

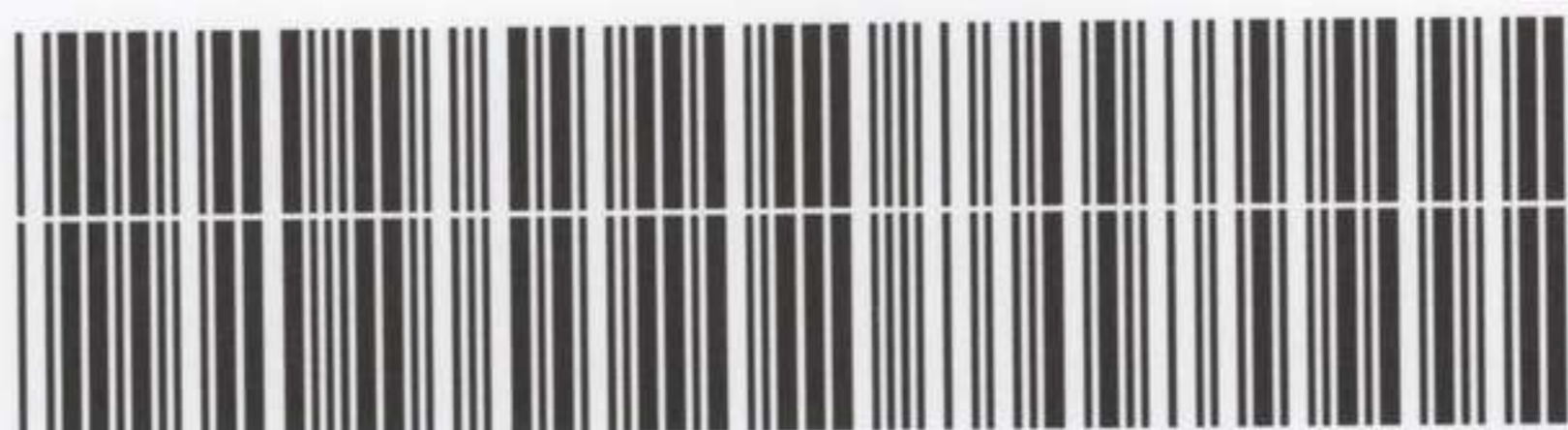
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/9/19

Title: 9th Infantry Brigade

May 1918



AWM4-23/9/19

117

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

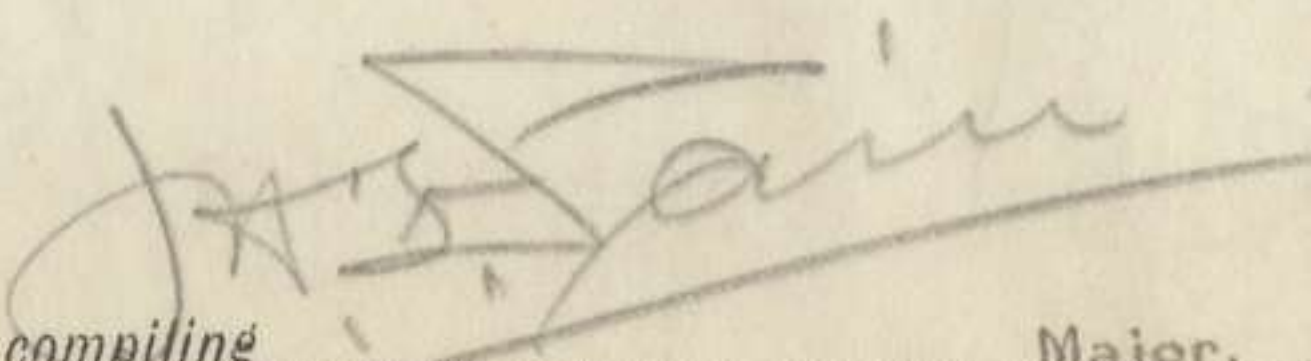
OF

— 9th Austⁿ Infantry Brigade. —

FOR

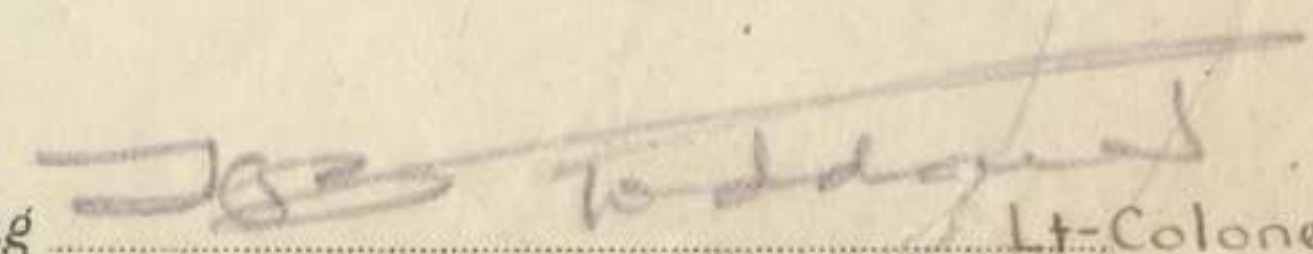
Month of May 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling



Major.
Brigade Major.
9th Austⁿ Infantry Brigade.

Signature of Officer Commanding



Lt-Colonel
Commanding 9th Aust: Inf: Brigade.

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Army Form C. 2118.

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Page 1.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
FRECHEN-COURT. HEILLY.	May 1.	6 a.m.	During the night the Left Brigade advanced their line without opposition, excepting at one point, on a width of 400 yards to a depth of 200 yards.	
		2 p.m.	Brigadier, Brigade Major and Assistant Brigade Major leave FRECHENCOURT for new advanced headquarters at HEILLY visiting 34th Battalion en route with reference to a minor operation to be undertaken during the course of the next few days. Our picquet line is to be advanced to an average depth of between 500 yards and 800 yards on the rough line J.12.b.central - J.18.d.9.0. - J.24.b.9.0. - J.24.d.2.0. It is not expected that the enemy will be encountered in any force as our patrols have operated nightly over this area unopposed for several days.	
		3 p.m.	Brigadier interviewed G.O.C. 10th Australian Infantry Brigade (Left Brigade) with reference to the proposed operation outlined in the foregoing. (General Birdwood was at 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. at this time).	
		7 p.m.	Owing to heavy mist units moved forward to the relief half an hour earlier than ordered.	
HEILLY.	May 2.	1.15 am.	Relief of 11th Australian Infantry Brigade by 9th Australian Infantry Brigade completed without incident. Brigadier-General C.ROSENTHAL, CB., CMG., assumed command of the Right Brigade Area.	
		5 a.m.	Situation quiet during the night. Artillery employed harassing fire against enemy's approaches and other remunerative targets.	
		10 am.	G.O.C. with Assistant Brigade and Intelligence Officer visit Headquarters of 34th and 35th Battalions.	
		4.30 pm.	Brigadier visited 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. in connection with forthcoming operations in which the Brigade will move forward the line as per War Diary of 1st instant.	
		8 p.m.	450 coils barbed wire sent up to Right Battalion for use in the construction of the proposed new picquet line.	
HEILLY.	May 3	5 a.m.	Quiet night, vide Brigade Intelligence Summary No. 1 (APPENDIX 1).	APPENDIX 1.
		10 am.	Divisional Commander conferred with Brigadier in connection with forthcoming advance of the picquet line on the nights 4/5th and 5/6th instant.	
		10.30 am.	Brigade Major and Intelligence Officer visited 34th and 35th Battalion Headquarters	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
HEILLY.	May 3		and examined the area in front of the Right Battalion from the front line and from observation posts.	
		2 pm.	C.R.E. and O.C. 9th Field Company A.E. conferred with Brigadier regarding works policy, construction of tunnelled Brigade Headquarters at HEILLY and material required for consolidation of new advanced picquet line to be established on night 4/5th instant.	
		3 pm.	O.C. "B" Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion received verbal instructions from Brigadier as to the role which he has to fulfil, i.e. digging line of posts during operations on 4/5th and 5/6th instant vide Brigade Order No. 28.	
		10 pm.	1,150 screw pickets delivered to 34th Battalion front line dump Brigade Intelligence Summary No.1 for 24 hours ending 4 pm.2.5.1918 issued, vide APP.1.	APPENDIX 1.
HEILLY.	May 4	1 am.	500 screw pickets delivered to 34th Battalion front line dump and 500 to 35th Battalion Headquarters. In addition about 400 coils of wire delivered to 35th Battalion.	
		5 am.	Quiet night, vide Bde. Intelligence Summary No.2 for 24 hours ending 4 pm.3.5.1918, vide	APPENDIX 2
		10.30 am.	Brigadier held conference to arrange operation for night 5/6th instant vide Brigade Order No. 28; conference was attended by Brigadier, Brigade Major, G.O. Right Artillery Group, B.M. R.A. 3rd Australian Division.	
		1.30 pm.	Brigade Order No.28 issued, vide APPENDIX 3.	APPENDIX 3
		6.30 pm.	Brigadier and Assistant Brigade Major went up line to hold conference at 35th Battalion Headquarters to be attended by Commanding Officers of 33rd, 34th and 35th Battalions to arrange details for operation on night 5/6th instant, subsequently to examine line of posts being dug tonight in accordance with APPENDIX 3 (Brigade Order No. 28). After conference, in which the scheme for the capture of enemy trenches in K.7. and K.13. was outlined, Brigadier then proceeded to inspect the operation of the 34th Battalion in advancing the picquet line vide APPENDIX 3. During the course of this inspection the Brigadier came across an enemy party of 6 all of whom were captured and brought back to Battalion Headquarters.	
			The course of operations from now onwards is as described in the Brigadier's report to Division, vide APPENDIX 4.	APPENDIX 4.
		7 pm.	Brigade Major visited 34th Battalion Headquarters for liaison purposes during operation vide APPENDIX 3.	

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEILLY.	1918. May 5	4 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.3, for 24 hours ending 4pm. 4.5.1918, issued, vide APP. 5.	APPENDIX 5.
		4.30 pm.	For operations see Brigadier's report to Division vide APPENDIX 4. Brigade Order No. 29 for attack on enemy trenches issued, vide APPENDIX 6.	APPENDIX 6.
HEILLY.	May 6	4 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.4, for 24 hours ending 4 pm.5.5.1918, issued vide APP. 7.	APPENDIX 7.
		11 am.	For operations see Brigadier's report to Division vide APPENDIX 5. Wire from Divisional Commander to Brigadier received conveying both Corps Commander's and his own hearty congratulations on last night's success, vide APPENDIX 8.	APPENDIX 8.
		noon.	Wire sent all units giving result of night's operation, vide APPENDIX 9.	APPENDIX 9.
HEILLY.	May 7		For operations see Brigadier's report to Division, vide APPENDIX 4.	
		4 p.m.	Bde. Intelligence Summary No.5, for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 6.5.1918, issued vide APPENDIX 10	APPENDIX 10.
		8 p.m.	There are indications of an enemy attack on a large scale tomorrow morning. It is expected that this will take the form of a main attack between ALBERT and ARRAS with minor attacks between the SOMME and the ANCRE and at VILLERS-BRETONNEUX. It is still thought that the enemy's objective is AMIENS and it would appear that he is not prepared to attempt the capture of the city by frontal attack. Brigade Order No.30 for temporary adjustment of tactical boundary between Left and Right Battalions, issued vide APPENDIX 11. Brigade Order No.31, for advance by 34th Battalion on night 7/8th instant, issued vide	APPENDIX 11. APPENDIX 12,
HEILLY.	May 8	5 am.	Brigade Major visited captured trenches in K.7. and K.13. returning to Brigade H.Q. at 11 am.	
		11 am.	Conference at Brigade Headquarters attended by Corps Commander, Divisional Commander and C.R.A., discussing operations of the previous night. All further details in connection with these operations are included in the Brigadier's report to 3rd Australian Division of 9th inst. (APPENDIX 4). For further operations see APPENDICES 1, 2, 5, 7 and 10.	
		4pm.	Bde. Intelligence Summary No.6, for 24 hours ending 4 pm.7.5.1918, issued vide APPENDIX 13.	APPENDIX 13.

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
HEILLY.	May 9	6 am.	A quiet night vide Intelligence Summary No.7 (APPENDIX 14). During the night the position of our line was definitely established and runs as per APPENDIX 4.	APPENDIX 14.
		noon.	Divisional Order No. 91 of 8.5.1918 received for relief of 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. by 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.	
		4 pm.	Report by Brigadier on operations forwarded to Division, vide APPENDIX 4.	APPENDIX 4.
		8 pm.	There are again indications of a probable hostile attack on a grand scale tomorrow morning. Back areas have been steadily shelled during the day; enemy aeroplanes have been flying in large numbers over our lines, and vigorous counter-battery has been employed against us; added to this statements of prisoners captured some days ago referred to the possibility of an offensive on about the 8th instant.	
		8.30 pm.	The enemy used sharp bursts of fire (4.2 guns) against HEILLY totalling about 30 shells in all.	
HEILLY.	May 10	6 am.	Quiet night, vide 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Intell. Summary No.8 (APPENDIX 15).	APPENDIX 15.
		11.30 am.	Preliminary order issued for the relief of Battalions by units of the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.	
		4 p.m.	Brigade Order No. 32 for the relief issued, vide APPENDIX 16.	APPENDIX 16.
		9.30 am.	Lt-Col. E.F. MARTIN, D.S.O., acting-Brigadier 5th A.I. Bde, arrived at Bde.H.Q. to take over.	
	May 11	3.45am.	Relief complete, vide APPENDIX 16.	
		4.0 am.	Ten bombs dropped on HEILLY.	
REAR H.Q. in wood at I.14.a.1.1. RIVERY M.2.a.6.4.		8.0 am.	Brigadier and Brigade Major left HEILLY for Rear H.Q., I.14.a.1.1. G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade now assumes responsibility for command of Reserve Brigade "C" Division.	
		11 am.	Brigadier and Brigade Major leave I.14.a.1.1. and proceed to RIVERY to new Headquarters situated at M.2.a.6.4.	
		5 pm.	All units have completed moving in accordance with Brigade Order No. 32. The Brigade now assumes responsibility for (a) the defence of the River SOMME facing Southwards in the event of a successful hostile attack on our forward system; (b) Counter-attacking on any part of the Corps front as required by the tactical situation; and (c) Furnishing nucleus garrisons in the GLISY-BLANGY line (2 Platoons in each).	
		6pm.	Bde. Intelligence Summary No.9 issued vide APPENDIX 17.	APPENDIX 17.

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
RIVERY.	May 12	10 am.	G.O.C. asks permission to move 33rd Battalion from GLISY to RIVERY in order that troops may have the benefit of rest in good billets. Except for Church parades held by units, troops were given the entire day for rest.	
		4 a.m.		
RIVERY.	May 13	4 a.m.	Enemy aeroplanes bombed AMIENS and appear to have used some very heavy projectiles; damage not ascertained.	
		10 a.m.	33rd Battalion (less 1 Company) moved from GLISY and arrived at RIVERY at 11.30	
		1 p.m.	33rd Battalion (less 1 Company) settled down in billets in Hospice St. Victor RIVERY; one Company remains as nucleus garrison in the GLISY line.	
		11.30 pm.	This day is being spent by units in reorganising and re-equipping.	
RIVERY.	May 14	10.30 am.	General Birdwood visited the Brigadier and proceeded with him to the Headquarters of all three Battalions in RIVERY. The men already seem rested but will benefit by a further few days of absolute rest. During the current week it is proposed to carry out musketry training for a few hours a day, devoting the rest of the time available to rest and sport. <i>Bde Routine Order No. X5 issued vide APPENDIX 18.</i>	APPENDIX 18.
RIVERY.	May 15	6 am.	During the night a few bombs and shells fell in AMIENS and RIVERY. The enemy intermittently bombards AMIENS with 5.9 and guns of larger calibre.	
		2 pm.	Brigadier inspects the transport of 34th Battalion; a good turn-out. <i>Bde Routine Orders Nos. X6 and X7 issued vide APPENDICES 19 and 20.</i>	APPENDIX 19. APPENDIX 20.
RIVERY.	May 16	6 am.	A further series of bombs and shells have arrived during the past 24 hours. The damage has not been ascertained. AMIENS is deserted and stringent measures have been taken to prevent soldiers and civilians from entering the town. The cathedral has so far received only two or three direct hits.	
		2 pm.	Transport of 35th Battalion and Brigade H.Q. inspected by Brigadier.	

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
RIVERY.	May 17.	10 am.	Brigadier inspected transport of 33rd Battalion; a good turn-out.	
		2 pm.	Brigadier and Brigade Major paraded at Divisional Headquarters to meet the Commander-in-Chief who had come up to see the Division personally in appreciation of its recent good work in stemming the Boche advance and in inflicting loss by local counter-attack in local enterprises. At 2.15 pm. and 3 pm. the 10th and 11th Aust. Inf. Bdes. respectively marched past the Commander-in-Chief at ALLONVILLE. The C.-in-C. was delighted with the appearance of the men.	
		10 pm.	Operation Circular No-2 issued, vide APPENDIX 21. . This Circular governs the employment of the Reserve Division with particular reference to the action of this Brigade in the event of a hostile attack.	APPENDIX 21.
RIVERY.	May 18	12 noon.	Information received from Divisional Headquarters that the Left Battalion Right Brigade 2nd Australian Division rushed an enemy post at K.7,c.5.9. this morning at 10.30 am. The garrison of the post, consisting of 1 Officer and 20 other ranks, were found asleep and all captured without any casualty to us.	
		2.30 pm.	Tests carried out with "Popham" panel for inter-communication between infantry and aircraft at H.2.b.8.7. Report furnished to Division vide APPENDIX 22.	APPENDIX 22.
		4.30 pm.	Brigadier inspected the guard mounting of 33rd, 34th and 35th Battalions.	
		6.0 pm.	Verbal information received from G.S.O.I. to the effect that the Brigade would in all probability move into the line from the VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road to a point 1,300 yards to the North on the night 21/22nd instant. This was confirmed by Warning Order received at 8 pm.	
RIVERY.	May 19	8.30 am.	Brigade Major visited Headquarters 4th Australian Division in connection with forthcoming relief, vide APPENDIX 24.	
		10 am.	Warning notice issued, vide APPENDIX 23.	APPENDIX 23.
		2 pm.	Brigade Swimming Carnival held at baths on the SOMME River as per programme (APPENDIX 25)	APPENDIX 25.
		9 pm.	Brigade Routine Order No.X8. issued, vide APPENDIX 26.	APPENDIX 26.
		11 pm.	Brigade Order No.32, covering relief by 9th A.I.Bde. of 12th A.I.Bde. issued, vide APP 24	APPENDIX 24.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIVERY.	1918. May 20	12 midnt.	Audit Board assembled, vide Brigade Routine Order No. X8 (APPENDIX 26). Credit standing to the account of the 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters Canteen Fund is at present 2399.49 francs (£ approx.).	
		7 a.m.	Brigadier, Brigade Major, Staff Captain and Brigade Signal Officer left Brigade H.Q. to visit 12th Aust. Inf. Bde, H.Q. in connection with forthcoming relief, vide APPENDIX 24. Brigadier and Brigade Major then visited all Battalion Headquarters of the Left Brigade, returning at 3 p.m.	
		2.30 pm.	Second series Brigade swimming carniva l held at SOMME BATHS vide APPENDIX 27.	APPENDIX 27.
		10 am.	Information received from Divisional Headquarters to the effect that prisoners state enemy will launch a grand attack tomorrow morning between ALBERT and ARRAS with minor attacks elsewhere to act as feints.	
		5.30 pm.	Brigadier-General Charles Rosenthal, G.B., G.M.G., under verbal orders from Divisional H.Q., proceeded to ST. GRATIEN to take over command of the 2nd Australian Division vice Major-General N.M. Smyth, V.C., G.B. Lieut.-Col. H.A. Goddard, D.S.O., 35th Battalion, now assumes command of the 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.	
RIVERY.	May 21	6 am.	Enemy attack did not eventuate during the night. A few bombs fell in the vicinity of RIVERY during the night.	
		9 am.	Arrangements made to hand over role of the RIVERY Brigade Reserve Division.	
		2 pm.	Brig.-Gen, C. Rosenthal, CB., CMG., called at Brigade Headquarters in order to say good-bye to units of his Brigade on his departure to command 2nd Australian Division.	
O.25.c.3.2.		6 pm.	Assistant Brigade Major left RIVERY for new Headquarters at O.25.c.3.2.	
		8 pm.	Brigade Headquarters closed at Hospice St. Victor RIVERY and opened at O.25.c.3.2.	
		10 pm.	Brigadier and Brigade Major arrive at new Brigade Headquarters.	
O.25.c.3.2.	May 22	1.45 am.	Relief complete, vide Brigade Order No. 32.	
		3.46 am.	Morning situation report - "Situation normal. Occasional bursts of scattered shell-fire".	
		12 noon.	C.O. 9th Field Coy. visited Brigade H.Q. in connectbn with plan of work during	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			
0.25.c.3.2.	^{May} Jan 22	12 noon (contd).	plan of work during current period in occupation of line as a result of which B.M.30/158 was despatched to units, vide Appendix 28. This will embark the Brigade upon certain definite work without however interfering with the defensive role of units. Plan of defences taken over upon relief and dispositions existing prior and subsequent to relief is attached vide Appendix 29.	APP 28
		3.0 pm.	O.C. 23rd Australian Machine Gun Company explains dispositions of his guns at Brigade Headquarters. He was ordered to keep his guns well forward to dispute ground as far advanced as possible with a view to preventing the enemy from gaining a line overlooking the Second Zone and Rear Zone defences.	APP 29
		4.0 pm.	Afternoon situation report: "Generally quiet; scattered shelling over whole area."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Major and Brigade Signal Officer visited Headquarters 33rd and 34th Battalions to arrange details of working parties and signal communication. VILLERS SWITCH was examined throughout its entire length. This trench requires deepening in O.30.a. and c. BANANA SWITCH (O.30.a.) requires similar treatment. The VILLERS LINE, running North and South approximately along along the grid line O.24.central and O.30.central, is a well-sited line offering excellent facilities for observation over the whole of the enemy's system as far as MARCELCAVE and WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.	
		5.0 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.1 issued, vide APPENDIX 30. <i>An extract from LEMATIN of today's date is attached as appendix 30A.</i>	APP 30 APP 30A-
0.25.c.3.2.	^{May} Jan 23.	4 am.	Situation report: "Situation quiet. Our artillery very active. Heavy artillery doing light counter-battery shoots. Heavy firing from MONTDIDIER direction started 3.15 am."	
		4 p.m. 4 p.m.	Afternoon situation report: "Our sector very quiet."	
		4.30 p.m.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.2 issued vide Appendix 31. <i>Brigadier with Assistant Brigade Major visited all battalions during afternoon.</i>	APP 31
0.25.c.3.2.	^{May} Jan 24.	3.50 am.	Morning situation report: "Situation quiet; no activity on our front."	
		10 a.m.	Wire received from Division detailing 100 men from 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. for work in this Brigade Area tonight. These men are to work on VILLERS SWITCH - deepening and fire-stepping to face due South.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1918.</u>			
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan 24.	10 am.	Brigade Major and Adjutant 137th Infantry Regiment United States Army visited 14th Aust. Inf.Bde. H.Q. (on our left) to co-ordinate defences at the Brigade junction, after which they proceeded 33rd Battalion HQ. and then to front line at junction with 11th Aust.Inf.Bde. and walked along whole front line to junction to junction with 5th Aust.Division on our left. Inspected taping of new communication trench between front and support line and the positions of reserve platoons immediately in rear of the front line. Arrived Brigade H.Q. at 1 a.m. 25th May 1918.	
		4.0 pm.	Situation report: "Very quiet; visibility poor; wind S.W.10 m.p.h.	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.3 issued vide APPENDIX 32.	APP 32
		5.0 pm.	Pending issue of Defence Scheme, instructions issued as to action in case of enemy attack, vide Appendix 33.	APP 33
		9 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No. 4 issued vide APPENDIX 33A.	APP 33A.
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan 25.	4.0 am.	Morning report: "Situation normal; our artillery active."	
		10.0 am.	Brigadier and Assistant Brigade Major visit Headquarters of Battalions.	
		4.20 pm.	Situation wire: "10 rounds HE. in O.28.a. at 2.30 pm; otherwise quiet. Gas shelling last 24 hours nil. Wind W.N.W. 5 m.p.h."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.5 and Supplement (No.5A) issued vide Appendix 34.	APP 34
		6.0 pm.	Left Group Artillery arranged shoot on enemy machine gun at P.20.c.6.1. 6/10 O.Ks. obtained.	
		6.30 pm.	G.S.O.I. 3rd Australian Division and Liaison Officer G.H.Q. visit Brigade Headquarters to discuss defensive arrangements.	
		8.5 pm.	Enemy commenced vigorous gas shell bombardment in O.22.d. and O.28.a.and b. in our areas as well as BOIS 1'ABBE in 11th Aust.Inf.Bde.area. This gas was later found to be Yellow Cross. No casualties reported.	
		9.46 pm.	Following wire received from Divisional H.Q., timed 9.30 pm. "Intercepted German wireless message states AAA Gas shelling will take place between 8 pm. and 10 pm. tonight and 4 am. and 6 am. tomorrow AAA German troops to wear gas masks."	
		10pm.	Enemy bombardment slackening to about three rounds gas shell per minute in the Brigade Area. The forward system has not been shelled. During the bombardment several enemy batteries were located by infantry and artillery observers and were engaged by heavy artillery Further details are contained in Intelligence Summaries Nos.5 and 5A. (Appendix 34).	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 26.	4 am.	Morning situation report: "Enemy gas shelled 0.22, 27, 28 and 29; gas shelling 0.28.a. b.and c. resumed 3.45 am. - mustard AAA Few 4.2 gas shells now falling 0.25.c.	
	May	4.15 pm.	"Situation quiet AAA Front quiet AAA 0.20.a. and 0.26.b.still receiving a few shells (gas) from direction S.E. AAA 3pm. to 345pm.- 0.21.c.and 0.27.a. received 200 rounds 5.9 H.E. from S.E. AAA Wind N, 3 m.p.h. AAA For gas shelling for last 24 hours see special report."	
		5.0 pm.	Instructions regarding supplementary communication and S.O.S. Signals issued to units vide Appendix 36.	APP 36
		5.0 pm.	Circular No.S.C.88/134 issued for parade of recipients for presentation by Corps Commander of decoration issued vide Appendix 37.	APP 37
		5.0 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.6 issued, vide Appendix 35.	APP 35
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 27.	4 am.	Situation wire: "Enemy shelling our forward area H.E. AAA All forward lines cut."	
	May	10.30 am.	Corps Commander presented decorations to various members of the Brigade vide Appendix 37; He was accompanied by the Divisional Commander.	
		11.30 am.	Corps Commander, accompanied by Divisional Commander, met representative Officers of Brigade and other units to say good-bye on leaving the Australian Corps.	
		4.30 pm.	Situation wire: "Enemy planes have been over our front line intermittently all day; machine guns fired on our trenches. Four bombs dropped in P.25.b. at 4 pm. Shelling, including gas, as reported. Now quiet."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.7 issued, vide Appendix 38.	APP 38.
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 28.	4 am.	Situation wire: "Situation quiet; few shells scattered over area during the night."	
	May	1.0 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Officer left Brigade Headquarters by car to attend demonstration of French 37mm. gun which it is proposed to use against hostile Tanks. A description of this weapon appears in Appendix 39.	APP 39
			NOTE: Further reference to operations and activity on 26th, 27th and 28th instant are embodied in 9th Australian Infantry Brigade memo. dated 30.5.1918 which accompanies this War Diary and Intelligence Summaries of those dates. <i>Notes on actual construction during operations attached to accompanying memo.</i>	
		4.30 pm.	Situation wire: "Front quiet. Wind North, 6 m.p.h."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.8 issued, vide Appendix 40.	APP 40
		5.0 p.m.	9th Aust.Inf.Bde.Order No.34, for the relief of 33rd Bn. by 35th Bn., issued vide APPENDIX 41.	APP 41.
		6.0 pm.	Instructions regarding salvage within the Brigade Area issued vide APPENDIX 41.	APP 42

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.

Page 11.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 29.	4.0 am.	Situation wire: "Situation quiet; few shells scattered over area."	
	May	10.30 am.	Brigade Major left Brigade H.Q. to attend Mark V. Tank demonstration at VAUX-sur-AMIENOIS described in Appendix 43.	APP.43.
		4.0 pm.	Situation wire: "Situation very quiet; a few 4.2 shells at long intervals spread over our sector."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.9 issued vide Appendix 44.	APP.44.
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 30.	4.0 am.	Situation wire: "Corporal 332 Infantry Regiment captured P.25.b.3.3. Two Gothas crossed line at 2.5 am. Front now quiet. Wind N.N.E. 8 m.p.h."	
	May	10.30 am.	Brigade Major with G.S.O. III. reconnoitred the area of Right Battalion 14th Aust. Inf. Bde. which is on our left. PIONEER SWITCH which is the refused flank facing South of the 5th Australian Division in the event of an enemy penetration in the vicinity of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, is a well-sited fire trench which covers the whole of the valley immediately North of that town. The question of constructing a switch line facing N.E. to join up with VILLERS SWITCH in 0.23.c. and d. was gone into and will be decided tomorrow in conjunction with the O.C. 9th Field Company A.E.	
			During the morning between 11 am. and 2 pm. the enemy continuously shelled the Southern end of the AUBIGNY system in 0.26.b. and 0.27.a. with shells of large calibre - probably 8". Scattered shelling of 0.22.a. and c., 0.16.a. (5th Aust. Divisional area), and 0.17.d. (5th Aust. Divisional area) and VILLERS-BRETONNEUX. Our artillery active as usual.	
		4 pm.	Situation wire: "Situation quiet; wind N.N.E. 4 m.p.h."	
		4.30 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.10 issued vide Appendix 45.	APP.45.
0.25.c.3.2.	Jan. 31.	4.0 am.	Situation wire: "Situation quiet. During night following shelling - 9.10 pm. to 9.20 pm. 20 rounds H.E. and gas in 0.25.a.0.0; 1.35 am. 50 rounds gas and 20 H.E. in 0.28.a. 3.45 am. 30 rounds gas on 0.25.a.0.0. - all from S.E. Wind, 1 m.p.h. N.N.E."	
	May	3.0 pm.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.11 issued vide Appendix 46.	APP.46.
		4.0 pm.	Situation wire: "situation very quiet. No hostile aircraft AAA Wind N.E. 5 miles per hour."	
		9.40 pm - 3 pm.	Brigadier with Brigade major visited front line and "Keep and intermediate works.	

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WAR DIARY

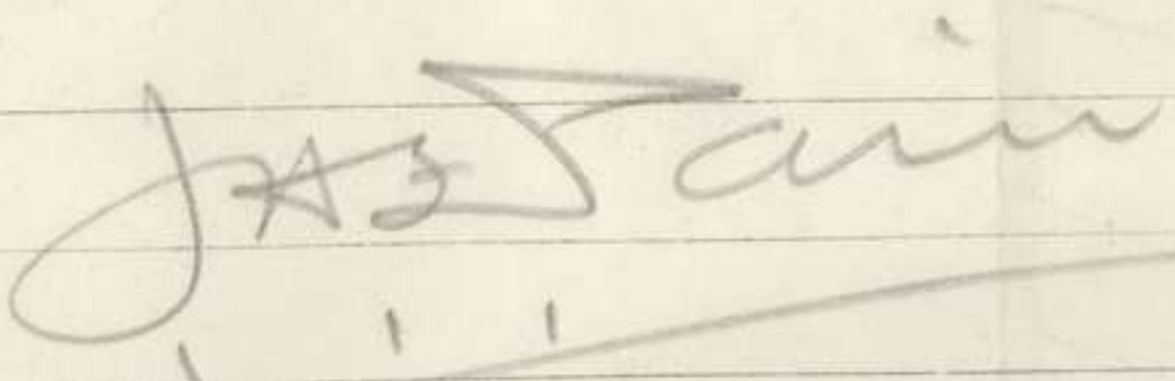
Army Form C. 2118.

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.

Page 12.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
O. 25. c. 3. 2.	May 31.	12 midnight.	Situation quiet.	
			<p>A diagram of communications existing in this area is attached hereto as Appendix 47. The necessity for a buried cable system is a pressing one but owing to lack of material in the way of cable, coupled with a lack of man power for the purpose of digging the trench in which to bury the cable it is impossible at present to make provision for it.</p>	APP 47
			<p>A record of traffic for Messenger Dog Service is also attached as Appendix 48. The use of messenger dogs is at present in its experimental stage as far as this Brigade is concerned. It has not been found entirely satisfactory as yet and is unreliable. It is, however, a useful auxiliary means of communication.</p>	APP. 48
			<p>A summary of casualties for the month of May is attached as APP. 49.</p>	
				
			<p>Major Brigade Major</p>	
			<p>9th Australian Infantry Brigade.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

OF

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

FOR

Month of May, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
✓ 1.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.1 of 3.5.1918.
✓ 2.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.2 of 4.5.1918.
✓ 3.	Brigade Order No.28 of 4.5.1918.
✓ 4.	G.O.Cs. report to Division on operations.
✓ 5.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.3 of 5.5.1918.
✓ 6.	Brigade Order No.29 of 5.5.1918.
✓ 7.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.4 of 6.5.1918.
✓ 8.	Wire conveying Corps and Divisional Commanders' congratulations on operations.
✓ 9.	Wire giving result of operation.
✓ 10.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.5 of 7.5.1918.
✓ 11.	Brigade Order No.30. of 7.5.1918.
✓ 12.	Brigade Order No.31 of 7.5.1918.
✓ 13.	Brigade Intelligence No.6 of 8.5.1918.
✓ 14.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.7 of 9.5.1918.
✓ 15.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.8 of 10.5.1918.
✓ 16.	Brigade Order No.32 of 10.5.1918.
✓ 17.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.9 of 11.5.1918.
✓ 18.	Brigade Routine Order No. X5 of 14.5.1918.
✓ 19.	Brigade Routine Order No. X6 of 15.5.1918.
✓ 20.	Brigade Routine Order No. X7 of 15.5.1918.
✓ 21.	Brigade Operation Circular No.2 of 17.5.1918.
✓ 22.	Report on "Popham" Panel of 18.5.1918.
✓ 23.	Warning notice of relief of 19.5.1918.
✓ 24.	Brigade Order No.33 of 19.5.1918.
✓ 25.	Programme of Brigade Swimming Competition, 19.5.1918.
✓ 26.	Brigade Routine Order No. X8 of 19.5.1918.
✓ 27.	Programme of Brigade Swimming Competition, 20.5.1918.
✓ 28.	Memo. B.M.30/158 of 22.5.1918 showing plan of work.
✓ 29.	Plan of defences and dispositions on relief.
✓ 30.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.1 of 22.5.1918.
✓ 31.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.2 of 23.5.1918.
✓ 32.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.3 of 24.5.1918.
✓ 33.	Brigade Memo. reference Defence Scheme of 24.5.1918.
✓ 33A.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.4 of 24.5.1918.
✓ 34.	Brigade Int.Summy.No.5 and Supplement (No.5A),25.5.1918.
✓ 35.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.6 of 26.5.1918.
✓ 36.	Instructions regarding supplementary communication.
✓ 37.	S.C.Circular 88/134 of 26.5.1918 reference decorations.
✓ 38.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.7 of 27.5.1918.
✓ 39.	Report on French 37mm. gun by Bde.Intell.Officer.
✓ 40.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.8. of 28.5.1918.
✓ 41.	Brigade Order No.34 of 28.5.1918.
✓ 42.	Instructions of 28.5.1918 regarding salvage.
✓ 43.	Report by Bde.Major on Mark V.Tank demonstration.
✓ 44.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.9 of 29.5.1918.
✓ 45.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.10 of 30.5.1918.
✓ 46.	Brigade Intelligence Summary No.11. of 31.5.1918.
✓ 47.	Diagram of communications
✓ 48.	Rechn of traffic per messenger/dog service.
✓ 49.	Summary of casualties for May 1918.
✓ 50A.	Extract from LE MATIN of 22.5.1918.

CONFIDENTIAL.

- APPENDIX I. -

3.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No 1
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 2.5.1918.

Reference map:
Sheet 62 D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Active throughout the night on enemy back areas.
From 4 am. to 4.30 am. our 18-pdrs. fired on enemy front line
on our Right Battalion sector.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. 5,000 rounds on enemy works in K.13. and K.19., also
on cross-roads in K.13.b. and d.

Patrols. Our Right Battalion report no enemy seen whilst
patrolling the whole of their front. The wood in J.24.b.
was thoroughly searched but no enemy seen.
Our Left Battalion had seven patrols out during the
night. A machine gun is reported active at K.13.a.00.20.
Generally, the night was quiet.

Aircraft. Our planes active, flying high during the whole day.
At 6.30 am. one of our planes flew low over enemy front line
opposite our sector.

Identifications. Nil.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.
10 am. - 1.30 pm. 85 rds. H.E. 4.2 fell in J.27.a & b. from S.E.
10.30 a.m. 10 " H.E. 5.9 " " J.19.b.8.4. from 60°
T.B. from J.29.a.8.0.
6 am. - 10 am. 40 rounds 4.2 fell in J.22.d.0.7. from E.
3 am. - 6 pm. 110 " 77 " " J.18.c., J.11.d. and
J.17.d. from vicinity of MORLANCOURT.
3 am. - 3.45 am. 30 rounds 5.9 fell in MARET WOOD from vicinity
of MORLANCOURT.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

I.S. No. 1.

2.

3. 5. 1918.

Machine Guns. Marked decrease in activity. Gun at K.13.a.O.2. fired frequently on our front and support lines. Gun at K.13.c.35.35 reported active.

Aircraft. No low-lying planes over our sector. From 8 am. onwards enemy was active at high altitudes. Five planes passed over our lines at 10 am.

Movement. Very little movement seen. At 7 pm. two men were seen walking along trench at J.18b 8.5, wearing field caps.

Visibility. Poor after 10 am.

G. Halford
for Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



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Appendix 2

CONFIDENTIAL

4.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 2
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 3.5.1918.

Reference map :- Shoot 62 D

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Fairly active throughout the day. At 6.15 am. 18-pdrs. engaged defences in J.19.a. where movement had been reported. No further movement observed.

Trench Mortars. 4.30 am. - 40 rounds 3" Stokes on enemy post at J.18.b.7.3. Result unobserved.

Machine Guns. Owing to relief very little firing took place. 250 rounds fired for testing of guns. Our Lewis Guns engaged four enemy planes at 4.30 pm.

Snipers. One hit is claimed at J.12.d.8.4. and two at J.18.b.75.40.

Aircraft. Very active, flying low over enemy lines. One of our planes brought down in flames by four enemy planes at 10 am. in vicinity of TRUX.

Identifications. Nil.

Patrols. One of the Right Battalion patrols searched wood in J.24.b. and found it impossible to pass from West to East at J.24.b.5.5. owing to wire. None of the enemy seen or heard. Machine gun fire was heavy and hampered the patrol whilst in the open. Between the wood and the BRAY-CORBIE Road the ground is cut up into ravines which would offer cover to a considerable number of troops. At J.24.b.4.7. a partially-completed C.T. commences, going West. This almost joins the ravine (20 ft. deep) inside the edge of the wood. On the South side of the wood there is a system of posts. At J.24.b.7.4. there are two concrete heavy gun emplacements. The cemetery in J.24.d.8.3. was searched; also posts in the vicinity which showed no signs of recent occupation.

A patrol of the Left Battalion reports wire running from J.12.b.7.0. to J.12.d.7.0. This is not much of an obstacle and gaps of 50 yards were found at J.12.d.85.80. and J.12.d.80.28. A trip wire runs from J.18.b.5.3. and connects with wire at J.12.d.7.0.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.
9 pm to 10 pm. 30 rds. 10.5 cm. in HARETT WOOD from T.B. 83° from J.12.d.3.5.
-do- 10 rds. 15 cm. -do- -do-
10 am to 1 pm. 25 rds. 10.5 cm. in J.12.e. -do-
4 pm to 8 pm. 10 rds. 77 " J.23.a. and b. from K.21.
7.15 a.m. 20 rds. 77 " J.17.a. from MORLANCOURT.
8.55 am to 9.45am. 60 rds 4.2 & 77 from MORLANCOURT.

Trench Mortars. 7.30 pm. - Four rounds L.M.W. fell in J.24.a. and J.24.c. Gun not located.

Machine Guns. Active from J.12.d.8.4. and K.13.c.3.3. Road at J.23.a.5.5 fired on during the night by a gun suspected to be located at I.24.d.9.9. Gun also suspected at J.18.b.50.15.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX 2

I No 2.

2.

4.6.1918.

Aircraft. Active for a short period about 4 am. There still no shot down by our airmen at 7 am. Plane marked G.13282/17. Observer shot through head - killed. Pilot wounded, this is high.

Works. Working party (about 30 men) at J.12.d.0.8. - probably digging trenches. Fresh earth visible at J.12.d.8.2. Suspected post at J.12.d.8.4. Working party at J.12.d.8.2. At 6.30 pm. working party seen in trench at K.19.c.8.2. Ten men seen working at E.27.c.2.2

Movement.
5 am. Five men walking down railway line at K.2.b.7.3.
6.10 am. Two men and a dog at E.28.a.15.25 going towards HORN COURT.
10.30 am. Seven men at K.9.b.4 l. carrying oblong black objects on road going towards HORN COURT.
11.15 am. Five men from L.16.b.7.9. to K.16.d.05.60.

General. At 10 pm. our last post moved from J.12.d.3.5. No resistance was encountered.

G. Halford Lt

Brig-Gen
G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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APPENDIX

3
23

appendix 3

SECRET.

Copy No. ...

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 28.

Reference map:
62 D. N.E. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
4th May 1918.

1. The 34th Battalion will advance the picquet line tonight to a general line running approximately K.13.c.0.0. - J.24.d.7.0. - J.30.a.central.
2. (a) The advance will be protected by strong battle patrols under cover of which a double apron wire entanglement will be constructed by 33rd Battalion in front of the new picquet line.
(b) The left flank of the new picquet line will be linked up with the old picquet line by advancing the post at J.18.d.8.1.
3. One Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion has been placed at the disposal of 34th Battalion for the purpose of digging the line of picquet posts.
4. Forward dumps for R.E. material have already been established.
5. (a) Artillery will not fire upon ground West of the North-South grid line through K.19.central on the 34th Battalion front during the operations.
(b) the operation will be carried out without artillery preparation.
6. Zero hour, at which time battle patrols will emerge from the old picquet line, will be communicated separately.
7. Acknowledge.

McZain

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution.

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Copy No. 1-3 | Brigade Headquarters. | Copy No. 17 | 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 4 | Brigade Signal Section. | 18 | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| 5-9 | 34th Battalion. | 19 | C.R.A. |
| 10 | 33rd Battalion. | 20 | C.R.E. |
| 11 | 35th Battalion. | 21 | 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn. |
| 12 | 10th Aust. M.G. Coy. | 22 | 3rd Aust. M.G. B. |
| 13 | 11th Aust. L. T. M. Bty. | 23-25 | War Diary. |
| 14 | Right Group Artillery. | 26 | File. |
| 15 | 9th Field Company A.E. | | |
| 16 | 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. | | |

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APPENDIX 3

SECRET.

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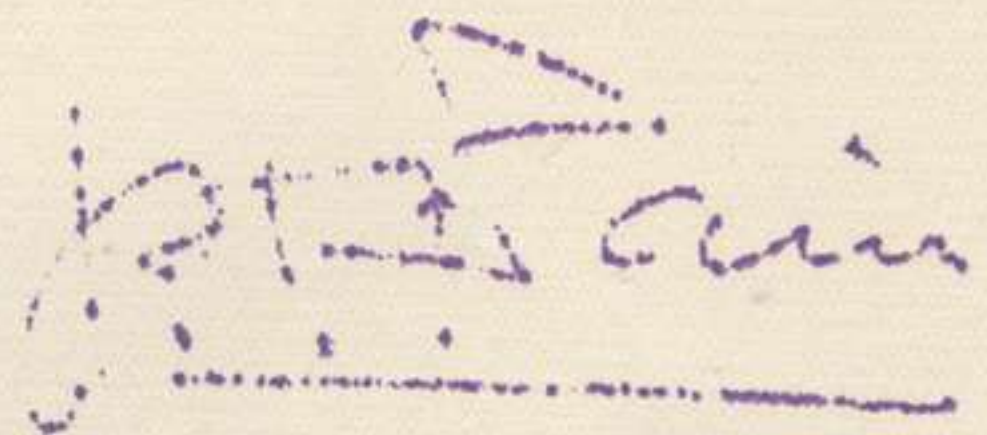
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters.
4th May 1918.

To all recipients
of 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Order No. 20.

Reference 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 28
dated 4th May 1918, para. 6:

ZERO HOUR will be 9.0 p.m.



Major
Brigade Major
9th AUSTRALIAN Infantry Brigade.

14A

Appendix 4. APPENDIX 4

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

33/208.

Brigade Headquarters.
9th May 1918.

Headquarters
3rd Australian Division.

I have to report as follows on operations involving the employment of all units of the Brigade from 4th to 9th instant.

The Right Brigade Area was taken over by the 9th Australian Infantry Brigade on 1st instant. It was decided on the 3rd inst. to advance the front line to the high ground along the general line K.7.central - K.19.central, refusing the right flank in K.19.c. The proposed operation was dependent upon the co-operation of both flank Brigades.

Prior to the operations the Brigade was disposed with two Battalions in the line and one in support. The Battalions in the line each had one Company in the picquet line, two in the front line, and one in Reserve.

The Right (34th) Battalion was ordered to advance on 4th instant to establish a line of 7 posts between J.24.b.9.9, J.29.b.9.0 J.30.a.8.5. The two right posts at J.30.a.8.5 and J.30.b.2.8. were in front of the Brigade on our right. At 9 pm. strong battle patrols moved out to a position well East of and covering the proposed line of posts. This covering force was then reinforced by the picquet line Company. The 33rd Battalion then commenced wiring on a line which had been taped out that night by 9th Field Company. About midnight when wiring had been put well in hand one Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion moved out to dig the line of posts. The operation was completely successful and we suffered only two casualties from rifle fire. The post just North of the BRAY-CORBIE road at J.18.d.6.2. was advanced to J.18.d.8.2. in order to protect the Northern flank of the new picquet line South of the road. During the night a party of 6 of the enemy was encountered at J.30.b.7.8. and captured after two had been wounded. All prisoners were of 114 Regiment 199 Division (normal). Our artillery and machine guns maintained a normal attitude throughout the night. At dawn the digging and wiring parties were withdrawn and the covering troops moved back and occupied the new picquet line. Progress was reported by telephone from Picquet Company Headquarters. The night was intensely dark, making the siting and taping of wire and posts a very difficult matter. No opposition was encountered as the area occupied by us had been actively patrolled previously, thus preventing the enemy from establishing himself on the line to which I had decided to advance.

Meanwhile the Left Battalion had been reconnoitring a trench system in K.7. and K.13. upon which the enemy was busily engaged working. It was found that this system was well wired and manned by a series of posts. Attempts by our patrols to enter this line were unsuccessful but gave us the required information. I then decided that the line of the Left Battalion should be advanced to the vicinity of the grid line K.7.central, K.13.central, South to the BRAY-CORBIE road and that the Right Battalion should conform by taking up the line K.19.a.9.1. - K.19.a.9.9. with the right flank refused, to link up with the newly-constructed picquet line in J.24.d.

As the weather had prevented the Royal Air Force from taking photographs of the enemy trenches on the day preceding the attack, it was not known until the afternoon of the 5th instant that the enemy had constructed a second line 300/300 yards in rear of his front line unobserved under cover of the dull weather. The advance therefore involved the capture of a second line running through K.7.c., K.13.a. and c. and the trench in K.19.a. which line would conform to our new front line.

For the purpose of this operation it was necessary to relieve the 34th and 35th Battalions from garrison duty, thus leaving them free for attack purposes. Therefore, the 33rd Battalion was ordered

was ordered to detail two companies for garrison duties, one was ordered to detail the remaining two companies for garrison duties, one Company in "A" Battalion area and one in "B" Battalion Area. Two Companies 33rd Battalion were detailed, one each to "A" and "B" Battalion, for carrying duties. As the area to be attacked overlapped the left of "A" Battalion Area, 1½ Companies of 34th Battalion were detailed to act under the orders of C.O. "B" Battalion (Lieut.-Col. H.A. Goddard, IDS.O.) to whom the direction of the main attack was entrusted. The tactical boundary between "A" and "B" Battalions now became the BRAY-CORBIE road (inclusive to "A" Battalion. I thus had my whole Brigade (3 Battalions and Light Trench Mortar Battery) in battle array immediately prior to the assault. A Battalion of the Divisional Reserve had been ordered by Divisional Headquarters to stand by ready to come under my orders. One Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion was allotted to the Brigade for trench construction.

Orders for the attack were issued on the afternoon of the 5th instant.

Divisional Artilleries co-operated in the scheme to the extent of 92 18-pr. guns and 30 4.5" Howitzers which were employed in creating an advancing barrage (18-pr.) and a back barrage (4.5" How.) with 106 fuzes) and a Northern flank barrage. Heavy Artillery was engaged in counter-battery work from Zero to Zero plus 60 minutes.

The 33rd Battalion took over garrison duty at 11 pm. with two Companies. The attacking Companies were in position of readiness at 11.35 pm., and the artillery barrage opened at 11.45 pm. The infantry then advanced with three Companies in two waves with three Companies in the front line and behind each of these Companies two Platoons in the second line. The first wave was given the duty of capturing and mopping-up the enemy first line; whilst the second wave moved forward through the first in order to attack the enemy support line. Having mopped-up the first line the leading Companies were to "leap-frog" through our troops in occupation of the enemy support line and to find a covering screen for troops engaged upon consolidation.

The enemy front line was found strongly held. Resistance was only moderate on the front of the Right and Centre Companies but on the left of the Left Company the enemy in large numbers made a determined stand. By 1 am. the Right Company (1½ Coys. 34th Bn.) had established itself on the second objective had cut a protective screen to cover consolidation, in which we used an enemy machine gun.

The Centre Company ("A" Coy. and ½ "D" Coy. 35th Bn) had gained touch with Company on its right and had two Platoons in the second objective by 12.45 am. There was, however, a gap of 200 yards between the Centre and Right Companies. By 3 am. the front line (2nd objective) of this Company had been made good throughout, the work of making saps being carried out by Pioneers was well advanced, and wiring commenced. One Lewis Gun had been destroyed during the advance.

The Left Company ("C" Coy. 35th Bn.) was delayed for a time by the Northern flank of our barrage which caused a few casualties. It is not clear whether the barrage was short or whether our own infantry had advanced too far. The second objective was reached, however, against most determined resistance as a result of which a gap of 50 to 60 yards near the left flank was caused just before entering the first objective. The Left Platoon reached the second objective only three in number and isolated; this party then returned with 20 prisoners and a machine gun.

For some time the left flank situation was obscure and at 1.10 am. the enemy was reported to be holding 200 yards of the Northern end of our objective. The Reserve Company was finally sent in to clear up the situation with the result that at 3.15 am. the line ran K.7.c.1.9. to K.7.c.5.5., thence Southwards along second (final) objective. A Company of 33rd Battalion was ordered to clear up the situation but word was received in the meantime that the whole of the second objective had been taken, except a small portion of trench junction at K.7.c.5.9. Hence this Company was not engaged.

Pioneers, assembled in the vicinity of Battalion H.Q., went forward at 12.15 am. to dig. They arrived on their work at 1.30 am. and laid out and practically completed 8 T-head posts.

These posts

11A-K

These posts have since been improved by infantry. The Pioneer Platoon on the left, finding they could not work until the enemy was cleared from their position, participated in the fighting, using their rifles to good effect.

Whilst fighting was in progress North of the BRAY-CORBIE road the 34th Battalion pushed forward South of the road, overcame a powerful resistance in the trench system in K.19.a., and consolidated on the line K.19.a.9.9.-K.19.a.9.1. This part of the operation ensured the protection of our right flank North of the road, and resulted in the capture of important ground. Twenty-four prisoners and 1 machine gun were captured at this point.

The old enemy support trench, now forming our front line, is a shallow, straight cutting of various depths, not traversed or recessed - rather in the nature of a communication trench. This trench is gradually being improved and deepened. Owing to limited time, very little wiring was completed, with the exception of about 250 yards, both concertina and barbed wire.

To assist consolidation, three machine guns were sent forward immediately in rear of the attacking infantry. These guns later inflicted loss on the enemy.

Owing to rain which fell all day, the ground was very heavy and slippery. The night, however, remained fine and clear, though intensely dark.

Total of prisoners captured by us on this night is 3 Officers and 165 other ranks (8 seriously wounded and a number slightly wounded).

It is estimated that infantry and artillery inflicted on the enemy a loss of 150 killed on the 5/6th instant in the vicinity of the captured system.

Our casualties were extremely light in comparison with the magnitude of the operation, being:

33rd Battalion	Killed	nil.	Wounded	1	Off.	4	o/r
34th Battalion		4	1	"	19	"	"
35th Battalion		12	4	"	44	"	"

The 6th and 7th instant were devoted mainly to consolidation of newly-won positions, although 34th Battalion was continually attacked by enemy in trenches in K.19.a. Posts in this trench changed hands several times during the day but by vigorous counter-attack and very successful work of Light Trench Mortars it remained in our hands on the evening of the 7th instant. We employed Stokes Mortars to effect at this point for clearing enemy posts in K.19.b., c. and d.

On the 7th instant 34th Battalion again renewed the attack with the object of capturing the enemy works in K.19.c. and advancing its line to approximately K.19.central - K.19.c.5.0. to link up with 8th Australian Infantry Brigade on our right. 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. was to take up the line (approx.) K.19.c.5.0.- K.30.central to protect our right flank. Zero hour for this operation was 11 pm. 7/8th instant. One Company of Pioneers was attached to 34th Battalion for digging.

Barrage opened at 11 pm. and was followed up closely by two Companies of 34th Battalion. The attack started off well and despite opposition trench system at K.19.central was occupied by us. The situation in K.19.c. was obscure from the outset, and when day dawned communication became impossible. One Company 33rd Battalion had been detailed during this operation as counter-attack Company to remain until required in J.24.c. As there was now no strong garrison for the old front line, two Companies of the 44th Battalion (Reserve Brigade) were brought forward from J.13. and were placed in the old front line, one in rear of each of the Battalions in the line.

On the night 8/9th instant strong patrols were sent forward to clear up the situation and succeeded in gaining touch with 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. at K.19.c.0.0. on its right flank and with our troops on the left at K.19.central.

In the operations described in the foregoing we captured 3 Officers and 190 other ranks as well as 16 machine guns (including 1 Heavy M.G.) and 3 Trench Mortars (including 1 Heavy T.M.).

These operations represent an advance of our front line

front line to an average depth of 1,100 yards on a frontage of 2,500 yards. The new front and support lines are excellently sited for field of fire, particularly in K.13., added to which we are now enabled to occupy the valley in J.24. for accommodation. The enemy has not now any definitely-organised trench system before us, and his observation of our area has been considerably limited. From our present front line good observation for snipers and artillery observers exist, whilst a view of the valleys approaching MORLANGOURD is opened up. After consolidation the new line will make a very strong main defensive position backed up by good accommodation for close support troops with a heavily wired subsidiary line in rear.

Since writing the foregoing I regret to say that information is now available to the effect that 5 Officers and 70 other ranks are missing as the result of operations on the night 7/8th instant. These losses were sustained as follows:--

	Officers.	Other ranks.
53rd Battalion	1	34
34th Battalion	1	36

It cannot be definitely ascertained how this loss occurred as the only information concerning the attack in K.19.c. comes from an Officer and other ranks who state that the assaulting wave started off well under our barrage. These casualties, however, were incurred shortly after the opening of our barrage, and no information is available which would tend to clear up the situation. It may here be noted that no clearly defined definite line or trench system existed in K.19.c. on which our troops could align themselves when making the final rush.

Charles Brentnall

Brig.-Gen.
G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Copies to:--

Brigade Headquarters.
34th Battalion.
44th Battalion.
9th Field Company.
10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.
C. R. A.
3rd Aust. M. G. Bn.
Right Artillery Group.
2nd Tank Battalion.
File.
Spares.

33rd Battalion.
35th Battalion.
9th A. L. T. M. Battery.
3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
C. R. E.
10th Aust. M. G. Coy.
Left Artillery Group.
A. D. M. S.
War Diary.

14A
COPY.

Subsequently compiled report
to the attached War Diary 9 A.I.F. for May 1918. 24

No. 1 Command Depot,
Sutton Veney,
Warminster, Wilts,
4/2/1919.

APPENDIX 4

Dear Major Fry,

In reply to your letter of 10th Jan. 1919 for particulars of the Morlancourt stunt on 7th May 1918. It is rather difficult to explain by letter but I can give you a statement as near as possible.

I received orders of the stunt from Captain McMINN at 10.20 p.m. on the night of the 7/5/18 stating my platoon was to take part and be the right flank, being in touch with the 29th Battalion. I was to be in position at 10.30, the operations to take place at 11.45 p.m. Owing to my platoon being in readiness when orders arrived, I was able to comply with same. Before leaving I mentioned to Mr. BATEMAN (in charge of 13 platoon) that his platoon was to take part in the stunt. He had received no orders up to that time. On my way I called at Lieut BROWN's strong point and gave him details. He also had received no orders of the stunt. I then directed him to our hopping off line, placing his platoon, as orders stated, on my left; I then met Capt. McMINN with FELL and REED with two platoons of the 33rd Battalion. I then sent my Batman twice to the right to get into touch with the 29th. He did not succeed so I then sent him back to the 29th Strong point to direct them forward immediately, as we were ready to move off. He had only just gone when our barrage opened up and I was then informed by Capt. McMINN that we had no one on our left flank. He then gave orders to advance. His idea was to go forward and take our objective and hold on till our flanks came up. We did so, doing good work, but I found I was bearing to the left the whole of the distance. We were counter-attacked shortly after our line had been taken. We succeeded in breaking that up but found Fritz around on both flanks. Apparently he saw we had a very narrow frontage. We had no tools to dig in; Capt. McMINN then gave orders to retire. In turning about we made another right incline by mistake and went right through to his Artillery. Having no prismatic we were completely lost and wandered into a small wood. Shortly after that as shelled by our own artillery, we then moved to another wood close by. There were Fritz Patrols walking past us. We also discovered them using one of our 18 pounders. It was then decided to wait till dawn and try to get back to our lines. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ By this time we were just about out of ammunition and had 30 men left including 33rd Battalion. As soon as dawn came we found they were all round us and a German Officer and men walking past our Wood to their Battalion Headquarters, which we were behind. There were also tracks through the Wood and owing to such a small Wood it was impossible to remain there very long before being discovered. Capt. McMINN called a conference of the men, and they decided there was nothing left to do but to surrender as it meant sacrificing the party to try to get back without ammunition. All maps, papers, guns, etc, were then destroyed. Capt. McMINN with FELL went to their Headquarters and gave the Party up, and in a few minutes they were coming from every direction. I consider myself, if the people on our flanks had come up the Stunt would have been a great success and we would not have been taken prisoner, a thing I never thought of being. There is too much to explain of the treatment towards us while in their hands, all I might say is they made it as bad as they possibly could for us, including starvation for 5 months, until our Red Cross parcels arrived and saved the situation. I spent 7 months there, but give me 7 years on the battlefield before going through the same 7 months again. I managed to keep with Capt. McMINN, FELL and REED. I expect to get away in the same boat as Capt. McMINN.

Well, Major, you may think this rather a long statement, but I thought it advisable to give you full details. Many thanks for your kind wishes for my safe return, also my brother officers. Kindly give them my best regards and I wish you all a safe and speedy return to Australia.

Living in hopes to sail myself this month
from

Yours sincerely

(Sgd) L. S. McMAHON Lieut.

34th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix 5 Diary

CONFIDENTIAL.

5.5.1918.

**NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 3
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 4.5.1918.**

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Active, firing in the vicinity of MORLANCOURT. At 11 pm. we engaged roads in K.20. SAILLY-LAURETTE was fired on intermittently during the afternoon of the 3rd instant.

Trench Mortars. Our 3" Stokes fired 30 rounds (three O.Ks) on enemy front line at J.181b.70.20. Groans were heard after.

Machine Guns.

1,000 rounds on enemy works at K.19.central.
1,000 " " road K.14.a.
1,000 " " " K.20.a.
1,000 " " " K.13.b.

Aircraft. Our planes were very active. From 4 pm. to 6 pm. three flights of 10 each were over enemy front line.

Sniping. Three hits are claimed. In two of the cases the men were carried away.

Patrols. The Left Battalion reports that the suspected post at J.12.d.6.1. is merely shell-holes and ploughed ground, but that there was a machine gun at J.12.d.8.1. in rear of the wire. The Right Battalion found working party between Cemetery in J.24.d. and J.30.b.50.42. This party was well protected by machine gun posts and it was not found possible to get round the flanks. The artillery were informed. Another patrol examined wood in J.24.b. and also part of K.19.a. and report working party at K.19.c.6.6. and sniper in vicinity of J.24.b.8.0. A new sap 2' 6" deep runs from enemy front line at K.19.c.6.6; it goes West for 100 yards and then turns North. Patrol tried to enter enemy front line by this sap but were prevented by wire. Talking was heard suggestive of the enemy having posts along the front line at about 250 yards interval.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.Artillery.

4 pm. - 6 pm. 20 rds. 15 cm. in J.17.d. from K.27.
10 pm. - midnight 30 " 10.5 " " J.10.c.6.6. and J.16.b. from direction of K.19.a.
2 am - 3 am. 40 rds. 12.5 cm. in MARKET WOOD from E.B. 98° from J.12.d.3.5.
-do- 20 rds. 15 cm. -do- -do-
12.30 pm. - 1 pm. 10 " " " in J.10.d. and J.15.b. from K.27.
9.30 am. 17 rds. 77mm. H.E. in WELLCOME WOOD from E.S.E.
11.10 am. - 11.35 am. 20 rds. 77mm. H.E. in approximately J.22.a.0.0. from E.S.E.

At intervals during the afternoon J.17.d. was shelled with 4.2 H.E. from vicinity of MORLANCOURT.

Trench Mortars.

3.15 pm. - Four rounds Pineapple fell at J.18.c.6.8. from K.13.a. 05.60. No damage done.

R. U. O.

APPENDIX

5

I. S. No. 3.

2.

5.5.1918.

Machine Guns. Frequent bursts of M.G. fire from K.7.c.0.5., K.7.c.0.0., K.13.c.0.4., K.15.c.45.45., and K.24.d.8.6., and K.19.a.8.2.3.2.

Aircraft. Three balloons up during the day At 4 pm. ten enemy planes flew in a South-westerly direction at high altitudes. At 6 am. an enemy plane flew fairly low over our forward positions.

Works. Nil.

Movement.
6.30 pm. - Party of 7 enemy dispersed by volley from 12 rifles. One man was carried away after.
5.0 am. - Two of enemy with sticks and binoculars on BRAY-CORBIE Road. in K.13.c. Snipers claim to have hit both.
11.30 am. - Ten of enemy seen at K.19.a.8.2. Artillery was brought to bear and O.K. obtained.
4 pm. - Four-wheeled wagons left buildings in K.11.a. Men and horses seen moving about buildings.

General. Enemy propaganda balloons dropped papers (in French). An enemy searchlight was operating from SAILLY-LAURETTE.
7.55 pm. - 9 pm. - Enemy sent up red flares from rear of SAILLY-LAURETTE.

G. Halford
for Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 29.

Reference map:
62 D. N.E. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
5th May 1910.

1. The 35th Battalion will attack and capture the enemy Front and Support Line Systems (known for purposes of reference as 1st and 2nd objectives) in Squares J.12., J.18., K.7. and K.13. tonight and will establish a line of 8 posts approximately 15 feet East of the enemy Support line.

2. For purposes of the attack 34th Battalion will allot 1½ Companies to work under the orders of C.O. 35th Battalion.

3. The 35th Battalion will provide its own protective patrols and working parties but will be assisted by one Company of 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion which is being made available to C.O. 35th Battalion for digging purposes.

4. (a) As soon as possible after nightfall the 35th Battalion will be relieved by two Companies 33rd Battalion of its present responsibility for holding the line.

(b) The 34th Battalion will remain responsible for holding that portion of the line in its area opposite the point attacked.

(c) The details of 4 (a) and (b) will be arranged mutually between C.Os. concerned.

5. 34th Battalion will maintain touch with right flank of 35th Battalion and will connect up by means of a line of posts extending from K.19.c.0.9. Northwards.

6. (a) The two Companies 33rd Battalion (vide para. 4 (a)) will garrison the present Front Line System until no longer required by C.O. 35th Battalion.

(b) The Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion will remain under the orders of C.O. 35th Battalion until conclusion of the operation but will be withdrawn before dawn.

7. Two Stokes Mortars of 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery are placed at the disposal of C.O. 35th Battalion for the operation.

8. (a) Artillery co-operation has been arranged and infantry assaulting troops will advance under an 18-pdr. and 4.5" (How.) barrage.

(b) Time-table and Rates of Fire for 18-pdrs. are as follows:--

ZERO to ZERO plus 3 minutes	- 4 rds. p.g.p.m.	- Start Barrage.
ZERO plus 3 m. to ZERO plus 6 m.	- 3 " "	- Advances 100 yards.
ZERO plus 6 m. to ZERO plus 9 m.	- 3 " "	- " 100 yards.
ZERO plus 9 m. to ZERO plus 12m.	- 3 " "	- " 150 yards.
ZERO plus 12m. to ZERO plus 14m.	- 1 " "	- " 200 yards.
ZERO plus 14m. to ZERO plus 16m.	- 1 " "	- " 200 yards.
ZERO plus 16m. to ZERO plus 60m.	- 1 " p.g.p. 4 min.	- " 200 yards

and form Protective Barrage.

As per Barrage Map forwarded with this Order to Flank Brigades and 35th Battalion.

Exceptions to the above.

Left Group. Flank Barrage (6 18-pdr. guns) from K.7.a.5.8. to K.7.b.4.0. will be at the rate of 1 round p.g.p.m. throughout.

Exceptions (continued).

150th Bde. } Rate of fire up to the Protective Barrage line -
H.F.A. att'd. } 2 rounds p.g.p.m. On the Protective Barrage
5th Aust. D.A. } line - 1 round p.g.p. ~~in~~ 4 minutes.

(c) ⁴ 4.5" HOWS. All Hows. will open at ZERO HOUR on the Protective Barrage Line, and remain until Zero plus 12 minutes, when they will lift on to likely assembly areas not less than 400 yards East of the Protective Barrage Line. 106 Fuze will be used throughout. Rate of fire: 1 round per How. per minute.

(d) Ordinary harassing fire will be carried out at the usual rates. Special attention is being paid to enemy works in K.7.b., K.19.central, and K.25.a. with 4.5" Hows. with 106 Fuze.

(e) Heavy Artillery will be engaged in counter-battery work from Zero to Zero plus 60 minutes.

(f) From Zero Hour onwards the S.O.S. barrage will, if required, be placed on the Protective Barrage Line, the Line for the Left Group running from K.7.b.4.0. to K.7.a.0.5., thence Northwards as before.

(g) During the opening phase of the bombardment the two posts at K.19.a.2.7 and J.18.d.8.2. will be withdrawn and will be reoccupied when barrage permits.

9. 3rd Australian Machine Gun Battalion will co-operate by placing three Vickers guns at the disposal of C.O. 35th Battalion and be engaging from Zero to Zero plus 60 minutes the following areas:

- K.7.b. and d.
- K.8.a. and b.

10. Zero hour, at which time artillery barrage comes down, will be 11.45 p.m. 5th May 1918.

11. A: Officer of Brigade Headquarters will call at Battalion Headquarters as follows to synchronise watches:--

35th Battalion	4.30 pm.
34th "	5.30 pm.
33rd "	6.30 pm.

12. Acknowledgo.

(sd.) J.H.F. PAIN
Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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

Copy No.1-3 Brigade Headquarters.	Copy No.18-19 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4 Brigade Signal Section.	20-21 10th -do-
5-6 33rd Battalion.	22-23 3rd Aust. Division.
7-9 34th "	24 C.R.A.
10-12 35th "	25 C.R.E.
13 43rd Battalion.	26 3rd Aust. M.G. Bn.
14 10th Aust. M.G. Coy.	27 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
15 11th A.L.T.M. Bty.	28 A.D.M.S.
16 Right Group Artillery.	29-31 War Diary.
17 9th Field Company A.E.	32 Spare.

**FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 6
for 24 hours ending 6 pm. 5.5.1918.**

Reference map: Sheet 82 B.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Special minor operation. During the night the line of posts of the Right Battalion was advanced on to a line running through J.30 a. 8.6., J.24.a.8.2., K.19.c.1.9., K.19.a.2.0. and J.18.d.0.2. Eight posts were dug and manned and some wire placed in front. Patrols were out in front protecting the working parties.

During the operation a party of six of the enemy who had lost their way were discovered about J.30.b.7.8. Two were wounded in their attempt to get away. After this all surrendered (see "Identifications").

Artillery. 6 am. - Very accurate shooting was observed on enemy trenches in K.19. 2 pm. to 6 pm. of Both Field and Heavy Artillery fired on MORLANCOURT; also on roads South of MORLANCOURT between 7 pm. and 10 pm.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. 4,000 rounds expended on road in K.8.c; roads and tracks in K.7.b., K.8.b., K.16.c., and K.8.d.

Aircraft. From 3 pm. to 6 pm. our planes were flying low over enemy front line. At 6.15 pm. 25 of our planes were flying high over enemy lines.

Identifications. Four unwounded and two wounded prisoners were captured in J.30.b. belonging to 114th I.R. of 199th Division. (One man who had been dead not more than three hours was found in K.19.a. belonging to the 31st I.R. of the 18th Division (See "Special minor operation").

Patrols. Left Battalion report quiet night and no enemy encountered. For Right Battalion patrols see "Special minor operation".

ENEMY ACTIVITY.**Artillery.**

4 pm. - 7 pm. 100 rds. 15cm. in J.16.a. and c. from MORLANCOURT.
3 pm. - 7 pm. 100 rds. 10.5cm. in J.11.c. and d. and J.17.d. from T.B. 96° from J.12.d.30.15.
6 pm. - 8 pm. 20 rds. 10.5cm. on MARETT WOOD from same direction.
3.30 pm. - 5.10 pm. 90 rds. 5.9 H.E. on road in J.18.c. and d. from S.E.
Other enemy shelling was chiefly directed against J.16.c., J.17.d., and J.6.c. from directions of MORLANCOURT or CRESSAIRE WOOD.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns Active on our front line and on NO MAN'S LAND from K.7.c. 0.5., K.7.c.0.0. and K.13.c.35.35.

Aircraft. At 8 pm. 8 planes were over enemy lines. No planes were reported over our own lines.

Movement.

1.10 pm (4.5.18). Three men with equipment and rifles left trench at K.4.d.5.3.
1.25 pm. Motor-cycle at K.9.d.9.0. went towards MORLANCOURT.
1.30 pm. Two-horse cart at K.10.b.1.5. went away from MORLANCOURT.
1.50 pm. Five men on road at K.3.d.1.6. walked towards MORLANCOURT.

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I. S. No. 4.

6.5.1918.

Movement (contd)

- 2.0 pm. Three men at E.20.6.5.6. carried bundles towards MORLANCOURT.
- 2.40 pm. Train from K.6.d. stopped at believed battery position at K.5.d.6.2. and returned at 2.43 pm; artillery notified.
- 3.20 pm. Four men left trench at K.4.b.8.4. and walked to K.4.d.6.1.
- 5.30 pm. Four men at K.2.d.7.6. carried white bundles towards MORLANCOURT.
- 12 noon. Train in K.6.d. seen shunting (5.5.18); artillery notified.
- 12.15 pm. Seven men disappeared into trench at K.3.b.2.7.
- 1.0 pm. Waggon seen going North at K.3.b.4.4.

Location. At 1.45 pm. battery of four guns fired from K.5.d.6.2. on to J.II.c.65.50; artillery notified.

General. Enemy was again using searchlight for night planes in direction of K.25. White string lights were also used.

G. Halford Lt
for

Brig Gen

9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

... four wounded and two wounded prisoners were captured in 3.30 p.m. ...

... late Battalion report dated night and no enemy encountered. ...

... from 1.15 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. ...

... on 1.15 p.m. ...

... three men with equipment and killed ...

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APPENDIX

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Appendix 8.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE
6 MAY 1918
S.M. NO. 33/206
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters.
6th May, 1918.

- Headquarters
- 33rd Battalion.
- 34th "
- 35th "
- 9th A.L.T.M. Bty.
- 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
- Right Artillery Group.
- Left Artillery Group.

The following copy of message received from Divisional Commander today is forwarded.

"Corps Commander desires me to convey his very hearty congratulations to you, all units, arms and services who co-operated in last night's very fine success AAA I wish also on behalf of myself and remainder of Division to thank all who took part, for so brilliantly upholding the traditions of the Division, both for gallantry and for carefully-planned and executed operations AAA General MONASH."

Handwritten signature
Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



Appendix 9

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters

33rd Bn.
 35th Bn.
 10th A.M.G. Coy
 11th A.I. Bde.
 9th Fld.Amb.

34th Bn.
 43rd Bn.
 10th A.I. Bde.
 8th A.I. Bde.
 11th Fld.Amb.

Brigade Headquarters.
 6th May 1918.

C.R.A.
 C.R.E.
 A.D.M.S.

The following is a copy of wire, timed 8.30 am., sent to 3rd Australian Division this morning.

" At 11.45 pm. last night Brigade attacked enemy trench system in K.7., K.13., K.19. S.W. MORLANCOURT AAA Attack delivered by 35th Battalion and two Companies 33rd Battalion North of BRAY - CORBIE Road and in co-operation with 34th Battalion South of Road AAA Infantry advanced under barrage of 18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows., quickly overcoming enemy resistance except in K.7.c. where fighting was in progress several hours AAA All objectives taken and consolidation begun AAA Eight posts dug by Pioneers East of and connected to second objective in K.7.c. K.13.a. and c.AAA In K.19.a. four posts dug, 350 yards double apron erected AAA Our line now runs: K.7.c.1.8. - K.7.c.7.0. - K.13.d.0.0. - K.19.a.9.8. - K.19.a.2.0. - K.24.d.7.0.AAA

We captured 2 Officers about 200 other ranks (of whom 2 Officers 147 other ranks have passed through Brigade H.Q.), 5 machine guns and 1 trench mortar captured; other m.gs. not counted AAA

Identifications: 114 I.R. 257 I.R. 199 Division.AAA

Estimated 150 enemy killed in vicinity trench system by infantry and artillery AAA

As far as can be ascertained our casualties: 33rd Bn. 1 Officer 4 other ranks wounded AAA 34th Bn. 4 other ranks killed, 1 Officer 19 other ranks wounded AAA 35th Bn. 12 other ranks killed, 4 Officers 44 other ranks wounded AAA

Operations 4/5th and 5/6th represent advance of front line average depth 1,100 yards on frontage 2,500 yards."

J. Stain

Major
 Brigade Major
 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

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appendix 10.

7.5.1918.

CONFIDENTIAL.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE NO. 5
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 8.5.1918.

Reference map: Sheet 62D. -

OUR OPERATIONS.

Minor operation. See special report.

Artillery. SAINT-LAURENT was shelled by our artillery. At 8.30 am. movement of small parties was observed in enemy trenches at K.13.c.8.8. A total of 50 men was seen. The artillery was informed and O.Ks. were obtained on the spot. The village of MONTAIGOURT and roads leading to it were engaged by our artillery.

Machine Guns. 46,000 rounds were expended on barrage in K.13.b. 8.7. and K.13.1.9.7.

Aircraft. At 7 am. one of our planes was brought down in flames by three enemy triplanes at J.18.b.1.9. Pilot and observer both dead.

Patrols. The Right Battalion had patrols out as covering parties for the wiring of new posts. See "Special Report".

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.
1.45pm. - 2.15pm. 20 rds. 5.9 on road J.16. and J.17. from S. E.
9.55pm. - 10.35pm. 49 rds. 4.2 in J.27. central from N. S. E.
4.0 pm. - 4.38pm. 30 rds. 77 in CHESSBOARD WOOD from MALARD WD.
5.30pm. - 6.30pm. 30 rds. 4.2 in J.22.b. from K.32.
5.30pm. - 7.30pm. 40 rds. 4.2 in J.17.c. from K.32.
10 am. - 12.15pm. 350 rds. 15cm. and 10.5cm. in J.11.d. and J.17.b from vicinity of MORLANCOUPT.

Trench Mortars. 4.30 am. - 10 rounds L.E.M. were fired into J.24.d; Direction unknown.

Machine Guns. Active during first ten minutes of our operation but much quieter after.

Aircraft. Enemy plane low over our lines from 9.10am. to 9.25 am.

Identifications. See "Special Report".

Movement.
4.30 am. Train observed on line at I.2.b.20.70. moving East.
4.45 am. Two trains at I.26.1.5.1. proceeded North after

APPENDIX 10

I.B. No. 5.

2.

7.6.1918.

Movement (contd.).

Halting for 5 minutes.

- 4.20 pm. Three men on road -one carrying a bundle- on road at K.10.b.10.30. going into MORLANGOURT.
- 4.30 pm. Three men carrying timber into trench at K.3.a.9.2. Men worked in trench all day; artillery notified.
- 5.30 pm. Transport on road in E.30.c.
- 5.30 pm. Three men in E.30.a. travelling in direction of MORLANGOURT.
- 6.45 pm. Ten transport wagons left camp at K.11.d.7.2. and disappeared at K.15.a.6.5.
- 7.10 pm. Four horse transport wagons left camp on road at K.11.b.80.90. going towards MORLANGOURT.
- 7.15 pm. Train again arrived at K.6.c.70.75. (on left of camp) from an Easterly direction.
- 7.50 am. About 10 of enemy stood near trench at K.3.c.7.5. - no rifles or equipment - and later disappeared in trench.
- 8.0 am. Train at K.6.c.5.0. halted 5 minutes and then moved off in an Easterly direction.
- 8.45 am. Enemy party of about 15 men appeared to be digging in trench at K.5.a.30.70.
- 9.5 am. Two trains stationary at K.6.d.5.8.
- 9.5 am. Train observed at K.5.d.4.5. travelling East.
- 9.15 am. Party of about 15 men worked at K.5.c.4.1 - appeared to be digging.
- 9.15 am. Cook-house in enemy camp at K.11.b.9.8; men moving about freely.

Locations. Ground observers report large transport lines from K.11.d.3.1. to K.6.c.3.7. Men (about 200), horses (about 100) and transport are reported; also huts and 30 tents. Two trains worked up and down the line. From 6.30 pm. to 7.30 pm. numerous transport wagons left the camp including 10 wagons which went towards CRESSAIRE WOOD. Artillery was notified but visibility was rapidly becoming worse and the results could not be observed.

G. Halford

G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Brig.-Gen.

1A4

APPENDIX II.

APPENDIX

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11
22

SECRET.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 30.

Copy No. ...

Reference map:-
Sheet 62 E. N. 21/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
7th May 1918.

1. As soon as possible after dark on the night 7th/8th May 1918 the tactical boundary between "A" and "B" Battalions will be altered to run through J.17.e.8.5. East to K.13.e.9.5.

2. The necessary redistribution of troops will be arranged mutually by 34th and 35th Battalions.

3. Headquarters of Battalions will remain as at present.

4. As a temporary measure, pending the arrangement of final defensive dispositions, the 33rd Battalion will be disposed as follows :--

- (a) Two Companies under the orders of 34th Battalion; Two companies under the orders of 35th Battalion. "A" and "B" Battalions will therefore have at their disposal 6 Companies each.
- (b) The two additional Companies in each case will be used as follows:-
 - One Company to garrison old front line system
 - One Company held as Battalion Reserve for purpose of counter-attack.

The C.O. and Headquarters 33rd Battalion will assist 34th and 35th Battalions as much as possible under mutual arrangement, pending the resumption of normal dispositions.

5. C.Os. 34th and 35th Bns. may interchange at their own discretion the attached Companies of 33rd Bn. with Companies of their own Battalion for duties in front line.

6. Acknowledge.

J. H. Pain

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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

Copy No. 1-5	Brigade H.Q.	Copy No. 14	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4	33rd Battalion.	15-16	3rd Aust. Division.
5	34th "	17	G.R.A.
6	35th "	18	G.R.E.
7	9th A.L.T.M. Bty.	19	3rd Aust. M.G. Bn.
8	10th A.M.G. Coy.	20	3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
9	9th Field Coy. A.E.	21	A.D.M.S.
10	Right Group Amty.	22-24	War Diary.
11	2nd Tank Battalion.	25	File.
12	44th Battalion.	26	Spare.
13	8th Aust. Inf. Bde.		

JB.

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APPENDIX 12

Appendix 12.

SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 31.

Copy No. 1.

Reference map:--
Sheet 62 D. N.E. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
7th May 1918.

1. The 34th Battalion will advance its front line of posts to the general line E.19.b.0.9.- K.19.d.0.5.- K.19.e.5.0. tonight.
2. (a) The operation will involve mopping up all enemy works in K.19.a. and c.
(b) Enemy G.T. in K.19.b. will be filled in.
3. The counter-attack Company will be disposed well forward to meet any emergency on our front or at the junction with 5th Australian Division.
4. 8th Australian Infantry Brigade will co-operate and link up at K.19.e.5.0.
5. One Company 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion will be attached for the period of the operation to 34th Battalion for digging.
6. (a) The advance will be carried out under a barrage of 18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows., details concerning which have been notified to units concerned separately.
(b) Counter-battery work by Heavy Artillery will be in progress from ZERO to ZERO plus 60.
(c) The S.O.S. barrage line on conclusion of the operation will run K.19.d.6.0.- K.13.d.6.0.- and thence as before; 4.5" Hows 200 yards East of this line.
7. ZERO hour, at which artillery opens, will be 11.0 p.m.
8. Acknowledge.

7th May 1918.

Wastunlopa

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1-3	Brigade H.Q.	Copy No. 13	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4	53rd Battalion.	14	5th Aust. Division.
5	34th "	15	C.R.A.
6	35th "	16	O.R.E.
7	29th Bn (the 34th Bn).	17	A.D.M.S.
8	9th A.E.F.M. Bty.	18	3rd Aust. M.G. Bn.
9	9th Field Company A.E.	19	44th Battalion.
10	3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.	20	2nd Tank Bn.
11	10th Aust. M.G. Coy.	21-23	War Diary.
12	8th Aust. Inf. Bde.	24	Spare.

JB.

8.5.1918.

FRENCH AMERICAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
COMMAND OF INTELLIGENCE No. 6
for period ending 4 pm 7.5.1918.Reference map: Sheet 92D.
---OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. 3.30 pm.- About 80 of the enemy at K.15.b.7.7. were fired on and 8 Ks. obtained. Many casualties were observed and the party was completely dispersed. At intervals of not more than half an hour throughout the day and night our artillery fired on re-entrant in K.7.b. and K.8.a. to prevent enemy concentrations. MORLANCOURT village and enemy posts in K.19.e. were also engaged. (See also "Movement").

Trench Mortars. 7 pm.- 70 rounds 3" Stokes were fired on trench K.19.a.92.50. which we are clearing.

Machine Guns. Nil.

Aircraft. Our planes were busy all afternoon flying low and were engaged by enemy A.A. guns. 6.30 pm.- Two of our planes engaged an enemy two-seater which came down low over enemy lines and escaped.

Patrols. As NO MAN'S LAND consists of ploughed ground well pitted with shell-holes, the rain made movement difficult. The patrols of both battalions report quiet night. No enemy seen but voices heard East of sunken road in K.19.e. Enemy Very lights used from approximately K.13.e.3.7. and K.7.central.

Identifications. Three prisoners wounded during the previous night were brought in. Identifications normal.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.Artillery.

1 pm.- 6 pm. 200 rds. 15cm. in J.11.c. and d. from K.23.central
-do- 100 rds. 10.5cm. -do- MORLANCOURT.
-do- 50 rds. 77 in J.12.d, J.181a.&b. MORLANCOURT.
8 pm.- 7 am. 40 rds. 10.5cm. J.11.c.&d., J.17.a.&b. fr. K.23.cent
11.45am.-12.30pm. 25 rds. 77cm. J.17.d, J.181a. fr. MORLANCOURT.
The enemy was having area shoots on our Left Battalion sector. Our posts from K.19.c.0.8. Southwards were deliberately shelled.

Trench Mortars. 10 am.-4 pm.- 30 rounds Pineapple fell in NO MANS LAND in K.7.c. from approximately K.7.d.central.

P. T. 6.

I. S. No. 6.

8.

6.5.1918.

Machine Guns. Machine guns active from K.7.d.4.1., near DRAY - CORBIEN Road - probably K.13.d.9.2.

Aircraft. Four enemy planes were over our sector from 6 pm. to 8 pm. At 8 pm. an enemy plane flew low over our front line and was engaged by Lewis Guns.

Snipers. A sniper at approximately K.7.a.25.50. firing towards K.7.c. was very active all day.

Movement.

- 4.10 pm. Four-horse transport wagon observed at E;29.c.2.4. travelling North along road.
- 4.20 pm. What appears to be an enemy machine gun position observed at K.9.d.3.3; artillery notified and 2 C.Ks. obtained.
- 4.30 pm. Ten men at K.10.c.2.3. coming towards MORLANCOURT; Artillery notified, and party dispersed suffering 3 casualties.
- 4.40 pm. Dense clouds of white smoke soon rising from K.1.a.2.2. in VILLE-sur-ANORE.

Locations.

- 11.45 am. Two 77cm. guns at E.29.a.3.1. fired 6 rounds into MARETT WOOD.
- 12.55 pm. Four 4.2 guns at K.11.b.6.8. fired 20 rounds into MARETT WOOD.

G. H. ...

Brig.-Gen
G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No 7
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 5/5/18

Reference map:--- Sheet C2 D.

Appendix

APPENDIX 14

OUR OPERATIONS.General operation. See special report covering operations on nights 5th/6th, 6th/7th, and 7th/8th instant.Artillery. 2pm. until 9pm. - Firing on MORLANGOURT and re-entrant in K.7. and K.8, also road running through K.14.b. and c. 10pm. to 11.30 pm. - Fire was directed on to enemy forward system in K.7.a. and d. and K.13.b. and c.Trench Mortars. 200 rounds were fired on trench K.19.a. 2250 to K.19.b.10.45. during the operation.Machine Guns. Active at intervals from 1 am. until 4 am. Firing on roads and dumps in enemy forward area.Aircraft. Flying low over enemy lines from 3 pm. to 8 pm. and from 8 am. until 12 noon.Snipers. Sixteen hits are claimed on enemy movement in J.17.d. 20.70. to J.13.b.35.80.Patrols. The Left Battalion did not patrol the extreme left of our sector owing to artillery shoot on enemy post. A suspected enemy post believed to be at K.7.d.4.1. was definitely located at K.13.b.3.7. The enemy used many green and red lights. For patrolling by the Right Battalion see "Operation Report".Identifications. A prisoner walked into our Left Battalion lines at 11 pm. Identification normal.ENEMY ACTIVITY.Artillery.

3 pm. - 4 pm. 250 rds. 15 & 10.5 cms. in J.11. & J.17. from MORLANGOURT.

4.30 pm. - 9pm. 260 rds. 77 & 10.5 cms. in trenches in K.7.c., K.13.a. and J.13. from MORLANGOURT.

5 pm. - 10.30pm. 300 rds. 15 & 10.5 cms. in J.11. and J.17. from MORLANGOURT.

11.30pm - 12midnt. 200 rds. 77 & 10.5 cms. in J.17.c. and K.13.a. from MORLANGOURT.

This shelling was apparently a barrage in reply to an S.O.S. of one red light bursting into two, sent up at 11.27 pm.

Trench Mortars. 3 pm. - 10 pm. - 20 rounds Pineapple fell in vicinity of trench in K.7.c. from approximately K.7.d. central.

P. T. O.

I.S. No. 7.

3.

9.5.1918.

Machine Guns. Guns at road junction in K.13.d. and .K.7.c.8.C. again active on our front and support lines.

Aircraft. Active, flying high over our sector. At 8 am. a low-flying plane was driven off by our A.A. Lewis Gun fire.

Movement. Visibility poor. Considerable movement was noticed at J.17.d.9.7. and J.13.b.35.30. which was engaged by our snipers.

G. Halford
[Signature]

Brig.-Gen.

G.C.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

J.B.

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Appendix 15

10.5.1918.

Confidential.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 8 for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 9.5.1918

Reference map:-- Sheet 62 D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Active, firing on defences in rear of front line, on VILLE-sur-ANCRE, and on MORLANCOURT.

Machine guns. Considerable activity throughout the night, firing on roads and dumps.

Aircraft. Our planes were flying low over enemy lines at intervals throughout the day.

Snipers. Eight hits are claimed between K.7.d.90.70. and K.13.b.35.80.

Patrols. An enemy post at K.7.e.8.8. was found empty but it showed signs of recent occupation. Very lights were used frequently from about K.7.a.3.5. and K.13.b.30.75. The night was very quiet and machine guns not so active.

Identifications. Normal.

General. An enemy party of 7 men was captured behind our lines about midnight. They had one of our machine gunners prisoner and thought they were leading him towards their own lines. It was intended to advance our line in K.191c. but owing to the darkness of the night and the activity of enemy machine guns it was not found possible.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.

1 pm.-2.30pm.	20 rds.177cm.)	{ on K.7.e.
-do-	40 rds.10.5cm.)	{ K.13.a.
-do-	55 rds.15 cm.)	{ J.11. and J.17.
4pm.-12 mdnt.	60 rds.77 cm.)	{ on trenches in J.12., J.18.,
-do-	50 rds.10.5cm)	
-do-	50 rds.15 cm.)	
2am.- 5am.	50 rds.10.5cm)	{ in J.11. and J.17.
-do-	15 rds.15 cm.)	
10am.-1 pm.	40 rds.15 cms.	on batteries in J.10. and J.16.

All the above was from the direction of MORLANCOURT and road through K.14.b. and d.

12.25 p.m. 20 rds.4.2 H.E. in J.23.a. and c. from S.E.

The ground observers report a number of small shoots all from GRESSAIRE WOOD.

P. T. O.

I. S. No. 6.

2.

10.5.1918.

Machine guns. Not so actively as previously but two guns, located at E.7.d.95.45. and K.13.b.80.20, were very troublesome. The artillery is to engage them.

Aircraft. Three planes flew low over our lines between 9 am. and 12 noon. They were engaged by our Lewis guns. Otherwise enemy planes flew very high.

Movement. Very little movement reported. This may be partly due to the activity of our snipers who have secured many hits during the last two days.

Brig.-Gen.
G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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SECRET.

Appendix 16

Copy No. 27⁴³....

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 32

Reference maps:

Sheet 62 D. N.E. 1/20,000.
Sheet 62 D. 1/50,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
10th May 1918.

1. (a) The 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 5th Australian Infantry Brigade in the Right Brigade Area of "C" Divisional sector on the night 10/11th May 1918. Relief will be completed by 4.0 am. 11th May 1918.

(b) The 34th Battalion will be relieved by 17th Battalion.

The 35th Battalion will be relieved by 18th Battalion.

The 33rd Battalion will be relieved by 20th Battalion.

The 19th Battalion will move into support in the AMIENS Line and will take over from 33rd Battalion the duty of furnishing nucleus garrisons in rear of the reserve line and section escorts for the two anti-tank guns located at J.16.d.9.1. and J.10.d.8.4.

The 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery will be relieved by the 5th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery.

2. (a) Two Companies 44th Battalion will move from J.13. to QUERRIEU via BONNAY upon relief by one Battalion 7th Australian Infantry Brigade today.

(b) Two Companies 44th Battalion will be relieved in "A" and "B" Battalion Areas by 5th Australian Infantry Brigade on night 10/11th May 1918. Upon relief 44th Battalion (less two Companies) will move to QUERRIEU and will there rejoin 11th Australian Infantry Brigade.

3. Advance parties of 5th Australian Infantry Brigade moved into the line on night 9/10th May 1918.

4. Upon relief 33rd Battalion will move to bivouac in vicinity of I.24. whilst 34th Battalion, 35th Battalion and 9th Aust. L. T. M. Battery will move to billets in LAHOUSOYE.

5. All defence positions, schemes and works policies will be handed over to relieving units.

6. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will assume the role of Brigade and in Divisional Reserve upon completion of relief until clear of the Reserve Brigade Area on 11th instant.

7. (a) Movement of troops East of a North and South line through I.3. central will be by Platoons at 100 yards distance.

(b) On the march on 11th instant a distance of 100 yards between Companies and unit and its transport will be maintained.

8. Subject to the terms of this order, detailed arrangements will be made by C. Os. concerned.

P. T. O.

9. On the 11th May the Brigade will move to join 3rd Australian Division in Corps Reserve in accordance with Table "A" attached.

10. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.

11. Acknowledge.

J. E. Cain

9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Major
Brigade Major

DISTRIBUTION.

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Copy No. 1-3 | Brigade H.Q. | Copy No. 4 | Brigade Signal Section. |
| 5 | 33rd Battalion | 6 | 34th Battalion. |
| 7 | 35th Battalion. | 8 | 10th A.M.G. Coy. |
| 8 | 9th A.L.T.M.A Bty | 9 | 2nd Tank Battalion. |
| 10 | 9th Field Company. | 11 | 44th Battalion. |
| 12 | "C" Coy. 2nd Tank Bn. | 13 | 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 14 | 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. | 15 | 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 15 | 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. | 16 | Right Group Arty. |
| 17 | 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. | 18 | C. R. A. |
| 19 | 3rd Australian Division. | 20 | A. D. M. S. |
| 21 | C. R. E. | 22 | 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn. |
| 23 | A. P. M. | 24 | 869th Coy. A. A. S. C. |
| 25 | 3rd Aust. M. G. Bn. | 26 | File. |
| 27-9 | War Diary. | 30 | |

JB. All addresses published, addresses and work papers will be handed over to relieving units.

6. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will assume the role of Brigade and in Divisional Reserve upon completion of relief until order of the Reserve Brigade Area on 11th instant.

7. (a) Movement of troops East of a Horn and Horn line through I.E. control will be by platoons of 500 yards distance.

(b) On the march on 11th instant a distance of 100 yards between companies and units and 100 yards between platoons will be maintained.

8. Subject to the terms of this order, detailed arrangements will be made by G.O. concerned.

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T A B L E "A".

To accompany 9th Australian Infantry
Brigade Order No. 32.

Reference map:- Sheet 62D. 1/40,000.

Serial No.	Date.	Unit.	From.	To.	Route.	Remarks.
<u>1918.</u>						
1.	May 11.	34th Bn.	LAHOUSOYE.	RIVERY.	QUERRIEU.	To clear LAHOUSOYE by noon.
2.	-do-	35th Bn.	-do-	-do-	-do-	To clear LAHOUSOYE by 11.30 am.
3.	-do-	33rd Bn.	I.24.	GLISY.	BONNAY - DAOURS.	To move during morning.
4.	-do-	9th A.L. T.M.Bty.	LAHOUSOYE.	RIVERY.	QUERRIEU.	To clear LAHOUSOYE by noon.
5.	-do-	9th A.I. Bde.HQ.	Rear H.Q., I.14.a.l.i.	RIVERY.	-do-	

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Copy No. 15
APPENDIX

16

ORDER

9TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
10th May, 1953.

Ref. Map:
62D - 1/40,000.

PRELIMINARY ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

HANDOVER:

1. All units will hand over complete trench and area stores, less undesignated exceptions, to relieving units, and forward receipts in duplicate to Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of completion of relief.

Exceptions: Gun Boots - These will be brought out with the unit and handed over to R.A.D.C.S. in new area. Units will include the number brought out on their handover statement.

Picks and shovels - All picks and shovels in forward area will be brought out under unit arrangements and returned to their Mob. reserve. As unit Mob. reserve is very much under strength every endeavour will be made to bring out every pick and shovel in the area.

The 4th Battalion will forward handover statement in duplicate to Maj 9th Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of completion of relief.

DEFENCES:

2. The following duties at present supplied by 3rd Battalion will be taken over by 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. as from 12 noon 10th instant.

Ammunition dumps Nos. 8, 9, 10 and 11 as per Administrative Instructions No. 2 issued with 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Order No. 25.

Bridge Guards: 2 M.G.Co. and 6 men - Emergency Bridges East of BONNAY.

1 M.G.Co. and 3 men - Emergency

Bridge West of BONNAY.

1 M.G.Co. and 3 men - BONNAY

Bridges supplied by 4th Battalion.

Units who have men allotted to Town Majors for Demolition of Walls will arrange with Town Majors to have them relieved forthwith.

BILLETING:

3. Billets for night 10/11th instant - Battalions will billet or bivouac as follows:-

Units will arrange direct with Town Major concerned.

3rd Bn. I.S. and vicinity

54/5th Bns. LA MOUSSEY.

9th A.L.T.M. Batty - remain as at present.

4th Bn. - QUENYAN.

Billets for night 11/12th instant:-

Brigade Headquarters - RIVERX - Recipie St. Victor

54/5th Bns. - RIVERX.

3rd Bn. - N.19.d.3.3.

9th A.L.T.M. Batty. - RIVERX

9th A.M.S. Coy. - N.19.d.3.3.

9th Field Coy. Engrs. } RIVERX.

800th Coy. Div. En. } RIVERX.

R.A.A. Sub-Sub. D.A.C. } RIVERX.

9th Field Ambulance } RIVERX.

All units mentioned above will send billeting parties to report to Town Major RIVERX by 8 a.m. 11th instant.

All billets evacuated in this area must be left scrupulously clean, and a certificate obtained from the Town Major to that effect will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.

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(2)

BEVERA
TRANSPORTS

4. Baggage waggons will report to units as required to-day. Two extra baggage waggons will report to 3rd Battalion at 4 p.m. to-day for carriage of blankets to new area on 11th instant. One motor lorry each to 54th and 55th Battalion will report to LA ROUSSIERE at 7.30 a.m. on 11th instant to carry men's blankets to new area.

MOBILE
REQUISITION

5. Units will ensure that their Mobile Requisition of tools and ammunition are complete before leaving this area. Mobile Requisitions will be checked on reaching new area by a member of Brigade Staff.

Captain.
Staff Captain.

51st Australian Infantry Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Copy No. 1-3 Brigade Headquarters
- 3 3rd Bn.
- 4 54th Bn.
- 5 55th Bn.
- 6 9th A.S.C. Coy.
- 7 9th A.L.P.M. Batty.
- 8 44th Battalion A.I.F.
- 9 9th Field Coy. Infrs.
- 10 880th Coy. A.A.S.C.
- 11 Capt. Young D.A.C. Sub-Section.
- 12 9th Field Amulance
- 13-15 War Diary.
- 16 F I I O.

(HR).

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appendix

APPENDIX 16 48

Copy No. 10

ORDER.

NEW ZEALAND INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Ref. No. G.N. 32.

Brigade Headquarters,
10th May, 1918.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED WITH
NEW ZEALAND INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 32.

BILLETING

- 1. 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Hqrs - Hospice St Victor, RIVER.
- 34th Battalion - Ecole Communale, RIVER.
- 35th Battalion - Hospice St. Victor, RIVER.
- 36th Battalion - in tents N.19.a.3.3 and
GLISE Line.
- 3rd Div. Hqrs. - N.19.d.1.9.
- 9th A.L.S.M. Bty. - Rue de la Barre, RIVER.
- 9th A.S.C. Coy. - N.19.d.3.3 in shelters.
- 9th Field Coy A.S.C. - Rue de la Barre, RIVER.
- 30th Coy. A.S.C. - No. 15 Rue de la Barre, RIVER.
- 9th Field Ambul. - St. Pierre Boys School,
Main Albert Rd. RIVER.

A Sub-Section R.A.A.
Sect. 3rd R.A.C. - Rue de la Barre, RIVER.
Billets have been arranged with Town Major, RIVER,
and all units will take over billets recently occupied
by 7th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

LOCATIONS

- 2. R.A.D.S.C. - ALLENVILLE.
- Div. Salvage Coy. - QUENIN.
- Mob. Vet. Section - FORT NOUVELLE.
- Corps P.P. Compound - L.19.a. S.W. of
FOURVILLE.
- Div. Canteens - QUENIN.

REINFORCEMENTS

3. Reinforcements will proceed from Divisional Wagon
at ST. LOUIS to Corps Staging Camp, F.11.d.3.3, where
they will stay there the night and move on to join
their units the following day.

MOVING

4. Complete Mobile Schedule of tools and ammunition
will be taken into new area.

RAILROAD

- 5. RAILROAD - FOURVILLE.
- Re-filling point - 30th Coy. A.S.C. RIVER
and GLISE.

Supplies will be delivered to C.M. Stores daily by
A.S.C. waggons.

WATER

6. Water will be drawn from water points and wells in
the Brigade area, and must be chlorinated at source of
supply.

REPAIRS

7. Salvage will be taken from C.M. Stores daily by
A.S.C. waggons to re-filling point, from thence to
railhead.

BATHS

8. Brigade Baths are situated at Hospice St. Victor,
RIVER.
These baths will accommodate 60 men per hour.
Allocation will be issued later. Officers may also
obtain baths at same place.

COMFORTS

9. Arrangements have been made for Y.M.C.A. to supply
hot cocoa etc. to troops marching into new area.
Y.M.C.A. branches will be opened at GLISE and RIVER.
Australian Comforts Funds are situated at ALLENVILLE.

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(2)

16 49
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TRANSPORT: 10. Transport will move under orders of unit.
Transport lines in new area are situated in vicinity
of billets.
No transport will be parked South of the River
SOMME.
C.R.A. will issue orders for move of A Sub-Section
S.A.A. Section D.A.C.

Butcher
Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION:

<u>Copy No.</u>	
1-2	Brigade Headquarters
3	33rd Battalion.
4	34th "
5	35th "
6	9th A.M.G. Coy.
7	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
8	9th Field Coy. A.E.
9	9th Field Ambulance
10	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
11	Capt. Young Sub-Section S.A.A. 3rd D.A.C.
12	Bde. Transport Officer.
13	3rd Aust. Division.
14-16	War Diary
17	F i l e.

(IMR).

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Confidential.

Appendix 17.
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 9
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 9.5.18.

10.8.1018.
APPENDIX
50

Reference map:- Sheet 62D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Between 9 pm. and 3 am. our artillery was very active on MORLANCOURT and vicinity. An enemy working party at E.7.a.75.20. was dispersed by our 18-pdrs.

From 10 m. until 1 pm. our artillery was doing counter-battery work.

Machine Guns. Night firing on enemy roads and lines of communication.

Aircraft. From 9 pm. until dusk very active in vicinity of MORLANCOURT. A line believed to be ours was brought down behind enemy lines at 7.15 pm.

Patrols. The Right Battalion did not patrol but had covering parties out to protect working parties.

The Left Battalion reports an enemy post held by 12 men at E.7.a.5.2. and a garrison of 30 men at E.7.b.1.1. A "Pineapple" gun is situated at E.7.a.5.2; many Very lights fired from there. Enemy working party who were digging were located at E.7.a.75.20. The party was at least 50 strong. At 3.30 am. 12 rounds 18-dr. shrapnel dispersed the 20 men who were still working. Active machine guns and Very lights are reported in copses in K.12.a. and at road junction in E.7.d.

Snipers. Four hits are claimed in vicinity of E 7.d.central.

DAILY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.

7 pm. to 11 pm. 90 rounds 15 and 10.5 cm. in MARETT WOOD, J.11. and J.17. from MORLANCOURT.

1 am. to 4.30 am. 120 rounds 15 and 10.5 cm. in J.11. and J.17. from MORLANCOURT.

9.30 p.m. 50 rounds 4.2 H.E. in J.22.a. from S.E.

Our batteries in J.10. and J.16. were also shelled from direction of GRESSAIRE WOOD.

P. T. O.

I.S. No. 9.

2.

10.5.1918.

Trench Mortars. 3 pm. to 5 pm. - Eight rounds L.M.W. in K.7.c.
From L.7.a.5.2.

Machine Guns. Active at copse in L.14.a. and at road junction in K.13.d.

Aircraft. Active very high over our lines during the afternoon. No activity during the morning.

Movement. See Patrol Report for working parties heard.

2.15pm (8.5.18) Transport at K.10.b.6.4.

2.20 pm. Three men went into dugout at K.2.b.9.4.

2.25 pm. Four-horse transport wagon at L.5.b.30.40. going East.

2.30 pm. Train at L.6.c.5.9. travelling East.

2.40 pm. About 150 horses grazing at L.11.d.4.4. Artillery notified

Two C.M.S. obtained. Horses scattered in all directions.

2.50 pm. Six of the enemy moving about at K.5.c.5.4.

G. Halford

Brig.-Gen.
G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Appendix by No. 18

BRIG-GEN. C. ROSENTHAL, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. 9TH AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
 14th May, 1918.

COLD SHOERS: 12. The undermentioned Officers will constitute a Board to assemble at Brigade Transport Lines at 10.0 a.m. 15th May, 1918, for the purpose of testing cold shoers in accordance with G.R.O. 3668 :-

PRESIDENT.

Major J.M. HAWKEY, M.C. - 33rd Bn. A.I.F.

MEMBERS.

Major C.N. CALLOW - A.A.V.C.
 Lieut. J.R. PAUL - 33rd Bn. A.I.F.

Records of the test will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.

STRENGTH: 13. No. 26 Driver (A/Cpl) T. McCORMICK having rejoined from hospital is taken on strength of Headquarters 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. - dated 30-4-1918.

REVERSION: 14. No. 26 A/Corpl. T. McCORMICK reverts to his permanent rank of Driver on transfer. - dated 1-5-1918.

TRANSFERS: 15. No. 26 Driver T. McCORMICK is transferred from Headquarters 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. to 33rd Battalion - dated 1-5-1918.

HONOURS & AWARDS: 16. The following is an extract from 61st Divisional Routine Order dated 6th May, 1918 :-
 "The following awards for gallantry and devotion to duty have been made :-

33rd Battalion:

No. 2140 Cpl. F.A. THURSTON - Second bar to MILITARY MEDAL.
 No. 396 Sgt. L.J. CLIFTON - MILITARY MEDAL.
 No. 1796 Pte. (L/Cpl) K.G. CAMERON - MILITARY MEDAL.
 No. 3109 Pte. F. HOONAN - MILITARY MEDAL.

34th Battalion:

No. 162 Pte. (L/Cpl) A.E. READ - MILITARY MEDAL.
 No. 70 Corpl. R. GALLAGHER - MILITARY MEDAL."

The Corps, Divisional and Brigade Commanders desire that their congratulations be conveyed to the recipients.

COMFORTS: 17. On behalf of the troops, the G.O.C. Brigade desires to acknowledge with thanks the following goods received from the Y.M.C.A. :-

Biscuits	3790 pkts.	Matches	1279 bxs.
Sweets	1210	Cigarettes	1204 pkts.
Cocoa	6 lbs.	Cocoa	3588 pints.

Hubert Captain.
 Staff Captain.
 Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

(EMR).

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53.
appendix 19
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ROUTINE ORDER NO. 16.

by

MAJ GEN. C. ROSENTHAL, C.B. O.M.G., G.O.C. 9TH AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
15th May, 1918.

APPOINTMENTS
AND
PROMOTIONS:

18. 9th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery:

To be Temporary Corporal: - dated 29-4-1918.

No. 124 Pte. H.L. MARSHALL vice DOIG evacuated wounded -
No. 2891 Pte. L.A. WATTS, vice WARTERS evacuated wounded.
No. 3022 Pte. J.S. CAMPBELL, vice FRASER evacuated wounded.
No. 2034 Pte. W.P. MARR, vice PARKES-SMITH evacuated wounded.
No. 2737 Pte. G.W.K. DAVIS, vice WILSON evacuated wounded.
No. 779 L/Opl. P.C.H. GRANT, vice TONKIN evacuated wounded.
No. 781 Pte. N. HYDE, vice MURPHY evacuated wounded.
No. 2098 L/Opl. G.E. LOWDER, vice WARDHAUGH evacuated wounded.

REVERSIONS:

19. 9th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery:

No. 1284 Temp. Sergt. T.Y. WARDHAUGH reverts to substantive rank of Corporal on being evacuated wounded - dated 20-4-18.
No. 1103 Temp. Corpl. D. DREWING reverts to rank of Lance Corporal on being evacuated wounded - dated 18-4-18.
No. 1598 Temp. Corpl. E.C. SKINNER reverts to his permanent grade of Private on being evacuated wounded - dated 18-4-18.
No. 2095 Temp. Corpl. G.E. LOWDER reverts to rank of Lance Corporal on reversion of Temp. Sergt. T.Y. WARDHAUGH reverting to substantive rank of Corporal - 20-4-18.

AS RETURNS:

20. (a) Returns in connection with Anti-Gas Personnel, Equipment etc., will be rendered weekly; such returns to reach this office not later than 12 noon Friday.

These will consist of -

- A.37 - Results of Inspections of Small Box Respirators.
- A.38 - Anti-Gas Equipment of Troops, in Headquarters, Coy. etc.
- A.39 - Trench and Area Anti-Gas Stores.
- A.40 - Nominal Roll of Battalion and Coy. Gas N.C.Os. (Battery N.C.O. in case of A.L.T.M. Battery).
- A.41 - Issue of S.B. Respirators and containers during the previous week.

(b) N I L returns will be returned where necessary.

(c) If there are no changes for A.40 the return will be rendered NO CHANGE.


KILLING OF
GAME:

21. (a) G.R.O. 1207 is reprinted :-

"As cases still occur of Officers and other ranks pursuing and killing game, it is notified for information that the hunting, shooting or killing of game (which includes hares and rabbits) by nets, snares or other methods is strictly prohibited".

(b) The dangerous practice of shooting at game is still permitted throughout the Army area and casualties have been caused both to soldiers and civilians.

(c) From this date, severe disciplinary action will be taken against anyone contravening this Order.


Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Infantry Bde.

(P. T. O.)

APPENDIX

19

NOTICE.

The "GOONES" (Divisional Concert Troupe) will give an entertainment to-night 15th instant, in a hut adjoining the 24th Coy. A.A.S.C. Company's Quarters, at 6.50 p.m.

A nominal charge will be made to defray current expenses.

PRICES :- Officers - 50 cent.
Other Ranks - 20 cent.

Performances will be given each evening at the above hour until further notice.

(RMR)

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appendix 20.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ROUTINE ORDER No, X 7.

by

BRIG-GEN. C. ROSENTHAL, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. 9th AUSTR. INF. BRIGADE,

Brigade Headquarters,
15th May, 1918.

COURT OF
INQUIRY:

22. The undermentioned Officers will constitute a Court of Enquiry to assemble at Headquarters 9th Australian Infantry Brigade, RIVERY, at 10.0 a.m. 16th May, 1918, to enquire into the loss of certain Mobilisation Stores and determine -

- (a) How these stores were lost,
- (b) Who should bear the cost of replacement of same.

PRESIDENT.

Temp. Major H.J. CONNELL, M.C. - 35th Bn.

MEMBERS.

Captain H.T. HECKS - 34th Bn.
 Lieut. F. BAULOH - 34th Bn.

Witnesses will be warned by Brigade Headquarters.
Proceedings will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters.

ORDERS:

23. Attention is directed to Fourth Army Routine Order dated 11th May, 1918 - Prevention against Bombs.

[Signature]
Captain

Staff Captain
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

(RHR).



NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Ref. maps: Sheet 62D. 1/40,000.
Sheet 62D. N.E. 1/20,000.
Sheet 62D. N.W. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
17th May 1918.

OPERATION CIRCULAR No. 2.

B.M. 6/146.

ROLE OF DIVISION IN CORPS RESERVE

1. The following are the various systems of defences in which the Reserve Division may be required to operate:-
 - (a). The BLANGY System from T.5.a.5.O. to N.18.c.2.O.
 - (b). The defences of the River HALLUE which have been subdivided into three Sectors as follows:-
 - (i) SOMME Sector - From CANON (inclusive) to N.12.central.
 - (ii) DACOURS Sector - From N.12.central to East and West grid line between Squares H.22. and H.28.
 - (iii) QUERRIEU Sector - From Northern boundary of DACOURS Sector to the East and West grid line through B.24.central.
 - (c). A new switch, to be known as the BRESLE Switch, is being constructed on the approximate line BUIRE, BRESLE, BAIZIEUX.
 - (d). The BLANGY, DACOURS, QUERRIEU Sectors comprise the front system of the third zone of defence.

2. The Division while in Corps Reserve will normally be employed offensively for the maintenance of the present positions of forward Divisions.

3.
 - (i). In the event of enemy attack South of the SOMME, the Division will be employed for prompt counter-attack.
 - (ii). "Positions of Readiness" for the 11th and 9th Australian Infantry Brigades will be approximately as follows:-

11th Aust. Inf. Bde. - O.7.d. - O.13.b.
 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. - ~~Lowest point~~
 33rd Battalion .. N.34.d.
 34th Battalion .. N.34.b.
 35th Bn, 9th A.M.G. Coy. and 9th A.L.T.M. Bty. - N.34.b-d. in rear of 33rd and 34th Bns.
 - (iii). Orders for the move to positions of readiness will be issued when the situation demands by Brigade Headquarters.
 - (iv). The enemy's attack on VILLERS-BRETONNEUX is expected to come from either the East or South-East. It is probable that a counter-attack will be delivered either:
 - (a) In a South-Easterly direction on both sides of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX in which case the forming-up places will be approximately O.28.-O.27. and O.16.-O.17. numbered 1 and 2 respectively; or
 - (b) In an Easterly direction North of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX in which case the forming-up place will be approximately along the CACHY-FOUILLOY road, numbered 3.
 - (v). All Battalions will reconnoitre Nos. 1 and 3 forming-up places and the routes to them from positions of readiness.
 - (vi). Though it is not anticipated that it will be necessary to make a counter-attack in an Easterly direction South of the BOIS L'ABBE, 33rd and 34th Battalions will reconnoitre the ground between their positions of readiness and the line U.2.central - O.32.central.

P. T. O.

4. (i). Should the Division not be employed offensively, its role will be to hold the enemy on the line of the HALLUE Defences and their Southern extension, the BLANGY Defences (the front system of the third zone).

(ii). All units of the Brigade will reconnoitre the BLANGY and BLANGY-GLISY Systems in which 33rd Battalion will maintain one Company to find nucleus garrisons.

(iii). All units will also reconnoitre the SOMME Sector (as outlined in 5(b) below) and will detail nucleus garrisons who will be ready to occupy selected portions of the defences on the South side of the river covering the crossings when ordered to do so by Brigade Headquarters.

(iv). 9th Aust. L. T. M. Bty. will reconnoitre and prepare positions to cover the river crossings and approaches between CAMON and N.17. central.

(v). The Division may be called upon to man any one of the three Sectors of the front system of the third zone, i.e. BLANGY, DAOURS or QUERRIEU Sectors. In addition to manning the DAOURS Sector it may at the same time be required to man the SOMME Sector.

5. In the event of the Division being ordered to man any one of the Sectors of the front system third zone, the following will be the distribution of troops.

(a) BLANGY Sector.

This will be manned by 9th and 11th Aust. Inf. Bdes, the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. being in reserve.

The 9th A. I. Bde. will be on the right from T.9.a.O.O. to the railway (inclusive) in N.29.c. as follows:-

33rd Bn. - From T.9.a.O.O. to N.35.c.O.O. (inclusive).

This includes the NICHOLAS LINE, the GLISY-NICHOLAS LINE, and that portion of the GLISY LINE South of T.2.a.O.O.

34th Bn. - From N.35.c.O.O. (exclusive) to the railway (inclusive) in N.29.c.

The 11th A. I. Bde. will be on the left from the railway (inclusive) in N.29.c. to N.12.a.O.O. distributed in ~~strength~~ depth on both sides of the SOMME to cover approaches over the SOMME from N.17.d. to LA MOTTE.

The 10th A. I. Bde. will be in reserve in the vicinity of LES ALENCONS, G.29.c.

(b) SOMME Sector.

This will be manned by the 9th A. I. Bde. and 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion, the 11th A. I. Bde. being in readiness to man the DAOURS Sector at the same time. The 9th A. I. Bde. will be on the right from CAMON to N.17.d.O.O. as follows:-

34th Bn. will be on the right from CAMON (inclusive) to LA MOTTE-BREBIERE (exclusive).

33rd Bn. will be in the centre from LA MOTTE-BREBIERE (inclusive) to N.17.d.O.O. (inclusive).

3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn. will be on the left from N.17.d.O.O. (exclusive) to N.12. central and will pass under the command of the G. O. C. 9th A. I. Bde. on manning this Sector.

(c) DAOURS Sector.

This will be manned by the 11th A. I. Bde, the 9th A. I. Bde. being held in readiness to man the SOMME Sector at the same time.

The 10th A. I. Bde. will be in reserve in the vicinity of LES ALENCONS, G.29.c.

(d) QUERRIEU Sector.

This will be manned by 11th and 10th A. I. Bdes, the 9th A. I. Bde. being in reserve.

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(d) QUERRIEU Sector (contd.).

The 11th A.I.Bde. will be on the right from H.22.d.0.0. to H.5.d.7.0. including the bridge-head defences of PONT NOYELLES.

The 10th A.I.Bde. will be on the left from H.5.d.7.0. (excl.) to about B.24.central.

The 9th A.I.Bde. will be in reserve in G.11. in the vicinity of CARDONETTE.

(c) 9th Aust.M.G.Coy. and 9th Aust.L.T.M.Bty. will reconnoitre positions in defence of the above Sectors, submitting schemes to Brigade Headquarters. The 9th Aust.M.G.Coy. will be prepared to employ 2 Sections in this manner. The 9th Aust.L.T.M.Bty. will reconnoitre for the employment of 4 Mortars.

(f) The 35th Battalion, 9th Aust.M.G.Coy (less 2 Sections), and 9th Aust.L.T.M.Bty. (less 4 Mortars) will remain in Brigade reserve

6. In addition to the above, the Division will be prepared to operate defensively or offensively on the left of "C" (2nd Australian) Division. This will include the occupation of the BRESLE SWITCH by the 11th A.I.Bde. as a temporary measure. In the event of this occurring, the 10th A.I.Bde. may be required to move to a position at QUERRIEU-PONT NOYELLES.

7. The Division may also be required to form a defensive flank facing North-East along the spur South-East of FRECHENCOURT and the ST.GRATIEN spur; The 10th A.I.Bde. will be prepared to carry out this duty.

8. Necessary reconnaissances will be carried out and plans prepared by Battalions for the above roles.

9. Acknowledge.

[Handwritten signature]

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution.

Copy No.1-3	Brigade H.Q.	Copy No.11	9th Field Coy. A.E.
4	Bde. Signal Section.	12	9th Field Ambulance.
5	33rd Battalion.	13	3rd Aust. Division.
6	34th Battalion.	14	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
7	35th Battalion.	15	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
8	9th Aust. M.G. Coy.	16-18	War Diary.
9	9th Aust. L. T. M. Bty.	19	File.
10	3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.	20	Hand-over file.

JB.

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APPENDIX 22

Appendix 22

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
18 MAY 1918
S. M. NO. 2/52
A. I. F.

Brigade Headquarters.
18th May 1918.

Headquarters
3rd Australian Division.
Bde. Signal Section (for infor.)

Following on your G. 37/179 of 17th instant, tests were carried out this afternoon at 2.30 pm. with the "Popham" Signal Panel. The following messages were sent.

1. Am going to counter-attack at 4.30 pm; barrage not required
2. No reports from attacking troops yet, 5 pm.
3. Our troops at G. 22.b.4.3.
4. Have gained final objective, 6 pm.
5. Am in touch on both flanks.

All messages were received by the aeroplane exactly as sent. The time taken from commencement of sending the first message to the receipt of the last message was 18 minutes.

The Brigade ground sheet (three-quarter circle) was laid out 20 yards in front of the "Popham" Panel whilst the Brigade code call (WIB) was set down 20 yards to the right of the panel.

The normal procedure as regards the use of the panel, vide S.S. 135 (App. B), was adhered to. As a result of the test the following suggestions are put forward for consideration.

1. A signal denoting "No more messages will be sent at present - plane no longer required" would be of use, although it is presumed that under normal circumstances only one message at a time would be sent up to the plane.
2. A light signal or some such device denoting receipt of each group is necessary as the Klaxon horn would not in all probability be heard during any artillery activity.
3. When sending a group of figures denoting time it would not appear necessary to send the "break" signal to separate hours from minutes, as the French system of indicating time in four-lettered groups is adhered to when using the panel.

The test was apparently quite successful, and it is thought that the "Popham" Panel will be very useful for sending messages from Brigade Headquarters back to higher formations.

J. J. Jam

Brig.-Gen.
G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

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APPENDIX 23⁶⁰

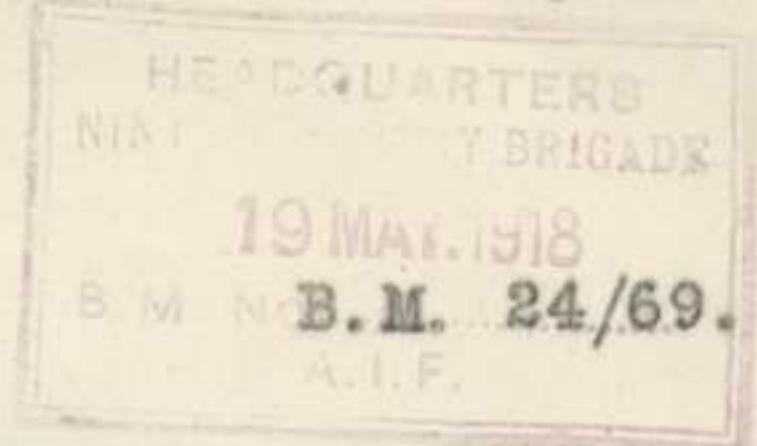
SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade H.Q.
Bde. Signal Section.
33rd-34th-35th Bns.
9th Aust. M. G. Coy.
9th Aust. L. T. M. Bty.
9th Aust. Field Coy.
9th Aust. Field Amb.
War Diary (3).

APPENDIX 23

Brigade Headquarters.
19th May 1918.



WARNING NOTICE.

1. The Division (less Artillery) will probably relieve the 4th Australian Division in the "A" Divisional Sector and Area on nights 20/21st and 21/22nd May 1918.
2. The 11th A.I. Bde. will probably move into line Right on 20/21st instant.
3. The 9th A.I. Bde. will move into line Left on night 21/22nd instant with the strongest Battalion in the line, one Battalion in support and one Battalion in reserve. The line to be held runs approximately from VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road about 1,300 yards to the North (to about O.24. central).
4. The 10th A.I. Bde. will move into Reserve Brigade Area on night 21/22nd instant.
5. Machine Guns. Machine Guns of the Left Brigade Group will probably be relieved on night 20/21st; those of the Right Brigade Group on night 21/22nd.
6. Necessary arrangements for advance parties to go into the line on preceding nights and reconnaissances etc. will be made forthwith pending issue of confirming order.
7. Further details will be notified as they become available.

Handwritten signature

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



144
SECRET.

APPENDIX 24.

61
Copy No 28...

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 33.

Reference maps:-

Sheet 62 D. 1/40,000.
Sheet 62 D. N. W. 1/20,000.
Sheet 62 D. N. E. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
19th May 1918.

1. (i) The 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will relieve the 12th Australian Infantry Brigade in the Left Brigade Area (4th Australian Division) on the 21/22nd May 1918.

(ii) Command will pass to G. O. C. 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. on completion of relief.

(iii) Brigade Headquarters will close at RIVERY at 8 pm. 21st May and re-open at railway cutting, O.25.c.7.4. at the same hour.

2. (i) Units will relieve as follows:

33rd Bn. will relieve 47th Bn. and will become "A" Battalion Left Brigade.

35th Bn. will relieve 46th Bn. and will become "B" Battalion Left Brigade.

34th Battalion will relieve 48th Bn. and will become "C" Bn. Left Brigade.

9th Aust. L. T. M. Battery will relieve 12th A. L. T. M. Battery.

(ii) The reliefs of Machine Gun Companies, Field Companies and Field Ambulances are being arranged by C. O. 3rd A. M. G. Bn., C. R. L., and A. D. M. S. respectively.

(iii) Defence Schemes, maps, plans, aerial photographs and works policies will be taken over on relief and receipts passed.

(iv). Subject to the terms of this order the relief will be carried out under mutual arrangements to be made between Commanding Officers concerned.

3. (i) During relief the right boundary of the Left Brigade will be moved from the VILLIERS-BRETTONNEUX - WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road Northwards to lie approximately along the East and West grid line through P.25.central. The C. O. 33rd Bn. in consultation with the unit on his right will decide exact location of point at which the inter-Brigade boundary meets our front line; the left boundary of the Brigade will remain as heretofore running along an East and West grid line passing through P.19.central.

(ii) 33rd Bn. will arrange with units on both flanks for the provision of joint posts at both inter-Brigade boundaries.

4. (i) Upon completion of relief "A" Bn. will be holding the line; "B" Bn. will be in support; and "C" Bn. will be in Brigade reserve.

(ii) 35th Bn. will hold in readiness one Company for counter-attack purposes to act under the orders of the C. O. 33rd Bn. should the tactical situation demand its employment.

5. A tracing showing the general dispositions to be assumed upon completion on relief will be forwarded separately to Battalion Commanders.

6. (i) On the night of relief Battalions will clear the Hospice St. Victor RIVERY as follows:

33rd Bn.	7.0 pm.
35th Bn. Bn.	8.0 pm.
34th Bn. Bn.	8.30 pm.

(ii) Units will march via CAMON and LONGEAU. A minimum distance of 100 yards between Platoons will be maintained on the march. (Attention is drawn to G.R.O.2039 dated 15th May 1918).

7. Advance parties will move into the line on the night 20/21st May 1918.

8. Completion of relief will be reported in code by wire to Brigade Headquarters.

9. Instructions with regard to the movement and accommodation of "B" teams will be communicated to units concerned at a later date.

10. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.

11. Acknowledge.

J. H. T. Olin

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution.

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Copy No. 1-3 | Brigade Headquarters. | Copy No. 15 | Left Group Artillery. |
| 4 | Bde. Signal Section. | 16 | 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 5 | 33rd Battalion. | 17-18 | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| 6 | 34th Battalion. | 19 | 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 7 | 35th Battalion. | 20 | 14th A. I. Bde. |
| 8 | 9th A. M. G. Coy. | 21 | 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 9 | 23rd A. M. G. Coy. | 22 | C. R. A. |
| 10 | 9th A. L. T. M. Bty. | 23 | C. R. E. |
| 11 | 9th Field Coy. A. E. | 24 | 3rd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy. |
| 12 | 9th Aust. Field Amb. | 25 | 3rd Aust. M. G. Bn. |
| 13 | 869th Coy. A. A. S. C. | 26 | A. D. M. S. |
| 14 | 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn. | 27 | Area Comdt. RIVERY. |
| | | 28-30 | War Diary. |

JL.

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War Diary

APPENDIX 24 63
30

SECRET.

Copy No.....

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Ref. Map: 62D
1/40,000.

Brigade Headquarters,
20th May, 1918.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED WITH
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.33.

TRANSPORT LINES:

1. Transport Lines for Brigade Headquarters and Battalions will be at M.17.b. to M.18.a. Battalions will arrange to take over Transport Lines from outgoing unit. Brigade Transport Officer will arrange to take over all trench shelters and tents held at Transport Lines.

Q.M. STORES &
REAR BN. HQRS:

2. Q.M. Stores and Rear Battalion Headquarters will be situated in BLANGY TRONVILLE. - Arrangements to be made direct with Area Commandant. The Adjutant or Assistant Adjutant of each Battalion will remain at Rear Headquarters in order to facilitate returns etc.

SUPPLIES:

3. RAILHEAD - AILLY-sur-SOMME.
869th Coy. Re-filling Point - M.5.c.9.3.
" Transport Lines - M.16.b.3.7.
Supplies will be delivered from Re-filling Point to Q.M. Stores by A.S.C. Coy. - and from Q.M. Stores to kitchens and forward by limbers under Battalion arrangements. For this purpose two limbers per Battalion will be retained at Q.M. Stores, the remaining vehicles of Battalions will remain at Transport Lines.
33rd Battalion will arrange to take delivery of 9th A.L.T.M. Battery rations at their Q.M. Store and hand same over to T.M. Battery there.

WATER:

4. LAMOTTE BREBIERE:
(Well) Billet Nos. 2, 5, 6, 9 and 23, Farm 25 and 26, Estaminet 900, Cottage off No. 27 and Billet No. 28 - each one measure of B.P.
Billet Nos. 4 and 22 - two measures of B.P.
Billet No. 10 4 measures of B.P. (This water is unfit for use).

GLISY:

Tank (1000 galls) on stand - Rain water - Tested, requires 2 measures B.P.
Well) Billet No. 18 - requires 1 measure B.P.
~~Well~~ Well - Billet No. 1 and Billet No. 27 require 1 and 1 1/2 measures B.P. respectively.
Public Well - requires 4 measures B.P. (unfit for use)
Public Well near Church and Rear Church require 1 and .3 measures respectively.

Well - Small Chateau requires 2 measures B.P.

BLANGY TRONVILLE:

	B.P.
Well Billet -	1
Bde. Hqrs	1
Public Well, Billet No.	1
Well Rain Caretkrs Res.	3
Pump. 4th Fld. Co. Billet	1
Pump. A. Btty R.F.A?	1
172 Coy. R.E. No.	1
182 Tunn. Coy. No.	1
No. 29 d.2,4.	2
Well 4th Pion. Dugouts	1
No.58 Pontoon Bde.	1
On CORBIE & BLANGY Rd.	1
Well (pump)	1

(P.T.O.)

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(2)

WATER:
(cont).

- 4. VILLERS BRETONNEUX:

Public Well No. 31 near Saw-Mill	B.P. 3
Well Bois l'Abbe (pump plant broken) windless erect	2
Well P.O.W. Cage	2
Well Bois l'Abbe in Abbey (ungit)	7.

Horses and Mules will not be watered at Village Ponds. They will be watered with canvas buckets at River Bank pending erection of water troughs.

NUCLEUS
PERSONNEL &
'B' TEAMS:

- 5. Nucleus personnel and 'B' Teams will be bivouaced at Transport Lines under arrangements application being made to Brigade Transport Officer for trench shelters. 'B' Teams will assemble at M.17.a.6.2. at 3.0 p.m. 21st instant reporting to Brigade Musketry Officer there.
Each Battalion will detail one cooker or equivalent in dixies, and cooks to remain with 'B' Teams.

COOKING
ARRANGEMENTS:

- 6. Existing cooking arrangements will be taken over from outgoing units by mutual arrangements.

BAGGAGE WAGONS
AND MOTOR
LORRIES:

- 7. Units will make their own arrangements with A.S.C. Coy. for baggage wagons, and in addition one motor lorry per Battalion will report to Battalions on afternoon of 21st instant.
If 9th A.L.T.M. Battery want any extra transport they will apply to Brigade Headquarters by 10.0 a.m. 21st instant.

CEMETERIES:

- 8. Cemeteries to be used by this Brigade :-
Le BLANGY CABARET - British Cemetery - 62D N.29.c.3.6.
Cemetery near VILLERS BRETONNEUX - 62D O.28.c.6.7.

AREA STORES:

- 9. Area Stores, including tents, trench shelters and hot food containers, will be handed over to relieving units and taken over in new area "in situ".
Duplicate copies of receipts given and taken will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of relief.

AMMUNITION:

- 10. Units will move with bulk Mob. Echelons. Reduction in number of grenades suggested in our B.M. 1/13 will not take place until further instructions are received.
Brigade Forward Ammunition Dump - ^{028 a 3.5} 0.16.c.9.4.
34th Battalion will arrange to place a guard of 3 men on this dump by 12 noon 21st instant.
Units will draw on this Dump for immediate requirements.
The D.A.C. will refill to this Dump.
The A ~~Section~~ Sub-Section D.A.C. at present attached to Brigade will rejoin S.A.A. Section and will be located at Sh. 62D M.2.b.4.2.
Units will render daily expenditure of ammunition and grenades, the return to reach Brigade Headquarters (Rear) by 12 noon. This return must be accurate.
Battalions will take over all S.A.A. and Grenade from units in forward area, and in forwarding receipts to Brigade Headquarters will forward list showing locations of dumps and amount in each.

(P. T. O.)

(3)

RESERVE RATIONS
& WATER DUMPS:

11. Iron rations and water are stored at underment-
ioned locations:-

	<u>Iron rations</u>	<u>Water, gls.</u>
O.30.c.3.4.)	400	200
O.29.b.1.5.) Bde.	100	50
O.24.a.4.4.) Reserve.	500	250
O.16.c.8.0.)	500	250
O.28.b.8.8.)	500	250

35th Battalion will take over these dumps, and
replace one man on each dump.

These dumps are not to be touched except in case
of emergency.

GRAZING:

12. Arrangements for grazing have been made as under:-

North of River SOMME - all pasture lands con-
tained in Squares M.17 and 18 and M.13.c.

between CAMON - LAMOTTE Road and River.

South of SOMME - Squares N.19 and 20 between
the two railway lines.

BATHS:

13. Brigade Baths situated at LAMOTTE - capacity
90 per hour. Allotment will be issued later.

35th Battalion will detail Corpl. DICKSON to
supervise running of these Baths, which are staffed
by P.B. men from Corps.

Clean clothing will be available at these Baths.

MEDICAL:

14. R. A. Ps. situated at O.29.d.8.o. - O.24.c.4.8. -
O.22.a.5.2. - O.27.d.8.3.

A.D.S. - N.26.d.1.3.

Walking wounded Station - N.27.c.5.3.

M.D.S. - St. ACHEUL - AMIENS.

9th Field Ambulance - M.5.c.2.5.

10th Field Ambulance - ST. ACHEUL.

11th Field Ambulance will clear the forward area
N.26.d.1.3.

ENGINEER
DUMPS:

15. CRUCIFIX DUMP	-	O.29.b.2.6.
LONE TREE DUMP	-	O.24.c.3.2.
ORCHARD DUMP	-	O.29.b.5.3.
Dump	-	N.28.c.4.4.
DUMP	-	N.36.b.3.2.

SALVAGE:

16. Salvage will be brought to Q.M. Stores by return
ration limbers, from thence to re-filling point by
return supply wagons, thence to Railroad by return
supply lorries.

As the quantity of salvage in the Left Brigade
Sector is considerable, units will ensure that their
Battalion area is cleared as quickly as possible.

Y. M. C. A.

17. Y.M.C.A. at BOIS L'ABBE - O.26.c.9.4. and
O.27.b.8.2.

Comforts Fund - CAMON.

Rear Brigade Headquarters will be situated at
TRONVILLE CHATEAU. All returns must reach this Hqs.
at times already in force.

[Signature]
Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Infantry Bde.

(P. T. O.)

APPENDIX 24

DISTRIBUTION:

Copy No. 1-3	Brigade Headquarters.
4	Bde. Sig. Officer
5	33rd Battalion
6	34th Battalion
7	35th Battalion
8	9th A.M.G. Coy.
9	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
10	9th Field Coy. A.E.
11	9th Field Ambulance
12	A Subsect. S.A.A. 3rd D.A.C.
13-14	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
15	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
16	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
17	12th Aust. Inf. Bde.
18-19	3rd Aust. Div.
20-22	War Diary
23	F i l e.

(EMR).

As the quantity of stores in the left brigade sector is considerable, units will ensure that their ration area is cleared as quickly as possible.

Left Brigade Headquarters will be situated at ... All returns must reach this HQ as lines already in force.

Major ...
 Fifth Australian Infantry Bde.

(S.S.O.)

appendix

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
-----Brigade Headquarters.
27th May 1918.

To all recipients of 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.
Administrative Instructions, dated 20.5.1918,
issued with 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Order No. 33.

Para. 10 - AMMUNITION.

Line 5. For "Brigade Forward Ammunition Dump 0.16.c.9.4."
read "Brigade Forward Ammunition Dump 0.28.a.3.5."

9th Australian Infantry*[Signature]*
Captain
Staff Captain
Brigade.

JB.

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APPENDIX 25

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

P R O G R A M M E.

SWIMMING SPORTS. -- Sunday 19th May 1918.

1. Heats of 66 yards championship .. 8 heats.
2. Plunge championship .. Post entries.
3. Heats of relay championship .. 2 heats.
4. Fancy dress parade .. Post entries.
5. Officers' sweepstake .. 2 heats.
6. Heats of breast-stroke championship 6 heats.
7. Officers' sweepstake .. Final.
8. Semi-finals 66 yards championship 2 semi-finals.
9. Relay race. .. Final.
10. Breast-stroke championship .. Final.
11. Chasing the bellman ..
12. 66 yards championship. .. Final.

O F F I C I A L S.

- Secretary .. Mr. H.G. Polyblank, Y.M.C.A. (At starting point).
- Starters .. Captain S.B. Cox 9th Field Coy. Engineers.
Captain J.G. PATERSON, MC. H.Q. 9th Bde.
- Judges .. Major J.M. Hawkey, M.C. 33rd Battalion.
Major F.G. Grant 34th Battalion.
- Stewards .. Lieut. J. Harding 9th Field Coy. Engineers.
Lieut. C.W. Durack 869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
Lieut. J. Monfries 34th Battalion.
- Recording Secretary .. Lieut. W.R. Staton, MC. H.Q. 9th Bde.
- Dressing room .. Sgt-Major Brownlie 34th Battalion.
Sgt-Major Thomas 9th Field Coy. Engineers.

Megaphone at starting point.

Brigade band will be in attendance.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ROUTINE ORDER NO. X 8.

APPENDIX^{b y}

No. 26

BRIG-GEN. C. ROSENTHAL C.B., C.M.G. G.O.C. 9th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
19th May, 1918.

AUDIT
BOARD:

24. The undermentioned Officers will constitute an Audit Board under K.R. 104, to assemble at such date, time and place as the President may order, for the purpose of examining such accounts as may be brought before them.

PRESIDENT.

Major J.H.F. PAIN. M.C. Hqrs. 9th A.I. Bde.

MEMBERS

Captain S.I. SUTER, M.C. Hqrs. 9th A.I. Bde.
Captain J.G. PATERSON. M.C. Hqrs. 9th A.I. Bde.

Pain
Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

(EMR).

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APPENDIX 27.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL (second series)

Commencing at 2.30 pm. 20th May 1918.

P R O G R A M M E.

1. Relay race - teams of four, one each length.
 2. Walking greasy pole.
 3. Water polo exhibition.
 4. Cigarette race - one length.
 5. Senior N.C.Os. race - two lengths.
 6. Life-saving race.
 7. High diving.
 8. Six lengths championship.
 9. Backstroke race - one length.
 10. Chasing the bellman.
 11. Relay race - final.
 12. Tug-of-war. - teams of six.
 13. Fancy dress parade.
 14. Consolation race - one length, any style.
-



NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

APPENDIX 28

Brigade Headquarters.
22nd May 1918.Headquarters
33-4-5th Battalions.
9th Field Coy. A.E.
3rd Aust. Div. (for infor.)

B.M. 30/158.

Work in Left Brigade Area.

1. The work to be carried out by the Brigade in this Area will be pushed on vigourously.
2. "A" Battalion will be responsible for the strengthening and maintenance of wire in front of the front line and will in addition provide 50 working men from the Reserve Company in P.19.c. and P.25.a. to improve the fire trench running through those Squares and to construct a strong belt of wire in front of it.
3. "B" Battalion will furnish a party of 50 men to work on APPLE ALLEY (C.T. running East and West through O.30.b.). This party will be provided by the Company in the VILLERS LINE. "B" Battalion will also furnish a party of 50 working men to deepen and wire BANANA SWITCH in O.30.a.
4. "C" Battalion will furnish 50 working men to deepen and improve VILLERS SWITCH in O.30.a. and c. The remainder of "C" Battalion will for the time being be employed in deepening and strengthening VILLERS SWITCH in O.23.c. and d.
5. One Section 9th Field Company A.E. has been detailed to assist in the work laid down in paras. 2 and 3 above and one Section to furnish technical supervision for work on BANANA SWITCH and VILLERS SWITCH. Details concerning hours of work, tools, R.E. material etc. will be arranged direct by C.Os. with Section Commanders.
6. The foregoing will be given effect to at once. A detailed working party table and works policy will be issued at an early date.

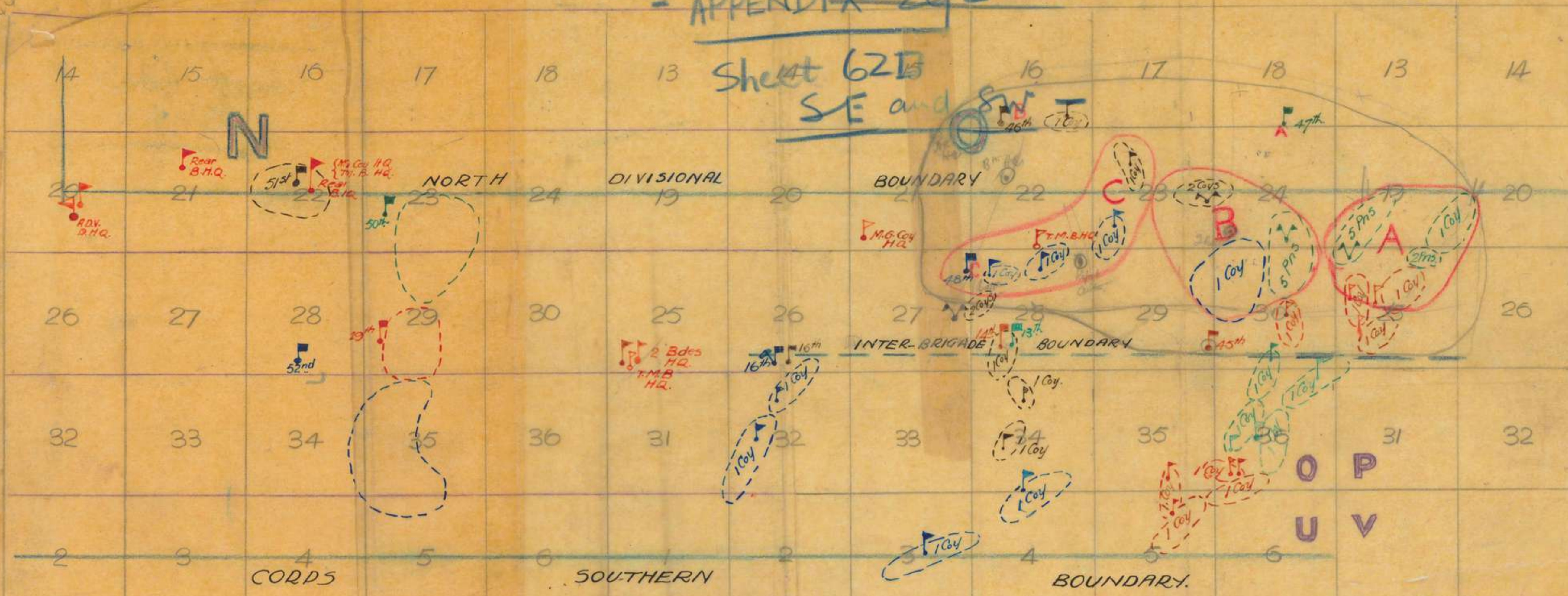
J.H.F. PAIN Major
Brigade Major
9th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

JB.



APPENDIX 29⁷²

Sheet 62E
SE and SW



SECRET.
COPY NO 1

DISPOSITION MAP

AS AT 8am 16/5/18.

Part of Sheet 5 62E SE & SW
Scale 1:20,000

- REFERENCE
- DIV. H.Q. --- [Symbol]
 - BDE " --- [Symbol]
 - BN " --- [Symbol]
 - COY " --- [Symbol]
 - M.G. Coy. --- [Symbol]
 - T.M.B. --- [Symbol]
 - BN BOUNDARIES. [Symbol]

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX 30

Confidential.

22.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.1
for 24 hours ending 4 pm. 22.5.1918.

Reference map: Sheet 62 D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Relief. The 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved the 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. during darkness.

Artillery Very little artillery reported.

Machine Guns. 3,000 rounds were fired on Fork roads, P.26.c.85.38. trenches at P.30.a.90.20. rd junction P.31.c.85.65. road V.1.a.75.05. trenches in P.26.c., P.31.b. and c.

Aircraft. Active at high altitudes this morning.

Patrols. Three patrols were out covering the relief. Later two patrols went out from our front line in P.25.b. and report very little enemy machine gun activity. The night was very quiet.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.

Between 11.30 am. and 12.30 pm. 250 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in vicinity of Battalion H.Q. at O.27.b.9.7. from direction S.E. of HAMEL. Four men were reported wounded and the signal switch-board damaged.

Between 9.30 am. and 1.30 pm. 350 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.34.c. from the direction of WARFUSEE-ABANGCOURT.

Machine Guns. Very little activity.

Aircraft. Very quiet. Two planes flew towards the line at 6 am. but did not cross the line.

Movement. Visibility poor owing to haze.

- 1.40 pm. Narrow guage train at W.1.a.9.3. moved North.
- 2.30 pm. Narrow guage train moved fast in a westerly direction through Q.31c.
- 3.45 pm. Three men disappeared into wood at P.16.c.9.7.

G. Haiford
for

Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

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(Extract from "LE MATIN", Wednesday 22nd May 1918). 74

APPENDIX 30A
THE BITE OF THE AUSTRALIANS

The retaking of VILLE-sur-ANCRE.

In one month the Australians have captured 1,800 prisoners and have taken part in numerous conflicts.

(From our Special War Correspondent accredited to the British Army)
Between the SOMME and the ANCRE 21st May.

The Australians are only happy when they are given plenty of hard work. It was an Australian Captain who, simply, emphasized this trait in their character, so often exemplified, and he seemed, on his part, quite satisfied. And quite justly too, for his Company was one of those which, the day before yesterday, on Whitsun Eve, contributed towards the success which you know resulted in the retaking of VILLE-sur-ANCRE. It was a splendid surprise blow, sturdily carried out and it is worth reporting in some detail.

The artillery preparation lasted barely an hour. At 2 a.m. the first Australian wave went over the top.

There was a splendid moon. It was a pleasure to go, the Captains tells us. Our lengthened shadows as we leapt from hole to hole running across the country, doubled, in the eyes of the enemy, the number of his assailants. His barrage was put up too late. The attack, made on a front of little more than three kilometres, developed right and left of the village, peat bogs preventing it being assaulted from the front.

Advanced posts and garrisons - in the neighbourhood of 1000 men - found themselves surrounded ere they had a chance to retaliate. Nevertheless the Battalion which held the village - men of the 117th Division, young classes mostly - notwithstanding the futility of all resistance, defended themselves valiantly. It took two hours searching the cellars to overcome, with the aid of bombs, the obstinacy of some of them. Four hundred prisoners, or but few less, remained in our hands, and at least as many dead lay on the field. I say enemy dead, for our own losses were negligible.

One comic incident - which always exists in every drama - was the finding amongst the small fry (wastrels) captured, of a civilian from Berlin - rara avis - whose sole baggage consisted of a register of subscriptions, for he was a Collector of War Savings charged with receiving on the spot the mites of the combatants. It would appear on glancing at his note-book that the liberality of the contributions was not very considerable.

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90A
APPENDIX

Another incident, this time of a dramatic nature: we had taken an officer who, according to custom, had advanced to meet us hands up. Seizing a moment to drop them, he hastily snatched his revolver from the pocket of his tunic and fired it point blank at the stomach of the guard who was marching at his side. This example of Hunnish perfidy earned the end it merited.

The taking of VILLE-sur-ANCRE - known by some as VILLE-sus-CORBIE - has the advantage of securing for us valuable observation direct on MORLANCOURT, and, amongst other things, on four roads and on the enemy flank towards ALBERT.

A run of successes.

This success, furthermore, is the last in point of date of a whole series of fortunate operations which, in the course of a month have meant the capture by the Australian Corps of 1,800 prisoners, of whom half are to the credit of the two Brigades which retook VILLERS-BRETOMNEUL.

Hereunder, unembellished but how eloquent, is a statement of their feats of arms during the past fortnight.

Night 30th April/1st May.

Line advanced 400 metres in depth on a front of 800 metres. Post established East of the village of TREUX.

Night 1st/2nd May.

Further advance - total gain of 600 metres in depth on a front of 1,400 metres.

Morning 6th May.

Capture of the whole German second line of defence South-west of MORLANCOURT. The occupants and their ration carriers killed or captured. Prisoners 163, including 4 officers.

Morning 8th May.

Three local operations - all successful. Line advanced 500 metres on 600 metres of front East of SAILLY-le-SEC and of 300 metres on 500 metres west of MORLANCOURT. About 20 prisoners and heavy enemy casualties.

9th May.

Return of enemy offensive. They secured a footing for an instant in Australian trenches North-west of ALBERT but were immediately thrown out again.

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8.

14th May.

Two German Companies belonging to 18th and 199th Divisions attempted to regain the trenches lost by them South-west of MORLANCOURT. At one point they broke into the Australian lines. A spirited counter-attack not only re-established the position but lost country to the enemy and left 52 prisoners in our hands as a result of the encounter.

18th May.

The Australians attacked, at full mid-day, a strong post advanced towards MORLANCOURT, captured the whole garrison - 22 men and 1 officer - and withdrew, having suffered no casualties.

When the Germans think of attacking, this is the kind of adversary he will have to reckon with.

JB.



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Confidential.

APPENDIX 31

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23.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 2
for period ending 4 pm.23.5.18 (24 hrs)

Reference map: Sheet 62 D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Between 10 pm. and 4 am. our 18-pdr. batteries searched in bursts of fire from S.O.S. plus 300 yards to S.O.S. plus 1,100 yards on our front. Gas was also used opposite this front, but the shoot was stopped owing to the gas coming over towards our line.

During the day several O.Ks. were obtained on the hangars in P.31.a.

Trench Mortars. Trench Mortars did not fire owing to our patrols working near enemy posts.

Machine Guns. During the night 2,000 rounds were fired on:
road at P.26.c.85.30.
roads at P.31.c.85.65.
trenches at P.32.a.70.20.
trenches in P.26.c., P.31.b. and c.

Aircraft. Our planes were active at intervals during the day, flying low over enemy front line.

Patrols. Four reconnaissance patrols were working on our front during darkness. An enemy post in P.20.c. was examined but no enemy encountered. Another enemy post was located at P.20.c.4.7. but owing to the brightness of the moonlight it was impossible to approach close enough to gather any idea of the strength of the garrison. This post is to be examined again.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.

5.0 p.m. 15 rds.10.5 fell in O.23.d. and O.23.c. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
10.30 pm. 18 rds.10.5 (inst.fuze) fell in O.16.b. fr.HAMEL.
10.30pm.-11.30pm. 18 rds.10.5 fell in O.22.c. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
7.20am.-12 noon. 50 rds.5.9 H.E.fell in VILLERS-BRETONNEUX from S.S.E.

Machine Guns. Very little activity reported.

Aircraft. Five enemy planes crossed our line during darkness.
At 5.30 am. seven planes crossed the lines as far as O.27.

Aircraft (contd.)

They were driven back by anti-aircraft fire. Enemy balloons were located T.B. 120° and T.B. 83° from P.19.c.20.95.

Movement.

- 5.30 am. Four of the enemy at P.22.d.75.50. went towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT; they carried neither rifles nor equipment.
- 6.5 a.m. Enemy transport moved in Northerly direction on sunken road at P.27.b.6.5.
- 6.30 am. Two of the enemy seen at P.22.d.7.3.
- 9.15 am. Smoke seen issuing from house at P.29.d.4.3. - probably billets.
- 9.30 am. Six men in P.23.d. walked towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT; they carried neither rifles nor equipment.
- 10.10 am. Two transport wagons, apparently heavily loaded, on road at P.23.a.6.2. went towards TAILLEUX WOOD.
- 11.0 am. A four-wheeled wagon drawn by two horses seen at P.27.b.6.5. going North.
- 11.25 am. Considerable movement in parties of two and three about trenches at P.22.d.75.50.
- 11.45 am. Enemy transport on road at P.29.a.9.8. moved towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

G. Halford

for Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade

JB.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.3
for 16 hours ending 8 a.m. 24.5.1918.-----
Reference map: Sheet 62D.
-----OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Ground in front of our sector was again searched with bursts of fire by 18-pdrs. between 10 pm. and 4 am. and road in P.27. was gassed by 4.5 Hows.

Trench Mortars. At 11 pm. our 3" Stokes fired 30 rounds on M.G. at P.26.a.20.70. The machine gun has not fired since.

Machine guns.

250 rounds were fired on road at P.26.c.85.38.

250 " " " " trenches at P.32.a.90.20.

500 " " " " road at P.31.c.85.65.

400 " " " " road at V.l.a.75.05.

250 " " " " trenches at V.l.a.90.70.

350 " " " " bridge at V.l.b.50.60.

At 1 am. our Lewis Guns dispersed a working party in vicinity of P.25.central.

Aircraft. Active all day particularly during the evening.

Snipers. Three hits claimed. At 8 pm. enemy working party at about P.20.b.8.2. ceased work owing to the activity of our snipers.

Patrols. Our front was patrolled from P.20.c.2.8. to P.25.b.5.6. Listening posts were established at P.20.c.4.5., P.25.b.9.9. and P.25.b.55.35. None of the enemy were seen or heard. Enemy killed were examined at P.26.a.2.8. and P.20.c.2.1. They had been there several weeks and all identifications previously removed.

ENEMY ACTIVITY. Artillery.

4.25 pm. 11 rounds 10.5 cm. (inst.fuze) fell in 0.18.a. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

5.10 pm. 23 rounds 10.5 cm. (inst.fuze) fell in 0.18.a. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

5.25 pm. 33 rounds 77 cm. fell in 0.11.d. and 0.18.a. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

7.0 p.m. 12 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in 0.23.a. and e. fr. HAMEL.

7.15 pm. 26 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in 0.23.c. and d. fr. HAMEL.

7.25 pm. 22 rounds 10.5cm. (inst.fuze) fell in 0.17.c. and 0.23.a. from HAMEL.

8.25 pm. 12 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in 0.24.c. from HAMEL.

4.30 am. 34 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in 0.17.d. from HAMEL.

Trench Mortars. No activity reported.

Machine Guns. Machine Gun active at P.26.a.20.70. (See our "Trench Mortars"). The Northern half of our sector was exceptionally quiet.

Aircraft. Five enemy scouts flying fairly low crossed our line at 6.30 am. and were driven back by machine gun fire. Between 8.20 pm. and 9.0 pm. two enemy planes were over the line.

Movement. Visibility fair.
 8.15 pm. - Between 20 and 30 pack mules with some men riding and some leading were seen just in rear of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT. Our 18-pdrs. fired on the party which scattered in all directions. No casualties were observed.
 1.30 am. - Three golden ray lights sent up from P.26.a. No apparent result.

G. Halford Lt

Lieut.-Colonel
 Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Bde.

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Appendix 33

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HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE
24 MAY 1918
B.M. NO. 8/189
A.I.F.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters

- 33-4-5th Battalions.
- 9th A.L.T.M. Battery.
- 23rd Aust.M.G. Coy.
- 10th Aust.Inf.Bde.
- 11th Aust.Inf.Bde.
- 14th Aust.Inf.Bde.
- 3rd Aust.Division (for infor).

Brigade Headquarters
24th May 1918.

1. Pending the issue of a Defence Scheme, the following action will be taken by units in the event of an enemy attack

2. "A" Battalion. The front line, which is continuous, will be held at all costs. This line will be held by three Companies with one Company in the support line.

One Company "B" Battalion will be accommodated at O.24.c. in rear of the Reserve Line in O.24.d. and O.30.b., and is placed at the tactical disposal of the C.O. "A" Battalion.

3. "B" Battalion. This Battalion is normally accommodated in dugouts between O.23.central and O.23.c.d.9.5., in O.24.c. and O.30.a. It will move three Companies into VILLERS LINE and BANANA SWITCH. One Company is placed at the immediate tactical disposal of "A" Battalion (vide para.2).

"B" Battalion will be prepared:

- (a) to reinforce "A" Battalion;
- (b) to counter-attack to regain ground in "A" Battalion area.

At an early date, when sufficient accommodation has been provided, "B" Battalion will establish its Headquarters at the dugout occupied by "A" Battalion at O.24.c.2.2., making a two-battalion dugout.

4. "C" Battalion. "C" Battalion is the Reserve Battalion, accommodated in dugouts in O.22.d., O.28.a. and h. It will

P. T. O.

APPENDIX 33

occupy VILLERS SWITCH in O.28.b., O.29.a. and O.23.c. with three Companies, the remaining Company being retained at O.22.d. to meet any emergency.

This Battalion may be called upon to reinforce or counter-attack in the HILL 105 Area.

When accommodation becomes available, "G" Battalion will establish its Headquarters at O.28.b.8.9.

- 5. Necessary reconnaissances of the Brigade Area and adjoining ground will be made.

J. H. Fair

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX 33A

Confidential.24.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.4
from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 24.5.1918.

Reference map: Sheet 62D.

Enemy Artillery.

- 9.30 am. 20 rounds 4.2 H.E. (in bursts of four rounds) in
O.28.a. and O.21.d. from direction of W.RFUSEE-
ABANCOURT.
10.30 am. 40 rounds 4.2 H.E. in O.24.a., 18.b. and d. from
WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Aircraft. 8.10 am. - Two enemy planes flying low over P.25.b. were
driven off by anti-aircraft fire.

Enemy Movement.

- 8.0 am. Two men at P.21.d.9.6. went North.
9.15 am. Two large transport wagons on road at P.23.a.4.5.
were unloaded by four men. Artillery notified
and opened up whereupon the wagons disappeared
in sunken road.
9.45 am. Two men (mounted) at P.22.a.2.6. rode South.
10.0 am. Enemy transport - apparently a water-cart - was seen
at P.28.b.8.8. going South.
11.40 am. Seven men on road at P.29.a.15.30. going South. No
rifles or equipment.

Location.

Flashes from an enemy 6-(?) gun 5.9 battery were seen at
Q.26.b.1.8. Thirty rounds were fired into CORBIE about
12 noon.

G. Halford Lt
For

Lieut. - Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



Appendix 34

Confidential.

25.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.5
from 4 pm.24.5.1918 to 8 am. 25.5.1918.-

Ref. map:- Sheet 62 D. -

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our 18-pdrs. and 4.5 Hows. fired during the night on targets in front of our sector including the harassing of the road from P.21.d.85.30. to WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Trench Mortars. 10 rounds 3" Stokes were fired on m.g. emplacement at P.25.d.6.0. There has been no firing from there since.

Machine Guns.
300 rounds were fired on trenches at P.32.a.90.20.
300 " " " " roads at P.26.c.85.38.
400 " " " " " " P.31.c.85.65.
400 " " " " " " V. 1.a.75.05.
300 " " " " " " V. 1.a.90.70.
300 " " " " " " V. 1.b.50.60.

Aircraft. None of our planes seen.

Snipers. Very few targets presented themselves. One certain and two doubtful hits claimed.

Patrols. Between 1.10 am. and 2.45 am. one patrol left P.20.c.4.9. and patrolled NO MAN'S LAND about 150 yards in front of our line. No sign of enemy outpost work was found and none of the enemy were seen. Our artillery and Stokes Mortars were active in the vicinity. There was no enemy machine gun activity. Another patrol left P.19.d.9.1. and report NO MAN'S LAND to be level ground with 18" crop in parts. A line of holes (extending about 40 yards) and a piece of "Y"-shaped trench with new work were examined but none of the enemy were seen or heard. (The exact locations have not yet been ascertained). Rifle and m.g. fire quiet. No Very lights reported by patrols.

ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Artillery.
7.20 pm. to 7.30 pm.- 10 rds.15 cm. fell in O.20.b. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
8.0 pm. to 9.30 pm. - 35 rounds 5.0 H.E. fell in O.28.a. from North East.
8.40 pm. to 9.0 pm. - 16 rounds 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. fell in O.21.b. and d. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
1.50 am. to 2.10 am.- 20 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.28.b. from MARCELCAVE.
3.30 am. - 10 rounds 10.5 cms. fell in O.29.b. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. Very little activity.

Aircraft. None reported.

Movement. Visibility bad. No important movement reported.

G. Halford Lt
for
Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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Appendix 34

Confidential.

25.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 5A,
from 8 a.m. 25.5.18. to 4 p.m. 25.5.1918

Reference map: Sheet 62D.

Enemy Artillery.

- 8.15 am. to 9.20 am. - 26 rounds 4.2 in O.16.b. and O.21.d. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 11.10 am. to 11.55 am. - 44 rounds 4.2 in O.24.a. and O.16.b. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 9.50 a.m. - 50 rounds 4.2 H.E. in O.2.3.d. from BAYONVILLERS.
- 2.25 p.m. - 30 rounds 4.2 H.E. on P.25.c.5.3. from direction of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 12 noon to 1.30 pm. - 350 rounds 5.9 H.E. and 4.2 H.E. in O.28.a and b., O.22.c. and d. from N.E. and S.E.

Aircraft. Enemy planes came over the line at 10 am., 11.45 am. and 2.35 pm. and were driven off by A.A. fire. The first one came very low and the observer could be seen using his M.G. on our trenches. No casualties were inflicted.

Movement. At 10.30 am. about 30 men with rifles and full equipment led by a mounted man came from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT and disappeared at P.23.c.8.4. The horseman returned. At 11.30 am. men were seen moving about this point in twos and threes.

E. Halford Lt.

for Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Appendix 35

Confidential.

26.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.6
from 4 pm. 25.5.1918 to 8 am. 26.5.1918.

Ref. map: Sheet 62D.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Very active. At 7.20 pm. our observers drew the artillery's attention to 50 or 60 pack mules at P.29.b.60.65. going North. Ten O.Ks. were obtained. Nothing further seen of the mules.

Our 18-pdrs. engaged m.g. emplacement at P.20.c.5.1; between six and ten O.Ks. were obtained.

Bursts of fire were put down opposite our front between 9.45 pm. and 3.57 am. Gas was also used.

It is reported that cross-roads in P.21.d. received approximately 20 direct hits during the day.

8.15 pm. - A dump was set on fire approximately P.29.b.60.65; it burnt for 20 minutes.

Trench Mortars. At 4.30 am. our 3" Stokes fired 20 rounds on suspected M.W. emplacement at P.25.d.4.9. Result unknown but shots fell in the immediate vicinity of the position.

Machine Guns. 1,500 rounds were expended on roads at P.26.c.85.38., P.31.c.85.65., V.1.a.75.05., bridge at V.1.b.5.6. and trenches at V.1.a.9.7. and P.32.a.9.2.

At 2.30 am. Lewis Guns dispersed enemy party near VAIRE WOOD. It is believed that one casualty was inflicted.

At 8 pm. an enemy party approaching enemy F.L. in O.26.a. was compelled by our Lewis Guns to disperse and seek shelter in shell-holes. No casualties observed.

Aircraft. Many bombing planes passed over our line. BOIS de VAIRE received special attention about midnight. Many of our reconnoitring planes were over the front line during the evening.

Snipers. Only one hit claimed.

Patrols. Five patrols were out covering our front. Many old enemy posts were examined. Patrols formed listening posts at times but no enemy were seen or heard. Enemy wire, which is very thick in places, is being hidden by the growing crops. Night generally quiet.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. At 7.45 pm. enemy started a concentrated gas bombardment of the BOIS l'ABBE and the re-entrants running North from there. 4.2 and 77 mustard gas fell - about 60 rounds per minute. The shelling slackened at about 9.45pm. A similar shoot was repeated between about 3.15 am. and 5.15 am.

5.20 pm. to 5.30 pm. - 40 rounds 4.2 H.E. in O.22.c. (salvo s of four) from S.E.

11.15 pm. to 11.25 pm. - 20 rounds 5.9 H.E. in O.22.c. from S.E.

6.30 pm. to 7.0 pm. - 15 cm. in O.26.b. and d. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT. 30 rounds.

Trench Mortars. Fifteen rounds fell near the right of our front line - direction unknown.

P. T. O.

Machine Guns. Very quiet. Only one gun seemed active situated in 0.26.a.

Aircraft. Enemy planes were active at a lower altitude than usual evidently taking photos.

Movement.

7.20 pm. 50 or 60 pack mules engaged by artillery. (See "Our Artillery").
7.30 pm. Wagon at P.27.b.6.7. travelling North.

Locations.

At 10 pm. gun flashes were seen on the following bearings:
T.B. 100° and 67° from 0.28.b.8.8.

8.40 pm. - Flashes of 4.E (?) battery observed near WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT on T.B. 103° from P.25.c.central.

G. Halford

Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

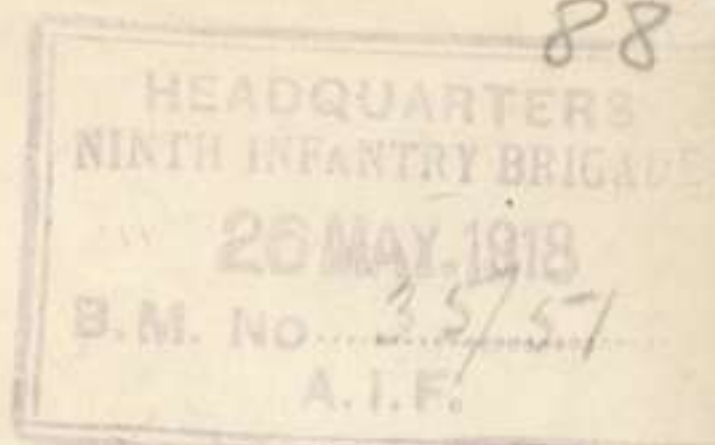
JB.

[Faint, mostly illegible text from the reverse side of the page, including phrases like "Machine Guns", "Aircraft", and "Movement"]

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NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.



Brigade Headquarters.
26th May 1918.

Headquarters
33-4-5th Battalions.
9th A.L.T.M. Battery.
23rd A.M.G. Company.
Brigade Signal Officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMUNICATION AND S.O.S. SIGNALS.

1. A system of posts and repeating stations, equipped with message-carrying rockets, will be organised at once within the Brigade.
2. It is probable that the system could be used in foggy or inclement weather as a supplementary means of sending S.O.S. messages.
3. Message-carrying rocket posts will be established under Battalion arrangements at all Company Headquarters of "A" Battalion and at all Battalion Headquarters. The chain of communication by this means will be:
All Coys. "A" Bn. to "A" Bn.H.Q.
"A" Bn.H.Q. to "B" and "C" Bn.H.Qs.
"C" Bn.H.Q. to Hde. Advanced Report Centre.
4. Attention is drawn to T./2116, "Message-carrying Rockets" - Amendment to S.S. 191 "Inter-communication in the Field" from which the following notes are reproduced.

II. - ORGANISATION.

- (i.) Message-carrying rockets are intended to be used instead of runners. They are not sufficiently reliable however to replace runners.
- (ii.) The success or failure of this means of communication depends to a great extent on the organisation of their use. As a general rule the details of this organisation should be worked out by the Signal Officer of the formation concerned to fit in with the general communication scheme.
- (iii.) The areas from which rockets are to be fired and into which they will be fired must be decided beforehand.
- (iv.) If many rockets fall into the same area at about the same time it will be impossible to ensure that they are all collected. The issue of rockets must therefore be carefully controlled.
As a rule rockets should be issued only to Officers specially detailed, who are conversant with the principles of their use and with the communication scheme and who will be responsible for the transmission of messages by this means.
- (v.) Areas into which rockets are to be fired should, if possible, be out of sight of the enemy and close to a signal station.
- (vi.) Special arrangements must be made for watching for message-carrying rockets. The nature of these arrangements will depend on local conditions and topography.
As a general rule the runners at signal stations and at suitable relay posts in the chain of runners should be detailed to watch for rockets, to collect them and to take them to the nearest signal station.
The positions of these watching stations, the areas for which they are responsible and their duties as regards the collection and disposal of messages sent by this means must be clearly defined.
- (vii.) Opportunity should be given to all troops to see

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2.

message-carrying rockets fired so that all ranks may recognise the rocket in flight and after landing.

All troops should receive instructions in the recovery of rockets and should be told, if possible, to what stations messages picked up by this means should be delivered.

5. Units will demand forthwith their requirements in message-carrying rockets to comply with the foregoing.

6. Battalions will notify Brigade Headquarters when arrangements are completed, which is to be by 12 noon tomorrow 27th instant.

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

14A

APP 36

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE
30 MAY 1918
S.M. NO. 35/51
A.I.F.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters,
30th May 1918.

Headquarters,
33-4-5th Battalions
9th A.L.T.M. Battery.
23rd A.M.G. Coy.
Brigade Signal Officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMUNICATION

In continuance of my B.M. 35/51 of 26th inst, Stations, equipped with message-carrying rockets, will be forthwith established as follows:-

Each of the three line Coy Hd.Qrs of "A" Bn located at -
P.20.c.05.45
P.19.d.6.1
P.25.a.9.4

"A" Battalion Headquarters	-	0.24.c.3.3
"B" " "	-	0.28.b.8.8
Brigade Central Visual Station	-	0.27.a.2.3

The chain of communication will be from all Company Stations to "A" Battalion Station, thence via "B" Bn and Visual Stations to Brigade Headquarters.

Each Station will be issued with one message-carrying rocket forthwith. As soon as supplies permit a further distribution will be made.

Two men will be detailed for duty with each station as required. They will prepare a trough to hold the rocket in position before firing, and will make themselves familiar with the method of preparing and despatching rockets.

The present issue of rockets is for emergency communication only, and must on no account be utilised for other purposes. It is hoped that additional supplies will be available shortly to permit of tests being carried out.

Major
Brigade Major.
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

(MCO)



SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,

26th May, 1918.

The Corps Commander will present Decorations which have been awarded to the members of the Third Australian Division at a Representative parade of the Division to be held at Sheet 62D, M.18.a.9.3 at ~~10.30~~ 10.30 a.m. on the 27th instant.

COMPOSITION: Representatives of all Units of the Division will parade, and will form a hollow square.

The following is the detail of troops of this Brigade who will parade:-

33rd Battalion	2	Offs.	80	other ranks
34th "	1	"	80	" "
35th "	1	"	90	" "

The above troops will be selected from "B" Echelon of units.

COMMAND: The parade will be under the Command of Lieut-Colonel J.E.C. LORD, D.S.O., 40th Battalion.

Major J.M. HAWKEY, M.C., 33rd Battalion, will command the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. details.

BAND: The 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will detail a Band.

DRESS: Drill Order - Officers to be dressed like the men. Australian Head dress will be worn.

No Officer or man to be mounted - canes will NOT be carried.

PROCEDURE OF PARADE: On arrival of the Corps Commander, the parade will PRESENT ARMS, and the Band will play the General Salute. On the completion of the General Salute, the parade will SLOPE ARMS, and come to ATTENTION on the order of the O.C. Parade, and await the order to STAND AT EASE by the Corps Commander.

Should the Corps Commander desire to inspect the troops, the Parade Commander will order OPEN RANKS, whereupon the Corps Commander, accompanied by the Divisional Commander, will inspect. Officers Commanding a detachment will accompany the Inspecting Officers to the limit of their respective Commands.

On completion of the inspection, the Parade Commander will order CLOSE RANKS and Officers to TAKE POST.

The Decorations will then be presented.

The parade will march past the Corps Commander.

RECIPIENTS will report to Captain J.M. DOIG, M.C. at Brigade Transport Lines at 9.0 a.m. 27th instant who will parade them to the D.A.A.G., Major C.A. PIKE, M.C., on the ground at 9.30 a.m. 27th instant.

Personnel who are to receive medals and ribbons who are at present in the line will report to REAR BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, TRONVILLE CHATEAU, as early as possible to-day, and will proceed to Transport Lines to-night to be in readiness for parade to-morrow.

Major J.M. HAWKEY, M.C. will detail a marker to report to D.A.A.G. on the ground at 9.45 a.m. All troops will be formed up on their respective markers not later than 10.0 a.m.

(P.T.O.)

OFFICERS TO ATTEND: As it is expected that the Corps Commander will take this opportunity of taking leave of the Division, as many Senior Officers as are available, other than those whom the Corps Commander will meet at the Headquarters of Brigades in the line, will attend this parade.

SECOND PARADE: After the above Parade, the Corps Commander will proceed to Brigade Headquarters at 0.25.0.7.4 in order to meet Officers unable to be present at the first parade.

Further instructions will be issued later as to the number of Officers from each unit to attend this parade.



Captain.
Staff Captain.

Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION:

Copy No.	1	Forward Bde. Hqrs.
	2	Forward Hqrs - 33rd Bn.
	3	" " - 34th Bn.
	4	" " - 35th Bn.
	5	9th A.L.T.M. Battery.
	6	Rear Hqrs. - 33rd Bn.
	7	" " - 34th Bn.
	8	" " - 35th Bn.
	9	Major J.M. HAWKEY, M.C. 33rd Bn.
	10	Captain J.M. DOIG, M.C. - 33rd Bn.
	11-13	War Diary
	14	F i l e.

(EMR).

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Confidential.

27.5.1918.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.7
from 8 am. to 4 pm. 26.5.1918.

Ref.map: Sheet 62D.

Enemy Artillery Area immediately North of BOIS de l'ABBE was shelling during the whole period. About 300 rounds 4.2 and 5.9 were scattered over O.21., O.22., O.27.b. and O.28.a. during the afternoon. They were coming from the direction of HAMEL, WARFUSEE and MARCELCAVE.

10.45 am.- 30 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell near P.25.a.3.8. from direction of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Aircraft. Very little activity on either side. Three enemy planes flew high over BOIS de l'ABBE at 11.10 am.

4 p.m. 26.5.1918 to 8 a.m. 27.5.1918.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Bursts of fire were again put down in front of our sector during darkness. Between 3.15 am. and 3.45 am. counter-preparation was carried out by the artillery.

In response to information from front line Battalion O.P., a battery of enemy guns, which was taking up its position at P.22.a.2.2., was compelled by our artillery to withdraw into BOIS d'ACCROCHE. Later horses were seen going South from the wood.

Trench Mortars. 10.30 pm.- 30 rounds 3" Stokes on machine gun emplacement at P.25.d.4.2. Rounds fell in vicinity of gun which it seems to have silenced.

Machine Guns. 11.45 pm.- Working party in P.25.b. was dispersed by our Lewis Guns. M.Gs. engaged same targets as yesterday.

Aircraft. Increased activity towards dusk. Very active during the night bombing back areas.

Patrols. Four patrols were out in NO MAN'S LAND in P.20.c. and South from there to the road in P.25.b. A listening post was formed at P.25.b.45.40. The linked-up shell-holes in P.26.a. and trench leading to these from enemy front line was examined. The trench showed signs of having been deepened recently but none of the enemy were seen. Enemy front line was very quiet. The moonlight showed movement on the ridge in rear of enemy lines. Rifles and machine guns were quiet but many more flares were used. At 11.15 pm. two single white lights were fired simultannously; immediately an enemy battery in P.23.d. opened fire on ground between our front line and support line. On the signal being repeated other signals were seen in rear, evidently repeating it. The signals ended in one red near WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Snipers. Three hits claimed.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery Very little on our front line system but the rear very heavily shelled. The principal shelling was:-

3pm.-3.30 pm.- 300 rounds 5.9 and 4.2 fell in O.21. and 22 from S.E.

5.10pm.-6.20pm.- 300 rounds 5.9 H.E. fell in O.21.d. and O.22.c. from S.E.

3 am.-3.45 am. -1200 rounds (including gas) 4.2 and 5.9 fell in O.27.b., O.28.a., O.21.d. and O.22.c. from S.E.

P. T. O.

Trench Mortars. Very little activity.

Machine Gun. A gun was firing from about P.26.c.1.3. where there appears to be a strong point. This gun fires at night and uses tracer bullets.

Aircraft. Several planes passed over our line going towards the rear at 8 pm.

Movements.

- 5.30 pm. What appeared to be an enemy battery was seen to take up a position at P.22.a.2.2. (See "Our Artillery").
- 6.0 p.m. Six wagons and ten men went North at P.29.a.9.8.
- 6.45 pm. Trench covered with green branches at P.22.d.70.25.- continual movement in small parties near here.
- 7.40 pm. Two wagons went North on road at P.22.a.1.2.
- 7.45 pm. Twenty of enemy at P.29.b.50.75. went South. They were followed by another party of ten at 50 yds. distance.
- 7.50 pm. Man at P.22.d.70.25. carried square box slung on shoulder.
- 8.5 p.m. Twenty of the enemy at Q.25.c.5.3. went South.
- 5.40pm.-8.15pm.- A good deal of transport movement North of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

Signals. See "Patrols".

Locations.

- 7.10 pm. Enemy 4.2 battery at V.4.d.7.7. fired into O.28.a. 10 rounds H.E.
- 3 am.-5 am. Flash bearings of enemy batteries:
 126°, 123° and 113° T.B. from P.25.b.6.4.
 122° T.B. from P.25.central.

G. Halford
for

Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

Very active during the night...
 Patrols...
 Artillery...
 The principal...
 3 am.-5 am...
 5.10pm.-6.30pm...
 8 am.-8.45 am...
 0.27.p., 0.28.a., 0.29.d. and 0.30.e. from 8.1.

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War diary

APPENDIX 39.
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

RECEIVED
MAY 29 1918
1/12

Brigade Headquarters.
29th May 1918.

Headquarters
33-4-5th Battalions.
9th A.L.T.M. Battery.
23rd A.M.G. Company.
3rd Aust. Division (for infor).

A demonstration shoot was held on 28th instant of the French 37 mm. gun. The following are particulars.

Use. Against enemy works in the trenches or especially against Tanks.

Gun. Gun and carriage can be lifted by one man. Fired from a tripod, is not above 2 feet from the ground and could be concealed easily. Piece about 2' 6" long over a spring buffer. Sights for direct and indirect firing.

Firing. Normally 15 rounds per minute but 20 can be fired.

Range. Maximum for accuracy - 1,500 yards.

Shell. Weighs about 1½ lbs. Both H.E. and armour-piercing.

The French had one per Battalion but some have now been replaced by the Stokes Mortar. The present establishment is one per Brigade. It is extremely accurate. It is simple in construction and the working of it could be learnt without difficulty.

G Halford

for
Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.



APPENDIX 40.

Confidential.

28.5.1918.

XIITH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No.8 from 8 am. to 4 pm. 27.5.1918.

Ref. map: Sheet 62D.

Enemy Artillery.

11.30 am. 24 rounds H.E. fell in O.22.c. from direction of MARCELCAVE.

1 pm. to 4 pm. Enemy put down intense fire of 4.2, 5.9 and 8" in O.22. and O.28.b. and d. - about 1,000 rounds including some gas.

Aircraft. Enemy planes were over our front line all day often flying low and occasionally firing their machine guns on the trenches. They were engaged by Lewis Guns. At 4 pm. a plane dropped four small bombs near our support line in P.19. No damage or casualties reported. At 3.5 pm. observation balloon rose from P.30.

Movement.

11 a.m. Two wagons went South at P.22.d.4.6.

1.0 p.m. Three wagons went South at P.29.c.9.9.

2.45 pm. Wagon went North at P.22.b.2.0.

From 4 pm. 27.5.1918 to 8 am. 28.5.1918.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our artillery put down bursts of fire in P.20., 21, 26 and 27. From 2.55 am. onwards special counter-preparation was put down, sweeping lanes where enemy concentrations might take place.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. 2,000 rounds expended on roads and trenches at P.26.c.85.38., P.32.a.9.2., P.31.c.85.65., V.1.a.75.05., V.1.a.90.70. and V.1.b.50.60.

Low-flying enemy planes were engaged during daylight. At 8.30 pm. Lewis Guns dispersed working party at P.25.d.6.0.

Aircraft. Active towards dusk and at night bombing rear areas.

Snipers. Two certain and one doubtful hits claimed.

Patrols. Patrol working in front of line in P.20.g1 examined the ground without any interference from the enemy. Very few lights were seen. Another patrol saw two of the enemy about P.20.c.6.4. The enemy immediately made off towards what seemed to be a working party further over to the left. This patrol retired owing to our artillery opening fire on enemy works near to them. Another patrol reports enemy heard talking in vicinity of P.20.c.5.1. and machine gun activity on extreme right.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery.

10.35 pm. 300 rounds 4.2 gas shells - mostly "sneezing" gas - fell in O.27.d. and O.28.a. from E. and S.E.

2.30 am.-3am. 50 rounds 5.9 fell in O.28. from S.E.

9.55pm.-10.25pm. 69 rounds 5.9 fell in O.22.c. and O.28.a. from direction of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

2.30 am.-2.50am. 37 rounds 4.2 fell in O.28.a. from the direction of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

P.T.O.

Trench Mortars. A few rounds fell at intervals near P.26.c.1.3.

Machine Guns. More active than usual. Gun at P.25.d.3.2. again firing.

Aircraft. Very active during the evening but no reports of planes passing over during darkness.

Balloons were observed on T.B. of 118° (at 1.45 pm.), 155° (at 2.30 pm.) and 95° (at 3.5 pm.) from P.25.b.4.6.

Movement.

6.30 pm. About 10 of enemy moved about house at P.29.c.50.80.- suspected billets.

6.45 pm. Enemy used light train at P.24.d.30.50. running towards LAMOTTE.

6.50 pm. Two of enemy rode to P.22.d.70.30. on bicycles and disappeared in trench.- suspected H.Q.

6.55 pm. Heavy clouds of white smoke issued from hollow at P.35.b.90.70.

7.0 pm. Two of enemy, each wearing capes and carrying a small black box under their arms, entered trench at P.21.c.2.5.

7.5 pm. Large enemy transport, wagon, covered with green tarpaulin and drawn by two horses, at P.21.d.90.30 travelled towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

7.20 pm. Two transport wagons, each drawn by two horses, at P.22.d.70.20. went along road in direction of TAILLOUX WOOD.

7.35 pm. Two enemy transport wagons on road at P.28.b.90.70. went along road towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

7.40 pm. Two men on horseback, followed by transport wagon drawn by four horses, at P.21.d.90.30. went towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT. There was also foot traffic in twos and threes as this point.

8.0 pm. Light train in P.24.d. went towards LAMOTTE.

Locations. Searchlight is reported on T.B. of 149° from P.25.b.4.6.

John J. ...

Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

ARTILLERY

Artillery

300 rounds ...
fell in ...
30 rounds ...
50 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...
30 rounds ...

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 34.

Reference maps:

Sheet 62D. N.E. 1/20,000.
Sheet 62D. S.W. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters.
28th May 1918.

1. (a) The 35th Battalion will relieve the 33rd Battalion in the line on the night 29th/30th May 1918.
(b) Relief will be complete by 1 a.m. 30th May 1918.
2. Upon relief the 33rd Battalion will move back to "C" Battalion area. During the relief the 34th Battalion will replace the 35th Battalion in "B" Bn. area by Companies as accommodation becomes available. 34th Bn. will ensure that the "B" Bn. area is occupied by the equivalent of one Battalion at all times during relief.
3. All Defence Schemes, Works policies, maps, trench and area stores will be taken over upon relief.
4. Subsequent to relief Brigade dispositions will be as follows:-

"A" Battalion	..	35th Battalion.
"B" Battalion	..	34th Battalion.
"C" Battalion	..	33rd Battalion.
5. "B" teams will be changed under unit arrangements as follows:-

33rd Bn.	on 30th May 1918.
34th Bn.	" 29th and 30th May 1918.
35th Bn.	on or after 30th May at the discretion of C.O.
6. Detailed arrangements will be made direct by Commanding Officers concerned.
7. Advance parties of 35th Battalion will move into the line tonight 28th instant. The relief will be covered by patrols of 33rd Battalion.
8. Every effort will be made, in co-operation with R.E. Section Commanders concerned, to ensure continuity of work.
9. Units will report completion of relief by wire in code to Brigade Headquarters.
10. Acknowledge.

W. H. Kain

Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution.

Copy No. 123	Brigade H.Q.	Copy No. 19	"B" teams 33rd Bn.
4	Bde. Signal Sect.	20	"B" teams 34th Bn.
5	33rd Battalion.	21	"B" teams 35th Bn.
6	34th Battalion.	22	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
7	35th Battalion.	23	14th Aust. Inf. Bde.
8	9th A.L.T.M. Bty	24	15th Aust. Inf. Bde.
9	23rd Aust. M.G. Coy.	25-26	3rd Aust. Division.
10	9th Aust. M.G. Coy.	27	C.R.A.
11	9th Aust. Fld. Amb.	28	C.R.E.
12	11th Aust. Fld. Amb.	29	A.D.M.S.
13	Left Group Arty.	30	3rd Aust. M.G. Bn.
14	Bde. Musketry Off	31	3rd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
15	Bde. Transport Off.	32-34	War Diary.
16	9th Field Coy. A.E	35	File.
17	3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn	36-37	Spare.
18	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.		

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters,
28th May, 1918.

33/4/5th Bns.
9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
3rd Aust. Div. Salvage Coy. (for information)
War Diary.

SALVAGE.

1. The area at present occupied by the Brigade offers almost unparalleled opportunities for salvage, and it is desired that units take full advantage of these opportunities to salvage all material in their respective areas.

A census of divisional salvage figures covering the last four months shows that the units of the 9th Brigade, taken both separately and collectively, have contributed less than any other similar unit to the salvage of the 3rd Australian Division.

This state of affairs is obviously very unsatisfactory, and points to one of two things :-

- (a) Total lack of interest in this most important work by Officers and Other Ranks, or
- (b) Neglect on the part of Officers and Battalion Staffs to see that every endeavour is made to salvage everything of value and to carry out instructions issued from time to time on the subject.

Whatever the reason for the lack of salvage it must be rectified at once.

Although the Brigade has performed numerous operations successfully which have demonstrated the fighting spirit, it still remains for units to show their merit in other fields.

Although it is recognised that the best form of salvage is economy in the first instance, here again units of this Brigade are much more in the habit of indenting on ordnance than of attempting to salvage the stores required.

It is imperative in the best interests of the Brigade that our unenviable position be improved and brought in line with other units of this Division.

Every Officer and man in the Brigade is looked to to help in this most essential work.

2. The scheme laid down in Administrative Instruction No. 33 still holds good. One man from Divisional Salvage Company is attached to each Battalion to give receipts for salvage, and to instruct Q.Ms. as to disposal. Rations limbers, A.S.C. wagons and motor lorries can and must be utilised to the fullest extent.

3. The following articles are required to be salvaged in larger quantities than at present. These articles are urgently required in order to keep up supplies to the front line troops. In some cases the manufacturers practically have to rely on the material salvaged in order to supply the ever increasing demands.

3. (a) S.A.A. chargers, bandoliers, boxes and empty cartridge cases, are very urgently required at present - practically nothing is salvaged in this line.
- (b) Rifles and equipment - Lewis Gun spare parts and magazines.
- (c) 18 pdr. cases and live rounds.
18 pdr. clips and nose caps protectors, rubber and brass.
- (d) Solder from ration tins etc.
- (e) Cardboard cartons which have been issued containing jam and butter etc. to be cleaned and returned through supplies separate to paper and cardboard.
- (f) Paper and Cardboard - Practically no effort is made in this respect. A large field for this form of salvage is at present untouched - e.g., deserted villages, wanteens etc.
- (g) ^{Fat} Very little is being done by some units in this respect. At least a pound per man per week could be saved without interfering with the food value of the rations. Dead horses should be boiled down for fat. This has yet not been tried by this Division.

A return showing the amount salvaged for week ending Thursday each week in each of the abovementioned articles will be forwarded to reach Brigade Headquarters by 10.0 p.m. every Thursday.

A. Luter
Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Infantry Bde.

(MR).

144
SECRET.

APPENDIX 43.

101

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters.
29th May 1918.

Notes on Demonstration in use of
Mark V Tank held at VAUX-en-AMIENOIS
at 12 noon on 29th May, 1918. -

The demonstration was attended by representatives of Fourth Army, a neighbouring French Army and various Staff and Regimental Officers of lower formations.

The demonstration took the shape of an attack by a Company about 200 strong against a system of trenches consisting of front line, support line and reserve line with 250 yards between front and support and 350 yards between support and reserve lines.

The country was quite open and the attack made ~~one~~ slight uphill grade. At the commencement of the attack one male and two female tanks moved forward about 200 yards in advance of the attacking infantry who followed in four waves, each wave consisting of a line of small groups of men none larger than four other ranks. The male tank engaged a strong point between the front and support lines from the rear, whilst the two female tanks moved up and down the front and support lines destroying the garrison with machine gun fire.

When the infantry had reached the tanks in the support line the tanks advanced on to the reserve line to be shortly followed again by the infantry.

The tanks advanced about 300 or 400 yards in front of the final objective, i.e. the reserve line, attacking the enemy machine guns, strong points and infantry whilst the captured reserve line was being consolidated.

These tanks clearly demonstrated their utility and should prove of the utmost assistance to infantry in trench operations. The Mark V tank is very mobile - can travel at about 11 miles per hour - and is easy to manoeuvre on account of its power of turning quickly.

one
The infantry carrying out the demonstration were French.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 9
from 8 am. to 4 pm. 28.5.1918.------
Reference map: Sheet 62D.
-----Enemy Artillery.

- 7.0 a.m. 50 rounds 77 fell on O.29.d.2.4. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 8 am. to 8.20am. 25 rounds 4.2 fell in O.23.d., O.22.a. and b. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 8.20am. to 9.5am. 10 rounds 4.2 fell in O.22.a. and O.28.a. from MARCELCAVE.
- 9.37 a.m. -- 30 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in P.19.c. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 11.25am. to 1 pm. 20 rounds 4.2 fell in O.22.d., O.23.c. and O.28.b. from WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.
- 10.40am. to 11 am. 50 rounds 5.9 H.E. fell on O.29.d.75.40. from LA MOTTE.
- 11.30 a.m. -- 30 rounds 5.9 H.E. fell on O.29.d.8.4. from MARCELCAVE (one round landed on house containing O.P.)

Aircraft. Enemy planes again active over our front line in the morning. At 9.20 am. five enemy planes were engaged by five of ours. The enemy planes returned to their own lines and one plane fell a good way behind their lines.

10.15 am. to 11.30 am. - Two enemy planes were over VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.

Enemy balloons up during morning on T.Bs. 94°, 82°, 126°, 154° and 150° from P.19.c.25.80.

1.30 pm. - Six enemy planes were driven off by A.I. fire.

Movement.

- 9.25 am. Twenty men marched on road at P.22.d.3.6. going North.
- 9.36 am. Wagon and two men at P.22.a.2.5. went South.
- 10.25 am. Light train stayed at P.30.a.6.4. for 20 minutes; artillery were notified.
- 10.30 am. Wagon at P.22.a.1.2. drawn by four horses going North.
- 11.5am. to 11.50am. Transport movement between BOIS d'ACCROCHE and WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

General. At 10.30 am. a railway gun fired from the VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - WEINCOURT railway. It is reported as having fired from V.3. and from W.7. Artillery were informed.

From 4 p.m. 28.5.1918 to 8 a.m. 29.5.1918.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Harassing fire was put down between 9.55 pm. and 3.15 am opposite our front. At 9 pm. enemy movement was observed immediately in rear of BOIS de VAIRE. Artillery were informed and O.Ks. obtained on a party of 20 men; five were seen to go away when the shelling ceased. At 6.32 pm. our artillery shelled

Artillery (contd.).

shelled LA MCTTE and a fire broke out; flames 30 feet high apparently patrol and ammunition dump.

Trench Mortars. At 12 midnight our 3" Stokes Mortars fired ten rounds on enemy post in F.25.b.

Machine Guns. The normal fire was put down on enemy trenches and roads, 2,500 rounds being expended.

Aircraft. Very little activity reported.

Snipers. Not many targets presented themselves. The enemy is using dummies to attract fire.

Patrols. Four patrols were out during the night and a listening post was established at P.25.b.4.4. At 11 pm. an enemy party at the row of old shell-holes running North and South through P.20.c.4.0. was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire. This ground was examined but no identifications remained. Many Very lights were fired from an enemy post about 80 yards East from the shell-holes. Enemy working parties were located in P.20.c. and P.26.a. The latter was engaged by Lewis Guns at 2 am.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. Less active than during the previous days.

4pm. to 4.30pm. 15 rounds 5.9 fell in O.22.d. from S.E.

5.20 p.m. 15 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.28.b. from S.E.

9 pm. to 9.30 pm. 200 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.22.c. and O.28.b. from S.E.

2.45 a.m. 15 rounds 5.9 H.E. fell in O.28.c. from S.E.

4am. to 4.30am. 20 rounds 4.2 gas fell in O.22.b. from S.E.

At 8.45 pm. an enemy plane flew low over O.28.b. On the plane returning the enemy put a few salvos of 4.2 in O.28.b.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. Active from positions in rear, generally firing high.

Aircraft. Three flights of seven planes and one flight of five planes were flying high over our sector at 7.55 pm.

Movement.

3.15 pm. Light train in P.30.a. The artillery fired and the train moved away North.

4.0 pm. Two men at P.22.d.7.4. went South.

4.15 pm. Three motor lorries went North at P.23.d.5.5.

4.40 pm. Two wagons and four men on road P.24.a.3.7. went S.W.

7.0 pm. Wagon at P.36.c.8.6. going North.

7.15 pm. Train, composed of 30 trucks, seen at V.2.d.9.9. It moved away before the artillery could fire.

7.40 pm. Motor traffic at Q.25.d.8.2. going South.

5.40 pm. Enemy 4.2 How. battery fired from P.23.a.4.5. - 30 rounds on O.28.c.5.4.

G. Hayward

Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 10
from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 29.5.1918.

Ref. map: Sheet 62D.

Enemy shelling.

Very little shelling. A few scattered rounds in O.29.d.,
O.23.a., O.22.a., O.30.c. and O.23.c.

Aircraft. Quieter than usual.

Movement.

7.30 am. Two of the enemy in P.22.a. went North along
the road.

7.50 am. Working party of 5 men working on trench at
P.22.d.7.3. Movement still there at 9.5 am.

1.40 pm. Railway gun at W.8.a.0.5. fired 10 rounds. The
artillery were informed and one round fell near
the gun. The train moved away at 1.55 pm.

From 4 pm. 29.5.1918 to 8 am. 30.5.1918.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Relief. The 35th Battalion in support relieved the 33rd
Battalion in the line.

The 34th Battalion in reserve relieved the 35th
Battalion in support.

The 33rd Battalion went into the reserve position.
The relief was complete at 1 a.m.

Artillery. Very active throughout the night up till 5 am.
VAIRE WOOD and HAMEL WOOD were subjected to particularly
heavy fire.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. Our guns engaged roads, trenches and tracks
in P.32.a., V.1.c. and d., P.31.c., P.26.c. and d., P.32.b.
and bridge in V.1.b.

Lewis Guns put indirect fire on enemy front line
system.

Aircraft. Our planes showed usual activity.

Patrols. Patrols were out covering the relief. NO MAN'S LAND
was examined. A Very light was fired from a shell-hole
approximately P.25.b.4.2. where a post was suspected.

A prisoner was captured at P.25.b.3.3. at about
9.45 pm. (See "Identifications").

Identifications. A Corporal from the 8th Company 2nd Battalion
332 I.R., 77th Reserve Division.

The prisoner states that he came from Russia at the

Identifications (contd.)

at the beginning of April. He took part in the unsuccessful attack on CACHY on the 24th April.

His Regiment came into the line on night 26/27th instant. Order of battle from North to South is 419 I.R., 332 I.R., 257 R.E.R., the main WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT - AMIENS road being the Southern regimental boundary.

Company fighting strength: 1 Officer 40 to 50 other ranks.

Six or seven light m.gs. in front line. The 2nd M.G. Company is in support. The 1st Bn. is in rest (probably MORCOURT). The 3rd Bn. is in support. Battalion (or Divisional) relief expected night 30/31st May.

The prisoner is an Alsatian, his parents being born French, and he is willing to talk. He states that there are many Alsations in his Regiment who are willing to surrender; also that our snipers are very effective.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.Artillery.

Very quiet during the period.

5.40 pm. 10 rounds 5.9 H.E. fell in O.28.c. from E.

9.25 pm. 6 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.22.d. from S.E.

10.0 pm. 21 rounds 4.2 H.E. fell in O.28.b. from S.E.

Trench Mortars. Nil.

Machine Guns. No activity reported.

Aircraft. Two planes over our lines during the afternoon.

Engaged by Lewis Gun fire. A flight of five planes flew high over our sector at 5 pm.

Movement.

5.10 pm. Two of enemy in trench at P.21.c.50.55. - one with cap like officer, dark grey uniform, used field glasses; artillery notified.

6.50 pm. Party of 20 of enemy came from behind wood (p.23.a) in parties of 3 at 50 yards distance going towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

7.40 pm. Seven enemy wagons on road at P.25.b.5.2. went into LAMOTTE at intervals; each wagon drawn by two horses. Artillery notified.

7.45 pm. Picked up flash of enemy gun about P.30.c.5.9. One gun firing - target unknown. Artillery notified.

8.15 pm. Enemy moved in and out of house at W.2.a.0.6. in BAYONVILLERS - probably billets.

3.20 pm. Two of enemy at P.28.b.8.8.

4.20pm-4.25pm. - Three of enemy moved about trench at P.28.b.8.8.

4.35 pm. Much movement at P.22.d.75.30. Observers suggest Headquarters.

5.5 p.m. Two of enemy at P.22.d.75.30. go South along road.

G. Halford

Lieut.-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Inf. Brigade.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 11
from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 30th May 1918.

Ref. Map - Sheet 62 D.

Enemy Artillery

1 p.m. 20 rounds 4.2 H.E. in 0.34.b.87 from LAMOTTE
1.10 pm 25 rounds 4.2 H.E. in 0.35.b.4.8 " "
8.30 am 50 rounds 4.2 H.E. in 0.18.d " "

Aircraft Enemy planes were low over our Front Line at 11.45 am and 2.40 pm and were driven off by AA fire.

Location At 12.15 pm an enemy balloon went up at P.24.e.8.1

Movement 9 am. One of the enemy at P.22.d.75.30. He left on a bicycle at 9.50 am and went south. Movement again here at 2.30 pm.

From 4 p.m. 30th May 1918 to 8 a.m. 31st May 1918

OUR OPERATIONS

Artillery VAIRE Wood and enemy trenches in P.20.c, P.26.a were heavily engaged by our artillery.

The usual night firing in bursts of fire on enemy defences in front of our Sector.

Trench Mortar - Nil

Machine Guns 4,000 rounds on road and trench P.20.b.25.15, trenches at P.20.d.10.45 and P.20.a.8.1, overland track, P.26.b.5.3 and Road P.25.c.85.40.

Snipers - Six hits claimed.

Aircraft - Our planes were over the line all day. At 4 a.m. bombs were dropped immediately in rear of enemy front line.

Patrols - Patrol left P. 19.d.9.1 and approached P.20.a.5.0 and saw enemy looking over parapet. New ^{earth} was being thrown up. The artillery engaged the ~~trench~~ target at 2.5 a.m. but the result is unknown. This patrol then went South and located a "T" head about P.25.b.5.3 which shows signs of recent use. Listening Posts were established at P.20.c.4.7 and P.25.b.5.5

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Artillery -

Time	Rounds	Calibre	Target	Direction	Remarks
10 p.m.	9	5.9 H.E.	0.28.c	MARCELCAVE	-
10.20.p.m.	10	4.2 H.E.	"	do.	-
1.30 a.m.	50	5.9 H.E.	"	do.	-
2.10 a.m.	11	5.9 H.E.	"	do.	-
11.30 p.m. to 3.0 a.m.	300	7.7 & 10.5 Cm	0.30	WARFUSEE- ABANCOURT	-

(P.T.O)

Time	Rounds	Calibre	Target	Direction	Remarks
11.15 p.m. to 11.25 pm	20	4.2 H.E. & Gas.	0.28.a.00	MARCELCAVE	-
2.50 p.m.	20	4.2 H.E.	0.18.a	LAMOTTE	-
3.10 p.m.	12	4.2 H.E.	0.28.c	do.	-

Trench Mortars - Nil.

Machine Guns - Very little activity during daylight. Gun in P.26.c which fired on our parapet was several times silenced by Lewis Guns.

Aircraft - Still very active. Two planes were low over our lines at 6.20 p.m. Five planes came over at 11.15 p.m. and were engaged by Machine Guns.

Movement -

- 3.0 p.m. Three men were digging at P.22.d.7.3
- 3.5 p.m. Two men in P.22.a went north carrying dark objects on their shoulders.
- 3.30 p.m. Two G.S. Waggon at V.5.a.3.8 went towards MARCELCAVE.
- 4.0 p.m. Enemy balloon again up at P.24.c.8.1. Lowered at 5.35 p.m.
- 4.15 p.m. Train in P.30.a went towards CERISY.
- 6.10 p.m. Frequent movement at P.22.d.7.3
- 5.55 p.m. Periscope seen at P.25.b.50.25
- 6.0 p.m. Train stopped at P.24.a.05.30
- 6.20 p.m. Horse and Limber approached the above train.
- 6.0 p.m. Train stopped on T.Hq 116° from P.19.c.1.9
- 6.30 a.m. The railway gun again fired a few shots from W.7.b.99.54.

General - There was a distinct increase in the number of rifle grenades used by the enemy. Three direct hits were obtained on trench P.25.b.3.5.

Locations - 7.5 p.m. Frequent movement at P.29.a.3.9
Observer suggests a dump. Oblique photo A.34AE 0 64 shows definitely an enemy overland track from P.27.b.4.1 to P.26.c.15.45. At the latter point there is a short sap running back from enemy front line. Probably Company Headquarters.

Attention is drawn to very frequent movement during the last few days about P.22.d.7.3 This is evidently an important centre.

G. Halford Lt

Lieut-Colonel
Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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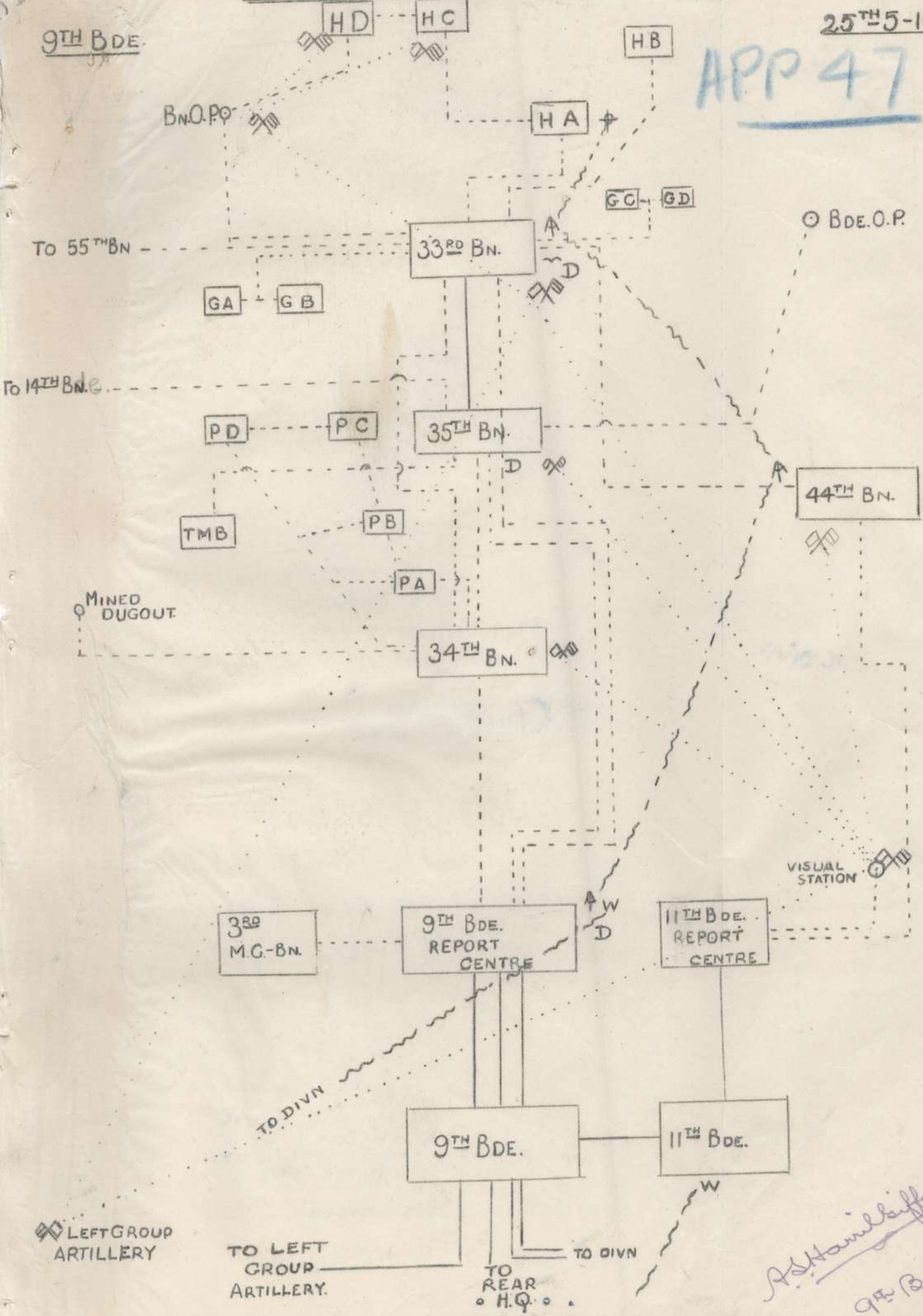
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APPENDIX 47

DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS

25TH 5-18.

APP 47



*Asst. Hamilton Bifford
9th Bde Sig. Off.*

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LOCATIONS OF UNITS INCLUDED IN REFERENCE SHEETS ATTACHED PLAN

{ 62° S.W.
62° S.E

9TH BDE H.Q's O 25 C 5.3.
 BRIGADE REPORT CENTRE
 O 26 D 7.9.

33RD BN.
 H.A P 25 A 2.9
 H.B P 25 A 90.35
 H.C P 19 D 60.10
 H.D P 19 D 50.45
 BN O.P. O 29 D 95.50

34TH BN.
 PA O 27 B 9.7
 PB O 28 A 3.6
 PC O 28 B 2.8
 PD O 28 B 8.9
 O 22 D 6.4

35TH BN O 28 B 8.8

GA }
 GB } O 23 B 8.8.

GC }
 GD } O 24 D 2.2

3RD M.G. BN O 26 D 6.9
 9TH T.M. BTY O 22 D 1.1.
 BGDE. O.P. O 29 D 95.50
 LEFT GROUP }
 ARTILLERY } O 13 C 6.4
 11TH BDE H.Q O 25 C 6.3
 VISUAL STATION. O 27 A 15.30

LEGEND

- VISUAL STATION
- WIRELESS ...
- AMPLIFIER & PB ...
- POWER BUZZER ...
- DOG ...
- PIGEON ...
- BURIED CABLE
- GROUND ..
- VISUAL ROUTE
- POWER BUZZER ROUTE
- WIRELESS ...

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

RECORD OF TRAFFIC PER MESSENGER DOG SERVICE.

No. of dog.	Class.	Left kennel at:	Rel - eased from:	Rel - eased at:	Time of arrival.	Time of trip in minutes.	Nature of message	Remarks.
105	Dog.	7.32 pm. 24.5.18.	33rd Bn.	8.10 am. 25.5.18.	8.41 am.	31.	Prac- tice.	First time on run.
106	"	7.32 pm. 24.5.18.	35th Bn	7.0 am. 25.5.18.	9.8 am.	128.	Ser - vice.	-do-
104	"	1.22 pm. 25.5.18.	34th Bn	5.12 pm. 25.5.18.	5.47 pm.	35.	"	Taken off run - sore feet.
105	"	1.22 pm. 25.5.18.	35th Bn	4.30 pm. 25.5.18.	4.47 pm.	17.	"	
106	"	1.22 pm. 25.5.18.	33rd Bn	4.8 pm. 25.5.18.	4.42 pm.	34.	"	
105	"	6.35 pm. 25.5.18.	35th Bn	7.0 am. 26.5.18.	7.20 am.	20.	Prac- tice.	
106	"	6.35 pm. 25.5.18.	33rd Bn	6.0 am. 26.5.18.	6.48 am.	48.	"	
105	"	6.25 pm. 26.5.18.	33rd Bn	6.0 am. 27.5.18.	6.38 am.	36.	Ser - vice.	
106	"	6.25 pm. 26.5.18.	35th Bn	7.0 am. 27.5.17.	7.38 am.	38	"	
105	"	6.30 pm. 27.5.18.	33rd Bn	6.22 am. 28.5.18.	6.55 am.	33.	Prac- tice.	
106	"	6.30 pm. 27.5.18.	35th Bn	7.10 am. 28.5.18.	7.45 am.	35.	Ser - vice.	

33rd Battalion to KENNEL - 3,500 yards.
 35th 34th Battalion to KENNEL - 2,200 yards.
 34 30th Battalion to KENNEL - 1,200 yards.

A. H. Havelleford Lieut.
 Signal Officer
 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

J.B.

APPENDIX 48

APPENDIX

48/110

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

APPENDIX 49

APPENDIX 49

CASUALTIES for month of MAY 1918.

Date	Killed		Wounded		Missing	
	Off.	O/Rks.	Off.	O/Rks	Off.	O/Rks
1-5-18	-	-	-	3	-	-
2-5-18	-	-	-	6	-	-
3-5-18	-	-	-	4	-	-
4-5-18	-	-	-	7	-	-
5-5-18	-	1	1	12	-	-
6-5-18	-	7	6	85	-	-
7-5-18	1	4	2	13	-	-
8-5-18	-	6	3	51	-	-
9-5-18	-	8	4	31	4	37
10-5-18	-	4	-	20	1	32
11-5-18	-	1	-	2	-	3
12-5-18	-	-	1	2	-	-
13-5-18	-	4	-	3	-	4
14-5-18	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-5-18	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-5-18	-	1	-	5	-	-
17-5-18	-	-	1	-	-	-
18-5-18	-	-	-	1	-	-
19-5-18	-	-	-	1	-	-
20-5-18	-	-	-	-	-	-
21-5-18	-	-	-	-	-	-
22-5-18	-	1	-	-	-	-
23-5-18	-	1	-	5	-	-
24-5-18	-	-	-	5	-	-
25-5-18	-	-	-	2	-	-
26-5-18	-	1	3	10	-	-
27-5-18	-	1	2	35	-	-
28-5-18	-	-	1	23	-	-
29-5-18	-	1	-	9	-	-
30-5-18	-	-	1	1	-	1
31-5-18	-	1	1	17	-	1
Totals	1	42	26	353	5	78

1: 20,000.

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 9-5-18

BRITISH TRENCHES FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED OTHER THAN PHOTOGRAPHS UP TO 9-5-18

112

112

FRANCE.

112

EDITION 2.A. (LOCAL)

SHEET 62^D S.W.



G.S.G.S. 2742

Scale 1:20,000

Ordnance Survey, 10 B-1-May, 1918.

194

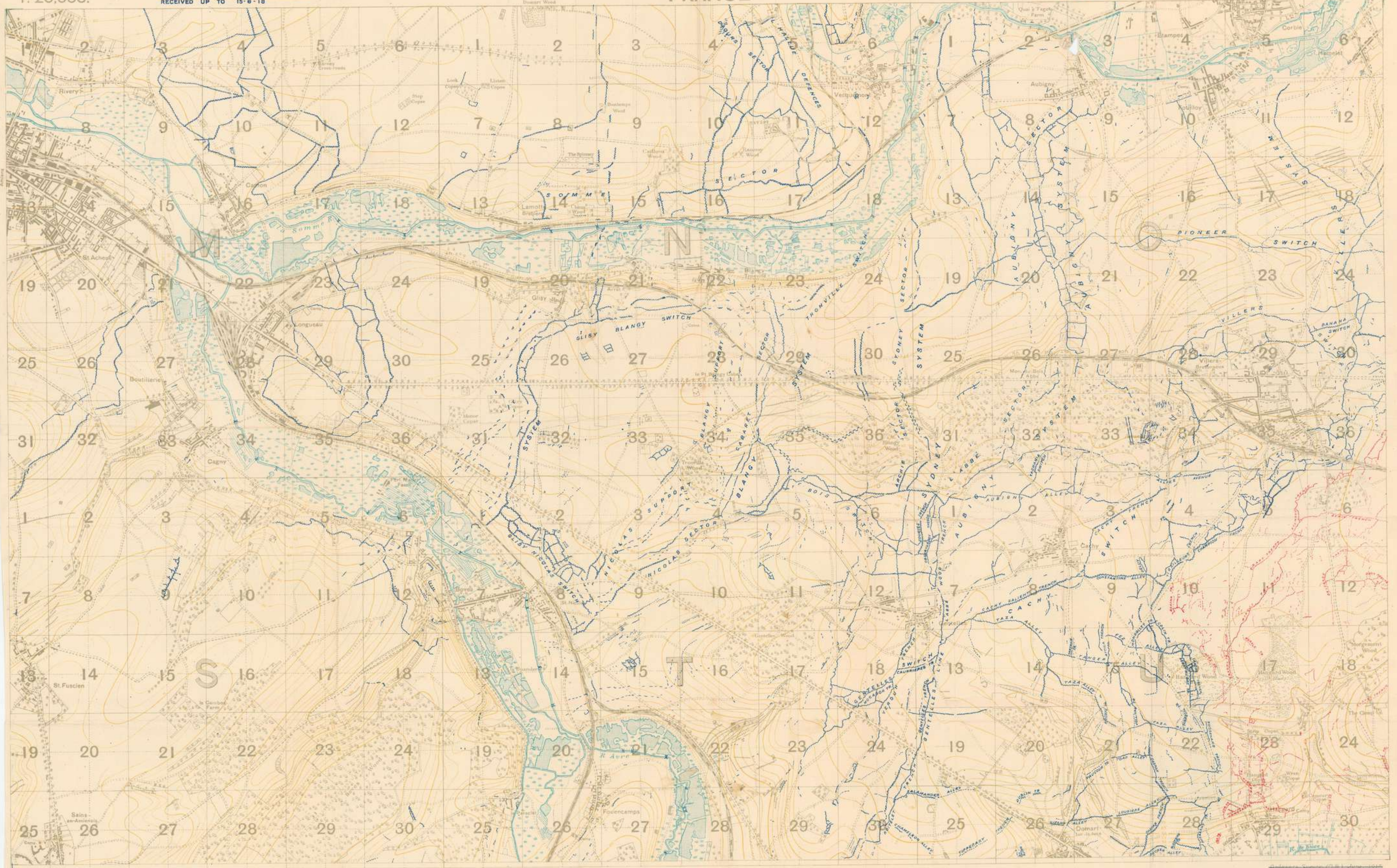
1: 20,000.

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 15-6-18

FRANCE

EDITION 3. A (Local)

SHEET 62^D S.W.



G.S.G.S. 2742

Scale 1:20,000
Yards 0 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000 3500 4000
Meters 0 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000 3500 4000

FIELD SURVEY CO. S.E. (1918) 4-4-18

114

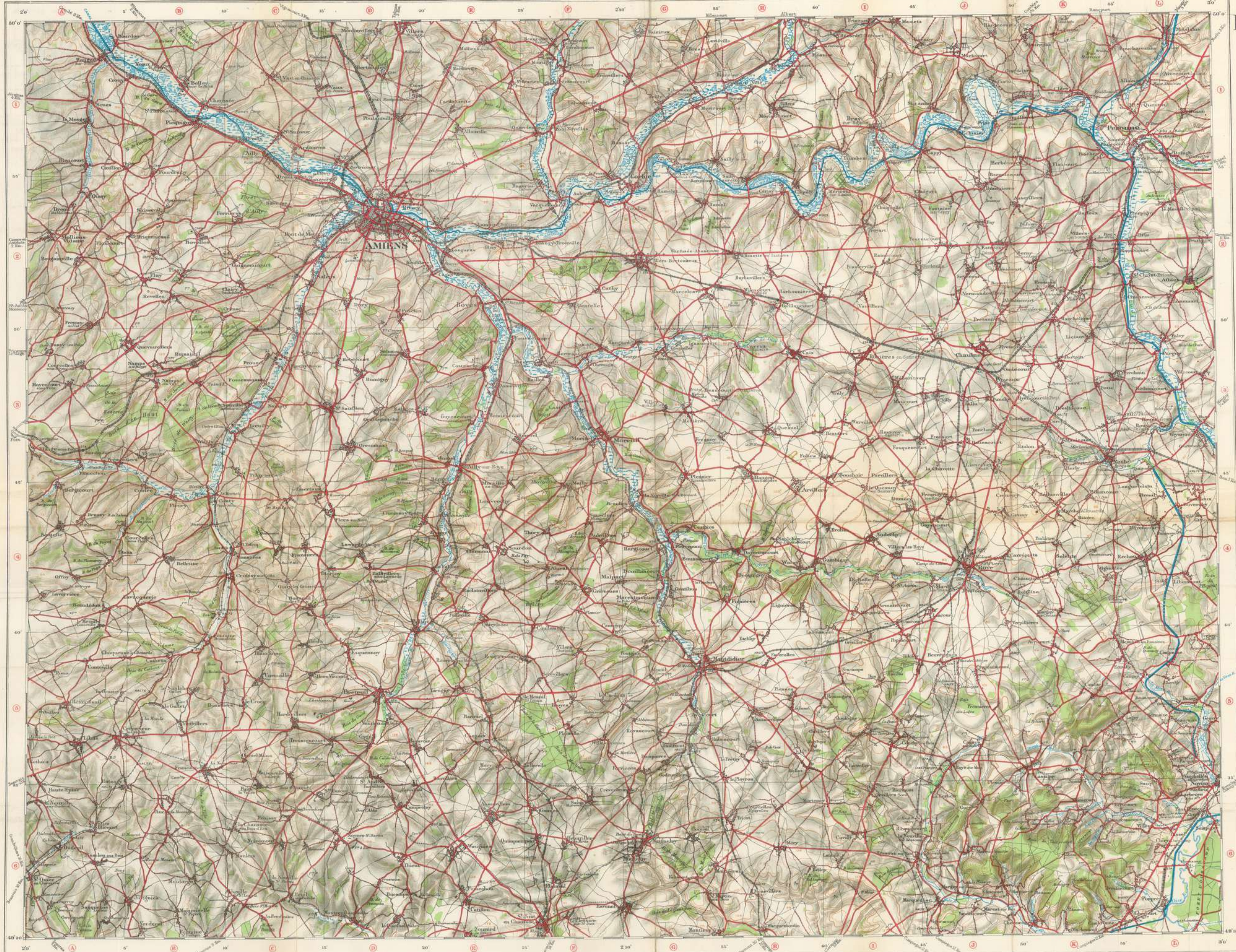
15/1/1917

APPENDIX

AMIENS

EDITION 2.

FRANCE 1:100,000

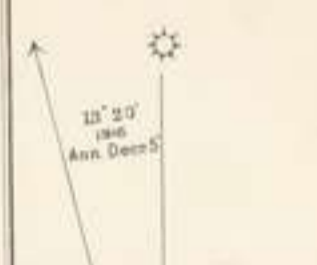


17

The position of a point may be described on this map by the system used on squared trench maps: i.e., by imagining the sides of the rectangle on the map divided into ten parts, and locating the point by measuring in many parts East and so many North of the S.W. corner of the rectangle. The letters which appear on the margin, and full reference for a point is this.
 Example—Bray, Amiens 11.63.

The use of a four figure reference defines a point with greater accuracy.
 Example—Bray, Amiens 12.34.

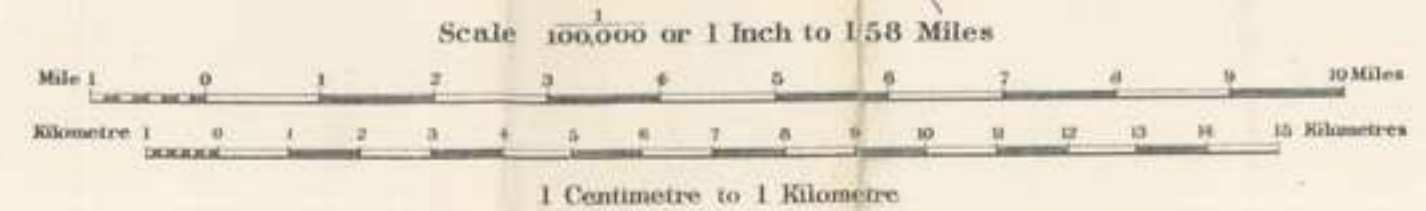
NOTE.—Marginal numbers always to come first; marginal letter second; then co-ordinates along and up. Never define a point by a figure but always by two or four.



Geographical Section, General Staff, N° 2364.

REFERENCE

Canal or waterway	
Chateau, Farm	
Church or Chapel Tower	
Road	
Heights in metres (10 metres = 32.8 feet)	
Quarry	
Water mill, Wind mill	



REFERENCE

Railway single & double	
Canal or waterway	
Road 1st class metalled	
2nd class metalled	
3rd class metalled	
Quality doubtful	
Farm road or track	

Minor corrections, 1.10.16.

Ways Office, October 1915. Ordnance Survey 1906.



Agents for the sale of maps published by the Geographical Section, General Staff

LONDON: E. Stanford Ltd. of Long Acre, W.C.
 LONDON: Survey Press, 25, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4
 LONDON: T. Fisher & Son, 1, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4
 EDINBURGH: W. & A. R. Johnston, 11, George Street
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 CALCUTTA: Messrs. R. & S. Narayan, 11, Market Street
 Rangoon: Messrs. R. & S. Narayan, 11, Market Street
 Price 7/6

The system of contouring on this sheet can only be considered approximately correct.

SECRET APPENDIX

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Confidential.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
30 MAY 1918
B.M. NO 13/409
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters.
30th May 1918.

Officer in Charge
Australian War Records Section
130, Horseferry Road,
London, S.W.1.

Herewith is forwarded file of messages sent from and received at this office on the nights 26/27th instant and 27/28th instant. It is thought that these papers may be of interest as showing measures taken by us to minimise the possibility of enemy success in operations which we are confident he will undertake against this front.

It need hardly be pointed out that there is information contained in these messages which is of a very secret nature owing to the fact that in some cases code messages have been decoded with the translation written on the same sheet as the code.

1. Night 26/27th May 1918. The first few messages indicate the general outline of artillery counter-preparation, details of which you will doubtless have at the beginning of next month in War Diaries of Divisional Artillery and the General Staff of this Division. The artillery programmes of the Division on our left are referred to.

On the night 26/27th it was thought highly probable that the enemy would attempt an attack against the front between the River SOMME and the River LUCE the centre of which, i.e. VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, is covered on the East by the 3rd Australian Division. This Brigade is in the line North of the VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT Road, vide War Diary for the month of May 1918.

One Battalion of the Reserve Brigade (10th Australian Infantry Brigade) was placed at the tactical disposal of the G.O.C. this Brigade for use in the event of a hostile attack. This Battalion was moved into position in O.16.d., vide Sheet 62D. S.W. 1/20,000 copy of which is included in the War Diary for this month.

Although on this occasion the enemy did not attack on our front, there was every indication that he would do so up till about 3.30 am. 27.5.1918.

At 4.30 am. it was considered that the Battalion of the Reserve Brigade which had been placed at the disposal of this Brigade could now return to its normal location as an attack in broad daylight is not expected and it would be unwise to retain more troops in the forward shelled area than is reasonably necessary.

A few notes on verbal conversation taken during the night are attached hereto.

2. Night 27/28th May 1918. The same procedure was carried out on the night 27/28th May but no enemy attack eventuated on our front. It is interesting to note that the enemy launched an attack on a grand scale against French and British troops between SOISSONS and RHEIMS with a certain degree of immediate success.

[Signature]
Major
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

JB.

For later work
P/A
copy to be attached to dispatch
J.W/D
30/5

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Notes on verbal conversation taken during
the night 26/27th May 1918

3.0 a.m. Enemy bombardment opens.
3.15 a.m. Our counter-preparation plan is in operation.
3.20 a.m. All lines forward "dis".
3.25 a.m. 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. report gas shells in "CLOCKFACE", O.32.
3.30 a.m. 14th Aust. Inf. Bde. lines "dis".
3.31 a.m. S. T. (Bde. Adv. Report Centre) report heavy shelling
forward area.
3.35 a.m. 23rd Aust. Machine Gun Coy. report enemy shelling chiefly
on our left. O. C. and second-in-command wounded.
3.40 a.m. 14th Aust. Inf. Bde. report much smoke and gas on their
area.
3.45 a.m. Division informed.
3.55 a.m. 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. report heavy enemy shelling O.15, 16,
31 and 22.
4.0 a.m. Visual from Z. O. N. O. (38th Bn. A. I. F.) No. 1 timed 3.30 am.
(Division informed).
4.10 a.m. Division give verbal orders - "When 37th Bn. A. I. F. not
required it will move back under our orders whilst
we are to notify Division."

JB.