

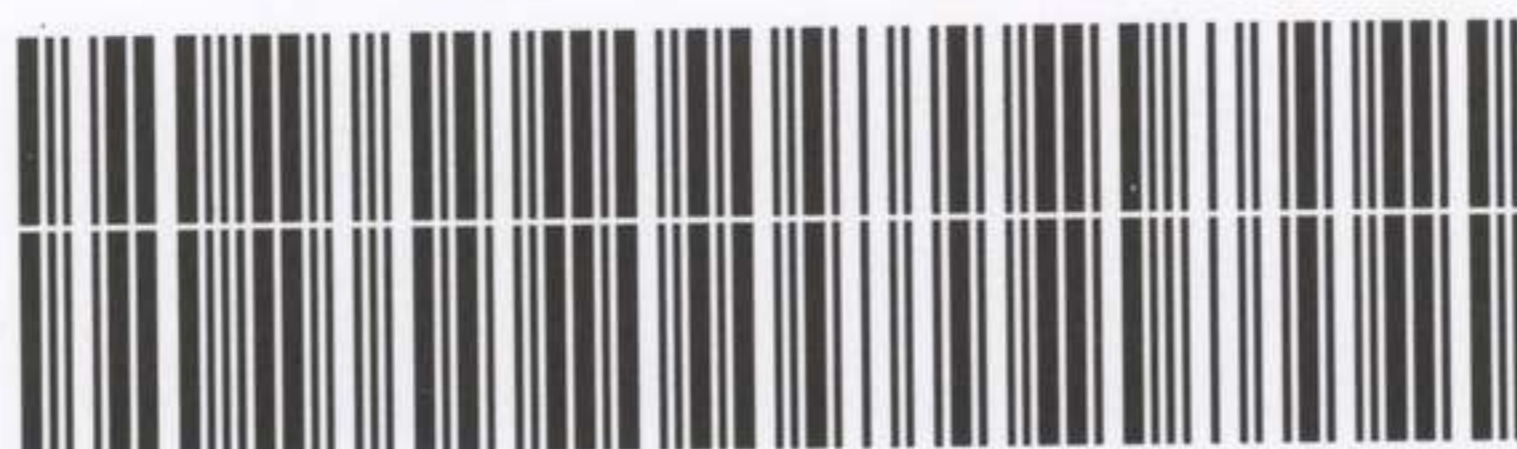
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Signals

**Item number:** 22/15/15

**Title:** 5th Australian Division Signals  
Company

April 1917



AWM4-22/15/15

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.

Sheet No. 1.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>Brambscourt</u>	1-4-17		Strength of Unit - 8 Officers 213 O.R. 79 Horses 24 Mules.	
Reference Map				
Trance 57 C. Location N.11.C.	2-4-17		<u>Command</u> - Capt. R.A. Stanley resumed Command of Unit.	
	7-4-17		<u>Relief</u> - Forward and lateral Communications handed over to Signals 1st Aust. Division.	
			H.Q. 5 <sup>th</sup> Div remains same position in reserve.	
			No 2 Signal Sectn located with 8 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde HQ in Bapenne 3 " " " " " 14 " " " " " Thilloz 4 " " " " " 15 " " " " " Luerie in Lehanstoy.	
			Communications established to Ade positions.	
			Appendix I shows diagram of Comms prior to relief.	
			" II " " " " subsequent to relief.	

T.134. Wt. W708-776. 500000. 4/15. Sir J. C. & S.

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Sheet No. 2.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Beaulencourt (N. II. Central)	8/4/17		<p><u>Cable Section.</u> One Cable Section sent to 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division for duty during period of present operations.</p> <p>An additional detachment sent to 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Divl. Artillery to complete Cable Section temporarily, for assistance during advance of Artillery groups.</p> <p>One detachment returned from Artillery at night.</p>	
	10-11-17		<p><u>No. 4. Section</u>, accompanied 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde to H 22 Central (map France 57 C.) and temporarily attached for duty with 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division.</p> <p><u>Cable Section</u>, returned from 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div.</p>	
	13-11-17		<p><u>No. 4. Section</u> returned with 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde to Lucerne - Le Mansloy and communication resumed with 5<sup>th</sup> Division.</p>	
	15-11-17		<p><u>No. 3. Section</u>, accompanied 14<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde to position H 34 C 2.7 to come under temporary command of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div., Brigade called forward for support in defensive action.</p> <p>Section returned to Thillooy 11.15 am. and communications resumed.</p>	

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Sheet No. 3.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Beaulieu Court	16/4/17		No 2. Section moved to Lammicourt with 8 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. Communications established along existing route via Bapaume. A rear office was maintained in Bapaume.	
	18/4/17		<p><u>Cable Section.</u> One Cable detachment sent to 5<sup>th</sup> Div Art. for duty. This completes one Cable Section attached hereto.</p> <p>On account of the introduction of additional Artillery Brigades under Command of Divl. Artillery and the rapid moves of Artillery groups; it was found necessary, during the recent advances and heavy actions in this area, to attach one complete Cable Section to Divisional Artillery to permit of good Communications to advancing groups and lateral Artillery groups and Divisions.</p>	

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Sheet No. 4.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Beaulencourt & "Le Duple" Contalmaison. 527 B 3 P FRANCE 57 D S.E.	21/4/17		<p><u>Relief.</u> Communications at Beaulencourt H.Q. handed over to 11<sup>th</sup> Imperial Division at noon. Diagrams of Communications reference Appendix II.</p> <p><u>Move.</u> H.Q. &amp; No. 1. Sections moved to "Le Duple" near Contalmaison reference map 527 B 3 P map France 57 D S.E.</p> <p>Office opened noon.</p> <p>Communications established to Brigade Sections at Mametz, Darwin Camp and Recourt, and to Divisional Staff offices &amp; Owl Units.</p> <p>Diagram of Communications Appendix III.</p>	
	26/4/17		<p><u>Duties in rest Area.</u> From 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Inclusive. Works of cleaning and fitting ready for work, all weapons, horses and technical equipment. Training and general routine work carried on.</p> <p>On 26<sup>th</sup> clearing of Areas of delect Cable was commenced.</p> <p>5<sup>th</sup> Division Signals HQs &amp; Brigade Sections, assisted by Regimental Signallers worked over Areas extending from a line north from Warlencourt to the Suisie (Le Grandoy) west along</p>	

WAR DIARY

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Sheet No. 5.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices										
"The Dingle" Contalmaison 527.B38	26-4-17		<p>along Albert-Bapaume Road to La Boisselle, thence to Becondel, with a S.E. boundary including Mametz, Montauban, Ginchy &amp; Les Boeuys. Amount of Cable salvaged this day totalled 27½ miles</p>											
"	29-4-17		<p>Elections. Poll taken in connection with Commonwealth elections for House of Representatives &amp; Senate. Every member of this Unit was afforded facilities for voting. Inspection Divisional Commander <sup>inspected</sup> Headquarters and No. 1 Section personnel and transport. Also Signal office and motor cycles. He expressed appreciation of all Sections.</p>											
	30-4-17		<p>Cable Salvage The amount of Cable salvaged from Area since beginning of this work on 26<sup>th</sup> Inst., was as follows:-  <table style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>DI</td> <td>DII</td> <td>DIV</td> <td>DV</td> <td>DVI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>41</td> <td>3</td> <td>28</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>                     miles. This work is proceeding.                      Strengths. Strength of Unit 11 officers 241 O.R. 86 Horses 23 mules.</p>	DI	DII	DIV	DV	DVI	5	41	3	28	5	
DI	DII	DIV	DV	DVI										
5	41	3	28	5										

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Sheet No. 6.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Summary for month</u>	
			<p><u>PERSONNEL.</u> CAPT. (T/MAJOR) R. G. HAMILTON <sup>M. G.</sup> relinquished temporary rank of Major on return of CAPT. R. A. STANLEY to duty from seconded list dated 31<sup>st</sup> March '17.</p> <p>During the month Promotions and appointments were made and reinforcements reported to complete new establishment in connection with inclusion of Field Artillery Ade Sub Sections in Signal Service.</p> <p>Following were promotions, appointments &amp; transfers effected.</p> <p>Lieut. N. O'BRIEN to be Captain &amp; transferred to 3<sup>rd</sup> Div Sig Coy. 15-4-17.</p> <p>Lieut. P. J. MANLEY to be Captain &amp; " " 1<sup>st</sup> Div Sig Coy 13-4-17.</p> <p>Lieut. T. R. COLLIER transferred from 31<sup>st</sup> Bn C to 5<sup>th</sup> Div Sig Coy 10-4-17.</p> <p>CQM. S. S. L. BUTLER appointed 2/Lieutenant " " " " 10-4-17.</p> <p>Sergt. G. W. YOUNG 1<sup>st</sup> Div Sig Coy Appointed 2/Lieut " " " " 10-4-17.</p> <p><u>REINFORCEMENTS.</u> During the month 33 O.R. reinforcements reported from Signal Depot and Reinforcement Camps.</p>	
			T:134. Wt. W708-776. 500000. 4/15. Sir J. C. & S.	

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Sheet No 7.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary (Sheet 2).</u></p> <p><u>PERSONNEL</u> - <u>SCHOOLS</u>. C. S. M. F. J. MURPHY and SERGT. W. FORREST detailed to Signal Schools in England for training for Commissions in Signal Service.</p> <p>Sergt A. W. RENNIE detailed to Corps Signalling Schools as Assistant Instructor.</p> <p>These 3 N. C. O.'s placed on Supernumerary list.</p> <p><u>HOSPITAL</u>. During the month 4 men were sent to Hospital, and 3 rejoined Unit from Hospitals.</p> <p><u>COMPLIMENTARY</u>. The Army Corps Commander expressed appreciation of Conduct of 3661 T/Sergt J. MOORE for his gallantry and excellent work during recent operations. In publishing this in D.R.O. 1441, The Divisional Commander added his Congratulatory to those of the Army Commander.</p>	



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Sheet No. 8.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary (Sheet 3)</u></p> <p><u>HORSES.</u> Total horses and mules on 30<sup>th</sup> April 109. Casualties in horses during month were:- 1 evacuated to base - sick 1 shot as result of accidental injury.</p> <p><u>COMMUNICATIONS</u> as shown on appendix I, were established whilst Advance Guard were advancing towards Hindenburg line. German Cable was salvaged and most lines forward of Outposts were run and recovered. German Cable - principally of 4 strand Copper &amp; 14 steel, lightly insulated with rubber &amp; Cotton. This Cable is a little larger in diameter than our III but a far better conductor. A large number of small insulators were recovered and most lines were fixed to trees, buildings or poles on button insulators. All Divisional lines were laid from Cable waggon and later put on insulators, on trees etc.</p> <p>The roads being fairly good to Brigade positions, Motor Cyclists</p>	

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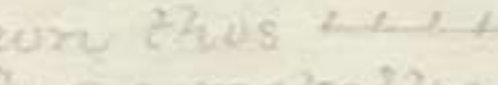
Army Form C. 2118.

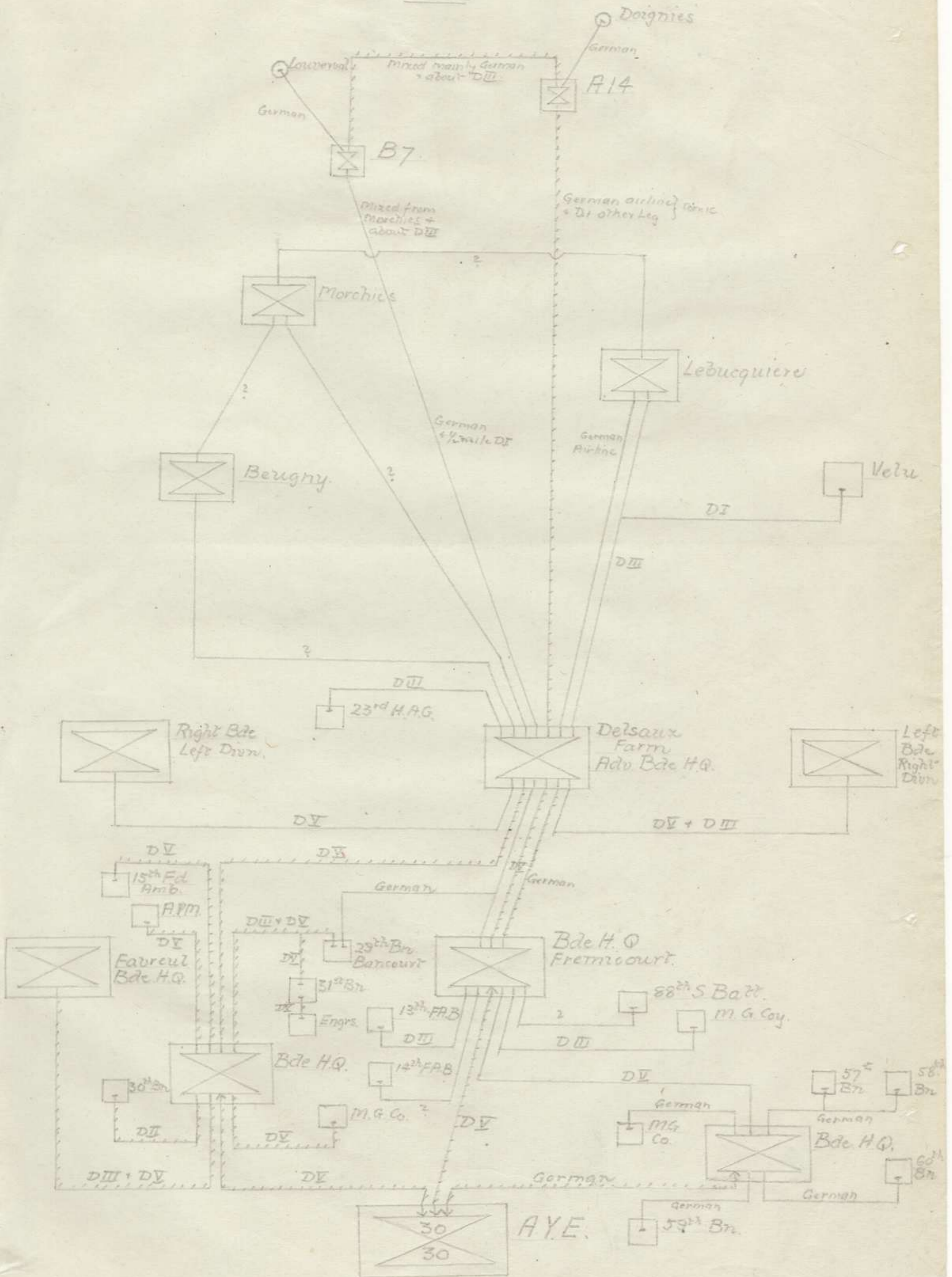
*Sheet No. 9.*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><i>Summary (Sheet No 4)</i></p> <p><i>Motor Cyclists</i></p> <p><i>were largely used, and were especially valuable when Brigades were called forward into immediate support for defensive action, as was done on 10<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> April. - see diary record of these dates.</i></p> <p><i>SIGNAL OFFICE TRAFFIC.</i> This traffic decreased considerably since withdrawal of Division from the line. Extracts are attached - appendices IV &amp; V - showing traffic at Aus Hqs Signal Office for months - illustrating comparisons.</p>	
			<p><i>Ed Stanley Capt</i></p> <p><i>Co 5<sup>th</sup> Div Sig Co AIF.</i></p>	


Diagram of Communications 5<sup>th</sup> Aust Divn 7.4.17

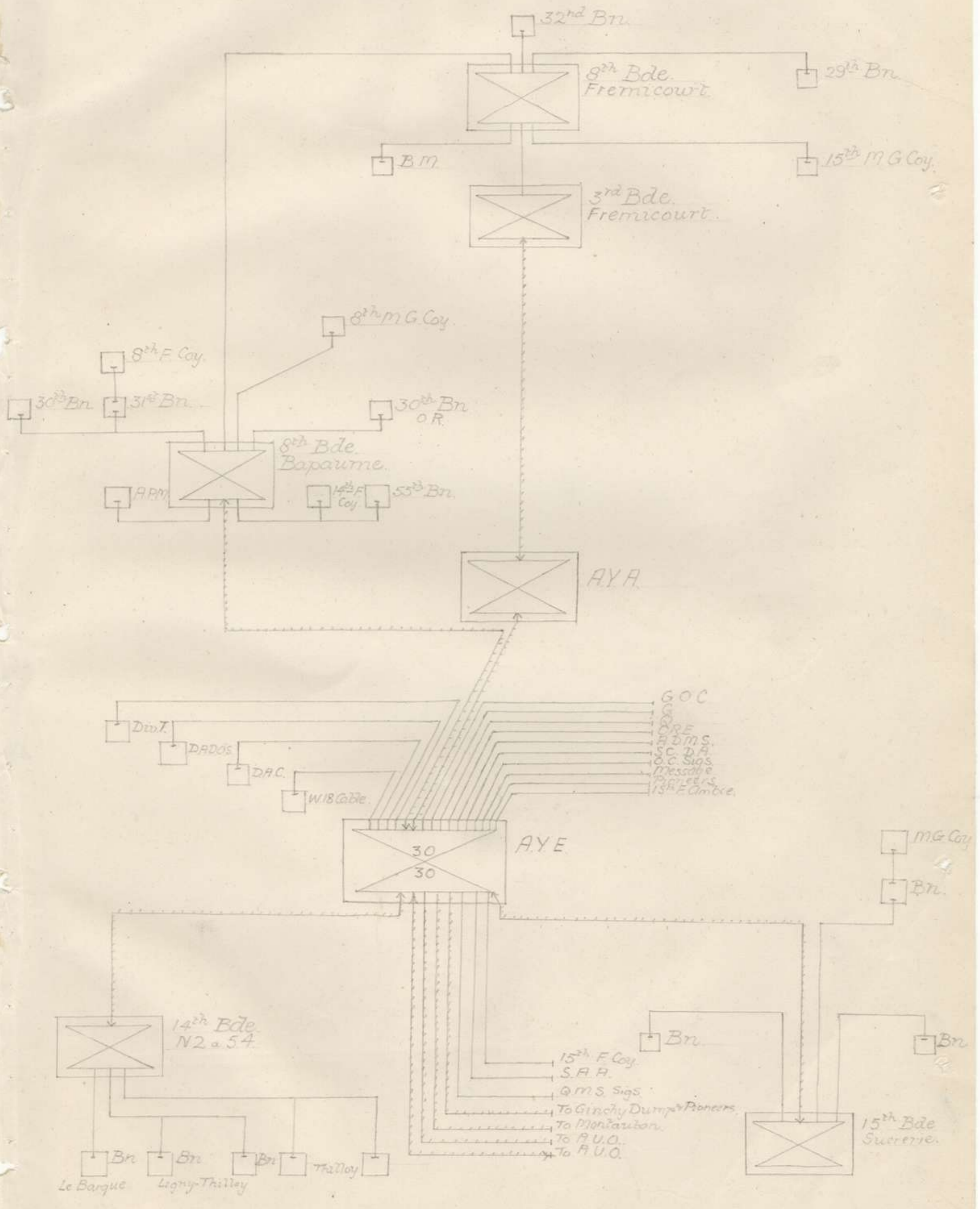
Note: Lines are earth return except those shown thus  which are metallic.



# Diagram of Communications

5<sup>th</sup> Aust Divn  
18.4.17

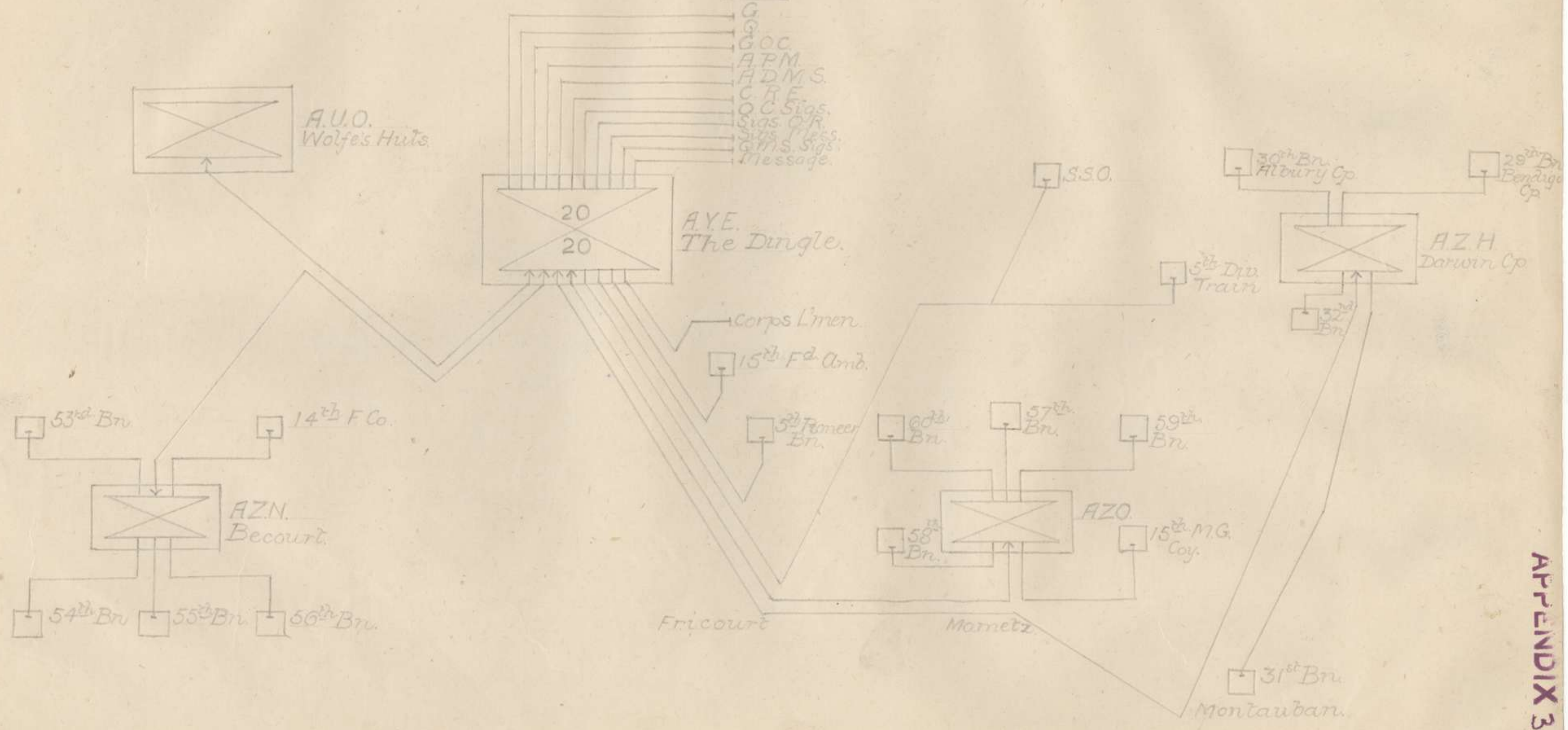
NOTE - Metallic circuits thus   
All others earth return.



— Diagram —  
of  
— Communications —  
5<sup>th</sup> Aust Div.

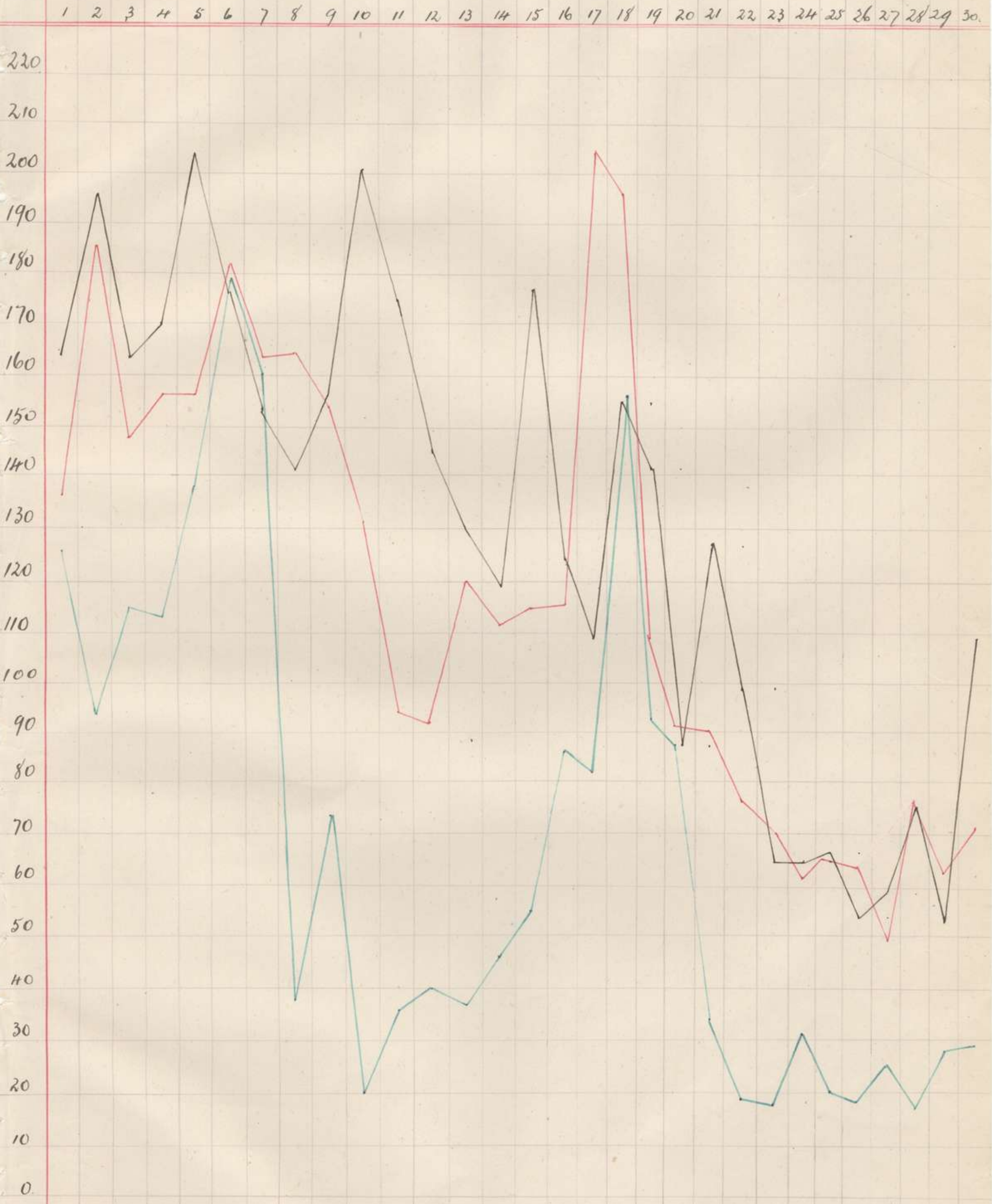
28-4-17

Note: All lines metallic circuit.



Telegraph Traffic Chart April 1917.

"A" Forms — "B" Forms — "C" Forms —

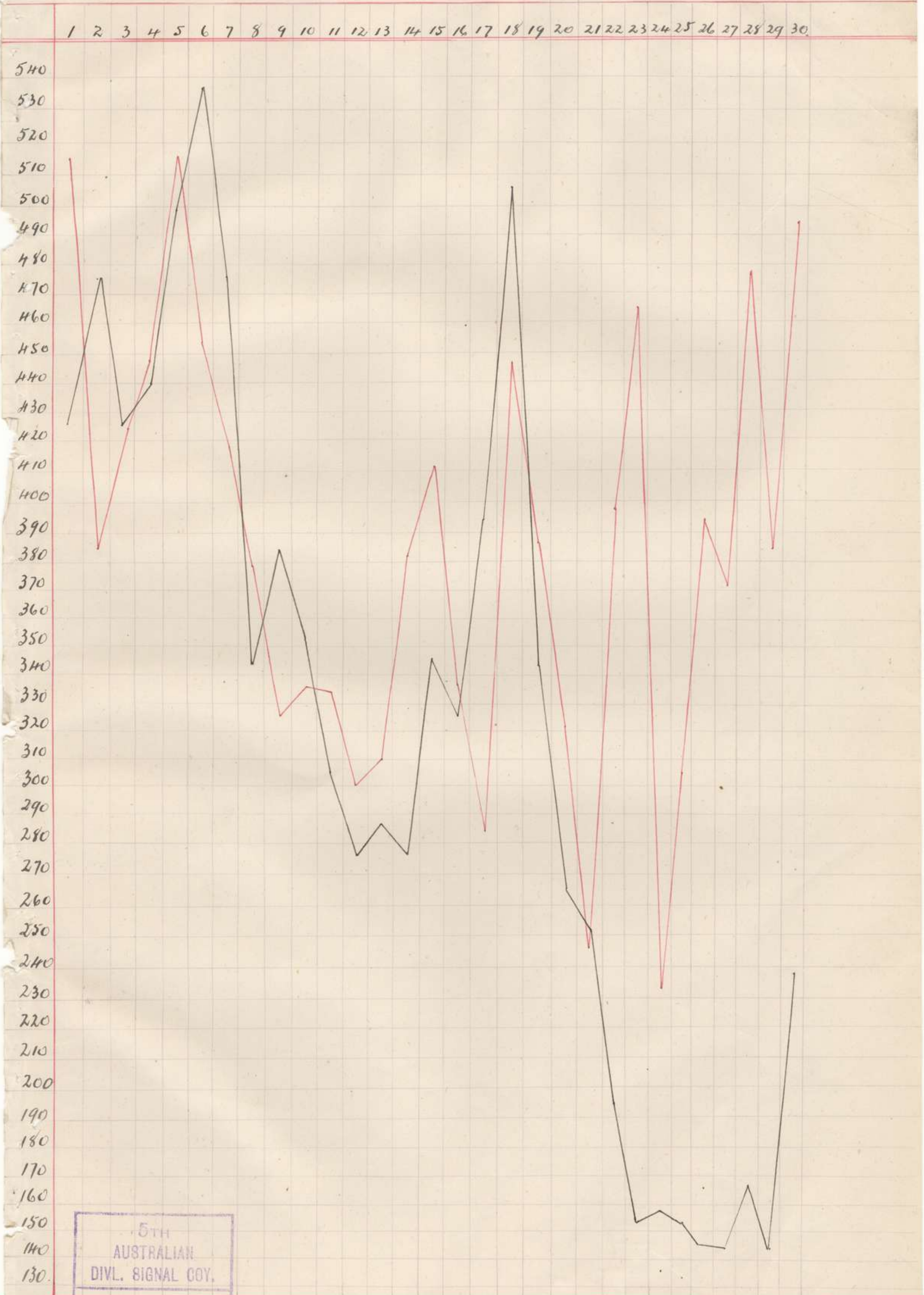


5TH  
 AUSTRALIAN  
 DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

No. ....  
 Date 30. 4. 1917.

144 Telegraph and Sealed Packets Traffic Chart. April 1917.

Telegrams (A B, C) thus — Sealed Packets —



5TH  
 AUSTRALIAN  
 DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

No. ....  
 Date 30. 4. 1917.