

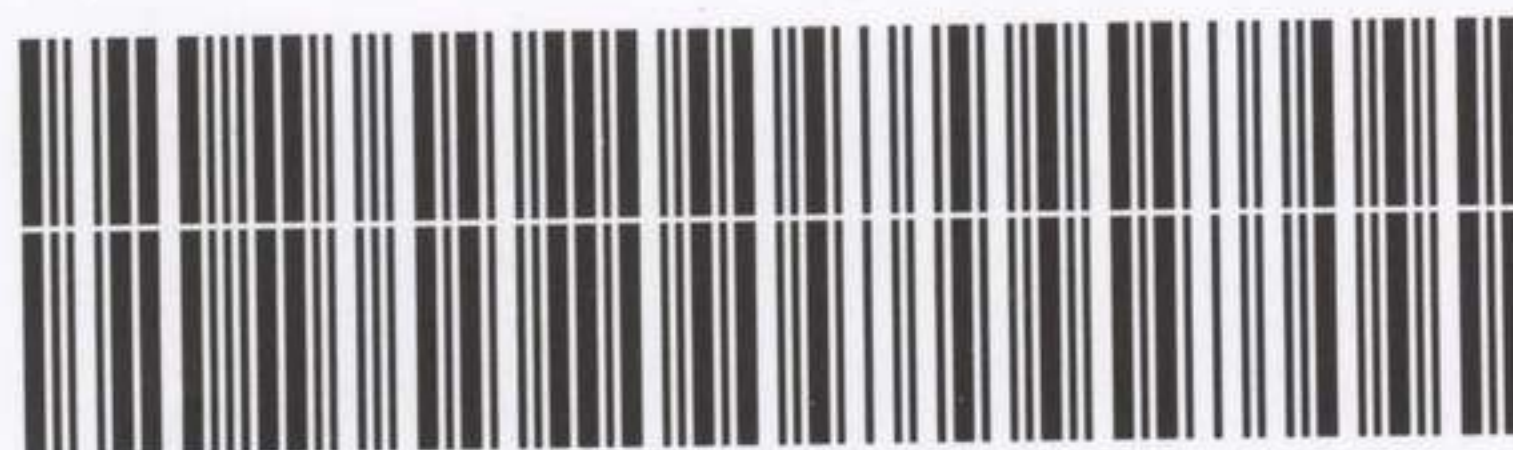
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Signals

Item number: 22/14/24

Title: 4th Australian Division Signals
Company

February 1918



AWM4-22/14/24

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th. AUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO.

FOR

• February 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

R. G. Bass MAJOR
O.C. 4th AUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO.

Signature of Officer Commanding

R. G. Bass MAJOR
O.C. 4th AUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO.

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~~

(Erase heading not required.)

FEBRUARY 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>SCHERPENBERG</u>	<u>1918.</u> Feb.	1st)	Cable Burying proceeding satisfactorily along the YPRES-COMINES Canal, and forward to Adv. Brigade	
		2nd)	Headquarters at Fusilier Dug-outs. 200 working party. Several gas shells fell during the progress	
		3rd)	of the work; no casualties. Traffic normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained	
		4th	3rd Power Buzzer and 3rd Pigeon classes started, 12 Btn students attending the former; 4 officers and 12 O/r from Battalions attending. Cable Burying continued as above. Traffic normal; lines patrolled and communications maintained.	
		5th	Div. Sig. School visited by O.C. in company with G.S.O. II. Work found to be carrying on satisfactorily and students all keen; good progress made. New Buried Cable works commenced working back from Left Bde Headquarters on the main Divisional route. This is one step towards wholly renewing the divisional route, the existing one having been found to be most unsatisfactory. Good progress made. No shelling. Lines patrolled and communications maintained. Traffic normal. 12th Brigade comes out of the Line to rest area at LA CLYTTE, being relieved by 4th Bde.	
		6th	No 3 Pigeon Class dispersed, students made good progress. Visual scheme between Div. H. Qs and Brigades established and worked O.K. day and night. Cable Burying proceeding; no casualties. Traffic below normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained.	
		7th	No 4 Pigeon Class assembled, 4 officers and 12 O/r Btns reporting. Power Buzzer and Amplifier circuits tested O.K. Arrangements made for proportion of traffic between Battns and Brigades in the line to be transmitted per earth connection service. Messenger War Dogs tested and found much better than previously. Cable Burying proceeding as before, good progress made. No casualties. Training of personnel of Brigade Forward Party commenced in Reserve Brigade. Traffic above normal; 30 cwt Daimler Lorry No 12241 with 1 K.W. Austin Lighting Set returned to O.C. P.E.L., ABBEVILLE. Lines patrolled and communications maintained.	
		8th	Div. Signal School visited by C.O.; good progress being made by Students. Forward of Brigades all traffic over wires suspended for four hours in order to test visual and power buzzer means of communication. Cable Burying proceeded with. Traffic normal. Circuits forward improving daily. Lines patrolled and communications maintained.	
		9th	No 3 Power Buzzer Course and No 4 Pigeon Class dispersed, good progress having been made. Traffic above normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained. Cable Burying proceeding satisfactorily.	
		10th	3-ton Daimler Lorry No 16311 with 3 K.W. Lister Lighting Set arrived ex ABBEVILLE under authority D. Sigs No /DW/104 (D.A. Sigs 214) of 6/11/17. All alternative methods of communication tested and found O.K. Cable burying proceeded with. Traffic below normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained.	

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.

Feb (contd)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SCHRPFENBERG	1918 Feb	11	No 4 Power Buzzer Course and No 5 Pigeon Course commenced, 12 Btn O/r for the former and 4 Officers 12 O/rs for the latter, reporting. Burying cable work proceeded with between Division and Bde Headquarters. Test Dug-out D.G. completed with terminal strips, lines led in and tested out, 99 testing O.K. Traffic well below normal.	
		12	New Buried Cable route D.G.- D.F. of 42 pairs commenced with 200 Infantry digging party. This work undertaken to cut out another very bad route, and to secure lateral communication. Visual, and power buzzer and W/T found to be working O.K. Traffic well below normal; communication maintained and lines patrolled.	
		13	No 5 Pigeon Course dispersed. Div. Signal School visited; squads and classes inspected at their work. Burying cable still going on; good progress made. Traffic well below normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained.	
		14	Buried Cable Route D.G.-D.F. completed and tested out; all O.K. Examinations commenced at Div. Sig. School. Visual, W/T, Power Buzzer and War Dogs proved to be working O.K. Traffic below normal. Lines patrolled and communication maintained. No 6 Pigeon Course assembled - 4 Officers 12 O/ranks.	
		15	New Buried Cable work commenced; this consisted of cutting out old D.G. test point and burying the new leads into new D.G. Dug-out. W/T not working too well, Brigade station being out of touch for two hours. Visual tested O.K. from HILL 60 to SCHRPFENBERG (Div. H'qs) Lines patrolled and communications maintained. Traffic normal.	
		16.	No 1 Div. Sig. School, No 4 Power Buzzer Course and No 6 Pigeon Course dispersed. Results showed a good all-round improvement. Cable burying being proceeded with. Traffic above normal. Lines patrolled and communications maintained. Messenger War Dogs withdrawn from the Line to Div. H. Qs	
		17	Buried Cable work, commenced on 15th, now completed. Messenger War Dogs No 89 and No 90, with Pte COULL, dispatched to ETAPLES to report to O.C. Messenger War Dogs. Traffic normal; lines patrolled and communication maintained.	
		18.	No 2 Div. Signal School assembled at SCHRPFENBERG, 3 Btn Officers and 100 Btn and Arty signallers attending. All students were tested out and classified. Cable burying suspended on account of Brigade reliefs taking place. No 5 Power Buzzer Course, and No 7 Pigeon Class assembled with usual number of students. All alternative means of communication tested and found working well. Traffic normal, lines patrolled and communication maintained.	
		19)	Cable Burying suspended, - same cause. Traffic normal; lines tested, patrolled and communicat-	
		20)	ions maintained. 4th Brigade relieved 12th Bde in the Line.	
		21		

07

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.

Feb '18 (contd)

(Erase heading not required.)

will be prepared in manuscript.			(Erase heading not required.)	Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	
<u>SCHRPENBERG</u>	Feb	22)	Cable burying again proceeded with on B.S.C. - P route 52 pairs. No 5 Power Buzzer and No 8	
		23)	Pigeon Course dispersed. Traffic above normal; Lines tested and patrolled and communications maintained.	
		24	Cable burying carried on; good progress made. Visual, Power Buzzer, W/T and Pigeons tested O.K. Traffic well above normal; Lines tested and patrolled and other communications maintained.	
		25	Cable burying carried on. Corpl CORKER gassed while repairing D.G.-W.O. Route, and evacuated. Div. Sig. School visited and squads and classes inspected at their work. Traffic well above normal; Lines tested and patrolled, and communications maintained.	
		26	SEIGE FARM Exchange cut out, one pair being put through to 4th Pioneer Btn, and a 10-line Board installed. Other local circuits were led in there. One N.C.O and six sappers were thus relieved for other duty. Cable burying gone on with; 1st Signal Coy personnel assisting with the technical work. Lines patrolled and tested and communication maintained. Traffic above normal.	
		27.	Officers and other personnel arrived and were taken over the Area in anticipation of relief. 1st Div. Sig. Co again assisted in the burying of cable between B.S.C. and P. Test boxes. This route now completed and tested all O.K. Traffic well above normal; Lines tested and patrolled and communication maintained.	
		28.	Cable Burying carried on, on Route P.SG with 1st Aust. Div. Infantry and 4th Div. Sig. Coy technical labor. Div. Sig. School again visited and squads inspected at their work. Traffic well above normal; Lines tested and patrolled and communication maintained.	
D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W809/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14				33

197

4

18,000-12/17-8723

WAR DIARY

OF

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY

FOR

F E B R U A R Y

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1

Return of Traffic.

20th. August 1918.

L. Luckett Capt. for

O.C. 4th. Aust. Div. Sig. Coy

Summary of Traffic for FEBRUARY 1918.

Appendix 1

Date	Wires Recd	Wires Sent	Sealed Pks
1	89	166	459
2	82	129	455
3	88	160	478
4	82	155	410
5	85	118	432
6	86	106	411
7	86	115	452
8	88	152	437
9	74	140	459
10	80	111	430
11	77	128	387
12	71	112	464
13	97	116	400
14	84	117	423
15	84	125	476
16	93	132	413
17	89	135	423
18	81	134	453
19	81	178	368
20	79	149	409
21	83	158	485
22	72	150	455
23	95	159	483
24	98	156	491
25	93	207	465
26	96	143	548
27	96	180	495
28	132	192	495
	2441	40231	12556

Daily Average:-

WIRES RECD 87.178

WIRES SENT 143.678

SEALED PKs 448.428

Sgt Martin

197

Adelp. 11
5

1/184.

apb

4th Australian Division."G".

A.D. Signals Aust., Corps.

=====

Report on Cable Buried for period ending 17.2.18.

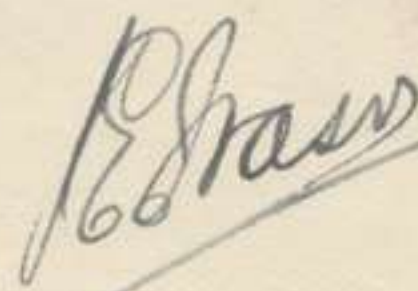
Route SY-DG. From SY (I.33.d.0770) 100 pairs buried 6' (in places 7') to tunnel at I.30.d.1570, then via tunnel to King St. (I.34.c.1005); from King St. to new DG (O.4.b.35) concrete test point. Buried 6'. DG completed and fitted with terminal racks, Route SY-DG tested 99 pairs O.K.

Route DR-ER119 (I.36.c.4080) 22 pairs tested O.K. From DG to Olaf Avenue at O.4.b.57 buried 6'. Thence by C.T. to I.36.c.1015. From I.36.c.1015 route is buried 6' to Imperial Avenue at I.36.c.2073 thence via Imperial Avenue to Imperial Dug-outs, ER119.

Route DG $\frac{1}{2}$ DF (O.4.a.63) 42 pairs tested O.K.. 10 extra pairs brought up at O.4.b.33 and put on terminal strip. Route buried 6'

Route old DG to BW (O.5.b.08) opened and brought into new DG.

Approximate distance buried 3760 yards, includes cable in tunnel and communication trenches.



Major,

O.C. 4th Aust., Div. Sig. Co.

18th February 1918.

197

7

4TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. "G"
=====

Report on Cable buried from 24th February to 1st
March 1918. (inclusive).

Reference 1/270 of 25th February 1918 and diagram
attached,

Route BSC to P 52 pairs. Route completed, 300 yards being
dug by 4th Aust., Div. Infantry, remainder by 1st Aust., Div.
Infantry, the whole under supervision of 1st Aust., Div.
Signal personnel.

Route P to SG 52 pairs. 250 yards dug by 1st Aust., Div.
Infantry under 4th Aust., Div. Signal Personnel. 370 yards
dug by 1st Aust., Div. Infantry under 1st Aust., Div. Signal
personnel.

Route C to SY completed with pilot boxes; jointing
completed and route tested O.K.



Major,

O.C. 4th Aust., Div. Signal Coy.

1st March 1918.

Copies to A.D. Signals Aust., Corps.

O.C. Sigs 1st Aust., Div.

197

8

1/270.

apf

4th Australian Division "G"

A.D. Signals Aust., Corps.

Report on cable buried from 17/2/18 to 24/2/18.

Work completed.

SY to C. New ~~6~~ 6' buried route of 52 pairs dug and well banked. Jointing and testing carried on. Completion of jointing expected by 25th inst.

Approximate distance buried 1500 yards.

Work proposed and in hand.

BSC to P. (Blue dotted, line) Work starts 25th inst.

P to SG.

Div. to SG. is being connected ^{by Corps} by an open wire route, and this completed route forms the Main Divisional Route.. i.e. Div. to SG. P. BSC. C. SY.. DG. ^{N.O.} ~~DO.~~

Diagram attached.


Major,

O.C. 4th Aust., Div. Sig. Co.

25th February 1918.

197
9
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Headquarters,
20th February, 1918.

G.S. CIRCULAR NO. 70.

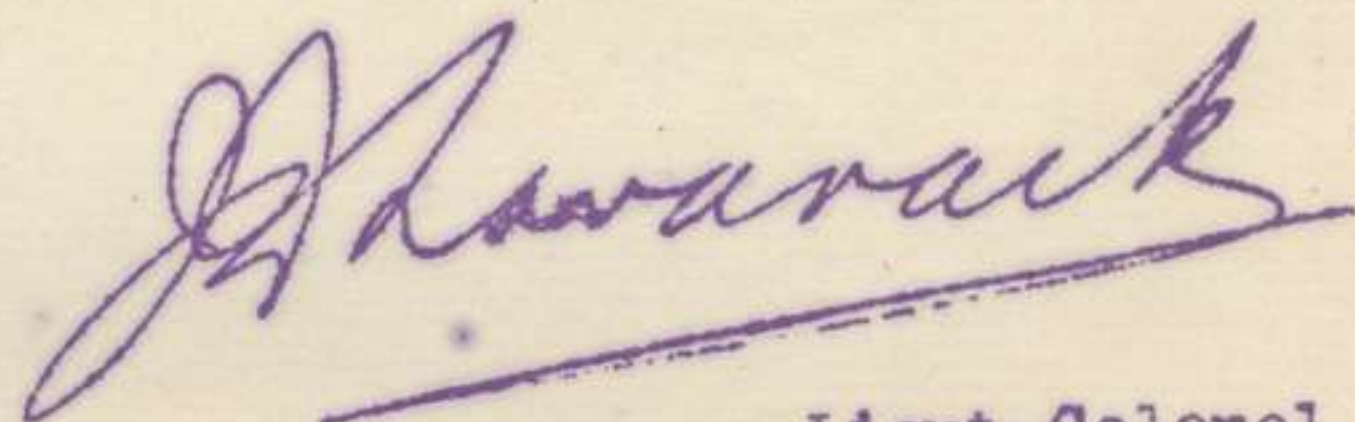
1. In accordance with Australian Corps G.S. Circular 175/358 of 4/4/17, para 2, Lieut. W. BEAZLEY, 4th Aust. Div. Signal Coy has been appointed Divisional Visual Signals Officer. His duties will be as follows :-

To assist the O.C., Div. Signal Coy in the training of personnel of the Company in visual, and in the supervision and co-ordination of visual training and work throughout the Division. During the operations to be in charge of the Central Visual Station.

2. While the Division is in the line under Immobile Warfare Conditions he will arrange visual communication from Battalions in the line back to Div. Headquarters, via Brigades in line.

3. During periods of training or while Brigades are in reserve, he will visit Battalions daily to supervise and co-ordinate the training of their communication personnel.

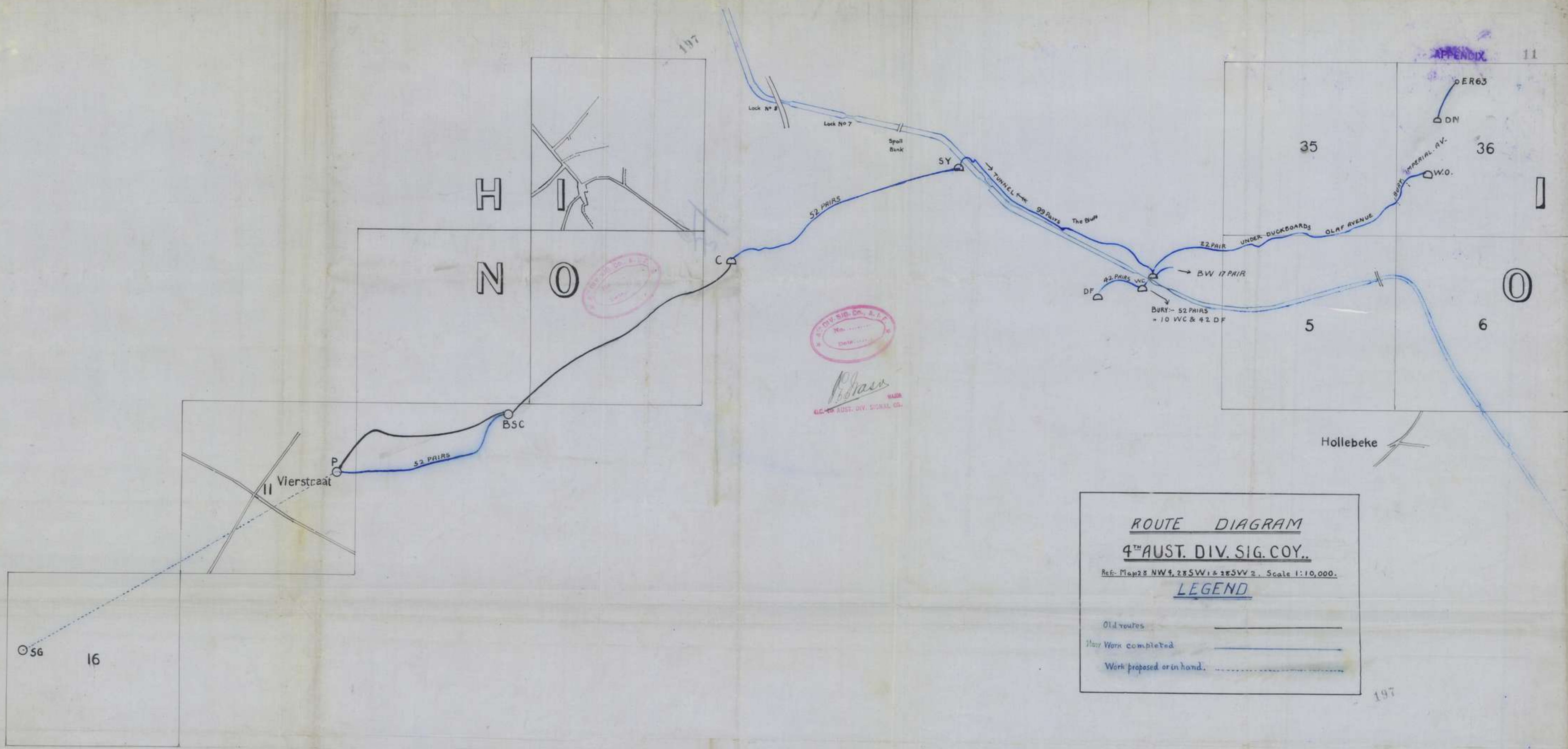
4. Unit commanders will give every assistance to Lieut. BEAZLEY and issue orders accordingly.

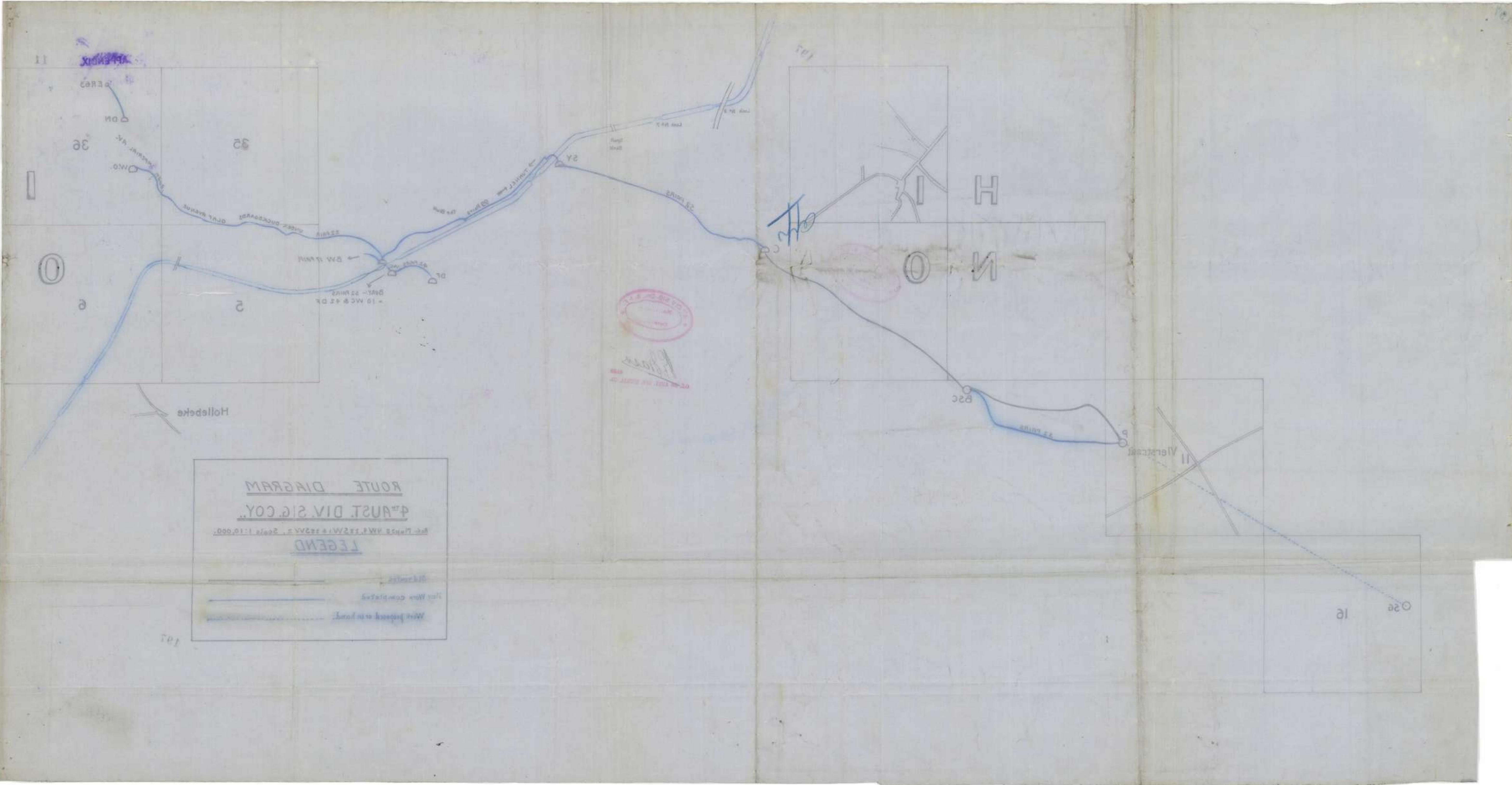


Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

4th Aust. Inf. Bde.	7
12th " " "	7
13th " " "	7
4th Aust. Div. Artillery	4
C.R.E.	4
4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.	1
24th Aust. M. G. Coy.	1
Div. Sig. Coy.	12







ROUTE DIAGRAM
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
Scale 1:10,000
LEGEND
Main road
Secondary road
Water
Railway
Telegraph line
Power line
Boundary
Settlement
Fortification
Obstacle
Other