

AWM4

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

Signals

Item number: 22/17/29

Title: 1st Signal Squadron

July 1918



AWM4-22/17/29

ORIGINAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

- JUL 1918

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

W A R D I A R Y

O F

1st S I G N A L S Q U A D R O N

F O R

J U L Y 1 9 1 8 .

Signature of officer compiling.

R. F. Smith Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. B. [unclear]

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ORIGINAL

1st Signal Squadron

July 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

E 29/1

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.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

Jordan Valley

July 1918

1st

Communications as on 30th June, namely: Telegraphs with WCO (Desert Mounted Corps), APA (1st Lt Bde), APB (2nd Lt Bde), NZP (NZMk Bde), PV (22nd Mounted Bde). Telephone: WCO, JO (Jericho Signals), APA, NZP, PV, APB, G Branch, A & Q Branches, ADMS, DADOS, Field Squadron, Signal Squadron, 134th Sikh Pioneers, Divisional Train, Receiving Station, RA Exchange, CRA and Artillery Signals. Vibrator: APA, APB, PV, Visual: WCO, APA, APB, PV, NZP, ZIT (20th Indian Bde), and GWF (right post of 53rd Divn). additional. Airline pair built between CRA office and RA Exchange.

2040

2nd

APD (4th Lt Bde) relieved PV (22nd Mounted Bde) latter marched out of this area. Communications as on 1st maintained, plus Squadron routine. New airline built from AVA office (4th NZ Mt Divn) to Ad Qtr AUSAH Budgehead and direct communication established (vibrator).

3rd

Communications as on 2nd maintained plus Squadron routine

4th

Communications as on 3rd maintained plus Squadron routine

5th

Communications as on 4th maintained plus Squadron routine

6th

Communications as on 5th maintained plus Squadron routine

7th

Communications as on 6th maintained plus Squadron routine

8th

Communications as on 7th maintained plus Squadron routine.

New airline route completed between JO and AVA and communications transferred to same from existing route.

9th

Communications as on 8th maintained, plus Squadron routine.

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2.10/14

JUL 1918

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron
July 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

E29/2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jordan Valley	8.7.18		<p>bapt J. J. Farrow transferred to 2nd Signal Sqn & to command. " R. G. Pemberton from Aust Div Sig Sqn transferred to 1st Signal Sqn and to command. temporarily. Lieut. R. G. Smith M.C. from 1st Signal Troop to 1st Signal Sqn and to be second in command. 3 ORS transferred to 2nd Signal Sqn 2 ORS transferred from Aust Div Signal Sqn to 1st Signal Sqn. 2 ORS transferred from 1st Sig Troop to 1st Signal Sqn. 4 ORS from 1st Sig Sqn returned from leave (7 days in Egypt.) 2 ORS evacuated sick to hospital Communications in the left sector maintained and unaltered.</p>	R.B.
	9.7.18		<p>Communications in the left sector unaltered. 1 OR transferred from 1st Signal Troop to 1st Signal Sqn</p>	R.B.
	10.7.18		<p>Communications in left sector unaltered. 2 ORS proceeded on 7 days leave to Egypt.</p>	R.B.

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JUL 1918

Original

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

1st Signal Squadron

July 1918.

E29/3

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jordan Valley	11.7.18		Communications in left sector unaltered 10R evacuated to Hospital. oc. 1st Signal Squadron inspected all transport in the unit	R/S.
	12.7.18		Communications in left sector unaltered 2/Lieut Gordon A.C. taken on strength of 1st Signal Squadron from Base 10 details mousecar Lieut Stinson C.G. marched out to 2nd Signal Squadron Australian Mounted Division. 10R transferred to 2nd Signal Squadron	R/S.
	13.7.18		Communications in left Sector unaltered 3 ORs marched in from Base Signal Details camp During evening enemy long range gun shelled Communications of left sector breaking all lines on main telegraph route.	R/S.
	14.7.18		Communications in left sector unaltered. Enemy attacked No 3 sub sector during early.	R/S.

D. D. & I., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2.16/14

JUL 1918

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron
July 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

E 29/4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jordan Valley	14.7.18		morning. Directional communications were interrupted during the battle but all lines in No 3 Subsector were destroyed by shell fire and enemy action. These were replaced during the action by visual & earth circuits during the later stages of the battle.	R/S
"	15.7.18		communications in left sector unaltered. Terminal pole erected at Ava office replacing several air line poles previously in use.	R/S
"	16.7.18		communications in left sector unaltered. Main telegraph route damaged by shell fire in the morning & again during the afternoon & evening.	R/S
"	17.7.18		communications in left sector unaltered. 2 ORs proceeded to Egypt on leave. 4 ORs returned to Jordan Valley from leave in Egypt.	R/S
"	18.7.18		communications unaltered.	R/S

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) Wt. W1771/M2*31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

- JUL 1918

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron Army Form C. 2118.

July 1918.

E 29/5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jordan Valley	19.7.18		<p>Communications AVA office unaltered.</p> <p>Two wireless stations rejoined 1st Signal Squadron from Detached duties with 1st + 4th A.H. Bdes on relief by wireless stations of 2nd Signal Squadron.</p> <p>Major McKeoy marched in on return from Hospital & resumed command of 1st Signal Squadron taking over from Capt R.D. Pemberton.</p>	R/S
	20.7.18	0900	<p>AVA office at Jericho closed on relief by 2nd Signal Squadron; at the same hour AVA office opened at BETHLEHEM relieving 2nd Signal Squadron.</p> <p>1900 1st Signal Squadron with HQRS. A. 72 MTD DIV. marched out from the Jordan Valley and proceeded by the Roman Road to Talat-et-Dum where the column watered. After a halt of 15 minutes the column moved on for Bethlehem. The transport of the 1st Signal Squadron left the Jordan Valley at 1900 and.</p>	R/S

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2-31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

8161707 - JUL 1918

Original
1st Signal Squadron Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

July 1918.

829/6

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	20/7/18		<p>Proceeded by the NEBI. MUST. road to Bethlehem.</p> <p>The following OR'S were transferred to the 2nd Signal Sqdn;—</p> <p>No 595 bpl Israel Mt.</p> <p>" 2456 Sap Byers W.</p> <p>14482 " Holland Cl.</p> <p>No 546. Driver Langyon transferred from 2nd Sig Sqdn</p>	ffs
Bethlehem	21/7/18	0400	<p>1st Signal Sqdn marched into Camp at Bethlehem</p> <p>No 1353 Sap Shortridge G. was transferred to 2nd Sig Sqdn</p> <p>Capt R. Pemberton marched out to 1st Imperial Division Signal Sqdn</p>	ffs
"	22/7/18		<p>Communications of AVA office as per attached diagram</p> <p>1 OR evacuated to Hospital Sick</p>	ffs.
"	23/7/18		<p>Communications unaltered. Overhaul of all harness & equipment commenced. Two wheelers were detailed to Ordnance Repair Shops at Jerusalem to overhaul the</p>	ffs.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) Wt. W1771/Mar 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

- JUL 1918

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron
July 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

E29/7

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bethlehem	23-7-18		<p>Squadron Transport 20RS marched in from leave in Egypt. 5 5 horses were evacuated to Vet Hospital. Notification of the following awards appeared in the London Gazette Supplement No 30746 D. of 4.6.18. mentioned in despatches by the C-in-C. Egyptian Expeditionary Force.</p> <p>No 1401 7/cpl Halliday " 1676 " Trevoand</p> <p>Following notification of award also received "The Corps Commander has approved of award of military medal to 17151 2/cpl Richards R.D. of 1st Signal Squadron." This was for valour in maintaining communication under shell fire during operations in the Jordan Valley on 14.7.18</p> <p>communications of AOA office unaltered. 10RS evacuated sick to hospital. 110RS taken on.</p>	<p>17/8.</p> <p>17/8.</p>
	24-7-18			

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) Wt. W1771/M2*31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

816705 - JUL 1918

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.

WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron

Army Form C. 2118.

July 1918.

829/8.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bethlehem	24.7.18		Strength from Signal Details Camp Moascar	nfs
	25.7.18		Communications unaltered.	nfs
			1 OR transferred from 1st Signal Troop to 1st Signal Squadron	
	26.7.18		Communications normal.	nfs
			1st Sig Sqn was inspected by the Director of Army Signals.	nfs
	27.7.18		Communications normal.	nfs
			1st Signal Squadron was inspected by G.O.C. A. 172	nfs
			MTD Div. 5 ORs marched in from and were attached to Sqn for Artillery communication. 2 ORs marched in from base in Egypt.	nfs
	28.7.18		Communications normal. 1 OR marched in and was attached to Sqn for Artillery communication. 1 OR marched out to.	nfs

- JUL 1918

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Original
1st Signal Squadron Army Form C. 2118.

July 1918.

829/9

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bethlehem	28.7.18		School of Aviation & Bombing at Cairo.	R/S
	29.7.18		Communications Normal 18 ORS marched out to proceed on leave to Port Said 9 Sappers were promoted temporary drivers to date from 10.6.18.	R/S
	30.7.18		Communications normal. Wireless practice of 2 hours carried out between Army and Division & Desert Mounted Corps. 1 OR evacuated to Hospital sick	R/S
	31.7.18		Communications normal Inspection of technical equipment of the Squadron was made during the day. 2 officers & 4 ORs proceeded on leave to Egypt.	R/S

Handwritten notes:
J. J. ...
ATN ...
...

1 JUL 1918

D U P L I C A T E .

W A R D I A R Y

O F

F I R S T S I G N A L S Q U A D R O N

A . & N . Z . M O U N T E D D I V I S I O N

f o r

J U L Y , 1 9 1 8

E 29/10

JUL 1918

~~AUG 1918~~

L I S T O F A P P E N D I C E S .

<u>No.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>
1	A.V.A. Office Diary and graph for July, 1918.
2	Diary of Wireless communications, July, 1918.
3	Plan of communications A.V.A. Office, Bethlehem, 31-7-18.
4	Plan of communications A.V.A. Office Jordan Valley 1st to 20th July, 1918.

Appendix 1.

Duplicate

A. V. A. COMMUNICATIONS.

July, 1918. (Jericho)

= JUL 1918 E 29/11

~~AUG 1918~~

- 1-7-18 Pairs run to B.A.X. and C. R. A. Aujah, tested O.K. and cross connected through on A. V. A. test board (H52-53) C. R. A. to B. A. X.. A. P. D. takes over from P.V.
- 2-7-18 29 pair to N. Z. P. (H49-50) taken down and replaced by iron wire (Z1).
Ringing phone to 1/34 Binks Pioneers replaced by D3
- 3-4-5th-7-18. Airline laid to Aujah bridgehead (H56) completed and tested O.K. 5-7-18.
- 4-7-18 A.V.A. changed to ringing phone, buzzer left connected.
- 7-7-18 New route run from C. Y. and led on to terminal board.
to
- 8-7-18 W.C.O transferred from old B.M. 1 route new B. M. 1 route.
J. O. transposed from old B. M. 2 route^A to new B. M. 2 route.
- 14-7-18 A. P. C. connected to A. V. A. by vibrator.
N. Z. P. moved out to battle head quarters. Communication carried out from battle head quarters by telephone and vibrator (move ~~xxx~~ took place at 1300).
At 2030 N. Z. P. returned to sub-sector head quarters and communications carried sounder and telephone.
- 17-7-18 Vibrator line run to 3rd Bde. led horses, communications established at 2030.
- 16-7-18 A. P. C. closed down at old position and opened at A. P. A. position at same hour A. P. A. closed down.
- 18-7-18 0825 3rd ~~Bde~~ Bde. led horses moved out to new camp area line disconnected.
- 20-7-18 0900 A, V, A, closed down and handed over to B. M.
- (Bethlehem)
- 20-7-18 0900 A.V.A. established and in ~~xxxxxx~~ touch with following, - Z.N. by telephone with superimposed telegraph to W.C.O. with Z.N. intermediate.
A.P.A. and P.V. by vibrator, branches "G", "A" "A.D.M.S." "DADOS", Div, Train, Military Governor, Bethlehem, Bethlehem hospital and Divisional School by phone. At 1700 Signal Squadron Orderly Room and Officers' Mess connected by phone.
- 22-7-18 0900 Patiala(IP) Inf. connected by vibrator. 1000 Field Squadron connected to switchboard. 1600 A.D.C. connected to Switchboard.
- 23-7-18 1500 A.P.A. closed down.
- 25-7-18 0850 New hospital(Bethlehem) connected to ~~switchboard~~ switchboard. 1100 5th Bde details ~~tee~~ on to old A.P.A. line (vibrator).
- 27-7-18 1730 P.L. closed down.
- 28-7-18 0400 N.Z.P. arrived in bivouac area evacuated by P.L. in communication with N. Z.P. on P. L. line by vibrator.

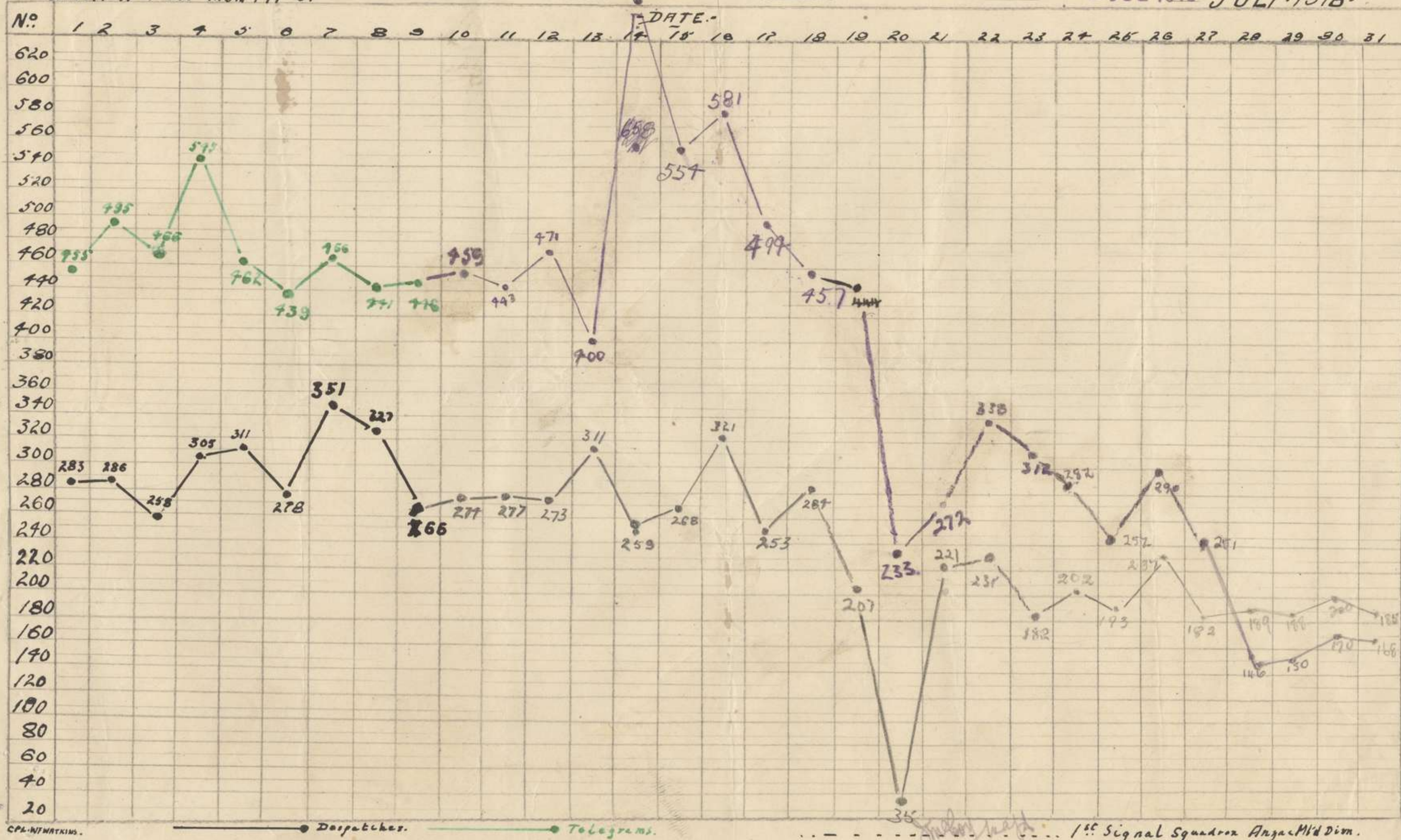
SIGNAL SQUADRON - ANZAC - MTD - DIVN -

Duplicate

GRAPH FOR MONTH OF -

JUL 1918 JULY 1918

E 2912
JUL 1918



CPL. WATKINS.

● Dispatches. ● Telegrams.

July 1918

1st Signal Squadron Anzac Mtd Divn.

Appendix 2

WAR DIARY, "A" Troop, for

July, 1918.

JUL 1918

Duplicate

829/13

On July 1st the dispositions of W/T sets were as follows,-

W50	Map ref. 113-H-34A	at D.H.Q.
W06	" "	113-Y-29C at 1st L.H. Bde.
W35	" "	113-Y-24D at 2nd L.H. Bde.
Trench set"	" "	113-H-5C at 120th A.A.
W05		at 4th L.H. Bde.

Wave length for this area was 500 metres. No staff messages were sent or received. 70 Signal service messages were sent and received, 61 hostile aircraft warnings were sent out by trench set (w26) and relayed on to G.H.Q. by W50.

W50 kept constant watch.

W35 kept watch from 0400 to 1130 daily.

W06 (late W05) kept watch from 0745 to 1130 daily.

W07 (late W06) kept watch from 0745 to 1130 daily.

On the 1st July, 18 W04 pack set was received from Descorps which brought up the strength to 4 W/T packsets thereby completing the establishment.

On the 5th July W50 was relieved by W04.

" " " W35 was relieved by W50.

W35 returned to Descorps on morning of 6th July.

At 0400 on 12th July call signs were changed as follows,-

W05 ~~xxxxx~~ became W06

W06 " W07

W50 " W08

W04 " W09

On the 15th July W07 (1st Bde.) reported,-

Horses killed Nos. 2224 and 14197

Mules killed Nos. 3081, 2712, and 3694.

Wounded and evacuated,-

Horse No. A25

Mules Nos. 684 and 3795.

On the 16th W07 reported having destroyed Mule 3743.

On 18th at 2000 W13 relieved and took over from W06

W14 " " " " W08

W12 " " " " W07

On the 19th at 0800 Brigade sets arrived at Squadron.
At 1100 W11 took over from W09.

On 23rd at 0700 W06 was erected at Bethlehem for W/T practice scheme to take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Watch kept from 0745 to 1030 on ~~these~~ these days only.

On 29th July practice staff messages were exchanged with Descorps.

JUL 1918

During operations of 14-7-18 1st A.L.H. Bde. held positions shown on this diagram as being held by 3rd A.L.H. Bde. on 20-7-18. Correction for ~~14-7-18~~ 14-7-18 is as follows.-

For Office call

Substitute.

A.P.C.	A.P.A.
L.I.	L.A.
L.J.	L.C.
L.H.	L.B.
L.H.B.	L.B.B.
L.H.C.	L.B.C.
L.J.A.	L.C.A.
L.J.B.	L.C.B.
L.J.C.	L.C.C.
L.I.A.	L.A.A.
L.I.B.	L.A.B.
L.I.C.	L.A.C.



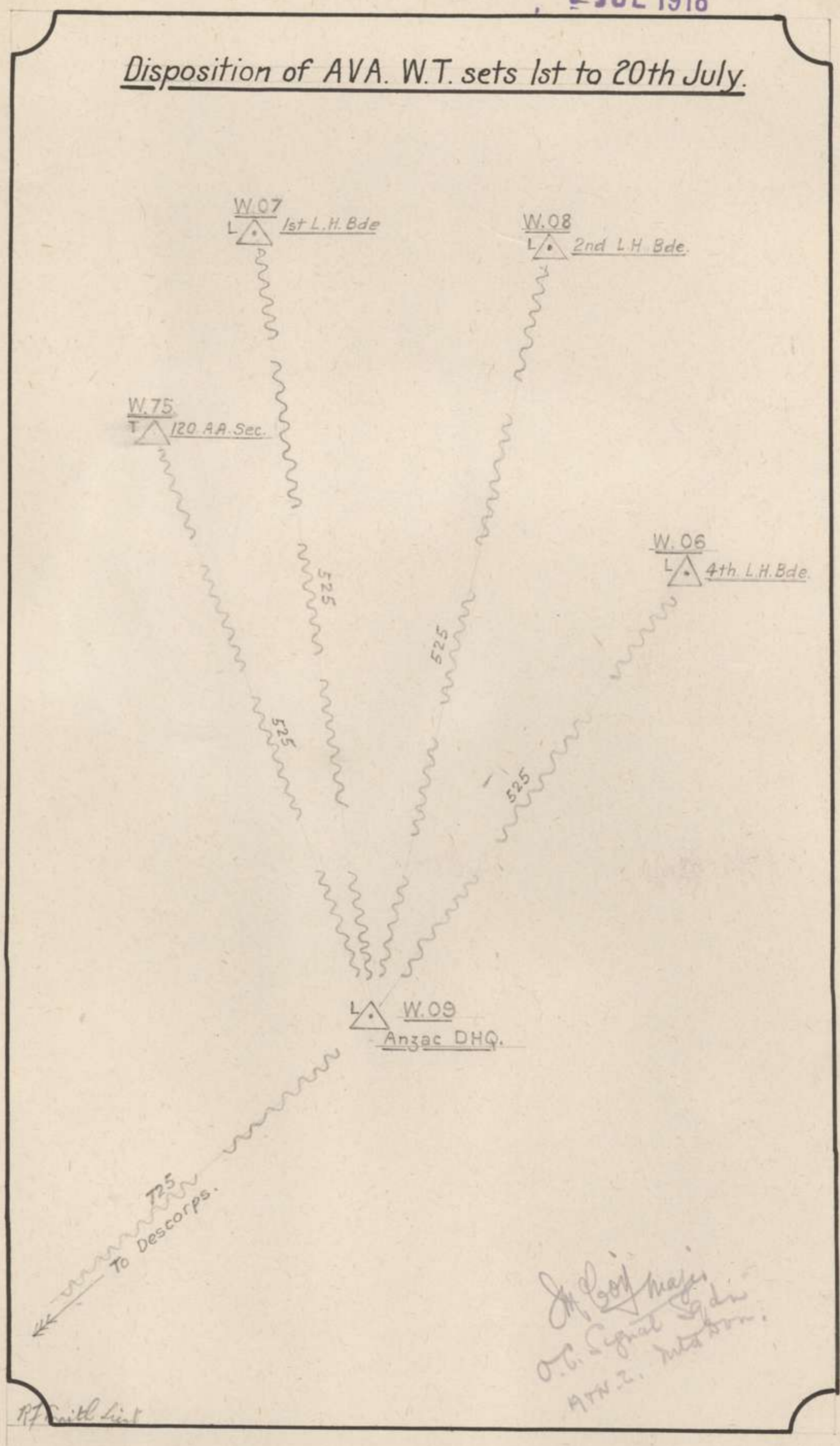
JUL 1918

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E29/15

JUL 1918

Disposition of AVA. W.T. sets 1st to 20th July.



J. G. Major
O.C. Signal Coy
4th Div.

P.F. Smith Lieut

Duplicate
Appendix 3.

E29/16

JUL 1918

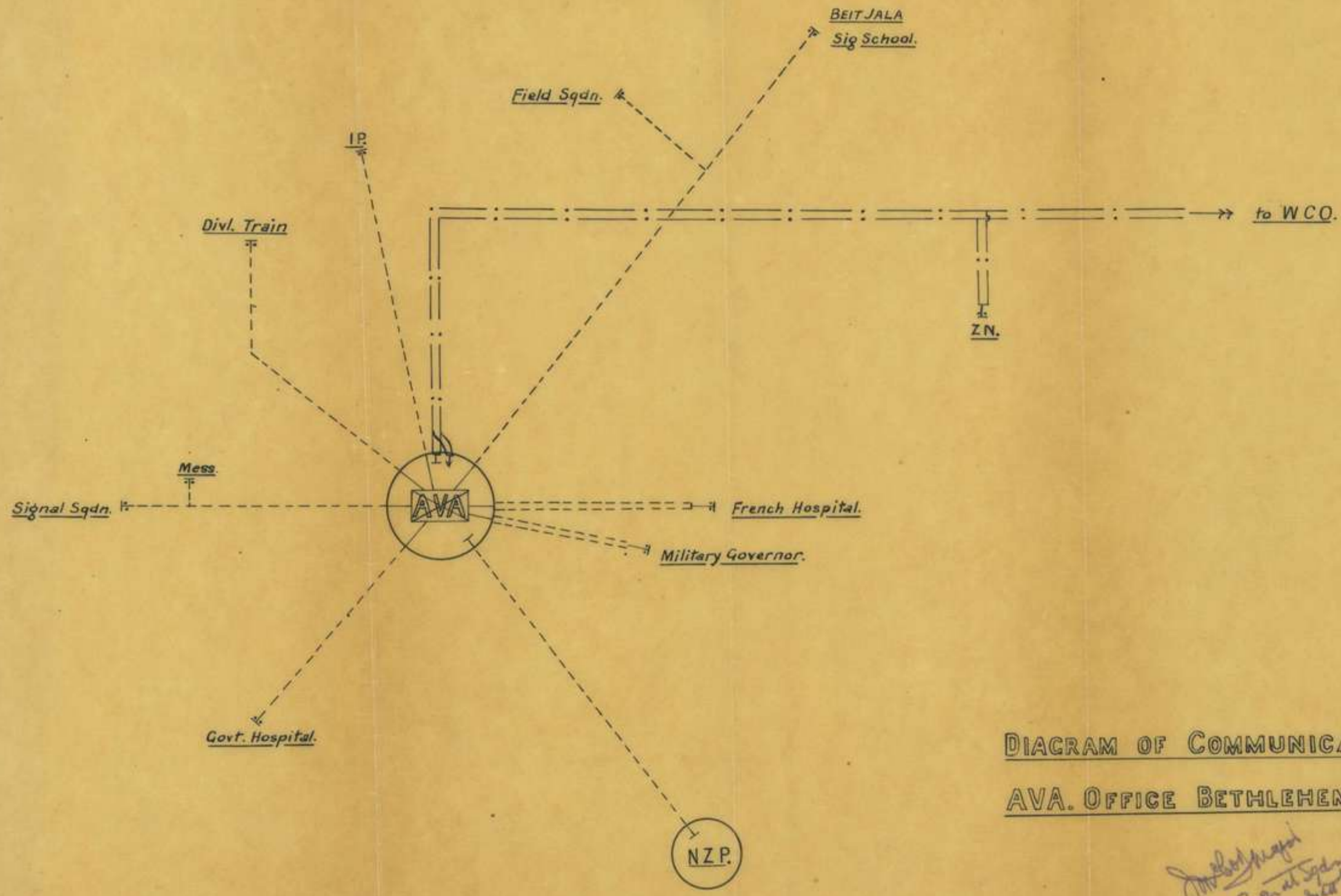


DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS
AVA. OFFICE BETHLEHEM. 31-7-18.

Handwritten signature
of Signal Sqdn
ATTN: 2. section

RF Keith List

ESD/10

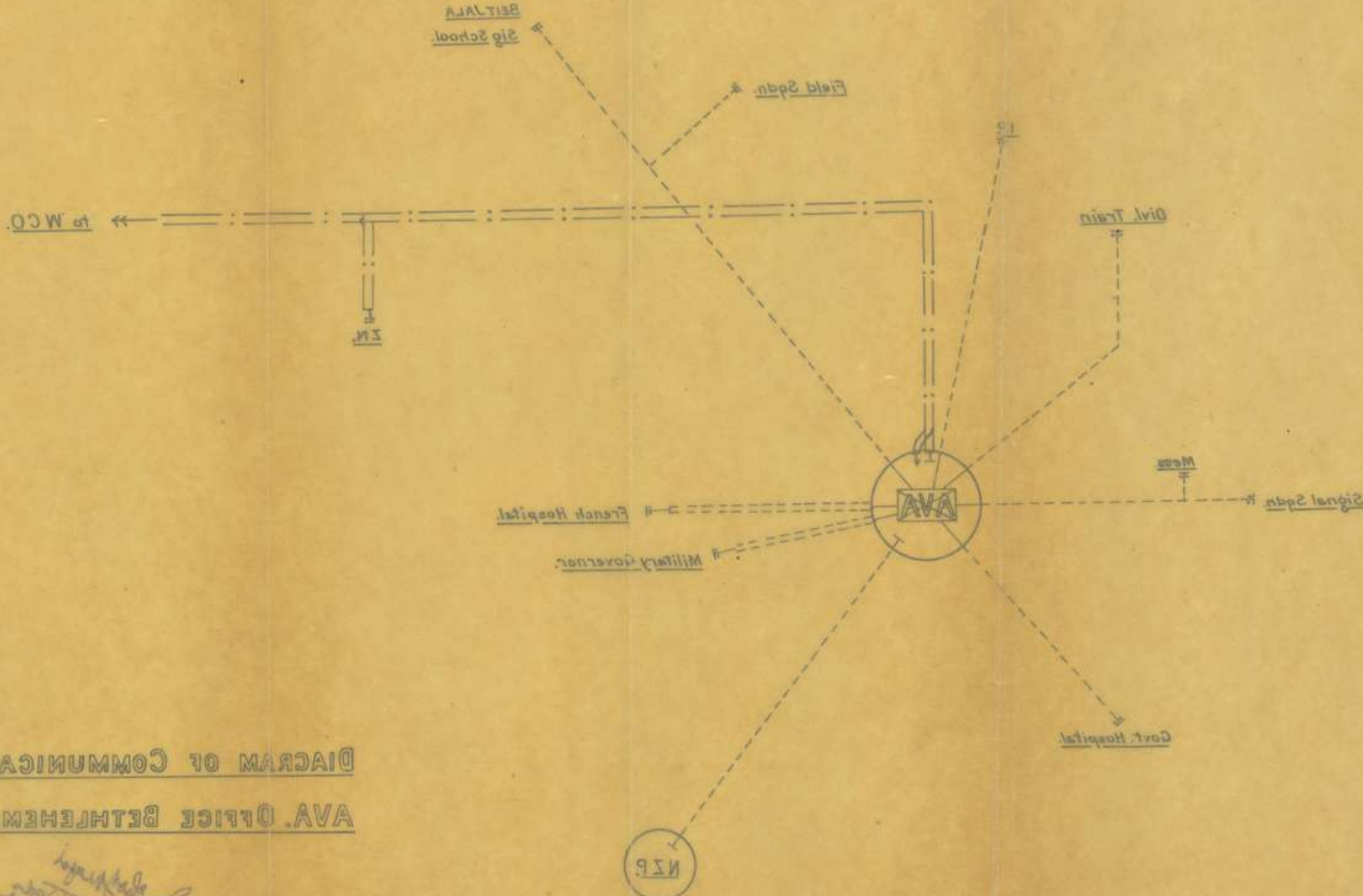
Supervisor
Office 3.

6/29/18

1918 JUL 8

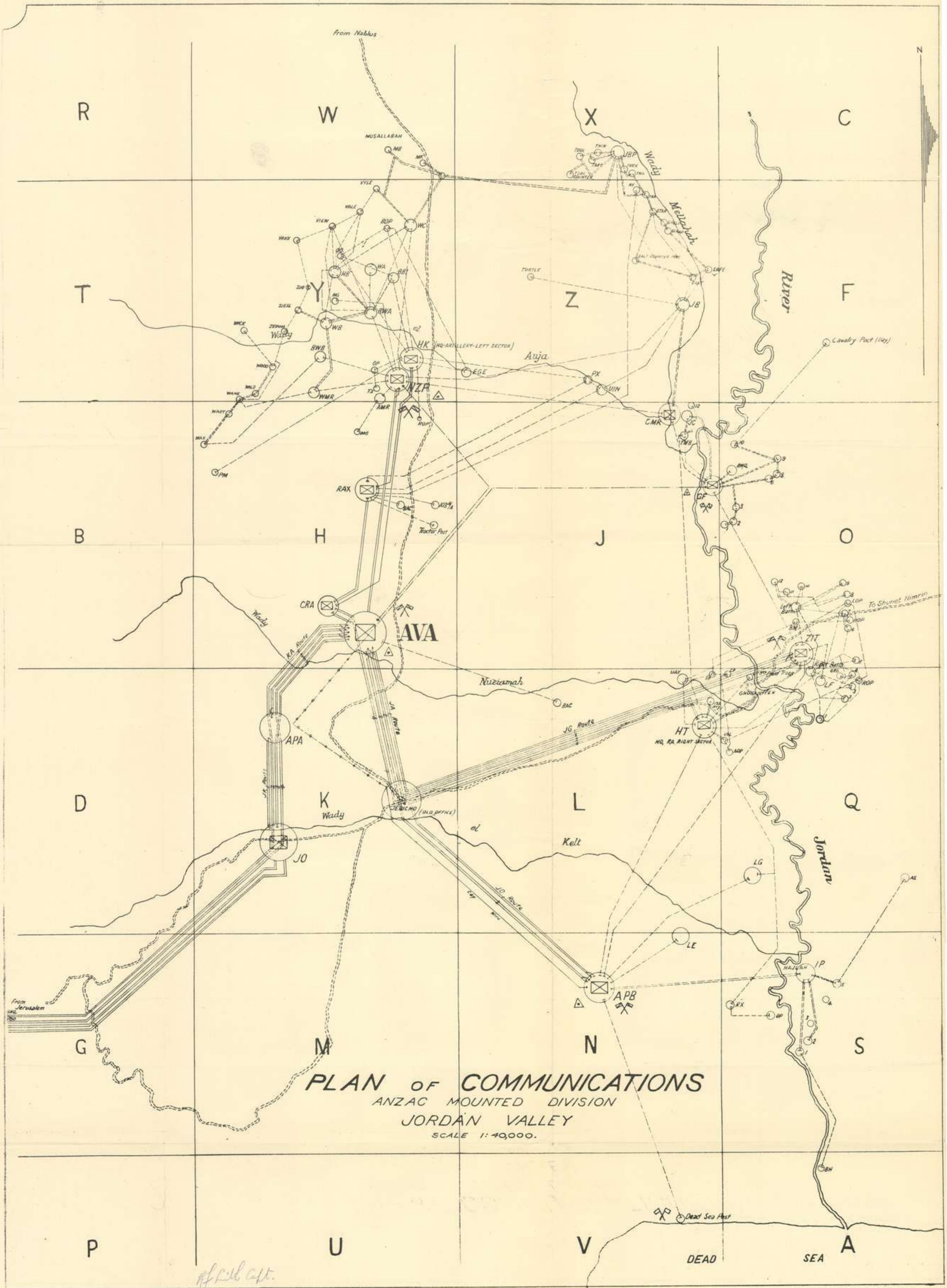
AVA OFFICE BETWEEN 31-7-18
DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS

Handwritten notes:
Mr. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]



Handwritten: 1/16

Handwritten: 1/16



PLAN OF COMMUNICATIONS
 ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION
 JORDAN VALLEY
 SCALE 1:40,000.

*of 1st Lt. Capt.
 1st Signal Coy.*

1-21
1-23

Appendix I. (Tripartite)

