

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/14/10

**Title:** 14th Infantry Brigade

January 1917



AWM4-23/14/10

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

14<sup>th</sup> AUS. INF. BRIGADE.

Summary of Events and Information

VOLUME VI Jan. 1917.

Remarks and references to Appendices

BUIRE

1/4/17

— No training done. Several sports meetings held during day. concert at night.

2.1.17

— No military course and platoon training gone on with. Orders issued (mountain)

3.1.17

1 Lt. 14<sup>th</sup> M. Coy moved by bus to FLESSEWES and took over Auto. Ammunition from there from a Section of 4<sup>th</sup> Am. Div. Army especially sick men were sent on to FLESSEWES by ambulance.

APP. A1

FRANVILLERS

4.1.17

The 14<sup>th</sup> A. I. B. group moved from BUIRE to FRANVILLERS by march route. The head of column passed starting point to time; but some of the units did not time their moves well and got on the road earlier than they should have done and the traffic was congested.

The day was very cold and it drizzled rain all day. This made the march very trying although it was very short. Move was completed at 11.30 am. 26<sup>th</sup> Bn at LAHOUSSEY remainder of group at FRANVILLERS.

FLESSEWES

5.1.17

14<sup>th</sup> Am. Div. Bde group moved from FRANVILLERS to FLESSEWES. The head of column passed starting point to time but the traffic in vicinity of starting point was again congested. Hourly halts of 10 minutes were observed throughout the march, and 1 hour for lunch. Two cauders

*Col. ...*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLESSELMES	5-1-17 Contd	(Cookers)	marched with each Bn, and remainder of 1 <sup>st</sup> line transport moved in front of column. Hot tea was served with mid-day meal, and this proved very satisfactory. The marching throughout the day was very good, only 2 men fell out on the march and these were picked up by the Ambulance moving in rear of column. Home completed at 3.45 pm. Distribution of Brigade was, B.H.Q., 53 <sup>rd</sup> , 54 <sup>th</sup> , 55 <sup>th</sup> Bns. C Det 14 <sup>th</sup> Amb. at FLESSELMES. 56 <sup>th</sup> R. ST VAAST. 14 M.G. Coy, 14 ALTMB, FREMONT.	
FLESSELMES	6-1-17		Day devoted to cleaning up - fitting. Training Memo N:4 and B Training Memo N:5 Issued	A. APP. B. APP.
	7-1-17		R.C. and combined Church parades held. Brigadier and Brigade Major inspected training grounds. Conference of Brigadier held at W.H. Qrs. The fact that the Division would be moving into the line earlier than was expected was disclosed so training programmes had to be altered accordingly.	
	9-1-17		Brig. Gen. Robinson proceeded on leave. Lt. Col. W. Conaghy took over the Brigade. The Divisional Commander inspected the Brigade and training and also Btlts of 54 Bn. The btlts were all in good order except W Coy btllet which was a very dirty and leaky piece. Scarcity of coal and straw was complained of.	Col. [Signature]

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLESSEBLES	9-1-17	Contd.	53 <sup>rd</sup> Pn started handshooting course on 300 yds and 30 yds ranges. Weather conditions bad but shooting generally good. 53 <sup>rd</sup> Pn bombers and rifle grenadiers carried out some useful practice with live grenades. Practice was mainly target firing. Meeting held at B.H. Hqs. to arrange for an attack practice with contact patrol. It was decided that 53 <sup>rd</sup> and 56 Pns carry out two separate attacks at 10 and 10.30 am respectively on 11 front. A representative of the R.F.C. was present at the meeting. Order No 57 issued (move of 2 coys 55 Pn to forward area).	APP. "C"
	10-1-17		Brigadier and C of 53 <sup>rd</sup> Pn visited training grounds to select position for attack practice with contact patrol. Two companies 55 Pn under FRANKLINERS en route for forward area. 54 Pn carried out live grenade practice and handshooting practice on 300 yards range.	
"	11-1-17		53 <sup>rd</sup> and 56 Pn carried out attack practices with contact patrol. The 56 Pn attack was very successful from an attack point of view but they did not get into signal communications with the contact machine. The divisional commander was present at the practice carried out by the 53 <sup>rd</sup> Pn. This attack was carried out under very bad conditions and	Col. ...

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRESSELLES	12-1-17	contd	<p>it was snowing fairly heavily all the time. The early stages of the attacks were carried out very well, but the assault was weak, there was not enough dash put into it, the men bunched together too much, and there was a great lack of "command" and "control" in the case of the smaller unit commanders.</p> <p>The attacking troops did not have sufficient knowledge of the objectives intention etc. Communication with contact patrol was established and operation was very successful.</p> <p><del>55 Pw carried out hand-to-hand exercise on the 300 yds range.</del></p> <p>Report was received by at Pw. Hours. 2 minutes after the objective was reached and a map was dropped by contact aeroplane, showing where flares had been shown and also a report in progress of operations. 54 Pw at 4 p.m. trying.</p>	APP. "D"
11	12-1-17		<p>Order for move of Brigade group to EQUIPE issued (H. 54)</p> <p>Lt. Col. McConaghy was evacuated since Lt. Col. Scott assumed command of the Brigade. The divisional commander and G. S. O. 1. were present at practice attack carried out by the Brigade. Orders etc. for this attack appended.</p>	APP. "E"
	13-1-17		<p>At zero hours (10 am) the 53<sup>rd</sup> and 54 Pw. commenced their advance against enemy's position. The early part of the operations was again very successful except that the left Pw got rather in advance of the right Pw. The assault was again the weakest point of the attack. The barrage was not followed closely enough.</p>	<p>Col. [unclear] [unclear]</p>

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRESSELLES	13-1-17	Conto.	<p>and the left of the leading assaulting wave actually pushed the objective <del>400</del> 2 minutes before the barrage was timed to lift. The plane was not in the vicinity when the 1<sup>st</sup> objective was taken and so flares were not shown. The attack was pushed on and the 2<sup>nd</sup> objective assaulted and gained. Here again the flares plane was not in the vicinity and flares were not shown. All officers were assembled and the Divisional Commander and G. S. O. 1. gave their criticisms on the operation. The chief failings points of the attack were; I In the General Idea of the attack, the two different phases of warfare <del>used</del> (open and trench) were mixed and it is impossible to adopt the principles of both phases in one operation. II The barrages were not strongly enough represented. In practice of this kind the barrages should be distinctly marked by flags, and timed by an officer in accordance with barrage scheme. III The second was not clearly enough marked out and this resulted in the assaulting waves getting too far in advance of the objective. Twenty officers from the Brigade attended lecture at 2<sup>nd</sup> New School, on "Aeroplane Drops" and "Contact parties". Appended is list of 2<sup>nd</sup> New School attended by officers of the I.A.A.B. These lectures were all very interesting and extremely useful.</p>	APP. "F"

T2134. Wt. W708-776. 500000. 4/15. Sir J. C. & S.

Col. J. C. & S.  
Mey

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLESSELLES	13-1-17	Contd	Order N° 60 for move of Brigade group to forward area issued	APP. "G"
BUIRE	14-1-17		14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.B group entrained at FLESSELLES for BUIRE. Snowing very heavily all the morning. Trains arrived 1 hour late. Pms for first train arrived at station to time last went back to billets for an hour, having stood about in the snow for about 3/4 of an hour. Trains were loaded and clear by 12 noon. Move completed at 4 pm. 1 Sect 14 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy on duty at FLESSELLES, was relieved by one Sect from 14 <sup>th</sup> Corps.	
"	15-1-17	4pm	The 54 <sup>th</sup> Pm came under orders, of G.O.C. 8 <sup>th</sup> Armd. Inf. Brigade. Brigades visited Ammunition dumps to clear up a few points as regards dumps, huts etc.	
FRICOURT	16-1-17		14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.B. moved to FRICOURT CAMP. The march was checked by a train which remained across the line at the BUIRE crossing for nearly an hour. Had it moved on about 100 yds everything would have been right but the S.M. and R.T.O. refused to move on, and traffic in BUIRE became very congested. The route had to be changed and also the Order of March. The day was very cold but the marching was very good. Move completed at 1 pm.	
QUARRY 5320.	17-1-17		Brigade Major and representatives from each unit attended "Gas" lecture at MERRICOURT. Brigade Hqs moved to Amery, 56 <sup>th</sup> Pm to MONTAUBAN. The 53 <sup>rd</sup> Pm were to move to MAMETZ according to orders, but on enquiry the Staff Captain found that there was no room for them there and obtained permission to leave them at FRICOURT. This is becoming quite a usual occurrence.	

*W. J. C. & S.*

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Quarry S. 220	17-1-17	Contd	The moves forward from FRICOURT. were ordered to be complete by 12 noon, but in most cases this was impossible because the outgoing Pns. did not vacate the huts till 2.30 pm, and as incoming units were left standing in the cold for about 2 1/2 hrs awaiting the departure of outgoing unit.	
"	18-1-17		Brigadier visited Pns. Camps. 55 Pns moved to MONTAUDAN. Sgt. Bourne 14 M & Coy died at FRICOURT CAMP. Fatigue parties detailed for 19 Pns and to report daily thereafter (attached)	APP. "H"
"	19-1-17		Lt Col. Bridgley evacuated sick. Major Anderson 56 Pns detailed to take over 54 Pns.	
"	20-1-17		Brigadier visited right Brigade Section: Capt <sup>Cromby</sup> [unclear] reported to Brigade Hq. Headquarters for duties as attached staff officer.	
"	21-1-17		Orders issued for move of 56 Pns to FRICOURT (order N. 1)	APP. "I"
"	22-1-17		Brigadier visited H.Q. and received verbal instructions to draw up a draft scheme for a raid on FINCH TR. Lt. Col. Cromshaw went to commanding officers conference at Army School F21 RECOURT	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
24-1-17 Anavy	24-1-17		54 <sup>th</sup> Bn again came under orders of G.O.C 14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.B. and moved to TRONES Wood Camp.	
"	25-1-17		Brigadier, Brigade Major and I.O. visited FRONT LINE to see the proposed position for raid. The trench that would have to be used for a jumping off trench is a very shallow one and in very bad condition, but on the whole the position was a very suitable one for a raid. The Sander road was an excellent line of approach and a distinct line for withdrawal.	APP. "J"
"	26-1-17		Orders issued for relief of 8 <sup>th</sup> Ans. by 14 <sup>th</sup> Ans and 14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.B. The 53 <sup>rd</sup> Bn moved to TRONES Wood Camp. 14 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy and 14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.T.M.B. moved to 2 <sup>nd</sup> PIONEER CAMP. 31 <sup>st</sup> Bn took over duties supplied by 55 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	
"	27-1-17		53 <sup>rd</sup> Bn. moved to INTERMEDIATE LINE, and 55 <sup>th</sup> Bn to TRONES WOOD. 14 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy and 14 <sup>th</sup> A.I.T.M.B. relieved the same units of the 8 <sup>th</sup> Brigade in the front line. Base camps for Brigade was established in E. Camp.	
"	28-1-17		53 <sup>rd</sup> Bn relieved the 29 <sup>th</sup> Bn in the line. 29 <sup>th</sup> Bn moved to TRONES WOOD. 55 <sup>th</sup> Bn moved to Intermediate line.	
"	29-1-17		Ofc 14 <sup>th</sup> Brigade assumed command of sector at 10 am. Brig. Commander visited Brigade H.Q. Questions of the attack on FINCH TRENCH was discussed. Copy of draft SCHEME forwarded to D.H.A and C.R.A.	APP. "K" C. H. ...

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
29-1-17	Conte		56 Pbn moved to TROYES WOOD. The 14' Bysa Mining Coy was jammed and took over from 8' Bysa Mining Coy. Working parties furnished by the 56 Pbn were relieved by the 29 Pbn.	
30-1-17	THEMINE RIGHT SECTION LEFT DIV. SECT.		Brig. Gen. Wolke returned from leave and resumed command of Brigade. Lt. Col. Scott resumed command of the 56 Pbn. Lt. Col. Lewis appointed to temporarily command 55 Pbn and took over the Pbn. Order No. 63 for reliefs and moves up to the 31st Feb. Issued Intelligence Summary No. issued	APP. "L" APP. "M"
31-1-17	"		Bridges and C.P.A. visited the FRONT LINE. Enemy artillery very active throughout the day, paying particular attention to vicinity of Brigade Headquarters. The 55 Pbn relieved the 53 Pbn in the FRONT LINE. 53 Pbn moved to TROYES WOOD CAMP. and 56 Pbn to Intermediate line. Intelligence Summary No. Issued Appendix 'O' shows Monthly Casualty Returns (Jan) Appendix 'P' shows Annual Casualties during Month. (Jan)	APP. "N" APP. "O" APP. "P"

Col. J. J. ...  
Bryson Bay 14' a 9.13

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War Diary  
App "A"

SECRET

Copy No 2

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE - ORDER No 56.

References:

- ALBERT (combined) 1/40000.
- LENS Sheet 10. } 1/100000.
- AMERS " 17 }

Headquarters,  
S.1.17.

1. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, less Units enumerated  
 14th Fld. Coy. in the margin, will move from "R" Area to  
 Engineers.  
 "A" & "B" Sec- "T" Area on 4th & 5th Insts., in accordance  
 tions, 14th  
 Fld. Ambulance. with Tables of Moves attached (APP "A" and  
 B Sections, 14th APP. "B".  
 M.G. Coy.  
 28th Coy. A.S.C.  
 (less Supply Sec-  
 tion).
2. The Supply Section of 28th Coy. A.A.S.C. will move in-  
 dependently.
3. (a) One Section of 14th M.G. Coy will move to FLESSEL-  
 SELLS by bus on 3rd inst., and will take over anti-aircraft  
 guns there.  
 (b) This Section will embark at S.H.Q. at 9 a.m. on 3rd  
 inst., and will carry 24 hours rations.  
 (c) The Section of 14th M.G. Coy at present on Anti-  
 Aircraft Duty in BEIRS will remain on Duty until relieved  
 by a Section to be detailed by 1st Aust. Division.  
 (d) This Section will be rationed by the Town Major  
 until relieved.  
 (e) Sufficient Transport to carry guns, etc., will rem-  
 ain with Section.
4. The following distances will be maintained on the march:-  
 200 yards between Battalions.  
 100 " " Companies.  
 200 " " Transport of Units.
5. Lieut. Edison, 56th Battalion, will take charge of  
 Brigade Headquarters Transport.
6. Instructions as regards rations, etc., Appendix "C".
7. Brigade Headquarters will open in FRANVILLERS at 12  
 noon on 4th inst., and will open in FLESSELLS at 3 p.m. on  
 5th inst.
8. Acknowledge.

*Edison*  
MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 9 P.M.

- Copy No 1. to 5th Aust Division.  
2. G.O.C, 14th Aust Infantry Brigade.  
3. 53rd Battalion  
4. 54th Battalion.  
5. 55th Battalion.  
6. 56th Battalion.  
7. 14th M.G.Coy.  
8. 14th A.L.T.M.B.  
9. 14th Field Ambulance.  
10. Supply Officer.  
11. Town Major, BUIRE.  
12. )  
13. ) war Diary.  
14. File.
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SECRET.

APPENDIX "A" - TABLE OF MOVES - ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 56.

DATE	UNIT	TRANSPORT	FROM	TO	ROUTE	REMARKS.
4.12.16	B.H.Q. Sig. Sec- tion.	B.H.Q. Sig. Section.	BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	via AMIENS - Albert Road at D.16.b.9.1	(a) STARTING POINT at D.16.b.9.1.
"	55th Bn.	55th Bn.	BUIRE	LAHOUSSAYE	"	(b) Head of Column to pass STARTING POINT at 9 a.m.
"	55th Bn.	55th Bn.	BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	"	(c) The order of March will be as in Transcript and Unit Columns.
"	54th Bn.	54th Bn.	BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	"	(d) Transport will move in rear of column.
"	53rd Bn.	53rd Bn.	BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	"	
"	14th M.G. Coy.	14th M.G. Coy.	BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	"	
"	14th A.L.T.M.B.		BUIRE	FRANVILLERS	"	
"		50 <sup>th</sup> Section 14th Fld. Ambulance.	RIBEMONT	FRANVILLERS	"	

APPENDIX HQ 12

DATE	UNIT "A"	TRANSPORT	FROM "A"	to "A"	ROUTE	REMARKS
5.1.17.	B.H.Q. Signal Section.	B.H.Q.	FRANVILLERS	FLESELLES	via BEHENCOURT Molliens, & Villers-Bocage	(1) STARTING POINT Where road turns South 300 yds North of "F" in FRANVILLERS.
"	53th Bn.	56th Bn.	LAHOUSSAYE	ST. VAST	via QUERRIEU, ALLONVILLE, PUULAINVILLE & VALXÉ	(2) Head of column to pass starting point at 9 a.m.
"	53rd Bn.	53rd Bn.	FRANVILLERS	FLESSELLES	via BEHENCOURT MOLLIENS & VILLERS-BOCAGE.	<sup>4</sup> (3) Order of march of remainder as in Unit and Transport Columns. Transport to move in front of column and to be clear of STARTING POINT by 8.50 a.m. "C" Section, 14th Fld. Ambulance, will move with Trans- port.
"	54th Bn.	54th Bn.	FRANVILLERS	FLESSELLES	"	
"	55th Bn.	55th Bn.	FRANVILLERS	FLESSELLES	"	
"	Coy. 14th M.G. Coy	14th M.G. Coy.	FRANVILLERS	FREMONT	via BEHENCOURT, ST GRATIN, & CORDONETTE COISY.	<sup>3</sup> (4) 56th Bn., 14th M.G. Coy and 14TH L.T.M.B. to move independently.
"	14th A.L.T.M.B.	-	FRANVILLERS	FREMONT	"	
"		"C" Section 14th Fld. Ambulance	FRANVILLERS	FLESSELLES	via BEHENCOURT MOLLIENS & VILLERS BOCAGE.	

APPENDIX "C" - ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM

to

Brigade Order No 56.

1. Dump. A Brigade Dump has been established in Billot 39.
2. Box Respirators. Battalions will retain 50 Box Respirators @ and other Units 10 each, for the purpose of Training in "T" Area. The remainder will be withdrawn and stored in Dump.
3. Surplus Gear. Any surplus gear which will not be required while in "T" Area will be dumped by Units on 3rd inst.

Times for dumping are as follows:-

8 a.m. to 9 a.m.	-	53rd Bn.
9 a.m. to 10 a.m.	-	54th Bn.
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.	-	55th Bn.
11 a.m. to 12 a.m.	-	56th Bn.
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.	-	Brigade Headquarters.
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.	-	14th M.G. Coy.
	-	14th A.L.T.M.B.

4. Dump Guard.
  - (a) A Guard of 2 men per Battalion and 1 man per other Unit will be mounted over dump.
  - (b) 53rd Battalion will detail 1 N.C.O. to take charge of Guard.
  - (c) These men to report to Brigade Headquarters at 8 a.m. on 3rd inst.
  - (d) 55th Battalion to supply cook and supply dixies for party.
  - (e) This Guard will be rationed by the Town Major until withdrawn.
5. BLANKETS.
  - (a) 1 Motor Lorry has been allotted to each Battalion, 1 to Brigade Headquarters and Details..
  - (b) Blankets will be loaded by 8 a.m. on 4th inst., and these lorries will proceed direct to FLESSELLES and report back to Units at LAHOUSSAYE and FRANVILLERS on 4th inst.
  - (c) These lorries will be loaded with second blanket by 8 a.m. on 5th inst. and move direct to FLESSELLES.
6. Advanced parties.
  - (a) Advanced parties of 1 Officer and 4 Other Ranks per Battalion, other Units 1 N.C.O. will proceed to FLESSELLES in the Motor Lorries on 4th inst.
  - (b) This party to report to Staff Captain at FLESSELLES at 3 p.m. on 4th inst.

( 2 )

(c) The FLESSELLES Advanced Party will inspect all billets that they are to take over, and will report result of inspection to Staff Captain.

(d) A second Advanced Party of 1 Officer and 4 Other Ranks per Battalion and other Units 1 N.C.O. will report to Staff Captain at FRANVILLERS at 10 a.m. on 4th inst, except 56th Battalion Advanced Party which will proceed direct to LAHOUSGAYE and arrange for their Billets direct with the Town Major.

9  
Rear Parties.

(a) One Officer per Battalion and 1 N.C.O. from Other Units will be left behind to hand over billets to incoming units.

(b) An inspection of billets will be carried out with Town Major and representative of incoming Brigade.

(c) This party will report back to Units on completion.

(d) The usual certificates will be rendered to reach Brigade Headquarters by 6 p.m. on 4th inst.

8  
Cookers.

(a) On the second day of the march 1 Cooker per Bn will march in rear of column and arrange for tea for mid-day meal.

(b) Mid-day meal to be carried in haversack.

9  
Rations.

(a) The RAILHEAD will open at VIGNACOURT on 3rd January.

(b) 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will draw on 3rd January from Brigade Dump at BUIRE for 4th January.

(c) On 4th January supplies for 5th January will be drawn from FRANVILLERS.

(d) On and after 5th January supplies will be drawn from FLESSELLES.

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War Diary  
App A

14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

TRAINING MEMO. No 4.

BRIGADE SIGNAL CLASS.

1. A Brigade Signal Class is to be run by Brigade Signalling Officer while Brigade is in "T" Area.
2. Each Battalion will detail 1 L/Cpl. and 5 men, M.G. Coy 1 man to report to Brigade Headquarters at 9 a.m. on the 8th inst.
3. Each man will bring :-
  - 2 small flags.
  - Notebook and pencil.
  - Each Battalion, (new pattern, canvas) 1 shutter.
4. Those detailed by the 56th Battalion and 1 man from M.G. Coy for this class will be billeted and rationed by 54th Battalion, from 8th inst. inclusive.

7.1.17.

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

War Diary  
App B

14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

TRAINING MEMO No 5.

Headquarters,

7.1.17.

1. A Brigade Bayonet-fighting and Physical Training Class, lasting about 3 days, will be started on Monday 8th inst.
2. Units will detail N.C.O's. or prospective N.C.O's. as under to attend daily. Those detailed to attend will parade at Brigade Headquarters at 9 a.m. on 8th inst.

53rd Bn.	9
54th Bn.	9
55th Bn.	9
<del>56th Bn.</del>	
M.G. Coy.	2
A.L.T.M.B.	1

3. Those detailed by the M.G. Coy and A.L.T.M.B. for this class will be billeted and rationed by 53rd Battalion from 8th inst. inclusive

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

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War Diary  
App "C"

SECRET.

Copy No 16

14th. AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.- ORDER No 57.

Headquarters,

9.1.17.

1. (a) Two companies of the 55th Battalion will move to the forward area in accordance with the Table of Moves attached and will relieve 2 Companies of the 56th Battalion now on duty at the Colored Labour Camp, QUARRY SIDING.
2. Details of handing over to be mutually arranged between the senior Company-Commanders concerned.
3. It must be distinctly understood that no break in the continuity of the work nor reduction in the strength of the exchanging Companies is permitted, therefore strong companies will be sent.
4. Cookers and proportion of transport will march with their companies.
5. A motor lorry will report to Headquarters of 55th Battalion about 8.30 a.m. on 10th inst., for purpose of transporting blankets, etc.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Issued at 2.30 p.m.

- Copy No 1 to 5th Aust. Div.
- 2 G.O.C. 14th Bde.
- 3 53rd Bn.
- 4 54th Bn.
- 5 55th Bn.
- 6 56th Bn.
- 7 14th M.G. Coy.
- 8 14th L.T.M.B.
- 9 14th Fld. Amb.
- 10 Supply Officer,
- 11 Town Major, FRANVILLERS.
- 12 Area Commandant, S1 Area.
- 13 C.R.E Circuit.
- 14 File.
- 15)
- 16) War Diary.

SECRET.

TABLE OF MOVES - ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 57, 9.1.17.

Date	Unit	From	To	Route	Quartering	Supply Arrangements.
10th	2 Coys 55th Bn	FLESSELLES	FRANVILLERS	via VILLERS BOGAGE, MOLLIENS, BEHENCOURT. not to reach MOLLIENS before 11 a.m.	Town Major	Rations for these two com- panies for 11 th inst will be drawn from Supply Of- ficer at FLESSELLES on 10th inst.
11th	"	FRANVILLERS	FRICOURT BRIGADE CAMP	via MEAULTE	Commandant, SI Area.	Rations for 12th inst. will be delivered at FRICOURT CAMP on the evening of the 11th inst. by S.S.O., 4th Aust. Div.
12th	"	FRICOURT BRIGADE CAMP	C.L.C., QUARRY SIDING.	via ROSE COTTAGE, MAMETZ CAMP.	O.R.E. Circuit.	On 12th inst. and thereafter rations will be drawn from MONTAUBAN Railhead.

APPENDIX

SECRET*War Diary  
App. "D"*Copy No *17*14th AUST INFANTRY BRIGADE - ORDER No 59.Reference*Amiens Sheet 17 } 1/100,000  
Lens " " }*Headquarters,  
12.1.17.

1. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade Group and bearer sub-division  
14th Field Coy. A.E. of 8th Field Ambulance, less units en-  
28th Coy. A.S.C. umerated in margin, and Transport, will  
(less supply section) umerated in margin, and Transport, will  
A & B Sections and move by rail to "R" Area on 14th inst.  
bearer sub-division of "C" Section 14th  
of "C" Section 14th Field Ambulance. Train timings attached (APPENDIX "A").  
2 Coys. 55th Bn.
2. Supply Section of 28th Coy. A.S.C. will move independently.
3. The 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade Transport and Transport of 8th  
Field Ambulance Bearers will move to "R" Area on 13th and 14th  
insts. in accordance with Table of Moves attached (APP. "B").
4. Lieut. Edison, 56th Battalion, will be in charge of  
Transport Column for the move.
5. An interval of 200 yards between transport of Units will  
be maintained throughout the march.
6. Instructions as regards rations, etc., issued herewith  
(APPENDIX "C").
7. This Office will close at FLESSELLES on 14th inst. and  
open at BUIRE at 12 noon the same day.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Whitman*

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 9 p.m.

- |           |    |                                    |
|-----------|----|------------------------------------|
| Copy No 1 | to | 5th Aust. Division.                |
| 2         |    | G.O.C., 14th Inf. Bde.             |
| 3         |    | 53rd Battalion.                    |
| 4         |    | 54th Battalion.                    |
| 5         |    | 55th Battalion.                    |
| 6         |    | 56th Battalion.                    |
| 7         |    | 14th M.G. Coy.                     |
| 8         |    | 14th A.L.T.M.B.                    |
| 9         |    | Supply Officers<br>28th Coy A.S.C. |
| 10        |    | 14th Fld. Coy. Engrs.              |
| 11        |    | 14th Fld. Ambulance.               |
| 12        |    | 8th Fld. Ambulance.                |
| 13        |    | Town Major, FLESSELLES             |
| 14        |    | Town Major, BUIRE.                 |
| 15        |    | File.                              |
| 16)       |    |                                    |
| 17)       |    | War Diary.                         |

TRAIN TIMINGS ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 59 - 12.1.17.

Date	Unit	Train	STATION.		TIME			Remarks.
			Entraining	Detraining	"A"	"B"	"C"	
14th	53rd Bn.	"A"	FLESSELLES	EDGEHILL	8.30 am	9.30 am	11.30 am.	<p>(1) One Officer will be detailed by each Unit to report to BRIGADE MAJOR at FLESSELLES Station, half an hour before the entrainment of unit commences.</p> <p>(2) Details (in Unit Column) will be attached to 55th Bn. for the move, and will report to 55th Bn. at 3 p.m. on 13th inst.</p> <p>(3) The times laid down in entrainment column will be strictly adhered to, and care must be taken not to congest the traffic on the roads and in vicinity of the Railway Station.</p>
"	B.H.Q.	"	"	"	8.50 am	"	"	
"	54th Bn.	"	"	"	9.0 am	"	"	
"	55th Bn.	"B"	"	"	10.30 am	11.30 am	1.30 pm	
"	56th Bn.	"	"	"	10.45 am	"	"	
"	14th M.G. Coy.	"	"	"	11.0 am	"	"	
"	14th A.L.T.L.B.	"	"	"	11.10 am	"	"	
"	Medical Units.	"	"	"	11.15 am	"	"	
"	Details.	"	"	"	11.15 am	"	"	

NOTE:- "A" Time of Entraining.  
 "B" Time of Departure.  
 "C" Time of arrival.

APPENDIX D

SECRET.

APPENDIX "B".

TABLE OF MOVES FOR TRANSPORT - ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 59 - 12.1.17.

Date	Unit	From	To	Route	Remarks.
13th	B.H.Q.	FLESSELLES	RAINVILLE	via VILLERS-BOCAGE.	<p>(a) Starting-point where the MONTONVILLERS Road joins the FLESSELLES - VILLERS-BOCAGE Road.</p> <p>(b) Head of Column to pass Starting Point at 2 p.m.</p> <p>(c) Order of march as in Unit column.</p> <p>(d) Transport of <del>units</del> 5th Bn and 14th M.G. Coy will move together and independent of the main column.</p>
"	53rd Bn.	"	"	"	
"	54th Bn.	"	"	"	
"	55th Bn.	"	"	"	
"	14th Fld. Ambulance	"	"	"	
"	8th Fld. Ambulance.	"	"	"	
"	14th M.G. Coy.	FREMONT	"	via FREMONT, BERTANGLES, COISY.	
"	56th Bn.	ST. VAST	"	"	
14th	B. H. Q.	RAINVILLE	BUIRE	via QUIRRIEU and HELLY.	<p>(1) Starting point where the RAINVILLE- QUIRRIEU Road crosses the CONTAY-AMIENS Road.</p> <p>(2) (a) Head of column to pass starting point at 11 a.m. (b) Not to reach RIBEMONT before 1 p.m.</p> <p>(3) Order of march as in unit column.</p>
"	53rd Bn.	RAINVILLE	BUIRE	"	
"	54th Bn.	"	"	"	
"	55th Bn.	"	"	"	
"	56th Bn.	"	"	"	
"	14th M.G. Co	"	"	"	
"	14th Fld. Amb.	"	"	"	
"	8th Fld. Amb.	"	"	"	

APPENDIX B

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INSTRUCTIONS AS REGARDS RATIONS, ETC. - ISSUED WITH

APPENDIX D

BRIGADE ORDER No 59. - 12.1.17.

1. BILLETS.

(a) Units will occupy the same billets in BUIRE AS were occupied by them when last billeted there.

(b) An Officer from each unit, together with the TOWN MAJOR, will inspect the billets vacated.

(c) The usual certificates as to cleanliness of billets vacated will be rendered to reach B.H.Q. by 6 p.m. on 14th inst.

(d) The O/C advanced party of each unit will inspect billets taken over in BUIRE. Report on result of inspection to reach B.H.Q. by 9 a.m. on 15th inst.

2. COOKERS.

(a) Units may retain Cookers in order to supply a hot meal on the night of 15th inst., but any cookers retained must rejoin Brigade Transport at RAINVILLE on 13th inst.

(b) Cookers retained will draw up on the FLESSELLES - VILLERS-BOUAGE Road, clear of FLESSELLES at 5.30 p.m. in the following order:-

Cookers 53rd Bn.  
" 54th Bn.  
" 55th Bn.

(c) 54th Battalion Transport Sergeant will be detailed to take charge of these cookers.

(d) 56th Battalion cookers will move independently.

(e) Units will forward to this office by 10 a.m. tomorrow 12th inst. a return showing number of cookers they intend to retain.

3. SUPPLIES.

(a) Railhead will change to EDGEHILL on 14th inst.

(b) 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will carry unexpired <sup>days</sup> portion of rations.

(c) Supplies for 15th inst will be drawn at BUIRE on 14th inst.

4. ADVANCE PARTIES.

(a) Units will detail advanced parties as under to proceed to BUIRE on 13th inst. and report to Lt. Adams at Town Major's Office, BUIRE, at 8 a.m. on 14th inst.



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2.

Brigade Headquarters	1 Officer.
Each Battalion,	1 Officer.
M.G. Coy.	1 N.C.O.

(b) Units will be responsible for transport for this Advanced party.

5. LORRIES.

(a) One Motor Lorry has been allotted to each Battalion, and one to Brigade Headquarters, M.G. Company and A.L.T.M.B, for the 14th inst.

(b) These lorries will report to Units at 7 a.m. on 14th inst.

6. SURPLUS STORES.

Surplus Stores will not be dumped in "T" Area but will be taken forward to "R" Area.

*Sgd. G. Dickinson.*

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th Aust. Infantry Bde.

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE - SCHEME.

=====

for 12th January 1917.

References : AMIENS Sheet 17. )  
LENS " 11 ) 1/100,000.

GENERAL IDEA.

A White Force, having been defeated in the vicinity of AMIENS, is retiring in the direction of DOULLENS, pursued by a victorious khaki force.

\*\*\*  
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SPECIAL IDEA.

1. A aeroplane reconnaissance discloses the fact that the White Force has halted and is assembling about 1 Mile west of DOULLENS.
2. The 14th Aust Inf. Brigade is advanced guard to the Khaki force.
3. At 9.0 a.m. on the 13th inst., the G.O.C. Advanced Guard received a report from O/C Vanguard that enemy rear-guard (strength 1 Battalion infantry and 1 Battery Field Artillery) have dug in on the TALMAS-FLESSELLES Road, and that the advance is checked.
4. At 10 a.m. on 13th inst. the G.O.C. Advanced Guard receives orders to attack enemy's rear-guard and continue the advance.

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PROPOSED ACTION.

=====

1. The 53rd Battalion (vanguard) and 54th Battalion (part main-guard) with 55th Battalion and 2 Sections of 14th M.G. Coy in reserve, covered by 2 Batteries Field Artillery, and 1 battery heavy artillery (placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. Advanced Guard for this operation) will attack the enemy entrenched on the TALMAS-FLESSELLES Road.
2. FLESSELLES has been reconnoitred and found to be unoccupied.
3. I M A G I N A R Y . On reaching BERTANGLES, the Advanced Guard Comes under Artillery fire, and 500 yards South of the VILLERS-BOCAGE - FLESSELLES Road, they are subjected to a fairly brisk M.G. and Rifle Fire. They adopt extended order formation here, and continue the advance, till the first wave reaches the most advanced line of scouts, who are held up 200 yards North of the Road.
4. The exercise for 12th inst. will start from this point.

War Diary  
App "F"

## APPENDIX

LIST OF 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONA SCHOOL LECTURES ATTENDED BY  
OFFICERS OF 14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

DATE.	SUBJECT	BY WHOM.
8th Jany.	Map Reading and Field Sketching.	Lt.-Col. TRAVERS, D.S.O.
10th Jany.	Artillery Co-operation	Lt.-Col. LLOYD, D.S.O.
11th "	Tactical Use of Lewis Gun and Machine Gun.	Corps Machine Gun Officer.
13th "	Aeroplane Maps. Contact Patrole.	R.F.C. Officer.

War Diary  
app. G

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No 60

APPENDIX G

Reference: ALBERT  
Combined Sheet } 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
13.1.17.

1. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade Group less detached Units will move from BUIRE to Forward Area on the 16th, 17th and 18th insts., in accordance with Table of Moves attached.
2. The 54th Battalion will come under orders of G.O.C., 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade, at 4 p.m. on 14th inst.
3. (a) The following distances will be maintained throughout the march:-
  - 200 yards between Battalions.
  - 200 Yards between Companies.
  - 200 yards between Transport of Units.
 (b) Troops marching on Roads East of FRIGOURT will move in file.
4. Instructions regarding Supplies, Advanced Parties, etc., will be issued later.
5. This Office will close at BUIRE at 8 a.m. on 16th inst. and will open at FRIGOURT at 12 noon same day.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 7 p.m.

- |           |    |                                    |
|-----------|----|------------------------------------|
| Copy No 1 | to | 5th Aust. Division.                |
| 2         |    | G.O.C., 14th Inf. Brigade.         |
| 3         |    | 53rd Bn.                           |
| 4         |    | 54th Bn.                           |
| 5         |    | 55th Bn.                           |
| 6         |    | 56th Bn.                           |
| 7         |    | 14th M.G. Coy.                     |
| 8         |    | 14th L.T.M.B.                      |
| 9         |    | 14th Fld. Coy. Engrs.              |
| 10        |    | 14th Fld. Ambulance.               |
| 11        |    | 8th Fld. Ambulance.                |
| 12        |    | Town Major, BUIRE.                 |
| 13        |    | Supply Officer,<br>28th Coy A.S.C. |
| 14        |    | File.                              |
| 15)       |    |                                    |
| 16)       |    | War Diary.                         |

SECRET.TABLE OF MOVES ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 60.12.1.17.

UNIT	D A T E.			
	15th	16th	17th	18th
L O C A T I O N O F U N I T S.				
B.H.Q.	BUIRE	FRICOURT	-	-
53rd Bn.	"	"	MAMETZ	MAMETZ
55th Bn.	"	"	FRICOURT	ADELAIDE MONTAUBAN.
56th Bn.	"	"	MONTAUBAN	MONTAUBAN.
14th M.G. Coy.	"	"	-	-
14th L.T.M.B.	"	"	-	-

I N S T R U C T I O N S.

1. STARTING POINT for Move on 16th inst will be the Church at E-25.c.8.4.
2. HEAD OF COLUMN will pass Starting point at 9 a.m.
3. ORDER OF MARCH as in Unit Column.
4. TRANSPORT will move in rear of column under orders of Lieut. Shannan, 56th Bn. Order of march for Transport as in Unit Column.
5. MOVES ON 17th AND 18th INSTS. will be MADE BY UNITS INDEPENDENTLY.

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\*\*\*

War Diary  
App "H"

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LIST OF FATIGUES FURNISHED BY 14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE

DATE	Off.	O.R.	NATURE OF WORK.	LOCALITY	BATTALION.
Jan.17		7	D.A.D.O.S.	Albert	55th.
Jan.18		3	Y.M.C.A.	BERNAFAY	56th.
19		50	ANZAC Lt.Rlys	BERNAFAY	55th.
19	1	50	R.E. DUMP.	BERNAFAY	55th.
19	2	100	General Work.	S.22.d.9.2.	55th.
19	2	115	C.R.E. Circuit	QUARRY SDG.	55th.
19	1	47	CORPS W'SHOPS.	MEAULTE.	55th.
19		12	SAWYERS, CORPS WORKS.	MEAULTE	55th.
19	1	20	3rd Fld. Coy AE.Div. H.Q.		56th.
19	1	50	Per. party.	S.22.d.9.2.	56th.
19	2	100	Transport of rails	S.22.d.9.2.	55th.
19		16	-	D.H.Q.	56th.
20		50	Railhead.	MONTAUBAN	55th.
20		16	-	-	56th.
21		7	Y.M.C.A.	BERNAFAY	56th.
21		21	Railhead	MONTAUBAN.	56th.
21		16	-	D.H.Q.	56th.
22		21	San. Sect.	-	56th.
23		16	-	D.H.Q.	56th.
23		31	San. Sect.	-	56th.
23		4	Railhead.	MONTAUBAN	53rd.
24		11	San. Sect.	(Daily)	56th.
25		2	134 Co. R.E.	Camp. F.2.d.5.5.	53rd.
25		2	" "	FRICOURT	54th.
25		1	" "	"	55th.
25		1	" "	"	56th.

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War Diary  
App. 1

SECRET.

Copy No 15

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No 61.

Reference Map ALBERT  
Combined Sheet } 1/40,000

Headquarters,  
21.1.17.

1. Owing to a redistribution of all the available hut and shelter accommodation, the 14th Infantry Brigade, less detached Units, will move to camps as shown in the attached Table "A". These locations will be taken up on 23rd January 1917.
2. The 29th Battalion will come under the Orders of the 14th Brigade on the 24th inst.
3. (a) The following distances will be maintained by Units moving by Road.  
  - 100 yards between Companies.
  - 200 yards between Transport and Unit.
 (b) Troops marching by road will move in file.
4. "E" Camp, near BERNAPAY, has been allotted for the permanent Depots of all Brigades. Instruction regarding the 14th Brigade Depot will be issued later.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Issued at 7 p.m.

- |           |    |                                       |
|-----------|----|---------------------------------------|
| Copy No 1 | to | 5th Aust. Division.                   |
| 2         |    | G.O.C., 14th Inf. Brigade.            |
| 3         |    | 53rd Battalion.                       |
| 4         |    | 54th Battalion.                       |
| 5         |    | 55th Battalion.                       |
| 6         |    | 56th Battalion.                       |
| 7         |    | 14th M.G. Coy.                        |
| 8         |    | 14th L.T.M.B.                         |
| 9         |    | 14th Field Ambulance                  |
| 10        |    | 29th Battalion.                       |
| 11        |    | Supply Officer,<br>28th Coy. A.A.S.C. |
| 12        |    | 14th Fld. Coy. Engineers.             |
| 13        |    | Signal Officer.                       |
| 14        |    | File                                  |
| 15)       |    |                                       |
| 16)       |    | War Diary.                            |



SECRET.TABLE "A" - ISSUED WITH BRIGADE ORDER No 61,\* 21.1.17. \*

CAMP	ALLOTTED TO	REMARKS.
"D" Camp, BERNAFAY.	10 Huts for Cable- bopping party sup- plied by 56th Bn.	
"D" Camp, MONTAUBAN	55th Battalion.	
FRICOURT "A"	56th Battalion.	
FRICOURT "B"	29th Battalion.	
FRICOURT "C"	53rd Battalion.	
FRICOURT "A"	(14th L.T.M.B (14th M.G. Coy.	

INSTRUCTIONS.

1. Moves will be made by Units independently.
2. Bns. will send an Officer to inspect camp, and make necessary arrangements re allotment of huts on day previous to moves.
3. Units will continue to draw supplies as usual.

SECRET.  
=====War Diary  
App. JCopy No 1514th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE - ORDER NO 62.Reference Map - 57° S.W. 1/20,000Headquarters,  
26.1.17.

1. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade will relieve the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade in the Right Section of 5th Aust. Division Sector, on the 27th, 28th and 29th insts. in accordance with relief table attached.
2. O.C. 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade will conduct the relief.
3. Details of reliefs will be arranged between Unit Commanders concerned.
4. All Trench Stores, gum-boots, primus stoves, hot food containers, maps, aeroplane photographs, and any documents dealing with the sector will be taken over and receipts given.
5. (a) One officer and 1 C.O. per Unit will be sent on in advance to report to the O/C of the Unit they are relieving, and will take over all Trench Stores, etc.  
(b) These stores will be listed and checked in daylight. Copy of receipts signed will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of completion of reliefs.
6. Machine Gun Tripods and Bolt Boxes, Stokes Mortars, ammunition and wooden bed plate will be taken over from Units being relieved.
7. During the relief Units must not move forward of WATERLOO LINE before 4.30 p.m. daily.
8. (a) The personnel detailed by Battalions for Mining Company, in accordance with this Office S.C. 251/736 of 23/1/17 will report to O/C 14th Brigade Mining Coy. at Brigade Headquarters (S.18.d.7.2.) at 9 a.m. on the 29th inst.  
(b) 14th Brigade Mining Coy. will relieve the 8th Brigade Mining Coy. on 29th inst. Details of relief to be arranged between O/C units concerned. (P.F.O.)

( 11 )

9. Working parties at present found by 56th Battalion will be furnished by the 26th Battalion on the morning of 29th inst.
10. Completion of all reliefs will be reported to Brigade Headquarters in Codo.
11. The O.C. 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will assume command of the Sector at 11 a.m. on 29th inst.
12. This Office will close at QUARRY at 10 a.m. on 29th inst., and will open at S.13.d.7.2. at 11 a.m. on same day.
13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Continued*

MAJOR,

BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INF. BDE.

Issued at 3 p.m.

Copy No	1	to 5th Aust. Division.
	2	O.C. 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.
	3	53rd Battalion.
	4	54th Battalion.
	5	55th Battalion.
	6	56th Battalion.
	7	14th L.G. Coy.
	8	14th L.T.M.S.
	9	14th Field Coy. Engrs.
	10	14th Field Ambulance.
	11	O/C 14th Bde. Mining Coy.
	12	Supply Officer, 28th A.A.S.C.
	13	3th Aust. Inf. Brigade.
	14	File
	15)	
	16)	War Diary. ✓

UNIT	DATE						REMARKS		
	26th		27th		28th			29th	
	LOCATION	MOVE TO	TO RELIEVE	MOVE TO	TO RELIEVE	MOVE TO		TO RELIEVE	
53rd Bn.	TRONES WOOD CAMP	INTER-MEDIATE LINE	30th Bn.	FRONT LINE	29th Bn.	FRONT LINE	-		
54th Bn.	MONTAUBAN	MONT-AUBAN	-	MONT-AUBAN	-	MONT-AUBAN	-		
55th Bn.	MONT-AUBAN	TRONES WOOD CAMP	53rd Bn.	INTER-MEDIATE LINE	53rd Bn.	INTER-MEDIATE LINE	-		
56th Bn.	FRICOURT	FRICOURT	-	FRICOURT	-	TRONES WOOD CAMP	29th Bn.		
14th M.G. Coy	TRONES WOOD CAMP	FRONT LINE	8th M.G. Coy.	FRONT LINE	-	FRONT LINE	-		
14th A.L. T.M.B.	TRONES WOOD CAMP	FRONT LINE	8th A.L. T.M.B.	FRONT LINE	-	FRONT LINE	-		

APPENDIX 5

28  
SECRET.

War Diary  
app. "K"

Headquarters,  
14th Aust. Inf. Brigade,  
29.1.17.

C.R.A.,

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Attached please find Draft Scheme for attack ~~by~~ FINCH TRENCH by 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

As it is intended to carry out the attack in the form of a surprise with only a 3 minutes MORTAR bombardment, I do not consider that it would be advisable for the Artillery to carry out a lengthy programme.

I therefore suggest that at zero, the Artillery engage any targets which may affect the operation, such as tracks, roads and any known hostile M.G.E. in M.29.c and d., and N.35. a. and b., particular attention being paid to Sunken Road and enemy's defences in vicinity of CEMETERY CIRCUS, ceasing fire at zero PLUS 5 minutes.

I would also suggest that you be prepared to place a box barrage round objective in case of counter-attack.

I would be glad if Artillery diversions on the flanks could be arranged lasting for, say 10 minutes.

Lieut.-Colonel,  
T/Commanding 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

S E C R E T.  
=====14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE. ( 11 )  
=====DRAFT OF SCHEME

Brigade Headquarters,

Reference Map :- 57<sup>c</sup> S.W. 1/20,000.29 - 1 - 17.

1. An attack will be made by the 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade on a date to be notified later, on the German Line that lies between points N.35.a.3.7. and N.27.c.2.2.
2. The object of this attack is to obtain possession of that part of the German Line that lies between the point at N.35.a.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .9. and that at N.29.c.2.1.
3. The operation will be carried out in the shape of a surprise attack by a party detailed by the 56th Battalion. The party not to exceed 100 all ranks (including specialists).
4. A thorough reconnaissance of the Line of Attack and of the ground to its Front to be crossed will be made by the party carrying out the operation.
5. At zero minus 5 the attacking party will leave position of assembly in ZENITH TRENCH and take up position in NO MAN'S LAND, preparatory to the assault. At zero, the 14th L.T.M.B. will open fire on FINCH TRENCH and ORION TRENCH. The attacking party will move forward as close as possible to Stokes Gun Bombardment. At zero plus 3 The 14th L.T.M.B. will cease fire and the attacking party will rush the objective.
6. Zero hour will be communicated as soon as possible.
7. The objective will be held as thinly as possible after capture. Lewis Guns will be sent forward and blocks established at N.35.a.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .9 and N.29.c.2.1.
8. All wounded men and prisoners will be returned to our trenches as soon as possible. They will be handed over to specially detailed parties.
9. The assault party will be very carefully inspected before attacking to ensure that neither officers nor men are carrying anything that might be of value to the enemy.
10. The R.M.O. of the Battalion in the Line will make the necessary (P.T.O.)

SECRET

( 11 ) 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade

DRAFT OF SCHEME

Medical Arrangements.

Brigade Headquarters

Reference is made to - 1/20,000

22 - 1 - 17

Lieut. Colonel,

T/Commanding 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

The object of this attack is to obtain possession of the

part of the German line that lies between the point at 1.8.8.8

and that at 1.8.8.8.1.

The operation will be carried out in the shape of a surprise

attack by a party detailed by the 88th Battalion. The party

not to exceed 100 all ranks (including specialists).

A thorough reconnaissance of the line of Attack and of the

ground to its front to be crossed will be made by the party

trying out the operation.

At zero minus 5 the attacking party will leave position

assembly in ERITH TRENCH and take up position in 30 BAR'S

preparatory to the assault. At zero, the 14th A.I.B. will

open fire on ERITH TRENCH and ORION TRENCH. The attacking

will move forward as close as possible to enemy gun positions

At zero plus 5 the 14th A.I.B. will cease fire and the attack

the party will push the objective.

Zero hour will be communicated as soon as possible.

The objective will be held as long as possible after capture

Lewis Guns will be sent forward and picquets established at

1.8.8.8.2 and 1.8.8.8.1.

All wounded men and prisoners will be returned to our trenches

as soon as possible. They will be handed over to medical staff

called earlier.

The assault party will be very carefully inspected before at-

tacking to ensure that neither officers nor men are carrying any-

thing that might be of value to the enemy.

The R.O. of the Battalion in the line will make the necessary

(P.T.O.)

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War Diary  
App. "L"

S E C R E T.

Copy No 12.

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

ORDER No 63.

Reference Map :-  
57<sup>c</sup> S.W. 1/20,000.

Headquarters,  
30 - 1 - 17.

1. Reliefs and moves in accordance with attached table will be carried out in the 14th Brigade Area from 31st inst. to 3rd prox.
2. Details of reliefs will be arranged between Battalion Commanders concerned.
3. Advanced parties will be sent on in advance to take over TRENCH STORES, etc. in day-light.
4. The usual receipts will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters within 24 hours of completion of reliefs.
5. (a) Battalions will, when moving back from the FRONT LINE, bring out all gum-boots and hand them in to the DRYING SHED on the morning after the relief.  
(b) Unit commanders will ensure that every man moving into the FRONT LINE has a pair of dry gum-boots.
6. No movements are to take place forward of WATERLOO FARM before 4.30 p.m.
7. "Relief complete" will be telegraphed to Brigade Headquarters in Code.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Whitkinson*

MAJOR,  
BRIGADE MAJOR, 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Issued at 6.30 p.m.

- Copy No 1 to 5th Aust. Division.
- 2 G.O.C., 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.
  - 3 53rd Battalion.
  - 4 54th Battalion.
  - 5 55th Battalion.
  - 6 56th Battalion.
  - 7 14th M.G. Coy.
  - 8 14th L.T.M.B.
  - 9 Supply Officer,  
28th Coy A.A.S.C.
  - 10 15th Aust. Inf. Bde.
  - 11 87th Inf. Brigade.
  - 12 File
  - 13)
  - 14) War Diary.



S E C R E T.

TABLE OF MOVES ISSUED WITH 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE ORDER No 63.

30 - 1 - 17.

UNIT	D A T E.			
	31st JANUARY	1st FEBRUARY	2nd FEBRUARY	3rd FEBRUARY
53rd Battalion	"C" CAMP, TRONES WOOD	"C" CAMP, TRONES WOOD	MONTAUBAN	MONTAUBAN
54th Battalion.	MONTAUBAN	MONTAUBAN	"C" CAMP, TRONES WOOD	INTERMEDIATE LINE
55th Battalion.	FRONT LINE	FRONT LINE	FRONT LINE	"C" CAMP, TRONES WOOD.
56th Battalion.	INTERMEDIATE LINE	INTERMEDIATE LINE	INTERMEDIATE LINE	FRONT LINE.

APPENDIX

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War Diary  
App. "M"

S E C R E T.

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

No 20.

From 6 a.m. 29-1-17 to 6 a.m. 30-1-17.

A. GENERAL

The day was fairly clear and movement was seen in isolated cases in and between the villages of LE TRANSLOY and BEAULENCOURT.

The enemy shelled heavily at intervals in sector N.35.c., on our Front Line and saps.

Our artillery was active during the day on enemy lines in N.35.a.

Our machine-guns fired several bursts towards LE TRANSLOY during the day.

B. DEFENCES.

Nil.

C. MOVEMENTS.

Isolated cases of individuals.

D. SIGNALLING.

Nil.

E. GAS.

Nil.

F. ARTILLERY.

Enemy were active at intervals during the day, on our lines in N.34.b. and N.35.c., with shrapnel and H.E.

G. EQUIPMENT.

The individuals seen wore the usual Field Grey uniform.

I. AIRCRAFT.

Enemy 'planes were active during the day, but the majority kept out of range of our A.A. Guns.

Our 'planes were fairly active during the day.

Lieut.-Colonel,  
T/Commanding 14th AUST. INFANTRY BDE.

S E C R E T.14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.PATROL REPORT.Night of 29th/30th January 1917.

No 1 Patrol was sent out to investigate line of German trenches from N.35.a.3.2. to N.35.a.0.8. This patrol, including 1 Officer and 12 Other Ranks, left by Sunken Road at 1 a.m. They proceeded up the road about 200 yards. The patrol struck an old German dug-out, and a trench crossing this Road. They examined the trench, and found it to consist of a series of bays that could be used as bombing posts at about 20 yards interval. The dug-out and bays were thoroughly examined, and a large number of stick-bombs, egg-bombs and tools were found in various bays, also a Machine-gun belt and some loose flares. The patrol, after working along the trench about 250 yards, turned back and came along the parts connecting the bays. The patrol returned at 2.15 a.m. with no casualties, and without seeing any of the enemy during their reconnaissance.

No 2 Patrol, consisting of 1 Officer and 16 Other Ranks, left our line at 1 a.m. 40 yards to the right of Sunken Road leading from N.34. to N.35., keeping left flank on Sunken Road. Immediately the patrol crossed the sky-line in front of our trenches, a party of 20 to 30 Germans sprang up about 20 yards in front of our patrol. Our patrol opened fire on them, but no casualties were observed. The patrol then proceeded to the place the enemy had come from, and found a fairly large crater with three large dug-outs. These were bombed, with no results. The patrol then proceeded in a direction parallel to our line of trenches, finding several shell-craters with dug-outs. They then proceeded until they got into touch with No 3 patrol, 50 yards from Sunken Road. At N.35.a. a narrow trench was found, which the two patrols investigated, and found to lead towards the enemy's lines. The trench gave ample evidence of recent occupation; fire places and bundles of firewood were seen in the trench. ~~at~~ The end nearest Sunken Road, N.34. to N. 35. gave evidence of recent work

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( 11 )

and is quite near the shell-crater that the enemy retired from. It appears as if an attempt were being made to connect this trench with the road. At present no connection exists. The patrol returned at 2.15 a.m. with no casualties.

No 3 Patrol, including 1 Officer and 7 Other Ranks, patrolled Sunken Road from point N.35.2.1.0. On reaching ORION TRENCH at junction of roads, the patrol picked up with No 2 Patrol. This patrol, after investigating a trench with No 2, returned at 2.15 a.m.

*J. Adams*

for Lieut.-Colonel,  
T/Commanding 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

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WORKS REPORT

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for

24 hours ending 6 a.m. 30 - 1 - 17.

FRONT LINE SYSTEM.

Along each Company's Front, the cleaning of trenches and relaying of duckboards was carried on.

SUMMER TRENCH. The trench at N.34.b.9.1. has been widened for a distance of 10 yards. Work on strong point at N.34.b.9.8. still in progress.

No 3 M.G. Dugout was proceeded with and about 8 yards of earth removed.

COW TRENCH. 3 Shelters commenced. In addition 10 yards of debris were removed.

NEEDLE TRENCH. General cleaning of trench. 2 dug-outs and 2 latrines repaired.

Lieut.-Colonel,

T/Commanding 14th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

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War Diary.  
App. "N"

S E C R E T.

14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No 21.

From 6 a.m. 30-1-17 to 6 a.m. 31-1-17.

A. GENERAL

The day was rather dull and misty. The snow which fell made observation rather difficult.

Both our own and enemy Artillery were fairly active. The enemy heavily bombarded our Front Line with H.E. and Shrapnel, from about 11.45 a.m. to 3 p.m. and again at 4.30 p.m. on Sectors N.34.b.9.8., N.35.c.3.8., and N.35.c.7.5., causing a good deal of damage to our Front Line. Enemy's fire came from the direction of LE TRANSLOY. Our Artillery paid particular attention to the enemy's Front Line and Supports in N.35.a.

Enemy snipers were very quiet during the night.

B. DEFENCES.

Nil.

C. MOVEMENTS.

Nil.

D. SIGNALLING

At 9.30 p.m. a large number of red flares were seen to go up <sup>between</sup> ~~over~~ LESBOUFS, <sup>and Le Transloy.</sup> In response to this, enemy Artillery increased their fire on trenches between LESBOUFS and LE TRANSLOY.

E. GAS.

Nil.

F. ARTILLERY.

Time	Place Hit	Nature	No Rnds.	Remarks.
a.m.				
8.15	LESBOUFS	H.E. & S.	80	
9.50	N.27.c & GUEUDEECOURT	H.E.	30	
p.m.				
12.30	N.27.a & N.34.d.	H.E. & S.	39	
12.45 to 2.0	N.33.d & N.34.c to N.27.d.	H.E. & S.	Continuous	
3.50	T.8.b.	Shrapnel	10	
8.0	T.8.b.	Shrapnel	7	
8.35	T.8.b.	Shrapnel	20	
11.26	LESBOUFS	H.E.	12	
11.45	T.2.c	Shrapnel	9	
a.m.				
1.0	N.35.a	H.E.	6	
3.0	LESBOUFS	H.E. & S.	Continuous	
to dawn				

( ii )

G. EQUIPMENT Nil.

I. AIRCRAFT. A 'plane was heard over our Front Line about 10.15 p.m.  
lat night.

W O R K S   R E P O R T .

Work in Front Line System at N.34.b Widening Trench, and  
rebuilding shelters, also improvement to Fire steps.

Machine Gun Dug-out at N.34.b.8.25. About 8 cubic yards  
of earth removed.

A Machine Gun Dug-out at N.34.b-85.9 commenced, and about  
8 cubic yards of earth removed.

Dressing station at N.34.a.1.9. About 3 cubic yards of  
excavating done.

FLERS LINE.  
COV TRENCH, T.3.a.5.5. About 15 yards of trench cleaned  
and improved, also 4 shelters under construction.

BRIG.-GENERAL,

Commanding 14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.

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SECRET.  
=====

14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

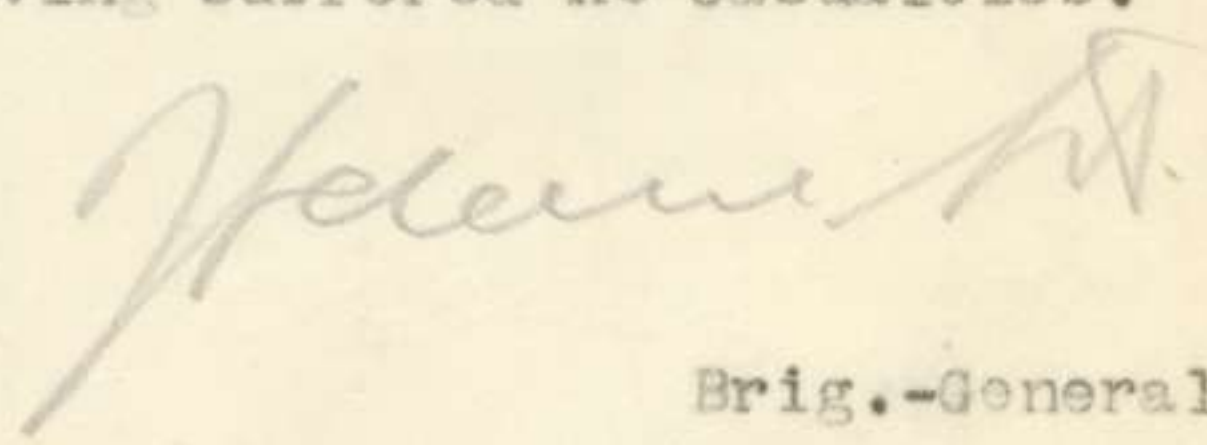
PATROL REPORT.

Night of 30th / 31 - 1 - 17

A patrol of 1 Officer and 16 Other Ranks left our trenches at N.34.b.9.8. at 2 a.m. They moved over NO MAN'S LAND South of the SUNKEN ROAD, and meeting no opposition, entered enemy's trenches at N.35.a.3.2. Patrol then turned to their right, and moved along the trench for about 200 yards. This trench showed signs of recent occupation, and two thin telephone-wires running along the trench were cut by our patrol.

What appeared to be an old Communication Trench was observed running in the direction of LE TRANSLOY. This sap ended about N.35.a.8.6., and two Germans were observed firing flares from this point, but ~~the~~ disappeared as the patrol approached. Dugouts in SUNKEN ROADS at N.35.a.3.0. were again examined, but no fresh tracks leading to them, or other signs of their having ~~since~~ been occupied since they were searched on the previous night, could be found.

Patrol returned at 2.45 a.m., having suffered no casualties.



Brig.-General,  
Commanding 14th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.



MONTHLY  
 CASUALTY  
 RETURN  
 FOR JANUARY  
 1917

Wm. Brown  
 App. 6

14<sup>th</sup> JUST. INF. BRIGADE.  
CASUALTY RETURN for MONTH of JANUARY 1917.

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DATE	BRIGADE H.Q.s.		53 <sup>rd</sup> Bn.		54 <sup>th</sup> Bn.		55 <sup>th</sup> Bn.		56 <sup>th</sup> Bn.		14 <sup>th</sup> MG Co.		14 <sup>th</sup> L.T.M.B.		TOTAL.		DAILY GRAND TOTAL.		
	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	
JANUARY																			
1 <sup>st</sup>				3		2		1		3						1	8	1	8
2 <sup>nd</sup>									1		3		1				5		5
3 <sup>rd</sup>				11					7		3						21		21
4 <sup>th</sup>				13					5		11						119		20
5 <sup>th</sup>									2								2		2
6 <sup>th</sup>						2			2								4		4
7 <sup>th</sup>				4		2			4		8						18		18
8 <sup>th</sup>				4			1		2		8				1		14	1	14
9 <sup>th</sup>						2			3								5		5
10 <sup>th</sup>				4		1			3		2						10		10
11 <sup>th</sup>				4					3		14						21		21
12 <sup>th</sup>				4					2		6						12		12
13 <sup>th</sup>				2		3			2		3		1		2		13		13
14 <sup>th</sup>				1		3		1	2		1		1			1	8	1	8
15 <sup>th</sup>									3		2						5		5
16 <sup>th</sup>				6		4		1	9		14					1	33	1	33
17 <sup>th</sup>				6					6		6						18		18
18 <sup>th</sup>				5		2			7		1		1				16		16
19 <sup>th</sup>				5		3		1	3							1	11	1	11
20 <sup>th</sup>				4		2			3		1		1				10		11
21 <sup>st</sup>				4		1	14		6							1	14		16
22 <sup>nd</sup>				1		2			6		48		2				49		23
23 <sup>rd</sup>				5		17			1		15			1			129		30
24 <sup>th</sup>				3		13			4		5		1				214		16
25 <sup>th</sup>				4		1	25		1		8					1	28		21
26 <sup>th</sup>						13			1		4						54		9
27 <sup>th</sup>				4					2		1						7		7
28 <sup>th</sup>				5		3			1		2						11		11
29 <sup>th</sup>				1	21		1				3					1	25		8
30 <sup>th</sup>				1	12		4		2		18					1	26		19
31 <sup>st</sup>				1	16		15		1		13					1	28	1	27
TOTAL				1	108		71		5		97		8		3	6	442	6	442

APPENDIX

War Diary  
App "P"

ARRIVALS  
DURING  
MONTH  
OF  
JANUARY

# RETURN SHOWING REINFORCEMENTS, RETURNED

WOUNDED etc. joined up during

month of JANUARY.  
1917.

DATE	Bde. H.Qs		53 <sup>rd</sup> BN.		54 <sup>th</sup> BN.		55 <sup>th</sup> BN.		56 <sup>th</sup> BN.		14 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Co.		14 <sup>th</sup> LTMB.		TOTAL.		REMARKS.	
	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.	OFF.	O/R.		
1 <sup>st</sup>				2		2		6		1		10				1	20	
2 <sup>nd</sup>				16		5		7		13		2					43	
3 <sup>rd</sup>				7		28		6		13							54	
4 <sup>th</sup>																		
5 <sup>th</sup>																		
6 <sup>th</sup>	1			1												1	1	
7 <sup>th</sup>				4			1	3		6						1	13	
8 <sup>th</sup>				24		8		3		15							50	
9 <sup>th</sup>				1		2											3	
10 <sup>th</sup>								1									1	
11 <sup>th</sup>										1							1	
12 <sup>th</sup>								2									2	
13 <sup>th</sup>			1	10				13				1				1	24	
14 <sup>th</sup>										5		1					6	
15 <sup>th</sup>																		
16 <sup>th</sup>																		
17 <sup>th</sup>				9		22		21		12							64	
18 <sup>th</sup>										1		1					2	
19 <sup>th</sup>						1				1							2	
20 <sup>th</sup>					1											1		
21 <sup>st</sup>									1			4				1	4	
22 <sup>nd</sup>				11				2				1					14	
23 <sup>rd</sup>					2		2	24		1	12					5	36	
24 <sup>th</sup>								1		1							2	
25 <sup>th</sup>										1		1					2	
26 <sup>th</sup>						12		1								1	12	
27 <sup>th</sup>			1		1		3		1							6		
28 <sup>th</sup>								1		11		3					15	
29 <sup>th</sup>				14		2						8					24	
30 <sup>th</sup>										1							1	
31 <sup>st</sup>								1				2					3	
	1		2	99	4	82	7	91	4	103		24			18	399		

APPENDIX P