

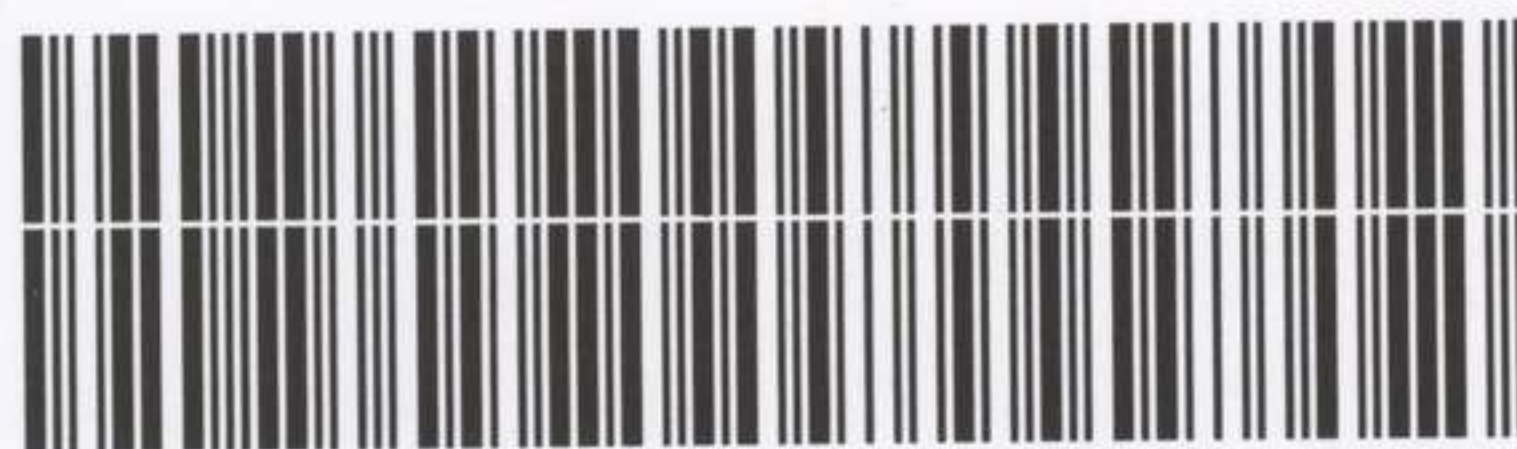
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Signals

**Item number:** 22/14/23

**Title:** 4th Australian Division Signals  
Company

January 1918



AWM4-22/14/23



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.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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JANUARY, 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAUT ALLAINES	1/1/18.		In Reserve. Communications maintained, lines patrolled.	
"	2/1/18.		" " "C " " Divisional Signal School started at	
"			HAUT ALLAINES. Commandant: Capt. R.J. SMITH, M.C. 100 Students from Infantry and Pioneer Battalions, M.G. Companies and Artillery.	
"	3/1/18.		to) Communications maintained, lines patrolled.	
"	6/1/18.		)	
"	6/1/18.		Divisional Signal School dispersed temporarily.	
"	7/1/18	)	Communications maintained, lines patrolled.	
"	9/1/18	)		
	9/1/18.		Office closed HAUT ALLAINES, noon, reopened at 3-0 p.m. BERTHEN. Communication with C.R.A., and 12th Brigade established. Terrific snowstorm, Motor lorries ditched and delayed. Electric Light Lorry did not arrive until 12th inst. On arrival at BERTHEN, this Division came under orders of IX Corps.	
BERTHEN.	9/1/18.)		Communications maintained, lines patrolled.	
	12/1/18.)		Reconnaissance made of SCHERPENBERG Sector.	
	12/1/18.		Office closed 10-0 a.m., re-opened SCHERPENBERG same time, taking over from 37th Div. Sig. Co., R.E. The Division at 10-0 a.m., came under orders Aust. Corps. Communication established with all Brigades, Artillery and Divisional Units. Forward Lines found to be in very bad order, being constantly interrupted.	
SCHERPENBERG.	13/1/18.		Wireless and Power Buzzer Scheme inaugurated and tested satisfactorily, thus completing communication from front lines to Division without wires. Existing Visual Scheme altered and improved. Orders issued for visual to be used between Battalions in line and Brigade in line for a certain period during the day. This worked well and is still being maintained. Messenger Dogs tried with varied success, one dog being very unreliable. They were "homed" to Brigade Headquarters.	
			Forward Lines working very badly. Communication maintained and lines patrolled.	
14/1/18 to	18/1/18.		Communications maintained and lines patrolled.	
	18/1/18.		Divisional Signal School re-started at SCHERPENBERG, under Capt. R.J. SMITH with 100 students as previously.	
	19/1/18.		Communications maintained and lines patrolled.	
	20/1/18.		1st Power Course for Battalion personnel commenced, 12 students.	
21/1/18 to	26/1/18.		Communications maintained and lines patrolled.	
	27/1/18.			

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

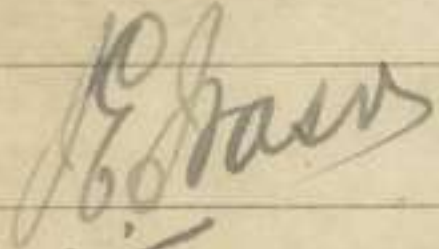
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Page 2.

JANUARY, 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SCHERPENBERG.	27/1/18.		Cable burying scheme from Brigades on the lines forward to Advanced Brigade Headquarters commenced. Lieuts. O'BRIEN and DAY taking charge. One hundred pairs are being put down 7 feet deep. Two hundred Infantry from 12th Brigade formed the working party, with thirty N.C.Os. and Sappers from 4th Signal Company to supply technical labour such as running out the cable, jointing and testing the lines. A tunnel 1000 yards long is being used for portion of the way. Communication maintained and lines patrolled.	
	28/1/18.		2nd Power Buzzer Course commenced, 12 Battalion students attending. Cable burying proceeding, 250 yards put down yesterday. Same strength working party. Communications maintained and lines patrolled.	
	29/1/18 to	30/1/18.	1st Pigeon Course started, 4 officers and 12 Battalion personnel attending.	
	31/1/18.		Communications maintained and lines patrolled. 2nd Pigeon Course started. 12 Battalion personnel and 4 Battalion officers attending. Communications maintained and lines patrolled.	
			 Major, O.C., 4th Aust. Div. Sig. Co.	



## WAR DIARY

OF

4th. AUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO.

FOR

January 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

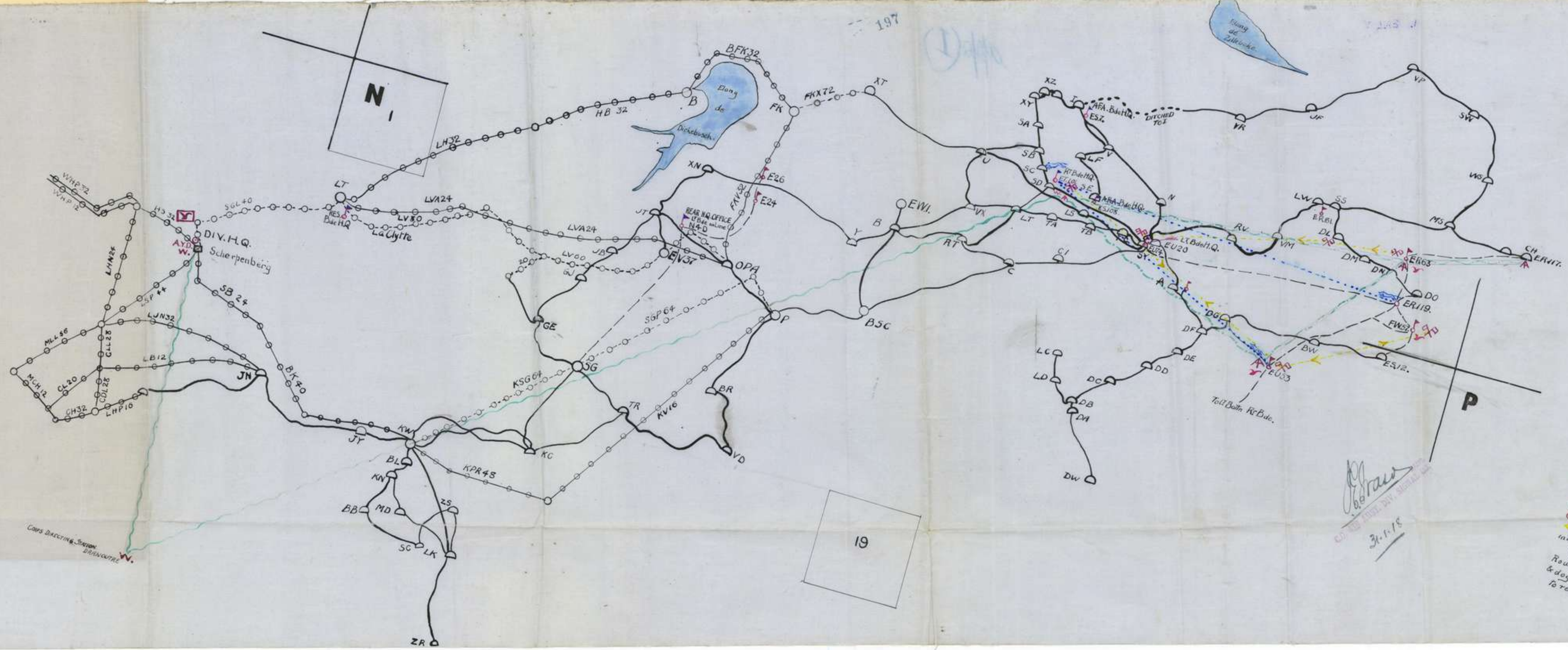
Subject.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Communication Route<br>Diagram 31/1/18 |
| 2 | Summary of traffic<br>for month.       |



app. I

APPENDIX I



COMMUNICATION ROUTE DIAGRAM  
 4<sup>TH</sup> AUST. DIV.  
 31.1.18.

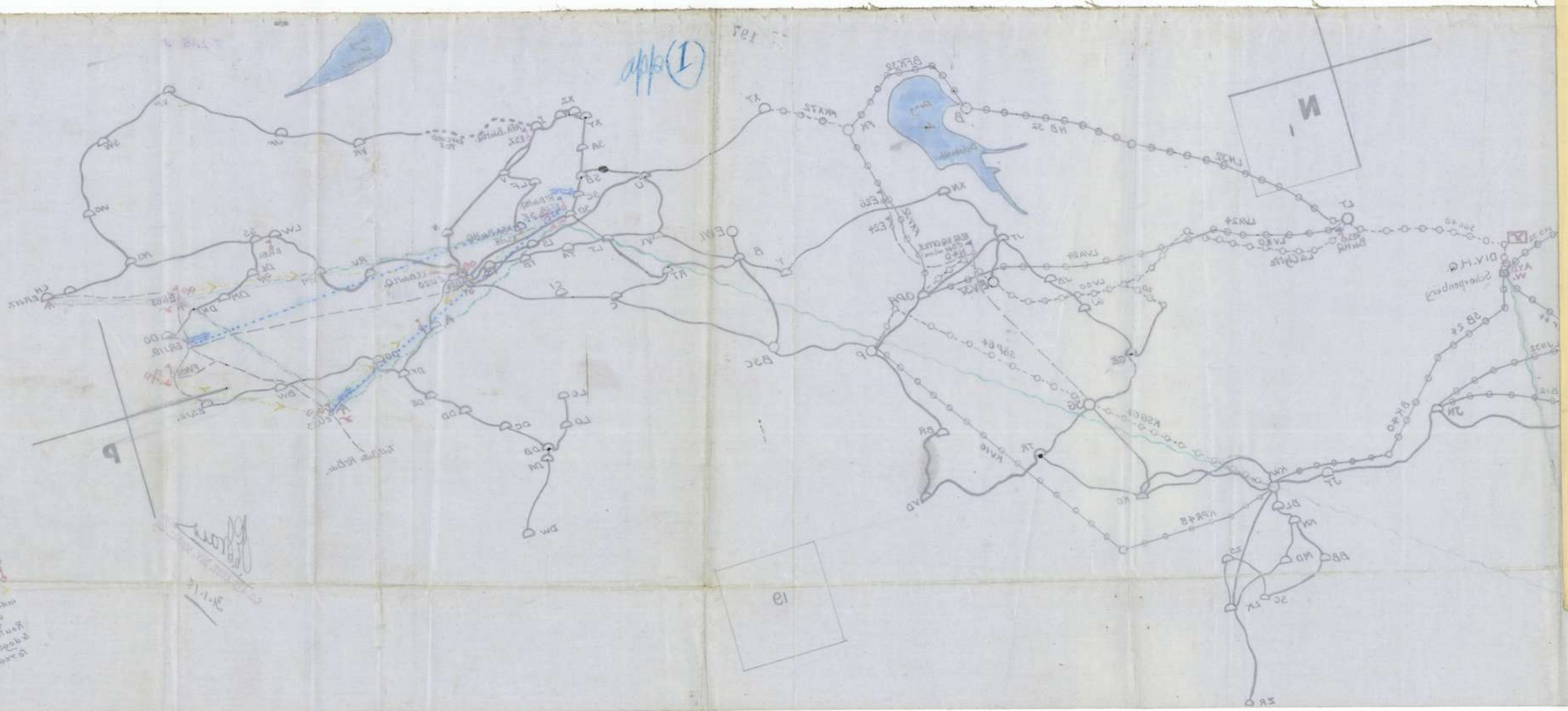
- BURIED CABLE
- CABLE ON GROUND
- OPEN WIRES
- WIRELESS ROUTE
- BUZZER & WHISTLER ROUTE
- ROUTE OF PIGEONS & DOGS
- Div. H.Q.
- Bde H.Q.
- Bn H.Q.
- Arrow heads indicate direction of signals.
- Direction of route of pigeons & dogs from front to rear only.

*[Signature]*  
 31.1.18

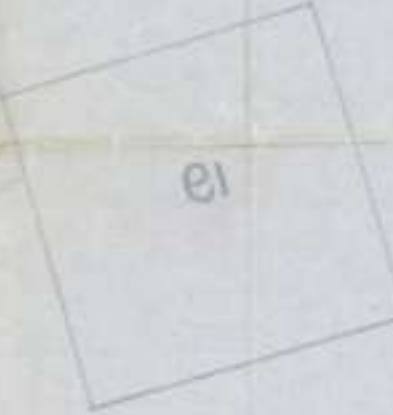


APPENDIX  
COMMUNICATION ROUTE DIAGRAM  
4<sup>TH</sup> AUST. DIV.  
31.1.18.

10000 ft  
Range of heights  
in feet  
Range of heights  
in meters  
Range of heights  
in feet  
Range of heights  
in meters  
Range of heights  
in feet  
Range of heights  
in meters  
Range of heights  
in feet  
Range of heights  
in meters  
Range of heights  
in feet  
Range of heights  
in meters



(1) 1/18





app. 2

## Summary of Traffic JANUARY 1918

app. 2.

Date	Sealed Pks	Wires Recd	Wires Sent
1.	201	43	46
2	190	59	66
3	225	42	50
4	241	52	43
5	304	69	67
6	284	68	73
7	360	57	65
8	144	52	50
* 9	61	40	8
10	172	26	37
11	224	64	69
12	455	197	192
13	522	98	127
14	451	108	184
15	460	104	193
16	461	101	173
17	489	121	166
18	529	118	193
19	474	111	192
20	418	109	151
21	464	120	179
22	464	109	181
23	488	103	198
24	450	97	170
25	430	101	141
26	437	95	153
27	475	81	155
28	464	111	227
29	438	95	162
30	474	97	187
31	404	88	135
Totals	11653	2736	4033

Daily Average

SEALED PKs. 375.9  
 WIRES RECD. 88.258  
 WIRES SENT. 130.09

\* Division on move.