

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

Signals

Item number: 22/14/34

Title: 4th Australian Division Signals
Company

December 1918



AWM4-22/14/34

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

197

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

FOR

December 1918

Signature of Officer compiling *R.B.H.* Captain.

Signature of Officer Commanding *[Signature]* Captain

A/O.C., 4th Aus. Div'l Signal Coy.,

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.

December 1918.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| SAINS-DU-NORD. | 1st. | | <p>SAINS-DU-NORD Area.</p> <p>4th Australian Divisional Headquarters - SAINS-DU-NORD.</p> <p>Headquarters, Wireless and No.1 Sections " " "</p> <p>No.2 Section (4th Aus.Inf.Bde) " " "</p> <p>No.3 Section (12th Aus.Inf.Bde) AVESNELLES.</p> <p>No.4 Section (13th Aus.Inf.Bde) SIVRY.</p> <p>No.5 Section (4th Aus.M.G.Bn) FELLERIES.</p> <p>R.A.H.Q. Detcht. (4th Aus.Div.Arty H.Q.) CHATEAU-LIESSIES.</p> <p>5A Sub-Section(10th A.F.A.Bde) LIESSIERS.</p> <p>5B Sub-Section(11th A.F.A.Bde) "</p> <p>For the purposes of movement the Division was organised into Brigade Groups. The 4th Pioneer Battalion with 13th Aus.Infantry Brigade Group; 4th Aus.Mobile Veterinary Section and 104th Brigade R.F.A. with 4th Aus.Div'l Artillery Group.</p> <p>Headquarters, No 1 and Wireless Sections. General Routine communication carried on. In touch with 4th Aus.Inf.Bde, 12th Aus.Inf.Bde, 13th Aus.Inf.Bde and 4th Aus.Div'l Arty, with 'phone, sounder, Wireless and Motor D.R.</p> <p>1200 Australian Corps closed office LE CATEAU, re-opening same hour AVESNES.</p> <p>1210 Through to Australian Corps at AVESNES with 'phone and sounder.</p> <p>1st to 11th. Headquarters, No.1 and Wireless Sections. Daily parade 9.30 am rifle inspection. Inspection of Horses, Harness, Vehicles. Afternoon devoted to Sports and Organisation of Games. several Football Matches played with other units of the Division.</p> <p>1st. No.2 Section Incommunication with all Battns by telephone and runners. Section carried out daily inspections route marches and physical drill during the mornings. In the afternoons-sporting fixtures.</p> <p>No 3 Section. carried--In communication with Battalions by 'Phone and Runners. Section carried out daily parades and general inspections during mornings and organised games - Football and such in the afternoons. Salvaged German cable was used exclusively for all Battalion lines.</p> <p>No.4 Section. In communication with all units of Brigade Group by P'hone and Runners. Daily parades and general inspections were carried out during this period. Weekly baths and clean clothing obtained for Section.</p> | |

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(Aro266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~December 1918.

1917

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|--------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 1st to 11th. | | No.5 Section. In touch with all Companies and Battalion Transport by 'Phone. Section carried out daily parades, general inspections, Sports etc., R.A.H.Q. Detachment. In touch with units of Artillery Groups by Motor D.R. only. Units were too scattered for connection by telephone. General parades carried out. Harness and equipment overhauled and repaired. 5A and 5B Sub-Sections. General parades and Inspections. Organised games etc., | |
| | 10th | | Orders issued for move of Division to DINANT Area. Graph of move as supplied to 4th Australian Divisional Headquarters by this Company, attached. | |
| | 11th. | | Headquarters Section. Australian Corps closed AVESNES, re-opened HAM-sur-HUERRE same hour, leaving Report Centre at AVESNES for traffic of this Division. | |
| | 12th. | | All Sections making preparations for march to DINANT Area. | |
| | 13th. | | Headquarters Section. Advance party consisting of mechanics, switch attendants and other office personnel proceeded to DINANT in Box Car to open new office. | |
| | | 0700 | No.1 Section. Section and Company Transport moved out enroute to DINANT, staying for night at PHILLIPVILLE. Advance party of linemen sent by Box Car to reconnoitre lines in new area. | |
| | | 0900 | No.3 Section. Office closed AVESNELLES. Section marched to SIVRY and re-opened office on arrival. Communication to Battalions by Runners, to Divisional Headquarters by Motor D.R. | |
| | | 0900 | No.4 Section. Office closed SIVRY. Section marched to SILENRIEUX via RENLIES, VERGNIES, ERPION and BOUSSU. Office re-opened 1600. | |
| | | 0800 | No.5 Section. Office closed FELLERIES. Section marched to SIVRY, re-opened office 1200. | |
| | | 0900 | R.A.H.Q. Detcht. Artillery Group moved to RANCE billeting area. Communication maintained to all Units by Motor D.R. Section transport moved to CERFONTAINE and stayed for night. | |
| | | 0900 | 5A Sub-Section. Office closed LIESSIES. Section marched to FROIDCHAPELLE office opened 1500. | |
| | | 0900 | 5b Sub-Section. Office closed LIESSIES. Section marched to CERFONTAINE, office re-opened 1300. | |
| | 14th. | 0700 | Headquarters and Wireless Sections. Personnel, instruments etc, sent to DINANT in Company Motor transport assisted by 2 lorries attached from 4th Australian Division for move. | |
| | | 0900 | Office closed SAINS-DU-MORD, re-opened DINANT same hour, with telephone and sounder to | |

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

December 1918.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 14th | | to Australian Corps at HAM-sur-HEURE. Communication to Units of Division by Motor D.R. Line to 4th Australian Divisional Artillery at ANTHER CHATEAU. | |
| | (Contd) | 1520 | No.1 Section. Left PHILLIPVILLE by road for DINANT, arriving DINANT at 1750. | |
| | | 0700 | Wireless Section. Spark and C.W. Stations erected at Divisional Headquarters at DINANT. | |
| | | 1700 | No.2 Section. Office closed SAINS-DU-NORD. Section marched to SIVRY with communication to Battalions by Runners. | |
| | | 0630 | No.3 Section. Office closed SIVRY. Section marched to SILENRIEUX and office opened. Communication to Battalions by Runners. | |
| | | 0900 | No.3 Section. Office closed SIVRY. Section marched to BOUSSU-LES-WALCOURT. Office re-opened 1345. Communication to Companies by Runners. | |
| | | 0900 | R.A.H.Q. Detachment. Office closed CHATEAU LIESSIES. Section moved to ANTHER CHATEAU by Motor lorry. Office re-opened 1525. Artillery Group moved to PHILLIPVILLE. Communication by Motor D.R. C.W. Station erected. Communication to Divisional Headquarters by C.W. Wireless and telephone. | |
| | | 0700 | Transport left CERFONTAINE, arrived ANTHER CHATEAU 1550. | |
| | | 0900 | 5A Sub-Section. Office closed FROIDCHAPELLE. Section marched to VILLERS-le-GAMBON. Office opened 1600. | |
| | | 0900 | 5B Sub-Section. Office closed CERFONTAINE. Section marched to PHILLIP PHILLIPVILLE, office re-opened 1200. | |
| | 15th. | | Headquarters Section. New Signal Office procedure brought into force. | |
| | | | No.1 Section. Telephone route between DINANT and FLORENNES, tested out and one pair of Lines picked up for 4th Aust. Inf. Bde preparatory to their moving into that place. | |
| | | 0630 | No.2 Section. Office closed. SIVRY. Section marched to SILENRIEUX. Office opened on arrival. Communication to Battalions by Runners. | |
| | | 0700 | No.3 Section. Office closed SILENRIEUX. Section marched to FLORENNES. Office opened on arrival. Communication to Battalions by Runners. | |
| | | 0835 | No.4 Section. Office closed FLORENNES. Section marched to GERIN via ROSSEE and ANTHER. Office opened 1345. Communication to Battalions by Runners. | |
| | | 0900 | No.5 Section. Office closed BOUSSU-les-WALCOURT. Section marched to ST AUBIN. Office re-opened 1600. | |
| | | | R.A.H.Q. Detcht. Artillery Group Units moved from PHILLIPVILLE area to following locations :- | |

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

December 1918.

1918

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 15th. (Contd) | | <p>10th Aust. Fld Arty Bde FLAVIAN 11th " " " " ROSSEE. 104th Army Bde R.F.A. HERMETON. 4th Aust. D.A.C. STAVE. 14th Coy. A.A.S.C. COVENNE. 4th Aus. Mob. Vet. Sect. COVENNE.</p> <p>Communication to all Units by Motor D.R.</p> <p>0900 5A Sub-Section. Office closed VILLERS-le-GAMBON. Section marched to FLAVIAN. Communication to Batteries by Runner.</p> <p>0900 5B Sub-Section. Office closed PHILLIPVILLE. Section marched to ROSSEE. office opened 1330.</p> | |
| | 16th. | | <p>Headquarters Section. 4th A.I. BDE opened office FLORENNES 1200.</p> <p>1500 13th A.I. Bde. O.K. on morse and 'Phone at BOUVINES.</p> <p>1535 4th A.I. BDE. O.K. on morse and 'Phone at FLORENNES.</p> <p>1620 12th A.I. Bde. " " " " WAULSORT.</p> <p>No. 1 Section. Communication arranged on existing aerial routes to 12th and 13th A.I. Bdes. Local lines to Staffs etc established.</p> <p>0730 No. 2 Section. Office closed SILENRIEUX. Section marched to SILENRIEUX FLORENNES. office opened 1200. Communication to 13th and 16th Battalions by 'Phone, other Battns by Runner.</p> <p>0900 No. 3 Section. office closed FLORENNES. Section marched to WAULSORT. office opened 1620, Communication to all Battalions by Runners.</p> <p>0930 No. 4 Section. Office closed GERIN. Section marched to BOUVIGNES. Office re-opened 1500. 4th Aust. Pioneer Battalion detached from Brigade Group.</p> <p>0830 No. 5 Section. office closed ST AUBIN. Section marched to GERIN. office re-opened 1500. R.A.H.Q. Detcht. Cable detachment cleaning harness and wagons. Signal and Wireless Sections overhauling technical gear. Gneral Inspection 10am. Inspection of billets, cookhouses etc. In the afternoon Educational Classes run.</p> <p>0900 5B Sub-Section. Office closed ROSSEE. Section marched to AIGMONT. office re-opened 1200/</p> | |
| | 17th | | <p>No. 1 Section. Lines arranged to 4th Aust. M.G. Bn, and D.A.D.O.S. to ANSEREMME.</p> <p>0845 No. 5 Section. office closed GERIN. Section marched to ANSEREMME. Office opened with 'Phone to Divisional Headquarters, at 1400.</p> | |

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December 1918.

1917

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|---------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | 18th. | | No.5 Section. All Companies connected by telephone at 1520. R.A.H.Q. Detcht. C.W.Wireless communication to 11th A.F.A.Bde. | |
| | 19th | | No.1 Section. Line arranged to 4th Aus.Pioneer Battn at WEILLEN. | |
| | 20th to 31st. | | Headquarters No.1 and Wireless Sections. Sections engaged overhauling transport, harness and technical gear and the improvement of communications generally. Linemen stationed at 4th A.I.Bde for FLORENNES for maintenance of aerial route to Division. No.2 Section. Routine parades and inspections carried out. Lines arranged to all Battalions. 50 miles of cable salvaged by this Section during this period. No.3 Section. Telephone communication arranged to all battalions. Total length of lines 20 kilometres. General routine parades and Education Scheme carried on. No.4 Section. All units of Brigade Group in communication by 'Phone. Routine parades and Educational Subjects carried on. No.5 Section. Section carried out routine parades. Rifle Inspections etc., R.A.H.Q.Detcht. General routine parades carried out. Inspections and Education. C.W.Wireless arranged to 4th Aus.D.A.C. at STAVE. No telephone communication available to any units of Artillery Group. 5A Sub-Section. General parades and inspections carried out. No telephone communication to Batteries. 5B Sub-Section. General parades and inspections carried out. Line obtained to 12th A.I.Bde at WAULSORT. | |

WAR DIARY

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OF

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

FOR

December 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

| No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Summary of Events. |
| 2. | Diagram of moved of 4th Australian Division to DINANT Area. |
| 3. | Map of Group Areas. |
| 4. | Pillargraph of traffic. |
| 5. | List of Wireless Calls - British Army. |
| 6. | D.R.L.S. Time Table. |
| 7. | Diagram of Lines. |
| 8. | Suggested re-organisation of a Divisional Signal Company. |
| 9. | Correspondence re, Binoculars, Compasses and Light Signals. |

SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

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December 1918.

The period 1st to 13th was spent in usual training parades throughout the Company. Harness, equipment and vehicles overhauled, and Sections generally prepared for move to DINANT Area.

During this period all horses were shod with winter shoes. Communication in the SAINS-DU-NORD Area was carried on smoothly, and little trouble was experienced.

No line was available for 13th Aus. Inf. Bde, but this Brigade was in touch by Wireless with Divisional Headquarters.

During the march to DINANT, communication was maintained throughout by Motor D.R.

Headquarters and Wireless personnel and Instruments were sent to DINANT by Motor transport. Advance party there succeeded in establishing office and reconnoitring aerial routes. These proved to be plentiful, and Belgian civil routes, and routes erected by the enemy, were available to all Infantry Brigades, to Divisional Artillery Headquarters, Pioneer Battn, Machine-Gun Battn etc.,

On arrival of each Brigade, lines were waiting to be picked up to Divisional Headquarters.

Trouble was experienced with routes to 4th A.I. Bde and Australian Corps. To alleviate the latter trouble, a pair was obtained to 4th ARMY H.Q. at NAMUR, to provide alternative route.

Wireless communication was established to all Infantry Bdes by Spark, and to D.A.H.Q. by C.W. This was subsequently modified owing to shortage of lines in Artillery Area. All C.W. Stations, were handed to Artillery and Spark Stns withdrawn from 13th A.I. Bde.

It is interesting to note that C.W. Mk. III Set with loft, aerials communicated successfully with Corps Headquarters, over a distance of 24 miles, to HAM-SUR-HEURE.

On 25th December, Signal Offices were closed throughout the Division from 1700 to 2100, and special arrangements were made in all Sections for Christmas dinners.

Education received maximum amount of attention. Class-room was available for lectures etc. Students in English, Mathematics, from Headquarters, Wireless and No. 1 Sections were placed with 13th Aust. Inf. Bde and other Sections with their respective Units.

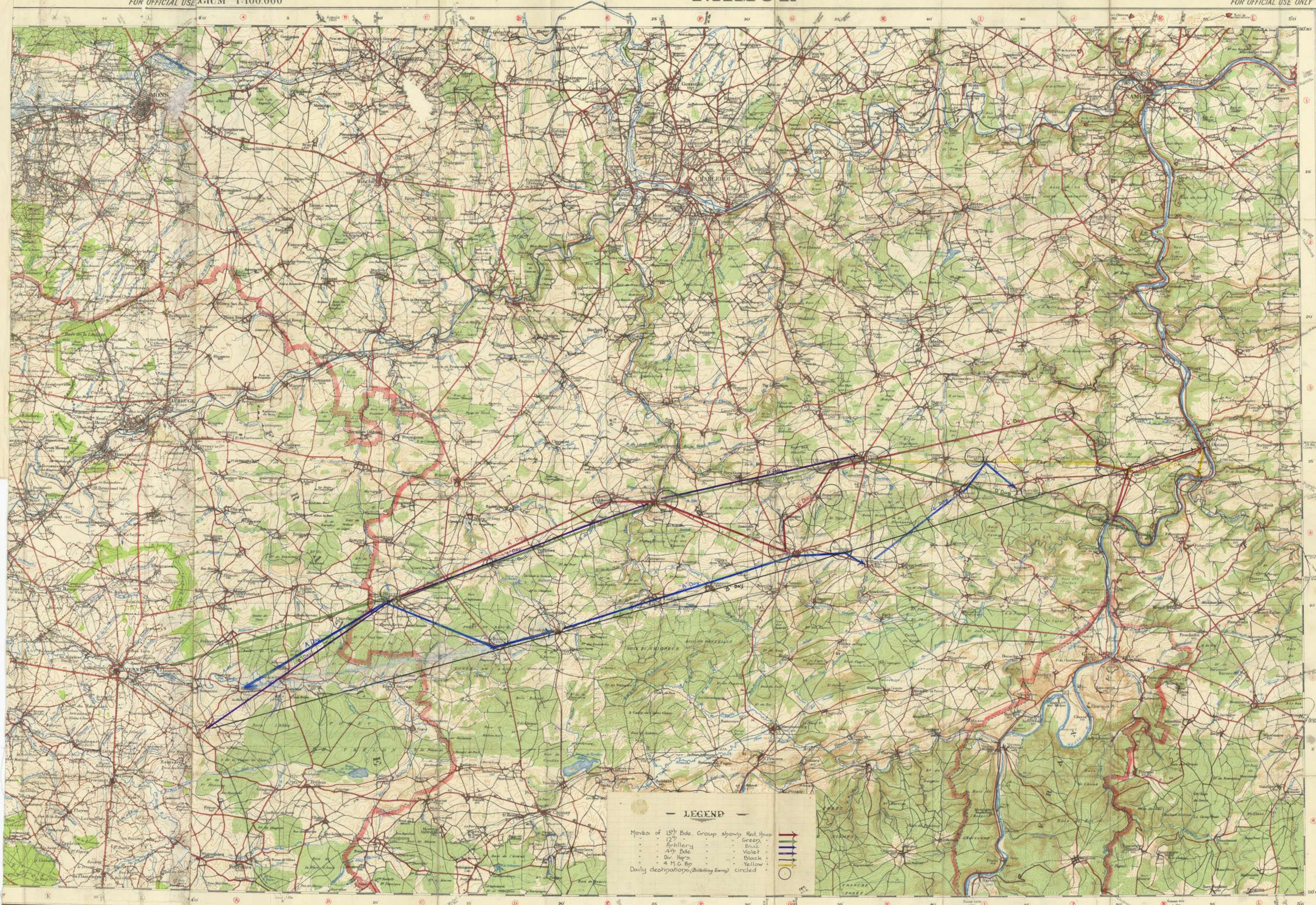
Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining text books, and this seriously delayed classes in this Unit.

Demobilization Forms were completed in this Unit by 31st December and posted to Demobilization Dept. London.,

Draft of 1 Officer and 15 Other Ranks proceeded to Australia, and several men placed with special courses in England and France.

On December 31st, H.R.H. Prince of Wales presented Medals to members of this Company.

R. B. Ash
Co. H



LEGEND

Moves of 13th Bde Group shows: Red lines
 - - - - - 17th - - - - - Green
 - - - - - Artillery - - - - - Blue
 - - - - - 4th Bde - - - - - Violet
 - - - - - Div. Hqs. - - - - - Black
 - - - - - 4 P.I.G. Bys. - - - - - Yellow
 Daily destinations (Battling Units) circled

War Office, April, Special Section, General Staff, N° 2364

War Office, Dec. 1910

REFERENCE

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Townships | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Amities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Canal or railway | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Chateau, farm | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Church tower | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fort | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Frontier line | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Height in metres (10 metres = 32.8 feet) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Scale 100,000 or 1 inch to 1.58 Miles

1 Centimetre to 1 Kilometre

Contour interval 10 metres every 100 accentuated. Woods shown in green

REFERENCE

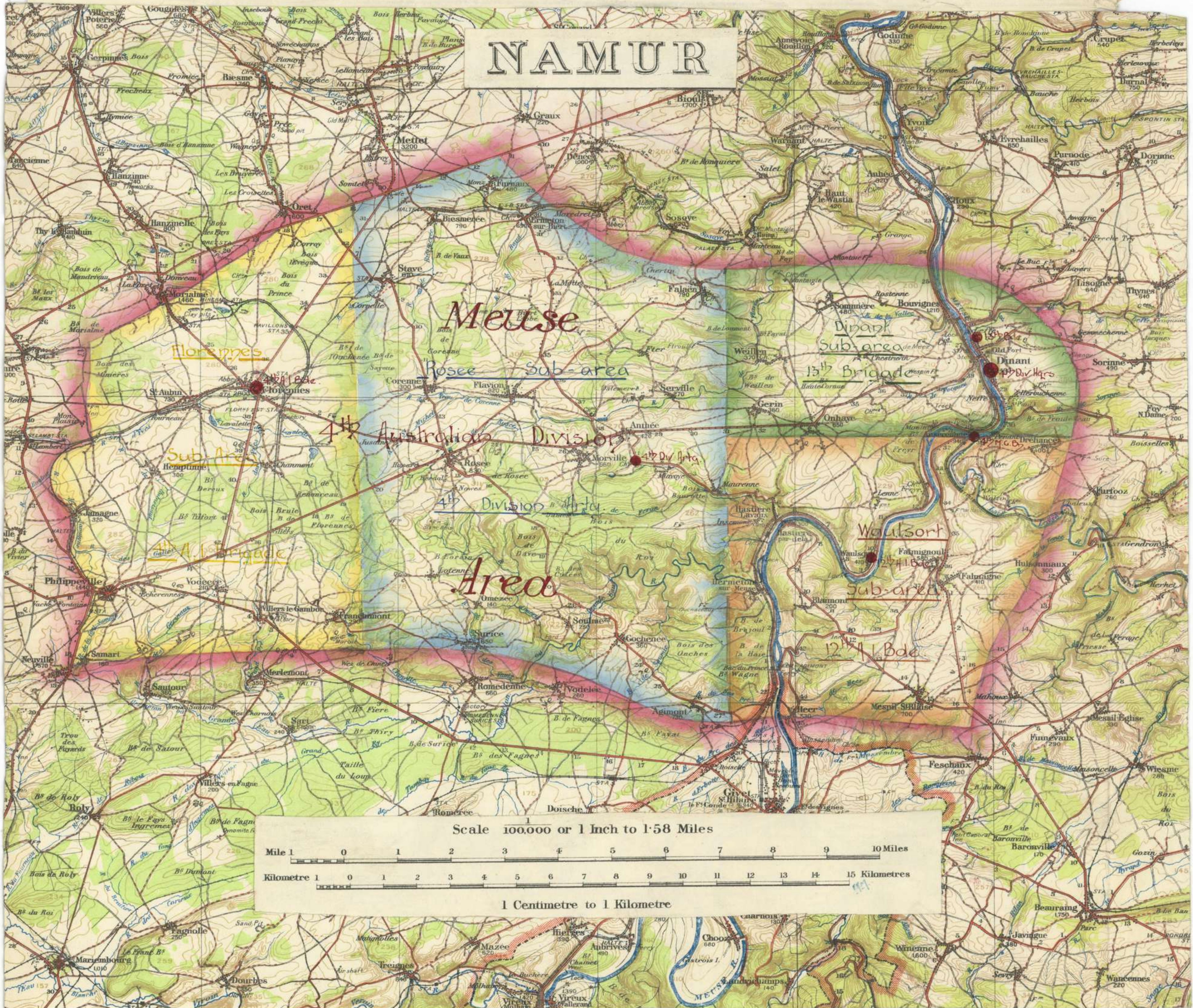
| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mine | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Population | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Quarry | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Railway (single & double) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Road (1 st class, metalled distances in kilometres) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2 nd class, metalled distances in kilometres | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3 rd class, metalled distances in kilometres | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| River | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Water mill, Wind mill | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

170000

BELGIUM
Plan of November 1918
Mjr. Ch. Joseph, M.B. 10000



NAMUR



War Diary (2277)

December 19th, 1918.

Following are C.W. Calls and wave-lengths of :-

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| Unit. | Call | Wave Length. |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| British G.H.Q. | W.A. | 1600 |
| First British Army | W.A.A. | 1600 |
| Second British Army | W.A.B. | 1600 |
| Third British Army | W.A.C. | 1600 |
| Fourth British Army | W.A.D. | 1550 |
| Fifth British Army | W.A.E. | 1600 |
| Australian Corps | L.X.A. | 1550 |
| Tenth Corps | L.Y.A. | 1260 |
| Fourth Corps | L.Z.A. | 1500 |
| 1st Aus.Div.H.Q. | L.X.C. | 1550 |
| 1st " " Spare | L.X.C. L.X.D. | 1550 |
| 1st " " " | L.X.H. | 1550 |
| 1st " " " | L.X.F. | 1550 |
| 2nd Aus.Div.H.Q. | L.X.G. | 1550 |
| 2nd " " Spare | L.X.H. | 1550 |
| 2nd " " " | L.X.I. | 1550 |
| 2nd " " " | L.X.J. | 1550 |
| 4th Aus.Div.H.Q. | L.X.K. | 1550 |
| 4th " " Spare | L.X.L. | 1550 |
| 4th " " " | L.X.M. | 1550 |
| 4th " " " | L.X.N. | 1550 |
| 5th Aus.Div.H.Q. | L.X.O. | 1550 |
| 5th " " Spare | L.X.P. | 1550 |
| 5th " " " | L.X.Q. | 1550 |
| 5th " " " | L.X.R. | 1550 |

The above Calls are used for both C.W. and Spark, but Spark wave-length of Fourth Army, Aust. Corps and Divisions is 550 metres and all Spark communication must be carried out on that wave-length. C.W. communications will be carried out on wave-length of station called.

O.C. SIGNALS.

Herewith List of wireless Calls and wave-lengths.

P.B. Hoke Capt.,

O.C., wireless.,

4th Australian Division.,

22nd December 1918.

War diary

(COPY)

AUSTRALIAN CORPSE
December 20th 1918.

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The following Field Cipher words will be taken into use for
Wireless Sets in Fourth Army Area on the undermentioned dates:-

Midnight.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| Dec. 31/Jan. 1st. | ..... | AFRICAN CAMPAIGN. |
| " 1/2 | ..... | RAIN BEFORE NIGHT. |
| " 2/3 | ..... | CONSCIENCE OF EUROPE. |
| " 3/4 | ..... | SECRET OF THE NAVY. |
| " 4/5 | ..... | CIRCULATING LIBRARY. |
| " 5/6 | ..... | BRILLIANT CAREER. |
| " 6/7 | ..... | INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. |
| " 7/8 | ..... | EXTRAORDINARILY. |
| " 8/9 | ..... | EQUABLE TEMPERAMENT. |
| " 9/10 | ..... | PEOPLES GOVERNMENT. |
| " 10/11 | ..... | MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT. |
| " 11/12 | ..... | METROPOLITAN RAILWAY. |
| " 12/13 | ..... | SERBIAN RELIEF FUND. |
| " 13/14 | ..... | UNCOMPLAININGLY. |
| " 14/15 | ..... | MERCHANT SERVICE. |
| " 15/16 | ..... | CONVALESCENT HOMES. |
| " 16/17 | ..... | ARTIFICIAL TEETH. |
| " 17/18 | ..... | LAGACIES BAILY NEEDED. |
| " 18/19 | ..... | EDUCATION COMMITTEE. |
| " 19/20 | ..... | GOOD SALARY OFFERED. |
| " 20/21 | ..... | UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. |
| " 21/22 | ..... | FINAL EXAMINATIONS. |
| " 22/23 | ..... | HABITABLE DISTRICTS. |
| " 23/24 | ..... | COMPLETE SUCCESS. |
| " 24/25 | ..... | MISUNDERSTANDINGS. |
| " 25/26 | ..... | DISPASSIONATELY. |
| " 26/27 | ..... | UNCONQUERABLE SPIRIT. |
| " 27/28 | ..... | DEFERRED-ENEMY , PERSONAL ENCOUNTER. |
| " 28/29 | ..... | ABSOL ABSOLUTE-SINCERITY , DETERMINED |
| " 29/30 | ..... | ABSOLUTE SINCERITY. (ENEMY. |
| " 30/31 | ..... | RELIABLE INFORMATION. |

Emergency word :- CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Please acknowledge.

O.C. SIGNALS.

Herewith List of Code words for January

1919.

Capt.,

23rd December 1918.

for O.C., 4th Aus.Div.Signal Coy.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

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D I N A N T.

D.R.L.S. TIME TABLE - December 1918.

TO BDES, ARTY, M.G.BN, & PIONEER BN

No.1 Circular Run.

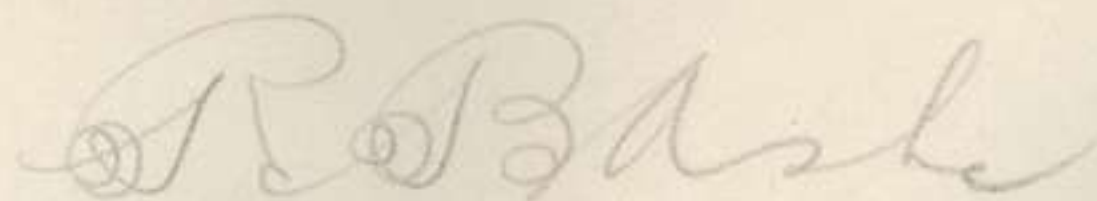
| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|
| Leaves 4th Aust.Div. | 0800 | 1400 | 1900 |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ 4th Aus.D.A. | 0830 | 1430 | 1930 |
| " 4th A.I.Bde | 0900 | 1500 | 2000 |
| Arrives 4th Aust.Div. | 1045 | 1545 | 2045 |

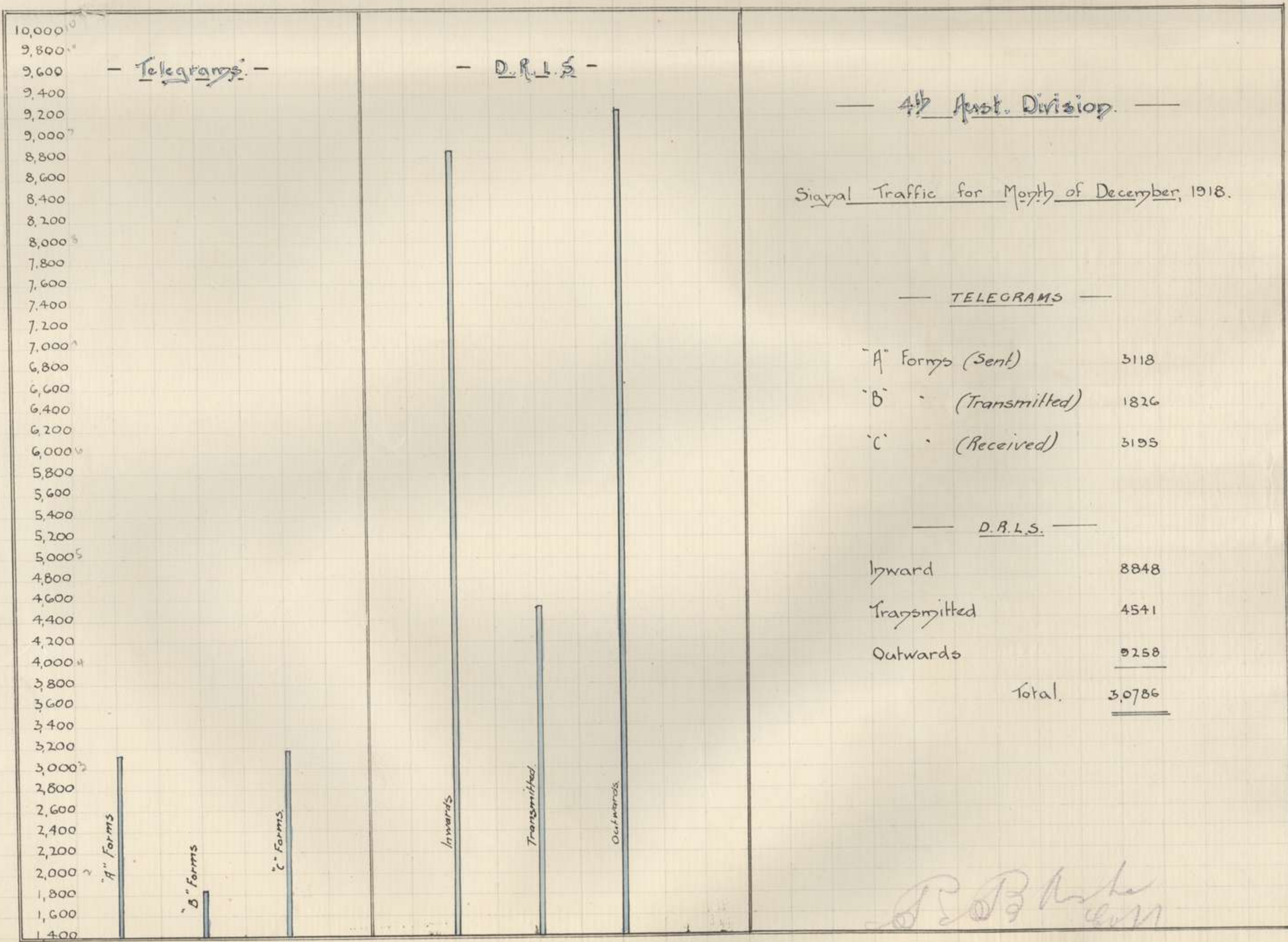
No.2 Circular Run.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| Leaves 4th Aust. Div. | 0800 | 1400 | 1900 |
| " 13th A.I.Bde | 0815 | 1415 | 1915 |
| " 4th Aus.Pnr Bn. | 0830 | 1430 | 1930 |
| " 12th A.I.Bde | 0855 | 1455 | 1955 |
| " 4th Aus.M.G.Bn | 0920 | 1520 | 2020 |
| Arrives 4th Aust.Div. | 0930 | 1530 | 2030 |

D.A.D.O.S. delivered by M.G.Battn Signals.

4th Aust.M.T.Coy delivered by 4th A.I.Bde. Signals.

 Capt.,
for A/O.C., 4th Aust.Div.Sig.Coy.,





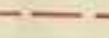
NAMUR

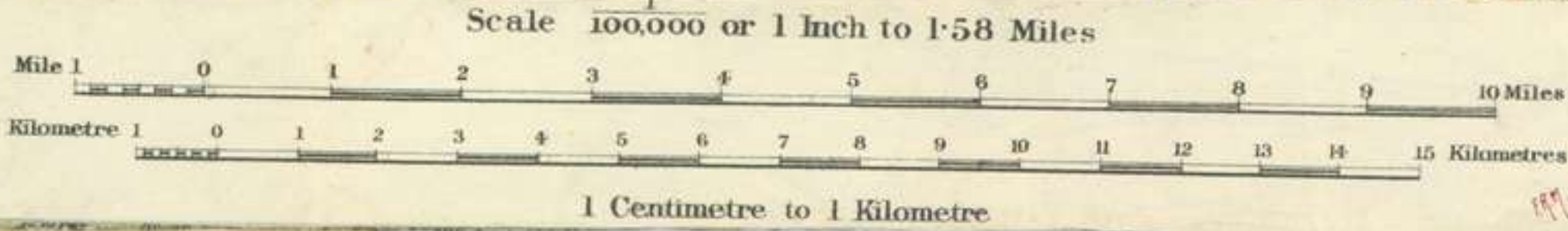
COMMUNICATIONS

4TH AUST. DIVISION

Route Diagram 28:12:18



Legend
Signal Offices show thus 
Permanent Routes " 
Ground Cable " 



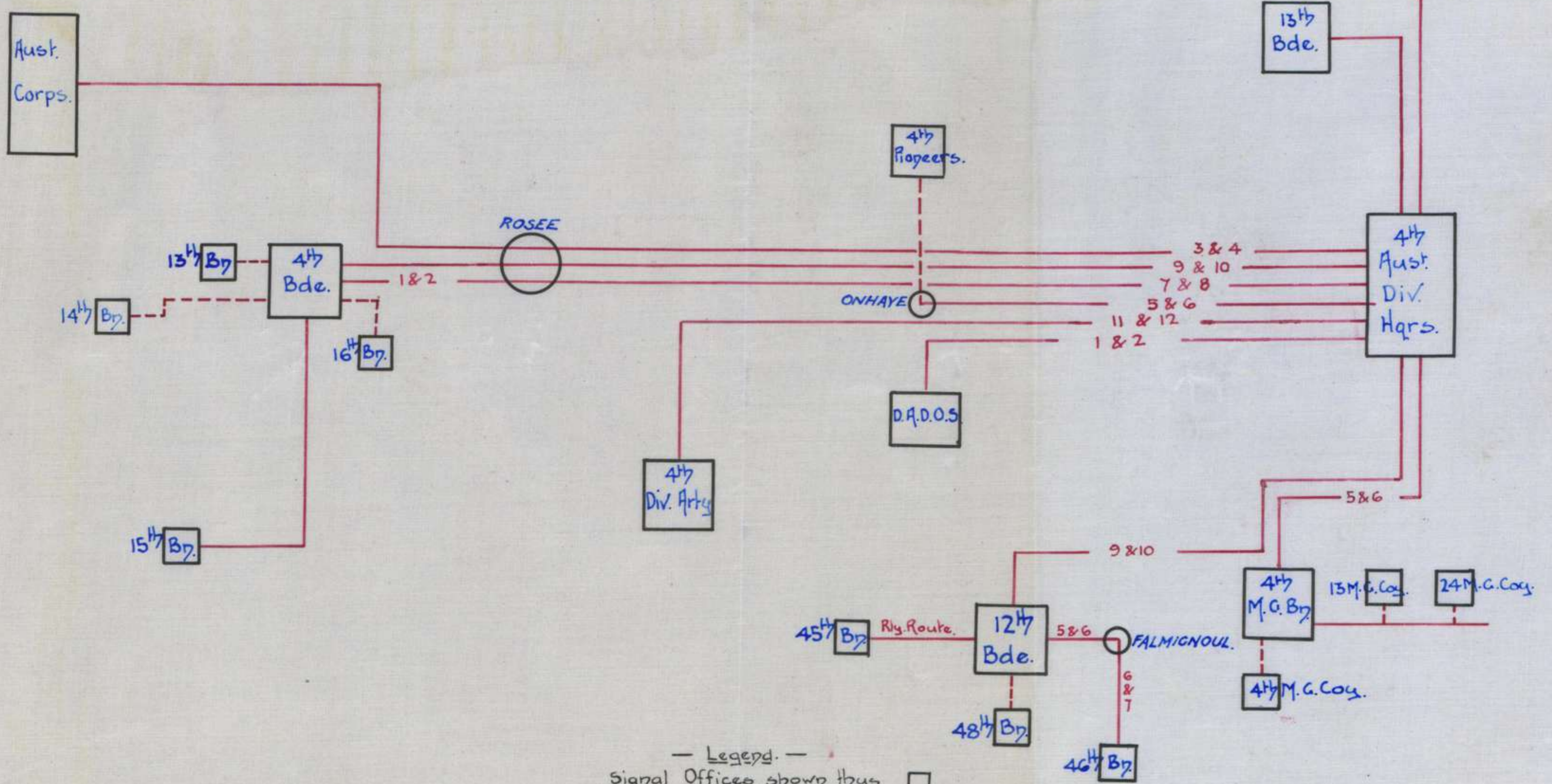
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COMMUNICATIONS

4th Aust. Division

Circuit Diagram 28:12:18.



Legend:
Signal Offices shown thus
Permanent Routes " "
Group Cable " "

(COPT)

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICE.

O.C. 1st Aust.Div.Sig.Coy.
" 2nd " " " "
" 3rd " " " "
" 4th " " " "
" 5th " " " "
" Corps Signal Coy.
Spares.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

December 30th 1918.

| |
|---------------------------|
| 4th AUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO. |
| RECD. |
| No. 3/210 |

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Will you please submit your answers to the following questions so as to reach this office not later than 5th January 1919.

(1) Divisional Artillery with a Division.

(a) Do you consider any allotment of Signal Units for Artillery purposes is required within a Division ?

(2) Tank Corps with a Division.

If Tanks are required with a Division.

(a) Do you consider that the tank Corps Signals should be absorbed in the Divisional Signal Companies ?

(3) Signal Service with a Division.

(a) What general organisation do you recommend for the Signal Service with a Division ?

(b) Assuming that you are of the opinion that a Signal Service on a Divisional Basis is required, what Units do you consider the Signal Service with a Division should be composed of e.g. Wireless Units, Pigeon Service?

(c) In whom should the immediate control of the Signal Units in a Division be vested?

(d) Are you in favour of the organisation of separate Signal Units for service with Infantry Brigades, or do you consider that this should be part of the Divisional Signal Units?

(e) Have you any proposals or suggestions to put forward as to the general organisation or composition of the Signal Service with a Division?.

(Sgd) T.R.WILLIAMS.
Lieut-Colonel.
Chief signal Officer.,
AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

War Diary

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A.D. SIGNALS.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

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Reference your T.28/17 of 30/12/18.

- (1) I consider there should be a definite allotment to Artillery of Signal personnel. The present establishment could be improved as it is based on, there being only one Signal Office at Division, whereas it is found necessary to have separate Offices, and it is also laid down that Advanced Exchanges be formed.
- (2) Yes.
As otherwise the extra work often falls on the Div'l Signal Company at a time when everyone is working at top pressure.
- (3) (a) A Battalion organisation, as the most economical.
(b) W/T Units, Yes.
Special Pigeon Service, No, not for Division.
Rockets, No.
Runners, No, but controlled by Signals.
Dogs, No.
(c) The Senior Divisional Signal Officer; in the case of a Signal Battalion, the C.O.
(d) No. Experience has proved the miss-use of Signals under like circumstances, consider it essential that Div'l Signals control all communications from Front Line to Divisional Headquarters.
(e) Suggested organisation on plan attached. Details of transport and classification by trades can be forwarded if required.

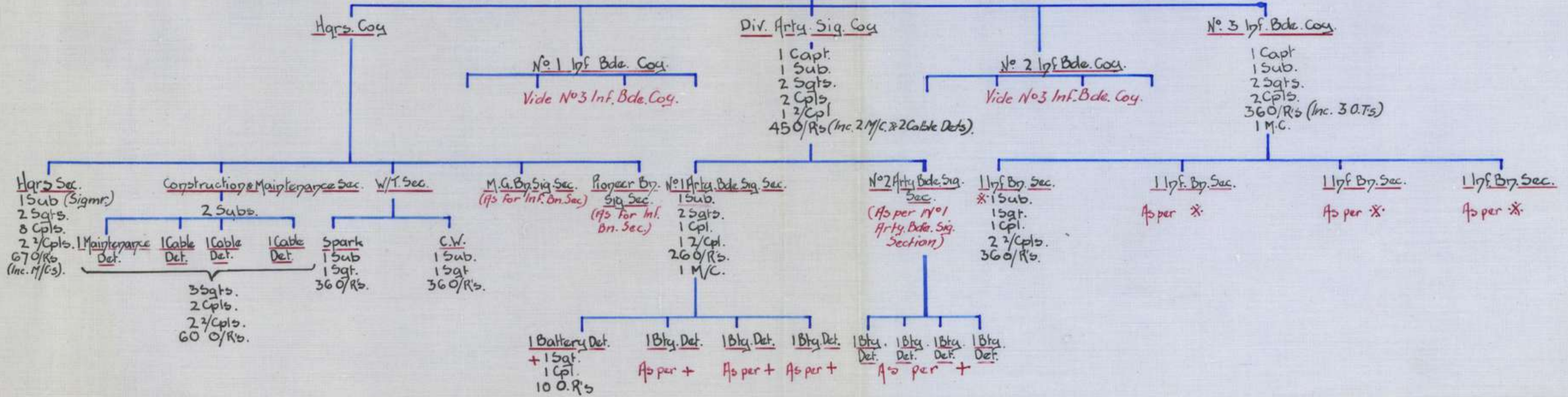
It may be noted that a Peace establishment could cut down the personnel required, owing to it being unnecessary to have 3 complete working office shifts.

2nd January 1919.

W. Joseph Major.,
O.C., 4th Aust. Div'l Signal Coy.,

Suggested Signal Unit for a Division

Commanding Officer
 2nd Lt. Command.
 Adjutant
 Lines Officer
 Transport Officer (Farrier Sgt. Wheelwright, Saddler, 2 Shoeing-smiths, etc.)
 Quarter Master
 R. S. M.
 R. Q. M. S. (Technical stores).
 Storeman
 C. Q. M. S. (Rations, Clothing, etc.)
 Storeman
 Orderly Room Sgt.
 Clerk.
 Typist
 Draughtsman.
 Postal Orderly.
 Sanitary Details.
 Cooks, Barber, etc.



Note. Operators in Cable Detachments are replaced by linemen. Operators to be carried on strength of Hqrs. & Bde. Sections. 4 Permanent linemen & 2 mechanics on strength of Hqrs. for local lines, office-wiring, etc.

FRM.

W. Joseph
 W. J. JOSEPH
 C. 314 MUST. DIV. SIGNAL CO.

December 18th 1918.

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O.C.,

- 1st Aust.Div.Sig.Coy.
 - 2nd " " " "
 - 3rd " " " "
 - 4th " " " "
 - 5th " " " "
 - Aust.Corps Sig.Coy.,
 - Aust.Corps Sig.Sec.Heavy Artillery.
-

The following are queries embodied in G.H.Q. letter O.B./2312/0 of 15th. Will you forward your remarks on them to this office not later than Jan 3rd, please?

BINOCULARS.

- (a) Are better binoculars required?
- (b) If so, what general conditions should they fulfil?

COMPASSES.

- (a) On what scale are compasses required?
- (b) What types of compass are required?

FIREWORKS.

- (b) What Signals are necessary? At present the following are provided or under trial :-
 - S.O.S. (i) day (ii) night.
 - Lengthen range (i) day (ii) night.
 - Success Signal.
 - Locality Signal.
 - Signal to indicate targets to Tanks.
 - Very Pistol cartridges, Red, Green, Yellow.
- (c) If a rifle grenade signal can be produced in which it is possible to change the stars easily in the field, will this satisfy all requirements? Will say four colours of stars (Red, Green, Yellow, White) and three colours of smoke (Red, Purple, Yellow,) be sufficient?
- (d) To what extent are message carrying rockets and message carrying grenades required? What should be their capabilities?.

(Sgd) T.R. WILLIAMS.
 Lieut-Colonel.
 Chief Signal officer.
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS. 2x

Handwritten signature

Reference your T.28/17 of 18th December 1918.

Binoculars.

- (a) Better Binoculars are urgently required.
- (b) They should be prismatic and not more than 6 magnification, as being the most suitable under all conditions for Signal work. It is essential that the distance between eyepieces should be adjustable.

Compasses.

- (a) 30 per Divisional Signal Company. i.e. 3 per Section.
- (b) Prismatic.

Fireworks.

- (b) Signals mentioned are considered satisfactory. In addition it is suggested that a Signal to denote :-
" Hold barrage on present line "
be added to the list to prevent a colossal expenditure of ammunition when attack is not making satisfactory progress. The Signal " Lengthen range" to be employed when it is desired to continue the barrage.
- (c) If such grenade could be designed to allow of any combination of lights desired, to be quickly put together and be fool proof, it is considered quite satisfactory. The number of coloured lights and smoke is quite sufficient to allow of a much greater variety of signals than suggested, but it is considered most necessary to keep the number of such light Signals as low as possible to avoid confusion.
- (d) The number of grenades and rockets required must depend upon the circumstances of each operation. They should be used where visual or telephone is available or possible. It is quite possible for the enemy to locate dropping stations and to direct shell-fire on same.
The capabilities of any message carrying rocket should be:-
 - (1) A range of 4000 yards.
 - (2) A maximum lateral error of 10% of range.
 - (3) A range capable of being altered at will, with not more than 10% error.

(Sgd) L.TUCKETT Capt.,

A/O.C., 4th Aus.Div'l Signal Coy.,

3rd January 1919.