

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/122/4

Title: 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

March 1918



AWM4-13/122/4

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

9th A L I M Bty

FOR

March 191*8*

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

9th Aust L.T.M Bty

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOEGSTEERT. WARNETON. SECTOR	5-3-18	230am	Enemy attempted road under cover of a hurricane Minenwerfer bombardment in 5th Aus Div ^{ns} , N of RIVER DOUVE, without success.	
	6-3-18		Night was spent salvaging defective ammunition & repairing placements. Our artillery active all day; 15" Howitzer carried out shoot at WARNETON TOWER. Six @ shots in all were fired, the 6th shell obtaining a direct hit & demolishing tower completely.	
BULFORD CAMP	7-3-18	9-0pm	Battery was relieved by 6th Aus L.T.M Bty.	Total Casualties for period in line Nil.
	8-3-18	20 am	Battery withdrew completely to BULFORD CAMP.	Heavy E Minenwerfer & Art. Bombardment on Right Brigade Sector at 4 to 5 pm.
		12 noon	Battery marched out-	
STEENWERCK.		1-30 pm	" entrained for DESVRES (BOULOGNE AREA).	
DESVRES.		8 pm	" route marched 12 Kilometres to NABRINGHEN.	
NABRINGHEN.	9-3-18	2-30 am	Arrived at NABRINGHEN.	

Alouster
at 9th Aust Bty

33RD BATTALION, A.I.F.
PATROL TIMETABLE FOR NIGHT 2ND/3RD MARCH, 1918.

PATROL.	STRENGTH.	EXIT. TIME	ENTRY TIME	OBJECT.
1.	1 Off. 10 men (1 Off. 3 men raiders, 3 scouts.)	No. 7 Post 6.30pm	9 Post. 9 p.m.	Examine the drain running South East from Post 9, the gaps in the enemy wire East of Post 9, then work towards the railway line to Post 9.
2.	1 Off. 10 men raiders.	5 Post 6.30pm	4 Post 9 p.m.	Special reconnaissance by raiders.
3.	1 N.C.O. & 5 men (3 Scouts)	2 Post 6.30pm	1 Post 9 p.m.	Move along the River Band to 5 Trees east of Post 6 - U.26. (left post of right Brigade). Examine the drains in NO MAN'S LAND and report on our wire.
4.	1 Off. 12 O.R (incl. Lewis Gun & 8 Scouts).	6 Post 11 p.m.	9 Post 1.30am.	Fighting Patrol. Move along the LA BASSE VILLE-WARNETON Road and examine the trench running alongside. Then examine the wire between the SPINNEY and the drain running South East from Post 9. Examine then towards the gaps in the enemy's wire east of Post 9 and return by Post 9.
5.	1 N.C.O & 3 men. (1 Scout)	9 Post 11 p.m	4 Post 1 a.m.	Examine our own wire from Posts 9 to 4.
6.	1 N.C.O. & 5 men (2 Scouts.)	3 Post 11.30pm	3 Post 2 a.m.	Move along the River Bank to the drain East of GRANDE HALE FARM and return to Post 3.
7.	1 Off. 8 men (6 Scouts)	4 Post 3.30am	6 Post 6 a.m.	Move eastward to the river then work close to the enemy's wire Northwards to the SPINNEY, and return to Post 6 via the LA BASSE VILLE-WARNETON Road.
8.	1 N.C.O & 8 men (6 Scouts)	9 Post 3.30am	8 Post 6 a.m.	Leave Post 9 and cross the RAILWAY and examine NO MAN'S LAND east of the gap on our left. Recross RAILWAY LINE and work along enemy's wire returning via Post 8.

C.Co. supplies 4 men for No.1 Patrol, 2 men for No.3, a Lewis Gun, 2 Lewis Gunners and 2 men for No.4 Patrol, 1 N.C.O. and 2 men for No.5 Patrol. D.Co. will supply 1 N.C.O and 3 men for No.6. Patrol. A.Co. will supply 1 Off. and 2 men for No.7 Patrol and 1 N.C.O and 2 men for No.8 Patrol. Personnel for Patrols to report to Scout Officer or his representative at the junction of ULTIMO AVENUE and tramline 20 minutes before patrol is due to go out.

A. E. ... Lieut.
Adjutant, 33rd Battalion, A.I.F.

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33RD BATTALION, A.I.F.
PATROL TIMETABLE FOR NIGHT 3RD/4TH MARCH, 1918.

PATROL.	STRENGTH.	EXIT.	TIME.	ENTRY.	TIME.	OBJECT.
1.	1 N.C.O. 6 men (all Scouts)	7 Post.	6.15 pm.	9 Post.	8 p.m.	Move to bridge over drain running from Post 9 to SPINNEY, establish a temporary standing patrol there.
2.	1 N.C.O. 6 men (All Scouts)	4 Post	6.15 pm.	5 Post	8 p.m.	Move East towards the River Bank then north towards the SPINNEY and return via Post 5.
3.	1 N.C.O. 5 men (3 Scouts)	3 Post	6.30 pm.	1 Post	9 p.m.	Move along the River Bank to 5 Trees East of Post 6 - U.26. Left Post of Right Brigade. Examine the drains in NO MAN'S LAND and report on our wire.
4.	1 Off. 12 O.R. (6 Scouts.)	7 Post	1 a.m.	9 Post	3.30am.	Fighting Patrol. Reconnoitre NO MAN'S LAND for any of our casualties.
5.	1 Off. 12 O.R. (6 Scouts)	4 Post	1 a.m.	6 Post.	3.30am.	Fighting Patrol. Reconnoitre NO MAN'S LAND for any of our casualties.
6.	1 N.C.O. 3 men (1 Scout)	9 Post	3.45 am.	9 Post.	5.45am.	Establish Listening Post on the RAILWAY at U.11.d.73.20.
7	1 N.C.O. 3 men (1 Scout)	6 Post	3.45 am.	6 Post.	5.45 am	Establish a Listening Post at U.18.a.18.35
8.	1 N.C.O. 5 men (1 Scout)	2 Post.	3.30am.	1 Post.	5.45am.	XXXXX Move along the River Bank to the drain East of GRANDE HALL FARM and return to Post 1. Report on the state of Bridge and NO MAN'S LAND

The Raiding Party will take up the scouting at 8 p.m. A.Co. will supply the following personnel for patrols: No.4 Patrol - 1 Off. 1 N.C.O. 5 men and Lewis Gun. No.5 Patrol - 1 N.C.O. 5 men and Lewis Gun. No.6 Patrol - 1 N.C.O. 2 men. No.7 Patrol - 1 N.C.O. 2 men. B.Co. will supply No.3 Patrol - 1 N.C.O. 2 men. No.5 Patrol - 1 Off. No.8 Patrol - 1 N.C.O. 4 men. Personnel for patrols will report to Scout Officer at the junction of ULLMO AVENUE and tramline 20 minutes before patrol is due to go out.

Re Jones
Lieut.
Adjutant, 33rd Battalion, A.I.F.

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33RD BATTALION, A.I.F.

PATROL TIMETABLE FOR NIGHT 4TH/5TH MARCH, 1918.

PATROL.	STRENGTH.	POST.	TIME.	POST.	TIME.	OBJECT.
1.	1 Off. 12 O.R. & Lewis Gun (6 Scouts)	7 Post.	6.15 pm.	7 Post.	9.15 pm.	Move to bridge over drain running from Post 9 to SPINNEY and establish a patrol there. The object of this patrol is to cover the part to be raided and prevent the enemy establishing himself in the neighbourhood of the assembly points.
2.	1 Off. 12 O.R. & Lewis Gun (6 Scouts)	4 Post.	6.15 pm.	6 Post.	9.15 pm.	Move east to the River Bank then north towards the SPINNEY. Cover the part to be raided and prevent the enemy establishing himself in the neighbourhood of the assembly points
3.	1 N.C.O. 5 men. (3 Scouts)	3 Post.	6.15 pm.	1 Post.	9.15 pm.	Reconnoitre the River Bank to 5 Trees east of Post 6 U.26 (Left Post of 11th Brigade) Pay particular attention to our right gap.
4.	1 Off. 12 O.R. & Lewis Gun (6 Scouts)	7 Post.	2.30 am.	9 Post.	5.30 am.	Fighting Patrol. Reconnoitre NO MAN'S LAND crossed by the Left Assaulting Party for any of our casualties.
5.	1 Off. 12 O.R. & Lewis Gun. (6 Scouts)	6 Post.	2.30 am.	4 Post.	5.30 am.	Fighting Patrol. Reconnoitre NO MAN'S LAND crossed by the Right Assaulting Party for any of our casualties.
6.	1 N.C.O. 5 men. (3 Scouts)	2 Post.	3 a.m.	2 Post.	5.30 am.	Move along the River Bank to the drain east of GRANDE HALE FARM and return by Post 2.

The Raiding Party will take over the Scouting at 9.15 p.m. and after the withdrawal from the enemy's trenches will supply fighting patrols to cover our re-establishing of Posts. Personnel and Lewis Guns for our Patrols will be supplied by A. Co. and will report to the Scout Officer at the junction of ULTIMO AVENUE and the Tram Line 20 minutes before the Patrols are due to go out.

G. McLennan Lieut.
A/Adjutant, 33rd Battalion, A.I.F.

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33RD BATTALION, A.I.F.
PATROL TIME TABLE FOR NIGHT 5TH/6TH MARCH, 1918.

PATROL.	STRENGTH.	EXIT TIME	ENTRY TIME.	OBJECT.
1.	1 H.C.O. 8 men (6 Scouts)	9 Post. 8.15pm	7 Post 8.45 pm.	Move along the RAILWAY LINE to the enemy's wire, then along the enemy's wire to the bridge over the drain.
2.	1 H.C.O. 8 men (6 Scouts)	6 Post. 8.30pm	4 Post 9 p.m.	Move along LA BASSE VILLE-WARNETON Road to the SPINNEY then towards the river returning at Post 4.
3.	1 H.C.O. 5 men (2 Scouts)	3 Post. 6.15pm	1 Post 8.45pm.	Move along the River Bank to 5 Trees, East of Post 6 U.26. Examine the drain running East from VOID WAY.
4.	1 H.C.O. 3 men (1 Scout.)	9 Post. 10.15pm	9 Post 12.30am.	Establish a Listening Post on the RAILWAY LINE.
5.	1 H.C.O. 3 men (1 Scout.)	7 Post. 10.15pm	6 Post 12.30am.	Establish a Listening Post on the LA BASSE VILLE-WARNETON Road, near the SPINNEY.
6.	1 H.C.O. 3 men (1 Scout.)	4 Post. 10.15pm	4 Post 12.30am.	Establish a Listening Post near River Bank East of Post 4.
7.	1 Off. 12 O.R. (6 Scouts & Lewis Gun)	7 Post. 4 am.	9 Post 6 a.m.	Fighting Patrol. Move to drain, cross bridge and move to RAILWAY LINE.
8.	1 Off. 12 O.R. (6 Scouts & Lewis Gun)	4 Post. 4 am.	7 Post 6 a.m.	Fighting Patrol. Move East then towards the SPINNEY. Examine carefully the LA BASSE VILLE-WARNETON Road.
9.	1 H.C.O. 5 men. (2 Scouts)	2 Post. 3.50am.	1 Post. 6 a.m.	Move along River Bank to Drain East of GRANDE HAIE FARM, paying particular attention to the Right Gap.

"B" Co. will supply the necessary personnel and Lewis Guns for the patrols. All patrols will report to the Scout Officer at the junction of ULTIMO AVENUE and the TRAM LINE 30 minutes before they are due to go out.

From 12.50 a.m. till 4 a.m. the front will be protected by covering parties from each of posts 4 to 9 for the wiring parties.

M. J. Williams Lieut.
Adjutant, 33rd Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX.

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SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
RAIDING PARTY ORDER No. 1.

Reference Maps :

BAS WARNETON 1/10,000.
Special trench Plan 1/5,000.

Bulford Camp.
1st March, 1918.

INTENTION.

1. (a) On "Z" and "A" days at Zero hours to be communicated later, the 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Raiding Party will enter the enemy trenches in the vicinity of WARNETON in Squares U.12.c. and U.13.a.

(b) The area to be raided on both occasions is bounded as follows :-

Southern boundary: River LYS.
Northern boundary: Line through U.12.c.00.20 and U.12.c.00.57.
Eastern boundary: Line N.W. and S.E. through U.12.c.70.05.

OBJECTS.

2. The objects of the raid are :-

- (a) To capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible;
(b) To damage or destroy material or defences;
(c) To obtain equipment, identifications, documents and other information.

STRENGTH OF
RAIDING PAR-
TIES.

3. Each raiding party will consist of 300 men drawn equally from the four Battalions of the Brigade.

ARTILLERY
ACTION.

4. (a) The 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery and the 6th (Aust.) Army Brigade will bombard enemy defences on "Z minus 1" and "Z" days, and during the progress of the two raids.

At ZERO artillery opens barrage on wire 50 yards in front of enemy front line.

At ZERO plus 1 minute barrage lifts to enemy front line.

At ZERO plus 4 minutes barrage lifts to area between front and support lines.

At ZERO plus 5 minutes barrage lifts to support line.

At ZERO plus 8 minutes barrage lifts to a line 50 yards East of support line.

At ZERO plus 9 minutes barrage lifts to final protective line and forms box.

At ZERO plus 35 minutes withdrawal of infantry commences.

At ZERO plus 45 minutes barrage lifts Eastward to search for a depth of 500 yards through WARNETON.

At ZERO plus 60 minutes Divisional Artillery cease firing.

(b) As much Corps Heavy Artillery as possible has been allotted to counter-battery work.

(c) Counter-battery work will commence at ZERO and continue until ZERO plus 60 minutes.

MACHINE
GUN
ACTION

5. 10 machine guns will barrage the line U.12.d.45.10 to U.12.c.00.73.

2 machine guns will fire on bridge over LYS at U.12.b.00.43 and

1 machine gun will fire on road at U.12.d.55.00.

Rates and times

**MACHINE GUN
ACTION
(Contd.)**

Rates and times of fire as under:-

ZERO plus	3 minutes to	ZERO plus	10 minutes	FIRE.
" " 10	" " "	" " "	13	CEASE.
" " 13	" " "	" " "	20	FIRE.
" " 20	" " "	" " "	25	CEASE.
" " 25	" " "	" " "	30	FIRE.
" " 30	" " "	" " "	35	CEASE.
" " 35	" " "	" " "	40	FIRE.

CEASE FIRE at ZERO plus 40 minutes.
Rate of fire .. RAPID.

**ORGANISATION
and ACTION
of INFANTRY.**

6. (a) The raiding parties for "Z" and "A" days will be composed of :-

- (i) Raid Headquarters.
- (ii) Right Assault Party.
- (iii) Left Assault Party.

O.C. Raid : Lieut.-Col. J.A. MILNE, D.S.O., 36th Bn

O.C. Right Assault Party: "E" day: Capt T.W. TOLLIS 33rd Bn

"A" day: Capt R. SAYERS 35th Bn

O.C. Left Assault Party: "Z" day: Capt J.E.W. BUSHELLE 33rd Bn

"A" day: Capt B.G. BRODIE 34th Bn

(b) The following is the detailed composition and action of infantry parties :-

Raid Headquarters

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
O.C. Raid and one other Officer.	2		
1 N.C.O.		1	
4 Signallers.			4
4 linesmen.			4
8 runners.			8
Total ..	2	1	16.

Headquarters at U.17.b.75.30.

The Right Assault Party will deal with that portion of the enemy defences lying between WARNETON ROAD and River LYS.

The Left Assault Party will deal with that portion lying to the North of WARNETON ROAD.

Right Assault Party.

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
Headquarters.			
O.C. Assault ..	1		
2 runners. ..			2
2 Signallers ..			2
13 stretcher bearers			16
Total	1	-	20.

TASK: To hold gap in wire and parapet at E, evacuate wounded to Advanced Aid Post and escort prisoners to our front line.

No. 1 PARTY (wire party)

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 Officer			
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
4 scouts			4
3 bombers			3
2 bayonet men			2
2 runners			2
2 tape men			2

TASK: To effect an entry through enemy wire at E (Scouts lead tape men over NO MAN'S LAND to E); clear trenches in vicinity of point of entry and hold gaps until raiders have left enemy's trenches.

No. 2 Party (Right Covering Party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men. 9

- 1 N.C.O.
- 2 Lewis Gunners
- 1 rifle bomber
- 1 bomber
- 1 bayonet man

TASK: To take up position at A (approximately); after strong point D has been captured to take up position 50 yards North East of D, covering River bank, and ready to operate against enemy machine guns on Southern bank of River.

No. 3 Party (SPANNER party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 N.C.O.
- 1 bayonet man
- 2 bombers

TASK: To attack and mop up enemy observation post at B, mop up ditch on South side of road and when completed join parapet party at E as escort to prisoners.

No. 4 Party.

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 Officer
- 2 N.C.Os.
- 3 bayonet men
- 2 bombers
- 1 demolition man
- 1 runner
- 1 carrier

TASK: To attack Machine Gun Post at D. When completed mop up shell-holes South of C.T. E and K.

No. 5 Party (Front line storming party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 N.C.O.
- 2 bayonet men
- 1 bomber
- 1 demolition man

TASK: Enter front line at E and storm South to D

No. 6 Party (Left front line storming party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 N.C.O.
- 2 bayonet men
- 1 bomber
- 1 demolition man
- 1 carrier

TASK: Enter front line at E and work North to F including WINDMILL and ruins immediately South of F and in rear of enemy front line.

No. 7 Party (Right second line storming party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 N.C.O.
- 2 bayonet men
- 2 bombers
- 1 demolition man
- 1 grenadier

TASK: Mop up trench from K to J including shell-holes South of G.

No. 8 Party.

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 Officer
- 2 N.C.Os.
- 4 bayonet men
- 4 bombers
- 1 runner
- 3 demolition men
- 2 carriers

TASK: Mop up C.T. E to K, thence working round trench East of Q to L, demolishing strong point Q.

No. 9 Party (Left Second Line storming party).

Officers. N.C.Os. Men.

- 1 Officer
- 2 N.C.Os.
- 3 bayonet men
- 3 bombers
- 1 runner
- 2 demolition men
- 1 carrier

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ORGANISATION
and ACTION
OF INFANTRY
(contd).

No. 9 Party (contd.)

TASK: Mop up trench from K to M; then assist in reducing strong point Q.

No. 10 Party (Blocking party at "P").

	Offs.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 Lewis Gunners			8
1 bayonet man			1
1 bomber			1
1 grenadier			1

TASK: To block C.T. at P and with L.G. be ready to sweep ground North East in case of attack overland from WARNETON.

No. 11 Party (Right flank covering party).

	Offs.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 Lewis Gunners			8
2 bombers			2
1 grenadier			1
1 bayonet man			1

TASK: To take up position in vicinity of O ready to sweep bridge South East of O and ground North East, and to assist if necessary Lewis Gun at P in case of attack from WARNETON.

TOTAL RIGHT ASSAULT PARTY .. 5 Offs, 14 N.C.Os, 99 men.

LEFT ASSAULT PARTY.

Headquarters.

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
O.C. Assault	1		
2 runners			2
2 signallers			2
16 stretcher bearers			16

TASK: To hold gap in wire and parapet at G, evacuate wounded to Advanced Aid Post and to escort prisoners to our front line.

No. 12 Party (Wire party).

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
4 scouts			4
3 bombers			3
2 bayonet men			2
2 runners			2
2 tape men			2

TASK: To effect an entry through enemy wire at G (flanks lead towards over NO MAN'S LAND to G), clear trenches in vicinity of point of entry and hold gap in wire and parapet until raiders have all left enemy trenches.

No. 13 Party (Left Covering Party).

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 Lewis Gunners			2
1 bomber			1
1 bayonet man			1
1 grenadier			1

TASK: To take up a position in NO MAN'S LAND in vicinity of G; keep flank clear, covering junction of trench and railway North of G.

No. 14 Party (Front line storming party).

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 bayonet men			2
2 bombers			2
1 grenadier			1
1 demolition man			1
1 carrier			1

TASK: To mop up trench from G to H and from block at H.

No. 15 Party (Right front line and road party).

	Officers.	N.C.Os.	Men.
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 bayonet men			3
2 bombers			2
1 demolition man			1
1 carrier			1

TASK: To mop up front line from G to F, thence along road to E, clearing ruins South of road at I.

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**ORGANISATION
 and ACTION
 of INFANTRY
 (cont).**

No. 16 Party (Left G.T. storming party).

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
4 bayonet men			4
3 bombers			3
2 demolition men			2
1 runner			1

TASK: To mop up G.T. from G to M and to be prepared to assist No. 20 party - then demolition men to report with explosives to party at R.

No. 17 Party (Pill-box party).

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 bombers			2
2 bayonet men			2
3 demolition men			3
1 runner			1

TASK: To mop up and destroy dugouts at I, mop up angle G-F-I, and mop up along road running North West from I on North side of G.T.

No. 18 Party (Left second line storming and blocking party).

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 bayonet men			2
2 bombers			2
1 grenadier			1
1 demolition man			1

TASK: To mop up trench from M to N, thence to form a block at N.

No. 19 Party ("R" Pill-box party, divided into "A" and "B" parties).

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
"A" Party -			
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
5 bayonet men			5
5 bombers			5
2 demolition men			2
1 runner			1
1 carrier			1
"B" Party.-			
1 N.C.O.		1	
3 bayonet men			3
2 bombers			2
2 demolition men			2
1 carrier			1

TASKS: "A" Party - To attack and destroy pill-box North of trench at R and effect entry into supposed tunnel.

"B" Party - To attack pill-box South of trench at R and effect entry into supposed tunnel.

No. 20 Party (Left flank covering party).

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
1 N.C.O.		1	
2 Lewis gunners			2
2 bombers			2
1 bayonet man			1
1 grenadier			1

TASK: To take up position at S, keeping flank clear and being ready to operate against any attack from the direction of WALLETON.

TOTAL LEFT ASSAULT PARTY .. 5 Offs, 10 N.C.Os, 102 men.

FIGHTING PATROLS.

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
Right Patrol.			
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
13 other ranks			15
Left Patrol.			
1 Officer	1		
1 N.C.O.		1	
13 other ranks			15
Total ..	2	2	30.

APPENDIX.

ORGANISATION
and ACTION
of INFANTRY
(contd)Fighting Patrols (contd).

TASKS: To take up a position behind our front line. On return of raiding party fighting patrols will move into NO MAN'S LAND and engage enemy patrols, bring in any wounded, prisoners and salvage that may be in NO MAN'S LAND and in vicinity of tapes.

Two runners from each patrol will report to Raid Headquarters 30 minutes before ZERO.

These parties cover defences until reoccupation by normal garrison.

CHECKING PARTIES.No. 1 Party.

1 Officer

2 N.C.Os.

2 runners

Take up position at U.17.a.30.21 and check returning raiders as per instructions to be issued separately.

No. 2 Party.

1 Officer

2 N.C.Os.

Take up position at Brigade H.Q. (U.20.a.5.9) and check as for No. 1 Party.

Officers.N.C.Os.Men.

1

2

2

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>N.C.Os.</u>	<u>Men.</u>
<u>No. 1 Party.</u>	1	2	2
<u>No. 2 Party.</u>	1	2	
Total ..	2	4	2

1

2

 Total .. 2 4 2

APPROACH
ROUTE.

7. By train to RACINE DUMP; thence via VANCOUVER to AU CHASSEUR CABARET and overland to FACTORY as already reconnoitred.

EVACUATION
ROUTE.

8. Via SUGAR FACTORY, AU CHASSEUR CABARET, VANCOUVER to Brigade Headquarters (U.20.a.5.9).

ASSEMBLY
POINT.

9. SUGAR FACTORY, U.17.b.55.55.

ADVANCED
ASSEMBLY
POINT.

10.(a) Right Assault Party.
 In vicinity of U.17.b.98.40.
 (b) Left Assault Party.
 In vicinity of U.17.b.80.80.

MEDICAL.

11. To Advanced Aid Post at U.17.d.5.8; thence A.F.M.S. arrangements to the nearest point of trench tramway; thence to junction of tramline and road at U.19.b.2.5. via DEAD HORSE CORNER, Relay Post (U.21.a.3.9); thence by motor ambulance to UNDERHILL FARM (T.18.d.5.3).

TELEPHONES.

12. Telephone lines will be run from the Headquarters of O.C. Rail to O's C. Right and Left Assault Parties at E & G.

SPECIAL TRENCH
PLAN.

13. Special 1/5,000 trench plan is attached hereto.

14. **ACKNOWLEDGE.**

J. A. MILLER, Lieut.-Col.
 O.C. 9th Australian Infantry
 Brigade Raiding Party.

JB.

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DISTRIBUTION.

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>To whom.</u>
1-3	Brigade Headquarters.
4	Brigade Signal Section.
5-7	O.C. Raid.
8	33rd Battalion.
9	34th Battalion.
10	35th Battalion.
11	36th Battalion.
12	9th Aust. Machine Gun Coy.
13	9th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery.
14	10th Aust. Machine Gun Coy.
15	10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Bty.
16	11th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Bty.
17	10th Field Company A.E.
18	9th Aust. Field Ambulance.
19	Left Group Artillery.
20	Captain T.W. Tollis.
21	Captain J.E.W. Busgolle.
22	Captain B.G. Brodie.
23	Captain R. Sayers.
24-25	3rd Australian Division.
26	C.R.A. 3rd Australian Division.
27	Liaison Officer "G" Branch.
28	10th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
29	11th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
30	15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
31-34	War Diary.
35	File.

1. 3. 1918.

JA.

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SECRET.

Copy No. 13

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE RAIDING PARTIES INSTRUCTION No. 1

Reference maps:

SAS WARWICK 1/10,000. Special Trench Plan 1/8,000.

Dulford Camp. 2nd March 1918.

ORDER of APPROACH MARCH

- 1. (i) Raid Headquarters. (ii) L.M.'s Assault Party. (iii) Right Assault Party. Order of parties as per training orders (issued to parties).

TAPES.

- 2. Tapes will be laid from assembly point at FACTORY up to our front line and on to entry points E and G.

BAYONETS.

- 3. Bayonets will be dulled.

IDENTIFICATION MARKS.

- 4. Each raider will wear a white band four inches wide round each upper arm.

RAID DISCS.

- 5. A special identity disc will be worn by all ranks, suspended round the neck, and a cotton label bearing same number will be carried in right breast pocket. No other means of identification whatsoever will be carried.

ENEMY IDENTIFICATION DISCS.

- 6. As many enemy identity discs as possible will be brought back by each party and all papers, maps and other captured documents will be placed in sandbags and handed in at Brigade Headquarters at earliest possible moment.

CHECKING PARTIES.

- 7. Checking parties will collect cotton labels only at checking points mentioned in Raid Order No. 1. Discs will be collected on return to BULFORD CAMP.

ARMS and EQUIPMENT to be CARRIED.

Table with 3 columns: Role, Equipment, and Ammunition. Roles include Bayonet Men, Bombers, Rifle bombers, Demolition men, Lewis Gunners, Runners, Carriers, Stretcher-bearers, and Signallers.

APPENDIX.

ITEMS TO BE CARRIED.

- Scouts. Rifles and bayonet. 50 rounds E.A.A.
- 2 bombs.
- Papemen. Rifles and bayonet. 50 rounds E.A.A.
- 1 reel of tape.

BOOKS.

9. Search will be made by party leaders to collect all enemy anti-gas equipment machine guns, trench mortars and other booty which will be dumped at R.A.B.

GUIDES.

10. Guides will be posted at certain points on approach routes and will remain until relieved.

CODE WORDS.

11. Time of leaving our trenches, or arrival at Assembly Points in NO MAN'S LAND, and in enemy front line will be notified by O's C. Assaulting Parties to the O.C. Raid by a pre-arranged code word by telephone or runner as most convenient at the time.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. A. MILNE, Lieut-Col.

O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Raiding Parties.

Distribution.

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>To whom.</u>
1-3	Brigade Headquarters.
4	Brigade Signal Section.
5-7	O.C. Raiding Parties.
8	33rd Battalion.
9	34th Battalion.
10	35th Battalion.
11	36th Battalion.
12	9th Aust. Machine Gun Coy.
13	9th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Bty.
14	10th Aust. Machine Gun Company.
15	10th Aust. Light T.M. Battery.
16	11th Aust. Light T.M. Battery.
17	10th Field Company A.S.
18	9th Aust. Field Ambulance.
19	Left Group Artillery.
20	Captain T.W. Tollis.
21	Captain J.E.W. Bushelle.
22	Captain B.G. Brodie.
23	Captain R. Sayers.
24-5	3rd Australian Division.
26	C.R.A. 3rd Australian Division.
27	Liaison Officer "G" Branch.
28	10th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
29	11th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
30	15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
31-34	War Diary.
35	File.

9th AUS. LIGHT TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY.ORDER. NO 1.Map Reference

Trench map BAS-WARNETON 1/10000.
 " " PLOEGSTERT. 1/10000.

Headquarters9th AUS LTM BTRY

2-3-1918.

Intention.

a. Sec. I.

On "Z" & "A" days at zero hour (to be communicated later) the 9th Aus. Inf. Brigade Raiding Party will enter the enemy's trenches in the vicinity of WARNETON, in squares U12C & U18a.

b. The area to be raided on both occasions is as follows:-

Southern Boundary:- River LYS.

Northern " :- Line through U12C 00-20 & U12C 00-37.

Eastern " :- Line N.W & S.E through U12C 70-05.

Objects. Sec. II.

- To capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible.
- To damage or destroy material or defences.
- To obtain equipment, identifications, documents & other information.

Strength of raiding party

Sec. III

The raiding party will consist of 300 men drawn equally from the four battalions of the Brigade.

Stokes mortar Programme.

Sec. IV

The 10th & 11th Aus L.T.M. Batteries will cooperate & carry out a bombardment programme on the left & right of Raid respectively.

The 9th Aus. L.T.M. Battery will carry out the following bombardment:-

- 4 Mortars. will throw a smoke screen between the River LYS & WICART FARM, UNCUT TRENCH, SPINNING MILL, to screen raiders from enemy positions on right bank of River LYS.
 Zero to zero + 4 minutes: 8 rounds per mortar per minute to place screen.
 Zero + 4 to zero + 45 mins: 3 rounds per mortar per $\frac{2}{1}$ minute to maintain screen.
- 2 Mortars. will fire 20 rounds per mortar on machine gun at U18a 25-35 from zero to zero + 1 minute.
 zero + 1 to zero + 45 mins: these mortars will engage machine gun & trench mortars in UNCUT TRENCH (U18C 65-60) - 3 rounds per mortar per minute.
- 2 Mortars. will fire 20 rounds per mortar on machine gun at U18a 70-72 from zero to zero + 1 minute.
 zero + 1 minute to zero + 45 mins: These mortars will engage machine gun & trench mortars in vicinity of SPINNING MILL. 3 rounds per mortar per minute.

(2.)

Dispositions of Battery.

Sec. V

The 9th Aus. L.T.M. Battery will be disposed as follows for the operations:-

LIEUT. A.S. VARLEY & NOS 1. 2. 3 & 4

(a) mortars & teams will carry out task as per Section. IV para (a).

736 "VARLEY" smoke bombs being provided by 3rd Aus. Div. Pioneer Workshops for the operation.

(b) LIEUT. W.W. SMITH, & nos 5, 6, 7 & 8 mortars & teams will carry out tasks as follows:-

NOS 5 & 6 mortars & teams task as per Section IV. b.

NOS 7 & 8 " " " " " " " " IV. c.

Synchronisation of Watches

Sec VI

watches will be Synchronised by reference to Brigade H.Q.s at 5.30pm on "2" day again on "A" day.

S.O.S.

Sec VII

The S.O.S. voice signal will be operative on the 9th Aus. Inf Bde front from Zero - 30 minutes to Zero + 60 minutes. This applies to both artillery & machine guns.

Returns to S.O.S. Lines.

Sec VIII

At 2+45. Nos 1, 2 & 3 mortars will be immediately laid on their "SOS" lines & No 4 mortar will be moved back to "SOS" position & laid on its "SOS" line also, as soon as possible after the completion of its allotted task.

Relief.

Sec IX

Under mutual arrangements with oc. 10th ALTMBty, the 2 ~~teams~~ teams of this battery at present on left battalion sector will be relieved at 2-1 hour on "A" night by two teams of 10th ALTMBty. The two teams relieved will be moved back by oc left sector to position near SUBSIDIARY LINE.

They will take over their two mortars & positions & return mortars to their "SOS" lines at Zero + 75 mins

b 2 mortars will be loaned by 10th Aus L.T.M.Bty in lieu of two mortars on left sector. These will be NOS. 7 & 8 mortars.

These two mortars will be returned to Battery H.Q.s CPTACOMBS by 5 am on morning of "A" night by very latest.

Advanced Battery H.Q.s.

Sec X

Advanced battery H.Q.s will be at U17d 50-90.

Withdrawal.

Sec XI

On completion of tasks on "A" night nos. 5, 6, 7 & 8 mortars & teams (less details attached to right section in line at present) will be withdrawn to "CPTACOMBS."

Knowland Capt.
oc 9th Aus L.T.M.Bty.

CONFIDENTIAL.
 REPORT ON RAID CARRIED OUT BY 9TH AUSTRALIAN
 INFANTRY BRIGADE AT 12.50 a.m. 5TH MARCH, 1918

APPENDIX

 Reference map:
 Special 1/5,000
 (part of Sheet 28).

 Brigade Headquarters.
 5th March, 1918.

The enemy trenches covering WARNETON from the South West were again raided this morning at 12.50 a.m.

The approach march to LA DASS-VILLE and the assembly in NO MAN'S LAND were carried out without interruption. Although the enemy was active with machine guns, firing over the forward system and sweeping approaches.

At Zero hour, 12.50 a.m., the artillery barrage opened and proceeded according to plan. Owing to the number of guns which had been detailed for other tasks, the front line barrage appeared rather thin. The raiders commenced to close up on the barrage. The passage of NO MAN'S LAND proceeded satisfactorily and a listening post of two men in the SPINNEY was dealt with.

The tape line to Point M was not laid exactly to the required point in consequence of which the first 30 yards of the route from M to K had to be overland. As a result, there was a little delay in reaching K. The Point M was found to be strongly organised with a machine gun covering the gap in the wire with a party of bombers evidently detailed to assist in its defence. The machine gun was rushed and captured, its crew killed, and the dugout which was found nearby was bombed. A machine gun firing from D was troublesome but was eventually bombed back to the ground between D and J.

The communication trench J K was quickly cleared, including two dugouts about midway between M and K, and the deep dug-out at G was bombed. Five of the enemy were killed at the dugout at L. The communication trench Q P was then cleared and a Lewis Gun was held in readiness at P.

The Left Assaulting Party was met by considerable organised opposition at the point of entry G in the shape of a machine gun and bombers. This party was also subjected to enfilade machine gun fire from the North East. At this point the O.C. Left Assaulting Party was severely wounded and later died. Forcing an entry at G so delayed parties that there was not sufficient time to reach H and deal with the dugouts there.

In all cases, front line parties reached their objectives and carried out their allotted tasks.

During the occupation of the enemy trenches a hostile local counter-attack was launched from a North Easterly direction (and probably from the dugout at H) as well as along the WARNETON Road. Another local counter-attack was attempted by the enemy from the South from the river bank between D and J. On the latter occasion the enemy was observed to form up in line kneeling when attacking one of our parties with bombs.

With the exception of mopping up H and R all allotted tasks were duly carried out.

The enemy appeared to be organised for strong resistance, as indicated by the fact that he had strong bombing parties at E and G, each with a machine gun covering those points, and also had ready counter-attacking positions on both right and left flanks.

PTO.

APPENDIX.

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As a result of interviews with Officers who took part in the raid, it is believed that a conservative estimate of the number of enemy killed by the raiding party would put the figure at 40, whilst dugouts at J, two between J and K, one at Q and one at I, which each held a number of the enemy, were bombed causing additional casualties.

Normal identification was established (228 R.I.R.).

During the raid hostile artillery responded feebly. Hostile machine guns were very active from South of the River LYS and WARNETON. Enemy trench mortars were only moderately active.

Normal line dispositions were resumed at 3.0 a.m.

No casualties were suffered by the normal trench garrisons.

Our losses, as far as can be ascertained at present, pending final check, are :-

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>Other ranks.</u>
Killed	1	3
Wounded	1	21

The two machine guns captured are of the light pattern.

J. T. Train

MAJOR
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

A.H.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,
5th. March, 1918.Headquarters,
Australian Corps.

S.G.6/48.

MINOR OFFENSIVE - NIGHT, MARCH 4th./5th., 1918.

1. - In amplification of reports already telegraphed during the night and this morning - my G.1. to G.5. - , I beg to submit the following further particulars as to above Operation. -

2. - PLAN.

The organization of the enterprise and the plans for the action and co-ordination of all Arms and Services were in all respects identical with those employed during the Operation of the preceding night, with the exception that a slight alteration was made in the timing of the 18-pdr. Artillery barrage and of the Machine Gun barrage with a view to bringing a portion of the fire behind the enemy objectives at an earlier moment; so as to prevent his withdrawal such as occurred on the preceding night. -

3. - EXECUTION.

(a). ZERO Hour was 12.50 a.m. -

The cylinder gas bombardment upon FRELINGHIAN planned to take place at 12.40 a.m. was abandoned by the Special Brigade owing to the adverse conditions of the wind. -

The approach march to LA BASSE VILLE and the assembly in NO MAN'S LAND were carried out without interruption, although the enemy was active with machine guns, firing over the forward system and sweeping approaches. -

In the following paras. reference letters are to the points as marked upon plans attached to the Brigade Orders for the Operation.

(b). At ZERO hour, 12.50 a.m., the artillery barrage opened and proceeded according to plan. - Owing to the number of guns which had been detailed for other tasks, the front line barrage appeared rather thin. - The raiders commenced to close up on the barrage. - The passage of NO MAN'S LAND proceeded satisfactorily and a listening post of two men in the SPINNEY was dealt with. -

The tape line to Point "E" was not laid exactly to the required point in consequence of which the first 30 yards of the route from "E" to "K" had to be overland. - As a result, there was a little delay in reaching "K". - The point "E" was found to be strongly organised with a machine gun covering the gap in the wire with a party of bombers evidently detailed to assist in its defence. - The machine gun was rushed and captured, its crew killed, and the dugout which was found nearby was bombed. - A machine gun firing from "D" was troublesome but was eventually bombed to the ground between "D" and "J". -

The communication trench "E K" was quickly cleared, including two dugouts about midway between "E" and "K", and the deep dugout at "Q" was bombed. - Five of the enemy were killed at the dugout at "L". The communication trench "Q P" was then cleared and a Lewis Gun was held in readiness at "P". -

The Left Assaulting Party was met by considerable organised opposition at the point of entry "G" in the shape of a machine gun and bombers. - This party was also subjected to enfilade machine gun fire from the North East. - At this point, the O.C. Left Assaulting Party was severely wounded and later died. - Forcing an entry at "G" so delayed parties that there was not sufficient time to reach "R" and deal with the dugouts there. -

Thus, the whole of the objectives, as planned, were reached by all parties with the exception of the point "R". -

(1).

P.T.O.

(2).

5/3/18.

(c). During our occupation of the enemy trenches, a hostile local counter-attack was launched from a North Easterly direction (and probably from the dugout at "R") as well as along the WARRENTON Road. - Another local counter-attack was attempted by the enemy from the South, from the river bank between "D" and "J". - On the latter occasion, the enemy was observed to form up in line kneeling when attacking one of our parties with bombs. -

The enemy appeared to be organised for strong resistance, as indicated by the fact that he had strong bombing parties at "E" and "G", each with a machine gun covering those points, and also had ready counter-attacking positions on both right and left flanks. -

As a result of the interrogation of the officers who took part in the enterprise, it is ascertained that a very conservative estimate of the number of enemy killed by the raiding party is forty (40). - This is exclusive of casualties probably inflicted by our Artillery and by our Infantry action with bullet and bomb beyond the range of our penetration. -

At least five dugouts viz:- one at "E", two between "E" and "K", one at "Q" and one at "I", all of which held a number of the enemy, were thoroughly bombed. -

There is no doubt that this caused the enemy many additional casualties in addition to the forty enumerated above, as having actually been seen by the Officers concerned. -

We captured and brought in two light machine guns and a quantity of smaller stores. -

The Identification established was 228. R.I.R. Normal.

A total of about twelve (12) prisoners were actually taken by the various parties, but all resisted capture energetically and refused to be brought in. - Time did not permit of any other action, but to dispose of them and leave them behind. -

(d) During the raid, hostile artillery responded feebly. - Hostile machine guns were very active from South of the River LYS and WARRENTON. Enemy trench mortars were only moderately active. -

(e) Normal line dispositions were resumed at 3.0 a.m. - No casualties were suffered by the normal trench garrison. -

4. - OUR CASUALTIES.

Our losses, so far as can be ascertained at present, pending a final check, are :-

		<u>Officers.</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>
Killed. ...		1.	3.
Wounded ...		1.	21.

Total. 26.

5. - Although the actual result of the Operation, in the number of prisoners captured, was not nearly so satisfactory as that of the previous night, the enterprise may be considered to have been extremely satisfactory from the point of view of the fighting spirit and determination of the troops engaged, and of the total damage inflicted upon the enemy. - The co-ordination of all Arms and Services was excellent. -

These two actions have, apart from other advantages, operated greatly to benefit the moral and fighting spirit of the 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade and of the whole Division. -

J. H. Monash.
Major-General.

Commanding Third Australian Division. -

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HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE
4 MAR 1918
B.M. NO. 37/11
A.I.F.

**REPORT ON RAID CARRIED OUT BY THE AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE AT 11.45 p.m. 3.3.1918.**

APPENDIX.

**Brigade Headquarters.
4th March, 1918.**

The enemy trenches in the vicinity of HARNETT were successfully raided last night at 11.45 p.m.

The assembly in NO MAN'S LAND was accomplished without incident by 11.40 p.m. despite a display of lights sent up by the enemy, and the artillery barrage opened promptly at the Zero hour.

The Right and Left Assault Parties then proceeded to carry out their allotted tasks. The co-ordination of teams was in every way satisfactory, being facilitated by the excellence of the wire-cutting carried out by the artillery during the past few days. Both Right and Left Assaulting Parties passed through the enemy wire without difficulty and entered the front line trench, following closely a most accurate and well-directed barrage.

The Right Party entered the enemy trench at E, moving to both flanks and to the front along the communication trench E K, practically unopposed. Two of the enemy in a shelter on the North side of this communication trench, half-way between E and K, were captured, and eight were killed in the large dugout at K. A German officer who put up a fight in the communication trench E K was disposed of. A machine gun and crew which was located near D was compelled to retire and disappeared into a deep dugout, which was later bombed, on the ground overlooking the River LYS between J and D. Meanwhile the trenches at L, Q and K were taken and dugout at Q demolished. Front line trench D E was searched but none of the enemy were encountered.

Satisfactory progress had in the meantime been made by the Left Assaulting Party which, too, had encountered little resistance in the front line. The communication trench to M was dealt with and found to contain large dugouts in which a number of the enemy who refused to come out to surrender were disposed of by bombs. In this communication trench one officer and six other ranks were captured and, in addition, two enemy dead were counted. Evidence would appear to show that of the group of dugouts at R, one to the South of the road was destroyed, whilst one to the North was entered. The statement is definitely made, however, that these dugouts are unconnected by tunnels. Except at I and R, the enemy was disinclined to offer any serious resistance to the raiders and many were seen in the light caused by our bursting shells to be running to the rear. Several casualties are known to have been inflicted on the enemy whilst retiring in this manner.

While the front line trench is deep, dry and fire-stepped, it would appear that it is normally held lightly. It is not provided with shelters and is unrevetted.

Communication trenches are of similar construction with a few brick and concrete dugouts for the accommodation of the trench garrison.

The second line is apparently the main fire trench, containing several deep tunnelled dugouts all of which were bombed.

In addition to capturing one officer and ten other ranks (1 wounded) the raiders succeeded in bringing in a machine gun and inflicting on the enemy a loss of at least 50 killed irrespective of possible artillery casualties beyond the eastern limits of the area raided.

Normal identification was obtained. (228 R.L.R.)

Our casualties were extremely light in comparison with the size of the raiding party employed (300 all ranks)

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE 36th BATTALION
IN THE AREA OF THE RIVER LINDSAY
DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1918

being so far as is at present known

8 other ranks killed

1 Officer and 15 other ranks wounded, of which

all excepting four are very light cases.

At the time of writing there appears to be doubt as to the whereabouts of Lieut. H. Ikin, 36th Battalion, who was last seen clearing out the dugouts at R.

Starting at 12.20 a.m., the withdrawal from the enemy trenches was carried out under cover of the raid fighting patrols held in reserve.

The normal line dispositions were resumed at the conclusion of the operation at 1.30 a.m. today.

H. Ikin

MAJOR
Brigade Major

36th Australian Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

JB.

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APPENDIX
APPENDIX

4.3.1918.

CONFIDENTIAL.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 7
From 6 am. 3.3.1918 to 6 am. 4.3.1918.

Reference map:
Sheet 38.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Raid. The enemy trenches in front of WARNETON were raided at 11.40 p.m. (See special attached report).

Machine Guns. } As per programme for raid.

Patrols Patrols out previous to the raid report the usual enemy working parties. White Very lights were numerous. Patrols on the Southern part of NO MAN'S LAND report unusual quietness on the enemy's part; also that bridge across LYS near GRANDE HAIE FARM is still absolutely impassable. After the raid the patrols working in front of WARNETON were looking for casualties and identifications but nothing was discovered.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Artillery. Quiet except in reply to our bombardment for the raid. In answer to enemy S.O.S. 5.9s. and 4.2s. fell about U.17.b. and d. from the direction of GOMINES and QUESNOY. About 30 rounds 5.9 fell near U.16.b.8.4.

Trench Mortars. Were active on LA BASSE VILLE during raid.

Machine Guns. Very quiet except during raid.

Aircraft. Nil.

Movement. Visibility was very bad.
9.45 am. Four men seen at dump at U.6.b.28.35.
8.55 am. Three men seen entering dugout at U.24.a.95.80
9.0 am. Movement again noticed at U.24.a.95.80.
11.25 am -do-

Communications.
During the raid the following enemy signals were noticed:-
Rocket bursting into cluster of white lights seemed to start artillery fire.
Rocket bursting into cluster of green lights seemed to stop artillery fire.

G. H. H. H. H.
for Brig. Gen.

G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade - A.L.R.

JB.

ANNEXE TO 9TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 7 from 6 am.
3rd March 1918 to 6 am. 4.4.1918.

REVENUES. Work done during 24 hours ending 6 pm. on 3rd March 1918 :-

Locality of work.	Work done.
GAP between Nos. 8 and 9 POSTS.	Wiring; 25 yards.
GAP between Nos. 6 and 7 POSTS.	Wiring.
WALCHA WAY.	Construction of trench - excavating and camouflaging.
URALLA WAY.	Raising camouflage and sandbagging parapet.
LA MASSE VILLE.	Filling and carrying sandbags; wire and pickets to wiring position.
SATACOLMS.	Digging and clearing drains.
BRIGADE H.Q.	Building cage.
RED LODGE.	Repairs to bunks, drains and 6 Lewis Gun Anti-aircraft Posts.

E. Halford
for

BRIG-GEN.

G.O.C. 9TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE A.I.F.

ANNEXE TO THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INT. SUMMARY NO. 79.

Preliminary examination of an Officer and men of the 228th R.I.R. taken prisoner on the 3rd March in U.12.c. and U.18.a.

ORDER OF BATTLE. North to South 226 th - 225th - 228th . South of the River the 5th Bav. Division was relieved two or three days ago by a Saxon Division (identity not known).

DISPOSITIONS. The 1st Battalion is in the line, 1st, 2nd and 4th Coys., in the front line, and the 3rd Company in UNCLEAN TRENCH. Two Coys. of the 3rd Battalion are in WARNETON, the dugouts near the CHURCH still being used, and the other two Companies are at BEAU CHENE. The 2nd Battalion is at LE BLATON.

RELIEFS. 4 or 6 days are spent in line, in Support and in Rest. A Battalion Relief was expected either early this morning or in two days time. The Division had hoped that the Saxons, who have relieved the Bavarians, would relieve them. Nothing definite is known of a Divisional Relief or of the presence of a Relieving Division.

ROUTE TO THE TRENCHES. The route via COMINES is not always used. There is an alternate route which is more direct. The River is crossed some distance from the front line, and the left bank followed. The crossing may be at FME. BLANCHE or in V.9.b. Another prisoner said his Company crossed near WARNETON, perhaps at V.7.c.35.70 where tracks shew in photographs.

TROOPS IN REAR. No information was obtained except that a Battalion Transport Driver, who had been 'combed out' stated he had heard that the Regimental transport lines had been taken by some new Artillery which had arrived.

TRANSPORT. Ration limbers and field cookers go from LE BLATON to COMINES and then along the main COMINES-WARNETON ROAD. They stop at some distance from the Village. The time varies somewhat, but as a rule transport starts to be at COMINES about six or seven (German time).

WARNETON TOWER. This is still known as the observation Tower, but general opinion is that it is no longer used.

GENERAL. Nothing has been seen in this Sector by prisoners which might denote an Offensive action, and the presence of gas is emphatically denied. The average intelligence of the prisoners is low.

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APPENDIX.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

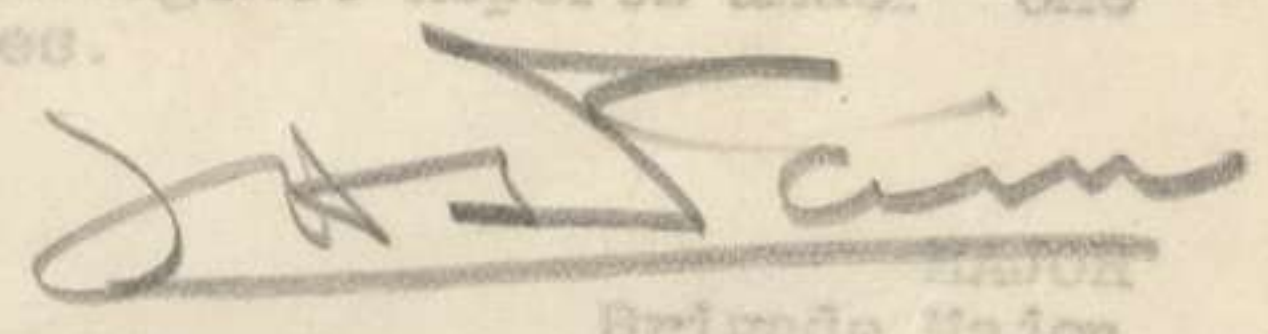
HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE
42 MAIL 1918
B.M. NO. 13/522.
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters.
4th March, 1918.

Headquarters

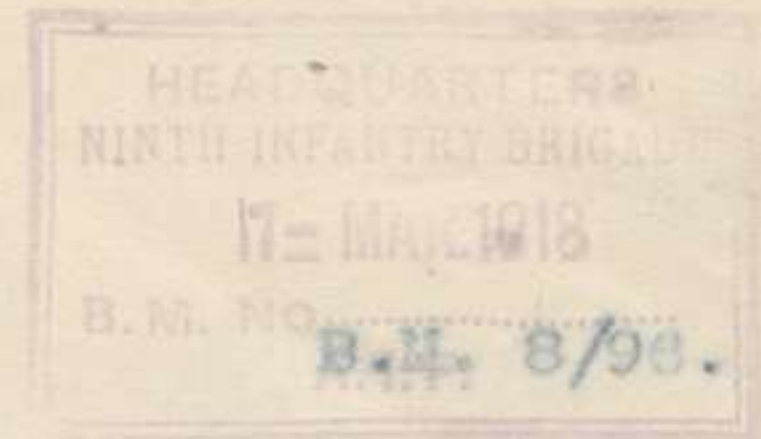
- 53rd Bn. 34th Bn.
- 55th Bn. 36th Bn.
- 9th A.L.T.M.Bty. 9th A.M.C. Coy.

With reference to the attached notes on hostile artillery activity, whenever possible, the apparent intention of the enemy should be recorded in Intelligence Reports under one of the headings included in the notes.



Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

JB.

SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brigade Headquarters.
1st March, 1918.

Headquarters
33rd Battalion. .
34th "
35th "
36th "
9th A.M.G. Coy.
9th A.L.T.M. Bty.

From today onwards morning "stand to" will commence
at 5.0 a.m.

W. J. Stant

MAJOR
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

JB.

APPENDIX.

To all recipients of
9th Australian Infantry Brigade
Order No. 15, dated 28.2.1918.

Para. 7 (b) is cancelled and the following substituted :-

"Rates and times of fire as under :-

ZERO	plus	3	minutes	to	ZERO	plus	10	minutes	FIRE.
"	"	10	"	"	"	"	13	"	CEASE.
"	"	13	"	"	"	"	20	"	FIRE.
"	"	20	"	"	"	"	25	"	CEASE.
"	"	25	"	"	"	"	30	"	FIRE.
"	"	30	"	"	"	"	35	"	CEASE.
"	"	35	"	"	"	"	40	"	FIRE.

CEASE FIRE at ZERO plus 40 minutes.

Rate of fire .. RAPID."

J. J. Pain

9th Australian Infantry Brigade
MAJOR
Brigade Major
A. I. F.

Brigade Headquarters
1st March 1918.

171

SECRET.

Copy No. 12

To all recipients of
9th Australian Infantry Brigade
Order No. 15, dated 28.2.1918.

Reference 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No.
15 dated 28th February 1918:

"Z" day = 3rd March.

"A" day = 4th March.

ZERO hour for "Z" day will be 11.45 pm

ZERO hour for "A" day will be notified later

ACKNOWLEDGE.

by wire

J. E. Fair

9th Australian Infantry Brigade

MAJOR
Brigade Major
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters.
2nd March, 1918.

JE.

171

SECRET.

To all recipients of
9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 15
dated 28th February 1918.

Reference 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order
No. 15 dated 28th February 1918.

~~ZERO hour for "A/B" night will be 12.50 a.m.~~

~~ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.~~

1213

9th Australian Infantry Brigade
MAJOR
Brigade Major
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters.
4th March 1918

JB.