. with a force estimated at 1 battalion and 8 Vickers Machine Guns. A prisoner states that line is held with 2 Coys in the front line, 1 Coy. in Support and 1 Coy. in Reserve (LOUPART WOOD), but this is unconfirmed.

(b) 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. is holding the line MALT TRENCH - GAMP TRENCH.

2. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. (less 18th Bn) has been detailed to attack at 10 a.m. on Friday July, and pushing through LOUPART WOOD making good the high ground, and maintaining touch with the enemy by strong patrols. Outposts will be established on the line of the Sunken road through G.22.c. - G.28.b., and G.29.a. and b.

3. The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. is attacking on our right and the 6th A.I. Bde. on our left at the same time.

4. (a) Boundaries :-

Brigade Right Boundary - Straight Line M.5.b.3.0. - G.29.d.3.0.
" Left " " " M.4.a.2.0. - G.28.c.2.0.

Battalion Boundaries

Right Battalion (17th Bn) Between Bde. Right Boundary and line M.5.a.1.0. - G.29.c.1.0.
Centre " (19th Bn) " 17th Bn left boundary and line M.4.b.2.0. - G.28.d.2.0.
Left " (20th Bn) " 19th Bn left boundary and Bde. left boundary.

(b) Jumping off line - New trench approximately 200 yards in advance of the line of MALT TRENCH between M.5.d.0.8. and M.4.c.7.6.

(c) First objective - Trench system comprising FORT STEIN, GREVILLERS Line and LOUPART TRENCH, within the Brigade boundaries.
Second Objective - LOUPART WOOD, and the line of the road between GREVILLERS and G.29.c.0.0.

5. For the attack B.C. 5th Aust. M.G. Coy. and 5th A.L.T.M. Bty. will attack guns to battalions as follows :-

17th Bn	4 Vickers M.Gs.	2 Stokes Mortars
19th Bn	2 " "	2 " "
20th Bn	2 " "	2; " "

6. Units will be in position at 9.30 a.m. in their respective "jumping off" positions, and battalions will attack simultaneously on 2 Coy. frontages. The attack will be carried out "leap frog" fashion. Battalions will, in working out the details, pay attention to the following points:-

(a) The normal attack formation should be adhered to as closely as possible.

(b) Arrangements for Liaison and close co-operation with flanking units.

(c) Utilise the Vickers guns for covering fire to the utmost, - always from a flank if possible. Also see that Lewis Gunners take every opportunity to use oblique or enfilade fire on suitable targets, even when the target is not on ~~his~~ own units front.

* Each bay will carry out the principle of distribution in depth i.e. 1/2 Coy in the leading wave will cover the Coy frontage with 1/2 Coy in close support.

85

Para 6 (contd)

- 2 -

T.O. No. 3

(d) Arrange for the closest co-operation between Coy. Commanders and any Vickers guns or Stokes Mortars which may be under their orders.

(e) Arrange to keep touch on the flanks by means of patrols.

(f) Arrange for not less than half a Coy. to be left to garrison the first objective.

(g) Troops (except scouts) are not to leave the first objective until they have ascertained that units on their flanks have re-organised and are ready to push on.

(h) In case on non-success of brigades on flanks 17th and 20th Bns. will make provision in the shape of strong points suitably placed to form a defensive flank.

(i) Machine Guns. The role of the Vickers guns is to give covering fire up to the last moment from the flanks if possible. The O.C. 5th A.M.G. Coy. will select positions with this in view to give the maximum covering fire with the 8 remaining guns not attached to battalions, during the advance with the minimum of movement. On capture of first objective he will push forward sufficient guns into the 1st objective to arrange for its defence and cover the further advance on the second objective.

(j) Stokes Mortars. Stokes Mortars are to be used (a) for consolidation, (b) for dealing with strong points which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

The O.C. 5th A.L.T.M. Bty. will arrange for representatives to accompany battalions forward and keep in close touch with the situation in the front line, so that they can go back when the Mortars are required and act as guides to bring the Mortars up, besides reporting the exact situation.

(9) Ammunition Supply.

(i) Brigade Dumps of S.A.A. and Grenades are established at M.11.a.25.80. and M.10.b.2.5.

(ii) On capture of 1st objective advance Brigade Dumps will be commenced at M.4.b.3.9. and M.5.a.3.7.

On capture of 2nd objective pack animals supplied by Brigade Transport Officer will be used for ammunition supplies as far forward as Brigade Dumps.

10. Medical Arrangements.

(a) Advanced Dressing station will be at M.10.b.5.2.

(b) 5th Field Ambulance will arrange relay bearer squads for carrying wounded from R.A.P.'s. to advanced dressing station, whence they will be evacuated.

(c) Each battalion will detail (who will take charge of all battalion bearers) (one Officer) and 20 extra stretcher bearers, for collection of wounded in advance of R.A.P.'s.

(d) Positions of R.A.P.'s. are to be notified direct to 5th Field Ambulance and also any changes which are about to take place.

11. Carrying Parties Each battalion will detail the following carrying parties for ammunition :-

(a) 1 N.C.O. and 2 sections to work under Brigade Bomb Officer.

(b) 1 N.C.O. and 8 men per Vickers Gun or Stokes Mortar attached to the battalion.

12. Signal Arrangements - Brigade Signal Officer will issue instructions direct to Battalion Signal Officers to assist runners. Flags showing units colours will be used to mark H.Q. of Units.

- 3 -

T.O. No. 3

13. Dress. Fighting Order, unconsumed portion of the days ration, 270 rounds S.A.A. (170 rounds in equipment and 100 rounds in bandoliers), 2 Bombs per man.

(For the exercise NO ball ammunition will be carried but 5 rounds blank will be used.)

14. Brigade Headquarters will be at M.11.d.0.5., with a report centre at M.4.d.7.6. which will be connected by phone with Brigade Headquarters.

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

AJ Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution.

Copy No. 1	File
2/3	War Diary
4.	G.O.C.
5.	17th Bn
6	19th Bn
7	20th Bn
8	5th A.M.G. Coy.
9	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
10	Bde. Bomb Officer
11	Bde. Transport Officer
12	Bde. Signal Officer.
13/16	Spares.

MARCH TABLE TO ACCOMPANY TRAINING ORDER NO.3.

Units will assemble on 14th instant, according to the Table hereunder. -

Route. On the main BAPAUME - ALBERT Road, - to COUPE GUEULE - thence by road through M.11.b. and a, to WARLENCOURT.

Starting Point. - Road Junction at H.27.a.5.9.

Unit.	Time of passing Starting Point.	Remarks.
20th Bn.	6.45.a.m.	Assembles on Road between M.10.b.2.5. and M.10.a.3.6.
19th Bn. 5th.A.M.G.Coy. }	6.50.a.m.	Assembles on Road between M.10.b.9.5. and M.10.b.2.5.
17th Bn. 5th.A.L.T.M.Bty. }	7.a.m.	Assembles at WARLENCOURT, east of M.10.b.9.5.

Note. - (i) Units will breakfast before leaving camp and will arrange for Cookers to accompany Companies and provide Tea on arrival at WARLENCOURT.

(ii) For the purposes of the exercise Lt.Colonel E.MARTIN, D.S.O., will command 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde, (less 18th Bn.) and Major HOLMES will command the 17th Battalion.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

5

Brigade Headquarters,
18th July, 1917.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 20.

1. The 20th Battalion will carry out an organised bombing attack S.E. of THILLOY at 11 a.m. on 19th instant in accordance with attached general and special ideas.

2. For the exercise 2 Stokes Mortars are placed at the disposal of the C.O. 20th Battalion, and the following is the allotment of ammunition :-

2,000 Mills Grenades (No.5)
250 Mills Rifle Grenades (No.23)
200 rounds Stokes Mortar Ammunition.

3. The idea of the exercise is to practice :-

- (a) Supply of ammunition.
- (b) Systematic relief of bombing teams.
- (c) Collection of 2 bombs per man on capture of objective, and formation of reserve by this means.
- (d) Consolidation (without interrupting ammunition supply).
- (e) Chain system of supply between subsidiary dumps, and point at which fighting is going on. (N.B. Empty bomb buckets etc. should be passed back to be filled)
- (f) Co-operation of all inf.ntry arms.
- (g) Use of small bombing flags to mark progress.
- (h) Formation of a permanent block when further progress is held up.

4. The following carrying parties are to be detailed in addition to others deemed necessary by C.O., 20th.Battalion :-

1 Platoon (not less than 30 men) to report to Brigade Bomb Officer - Lieut. GRAHAM, M.C. - 9.30.a.m. at N.8.a.O.4.

1 N.C.O. and 16 men to report to Officer i/c Section Stokes Mortars attached 20th.Battalion, as may be arranged by him.

5. The following will attend the practice :-

Commanding Officers or 2nd's in Command of Bnd.
Company Commanders or 2nd's in Command of Coys.
Platoon Commanders or Platoon Sergeants.

In addition 4 other N.C.O's per Company.

Copies to -

All Units.
2nd.Aust.Div.

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

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

GENERAL IDEA

Reference - Sheet 57.c.S.W. - 1/20,000

1. 2nd. Australian Division is attacking the line TILL TRENCH between the line of GUEUDECOURT - BEAULENCOURT Road and "TIP WORK" N.2.b. (inclusive).

2. 5th. Aust. Inf. Brigade has attacked from N.9.d.7.2. to the left boundary.

SPECIAL IDEA

1. 20th. Battalion has obtained a footing in the line N.9.a.7.1. - N.3.c.3.1., but the attack on their right has been held up between N.9.c.7.1. and N.9.d.5.5., owing to very heavy casualties.

2. 20th. Battalion have therefore been instructed to bomb down and make good the line of the C.T. N.9.d.2.7. - N.9.d.3.9., with a view to joining up with the right Battalion who have been instructed to bomb up to meet the 20th. Battalion at that point.

3. For the purposes of the exercise, dumps are established as follows :-

Brigade Dump - N.8.a.0.4. - 1,000 Mills No.5.

10,000 rounds S.A.A. (empty boxes)
600 Mills No.23 (empty boxes)

Battalion Dump

- N.8.b.6.2. -

1,000 Mills No.5.

120 Mills No.23

200 Rounds Stokes.

5,000 Rounds S.A.A. (empty boxes)

4. The bombing attack will be held up at N.9.d.25.70. and a black constructed.

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

Bde. HdQrs.

18/7/17.

War Diary

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters,
19th July, 1917.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM NO. 21

57

REFERENCE - KK.c.S.W. - 1/20,000.

1. For the purpose of carrying out classification tests for Lewis Gunners, details of which were forwarded to you under cover of this office 15/160 of 5/7/1917, - a range has been made East of and adjoining the Brigade Field Firing Range in N.9.d.

Five targets have been constructed for each of Practices 10, 11, and 13.

2. Units using the Range will require 4 Telephones and will provide 2 Markers for each set of targets, i.e., 6 in all, - 3 of whom being telephonists. An additional Telephonist will be required at the firing point. Units will arrange own supply of paste and paper for patching targets.
3. Owing to limited time, available men holding "First Class" Certificates will not be tested until all other Lewis Gunners have completed the Practices.
4. Units will be advised when the Range is available for them.

A. Boase

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

Distribution:

17th. Battalion
18th Battalion
19th. Battalion
20th. Battalion
5th. A.M.G. Coy.
5th. A.L.T.M. Bty.
War Diary.

15

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 22

9

1. A tactical exercise will be carried out on the night of 20th/21st July, in accordance with the attached General and Special Ideas.
2. The exercise will take the form of a sudden "Stand To" move to position of assembly, and deployment for attack.
3. All units of the Brigade will take part in the exercise and the time taken in turning out after receipt of the order to move to the position of assembly will be noted.
4. On receipt of the message "Move to Position of Assembly", units will move to H.13.b. and form up in unit masses, facing south, as under :-

<u>Left</u>	<u>Right</u>
<div style="text-align: center;">↓</div> <div style="text-align: center;">T. N.</div> <div>17th Battalion</div> <div>5th A.L.F.M.Sty.</div> <div>19th Battalion</div>	<div>19th Battalion</div> <div>5th A.M.G.Coy.</div> <div>20th Battalion</div>

5. On arrival at place of assembly each unit will send an officer to report to Brigade Major at H.13.c.3.B., where, for the purposes of the exercise, Brigade H.Q. will be located.

O's.C. 5th Aust. M.G.Coy. and 5th Aust. L.F.M.Sty. will send an officer to each of the 19th and 17th Battalions to ascertain their requirements. They will then dispose their commands in the positions most suitable to cover the attack.- probably suitable positions for mortars and machine guns will be found in the vicinity of BIRRVILLERS.

6. On receipt of the order to "Carry on with the Deployment" Battalions will move in accordance with the Special Idea.

7. Units will report "In Position" to Brigade HdQrs as soon as they have completed deployment and will report the new position of Unit Headquarters as soon as it has been selected.

8. The 2 Bombs per man will not be issued to individuals.

9. Transport will not be used for the exercise except that required for moving Machine Guns or Stokes Mortars.

10. Quietness in forming up and deploying is essential.

11. Units should arrange to have the routes to position of assembly and deployment thoroughly reconnoitred.

12. No further instructions will be issued, except the Orders referred to in Paras. 4, 6, and 7.

Distribution:

17th Battalion.
18th Battalion
19th Battalion
20th Battalion
5th. A.M.G.Coy.
5th. A.L.F.M.Sty.

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

Gde. Hd. G.O.
19/7/37

Lt Beane
for
Major,
Capt

85

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

To Accompany Training Memorandum No. 22.GENERAL IDEA.REFERENCE SHEET - 57.c.H.W.3.

The 501st Division is holding the ACHINT-LE-GRAND - BIEVCOURT-BIEVILLERS line.

The enemy is holding a line approximately 500 yards in advance of the ACHINT-LE-GRAND PETIT - BIEVILLERS Road.

The 5th. Aust. Inf. Brigade is in support of the 501st Division in the left sector.

SPECIAL IDEA.

1. The enemy has by a sudden and unexpected attack broken our front line in G.24.a. and d, and has established himself on the line G.18.c.8.1. - G.24.b.6.8. - G.24.d.8.7.
2. The 501st Brigade which originally had only 50 per cent effectives has suffered serious casualties, and is not in a condition to carry out the counter-attack.
3. The 5th. Aust. Inf. Brigade are therefore ordered forward at short notice to a position of assembly in H.13.a. and b, and on arrival there, 19th and 17th Battalions, (right and left Battalions respectively) are instructed to deploy for the attack approximately on the line G.18.c.7.7. - H.13.c.0.0., with 20th Battalion in support at H.7.c.0.2. 18th Battalion will remain in reserve at position of assembly. *Inter-Bn Boundaries will be G18 d.4.3. to G24. b 0.7.*
4. The exercise will not be carried beyond the deployment stage.

Bde. Hdqrs.
19/1/17.

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

L. B. Beary
Capt
for Major,

Distribution:

17th Battalion
18th Battalion
19th Battalion
20th Battalion
5th. A.M.C. Coy.
5th. A.L.F.M. Bty.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

TRAINING ORDER No. 4

Copy No. 3

REFERENCE: { Sketch (issued with G.26/338 dated 18th instant)
 { Sheet 57.c.N.W. and S.W., 1/20,000

1. The enemy is holding Trench system O.8.d. and b. - O.2.a. - the HAPLIN COURT - BANCOURT ROAD - Village of BANCOURT with small detached works on south and north west sides of it - to MONUMENT WOOD.
 He also has a Switch line, with front and support lines, from HAPLIN COURT to FREMICOURT, both of which villages he holds.
2. The 2nd Aust. Division will on 23rd July, attack within the limits shewn on sketch.
3. ZERO hour will be 3.30 a.m.
4. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will attack in the left sector of the 2nd Aust. Division, and the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. on the right. (Brigade boundaries as in sketch).
 The 400th Brigade will attack on our left, and the 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be in Divisional Reserve near BEAULENCOURT.
5. The objective of the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be the enemy line from Cross Roads I.31.a.6.0. (inclusive) to H.30.c.5.3. including the village of BANCOURT.
6. Inter battalion boundary for the attack :-
 N.5.b.4.3. - H.36.b.5.0. to H.36.b.7.6. (village and village defences inclusive to left Battalion.)
7. The attack will be carried out by the 17th Battalion on the right, and the 18th and 19th Battalions ("leap frog" fashion) on the left.

Battalion Objectives :-

- 17th Bn - Cross Roads I.31.a.6.0. (inclusive) to H.36.b.7.6.
 18th Bn - H.36.d.0.8. (inclusive) to H.30.c.0.0.
 19th Bn - H.36.b.7.6. - H.36.a.9.8. - H.30.c.5.3.
8. A jumping off line is being taped out on the line N.6.a.4.0. - H.35.a.6.0. on the night 22nd/23rd July, under arrangements to be made by C.R.E. 17th and 18th Battalions will detail necessary patrols and covering parties in their respective sectors to cover the work. Engineer Officer i/c will inform Battalions when these parties are required to move out, and when out they will remain in position until ZERO when they will be absorbed by their battalions in the attack.

9. 17th and 18th Battalions will be in position with their first waves on the jumping off line, and the 19th in position with leading wave 200 yards in rear of 18th Bn, half an hour before ZERO. 20th Battalion will be in reserve in Support line half an hour before ZERO, and at ZERO will move forward and garrison the original front line.

The advance from the jumping off line will commence at ZERO.

Battalions will adhere to the normal formation for the attack with such necessary modifications as may be required to meet the tactical situation.

85

- 2 -

10. Each battalion will detail one section per platoon to act as moppers up.

11. Machine Guns.

(a) The Div. Machine Gun Officer is arranging for the Div. Machine Gun Coy. and 6th Aust. M.G. Coy. to supply the following Machine Gun barrages *to assist the attack:-*

- (i) ZERO to ZERO plus 25 - on eastern edge of BANCOURT and the valley to the east of it.
- (ii) At ZERO plus 25 he will lift to the yellow line (on sketch) to east and north east of BANCOURT.
(At ZERO plus 40 6th Aust. M.G. Coy. will again come under orders of G.O.C. 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.)

- (b) (i) O.C. 5th Aust. M.G. Coy. will arrange to sweep the northern approaches to the village and to push forward guns into southern and western portions of the village to support the final stages of the attack. He will submit his programme to Bde. H.Q. by Noon on 22nd instant for approval.
- (ii) On capture of the village he will detail guns required by 18th and 19th Battalions for consolidation. 1 Section will be held in reserve at 20th Bn. H.Q.

12. Trench Mortars.

O.C. 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. will detail 2 Mortars to move in rear of the rear wave of 18th Battalion, and 2 in rear of 19th Battalion. On capture of south western edge of BANCOURT the above Mortars will rendezvous at H.35.d.9.7. where they will be available for either battalion to deal with strong points in the village.

18th and 19th Battalions will each detail carrying parties of 32 o.r. for Stokes Mortar ammunition.

The remaining mortars will be held in reserve at 20th Bn Headquarters.

13. Artillery Barrage map attached.

14. (a) FLANK PROTECTION. Battalions will arrange for their own flank protection as the advance progresses in case of the non-success of neighboring units.

(b) CONSOLIDATION. Immediately on capture of objectives units will reorganise and commence consolidation. On capture of final objective 19th Battalion will put in S.P. approximately at fork road H.36.b.6.7. Prisoners report that there is an enemy tool dump at H.36.b.40.55.

15. Engineer arrangements.

5th Field Coy. A.E. will commence construction of a C.T. from N.5.b.3.5. in a northeasterly direction to N.5.b.7.7. thence north to H.35.d.8.2., thence N.E. to BANCOURT, immediately on capture of enemy front line.

20th Battalion will detail a party of 100 men (1 Coy) with its Officers and N.C.O.'s. for this work. They will report to Captain STEELE, 5th Field Coy. A.E. at Bde. H.Q. at ZERO hour. Picks and shovels will be provided there.

16. Communication. Communication will be maintained by wire and visual under arrangements to be made by Brigade Signal Officer. In case of a breakdown units will have system of runners organised.

17. Dress. Fighting Order. Equipment as in S.S. 135, Section XXXI, except that no ammunition or sandbags will be carried.

85

- 3 -

18. Watches will be synchronized with Brigade Headquarters at 6 p.m. on 22nd instant and midnight 22nd/23rd instant.

19. Administrative and Medical arrangements will be issued later as an appendix.

20. Brigade Headquarters will be at the RESERVOIR, at N.4.b.5. 3.

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

A. J. Boase

Major,

Bde H.Q.
21/7/17

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution.

Copy No. 1	File
2/3	War Diary
4	G.O.C.
5	Staff Captain
6	Intelligence Officer
7	Bde. Signal Officer
8	Bde. Bomb Officer
9/13	Umpires
14	2nd Aust. Div.
15	17th Bn
16	18th Bn
17	19th Bn
18	20th Bn
19	5th A.M.G. Coy.
20	5th A.L.T.M.Bty.
21	5th Field Coy. A.E.
22	6th A.I.Bde.
23	7th A.I.Bde.
24/27	Spares.

Brigade Headquarters,
21st July, 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 13

(To accompany 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde. Order No. 4)

1. Ammunition Arrangements:

Brigade Battle Dump is situated at N.4.b.5.3.

Divisional Dump is situated at N.2.c.2.8.

Each Battalion will have as a mobile reserve its S.A.A. and Grenade Limbers loaded as follows :-

4 Lewis Gun Limbers containing	69,000	rounds	S.A.A.
3 S.A.A. Limbers	"	54,000	"
1 Grenade Limber	"	768	"

Mobile Echelon will be Brigaded under Capt. McNAB, 18th. Battalion at N.2.c.2.8., and will be in position at Zero hour. Battalion Transport Officers will reconnoitre alternate routes from N.2.c.2.8. to Battle Dump.

The Brigade Battle Dump will be under the charge of the Brigade Bomb Officer.

From Zero hour demands for further ammunition will be sent direct to the Brigade Bomb Officer.

Each Battalion will detail 1 Officer and 50 Other Ranks as carrying party to report to Brigade Bomb Officer 30 minutes before Zero, at Battle Dump.

The Brigade Bomb Officer will notify Brigade Headquarters hourly, the amount of S.A.A. sent forward and the unit to which it has been sent.

2. Medical Arrangements:

The Advanced Dressing Station will be situated at N.17.a.5.8.

Regimental Aid Posts will be established as under :-

18th and 19th Bns.	-	N.5.a.9.7.
17th. Bn.	-	N.5.b.8.4.

Each Battalion will detail 1 Platoon as extra Stretcher Bearers to report to R.A.P.'s at Zero - 30. 20th. Bn. party will report to 17th. Bn. R.A.P.

3. Straggler and Traffic Control Posts:

- (1) At Advanced Dressing Station at N.17.a.5.8.
- (2) At BEAULENCOURT - N.17.b.10.0.
- (3) At N.11.a.8.4.
- (4) At H.33.d.10.9.

4. Prisoners of War:

Handing-over Station at RESERVOIR - N.4.b.5.3.

A. J. Boase Major
for Captain,
 Staff Captain, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

85

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

S E C R E T.

TRAINING ORDER No. 5

Copy No. 3

(10)

REFERENCE MAPS - {57.c.N.W. & S.W., 1/20,000
{LEBARQUE, 1/20,000

1. Reference Training Order No. 4. Units will move to N.5.c. in accordance with attached March Table. On arrival at N.5.c. units will form up facing N.E. as under.-



18th Bn

17th Bn

19th Bn

20th Bn

5th A.M.G. Coy.

5th A.L.T.M. Bty.

and bivouac until they move forward into positions they are to occupy half an hour before ZERO.

2. Greatcoats will be carried, but no blankets. Before moving into "jumping-off" positions, greatcoats are to be rolled and fastened on to belts in rear.

3. Units will arrange to give men tea on arrival at bivouac position before the exercise and breakfast on the ground on completion of the exercise.

Major,

Bde. H.Q.,
22/7/17

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution :-

Copy No. 1	File
2/3	War Diary
4	G.O.C.
5	Staff Captain
6.	Intelligence Officer
7	Bde. Signal Officer
8.	Bde. Bomb Officer
9/13	Umpires
14	2nd Aust. Div
15	17th Bn
16	18th Bn
17	19th Bn
18	20th Bn
19	5th A.M.G. Coy.
20	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
21	5th Field Coy. A.E.
22	6th A.I. Bde.
23	7th A.I. Bde.
24/27	Spares

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

MARCH TABLE TO ACCOMPANY TRAINING ORDER No. 5.

Starting Point - H.26.b.4.1. (except for 18th Bn. which will move independently)

UNIT	Time of passing starting point	Route	Remarks
17th Bn	7.35 p.m.	Via BAPAUME, thence along BAPAUME - BALCOURT Road	
		BEAULENCOURT	
20th Bn 3th A.L.T.M.By. }	7.40 p.m.	do	L.T.M.Bty. to follow immediately in rear of 20th Bn
18th Bn	-	y	To arrive at N.5.c. at 8.55 pm.
19th Bn 5th A.M.G.Coy. }	7.50 p.m.	dp	5th A.M.G.Coy. to move in rear of 19th Bn.

Brigade Headquarters will open at N.4.b.5.3. at 1 a.m. on 22/23rd July.

(11)

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters,
25th July 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 14.

1. Units will at once take steps to clear all surplus clothing, equipment etc., from their camps to the Salvage Dump BAPAUME. Salvage Dumps are not to be formed in any Camp. A certificate that this has been complied with is to be rendered when submitting to this Office the usual receipt for the handing over of the Camp in a clean and sanitary condition.
2. All surplus Grenades and in addition the 2 grenades per man, are to be de-detonated on the 27th, and returned to the Dump at BEAULENCOURT, Receipt for the amount handed over at the dump is to be forwarded to this Office by 9 p.m. on 27th instant.
3. Units requiring any S.A.A. to complete their Mobile Echelon will immediately indent on the Brigade Bomb Officer to satisfy requirements. Any surplus S.A.A. is to be returned to Brigade Bomb Dump by 2 p.m. on 26th instant.
4. Owing to one S.A.A. Limber from Battalions being attached to the 5th Aust. L.T.M.Bty., and the necessity for still carrying the complete Mobile Echelon, the remaining two S.A.A. limbers will each carry 26,000 rounds; the remaining 2,000 rounds are to be carried on the Grenade Limber.

H. Johnson

Captain,

Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued to -

17th Battalion
18th "
19th "
20th "
5th A.M.G. Coy.
5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
Bde. Bomb Officer.

File
War Diary (2)

SECRET.

Copy No. 3.

5th AUST. INF. BRIGADE ORDER No. 105

1. The 2nd Aust. Div. (less Artillery) will be transferred from Third Army to G.H.Q. Reserve in Second Army.
2. The move will be carried out by rail. Entrainment will commence on 28th July. On arrival the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be billeted in the RENESCURE area.
3. Entraining Station for 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group will be BEAUCOURT-SUR-ANCRE.
4. The following will comprise the Brigade Group :-
 - 5th A.I. Bde. and Bde. Sig. Section
 - 5th Aust. Field Ambulance
 - 5th Aust. Field Coy. A.E.
 - H.Q. 2nd Aust. Div. Engineers
 - H.Q. 2nd Aust. Div. Train
 - 15th Coy., A.A.S.C.
 - 22nd Aust. M.G. Coy.
5. (a) Units (less transport) will report at BEAUCOURT to the Brigade Entraining Officer (Major L.G. FUSSELL, MC. 17th Bn) two (2) hours before their respective trains are due to leave and will hand in their Marching Out Status.
- (b) Transport of each unit will report at BEAUCOURT Station four (4) hours before their train is due to leave. This will enable the horses to be fed and watered before entrainment.
6. Routes:- (a) Dismounted personnel via GREVILLERS - IRLES and MIRAMONT to BEAUCOURT.
- (b) Transport of Units via BIEFVILLERS - BIEUCOURT - ACHET-le-GRAND - ACHET-le-PETIT - MIRAMONT to BEAUCOURT.
7. Administrative arrangements are issued herewith. Entrainment Table will be issued when received.
8. Brigade H.Q. will close at BIEFVILLERS at 5.30 a.m. 28th instant and will move by first train to the RENESCURE Area. Location of new position will be notified on arrival there.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

5th A.I. Bde. H.Q. 26/7/17.

Issued at 10 p.m.

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

- | | | |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Copy No. 1 | File | |
| 2/3 | War Diary | |
| 4 | G.O.C. | |
| 5 | Staff Captain | |
| 6 | 2nd Aust. Div. "G" | |
| 7 | 2nd Aust. Div. "Q" | |
| 8 | Bde. Bomb Officer | |
| 9 | Bde. Sig. Officer | |
| 10 | Bde. Transport Officer | 20. 15th Coy. A.A.S.C. |
| 11 | Bde. Quartermaster | 21. 2nd Aust. Div. Tra |
| 12/17 | Bde. Units | 22. C.R.I. |
| 18 | 5th Field Coy. A.E. | 23. 22nd Aust. M.G. Co |
| 19 | 5th Aust. Field Amb. | 24. Comdt. "M" Area |
| | | 25. Major FUSSELL. |
| 26/30 | Spares. | |

War Diary

SECRET

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No.105

Corrigenda:

Para 5. (a) & (b) for "Units" and "Unit" read "Battalions" and "Battalion" respectively.

Addenda:

Para 4. Add "2nd Aust. Mobile Vet. Section."

Para 5. Add 5 (c) "Units other than Infantry Battalions will report complete with transport 3 hours before their train is due to start."

Distribution. Add "Copy to 2nd Aust. Mobile Vet Section".

TIME TABLE - TRAINS FOR MOVE OF FIFTH AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP from BEAUCOURT-sur
-ANCRE, to RENESCOURE Area.

Train Number	Serial Number	Date	Time due	REMARKS
Divl. Bde.		JULY 1917	to Leave	
2	1st 2A30, 31A, 35,) 36, 37)	28th	9-07	Bde.H.Q., 1 Coy., 1 Cooker & Team 20th Bn., Bde.Sig. Section, M.G.Coy., L.T.M.Bty.
5	2nd 2A31	28th	13-07	17th Bn less 34A
8	3rd 2A32	28th	17-07	18th Bn less 32A
11	4th 2A33	28th	21-07	19th Bn less 33A
14	5th 2A34	29th	1-07	20th Bn less 31A
17	6th 2A03, 08, 75,) 90)	29th	4-57	H.Q. Div. Engrs, 22nd M.G.Coy. H.Q. Div Train, Mobile Vet. Section.
20	7th 2A32a, 78, 83	29th	9-07	1 Coy., Cooker & Team 18th Bn, 15th Coy. A.A.S.C. 5th Field Coy. A.E.
23	8th 2A33a, 34A, 88	29th	13-07	1 Coy, Cooker & Team 19th Bn, 1 Coy, 1 Cooker & Team 17th Bn., 5th Field Ambulance

----- L E G E N D -----

- (2A30 = Brigade H.Q.
 { "31a = 1 Coy, 1 Cooker & Team 20th Bn, (unloading party 2 Officers and 100 pther ranks on arrival)
 1 { "35 = Brigade Signal Section
 { "36 = 5th Aust. M.G.Coy.
 { "37 = 5th Aust. L.T.M.Bty.
2. 2A31 = 17th Battalion less 34a
 3. 2A32 = 18th Battalion less 32a
 4. 2A33 = 19th Battalion less 33a
 5. 2A34 = 20th Battalion less 31a
- (2A03 = H.Q. Div. Engineers
 6. (2A08 = 22nd Aust. M.G.Coy.
 (2A75 = H.Q. Div. Train
 (2A90 = Mobile Vet Section.
- (2A32a = 1 Coy, 1 Cooker & Team)
 7. (18th Bn)
 (2A78 = 15th Coy. A.A.S.C.
 (2A83 = 5th Field Coy. A.E.
- (2A33a = 1 Coy, 1 Cooker & Team)
 8. (19th Bn)
 (2A34a = do of 17th Bn
 (2A88 = 5th Field Ambulance

Bde HQ
27/7/17

85 War Diary

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRETADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 15.

(To accompany Brigade Order No. 105)

1. Train Table. The 5th Brigade Groups will entrain at BEAUCOURT in accordance with the Table which will be issued later.

2. Entrainment. Major L.G. FUSSELL, M.C., 17th Bn. will act as Brigade entraining Officer, and will proceed by the last train of the groups.

17th Battalion will detail 3 platoons (not less than 3 Officers and 150 other ranks) to act as loading party. This party will report to Major FUSSELL at BEAUCOURT Station, at 5 a.m. on the morning of 28th instant. One field kitchen will be detailed to remain with loading party, and will be loaded on to the last train.

3. Detrainment. Major R.M. SADLER, M.C., 18th Bn., will act as Brigade Detraining Officer.

17th Battalion will detail 2 platoons (not less than 2 Officers and 100 other ranks) to act as detraining party. This party will report to Major FUSSELL, M.C., at BEAUCOURT Station at 5 a.m. on the morning of 28th instant, and until train leaves, will be used for building latrines etc. A cooker will be detailed for their use and will be entrained with them on the first train.

2 M.M.P. and 5 Traffic Control personnel for duty at detraining station will be attached to 17th Battalion party for rations and forage until completion of move. detraining

4. Quarters for Entraining and Detraining Parties. Parties detailed in paras. 2 and 3 will move to huts (old P.O.T. Camp) just N.E. of BEAUCOURT stations on the afternoon of the 27th instant under Battalion arrangements.

5. Water All water for drinking purposes will be drawn in water cart and chlorinated. Ample facilities are available for watering of horses at BEAUCOURT and advantage should be taken to give the horses water prior to entraining.

6. Horses. Units in which mange has lately occurred will take the following precautionary measures when contact animals are entrained.-

The animals at present being treated^{as} "in contact" be kept together and animals free of disease should not be put in the same trucks.

On arrival at destination the trucks in which "In contact" animals have travelled should be marked for disinfection and R.T.O. concerned so advised.

7. Supplies. Supply arrangements will be notified later. Wagons will move with units.

8. Transport. Baggage wagons will report to units at 3 p.m. 27th instant. For transport of blankets, five motor lorries - one for each battalion and one for 5th A.M.G. Coy., 5th A.L.T.M. Fty., and Hq. Headquarters, will report to units 8 hours before the time laid down for the train to leave.

A.M. No. 15.

- 2 -

9. Tents Prior to vacating camps, units will strike all tents, roll them complete with poles and tent pegs, and place them in a central dump. They will be returned to Ordnance Officer IV Corps Troops (H.35.c.), and receipts obtained in duplicate one copy of which will be forwarded to Brigade H.Q. Four lorries will be available to transport tents. Times they will report will be notified later.

No tents other than those laid down in Mobilization Store Establishment, will be removed from the area.

10. Salvage. All salvage on unit dumps will be removed to the BAPAUME Salvage Dump on 27th instant.

11. Camps. Camps will be left in a clean and sanitary condition and certificates to this effect will be forwarded to C.O. 20th Battalion who will detail an officer to go round all camps in company with a representative of the Area Commandant 'M' Area.

12. Area Stores. No area Stores will be taken from 3rd Army area. Lists shewing these stores are given in 1st Anzac Corps Routine Order No. 475 dated 25/11/18. All area stores, including chaff cutters will be returned to C.O. IV Corps Troops and receipts obtained in duplicate, one copy of which will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.

13. Canteen. The Divisional Canteen will close on the night of 26th instant.

14. Baths. The Divisional Baths at BAPAUME and BEAULENCOURT will be taken over on 27th instant. Personnel at present running the baths will remain to work the baths until the allotment for the 27th instant has been completed.

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

L. E. Beavis

Captain,

Bde. H.Q.,
26/7/17.

Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

D I S T R I B U T I O N

File	17th Battalion
War Diary (2)	18th "
G.O.C.	19th "
Staff Captain	20th "
Bde. Bomb Officer	5th A.M.G. Coy.
Bde. Transport Off.	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
Bde. C.M.	22nd M.G. Coy.
Bde. Sig. Officer	15th Coy. A.A.S.C.
Commndt. "M" Area	5th Field Coy. A.E.
C.R.T.	5th Field Ambulance
2nd Aust. Div Train	2nd Aust. Div.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 15

Para 2. Entrainment. 2nd sub para, 2nd sentence, before "This" insert "The Company which supplies" - after "instant" insert "and will proceed by the last train of the group".

Para 3. Detrainment. Delete second sub-para from "17th Bn" to "on the first train" and substitute - "20th Bn will detail 2 platoons (not less than 2 Officers and 100 other ranks) which will report to Major SADLER on arrival at place of detrainment to act as detrainning party. This party will be supplied by the Company 20th Battalion which travels by the 1st train of the group and the cooker accompanying them will be detailed for their use at the place of detrainment."

Para 4. "Quarters for Entraining Party" Delete "and Detrainning parties" and substitute "Party".
Delete "paras 2 and 3" and substitute para 2.

"Distribution": Add - "Copy to 2nd Aust. Mobile Vet. Section".

Sgt AJ Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Bde. H.Q.,
27/7/17

Distribution.

As for 5th A.I. Bde. Order No. 105 and Ad. Memo. No. 15

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRETADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 13

(To accompany Brigade Order No. 105 and Amendment)

1. In addition to units enumerated in para 4, 5th Brigade Order No. 105, the 2nd Aust. Mobile Vet. Section will be included in the Brigade Group.

2. All the trains will be consigned to BERGUETTE for regulation.

3. The senior Officer of each train will arrange to control traffic on the road approaches to the entraining station. No troops or transport will enter the Yard until the R.T.O. is ready.

4. (a) All trains consist of 1 Officers' carriage, 17 flat trucks, 30 covered trucks.

(b) Each flat truck will take an average of 4 axles. Each covered truck will take 40 men, or 6 H.D. Horses, or 8 L.D. Horses or Mules.

(c) No personnel or stores will be allowed in the brake vans at the end of each train, or on the roofs of trucks. No covered truck should be used for baggage, as it restricts the space available for personnel.

5. Complete marching out states showing the number of men, horses, G.S., limbered G.S., and two wheeled wagons, and bicycles should be sent down with the transport of each unit, so that accommodation on the train can be checked by the R.T.O. at the beginning of the entrainment, limbered G.S. wagons to be counted as ^{TWO} 2-wheeled vehicles on the state.

Supply and baggage wagons will accompany their own units in every case.

The entrainment of all units must be completed half an hour before the time of departure of the train, when it will be moved from the loading siding.

Breast ropes for horse trucks must be provided by the units themselves; rope for lashing vehicles on the flat trucks will be provided by the Railway.

Pickets must be provided at all stops for each end of the train to prevent troops leaving.

6. Train table herewith.

7. Supply arrangements.

On 27th instant. Supplies for all units in the Brigade Group for consumption on 28th instant will be drawn from Refilling point by 1st line transport.

Supplies for 5th Brigade H.Q., Brigade Signal Section, 5th A.M.G. Coy., 5th A.L.T.M. Bty., 17th and 18th Battalion for consumption on 29th instant will be drawn from railhead by train wagons which will proceed loaded to units lines.

On 28th instant. Supplies for remainder of Brigade Group for consumption on 29th instant will be delivered to units by train supply wagons, which will then return to refilling point, load up with supplies for consumption on 30th instant, and report to units and entrain with them.

- 2 -

On 28th instant. Supplies for 5th A.I.Bde.H.Q., Brigade Signal Section, 5th Aust. M.G.Coy., 5th Aust.L.T.M.Bty., 17th and 18th Battalions for consumption on 30th instant will be drawn in new area from refilling point (which will be notified by Brigade Supply Officer) by train supply waggons and delivered to units.

Supplies for Brigade Group for consumption on 31st instant will be drawn from refilling point at time and place to be notified by Brigade Supply Officer. (For Brigade H.Q. units, 17th and 18th Battalions, place will be the same as on previous day)

8. Transport

(a) For tents. Reference para 9, Ad. Memo. No. 15. Four lorries for transport of tents to O.C. IV Corps will report at 7 a.m. on 28th instant.

One will report to 18th Bn who will return own tents. Two will report to 19th Battalion and 5th A.L.T.M.Bty who will be responsible for returning 17th Bn tents in addition to their own and 5th Aust. M.G.Coy., 19th Battalion to supply loading party. Complete list of tents in 17th Bn., and 5th A.L.T.M.Bty. Dumps will be handed to 19th Bn by 17th Bn.

One will report to 20th Bn. who will be responsible for returning Bde. H.Q. tents in addition to their own. 20th Battalion to supply loading party.

All salvage such as tables, chairs etc., will be removed to BAPAUME Salvage Dump.

(b) For blankets. Reference para 8, Admin. Memo No. 15. All motor lorries for transport of blankets will report to units at 1 a.m. on morning of 28th instant. Until required for the transport of blankets, 18th and 19th and 20th Bns will use these for return of tents, salvage etc in addition to the lorries provided for this purpose.

ACKNOWLEDGE

L C Lewis

Captain,

Bde. H.Q.,
27/7/17

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

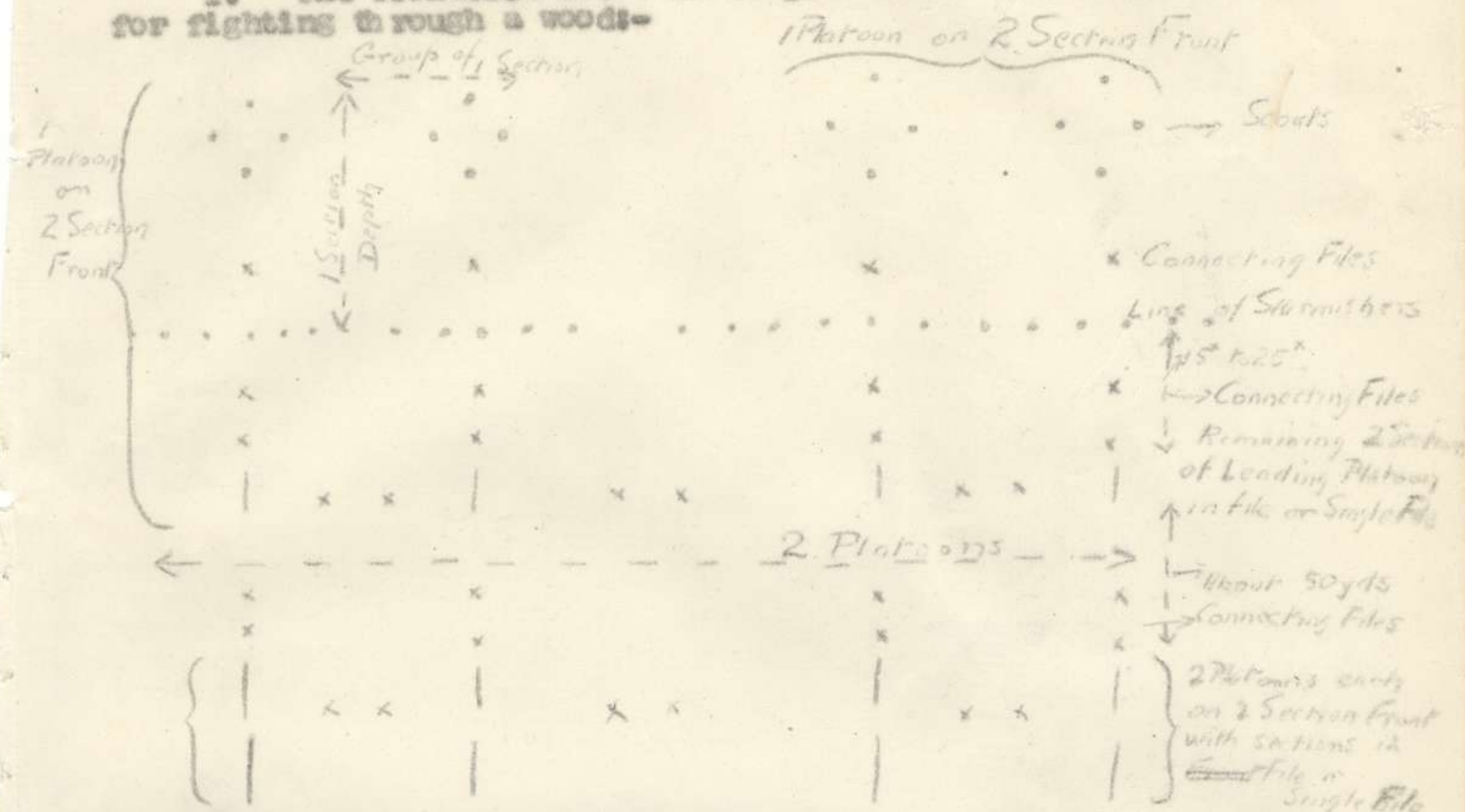
Distribution.

Same as for Admin. Memo. No. 15 - adding Entaining Officer
Detaining "
R.T.O. BEAUCOURT
2nd Mob. Vet. Sect.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 23

1. The formation shown in diagram below will be practised for fighting through a wood:-



2. Formation of leading Company.

2. Following factors govern intervals and distances :-

- Frontage allotted.
- Thickness of undergrowth and trees.
- Number of men available.
- Tactical situation as far as is known from information received.

3. With regard to 2 (b), the principle with regard to scouts, skirmishers and connecting files is that each should be within sight of the men with whom he is to keep in touch and also within easy calling distance so that he can pass instructions. The skirmishers would not normally extend to more than five or six paces between men.

4. General Notes.

Scouts. (a) For work of this nature a "diamond" formation is suitable for scouts since, by this means scouts are at the same time providing for their own protection. An alternate formation is shown in the margin.

(b) It is the duty of scouts to get early information in order to protect from surprise the force which throws them out. To do this successfully they may have to work at some distance from the force which they are protecting. The distance at which they move ahead, or to the flank of the force cannot be laid down as it varies according to the nature of the country.

(c) Scouts when pushed out must keep touch by means of connecting files if they cannot see the main body or one another.

(d) Scouts move by "bounds".

- 2 -

(e) In case of a unit operating independently, or having one flank exposed, scouts must be provided on that side.

Formations.

Roles of various groups in diagram.

(a) Scouts. to search the ground and pass back information acquired, at the same time protecting the formed bodies from surprise.

(b) (i) Line of skirmishers. To search the undergrowth more thoroughly than was possible for the limited number of scouts and at the same time to clean up any snipers etc which may have been missed by the scouts.

(ii) To act as a support to scouts and form a second line against surprise.

(c) Small columns. Held in hand for use as the situation develops. By keeping them in this formation they are easier to handle when required, and can thread their way through undergrowth more rapidly, at the same time utilizing cover to the utmost. At the same time, if an attack develops from the flank, it can be met immediately by facing units outwards and extending as necessary.

8. The formation illustrated in the diagram would be suitable for a company frontage of 100 to 150 yards. In case of a larger frontage being allotted it would be necessary either to use up the remaining sections of the leading platoon to extend the line of skirmishers or to push another platoon forward into the front line. Of the two alternatives the first would probably be preferable.

9. The question of allotting positions to the various sections of the platoon according to their arms must be decided by the platoon commander according to the ^{requirements} of the situation. The value of sending the Lewis Gun in the line of skirmishers, and employing it for hosing tactics should be considered. Otherwise unless a strong point or clearing is encountered the value of the specialist arms is decreased very much in wood fighting, and it may be practicable to use all men (except the Lewis Gun Crew) as riflemen only.

AG Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th A.I. Bde. H.Q.,
29/7/17

DISTRIBUTION -

17th Battalion
18th Battalion
19th Battalion
20th Battalion
8th A.M.C. Coy.
8th A.L.T.M. Bty.
8th Aust. Division (for information)

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 106SECRET

Copy No. 3

REFERENCE (CALAIS - 1/100,000
(HAZEBROUCK - 1/100,000
(Attached Sketch

1. (a) The area shown in the attached sketch has been allotted to 1st ANZAC Corps as a manœuvre ground. The area is divided into W.1. and W.2. sub-areas, which are allotted in turn to Brigades of the 1st and 2nd Aust. Divisions.

(b) W.2. sub-area has been allotted to 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group for training purposes from 1st to 3rd August, both inclusive.

2. (a) The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde Group will move by march route to W.2. area in accordance with attached march table, and will be billeted on arrival there as shown in appendix "A".

(b) On 4th August the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde will move back to billets in present area.

3. DRESS Fighting order, with felt hats instead of steel helmets. Waterproof sheet to be carried on the man attached to belt in rear.

4. Billeting, Medical, Supply and Transport arrangements for move to W.2. area will be issued later.

5. (a) On arrival in W.2. area three tactical exercises will be carried out - one on each day - by 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group.

(b) The 6th and 7th Aust. Inf. Bdes. have each consented to supply 4 senior officers to act in the capacity of umpires throughout the training. These Officers will be billeted as follows -

2	from 6th A.I. Bde.	with 17th Battalion
2	" "	" " 18th "
2	" 7th "	" " 19th Bn "
2	" " "	" " 20th "

6. Units will each send a representative to Brigade Hdqrs to synchronise with Brigade Signals at 9 p.m. on 10th instant.

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

8. Brigade Hdqrs will close at ARQUES at 7.30 a.m. and reopen at BEUVELINGHEM on arrival.

Bde. H.Q.,
30/7/17

A. J. B. Ouse
Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.	File	Copy No.	File
1	War Diary	11	17th Bn
2/3	G.O.C.	12	18th Bn
4	Staff Captain	13	19th Bn
5	Bde. Sig. Off.	14	20th Bn
6	Bde. Bomb Officer	15	5th A.M.G. Coy.
7	Bde. Int. Off.	16	5th A.L.T.M. Bty
8	Bde. Q.M.	17	5th Field Coy.
9	Bde. Transport Off.	18	5th Field Ambulance
10	7th A.I. Bde.	19	6th A.I. Bde.
20	Area Commdt. RENESCURE	21	2nd Aust. Div.
22		23	15th MASC

24/26 Spares

APPENDIX "A"

MINIMUM ACCOMMODATION

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>O.R.</u>	<u>Unit</u>
BEUVELINGHEM	28	1088	Brigade Headquarters 18th Battalion
WESTBECOURT VAL d'ACQUIN HARLETTES	29	975	17th Battalion
QUERCAMP PETIT QUERCAMP HAUTE PANNE NEUVILLE	23	1170	20th Battalion
LE BUISSON	3	200	5th A.M.G. Coy.
JOURNY ALQUINES N HAUTE PLAQUE A	35	990	19th Bn
HAUT LOQUIN BAS LOQUIN	9	225	5th Field Coy. A.E.
WARLEZ	2	90	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
BULSCAMPS	2	100	15th Coy. A.A.S.C.
FROMENTEL	6	220	5th Field Ambulance

M A R C H T A B L E

To accompany 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 108

U N I T	Starting point	Time	R o u t e
Bde. Sig. Sect.	Bridge over Canal 1 mile south of "Q" in HT. ARQUES (S.15.d.1.0. Sheet 27.B.W.)	6 a.m.	Cross roads 50 ^x N. of "S" in ARQUES - WESTOVE - WIZERNES - HALLINES - LUMBRES - ACQUIN - WESTRE COURT - BOUVELINGHEM.
19th Bn	do	6.5 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section as far as LUMBRES then via HARLETTES
5th A.L.T.M. Bty.	do	6.20 a.m.	do
20th Battalion	do	6.25 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section as far as ACQUIN
5th A.M.G. Coy.	do	6.40 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section.
17th Battalion	do	6.45 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section as far as ACQUIN
18th Battalion	do	7 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section.
Bde. H.Q. (less Sig. Sect)	do	7.12 a.m.	do
5th Field Coy. A.E.	do	7.15 a.m.	As for Bde. Sig. Section as far as LUMBRES then via HARLETTES
5th Field Ambulance	do	7.35 a.m.	do
15 th AASC	do	8 AM	Same as 19 th Bn R 16 HARLETTES Hence to BULESCAMPS

N.B.

All units will halt from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. for
breakfast and from 12 noon to 2 p.m. for lunch.
Distances between units will not be less than 250 yards.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
-----S E C R E TADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 17Brigade Headquarters,
30th July 1917.

(To accompany Brigade Order No. 106)

1. Supplies: One days rations will be carried by Supply wagons with units.

Rations on July 31st and August 1st, 2nd and 3rd, will be drawn at BULESCAMP daily and delivered by 15th A.A.S.C. to units.

Rations on August 4th will be drawn at present refilling point in ARQUES.

2. Transport: Transport will move with units. Cookers will be in rear of Coys.

30th instant. Baggage and supply wagons will report to units at 8 p.m.

5 lorries per battalion, one for Field Ambulance, 5th Field Coy. A.E. and 5th A.L.T.M.Bty., and one for Bde. H.Q. and Machine Gun Coy. will be available at Brigade Headquarters at 5 a.m. 31st instant. Units will each detail a runner to report to Brigade H.Q. at that hour to guide lorries to units present position.

3. Blankets and packs are to be carried on the motor lorries. Steel helmets are to be done up in bundles of ten.

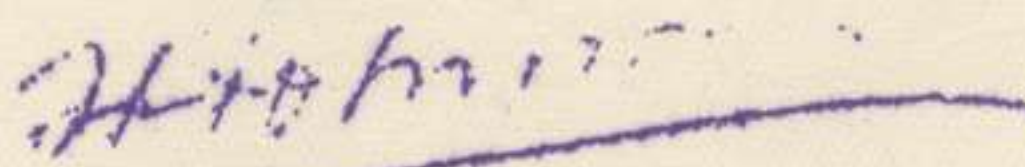
4. Medical Arrangements :- O.C. 5th Field Ambulance, will detail one Ambulance wagon per battalion to report to units at 6 a.m. 31st instant.

No N.C.O. or man will be allowed to travel on transport or ambulance wagon unless in possession of an order signed by his medical Officer.

5. Billeting parties Parties of 1 Officer and 4 other ranks per battalion and 1 Officer and 1 other rank per other unit will report on bicycles to Staff Captain at Brigade Headqrs at 6 a.m. on 31st instant.

6. No dumps are to be formed in the present area. 5th Field Coy. A.E. will leave their pontoons in the present area under a guard with 2 days rations. Rations for this guard after 1st instant are to be obtained from Commandant RENESCURE Area, ARQUES.

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



Captain,

Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution as for Brigade Order No. 106.

85

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
-----SECRETGENERAL IDEA

The enemy's line has been broken on a very wide front and our troops have penetrated through all the enemy's defence systems, and have reached the open country in rear.

SPECIAL IDEA.

The brigade, on the evening of 31st July, has reached the high ground HALETES - le BUISSON, and it has been decided to bivouac for the night under cover of outposts and resume the advance on the morning of August 1st. The enemy are pushing forward fresh troops from the direction of LUMBRES to stay the advance, and it has therefore been decided that 3 battalions will be represented in the outpost line, with one in reserve. We are in touch with our own troops on both flanks.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
-----SECRET

Brigade Headquarters,
30th July, 1917.

17th Battalion	2nd Aust. Div.
18th Battalion	5th Field Coy. A.E.
19th Battalion	5th Field Ambulance
20th Battalion	15th A.A.S.C.
5th A.M.G. Coy.	Bde. Sig. Section
5th A.L.T.M. Bty.	

Copies to Umpires (for information)

Reference Brigade Order No. 106. Herewith GENERAL and SPECIAL IDEAS for scheme to be carried out on the 1st August 1917.

A. J. Boase

Major,

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.