

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/19/41

Title: 2nd Infantry Battalion

September 1918



AWM4-23/19/41

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY



OF

2nd Aust. Br

FOR

September 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

W. J. Miller Lt

Signature of Officer Commanding

Raymond Major
2nd Aust Br

WAR DIARY

Army Form 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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MORCOURT	Sept 1		Five. Church parade held. During afternoon played with Bns Officers football and won by 19 to 3. Daily strength etc appended <i>A</i> <i>appn</i>	
	2		Showery. Training carried out as per syllabus. Football matches played Hd Cos beat D Co. 1st A.L.T.M.B. beat C Co. <i>appn</i>	
	3		Five. Training as per syllabus. C Co beat B. Football. <i>appn</i> Lt Todd & Lt Purdon returned from U.K. leave.	
	4		Five. Training as laid down carried out. Football match played by team picked from all corps. Lt Todd evacuated to Hosp. <i>appn</i>	
	5		Five. Training as per syllabus. D Co played B Co football and won by 6 points. Lt Lover left for Lewis Gun School. <i>appn</i>	
	6		Five. Bns Order No 30 issued. ^(appn) Bns moved by bus and debussed near Hems, and then marched to Mont St Quentin, and billeted all settled down at 7pm. Capt Collingwood returned. <i>appn</i>	
MONT ST QUENTIN	7		Five. Quiet day, Bn rested in anticipation of move next day. <i>appn</i>	
DOINGT	8		Dull & showery. Bn marched to DOINGT and billeted arriving at 11.15 am. Order No 31 issued <i>appn</i> <i>2</i> <i>appn</i>	

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25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DONGT J30D.6.8	9		Five. Bn marched to Support Area and took over from 44 th Aust. Bn, arriving at 11.45 am. Bn Hd Qrs situated in wood at J30 D. 6. 8 (Sheet 62 ^c) and Companies in trenches at K32. C. & D. Move order issued appendix 2.	
" " K35D.35.	10		Showery. Order No 32 ⁽⁴⁾ issued. Bn relieved the 37 th Aust Bn and elements of the 39 th Aust Bn. Relief complete at 11 pm. Daily Intelligence etc + casualties shown on appendix B.	
	11		Showery. Line advanced as per operations order. 32A. Lt Comerford wounded. Daily Intelligence appendix B. 15 Prisoners captured belonging to 87 th Regt. Order No 34 issued appendix 5.	
	12		Showery. Order No 35 issued appendix 6. Lt Tudal returned from U.K. leave. Capt Wisken & Lt Knox left for U.K. leave. Daily Intelligence etc appendix B.	
	13		Showery. Major Cook returned from Paris leave. Daily Intelligence etc appendix B.	
	14		Five. Lt Col. A.B. Stevens, Lt Erwin & 130 tanks left for transport duty to Australia. Major assumed command of Bn. Daily Intelligence etc appendix B. Bn was relieved by 8 th Aust Bn & 49 th Aust. Bn. Relief complete at 11.7 pm.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A5001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms C2118/14

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WAR DIARY

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25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
T29 B. 8.0.	14		Bn moved on relief to T29 B. 8.0. and bivouacked arriving there at 2.30 am.	
	15	u	Fine. Bn rested. Enemy aeroplanes bombed transport line and wounded 4 oxen, three horses attached belonging to No 2 Company A.S.C. were killed. Order No 38. issued appended. W.M.	
	16		Fine. C.O. and Adj. visited front area making reconnaissance of the new area we would take up at a later date. Operation order No 38 issued (additional)	
	17		Fine. Day spent in preparation for attack of next day. Bn moved from present position to assembly point, starting at midnight and arriving at destination at 3.30 am. W.M.	
	18		Heavy rain fell during the early hours of the morning. all coys reported all ok. and on "Go" at 3.38 am at zero hour 5.20 am, our barrage opened and attack made. Not much opposition was met with for the first 800 yds but after this MG fire was very troublesome, however, these were successfully dealt with and companies reported objectives gained and consolidated at 7.30 am. About 200 prisoners	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

25

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
L13 d. 9.0.	18		<p>were captured from 21st 3rd & 94th Regiments, about 25 M Gens 2 French mortars, and one 77m Gun were also captured Casualties were fairly light about 3 off & 600 Rats. Lt Ryan and Lt Hillman were killed & Lt Granville wounded. Daily Intelligence appendix B. About one hour after zero Bn Hd Qrs moved to L10.c.o.s. Day spent in improving new position after 1st Aust Bn had passed through to final objective of M.</p>	
L10.c.o.s	19		<p>Dull. Enemy shelling fairly heavy around new positions. Daily Intelligence appendix B.</p>	
"	20		<p>Fine. Lt Sheen was badly wounded, and died of wounds about two hours later. Daily Intelligence appendix B. Order of M No. 39 issued re relief appendix 8.</p>	
"	21		<p>Dull. B Company sent to front line to support 1st Aust. Bn. Bn relieved by 8th Aust Bn on relief Bn moved to dugouts at L25c.o.4 relief complete without incident at 10.30pm. Bn settled in dugouts at 1.30am.</p>	

A

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
L25CO.4.	22		Infl. Bn rested. CO visited Companies during the afternoon.	
J29.B.8.0	23		Infl. Bn moved to Incourt area leaving present location at 10am and arrived at new camp at 1.10pm.	
	24		Infl. Bn moved by march route to BIACHES leaving camp at 10am and arrived at destination at 3.30pm. Lunch was served on the route. Billeted in small dugouts.	
	25		Infl. Bn rested. Order No 41 issued dealing with move next day. Routine Order No 15 issued appendix 10.	
	26		Infl. Bn marched to LACHAPELLETE Station and entrained at 1.40pm but train did not move out until 6pm. Bn	
	27		detrained at LONGPRE at 2am, and then marched to EAUCOURT arriving there at 5.30am. Day spent in rest. Bn comfortably settled in Billets.	
EAUCOURT	28		Fine Day spent in general house up and baths.	

WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EAUCOURT.	29		The Syllabus of training issued appendix 12. Church parade held. W.F.M.	
	30		The Routine order No 16 issued appendix 13. Training carried out as per Syllabus. W.F.M.	
			On the 24 th inst Major Cook and Lt Forrest and 4 NCOs were attached to American Army for the purpose of advising their Commanders. Major H.G. Vernon then took charge of Bn. Appendix 14 is notes on the recent fighting. W.F.M.	
			Hayouan <u>Major</u>	

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aust Bn

FOR

September 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
✓ A.	Strength, Casualties etc. ✓
✓ B.	Daily Intelligence ✓
✓ 1	order no 30 ✓
✓ 2	" " 31 ✓
✓ 3	" " 32 ✓
✓ 4	" " 32a ✓
✓ 5	" " 34 ✓
✓ 6	" " 35 ✓
✓ 7	" " 38 ✓
✓ 8	" " 39 ✓
✓ 9	" " 40 ✓
✓ 10	Route 15 ✓
✓ 11	order 41 ✓
✓ 12	Syllabus of Training ✓
✓ 13	Route order 16 ✓
✓ 14	Notes on Recent Fighting ✓
✓ C	Summary of Operations ✓
D	Maps ✓

APPENDIX A

8

25
26
Appendix A.
Monthly Sick Report for month ending 30/9/1918. 8

Date	Number reporting sick	Marked Exempt	Light Duty	Medicine + Duty	Evacuated to Field Ambulance
Sep. 1 st	13	1	6	2	4
" 2 nd	22	3	9	8	2
" 3 rd	15	-	8	6	1
" 4 th	22	2	12	6	2
" 5 th	9	1	5	2	1
" 6 th	9	-	0	6	3
" 7 th	6	-	4	2	-
" 8 th	2	-	-	-	2
" 9 th	4	-	-	3	1
" 10 th	3	-	-	3	-
" 11 th	5	0	2	2	1
" 12 th	6	-	2	2	2
" 13 th	4	-	2	1	1
" 14 th	3	-	-	2	1
" 15 th	1	1	-	-	-
" 16 th	29	1	12	12	4
" 17 th	19	-	1	13	5
" 18 th	3	-	1	1	1
" 19 th	2	-	-	-	2
" 20 th	1	-	1	-	-
" 21 st	2	-	-	2	-
" 22 nd	1	-	-	1	-
" 23 rd	Nil	-	-	-	-
" 24 th	7	-	1	6	-
" 25 th	4	-	1	3	-
" 26 th	Nil	-	-	-	-
" 27 th	1	-	-	-	-
" 28 th	5	-	-	-	1
" 29 th	6	-	2	3	-
" 30 th	7	1	4	2	-
			2	4	-

Appendix A. 9
 25 Monthly report of casualties - September 1918

Date	Killed	Wounded	Missing
Sept. 13 th		4	
14 th	1	6	
15 th		15	
18 th	2 Off. 9 O.Rs.	10 Off. 39 O.Rs.	1
19 th	3	4	
20 th	1	10 Off. 1 O.Rs.	
21 st	1	2 O.Rs.	
22 nd		2 O.Rs.	
All other Dates	Nil	Nil	Nil

25/

Intelligence ~~Appendix~~ B. 10

2ND AUST BNS Intelligence

The 2nd Aust Bns relieved the 3rd
 Aust Bn on the night of the
 3rd/4th September. The 2nd Aust Bns
 on the night of the 10th/11th September
 captured a trench system at 11 PM
 between the lines of 20 ORKs. Lt
 Parole advanced from R2 a/c
 & captured trench system in
 R2 a/c. & L 32 C capturing all
 opposition. Opposition was met
 with from M.G. fire during the
 advance & 2 men were wounded.

25

25

B

11

immediately after position was taken
 a fairly heavy barrage was put down
 on our position which was
 kept up for about 30 minutes
 2 shells killed were the only casualties
 known to be killed were
 reported in the camp of which we
 were ignorant as to what they were. The
 shells were sent out with 30 days
 in early but failed to get to the
 with the camp also heavier shells
 from the Coy Right hand to get into
 the position.

25

25 12

3

On left bank of the battalion
 platoon had with one platoon which
 had gone forward in advance earlier
 than ordered by 3rd Lt. Brown
 who he overlaid with the 1st went
 forward to prominent position. They
 were engaged by enemy with the
 loss of Lt. Overford was wounded
 but he was kept alive from recovery
 of the C. C. 2. It was with
 great difficulty that Lt. Overford
 was eventually got back to front
 line after he. Sgt. Burbridge to the
 1st Lt. Overford not to return to the

25

25

13

received further orders from Co Commander after

10.15 PM Sgt Buckridge with his
platoon pushed forward & occupied

trenches (after strong resistance by
enemy M.G. & L 20 & 22

At 3.30 AM another platoon under
Lt. Shaw advanced to pass through
post established by Sgt Buckridge

over mine field & a complex trench
system in vicinity of L 20 & 22

When this platoon moved forward
heavy M.G. fire was encountered from
approx L 20 & 22. No word up to
the present has been received from

Lt

25

5

14

from this position

The centre line Coy took up a position in front of Jean road at L 32 a 27 approximately

Remains of the Coy were positioned in a position in L 34 a 31 approximately. Hostile Artillery, Enemy Artillery was extremely active throughout night. Long range Artillery all in lines up to 8000 over whole area and particularly near the main line at L 35 a 27 and L 36. I don't know number was

in the battery called
The 1st Coy was established at K 35 153
Right Coy at what R 28.5
Left Coy at L 32 a 27
Left " " at L 25 a 16

5/7/

6

15

Reserve Coy H.Q. at

H. 36. a. 4.1.

Casualties 30th. Killed

1. Off. (Lt. Tancred) Wounded

2. 1st Lt. Wounded

Wounded
Wounded
Wounded

25

APPENDIX B 16

25

16

R U 119 A

10 3 11^h -

Shoulder strap

attached to

11 4 7

R U P U

10 20 9 M

APPENDIX B

25/2

19

M/Guns. Enemy M/Gs were captured during both day attacks. An enemy M/G. has been located in quarry at L 26 5. 2

Movement. Between 10.20 & 12.15 about 200 of enemy were observed to move up from a gully in two files & pass into trenches which appeared to be dugouts camouflaged at top of hill. About 100 of them fell into the hands of our troops in the first few minutes.

~~...~~ & were the main force. Lewis Gun in trench was used on various concentrations with good effect. A number of casualties were inflicted. They were also engaged by field guns with HE & shrapnel. About 12 stretchers were later seen being carried in rear of enemy positions.

Identification 15 Prisoners
8 9th Regiment
Casualties 2 O'Rs Killed
9 O'Rs Wounded
Shortly after 1.30

X

APPENDIX

B

5/25

INTELLIGENCE REPORT 20

2ND HOUST BN

From 6 AM 12/9/18 to 6 AM 13/9/18

Our Operations - The whole battalion advanced the line last night & took up a position in the trench system East of Jeancourt.

At 5:30 PM. Small patrols were pushed out from Right & Centre line Companies carefully searched the village & found none of the enemy there though the place showed signs of recent occupation. At dusk the two Right Companies advanced & occupied trench system running through 26 B & D without incident. The previous part of the left line Co at K 26 A & S was pushed forward into the same trenches.

A shoulder strap taken off a dead man & property picked up by our patrol on the first night showed him to belong to 81st Regt. Near the same place shot were about 20 discarded rifles showing signs that the enemy party of that name suffered severe casualties & became very confused.

In operation one man was wounded by the enemy.

X

25

2

21

Hostile Activity

Movement Enemy showed very little movement throughout day only spot where men were seen at all being at Broose & Permal track vicinity

Artillery Enemy consistently shelled whole area throughout day with shells of 4.7mm & 2.75 gas cylinder used at times with gas. Shelling has shown a slight decrease as regards consistency in direction. At 6 PM the heavily shelled sunken road running through K 30 into area immediately in front of rear of road with 5 gas cylinders attributed to movement of Artillery towards along the road's vicinity just previously.

M. Guns There were not as active as usual being short bursts at longer intervals.

Casualties 6 of the wounded

X

25/

Disposition of parts ~~and~~ established
 at L 32 B 6 8 9 L 26 D 5 11
 Call Co at L 32 B 4 9.
 Centre line Co at L 26 D 6 4.
 an 1st Lt. at L 26 D 5 11
 Call Co at L 20 C 8 5 - L 20 C 5 8
 - L 20 B 2 2
 Support Co at L 26 B 4 8
 Co H Q at L 25 C 2 8.
 Support Co at L 25 D 9 4. Call Co at L 31 B 4 8
 Miscellaneous Report of enemy guard on front
 part of front to report on night 11/12/44
 At 11:30 PM at front of about 15' of
 ground about 100 yards from front
 on SGL R 3 A they were observed
 approaching in a line. They were
 about 100 yards from front. They were
 then engaged with MG fire. The
 enemy then about 12 had got under
 a barbed wire fence. Our Pz Coy followed
 up and made a hole but no identification was
 made. The enemy suffered no casualties
 but owing to the relief of this Co just after
 the operation report was received just after

25/

22

some road on beach on night 11/12
 on night 11/12 at 11:30 PM an
 party of about 12 attempted to
 reach front on R 3 A. They were
 observed from front of about 100
 yards from front. They were
 then engaged with MG fire. The
 enemy then about 12 had got under
 a barbed wire fence. Our Pz Coy followed
 up and made a hole but no identification was
 made. The enemy suffered no casualties
 but owing to the relief of this Co just after
 the operation report was received just after

Disposition
 Our positions at Call Co L 32 B 4 9
 Pz Coy L 32 B 6 8 L 26 D 5 11
 Centre line Co H Q L 26 D 6 4
 Pz Coy L 26 B 4 8
 - L 26 B 2 2 - L 26 B 4 8
 Call Co H Q L 25 C 2 8
 Pz Coy L 20 C 8 5 - L 20 C 5 8
 L 20 B 2 2 -
 Support Co (incl Pz) L 25 D 3 3
 1 Pz L 26 B 4 8
 BH H Q L 25 C 2 4



APPENDIX B

22

22



25

J N D 3rd Div

to
 1st Div at 1st Bde

The following is distribution of this battalion
 at 6 A.M.

Right Company Co HQ L 32 B 49
 Pl. Pos. L 32 B 68 - L 32058

Centre Company Co HQ L 26 D 54
 Pl. Pos. L 26 D 64

Left Company Co HQ L 25 B 28
 L 25 D 65
 L 25 D 58
 L 26 B 44

Left Co HQ L 25 B 28
 Pl. Pos. L 20 C 85 - L 20064
 - L 20 B 22.

Support Co (with) L 25 D 33.
 1 Ptn. L 26 L 48.

I am of opinion the enemy will put up
 a limited degree of resistance & if he
 fails he will be pushed back & is
 prepared to retreat.

Artillery fire is on the increase
 every day.

3/9/19

22

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At 7.30am our troops reported capture of all objectives and were on the Brown Line, and consolidating. About 200 prisoners wounded & un wounded were captured by us. also numerous MGs, trench mortars and one field gun (77mm). Our casualties were about 3 off & 60 ORs including 2 off & 9 ORs killed.

Artillery Barrage put down at zero hour was very effective and excellent. Shooting was carried out during the whole of the attack. ~~Fire~~ was maintained throughout the day & night. Aircraft Our planes were very active during the day. Our low flying planes were especially active and patrolled our front and located enemy positions.

Enemy Intelligence During the attack ~~the~~ troops did not put up much of a fight, although one prisoner stated that he knew we were

26

25

to attack and expected it the previous attack. He also stated that his orders were to hold on and fight.

Artillery During the attack the evening ~~was~~ shelled rear areas and not much artillery was met with by the attacking troops. During the day ~~the~~ ~~the~~ vicinity were heavily shelled by 5.9.

Aircraft Enemy planes were ~~very~~ very active during 24 hours. At 6pm an E.F. flew at low altitude along our new positions.

Prisoners About 200 wounded and un wounded prisoners were captured.

Identification Prisoners were captured from 21st 3rd & 94th Regts.

Miscellaneous During the above operations close to the objective B. Co was held up by a strong MG post.

APPENDIX

B 26

(41)

25

The Coy Commander immediately got in touch with a Tank Commander who happened to be in the vicinity. The Tank set out to attack the post but immediately the Huns saw the tanks they made ~~appearing~~ their MGs.

[Signature]

Major
Comes 25 Sept 1918

Notes

Personnel of Vickers Guns attached to the attacking troops speak very enthusiastically of the work done by our Lewis Guns in silencing the enemy light machine guns. They report several ducks having taken place and each time our Lewis Gun was a winner.

27

2nd Australian Battalion

25

25

Summary of Intelligence from 6 am 19th to 6 am 20th Sept 1918

Our Operations: Artillery very active during day and night.

Aircraft: Our planes patrolled our front during the day and several formations flew well over enemy territory.

Enemy Intelligence Artillery fairly active during the day. Harcourt the Egg & vicinity of Cologne Farm receiving a fair amount of shelling mostly S. G. S.

Aircraft One EA flew over our lines at 6 am 19th & fired a flare breaking into red & white, enemy artillery immediately opened fire on position. Single planes flew over our position at 10 am, 11.30 am, 1.30 pm, 3 pm & 5 pm.

27

APPENDIX

B 27

2
Our casualties Lt Streen was
wounded by shell fire early in
morning

Captures: Mr. Gene collected up
to total amount to 20.

Book may
Conrad & ...

25

28

2nd Australian Battalion

Summary of Intelligence
from 6am 20th to 6am 21st Sept 1918

Our operations:

Our Artillery carried
out several harassing shoots
during the day & night. At
5.40am 21st our barrage opened on
enemy lines.

Aircraft: Our few flying planes were
active during the day, and continually
patrolled our front.

Enemy Intelligence: Artillery was again
fairly active and ~~observed~~ during
the day Hargreave & vicinity & Cologne
Farm were subjected to fairly heavy
shelling mostly 5.95 & 4.5 c. firing
from an easterly direction.

Aircraft: During the afternoon 2 A.
were very active and flew over our
positions. One formation of 12 planes
tried to cross our line but was
turned back with A.A. fire.
During the night enemy bombing planes

28

25

APPENDIX

13 28

5/ were fairly active and a number of bombs dropped.

Our casualties during the six hours amounted to 200000 killed.

Mark Major
Coney & Co. Ltd.

Table of Shelling.

Locality Shelled.	No of Bombs.	Caliber Description	Direction
L6c	20	9.2 HE	E
"	65	5.9 "	"
"	30	4.2 "	"
"	20	4.2 Gas	"
"	30	27m HE	"

25

130

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

Copy No. _____

ORDER No. 30.

APPENDIX
Battalion Headquarters,
6th. Sept. 1918.

Hardy

Appendix 1

1. The 2nd. Aust. Bn. will move by bus on 6th. inst., from Q.16.c.8.4. Companies will be drawn up facing North at 1 p.m. and will be told off in parties of 1 Officer and 25 other ranks with 15 paces between each party.
2. The Battalion will assemble on Bn. Parade Ground at 12.45 p.m with head of column facing East. Order of March. H.Q.A., B., C. & D. Coys.
3. Lieut. C. A. Purdon will act as Battalion Embussing Officer and will report to Brigade Major at Bde. H. Q. at 12 noon for instructions.
4. Advance parties consisting of Lieut. Hillman and 1 N.C.O. per Coy. and H.Q. Details, will move forward on bicycles at 9 a.m. N.C.Os. will report to Lieut. Hillman at Bn. H. Q.
5. Troops will debuss at H.3.d.9.5 near HEM, and will meet guides at CLERY.
6. *Acknowledge.*

J. Hardy

Captain.

~~XXXXX~~ Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

ADMINISTRATION.

1. Nucleus personnel will report to Capt. Wisken at Battalion H.Q. at 10.45 a.m. with copy of nominal roll. Duplicate nominal roll to be submitted to Bn. H. Q. at same time.
2. Troops will move in Full Marching Order with Blankets and unexpired portion of day's rations.
3. Officers' valises, Mess gear and all other gear to be carried on Transport will be handed in to Q. M. Stores by 10 a.m.
4. Transport will move Brigaded under O. C. No. 2 Coy. 1st. Div. Train, and will pass Starting Point at Q. 24.b.5.8 at 11.30 a.m.
Order of March. 1st., 2nd., 3rd., 4th., Bns.
Route. PROYART - CHAUVIGNES - CAPPY - SUZANNE.

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

Copy No. 2 ³¹

APPENDIX

ORDER No. 31.

Battalion H. Q.,
Sept. 8th. 1918.

25
Reference Map Sheet 62c.

- Appendix 2*
1. The 2nd. Aust. Bn. will move forward to K.32.c.N.D. via CARTIGNY on 9th. inst. Head of Column will pass the Starting Point I.36.b.3.5 (Cross Roads) at 9 a.m. Order of March: H.Q., A., B., C., D.
Dress. Battle Order, Blanket and W. P. Sheet rolled on belt.
 2. Companies will relieve opposite Nos. of 44th. Battalion.
 3. Advance Party of 1 N.C.O. per Coy. will report to Lieut. Hillman at 5.30 a.m. at Battalion H. Q.. Lieut. Waller will remain behind and hand over to incoming Unit.
 4. Transport will move with Unit to vicinity of J.23. and 29.
 5. Completion of move will be notified to Bn. H. Q. at J.30.b.6.1.
 6. Companies will be prepared to reconnoitre forward to any part of the 10th. Bde. front.
 7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. J. Collingwood Captain.
Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

ADMINISTRATION.

1. Packs and felt hats will be handed in to Q.M. Stores by 8 a.m. also Officers' Mess Gear, Valises etc. at same hour.
 2. Nucleus personnel will be detached to report to Capt. J. J. Collingwood MM. at Bn. H. Q. at 9 a.m. O. C. Nucleus will send one Officer to Brigade H. Q. J.18.a.2.4 at 10 a.m. and will report with personnel to Major G. A. Street M.C. at J.32.a.3.4. at 10.30 a.m. Nucleus personnel will retain packs and will carry 24 hours rations.
-

Position of Bandha
see to go

see K 36. B. O. A.

Key to new
Blue Hall at
K 27. A.

Report centre forward

Ref Water

Cooking

At Bde or Regt. Hq.

All focus of base
at Iron line.

Patrols, day night
keep in touch with

Distributing in
desert (Thesis
patrols -

Section of Engineer
off to report at
9am tomorrow
also with recon

Med arrangements
attack of beavers
see map McKiesop

Company keeps former
position as to an
Chap. position
location of Hd Qrs.

Pardon a liaison
between on Bde on the
right

Br of. established

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes in the left column, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Appendix
ORDER No. 32. a

APPENDIX

Battalion H. Q.,
September 10th. 1918.

Reference Map Sheet 62 C. 1/40.000.

1. Information.

The Enemy is known to be in position WEST of JEANCOURT and Hill 140, Sq. L.8. It is not known in what strength he is present but it is not thought he is very strong. Enemy order of battle from NORTH to SOUTH is 80th Fusiliers, 81st. Infantry Regt., 87th. Inf. Regiment. These are the troops we defeated on August 23rd.

2. Intentions.

As soon as possible after taking over on the night 10/11th. preparations will be made to advance the line.

" C " Company on the Right will secure the Line, Trench from R.2.a.9.4. to L.32.c.3.8, the Trench from R.2.a.7.0 to R.2.a.9.4 to R.2.b.4.6.

Bomb stops will be made between the enemy in each case. The sunken Road in R.2.b. will be specially watched.

" A " Company will also secure the Trench from L.32.b.6.4 to L.26.d.8.8., using Bomb Stops at the Flank and watching the rear as well as the front.

The Trench from L.26.b.1.6 to L.20.c.9.6 will also be captured.

On the capture of these objectives JEANCOURT and all trenches in rear will be mopped up.

On news being received that objectives have been gained " B " Coy. will move forward and occupy Trench ~~position~~ in L.31. ^{system.} and L.25.d.

In each case success will be exploited within the limits of the Divisional Boundary and touch with the enemy will not be lost.

The advance will be made by peaceful penetration, at times most suitable for same. Artillery, Trench Mortars and Machine Gun support will be given where opposition is met. The main consideration to be aimed at is to keep the enemy on the move by harrasing his rear guards.

Companies will take due precautions in protecting their flanks where flank Units have not pushed forward.

Reports will be sent to Battalion H. Q. at K.35.d.3.5.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Captain.

Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

ADMINISTRATION.

1. Extra Ammunition and Bombs will be carried on following scale:-

S. A. A.	100 Rounds per man.
No. 23 Bombs.	2 "
No. 36 Grenades.	5 per grenadier.
Sandbags.	2 per man.

Water bottles will be filled and Iron Rations carried.

2.

Hot meals will be carried forward to Battalion Dump K.35.d.8.2 on Transport thence to Company H. Q. by "D" Company. Times 6 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m.

3.

Picks and shovels are available at Battalion Dump.

4.

R.A.P. at K.29.d.9.5.

Secret. 2nd. Aust. Battalion.
Order No. 35. Copy No. 10.
Ref. Sheet. 620. 440.000. Appendix 6

(2)

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- (1) A Coy. will attack, & capture enemy trench system from L20.C.90 to L20.C.92 and consolidate same as strong point
- (2) A Coy will place one platoon at disposal of OC A Coy. to support attacking platoon. This platoon will be placed in position vacated by attacking platoon (L26.58)
- (3) Platoon now located at L20.C.22. will move forward and consolidate a position at L20.C.45.
- (4) Two L T.M.S. and 2 Vickers Guns. will be placed at the disposal of OC A Coy. to assist in carrying out the operation
- (5) Artillery support if desired will be arranged by Bn HQ.
- (6) At zero hour. OC D Coy will send a strong patrol through the village of Jeandort. and on the objective being gained will maintain possession of village by a system of patrols.
- (7) OC D Coy. T.M. & M.G. officers will confer with OC A Coy. at 7 pm. at A Coy. H.Q. L19.C.97. To arrange details. Zero hour will then be fixed and Bn HQ. notified

(7) Extra ammunition and bombs will be sent forward from Bn HQ. on demand.

Acknowledge.

Henry Capt & Adj
2nd Aust. Battalion.

War Diary

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APPENDIX 36

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SECRET

✓ Map Diary

APPENDIX 37
COPY No. 7/37

2nd AUSTRALIAN BATTALION
Preliminary ~~order~~ preparatory instructions
to ORDER No. 38.

approved

Battalion Headquarters,
15th September, 1918.

Ref. Maps - Sheets 62C & 62B. 1/40,000.

- 1.(a) The 1st Australian Division, in conjunction with the 4th Aust. Division on the right and the 74th Division on the left, will attack and capture the enemy positions forward of the HINDENBURG LINE.
- (b). Of the 1st Aust. Division the 3rd Brigade on the right and the 1st. Brigade on the left will deliver the assault. The 2nd. Brigade will be in Divisional Reserve.
- (c). Of the 1st. Brigade the 2nd Battalion on the right and the 4th. Battalion on the left will lead the attack and capture the BROWN LINE. The 1st. and 3rd. Battalions ~~will~~ follow the attack, subsequently passing through the 2nd. and 4th. Battalions respectively to the capture of the RED LINE, and to the exploitation.
- (d) . Details as to Brigade and Battalions operating on our flanks will be communicated later.

2. Zero day and hour will be communicated separately.

3. (a). The boundaries of the attack for the 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde. are as follows:-
 - North boundary - The line Sq. L.1.C.0.0. - L.2.C.6.1. - F.29.C.8.0. - thence due East.
 - South boundary - The line Sq. L.19.B.0.5. - L.14.D.0.6. - L.11.B.3.1. thence due East.
 - Inter-Battalion boundary - The line L.8.C.0.2. - L.10.A.0.2. - L.5.C.2.3. - thence due East.
 - Inter-Company boundary. - The line L.14.A.65.50. - L.10.D.0.8. - L.11.A.8.7. - L.11.B.9.6.

The 2nd. Aust. Battalion will be disposed as follows :- "A" Company right attacking company; "B" Company left attacking Company; "C" Company Support Company.

- (b). The Start Line is the line L.14.D.0.7. → L.2.C.1.0.
- (c). Objective lines are as follows:-

1. BROWN LINE - The line L.4.B.7.6. - L.5.D.0.0. - L.11.B.2.0.
2. RED LINE - The line A.25.D.0.0. - G.1.B.2.5. - G.7.B.2.0.
3. LINE OF EXPLOITATION The line A.26.D.6.0. - G.2.D.2.0. - G.8.B.2.0.

4. The boundaries and objectives are set out on map obtainable from Battalion Intelligence Officer.
5. The attack will be supported by a quick moving field artillery and machine gun barrage. Heavy artillery will engage the enemy batteries and other selected targets. Barrage maps will be issued in due course.
6. A limited number of tanks will co-operate. Dummy tanks will also be employed.
7. Further instructions will follow.

ACKNOWLEDGE

[Signature] Captain, Adjutant.
SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

Reference Map Sheet 62c and 62b. 1/40,000.

1. Information.

Objectives.)
) As per preliminary instructions issued
Boundaries.) on 15th. instant.

The Start Line is amended and will be the line drawn through L.27.c.0.56- L.1.d.7.0.

Approach. The Route to the Assembly Positions will be made through HAMELET K.22.a.3.8. thence by Tape Route to forming up line. Order of Move, H.Q., A., B., and C. 100 yards distance will be maintained between Platoons. Head of the Column will pass the Starting Point K.22.a.3.8 at 1.30 a.m. on ZERO Day.

Reconnaissance. Routes will be reconnoitered by at least one Officer per Coy., between 1 and 4 p.m. on the afternoon of 17th.

Forming up. The Attacking Companies will form up on the Start Line in sections in file, distributed over the Battalion Front. The Support Coy. will form up EAST of Road running through L.13.d. and L.13.b in Artillery Formation. Battalion H.Q. will be at L.13.d.90.35. during the first phase of the operations. When the attack has sufficiently developed Battalion H.Q. will move to sunken road L.10.c.0.5.

Action of Coys. in attack. At ZERO hour the Artillery Barrage will fall 200 yards in advance of the Infantry Start Line, the first lift will be at ZERO plus 3, 2nd. lift at ZERO plus 5, the next and succeeding lifts up to and including the 11th. lift will be at intervals of 3 minutes: the 12th. and following lifts will be at intervals of 4 minutes; each lift will be 100 yards. The Attacking Companies will keep well up to the Barrage and will only deal with resistance in e so far as it impedes their progress. Support Coy. will be responsible that the ground covered is thoroughly mopped up and will give support if required to the Attacking Companies.

In front of the Objective Line the Artillery will halt until ZERO plus 3 hours and 10 minutes; during this halt "A" and "B" Coys. will occupy and consolidate the BROWN line by establishing 6 platoon Posts, one of which will be a liaison post with the 11th. Bn. which will be established by "A" Coy. at Cross Roads L.11.b.4.1. During the advance "C" Coy. will maintain close touch with the Assaulting Units and will pay particular attention to the flanks, and, on completion of mopping up will establish 3 Platoon Posts in Railway Cutting running SOUTH-EAST the L.10.b. and L.11.a.

The Second Objective. When the 1st. Battalion has passed through to capture the GREEN Line, Companies will be prepared to move forward to support the 1st. Battalion or to the RIGHT or LEFT to support the 9th. or 3rd. Battalions respectively. Coy. Commanders will take steps to maintain constant touch with these Units and also with Flank Units.

Tanks. Tanks will be used in the attack but will not be allotted to Companies; however, they may be used by Coy. Commanders if in their neighbourhood at a time when required.

Vickers Guns. Two Vickers Guns and one Light Trench Mortar will be attached to each of the Attacking Companies for use as Coy. Commander requires. On reaching the objectives they will be placed in suitable positions in the event of Enemy Counter Action.

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Reports. Companies will keep Bn. H. Q. notified of the progress of the Attack and on reaching the objective will immediately send to Battalion H. Q. the code word "BROWN" at the same time advising the location of Coy. H. Q.

Time. All watches will be synchronised with Bn. H. Q. at 8 p.m. and 1 a.m. on the night preceding and ZERO morning.

Communications. Will be arranged by Battalion Signal Officer.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Murray Captain.
Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

ADMINISTRATION.

1. DRESS. Battle Order and Water Proof sheet rolled on belt.

The following will be carried on the man :-

- 24 Hours Rations.
- 1 Iron Ration.
- 1 Filled Water Bottle.
- 4 Sandbags.

Rifle Grenadiers will carry :- 6 No. 36 Grenades.

Other personnel will carry :- 2 No. 23 Grenades, plus 100 rounds extra S.A.A.

2. DUMPS. Battalion Dump will be at Battalion H. Q. unless otherwise advised. On reaching objectives, Coys. will establish dumps with the extra articles carried on the man.

3. MEDICAL. R.A.P. will be at Battalion H. Q., L.13.d.90.35.

4. BRIGADE SUPPLIES. Transport Officer will detail 1 G.S. limber loaded with S.A.A., and 1 loaded with Lewis Gun S.A.A. to report to Brigade representative at K.22.a.3.5. at ZERO plus 1 hour.

5. SUPPLY TANK. A Supply Tank with ammunition, Bombs, Water and tools will go forward at ZERO Hour.

Cpl. Edge will report at L.9^D95.95 at ZERO plus 1 hour and guide supply tank to the vicinity of HAGSON Quarries where tank will unload and form dump.

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APPENDIX 7

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SECRET.

ADDENDUM TO

Copy No.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

ORDER No. 33.

LIAISON.

"C" Coy. will send patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 men to patrol of 4th. Bn. at L.S.d. 95, 70 immediately after attacking troops passed through. C.O. "C" Coy. will report information gained by patrol, as to how the attack is progressing on the left.

VICKERS GUNS.

One Vickers Gun and crew will be attached to Attacking Coys., the remaining two guns and N.C. Officer will remain with Bn. H.Q., as a reserve.

Each of the attacking Coys. will allot a carrying party of 8 men to T. H. attached to them.

PRISONERS OF WAR. will in all cases be sent to Bn. H. Q., or if handed over to another Unit, a receipt will be obtained.

Mess Gear, Officers' Valises, packs, blankets and felt hats and other spare gear will be dumped at Q. M. Stores by 8 p.m.

Lewis Gun limbers will carry all L. G. and T. H. Gear to point where tape line meets road running NORTH-WEST through HEBBECOURT. Hot tea will be served at this point (from old Hun cooker). Men will be warned to have their dixies ready and will move right away when served in order to avoid crush.

Captain.

Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

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2nd Australian Battalion

copy. 12

Order No: 39

APPENDIX 8

Appendix 8.

Battalion Headquarters

20th September 1918

- I The 2nd Aust. Bn. will be relieved by the 8th Aust. Bn. on the 20th instant. A Coy. will be relieved by A Co. 8th Bn., B Co. by B Coy. 8th Bn., & C Co. by D Co. 8th Bn.
 - II One guide per platoon & company Hdqrs. will be sent to Bn. Hdqrs. at 6.30 p.m.
 - III Lewis gun & other gear will be collected by limbers at Coy. ration dumps at 8 p.m.
 - IV All extra bombs, S.A.F., etc. will be handed over to incoming unit.
 - V Destination on relief will be notified later, also point at which evening meal will be served.
 - VI Completion of relief will be notified to Bn. Hdqrs. by using code word "TRES".
- Acknowledge.

J. Murray Captain
 Adjutant, 2nd Aust. Battalion

Secret
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2nd Australian Battalion Copy No.

Order No. 40.

APPENDIX 9

War Diary

Appendix 9

Battalion Headquarters
20th September 1918.

Ref. Map HESBECOURT 1/20,000

- I On the night 20/21st the 6th Aust. Bn. will take over present line held by 1st Aust. Bn. On the morning of the 21st the 1st A. I. Bde. will attack & capture line shown (in purple) on attached map.
- II The 1st Aust. Bn. on the RIGHT & the 3rd Aust. Bn. on the LEFT will carry out the attack. Boundaries are as shown on attached map.
- III The 2nd Aust. Bn. will be in support in present positions. 'b' co. will act under the orders of the b.O. 3rd Aust. Bn. O.b. 'b' co. will send an Officer to the 3rd Bn. H.Q. at ZERO minus one hour to remain there until consolidation of objective & await orders from b.O. 3rd Bn. 'A' & 'B' boys will be prepared to support 1st Bn. O.b. 'A' co. will send an officer to 1st Bn. H.Q. at ZERO minus one hour to await instructions from b.O. 1st Bn. In the event of one or more companies being required to reinforce the 1st Bn., the officer detailed to liaison with that unit will notify the company direct. The boy. comdr. concerned will act on his orders & advise Bn. H.Q.
- IV The attack will be carried out under an artillery barrage. Barrage line indicated by first BLUE line on attached map. Barrage will move forward by lifts to second BLUE line, where a protective screen will be placed during consolidation.
- V ZERO hour will be notified later.

Acknowledge.

J. M. O'Connell Captain
Adjutant, 2nd Australian Battalion

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BY

Major. H. G. VERNON. T/Comdg. SECOND AUST. BATTALION.

25th. September 1918.

appendix 10

LEAVE TO AUSTRALIA.

The following from Australian Corps is published for information :-

" The Corps Commander desires to make it widely known throughout the Unit that he very much regrets the circumstances under which the first quota of 1914 men for leave to Australia was hurriedly selected and despatched. Owing to the very short notice received from the Navy that the first ship was available to sail immediately, he was unable to arrange as he would have wished to, for a more careful selection of all who had prior claims to be included in the first quota, or for giving them time to get at their Base kits and packs, for taking leave of their mates, and for receiving a proper and worthy send off. Had any warning of the intention to send the party away been received, the matter would have been put in train, but no hint of the scheme was received. He hopes that on the occasion of future quotas, the dates of which are not far distant, the authorities will be able to give us longer notice, so that matters may be arranged in a more satisfactory manner. "

SEPARATION ALLOWANCE.

The following A.I.F. Order No. 1364 ix of 6/9/18 is published for information :-

1. The Commonwealth Govt. has approved the payment of Separation Allowance to dependants of members of the A.I.F. resident in the United Kingdom with effect from 1st. August 1918, at the same rates and upon the same conditions as those pertaining to dependants residing in Australia and N.Z.
2. Payment of separation allowance will be made in accordance with the provisions and within the limits of war financial regulation 32 and A.I.F. Orders Nos. 1115 and 1191 and any subsequent amendments thereof, the present rates being -
 Wife (or other adult dependant) 2/- per diem.
 Each child under 16 years. 6d. "

A definition of the various classes of dependants in regard to whom separation allowance is at present payable is contained in para. 3 of Circular No. 2 issued with A.I.F. Order No. 1115 and in the note appended hereto.

3. In the case of a wife (or wife and children) in the United Kingdom, in whose favor an allotment of pay has been made by a member of the A.I.F., and who is entitled to separation allowance, payments will be made forthwith by the Chief Paymaster upon lodgment by the allottee of the official declaration form duly completed and supported by the necessary marriage and birth certificates. Declaration forms will be forwarded for completion to all allottees coming within this category, and no written application or declaration by members will be necessary. *In-the-case*
4. In the case of other dependants, the Chief Paymaster will similarly forward a declaration form to the allottee for completion, but it will also be necessary for the member concerned to submit a supporting declaration witnessed by an Officer. Forms for this purpose may be obtained upon application to any pay representative, and the declaration must be forwarded to the Chief Paymaster through the Paymaster of the formation to which the member belongs.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
(Continued)

5. Upon receipt of the necessary documents each case will be investigated by the Chief Paymaster. Payments will only be made to bonafide dependants, and any member who is found to have made a false declaration in this connection will be severely dealt with.
6. Payment of Separation Allowance is subject in all cases to the condition that the prescribed allotment has been made by the soldier in favor of the person to whom the Separation Allowance is to be paid.

NOTE. List of persons who are entitled to claim Separation Allowance.

1. Wife. (Separation Allowance in the case of a wife will not be payable if a legal or mutual agreement to separation exists between the soldier and his wife.)
2. Each child under the age of 16 years.
3. Mother dependant or partly dependant on the soldier at the time of enlistment.
4. Mother who was not at the time of her son's enlistment solely or partly dependant, but who can show that the son would, at a given period after enlistment, have contributed to her support.
5. A mother who, as a result of change of financial circumstances subsequent to her soldier son's enlistment, has become dependant or partly dependant.
6. An invalid father who is a widower and dependant on the soldier for support.
7. A daughter of a soldier who is keeping house for her father who is a widower.
8. A soldier's sister who is a widow and who is solely dependant upon the soldier for support.
9. Each brother and sister under the age of 16 years who is solely dependant upon the soldier for support.
10. Each child under 16 years of age of a soldier's sister who is a widow and of which child the soldier is the sole support.
11. Each child under the age of 16 years of a soldier who, after a legal or mutual separation has been entered into, continues to maintain such child by allotting portion of his military pay for such purpose.
12. Each adopted child under the age of 16 years of a soldier, provided actual proof of the adoption is furnished.
13. A woman who stands in the same relationship as a wife to the soldier concerned, provided that the woman has been entirely dependant upon the soldier for her maintenance and would otherwise be destitute.

In such cases proof will be required that the soldier was living with the woman to whom payment is to be made on a bonafide permanent domestic basis.

1045

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SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
(Continued)

APPENDIX

14. Each child under the age of 16 years of a soldier and his unmarried wife when in charge of its mother. (Separation allowance will not be paid in respect of a child of such a woman of whom the soldier is not the father.)

15. Separation allowance at the rate prescribed for the dependant concerned may be paid in cases in which an order of a Court has been made for maintenance. (Separation allowance will not be paid in respect of illegitimate children except as provided in (14).)

16 For a mother of a soldier whose father is alive and in work provided that the soldier has allotted to her at least two-fifths of his pay, and provided that such allotment is less than the amount contributed by the soldier in support of the mother's home prior to enlistment, such an amount not exceeding 2/- per diem as will, when added to the allotment equal the amount so contributed by the soldier in support of the home prior to enlistment.

"The amount contributed by the soldier in support of the home", means, the amount actually paid by him less (in cases where the soldier was living at his mother's home prior to enlistment) 15/- per week.

(Authority. D.A.G., A.I.F, 26/343, 27/8/18.)

PART II.

The C. O. has approved of the following Promotions and Appointments to date from 25th. Sept. 1918 :-

PROMOTIONS.

No. 2575	Sgt. Causer.	B.R.	to be CQMS vice Helmer on leave to Australia.
No. 30 ^T	Sgt. Craddick.	H.R.P.	to be Sgt. vice Lillie killed in action.
No. 1936	Cpl. Dale.DCM.	A.	to be Sgt. vice Crawford on leave to Australia.
No. 333a "	Edge.	W.	to be Sgt. vice McDonald on leave to Australia.
No. 774	L/C. Plush.	G.H.	to be Cpl. vice Maloney on leave to Australia.
No. 2344	L/C. Ambler.	R.G.	to be Cpl. vice Sgt. Morgan killed in action.
No. 1733	L/C. Carlson.DCM.	A.L.	to be Cpl. vice Fraser killed in action.
No. 4331	L/C. Wheeler.	S.T.V.	to be Cpl. vice Dale promoted.
No. 1879	L/C. Larsen.	J.W.	to be Cpl. vice Wilcox wounded in action.
No. 1058a "	Martin.	H.	to be Cpl. vice Banks wounded.

APPOINTMENTS.

No. 3551	Pte. Jones.	L.C.	to be L/C. vice McColl on leave to Australia.
No. 3475	Dvr. Brophy.	J.	to be L/C. Dvr. vice Plush promoted.
No. 4315	Pte. Thomas.	F.H.	to be L/C. vice Avis on leave to Australia.
No. 6867	Pte. Ziems.	R.A.	to be L/C. to comp. establishment.
No. 5988	Pte. Cusack.	T.A.	to be L/C. vice Martin promoted.
No. 4151	Pte. Croft.	E.C.	to be L/C. vice Ryan killed in act
No. 7013	Pte. Mair.	H.	to be L/C. vice O'Neill. do.
No. 4240	Pte. Mahoney.	C.R.	to be L/C. vice Francis. do.

TRANSFERS.

No. 120a	Sgt. Pearce.	S.	Trans. from "A" Coy. to Transport Sect.
No. 3710	" Brooks.	F.H.	" " "H.Q." " to "B" Coy.

Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION. Captain.

SECRET.

New Diary

SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

Copy No. _____

appendix //
ORDER No. 41.

Bn. H. Q.,
Sept. 25th. 1918.

1. The Second Australian Battalion will move from present location by Route March to LA CHAPPELLETTE on 26th. inst., and will pass starting point BIACHES at 10.30 a.m.
Companies will form up on road opposite the Camp in fours facing Church and will be ready to move at 10.25 a.m. Order of march ; -
H.Q., A., B., & C.
Dress. Full marching order, with blanket rolled horse shoe fashion round pack.
2. Entraining will take place at approximately 12.30 p.m., and Coys. will furnish entraining states to Bn. Ord. Room by 9 a.m.
Captain. W.M. MCKENZIE Mackay will be entraining Officer.
Detraining point will be LONGPRE.
3. Strict discipline will be maintained throughout train journey and Coy. Commanders will ensure that no man leaves the train without permission. O.C. "A" Coy. will detail 1 officer, 2 Sgts., and 12 other ranks as train picket.
4. Officers' valises, Mess and ord. room gear will be stacked at Q. M. Store by 8 a.m.
Breakfast will be at 7.30 a.m. Mid-day meal will be carried.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Captain. *46*

Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

APPENDIX

// *46*

SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

FOR WEEK ENDING - OCTOBER 5th. 1918.

Bn. B.C.
29/9/18.

8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Fall in Platoon and Coy. inspection.
12.00 noon to 12.30 p.m. Battalion Drill under Comdg. Officer.
1.45 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Recreational Training.

-- -- -- -- -- -- --

<u>1st. Day.</u>	9 to 9.50 a.m.	Inf. Training. Sections 12 to 16.
	10 to 10.50 "	Marching and March Discipline.
	11 to 11.40 "	Inf. Training. Section 17.

<u>2nd. Day.</u>	9 to 9.50 a.m.	Short Route March. Strict March Discipline to be maintained.
	10 to 10.50 "	Inf. Training. Sections 18 to 22.
	11 to 11.40 "	do. " 23 & 24.

<u>3rd. Day.</u>	9 to 9.50 a.m.	Inf. Training. Sections 23 & 24.
	10 to 10.50 ")	Repetition of previous work.
	11 to 11.40 ")	

<u>4th. Day.</u>	9 to 9.50 a.m.	Inf. Training. Sections 25 to 29.
	10 to 10.50 "	do. " 30 to 35.
	11 to 11.40 "	do. " 35 to 38.

<u>5th. Day.</u>	9 to 9.50 a.m.	Inf. Training. Sections 39 to 41.
	10 to 10.50 "	do. " 42 to 46.
	11 to 11.40 "	Repetition of previous work.

<u>6th. Day.</u>	9 to 11.40 a.m.	Route March by Companies. Coy. Commanders will submit proposed route to Battalion Orderly Room by Noon 4th. Oct.

NOTES.

1. DRESS. Walking out dress. Rifles will be inspected each morning on Platoon inspection and then put away.
2. Strict March Discipline will be observed while marching from Coy. lines to Parade Ground and returning.
3. Smoke will be from 9.50 to 10 a.m., 10.50 to 11 a.m. and 11.40 to 11.50 a.m. During Smoke, Platoon Commanders will discuss with their subordinate commanders, questions in connection with training laid down and will also acquaint their men with the latest war news available.
4. Recreational Training will be regarded as a Muster Parade: every man must take part in some form of recreational game.

J. Murray Captain.
Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

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War Diary

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ROUTINE ORDER No. 16.

BY

Appendix

APPENDIX

Major. H. G. VERNON. T/Comdr. SECOND AUST. BATTALION.

30th. September 1918.

DUTIES.

ORDERLY OFFICER.	1/10/18.	Lieut. Matthews.	H.N.
Next for Duty.	2/10/18.	Lieut. Tindal.	S.
COMPANY FOR DUTY.	1/10/18.	"B" Company.	
Next for Duty.	2/10/18.	"C" Company.	
OFFICER OF GUARD.	1/10/18.	2/Lt. Beetham.	R.W.
Next for Duty.	2/10/18.	Lieut Parle.	H.W.
OFFICER ABBEVILLE PICQUET.	1/10/18.	Lieut. Boese.	R.O.
OFFICER PONT REMY	" 1/10/18	2/ " Murray.	H.J. DCM

TIME SYSTEM.

Extract from G.R.O. No. 225 - 5104.

The Continental System of Time - i.e., the 24 hour clock - will be brought into use throughout the British Army from midnight 30th. September/1st. October 1918.

The "time of origin", that is, the time at which a message or despatch is signed by the originator, will always be represented by four figures, the first two figures, 01 to 23, representing the hours from midnight to midnight, and the second two figures, 01 to 59, representing the minutes of the hour. For example :-

12.10 a.m.	will be written	0010
3.25 a.m.	"	0325
11.00 a.m.	"	1100
Noon	"	1200
3.25 p.m.	"	1525
11.40 p.m.	"	2340

0000 and 2400 will not be used, but the message or despatch will be timed 2359 or 0001.

(Authority A.O. IX. dated 17/9/18.)

PART II.

PROMOTIONS.

The G.O.C. 1st. A. I. Bde., has approved of the following promotions to date from 14th as below :-

- No. 179 Sgt. Jones. H.A. to be T/C.S.M. (W.O. Class II) vice Brown on leave to Aust. from 14/9/18.
- No. 3710 Sgt. Brooks. P.W. to be T/C.S.M. (W.O. Class II) vice Haggath leave to Aust. from 26/9/18.
- No. 164 CQMS Foster. G. to be T/RQMS. (W.O. Class II) vice Hetherington to Aust. from 14/9/18.

The C.O. has approved of the following promotions and appointments to date from 30/9/18 :-

PROMOTIONS.

- No. 2545 Cpl. Edwards. S.W. to be T/Sgt. vice Powell to Aust. on leave.
- No. 5309 Cpl. O'Conner. B.D.H. to be Sgt. vice Wunsch to Supernumary list.
- No. 4515 L/C. Lee. J. to be Cpl. vice Clark to Supernumary list.

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APPENDIX 13 50
Routine Order No. 13.

Second Australian Battalion.

PROMOTIONS. (Continued)

No. 6558	L/C. Pettit.	B.G.	to be Cpl. vice Baker killed in action.
No. 5726	L/c. Martin.	H.H.	to be Cpl. vice Wilson evacuated sick.
No. 7638	Cpl. Otto.	R.	to be T/Sgt. vice Brooks promoted.

APPOINTMENTS.

No. 1816b	Pte. Solomons.	R.L.	to be L/C. vice Lees promoted.
6097	Pte. Wise.	H.A.	to be L/C. vice Pettit promoted.
No. 6729	Pte. Foster.	H.H.	to be L/C. vice Martin promoted.
No. 6507	Pte. O'Donnell.	J.H.	to be L/C. vice Bodkin wounded.
No. 4439	Pte. Beardmore.	A.P.	to be L/C. vice Stanford wounded.

PROMOTIONS. (Continued)

No. 1750	Cpl. Coyne.	B.P.	to be T/Sgt. vice Jones promoted.
No. 2751	L/C. Hartup.	R.	to be Cpl. vice Coyne promoted.
No. 2525	L/C. Danson.	V.C.G.	to be Cpl. vice Poyse killed in action.

APPOINTMENT.

No. 6035	Pte. Barty.	H.G.	to be L/C. vice Ferguson killed in action.
No. 5162	Pte. McFarland.	A.H.	do to complete establishment

J. M. ... Captain.

Adjutant. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

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appendix cc

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NOTES ON RECENT FIGHTING

The following are notes on the recent operations as they appealed to me.

- ASSEMBLY. (1) The great advantage of taped routes to the point of assembly, thus avoiding congestion of traffic on main roads and minimising casualties.
- BARRAGE. (2) Considering the conditions, it seemed doubtful whether smoke was an advantage during the first phase of the operation, and better results might have obtained from withholding smoke shells for the protective barrage put down in front of 1st. Objective.
- MAINTENANCE OF DIRECTION & RECONNAISSANCE (3) The necessity of all Officers having reliable compasses.
- (4) The great advantage of daylight reconnaissance.
- (5) The immense importance of giving all ranks as full a knowledge of the operation as possible - cases occurring of privates being lost, and, on account of the position having been previously explained to them, being able to reach their objective.
- (6) The value of training N.C.Os. to handle their Platoon without assistance from the Officer.
- (7) The absolute necessity of maintaining touch with the enemy after the objective has been reached. The value of daylight patrols being amply demonstrated.

ADMINISTRATION. The Administrative preparations left little to be desired, and the value of Tanks for forming dumps and carrying supplies was particularly emphasised.

Medical arrangements were good throughout.

During the whole period supplies were obtainable on demand.

H. G. Vernon Major.

Temp/Commanding. SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION.

Details of Operations of 2ND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION
from 10/11/9/18 to 14/15th Sept 1918

The 2ND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION relieved the 37th
Aust. Bn elements of the 39th AUSTRALIAN BATTALION
in the front line system on the night 10/11th
September 1918.

The front line system was taken over
by 3 companies in the front line & one
company in support. G Company was
on the high ground on right of Jean court
B Co in centre in front of Jean court
& F Company on the left of the village.

On the afternoon of the 10th one platoon
from G Co & one platoon from F Co
went in ahead of the Battalion in order
to seize 2 enemy posts which were
worrying the front line positions & they
assisted in carrying on the advance which
was the plan of operations for the Battalion.

On the left the party was subjected to
severe M.G. fire from the enemy from
several directions & the officer in charge
Lt Comerford was wounded also one O.R. while
reconnoitering. The party was unable to advance
but did so after the relief was complete & at
12 midnight captured the position. On the
left right the post under St-Paul was captured
successfully & captured this position
inflicting casualties on the enemy at 7 p.m.

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Casualties: 2 killed 2 O.R.s wounded
On the following morning the Right Co.
continued the advance & at 11.30 a.m.
carried a complete trench system
which the enemy had held strongly inflicting
casualties & captured 1 wounded & 4 un wounded
prisoners. On the night 10/11th a party
B Co in centre getting into the village of
Jean court, encountered a party of
about 50 of enemy marching into the
village in force. Lewis Guns & rifle
fire inflicted heavy casualties on the
enemy & they scattered in confusion.
This was subsequently confirmed by
the amount of equipment scattered about the
village on the road found after the capture
of the village.

On the night 11/12 C Co was relieved on
the right by a Company of the 50th Aust Bn
& they withdrew into support. F Co who
had previously been in support went
into front line occupying a position
between B & H Companies.

On the afternoon of 12th patrols pushed
through Jean court found the village
unoccupied & at dusk our line was
advanced to a trench system on the
eastern side of the village & whole
line reconstructed.

APPENDIX

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Appendix C

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the 4th Bn on the left had suffered severe casualties & was unable to advance so that our advance was held up here to await results.

A vigorous patrol system however was carried on with and several small encounters with the enemy were experienced in all of which he got the worst of the argument.

Throughout the period in the line the enemy's artillery was particularly active & continually shelled front line positions & rear areas.

On the night 14/15 September the 2nd Aust Bn was relieved by the 8th Aust Bn & B Company of the right by the 49th Aust Bn. The Battalion withdrew to a camp near Pouchy as part of the 1st Brigade of the Division. Prisoners captured belonged to the 84th Inf Regiment 21st Division whilst the 81st Inf Regiment was also identified on the front.

B. Hellman
Intelligence Officer

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APPENDIX 54

