

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

Signals

Item number: 22/15/27

Title: 5th Australian Division Signals
Company

April 1918



AWM4-22/15/27

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

FOR

MONTH OF APRIL

1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

W. Jones

Signature of Officer Commanding

W. Jones

Major
C.O. 5TH AUST. DIV'L. SIGNAL CO.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

Army Form C. 2113.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
France Sheet 62 D.	1918 April 1st.		<p>Headquarters and No.1 Section were with Divisional Headquarters at V Corps School, VAUCHELLES, under orders to move at an hour's notice. Being a staging camp, the essential lines only were run out. Direct communication was established to X Corps at FREVENT. Infantry Brigades were also connected by telephone to Headquarters Exchange.</p> <p>No.2 Section, attached to 8th Infantry Brigade, were located at V Corps School at VAUCHELLES.</p> <p>No.3 Section, with 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, were at LOUVENCOURT.</p> <p>No.4 Section, with 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, had left the Divisional Area and gone into line at BONNAY under 3rd Australian Division. Part of detachment attached to Artillery Headquarters were at V Corps School, VAUCHELLES. The remaining part remained back at AMPLIERS where also No.2 Sub-section, attached to 14th A.F.A. Brigade, were billeted.</p> <p>No.1 Sub-section, with 13th A.F.A. Brigade, remained up North and were still at DRANOUTRE.</p>	
	April 2nd.		<p>No.1 Sub-section attached to 13th A.F.A. Brigade, closed their office at DRANOUTRE, and the following day entrained with transport for the South.</p>	
	April 4th.		<p>Orders were received at 9 p.m. for the whole Division to move out to BLANGY TRONVILLE Area. At 10.30 p.m. two lorries with Advance party, instruments, stores etc. left VAUCHELLES and proceeded by road to BLANGY TRONVILLE, reaching there at about 5 a.m. the following day.</p> <p>No.2 Section, attached to 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade, moved out from V Corps School at 6.30 p.m. and having embussed, proceeded to DAOURS from which place they marched to new Headquarters in line near ST NICOLAS at T.9.b.9.0, establishing office there at 8.30 a.m. the following morning.</p> <p>No.4 Section handed over their office at BONNAY to 104th Brigade at 8.30 p.m. and moved to CORBIE where they established an office, having direct telephone communication to 3rd Australian Division and supporting Artillery. Forward station was established at HAMELET, to which place all Battalions were connected.</p> <p>Part of detachment with Divisional Artillery left VAUCHELLES at 7.30 p.m. by motor lorry for BLANGY TRONVILLE. Remainder of detachment which was at AMPLIERS, moved out at 7.30 p.m. and trekked across to BLANGY TRONVILLE arriving there at 12.30 p.m. the following day.</p> <p>No.1 Sub-section, having trained down from the North, detrained at DOULLENS and trekked</p>	

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	5th April		<p>across to QUERRIEU where they remained the night. No.2 Sub-section, with 14th A.F.A. Brigade, moved to LA HOUSSEY arriving there 7.15 p.m. Rain had commenced to fall in the afternoon and continued well into the night, making the roads very wet and slippery for transport and marching parties.</p> <p>At 3.30 a.m. 1 cable waggon left VAUCHELLES for BLANGY TRONVILLE. This arrived at 10 a.m. and immediately set out laying a line to one of the Brigade Headquarters from the Division Signal office which had been established in the School at BLANGY TRONVILLE in the early morning. The remaining transport and personnel of No.1 Section moved out at 5.30 a.m. from VAUCHELLES and trekked through to BLANGY TRONVILLE arriving there at 3.30 p.m. Remainder of Headquarters, leaving only a small office shift at VAUCHELLES, left by motor busses at 6 a.m. arriving at BLANGY TRONVILLE 11 a.m. Office was cut out at V Corps School at 1 p.m. and last lorry left VAUCHELLES at 1.30 p.m. carrying the personnel which had remained behind, keeping the office manned.</p> <p>Office was established at BLANGY TRONVILLE at 8 a.m. and line was put through to 3rd Cavalry Division at the Chateau. Line was also run to a forward Divisional Exchange which was established at FOUILLOY, to which exchange, lines from 3rd Cavalry Division were brought. No.2 Section closed their office at T.9 and took over office from 17th Brigade at ST NICOLAS at 6.30 p.m. Line had previously been run out to their old position by cable waggon and this was extended to their new office. This office was also in direct communication with 18th Division under which Division the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade was then working.</p> <p>No.1 Sub-section, attached 13th A.F.A. Brigade, moved away from QUERRIEU to BONNAY where an office was established with communication to 3rd Divisional Artillery and 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.</p> <p>Headquarters established new office at TRONVILLE CHATEAU at 10 a.m. and office in the village of BLANGY TRONVILLE was closed, all lines being put through at 1 p.m. to new position. Extra lines were laid to Divisional Forward Station and also lines to local subscribers. The communication taken over is shewn in attached appendix. No.3 Section, attached 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, moved out from LOUVENCOURT, closing office, and took over from 6th Cavalry Brigade forward of FOUILLOY (O.17.c.3.3). No communication was taken over from this position. Lines were run out from Brigade to Battalions, and from Advanced Divisional Exchange to Brigade Headquarters. Line was run from forward Divisional station to Signal office of No.4 Section at CORBIE. Communication was also laid to No.1 Sub-section and No.2 Sub-section offices at BONNAY. These lines were partly ground cable and partly existing open wire route.</p>	
	6th April			

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AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

Army Form C. 2113.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7th April		No.2 Sub-section, with 14th A.F.A. Brigade, left LA HOUSSE at 5 a.m. and moved out to CORBIE where an office was established and lines run to all Batteries. No.2 Section, with 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade, closed their office at ST NICOLAS and moved back to BLANGY TRONVILLE establishing an office in the village, having a direct line to Division. This Section now came under direct control of the Company. Detachment with Divisional Artillery took over office from 16th D.A. at TRONVILLE CHATEAU, the office being in the same building as Headquarters office. A number of extra Artillery Brigades were transferred temporarily to this Division, and this incurred extra communication from the Sub-sections' offices to D.A. office. In all, 7 extra Sub-sections were attached.	
	9th April		No.2 Section closed office at BLANGY TRONVILLE 7.30 p.m. and marched to CORBIE where they took over office previously held by No.4 Section. No.4 Section, with 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, moved back to FOUILLOY and billeted the night. Office was established with direct communication through Forward exchange.	
	10th April		No.4 Section, with 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, left FOUILLOY and moved across to BLANGY TRONVILLE where they set up office in position previously vacated by No.2 Section.	
	11th April		Headquarters moved their offices to BUSSY-les-DAOURS, notice being given to the Signal Company at 2.30 p.m. By 5 p.m. communication was established in new position and office working. Communication forward, for the most part, was worked through old position at Chateau. Detachment with Divisional Artillery also moved across to BUSSY-les-DAOURS and re-established communication to Artillery Brigades from that place. No.4 Section with 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade Headquarters moved from BLANGY TRONVILLE to TRONVILLE CHATEAU, and an office was established there at 3 p.m.	
	12th April		Extra lines from BUSSY-les-DAOURS were run direct to Advanced Divl. station at FOUILLOY, and this allowed of the office at TRONVILLE CHATEAU being closed down at 1 p.m. and remaining personnel joining Company at BUSSY-les-DAOURS.	
	15th April		As a preliminary step to the establishing of No.5 Section, and to give essential communication to Machine Gun Battalion, 1 N.C.O. and 7 other ranks were attached, with necessary equipment to Machine Gun Battalion. They established an office at FOUILLOY and had direct communication to four Machine Gun Companies. 21st H.A.G moved away from this area and their place was taken by 9th H.A.G.	
	23rd April		During enemy attack on right of Divisional front, heavy enemy shelling took place in vicinity of Brigade Headquarters with the result that changes were made in locations of two Brigade Headquarters.	

Sheet 4.
WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24th April		<p>No.2 Section, with 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade, moved into dugout near CORBIE at H.35.c.4.3. Lines had previously been laid to this position as it was reserved as emergency Headquarters and thereby communication was not broken for any time.</p> <p>No.3 Section, with 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, had their office set afire by enemy shelling and were forced to vacate it. They established their office in cellar previously vacated by No.2 Section. These changes in locations necessitated a great deal of extra work, as communication had to be maintained from Division to Brigades, and Brigade to Battalions.</p> <p>In conjunction with counter-attack on VILLERS BRETONNEUX in which 15th Aust. Infantry Bde. took part, No.4 Section established an office at the QUARRY forward of FOUILLOY. Direct communication was established between this point and Division Exchange and also to the Rear Bde. Lines were run out to Battalions in their new positions which, being heavily strafed by enemy shellfire, called for united efforts of Section linemen to maintain communication, and through their efforts the Battalions were always kept in touch with Brigade Headquarters, and Brigade with Division during this successful operation.</p> <p>COMMUNICATION.</p> <p>General scheme outlined on coming into line was of a defensive character. Very little communications were taken over as shewn on attached appendix, but in two days a complete network of ground lines was run out connecting up Brigades, Battalions and Batteries. When satisfactory communication had been established, the work of strengthening them was carried on with. To this end, work on a buried cable route was commenced from Divisional Headquarters to Forward Divl. Exchange, with the idea of extending to Brigades. One days work consisted of burying 2 cables (7 pair each) for a distance of 2½ miles at a depth of 3 feet. This was accomplished by men of the 5th Pioneer Battalion. At this time it was considered probable that the Division would move its Headquarters, therefore work was continued in burying the cable from Advanced Divl. Exchange, FOUILLOY, to the Right Brigade. This cable was buried to a depth of 6 feet, and being in hard chalk country, was very slow work. Report on this work is attached as Appendix 9. Divisional Headquarters then moved across to BUSSY-les-DAOURS and after working communication was established, 7 pair cable was obtained and dropped to the bottom of the SOMME River from O.1.a.3.5 to O.4.c.3.0. From Division Exchange to Canal poled cable was used, and from Canal to Advanced Division the cable was buried to a depth of 6 feet. Both the buried route and the cable in River proved their value during the heavy bombardments, and except for three breaks in the River cable, caused by our own troops bombing fish, these cables were not at any</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																
			<p>time broken. On account of new positions taken over, the expenditure of cable has been higher than usual, over two hundred miles in all being laid out. As, however, this includes several attached Artillery Brigades as well as our own Divisional Units, the expenditure is not excessive. The various means of communication utilised and numbers of explanatory appendices are:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Telegraph and telephone by buried, poled and ground cable</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>Appendix 1.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wireless</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>Appendix 2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visual</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>Appendix 3.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Runners and Motor Despatch Riders</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>Appendix 4. & 7</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.</u></p> <p>Communication was maintained to Corps, lateral Divisions and Infantry Brigades by telegraph and telephone. Divisional Artillery and Artillery Brigades were connected up by telephone and numerous subscribers were connected to Division Exchange. Forward of Brigades, fullerphones were used to all Battalions, Batteries and Machine Gun Companies by ground cable.</p> <p><u>BURIED CABLE.</u></p> <p>This was not very extensive. Only the new cable, buried as mentioned in previous Para., was in use. An intermediate lineman's post was located at Forward Divl. Station at FOUILLOY. The linemen were stationed to patrol and maintain the ground lines to forward Brigades.</p> <p><u>WIRELESS.</u></p> <p>Wireless communication is shewn on Appendix 2. This shews wireless sets located at Divisional Headquarters and Headquarters of two Brigades in line. These stations worked with each other and also with stations of lateral Divisions. Forward of Left Brigade, wireless by Loop Sets was established to Left Battalion with intermediate station at Centre Battalion. Locations are as follows :-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Left Brigade Headquarters</td> <td>...</td> <td>I.35.c.4.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Right Brigade Headquarters</td> <td>...</td> <td>O.5.c.8.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Centre Battalion Hd.Qrs., Left Brigade</td> <td></td> <td>J.25.d.2.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Left Battalion Hd. Qrs., Left Brigade</td> <td></td> <td>J.28.a.7.8</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>POWER BUZZER.</u></p> <p>One Power Buzzer station is located at Right Brigade Headquarters, and this works with a similar station forward at Battalion Headquarters. Locations are as under:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>O.5.c.8.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>O.12.b.9.3.</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>VISUAL.</u></p>	Telegraph and telephone by buried, poled and ground cable	Appendix 1.	Wireless	Appendix 2.	Visual	Appendix 3.	Runners and Motor Despatch Riders	Appendix 4. & 7	Left Brigade Headquarters	...	I.35.c.4.3	Right Brigade Headquarters	...	O.5.c.8.6	Centre Battalion Hd.Qrs., Left Brigade		J.25.d.2.4	Left Battalion Hd. Qrs., Left Brigade		J.28.a.7.8		O.5.c.8.6		O.12.b.9.3.	
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5TH
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No.
Date.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																
			<p><u>VISUAL.</u></p> <p>Situation of Units in regard to high ground on Divisional front did not lend itself to the efficiency of visual communication, and direct communication between Units was not always possible. However, in the forward Area a fairly efficient system was established, and at times this method proved very effective. Diagram is attached as Appendix 3.</p> <p><u>MOTOR CYCLISTS.</u></p> <p>Motor cyclists were used for carrying despatches from Divisional Headquarters to Infantry and Artillery Brigade Headquarters. Forward of Brigades, runners were employed to convey these despatches to Battalions and other Units. Light rains caused ground to become very slippery and the bad state of many of the forward roads caused a fair amount of damage to machines, but nothing that was not able to be repaired at once in the Company. One Motor cyclist only was injured during this period, and this through riding headlong into a fresh shell hole on the road at night.</p> <p>To be used as orderlies for delivering despatches to local Units, six men from Pioneer Battalion were attached to Divisional Signal Company Headquarters. <i>Appendix 7</i></p> <p><u>PERSONNEL.</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="4">2/Lieut. G.S.Haining, M.M. was taken on strength from Reinforcements (Cadet School) on 13/4/18.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Establishment this day</td> <td>30th</td> <td>...</td> <td>15 Officers 348 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strength this day</td> <td></td> <td>...</td> <td>15 Officers 328 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>To Hospital sick during month</td> <td></td> <td>...</td> <td>-- 7 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejoined from Hospital</td> <td></td> <td>...</td> <td>-- 15 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinforcements received during month</td> <td></td> <td>...</td> <td>1 Officer 15 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Battle casualties. Wounded (shellfire)</td> <td></td> <td>...</td> <td>-- 5 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded (gas)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>31 Other ranks</td> </tr> </table> <p>One N.C.O. was transferred to Aust. Corps Signal Co. and 1 O.R. despatched to Base for re-classification on medical grounds.</p> <p><u>HONOURS AND REWARDS.</u></p> <p>No. 3548 2/Corporal E.R.Jarvis and No. 3533 L/Corporal A.J.Matheson were awarded the Military Medal.</p> <p><u>ESTABLISHMENT.</u></p> <p>The formation of No. 5 Section was carried out during the month. Fourteen other ranks with special qualifications were taken on strength on transfer from Infantry and Divisional Troops. The Section was completed by a stiffening of N.C.O's and men from other Sections of the Company, the selection of personnel from Infantry to replace these latter being at present in progress.</p>	2/Lieut. G.S.Haining, M.M. was taken on strength from Reinforcements (Cadet School) on 13/4/18.				Establishment this day	30 th	...	15 Officers 348 Other ranks	Strength this day		...	15 Officers 328 Other ranks	To Hospital sick during month		...	-- 7 Other ranks	Rejoined from Hospital		...	-- 15 Other ranks	Reinforcements received during month		...	1 Officer 15 Other ranks	Battle casualties. Wounded (shellfire)		...	-- 5 Other ranks	Wounded (gas)			31 Other ranks	
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5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information				Remarks and references to Appendices
			HORSES AND MULES.				
			Present Establishment	30 th	...	45 rides	77 light draughts
			Present strength		...	44 rides	50 light draughts
			Killed by enemy shellfire		...	--	1 light draught
			Destroyed after wounded by enemy shellfire		...	--	2 mules.
			Evacuated		...	1 ride	1 mule.
			Received from Base		...	--	10 mules.
			Handed over to other Units		...	4 rides	1 mule.

W. Stanley
Major
C.O. 5TH AUST. DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

164

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APPENDIX

8

WAR DIARY

OF

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

FOR

MONTH OF APRIL 1918.

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

No.

Date.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Diagrams of Divisional Communications. (a) Route Diagram 11th April 1918. (b) " " 17th April 1918. (c) " " 28th April 1918. (d) Schematic Diagram of Communications as taken over on 6th April 1918.
2.	Diagram of Wireless Communications. (a) 17th April 1918. (b) 22nd April 1918.
3.	Diagram of Visual Communications 30th April 1918.
4.	D.R.L.S. and Telegram chart.
5.	Telegrams (A.E & C.) Chart.
6.	Acts of Gallantry.
7.	D.R.L.S. Time-tables.
8.	Company Routine Orders.
9.	Reports on Buried Cable work.
10.	Signal Communications in Divisional Area.
11.	Report on move of Division from DRANOUTRE to VAUCHELLES-les-AUTHIE.
12.	Notes on Communications during recent operations.
13.	Communication Scheme.
14.	List of Telephone Subscribers.

Handwritten signature

ROUTE DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS

5th AUSTR. DIV. SIGNAL COMPANY

Map Reference Sheet 62P

11th April 1918

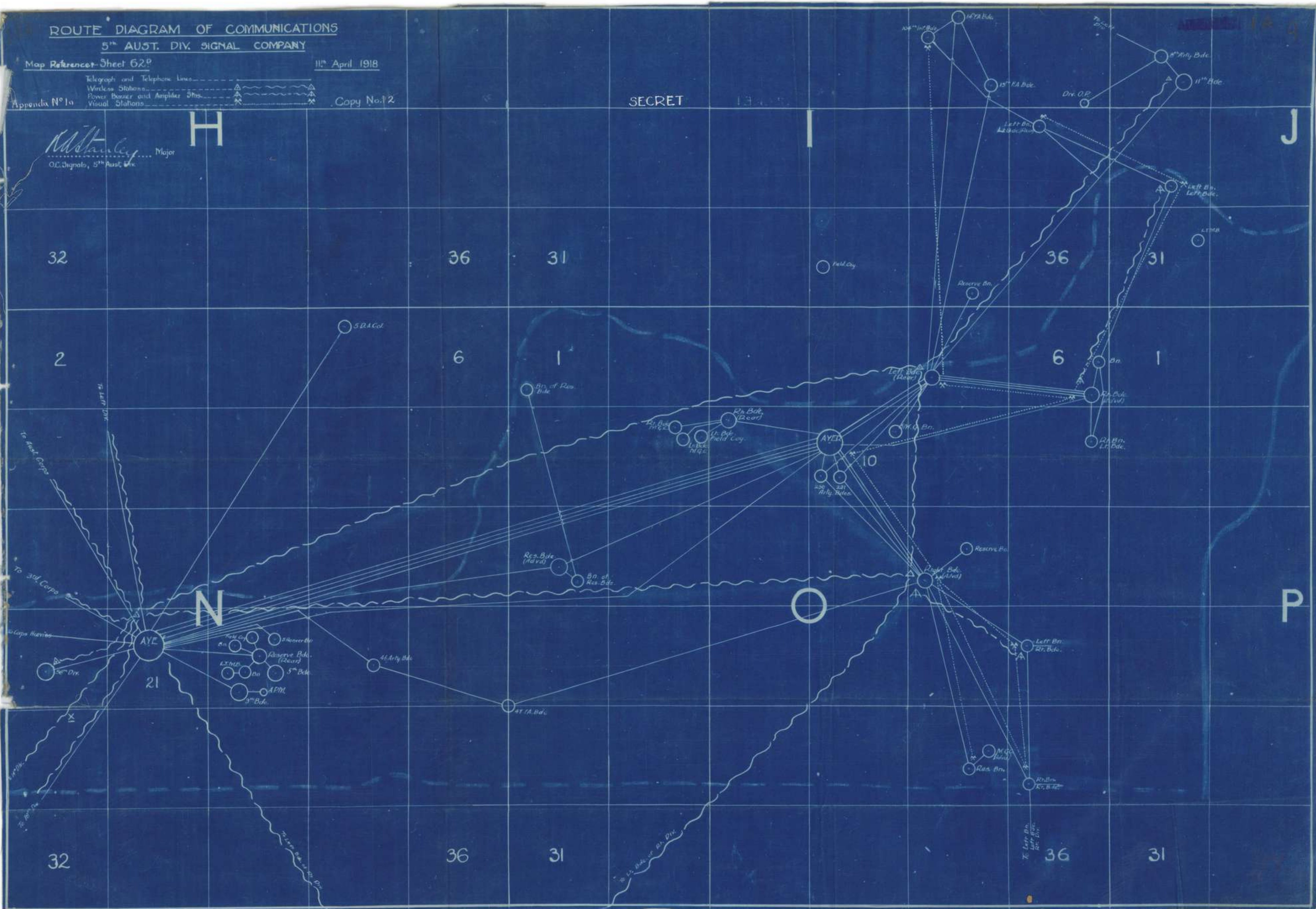
Appendix No 1a

Copy No. 12

SECRET

Telegraph and Telephone Lines
Wireless Stations
Power Boxes and Amplifier Stns.
Visual Stations

W. H. Stanley Major
O.C. Signals, 5th Aust. Div.



APPENDIX

1A

app 1A

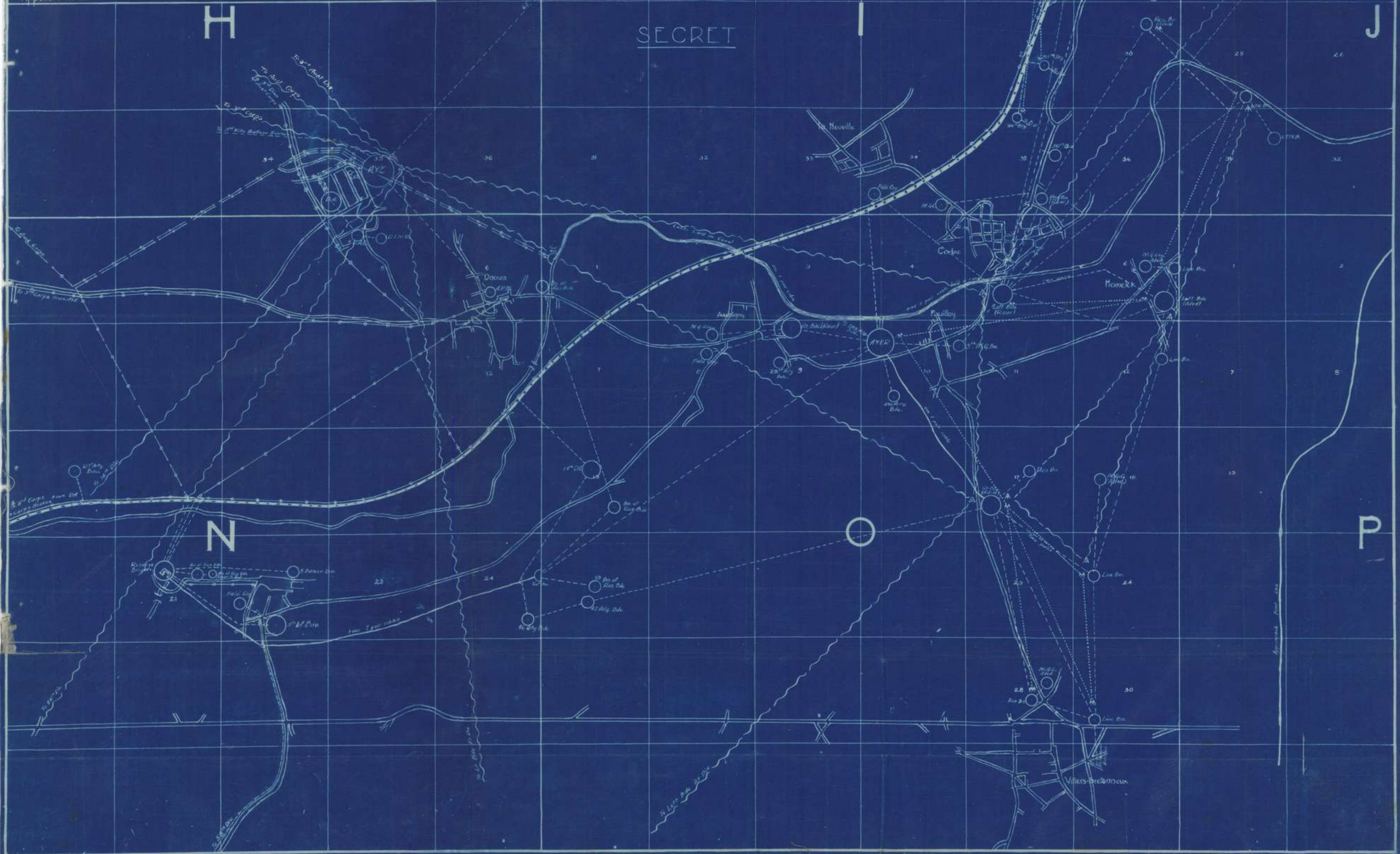


DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS 5th AUST. DIVL SIGNAL COMPANY

Map Reference: Sheet G2
Open Wire Routes
Piled Cable Routes
Buried Routes
Ground Lines
Wireless Stations
Power Buzzer & Amplifier Sites
Visual Stations
Appendix No 1b

17 April 1918
W. Stanley Major
D.C. Signals 5th Aust. Div.
Copy No: 1

SECRET



APPENDIX 1B

RECEIVED BY MAIL
1918

hth

6th
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date

5. AUST. DIV. SIGNAL COMPANY
Wire Ref. Sheet 625 - Scale 1:20,000 - Wire Diagram April 1918 - Appendix N^o 16 - 25 April 1918
Open Wire Routes shown thus
Piled Cable Routes
Buried Routes
Ground Routes
Wireless Stations
Power Stations & Aerials, Slatlines
Visual Stations

W. H. T. Corp.
U.S. Signal Corps, The
Copy No. 4

A detailed historical map of the Pacific Northwest coast, showing the coastline, major cities like Seattle, Tacoma, and Portland, and a network of roads and railroads. The map is overlaid with a grid with letters H, I, J, N, O, P across the top and bottom.

APPENDIX

10



COMMUNICATIONS AS TAKEN OVER
BY
5th AUST. DIV. SIG. COY. 6th April 1918

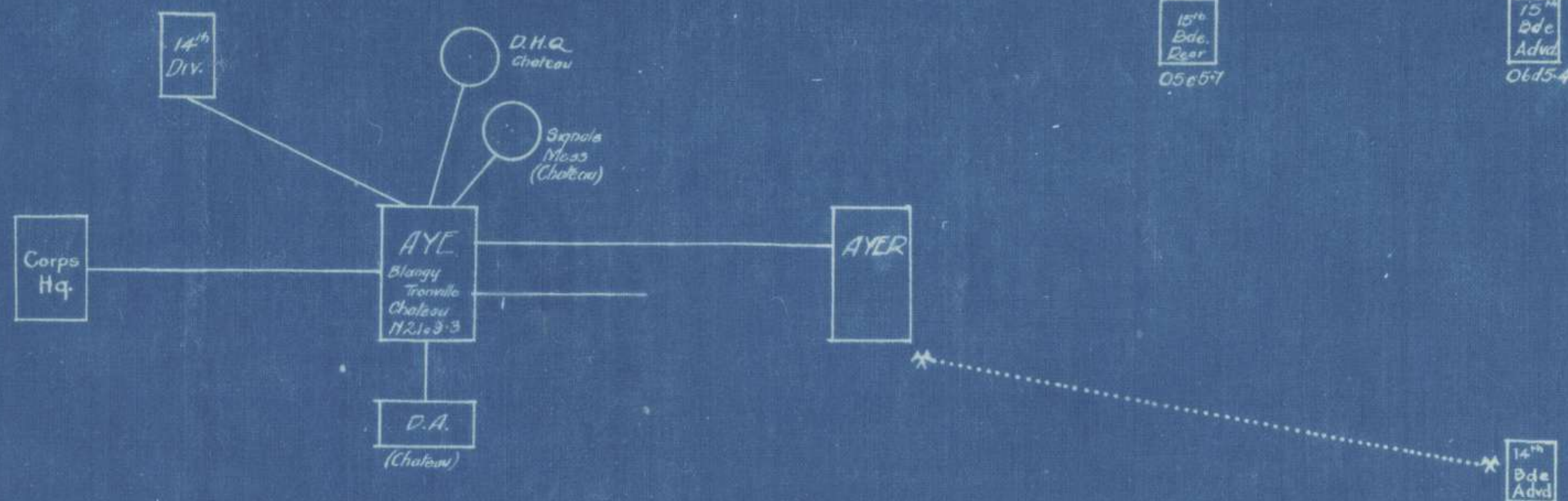
Telegraph & Telephone Lines -----
Visual Stations -----

Appendix N^o 1d
War Diary April 1918

M. Stanley

Major
O. C. Signals 5th Aust. Div.

SECRET



APPENDIX

10

12

DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS by WIRELESS TELEGRAPH

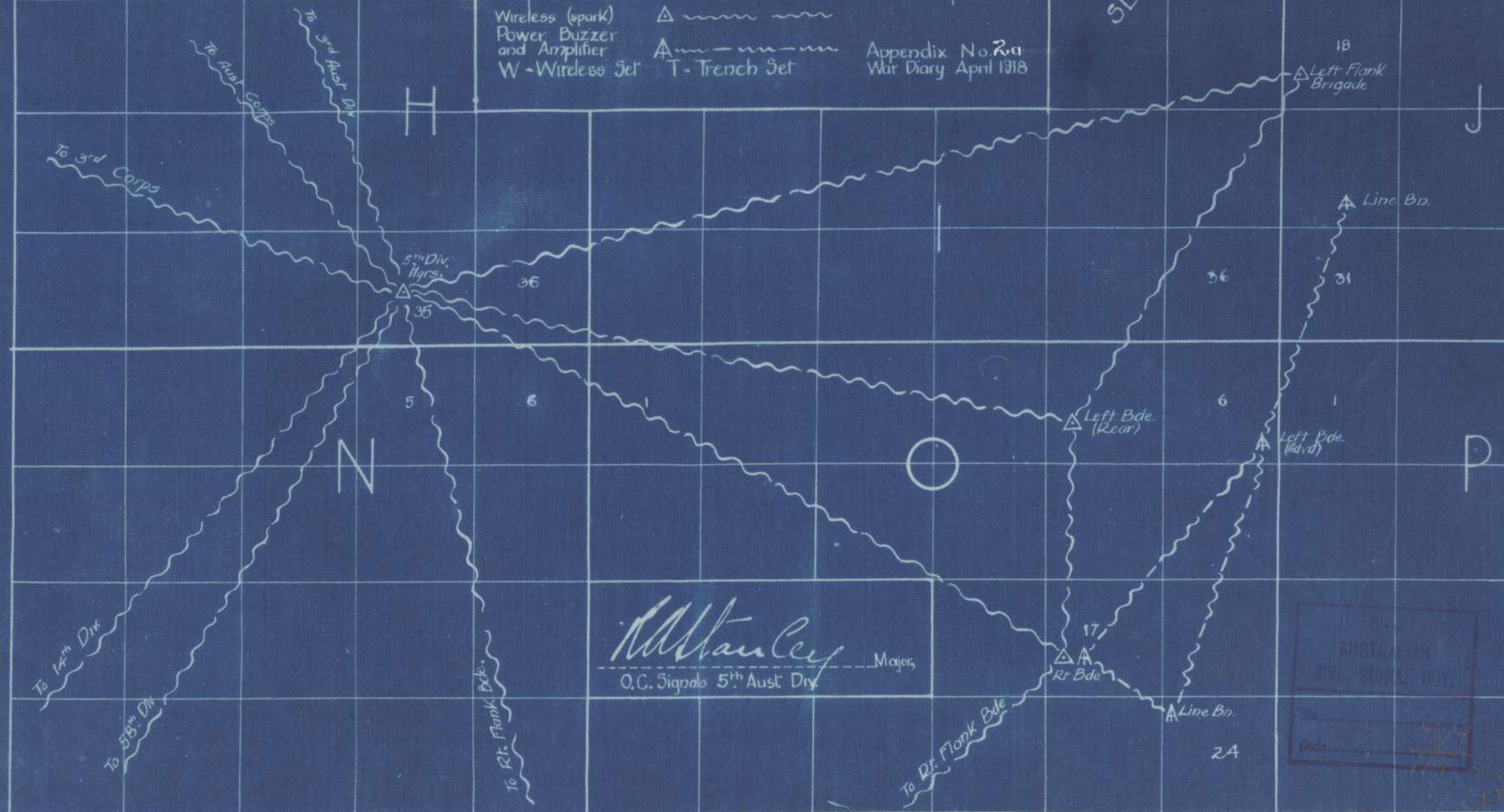
Map Ref: Sheet 62^D

17th April 1918

Wireless (spark) Δ ~~~~~
Power Buzzer and Amplifier Δ - - - - -
W-Wireless Set T-Trench Set

Appendix No. 2a
War Diary April 1918

SECRET



APPENDIX

24
13

SECRET



5th
AUSTRALIAN
DIV. SIGNAL COY.
No. _____
Date _____

DIAGRAM OF COMMUNICATIONS by WIRELESS TELEGRAPH

Map Ref:- Sheet 62^D 22nd April 1918
Wireless (spark) Δ ~~~~~
Power Buzzer and Amplifier A ~~~~~
W-Wireless Set, T-Trench Set Appendix No 2b
War Diary April 1918.

W. Stanley

Major
O.C. Signals 5th Aust. Divn.

Appendix No 2b

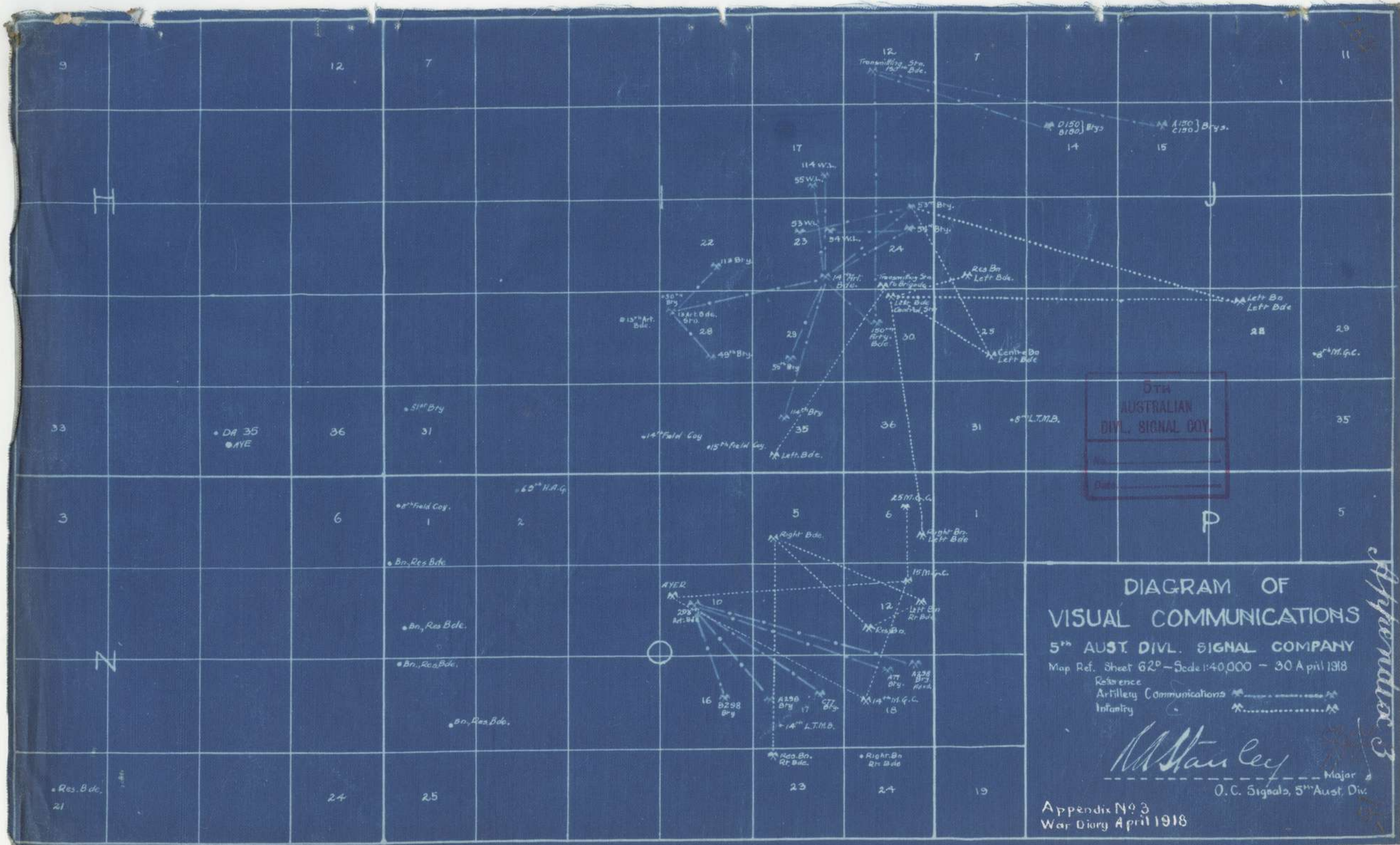


DIAGRAM OF
VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY
Map Ref. Sheet 62D - Scale 1:40,000 - 30 April 1918
Reference
Artillery Communications
Infantry
Reserve
M. Stanley
Major
O.C. Signals, 5th Aust. Div.
Appendix No 3
War Diary April 1918

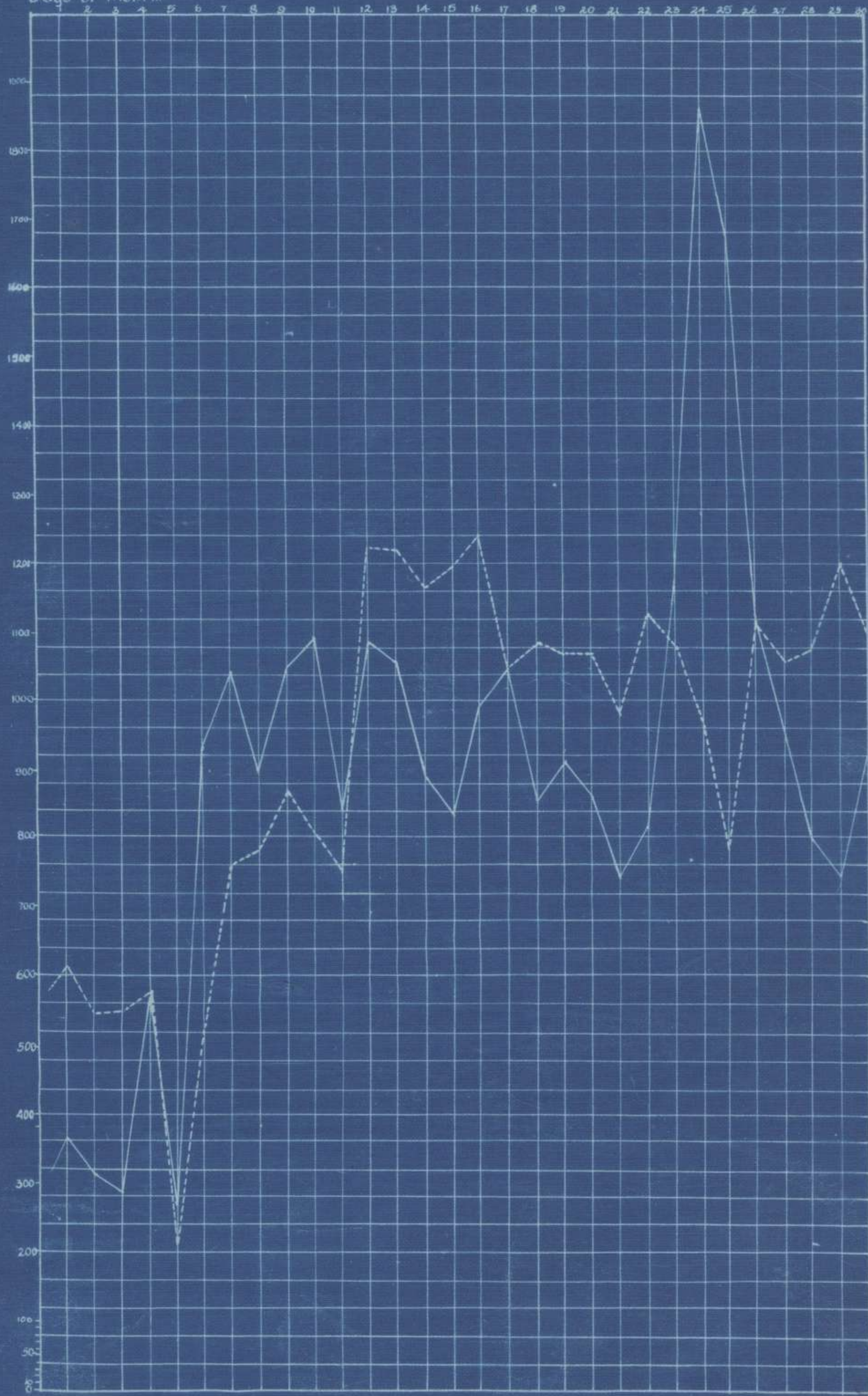
Traffic Chart of D.R.L.S. & Telegrams
April 1918

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
ENVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date

D.R.L.S. ----- Telegrams

War Diary April 1918 : Appendix No 4

Days of Month.



153
14
Apr 5

Traffic Chart of Telegrams (A, B, & C Forms)

April 1918

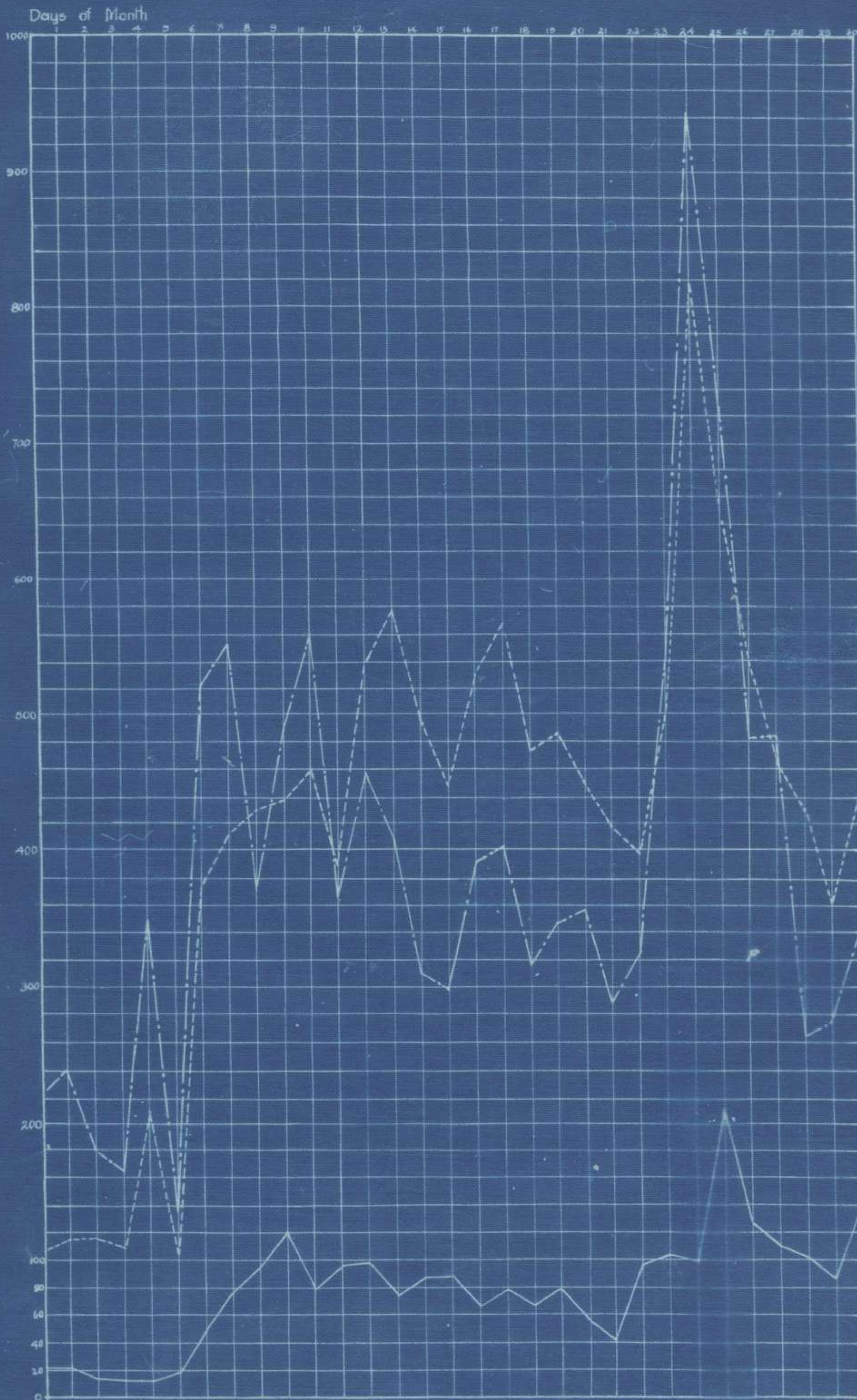
OTH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

A Forms

B Forms

C Forms

War Diary April 1918 : Appendix No 5



254
5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

5th Australian Divisional Signal Co.

18
APPENDIX No.6

No.....
Date.....

Appendix No.6 to War Diary for April 1918

The following acts of gallantry and devotion to duty are placed on record :-

No.3548 2nd Corporal Eric Roy JARVIS, 5th Australian Divisional Signal Co

" On the 4th April 1918, at HAMELET near CORBIE, this non-commission-
" ed officer was sent out with a party of linemen to establish
" communication with a forward station during an enemy attack. Despite
" a heavy barrage he achieved his object. From the forward position
" during intense shelling he personally laid cables to two Battalions
" in the line. With a total disregard of the shelling which was
" taking place, he worked continuously and with the exception of a
" few short periods succeeded in keeping the Brigade in touch with the
" Battalions for the period of the operations."

M.M.

No.3533 Lance Corporal Angus John MATHESON, 5th Australian Divisional
Signal Company.

" On the afternoon of 4th April 1918 at HAMELET near CORBIE, this
" non-commissioned officer was in charge of a party of linemen who
" were maintaining lines to a Brigade Forward Station. During a
" heavy enemy barrage he laid an alternate line to that position which
" materially assisted communication. It was mainly due to his
" perseverance and the spirit he shewed to his men that this task was
" accomplished. During the night and the following day he was
" continually out on the lines. His courage, perseverance, and energy
" resulted in the Brigade being kept in communication with forward
" Units during an important period."

M.M.

44

264

19

APPENDIX 4

5th Australian Division.

D.R.L.S. Time-table.

Corps.

Leave Corps	9.30 a.m.	4.30 p.m.	9.30 p.m.
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	11 a.m.	6 p.m.	11 p.m.
Leave 5th Aust. Division	11.5 a.m.	6.5 p.m.	11.5 p.m.
Arrive Corps	12.30 p.m.	7.30 p.m.	12.30 a.m.

Right and Left Aust. Infantry Brigades

13th and 14th A.F.A. Brigades

290th and 291st R.F.A. Brigades

Leave 5th Aust. Division	8 a.m.	12 noon	9 p.m.
Arrive 14th Infantry Brigade	8.10 a.m.	12.10 p.m.	9.10 p.m.
Leave 14th Infantry Brigade	8.15 a.m.	12.15 p.m.	9.15 p.m.
Arrive Aust. Divl. Forward Stn	8.25 a.m.	12.25 p.m.	9.25 p.m.
Leave Aust. Divl. Forward Stn	8.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	9.30 p.m.
Arrive 8th Infantry Brigade	8.40 a.m.	12.40 p.m.	9.40 p.m.
Leave 8th Infantry Brigade	8.45 a.m.	12.45 p.m.	9.45 p.m.
Arrive Aust. Divl. Forward Stn	8.55 a.m.	12.55 p.m.	9.55 p.m.
Leave Aust. Divl. Forward Stn	9 a.m.	1 p.m.	10 p.m.
Arrive 14th Infantry Brigade	9.10 a.m.	1.10 p.m.	10.10 p.m.
Leave 14th Infantry Brigade	9.15 a.m.	1.15 p.m.	10.15 p.m.
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	9.25 a.m.	1.25 p.m.	10.25 p.m.

Orderlies from 13th and 14th A.F.A. Brigades collect and leave packets at 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade Headquarters.

Orderlies from 290th and 291st R.F.A. Brigades collect and leave packets at Divisional Forward station.

Despatches for 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade Forward office are carried by Motor cyclist from Divisional Forward station, leaving the Forward station on arrival of the outward runs and returning in time to meet the return runs

Reserve Aust. Infantry Brigade.

14th Divisional Artillery

46th and 47th R.F.A. Brigades

Leave 5th Aust. Division	8 a.m.	12 noon	9 p.m.
Arrive 14th Divl. Artillery	8.25 a.m.	12.25 p.m.	9.25 p.m.
Leave 14th Divl. Artillery	8.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m.	9.30 p.m.
Arrive Reserve Infantry Bde.	8.45 a.m.	12.45 p.m.	9.45 p.m.
Leave Reserve Infantry Bde.	8.50 a.m.	12.50 p.m.	9.50 p.m.
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	9.30 a.m.	1.30 p.m.	10.30 p.m.

Orderlies from 46th and 47th R.F.A. Brigades collect and leave packets at 14th Divisional Artillery.

Other Divisional Units

Circular runs are made daily to other Divisional Units at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

This cancels previous time-tables.

Chas H. Barr
for Major.
O.C. Signals 5th Aust. Division.

13th April 1918.

254
5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPENDIX No. 7

D.R.L.S. TIME-TABLE

No.
Date.

Corps.

Leave Aust. Corps	7 a.m.	11.15 a.m.	4.15 p.m.	8 p.m.
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	7.40 a.m.	11.55 a.m.	4.55 p.m.	8.40 p.m.
Leave 5th Aust. Division	7.40 a.m.	11.55 a.m.	4.55 p.m.	8.40 p.m.
Arrive Aust. Corps	8.20 a.m.	12.35 p.m.	5.45 p.m.	9.25 p.m.

Right and Left Aust. Infantry Brigades.
13th and 14th A.F.A. Brigades

Leave 5th Aust. Division	6.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m.	1.30 p.m.	8 p.m.
Arrive 14th Inf. Bde. (Rear)	6.40 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	1.40 p.m.	8.10 p.m.
Leave 14th Inf. Bde. (")	6.43 a.m.	10.45 a.m.	1.43 p.m.	8.13 p.m.
Arrive Divl. Forward Stn. & 298th R.F.A. Brigade	6.50 a.m.	10.55 a.m.	1.50 p.m.	8.20 p.m.
Leave -do-	6.55 a.m.	11 a.m.	1.55 p.m.	8.25 p.m.
Arrive 14th Inf. Brigade	7 a.m.	11.10 a.m.	2 p.m.	8.30 p.m.
Leave 14th Inf. Brigade	7.3 a.m.	10.45 a.m.	2.3 p.m.	8.33 p.m.
Arrive 8th Inf. Brigade	7.8 a.m.	11.15 a.m.	2.8 p.m.	8.38 p.m.
Leave 8th Inf. Brigade	7.10 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	2.10 p.m.	8.40 p.m.
Arrive 14th A.F.A. Brigade	7.20 a.m.	---	2.20 p.m.	8.50 p.m.
Leave 14th A.F.A. Brigade	7.22 a.m.	---	2.22 p.m.	8.52 p.m.
Arrive 13th A.F.A. Brigade	7.55 a.m.	---	2.55 p.m.	9.25 p.m.
Leave 13th A.F.A. Brigade	8 a.m.	---	3 p.m.	9.30 p.m.
Arrive 5th D.F.M.O.	8.15 a.m.	---	3.15 p.m.	9.45 p.m.
Leave 5th D.F.M.O.	8.17 a.m.	---	3.17 p.m.	9.47 p.m.
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	8.30 a.m.	11.20 a.m.	3.30 p.m.	10 p.m.

Reserve Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Leave 5th Aust. Division	7 a.m.	10.30 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.
Arrive 15th Inf. Brigade	7.20 a.m.	11.20 a.m.	2.20 p.m.	9.20 p.m.
Leave 15th Inf. Brigade	7.25 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	2.25 p.m.	9.25 p.m.
Arrive Divl. Forward Stn.	---	11 a.m.	---	---
Leave Divl. Forward Stn.	---	11 a.m.	---	---
Arrive 5th Aust. Division	7.45 a.m.	11.20 a.m.	2.45 p.m.	9.45 p.m.

Other Units.

Circular runs are made daily to other Units in Divisional Area leaving at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Despatches should be lodged at Signal Offices 10 minutes before specified times of departure to allow for registration.

The Brigade D.R. links with the D.R. from Divisional Headquarters at Divisional Forward Station at 11 a.m. He will deliver, with any other packets, the Brigade Intelligence Summary.

Previous time-tables are cancelled.

Charles H. Bann
Major.
O.C. Signals 5th Aust. Division.

28th April 1918.

Note. This time-table comes into force on the 30th inst.

254

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

C O M P A N Y R O U T I N E O R D E R S

No.
Date

by

Major R. A. STANLEY, O.C. 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

1st April 1918.

66. BOUNDS.

The hour at which all Warrant Officers, non-commissioned officers and men, except those on duty and others with special passes must be in their billets, is extended to 9.30 p.m. nightly from 1st April 1918, until further orders.

67. UNSERVICEABLE BOOTS.

Boots are being returned as unserviceable which have been made so, either by cutting or burning. In future the men responsible will be called upon to pay for boots so rendered unserviceable and, in addition will be dealt with from a disciplinary point of view.

68. HONOURS AND REWARDS.

The Corps Commander has awarded the undermentioned decorations:

MILITARY MEDAL.

No. 3378 Sapper S.Y. Pace, 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.
No. 4378 Sapper W.G. Lickiss, -do-

69. COURTS-MARTIAL.

The G.O.C., 5th Aust. Division has reconsidered the sentence of Two years Impt. H.L. awarded by F.G.C.M. on 29.8.17 to No. 1578 Driver H.W. Harris, and in view of this soldier's good conduct since the date of award, has remitted the sentence.

70. CADET TRAINING UNITS. (Ext. A.I.F. List 312.)

Signal Service. "The undermentioned Cadet, having qualified for a Commission in the Engineers (Signal Service) is appointed 2nd Lieutenant in the A.I.F., and posted to Engineers (Signal Service) reinforcements.
23rd March 1918.

1300 Sgt. G.S. Haining, 5th Div. Sig. Co.

71. LOOTING.

As a consequence of the present operations, many French people have been forced to leave their homes and abandon the whole of their possessions. Many of these homes lie in the Area occupied by British Troops, who therefore become trustees to the French people for their abandoned property.

The Army Commander exhorts every Officer, Warrant Officer, non-commissioned officer and man in the Third Army to do all in his power to protect the homes and property of our Allies, who are fighting our common enemy.

The penalty for the crime of looting is known and the sternest disciplinary measures will be taken to put a stop to it.

- over -

72. PHOTOGRAPHY (Ext. G.R.O.3065)

" No officer, soldier or other person subject to Military Law
" is permitted to be in possession of a camera or to take
" photographs.
" This order will be promulgated to all troops arriving in
" this country, and will be republished periodically in the orders
" of Units. Any Officer or soldier or any other person subject
" to Military Law who disobeys this order will be placed in arrest
" and the case will be reported to the Headquarters of the Army."

73. USE OF CROPS AND PASTURES.

Horses and mules are not to be picketed or allowed to graze on crops or pasture lands. Units will be held responsible for payment of all claims for any damage caused in this way.

74. TYING OF ANIMALS TO TREES.

Animals are not to be tied to trees.

75. PROMOTIONS.

1861 Cpl. J.L.MOUNSEY, D.C.M. to be T/Sergeant dated 2/3/18
vice Johnston posted for temporary duty with Aust. Corps
Signal Co.

1861 Cpl. (T/Sgt.) J.L.MOUNSEY, D.C.M. to be Sergeant dated
11/3/18 vice Paddock transferred.

3651 Cpl. L.C.HORNER to be T/Sgt. dated 11/3/18 vice Mounsey
promoted.

3651 Cpl. (T/Sgt.) L.C.HORNER to be Sergeant dated 24/3/18
vice Johnston transferred.

3622 2/Cpl. C.H.ALLEN to be T/Corporal dated 2/3/18 vice Mounsey
promoted.

3622 2/Cpl. (T/Cpl.) C.H.ALLEN to be Corporal dated 11/3/18
vice Mounsey promoted.

692 Spr. J.MATHESON to be 2nd Corporal dated 25/3/18 vice
Readford.

W. H. H. H. H.
MAJOR
C.O. 5TH AUST. DIV'L. SIGNAL CO.

APPENDIX

254
5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

COMPANY ROUTINE ORDERS

by

No.

Date

Major R. A. STANLEY, O.C. 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

16th April 1918

76. FALSE OR ALARMIST ORDERS AND RUMOURS - PRECAUTIONS AGAINST
(Extract G.R.O. 3756)

Instances of the following nature have recently occurred of conduct prejudicial to the success of military operations:-

1. Messages have been given by despatch riders and others to parties of men to the effect that other units have been forced to withdraw, when this was not in fact the case.
2. Messages falsely purporting to be actual orders to retire have been delivered to troops in the field.
3. Accounts of reverses have been spread among both troops and civilians, when either they have been false, or, in the existing military situation, it was not desirable that they should be disseminated.

A number of cases have been substantiated of such reports and messages, at first attributed to enemy agents, having been in fact carried by British messengers, who have either really believed what they said to be true, or else were affected with panic. In future, therefore, the following precautions will be strictly observed. Whenever a message reporting the withdrawal of other troops, or an order to retire, is brought to a party of men, the bearer, whatever his rank, is to be taken to the officer in Command on the spot. The latter will not act on the faith of the message or in compliance with the order until he has satisfied himself both as to the bona fides of the bearer and as to the genuineness of the origin of the message or order. If he finds the messengers conduct to be unjustified, he will detain him in arrest, and take steps with a view to his trial by Court-Martial.

77. DEFENCE AGAINST GAS.

The following are the Precautionary and Alert Zones in the Corps Area :-

Precautionary Zone. East of the following line and west of the Alert Zone line. The River LA CELLE from CONTY (exclusive) to its junction with the SOMME W. of AMIENS.

Box Respirators will be carried within this Area.

Alert Zone. East of the following line :-

Railway Crossing T.14.b.5.4, Cross roads T.10.a.0.0, Railway Crossing O.25.c.7.4, AUBIGNY Cross roads O.8.b.5.6.

Box Respirators will be worn in the Alert position E. of this line.

78. STEEL HELMETS.

Steel Helmets will be worn by all ranks E. of Alert Zone line.

79. NEXT OF KIN - NOTIFICATION IN CHANGES OF. (A.I.F. Order 1184)

All ranks of the Australian Imperial Force are notified that on change or alteration of next of kin subsequent to enlistment owing to death, marriage etc., or on change of address of next of kin, a notification to the effect stating full particulars, should be at once despatched to the Officer i/c Records, Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. 130 Horseferry Road, London, S.W.1.

- over -

80. BOUNDS.

No one under the rank of Lieut.-Colonel is permitted to enter ABBEVILLE without a pass signed by his Commanding Officer. No leave to ABBEVILLE is to be granted.

AMIENS and CORBIE are placed out of bounds to all troops. No passes are to be issued to anyone to enter the towns except those proceeding on duty.

81. PUNISHMENTS.

No. 516 Driver A.H. CRAVEN and No. 823 Driver S. BRASSIL were each awarded 7 days F.P. No. 2 for the following offence committed on 10/4/18 :-

"When on Active Service - drunkenness."

NOTICE.

"E.F.M." TELEGRAMS. There is a great pressure of ordinary traffic on the cables, especially to EGYPT, INDIA and AUSTRALASIA; and E.F.M. messages are subject to considerable delay. In some cases E.F.M. telegrams are sent over a portion of the route by post, and senders of such telegrams should be warned of the delay - amounting in some cases to over three weeks - which is likely to occur in transmission.

[Signature]
C.O. 5TH AUST. DIV'L. SIGNAL CORPS

APPENDIX 8

264

COMPANY ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Major R. A. STANLEY, O.C. 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date.

23rd April 1918

82. ARM BANDS.

Arm bands will be worn by Officers and other ranks at all times except -

- (a) when in view of the enemy in forward areas.
- (b) when on furlough.

83. ALLOTMENTS AND SEPARATION ALLOWANCE.

The Commonwealth Government has decided to increase the rates of separation allowance payable to the dependants of members of the A.I.F., from 1s. 5d. per diem to 2s. per diem, and from 4½d. per diem to 6d. per diem, with effect automatically as from 5th April 1918.

84. SHOOTING AT GAME.

The practice of firing at hares and other game is strictly forbidden.

85. DAMAGE TO TREES.

Several cases of damage to trees through horses eating the bark have been observed in the Corps Area. Steps must be taken to prevent this.

86. INDIAN TRAINING COLLEGE.

(a) The Government of India is prepared to admit in or about May, to the Indian Training College at Quetta a further quota of N.C.O's and men of the forces of the self-governing Dominions who are either serving with their Units or with Officer Cadet Units, with a view to their qualifying for permanent commissions in the Indian Army.

(b) The number of vacancies allotted to the A.I.F. is 13

(c) Candidates must be :-

Not more than 21 years of age on 1/3/1918.

Unmarried.

Of suitable education.

Further particulars may be obtained at this office.

87. PROTESTS.



87. REVERSIONS.

The undermentioned N.C.O.'s holding temporary rank revert to substantive rank on return to duty of 1898 Sergeant J.CAIN.

2601 T/Sgt. G.W.WILLIAMS reverts to Corporal 16/4/18

3304 T/Cpl. J.CLARKE reverts to 2nd Corporal 16/4/18

16387 T.2nd/Cpl. A.C.BIRKS reverts to Lance Corporal 16/4/18.

NOTICES.

Members of the Australian Imperial Force are advised that letters written by them to soldiers who are Prisoners of War in enemy or neutral countries, should be addressed as under :-

No.....Rank.....Name.....Initials.....
.....Unit.

Australian Imperial Force,

Prisoner of War,

C/o Aust. Base Post Office, London.

Correspondents must be careful not to state their location when communicating with Prisoners of War. Each outward letter must contain instructions that the address on any letter sent in reply by the Prisoner of War is to state ONLY the addressee's regimental number, name, and initials, C/o Australian Base Post Office, London. The A.B.P.O London will effect delivery to the addressee of all mail addressed in accordance with the foregoing.

INTEREST ON DEFERRED PAY.

Advice has been received that the Commonwealth Government has decided to grant 4½ per cent interest on "deferred pay" which has been in the hands of the Department for a period of more than twelve months. When full details of the scheme are available they will be notified in Orders.



264

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

No.
Date

C O M P A N Y R O U T I N E O R D E R S .

by

Major R. A. STANLEY, O.C. 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

26th April 1918.

88. PROMOTIONS.

188 Cpl. J.H.CLARK to be SERGEANT, 11/3/18 to complete establishment.
 1865 L/Cpl. E.A.PARKER to be CORPORAL, 11/3/18 to complete establishment.
 14207 2/Cpl. J.M.WATSON to be CORPORAL, 11/3/18 vice Clark promoted.
 1857 L/Cpl. H.HOLDSWORTH to be 2nd CORPORAL, 11/3/18 vice Allen promoted.
 1857 2/Cpl. H.HOLDSWORTH to be T/CORPORAL, 11/3/18 vice Horner promoted.
 1857 T/Cpl. H.HOLDSWORTH to be CORPORAL, 24/3/18 vice Horner promoted.
 1856 Sapper F.J.HOLDEN to be T2/CORPORAL, 11/3/18 vice Holdsworth promoted.
 1856 T2/Cpl. F.J.HOLDEN to be 2nd CORPORAL, 24/3/18 vice Holdsworth promoted.
 2496 Sapper C.A.R.WILSON to be T2/CORPORAL, 26/4/18 to complete establishment.

89. APPOINTMENTS.

3650 Sapper H.A.HAMELY appointed LANCE CORPORAL 11/3/18 vice Parker promoted.
 3625 Sapper R.R.BIESKE appointed LANCE CORPORAL 11/3/18 vice Holdsworth promoted.
 7549 Sapper R.M.BRIGHT appointed LANCE CORPORAL 9/2/18 vice Harris re-mustered.

90. POSTINGS.

188 Sgt. J.H.CLARK)	
1865 Cpl. E.A.PARKER)	
2496 T2/Cpl. C.A.R.WILSON)	To No. 5 Section.

R. A. Stanley
 Major
 C.O. 5TH AUST. DIV'L. SIGNAL CO.

O.C.,
5th Aust. Divisional Signal Co.

Herewith submit report re Buried Cable from AYER to AGN.
Work carried out between 9.30 a.m. 11th and 8 a.m. 13th April.

398 workers and their respective Officers reported at 9.30 a.m. 11th, from 57th and 58th Battalions. Task was set at the rate of 3-yards per man. At about noon Captain Morgan, 57th Battalion, reported to take charge of Brigade fatigue party, and work proceeded under his supervision.

Practically all these workers stated, and appeared to be very tired when they reported, and at 3.30 p.m. Capt. Morgan asked for and obtained a relief from 15th Brigade Staff. This relief consisted of 274 workers, and Capt. Morgan arranged with the Officers in charge to let the first party of 398 go on condition the second party finished off their respective sectors, as the job had to be completed that night. This change took place at 5.30 p.m. and the second party, who also stated they were dead tired, proceeded with the work which continued quite well until 11 p.m. when it shewed signs of slacking. By 12 midnight, hardly a man was working and Capt. Morgan considered the men were played out, and informed 15th Brigade Staff to that effect. At 12.15 a.m. he received word from them to return to their Units. This was done. Work completed at end of first day - 1100 yards of trench dug to a depth of from 5 to 6 feet, cable laid in, and 100 yards nearest to AYER filled in.

2nd day.

394 workers reported at 9.30 a.m. 12th, from 57th and 58th Battalions. Task was laid out at 2 yards per man (1 yard per man over road) and trench continued to AGN, a distance of about 600 yards. This occupied 320 men and the remainder were detailed to fill in the previous day's trench. Work proceeded until about 11.45 a.m. when shelling commenced and party was returned to Units by order of the Brigadier 14th Brigade. They had completed about half the task. One Officer and 20 other ranks were kept to complete the bury across the roadway in front of 14th Brigade Headquarters and this was completed by 5 p.m. and party dismissed.

At 7.30 p.m. party of 366 workers from 57th and 58th Battalions reported and were put to work over the same ground as the morning, and work proceeded again, practically all men complaining about being very tired and overworked. Trench was completed, cable laid and filling in commenced, but before this was completed Capt. Peacock of the 57th Battalion withdrew his party which consisted of 202 men. Mr. Slaughter and 30 workers of the 58th Battalion who had been detailed to dig a dummy sap leading away from the trench for the purpose of camouflaging the route, also left before his task was completed. Both these parties left at about 11.30 p.m. - certainly not later. Mr. Syder of 58th Battalion with the remainder of 58th Battalion party worked steadily through from 9 p.m. and was untiring in his efforts to get the job completed, although his men were working very slowly on account of being so tired. He asked permission from his Brigade Staff to withdraw at 12.50 a.m. but was informed that the job had to be completed. He then kept his party working till 2.15 a.m. when he left, still having about 75 yards of trench only partially filled.

At 5.15 a.m. this morning (13th) a party of 1 Officer and 35 workers of 55th Battalion reported for the purpose of digging dummy sap and camouflaging track thoroughly about 200 yards before reaching 14th Brigade Headquarters, in accordance with instructions received from Brigadier of 14th Brigade. This work was completed by 8 a.m. at which time the enemy was shelling just to the right of our position and visibility was getting clear. Party was then dismissed.

13/4/18.

Barber Hunt

4/4

264

APPENDIX

29
9

5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date

Appendix No 2

O.C.,
5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

Reference Bury put down yesterday (13/4/18) from 0.10.a.5.7 to Canal.-

Arrangements were made for party to be of 150 men to report at 4 p.m. Work was accordingly laid out for that number. At 6 p.m. 38 men from "B" Company 59th Battalion reported, and at 6.30 pm 88 from "C" Company arrived, in all 126 actual workers.

The cable buried was put down to a depth averaging 5 feet. About 50 yards of cable requires burying yet; 25 men will suffice for this.

J. G. Murphy Lieut.
5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

14/4/18.

In continuation of the above, 25 men reported from 57th Battalion at 5.10 p.m. yesterday (14/4/18). Fifty yards of bury completed to a depth of 5'6" Work completed at 9 p.m.

J. G. Murphy Lieut.
5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

15/4/18.

47



254
5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

APPENDIX

10 30

No.....
Date.....

APPENDIX N°10

Signal communication in 5th Divisional Area is as under :-

Communication to two Brigades in line is maintained along poled cable to the RIVER SOMME thence by cable along the bed of the river to Left Brigade (O.5.c.4.6) and Advanced Division Exchange at FOUILLOY (O.10.a.6.4). From FOUILLOY cables are buried to Right Brigade Advanced Headquarters (O.17.c.3.5). Forward of Brigades, Units are connected by ground lines.

Telegraph.

From Divisional Headquarters telegraph by sounder is used back to III Corps and Australian Corps, laterally to 3rd Aust. Division on left, and forward to 8th, 14th and 15th Aust. Infantry Brigades.

Telephone.

Telephone communication is established to III Corps, Aust. Corps, Right and Left ^{Divisions} Corps Heavies and Divisional Artillery, 8th, 14th and 15th Aust. Infantry Brigades, 13th and 14th A.F.A. Brigades, Advanced Division Exchange at FOUILLOY (O.10.a.6.4) and Machine Gun Battalion.

From Brigades telephone communication is established to all Battalions and Batteries.

Visual.

From Advanced Division Station at FOUILLOY (O.10.a.6.4) visual signalling is arranged to Right and Left Brigade Headquarters in line, and these stations are also in touch by visual with their respective Battalions.

Wireless.

Wireless Stations are established at Divisional Headquarters and also at Headquarters of two Brigades in line - O.5.c.4.6 and O.17.c.3.5. These stations are in touch with each other also with III Corps, Aust. Corps, Left and Right Flank Divisions, and the Brigades of the Flank Divisions.

Power Buzzer and Amplifier.

Power Buzzer and Amplifier stations are established at Headquarters of Left and Right Brigades in line, and these work forward to similar stations at a line Battalion of each. Advanced Left Brigade (O.6.d.5.4) works to Battalion at J.25.d.1.4. Advanced Right Brigade (O.17.c.3.5) works to Battalion at O.24.a.3.3. These Power Buzzer and Amplifier stations are all in touch with each other.

Despatches.

Despatches are delivered and collected by Motor cyclist from Divisional Headquarters, Right and Left Brigade Headquarters in line, and to Advanced Division Station, FOUILLOY, thence they are distributed by runner to Battalions and surrounding Units.

Diagram.

Explanatory line diagram has been forwarded separately.

W. Stanley
C.C. Signals 5th Aust. Division. Major:

15th April 1918.

Appendix No 11

5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVL. SIGNAL COY.	
No.	
Date	

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

Reference:- Q.102/1809 of 24/1/18.

Subject:- Move of 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co. from DRANOUTRE to VAUCHELLES-LES-AUTHIE.

Party of 2 Officers and 70 other ranks left DRANOUTRE at 6.30 p.m. on 26th March by Motor lorry for Divisional Reinforcement Wing CAESTRE where they were billeted in tents for the night. Cook and rations accompanied this party and hot meals were served up to the evening of the 27th. At 6.45 p.m. on the 27th this party left Reinforcement Wing and marched to CAESTRE - a distance of about 3 miles - where they entrained.

Transport of Company left DRANOUTRE at 4 p.m. on 27th and moved to CAESTRE - a distance of about 10 miles. Here transport was loaded on train with remaining personnel of Headquarters and No.1 Section. Rations for men and animals were carried. Train left CAESTRE at 10.20 p.m. and arrived at DOULLENS at 9.20 the following morning. Cold meal was partaken of.

Kits of marching party were taken at DOULLENS and conveyed to camp at VAUCHELLES. This party set out at 10.15 a.m. and marching about 9 miles reached camp at 3 p.m. where hot tea was served. Transport left DOULLENS at 10.45 and arrived at camp 3.30 p.m. Hot meal was served to all parties in the evening.

Roads were dusty and congested on account of many Units on the march and this hampered the parties a good deal, but there were no stragglers. Rain fell the last half hour the transport was on the road.

Advance Office party with stores and Motor cyclists left DRANOUTRE at 10 a.m. on 27th and arrived at VAUCHELLES-LES-AUTHIE at 4 p.m. when office was established. Breakfast for party was partaken of before leaving and a meal in the evening after arrival in camp.

Stanley
Major.
O.C. 5th Aust. Divl. Signal Co.

4/4/18.

4/4

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

NOTES ON COMMUNICATIONS DURING RECENT OPERATIONS.

No.

Date

Recent operations have been an excellent test of the mobility of the Signal Company. Movements have been both for long distances and at short notice.

MOVES.

In the first instance the Company moved from DRANOUTRE to VAUCHELLES, a distance of about 70 miles, chiefly by rail, involving the entrainment and detrainment of personnel, horses and vehicles. After a short stay at VAUCHELLES, orders were one evening received at 8 p.m. to move at 10 p.m. for BLANGY-TRONVILLE, a trek of about 25 miles. A week later we received orders at 2.30 p.m. to move to BUSSY-les-DAOURS and have communications by 5 p.m. In each of these instances the changes were completed satisfactorily, and necessary communications established within reasonable time. These accomplishments were due to keeping the transport always in readiness for the road, absence of all surplus technical and personal equipment, continual care of men and horses, resulting in physical fitness of both, and also the high spirit, enthusiasm and energy of the N.C.O's and men. The want of a motor lorry for the special transport of personnel was seriously felt by the Headquarters Section of the Company in the long distance move from the North. The large amount of technical gear for which no other transport is provided used up most of the extra lorry space provided by "Q" Branch, and only a few men could be transported by this means. In consequence of this, very heavy work for extremely long hours, and until relief travelling by train arrived, had to be performed by this small party at a time when Signal Service duties are most difficult - that is, when a new system in an unknown area has to be arranged. The strain is felt all the more on account of the necessity of this Advance party to remain for the last shift of at least 12 hours at the old position. Now that another lorry has been added to the establishment of the Company for transport of stores, more personnel will in future be transported in the two extra lorries provided by "Q" Branch.

CABLES.

Buried cables form the most reliable system and give better circuits, but they involve considerable expenditure of labour and cable (practically unrecoverable) which may be unjustified if further early movement is contemplated. Buried cables have the disadvantage in that it is a practical impossibility to obliterate the track of the bury, which is easily noticed by aircraft, and reproduces well in a photograph. This is particularly the case in chalk country. It is, however, not necessarily apparent that the track indicates a buried cable route, as new tracks made by transport etc. present a similar appearance from above.

It is impossible to rely upon any permanent open wire routes which may be available forward of Divisional Headquarters, on account of their susceptibility to damage by artillery fire.

Light poled cables stand well but take time to build. Ground lines have to be chiefly relied upon as being the most economical

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
DIVL. SIGNAL COY.

-2-

and suitable for mobile operations. A quick and intelligent comprehension of the nature of the country over which cables are to be laid is, however, necessary so that full advantage may be taken of every natural protection which is offered. Rivers, canals, embankments and trenches have been utilised and have afforded good protection. Forward lines to Brigade must be superimposed as soon as possible to expedite despatch of messages and relieve the speaking circuits. Fullerphones must be installed on lines to Battalions without delay.

ALTERNATE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

In mobile warfare it is necessary to keep the number of telephones in use to an absolute minimum in order to economise in cable and the maintenance of lines. Such telephonic communications as are possible in stationary warfare cannot be expected, or given, in mobile operations. Particular attention is therefore given to establishing such alternate means as wireless, power buzzer and amplifier, and visual, but the latter is considerably affected by weather conditions. Messages may be expeditiously despatched by these means when cables are difficult to maintain, and when telegraphic and telephonic communications are interrupted. Commanders of Formations or Units to which a wireless or power buzzer and amplifier station is attached, should recognise that this station for the time being forms part of his signal communication arrangements and should make provision for the protection, housing and rationing of the personnel and stores, and give assistance when necessary in the case of an urgent move.

GENERAL.

The supply of cable is very limited. Rapid changes necessitate a free use of cable detachments and dismounted linemen, and involve a considerable expenditure of cable. The quantity used has been kept down considerably by recovering whenever possible all abandoned lines after moving to a new position. When changes are frequent, and the cable consequently has been out for short periods only, in places free from transport, it may be again used, but it always has to be carefully run through before re-use.

It is necessary that alternate positions should be selected for all Headquarters of Formations with due regard to the requirements of signal communications. When possible these alternate positions should be on the line of communications with the Headquarters of the higher Formation. Signal Officers of Units should be informed of such positions as early as possible in order that they may make such arrangements as will enable a Headquarters to move if necessary to the alternate position without any serious interruption to communications. On a recent occasion when a building occupied by a Brigade Headquarters was destroyed by fire, and no alternate position had been previously selected, the Brigade communications were interrupted until a new position had been chosen and the cables extended to it, though the interruption in this instance was of very short duration.

1st May 1918.

W. Stanley Major.
C.C. Signals, 5th Aust. Division.

A Staff skeleton scheme was carried out on 29/4/18 in which portion of the Divisional Signal Company took part. This exercise demonstrated to some extent the capabilities and limitations of a Cable Waggon during moving warfare. Mobile equipment was used.

The following General and Special ideas were received at 2.15 on the afternoon of the exercise.

Ref. Map: COMMUNICATION SCHEME.
Sheet 62D 1/40,000.

GENERAL IDEA.

1. The BROWN Army is pursuing the BLUE Army which is retiring in a westerly direction. The BLUE Army is making a stubborn resistance with strong rear guards.

2. SPECIAL IDEA - BROWN

The 5th BROWN Division in conjunction with flank Divisions is pursuing the enemy (BLUE) towards LES ALLENCONS (G.29):
approximate right flank - ALLONVILLE - BUSSY-les-DAOURS Road:
approximate left flank - AMIENS - VECQUEMONT Road.

3. Positions of Brigade Headquarters at 3.30 p.m.:

"A" (Capt. ROBERTS)	H.34.a.0.0
"B" (Capt. WHITE)	N.3.b.0.5
"C" (Capt. DERHAM)	Cross Roads H.34.d.6.9
Div. H.Q.	Cross Roads H.34.d.6.9

4. Line of advance of Brigades:

"A" H.34.a.0.0 - Pt. CAMON (G.30.a)
"B" The line of the three corps in sqs. H.32.c and d - H.31.c - G.36.c.

The Cable Waggon started by laying a line from 5th Aust. Divl. Headquarters (Chateau) which represented the Rear Scheme Divisional Headquarters, to the Advanced Scheme Divisional Headquarters (H.34.d.6.9) from which position orders were delivered to Brigades by mounted orderly.

Advanced Scheme Divisional Headquarters then moved on to (H.33.d.4.5) from which point telegrams were despatched to, and telephone conversations carried out with Rear Scheme Divisional Headquarters. Messages were received from, and orders again issued to Brigades by mounted orderly from this station. Advanced Headquarters again moved to H.32.c.5.5, where further telephone messages, orders and reports were dealt with.

It was then assumed that the force had to retire, and the cable was picked up and Headquarters re-established at H.33.d.4.6. After the issue of orders from this point operations ceased, when the remainder of the cable was picked up.

Throughout the exercise the members of the Signal Company took an interest in their task which they performed well, thoroughly and quickly.

Touch was maintained by telegraph and telephone at all times between the Staff representing the Advanced Divisional Headquarters and those of the Rear Divisional Headquarters, though to do this, cable had to be laid and picked up between staging points at a fairly fast trot.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the Divisional Staff expressed satisfaction with the work of the Signal Company.

44

264

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

List of Units available by telephone
in Divisional Area.

5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVL. SIGNAL COY.
No.
Date.

Divisional Exchange.

G.O.C.
G.S.O. I
C.R.E.
Aust. Corps.
III Corps.
4th Aust. Division.
3rd Aust. Division.
5th Aust. Divisional Artillery.
O.C. Signals.
5th Divisional Train.
General Staff.
"A" & "Q" Branch.
Camp Commandant.
A.P.M.
8th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
15th Field Co. Engineers.
Advanced Division Exchange.
Machine Gun Battalion.
5th Pioneer Battalion.
"D" Special Company.
15th Field Ambulance.

Through Advanced Division Exchange.

14th Inf. Bde. Rear Headquarters.
C.R.E. Dump.
8th Field Co. Engineers.
4th Inf. Bde. Dressing Station.

Through 5th Aust. D.A. Exchange.

C.R.A.
Corps Heavies.
9th H.A.G.
65th H.A.G.
4th Aust. D.A.
13th A.F.A. Brigade.
14th A.F.A. Brigade.
5th Aust. D.A.C.
D.T.M.O. 5th Aust. Division.
3rd Kite Balloon Company.
150th R.F.A. Brigade.
77th R.F.A. Brigade.
16th R.H.A. Brigade.

Through 13th A.F.A. Brigade.

Brigade O.P.
49th Battery.
50th Battery.
51st Battery.
113th Battery.

Through 14th A.F.A. Brigade.

Div. O.P.
8th A.F.A. Brigade.
53rd Battery.
54th Battery.
55th Battery.
114th Battery.

Through Advanced Artillery Ex.

298th Artillery Brigade.
13th A.F.A. Brigade.
14th A.F.A. Brigade.

Through 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

A.P.M. Corbie.
298th Artillery Brigade.
15th M.G. Company.
8th M.G. Company.
8th L.T.M.B.
29th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
30th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
31st Aust. Infantry Battalion.
32nd Aust. Infantry Battalion.

Div. O.P.

Brigade O.P.
9th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
13th A.F.A. Brigade.

Through 14th Aust. Inf. Bde.

4th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
53rd Aust. Infantry Battalion.
54th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
55th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
56th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
298th R.F.A. Brigade.
14th M.G. Company.
8th M.G. Company.
14th Field Co. Engineers.
Brigade O.P.

Through 15th Aust. Inf. Bde.

57th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
58th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
59th Aust. Infantry Battalion.
60th Aust. Infantry Battalion.

Through 5th M.G. Battalion.

8th M.G. Company.
14th M.G. Company.
15th M.G. Company.
25th M.G. Company.

Through AMIENS Exchange.

D.A.D.O.S.

[Handwritten signature]