# AWM4

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

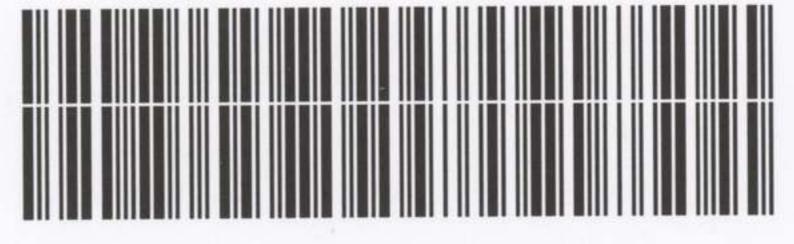
# Signals

Item number: 22/15/35

Title: 5th Australian Division Signals

Company

November 1918



AWM4-22/15/35

5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

- Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively.—Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 1.

ETH AUST D.VL. SIGNAL CO.

254

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918 1st 1	ov.	Disposition of Units as follows:-  5th Aust. Divisional Headquarters 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade 15th Aust. Machine Gun Battalion 15th Aust. Divisional Artillery 13th Aust. F.A.Brigade 14th Aust. F.A.Brigade 14th Aust. F.A.Brigade 15th Aust. F.A.Brigade	
	2nd	Nov.	At 1425 the Divisional Commander inspected the Company. The Company was formed up on ground next to the brick kilns at OISEMONT. After inspection by the General the Company marched past and re-formed on their original ground when the General addressed the troops. In the course of his remarks he expressed his satisfaction with the turnout of the Company, especially complimenting the transport. Parade state for this inspection forms appendix 5. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade was also inspected by the Divisional Commander at RAMBURES.  No.3 Section (attached to this Brigade) lead the Brigade in the march past.	
	3rd	Nov.	The Company paraded at 1000 and after being inspected was dishisted, it being build build.  The O.C. attended a conference of Divisional Officers held at the Mairie, OISEMONT at 1430,	,
	4th	Nov.	The O.C. visited the 5th Aust. Divisional Artillery Headquarters at BOUTILLERIE and the 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade Headquarters at CAGNY. The Company paraded at 1000 and route marched to RAMBURES and return.	
	5th	Nov.	Heavy rain - no parade at Company Headquarters. The 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade were to have held sports but they were postponed on account of the rain. 5th Aust. Machine Gun	
	6th	Nov.	No parade at Company Headquarters on account of the rain. In the evening the company or chestra assisted at a concert given by the 5th Divisional Concert party in the Recreation	
	7th	Nov.	parade ground next to the chateau at OISEMONT. The men have to undress and dress in the open and enter the baths (which are in a tent) in pairs.  The O.C. visited the Corps Signal School at RUE. The Company Orchestra again assisted the Concert Party at night in the Recreation room.	in the
			D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2418/14	

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

254

will be	prepared	in manusc	ectively. Title pages  (Erase heading not required.)  (Erase heading not required.)	Remarks and
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Appendices
	8th 1	Tov.	Parade at Company Headquarters at 1000. After inspection men produced their paybooks for entry "Employment guaranteed" or "Employment not guaranteed" (on return to Australia) The Orchestra provided a musical programme in the Recreation room at night. In the interval during the proceedings the Divisional Education Officer outlined the proposed A.I.F. Education Scheme. There was a large audience of interested men. Divisional Boxing contest was held at MARTAINNVILLE. The Divisional Commander inspected the Divisional Artillery transport at BOUTILLERIE. The Signal transport attached to the Artillery was paraded for the inspection.	
	9th 1	Tov.	Parade at 1000 - squad drill and rifle exercises. In the afternoon the Company football team played a team from the 5th Aust. Machine Gun Battalion (Australian rules) at RAMBURES and our team won by 5 points.	
	10th	Nov.	Parade at Company Headquarters at 0930 for impection only, it being Sunday.  5th Aust. Divisional Artillery closed at BOUTILLERIE at 1400 and marched to BRAY. Transport left at 1000 and arrived at BRAY at 1630 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade moved from CAGNY to CAPPY  No cables were laid and communication between Division and Brigades was by motor cyclist, and between Brigades and Batteries by mounted orderly or runner.	
	llth	Nov.	Parade at 1000 - squad drill and rifle exercises. Rumours were current during the earlier part of the day of the cessation of fighting and the signing of the Armistice.  Nothing was officially received but at 1400 rumours were confirmed by the ringing of church and other bells and also by rapid production of display by the civilians in OISEMONT of all available bunting. There was a big demand for Australian flags but they were very scarce. One large one was obtained and flown from the front of the Mairie. Crowds of civilians and soldiers congregated in front of the Mairie and cheers were called for the Australian flag and were heartily given. There was great satisfaction at the successful termination of hostilities so highly favourable to the Allies. Lorries and vehicles were decorated with flags of all the Allies. One lorry bore a notice "WANTED A RELIABLE TOWN MAJOR FOR BERLIN"	
	13th	Nov.	at 4 p.m. 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades Headquarters were also at ATHLES. D.R. B. Service to 5th Aust. Division via Fourth Army at ETERPIGNY.  No parade. 14th Brigade Group sports held at MARTAINNVILLE.  Parade at 1000 - route march.  Parade at 1000 - route march.	LPS

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Sheet 3.

will be	Date	ff Manual respectively. Title pages  oared in manuscript.  (Erase heading not required.)  Summary of Events and Information				
	15th	Nove	Parade at 1000 - squad drill and rifle exercises. No.4 Section carried out a visual	Appendic		
	27011		scheme. The Section paraded at 0820 and was dismissed at 1300. Good communication was maintained throughout the scheme.			
	16th	Nov.	The O.C. attended a conference of Divisional Officers at the Mairie, OISEMONT in connection with a proposed march into GERMANY. A meeting of Company Officers was held afterwards at which the O.C. explained what was proposed and required. No.4 Section (attached 15th Aust.			
	17th	Nov.	Infantry Brigade) had a full marching order parade and inspection of equipment.  Parade at 0930. Men were inspected and dismissed, it being Sunday. Thanksgiving services were held in the R.C.Church at OISEMONT at 1600. Roman catholic members of the Company paraded at 1530 and marched to the church. The Divisional Commander and staff were present. The 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade band rendered the music. The church (which was fully crowded) was elaborately decorated. The service was impressive and undoubtedly there was a spirit of thankfulness for the successful termination of hostilities.  Each Brigade section reports Thanksgiving church services at which the Signal Sections were			
	18th	Nov.	A parade was held at Company Headquarters at 0900 at which a Medical Officer inspected the men as to their fitness for route marching. Only 4 were classed as unfit for marching. Divisional sports were held during the afternoon. Warning order received to be ready to move forward at 36 hours notice. No.3 Section paraded in full marching order for inspection of equipment and rifles.			
	19th	Nov.	Parade at 1000 - route march. A football team from the Wireless Section played a team from 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade which was won by the Wireless Section. Scores 8 goals 5 points to Nil.			
	20th	Nov.	An aeroplane D.R. service was started between Australian Corps at LE CATEAU and the Division. The landing ground was near HALLENCOURT to which our Motor cyclists went and handed over and received packets from the airmen. Two planes engaged in the work which is to be carried; out daily when the weather is favourable. No.2 Section had a full marching order parade for inspection of rifles and equipment. The Divisional Commander inspected the 14th Aust, Infantry Brigade. No.3 Section attached to this Brigade, headed the Brigade in the march past. Parade at 1000. Issue of ammunition to men in connection with forthcoming march into GERMANY. The aeroplane service failed today on account of foggy weather. The 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade had a Brigade route march and inspection by the Divisional Commander. No.4 Section (attached to this Brigade) took part in the march.			

Sheet 4.

254

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

3TH AUST DIVL. SIGNAL Co.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	21st	Nov.	In the afternoon the Section was engaged in reeling up cable between Brigade and Battalion Headquarters.  Parade at 1000 - route march in full marching order. In the afternoon the Company's football team played the team from the 5th Pioneer Battalion and won by 7 goals 7 points.  The scores were 10 goals 10 points to 3 goals 3 points. All lines forward of Brigades which were reeled up during the past three days were relaid. Cables went out from No.1 Section	
	22nd	Nov.	to assist in this work.	
	23rd	Nov.	Parade at 1000. The parade was formed of 50 men from Headquarters and No.1 Sections and 25 men from Wireless Section. These, with 25 men from No.2 Section (attached 8th Aust.	
			Infantry Brigade) are to represent the Signal Company in a review by the Divisional Commander of the 8th Brigade Group. The Signal Company formed the 4th Company of Divisional Engineers under the acting C.R.E. (Major Greenway, DSO) the Company being in charge of Major R.A. Stanley, I	so
			At the 1000 parade the Company was inspected for the review. At 1300 the men paraded and were marched to the review ground situated about half a mile north of RAMBURELLES. The Divisional Commander arrived at 1430. After inspection, the troops forming the group marched past in column of Companies. The Divisional Commander expressed himself as being especially pleased with the turnout of the Signal Company and called upon the Officer Commanding to visit him on the 24th Nov. to receive his congratulations. A special Company Routine Order in connection with this review forms appendix No. 4.	
	24th	Nov.	Parade at 0930. Company was inspected and dismissed, it being Sunday. At 1700 a lorry reported from "Q" Beanch and loaded with Wireless gear and Signal Office equipment for an advance office ready to move to new location (FAVRIL) at 0600 on the 25th November.	
	25 tr	Nov.	At 1700 a second lorry reported from "Q" Branch and after loading, left at 1845 With 4	
	27th	Nov.	Company transport paraded at 1400 and left for PONT REMY for entrainment en route to FAVRI. Signal Office closed at OISEMONT at 2200. At midnight on the night of 27th/28th November the remainder of the Company paraded and route marched to PONT REMY, a distance of about 12 miles. A lorry provided by "Q" Branch carried men's blankets and stores with the cooks from OISEMONT to PONT REMY. 5th Aust. Divisional Artillery closed at ATHIES at 0900 and moved	
			to FRESNOY LE GRAND at 1800. Communication via Austradian Corps at LE CATEAU.  D. D. & L., London, E.C.  (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2x15/14	K)

Sheet 5

Army Form C. 2118.

will be prep	ared i	n manuse	ctively. Title pages (Erase heading not required.)  57H AUST DIVL. SIGNAL Co.	Remarks an
Place D	ate .	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	references t
	9th	Nov.	The Company arrived at PONT REMY at 0445. The train was timed to leave to 0840 but did not leave until 2615. The cooks, who had arrived on the previous night, had a hot breakfast for the men at 0600. A hot dinner was also provided at midday. After the train leaving at 2015 and when near LONGPEE, the floor of a truck containing 6 of the Company's horses, gave way. Four of the animals fell through resting on beams. One of the drivers in charge of the horses leaving the truck, climbed along the tops of other trucks and reaching the engine, succeeded in pulling up the train. An investigation proved that the horses were not seriously injured. The truck, however, had to be detached and arrangements made for the horses to be sent on by the following train.  Train travelling was very slow. The Company arrived at EERTHY at 1630 and immediately detrained. Rations had to be drawn from a supply dump in this town which caused a delay until 1845 in the departure for BUSIGNY (a distance of about 7 kilos) where we billeted for the night A short out was taken along a direct second class road which, we were informed, was in good order for transport. It proved the reverse. When within 3 kilos of BUSIGNY an overhead bridge across a double railway track was found to have been blown up. A side track had to be taken across the railway, which, being very soft and muddy, was very difficult to traverse in the darkness. BUSIGNY was reached at 2025 and the men comfortably billeted in a large unoccupied house. Three G.S. waggons were provided by the detraining Officer for transport of men's blankets and cookers from HERTHY to BUSIGNY.  It was intended that the Unit should stage at MAZIENHEIM for the night encoute for FAVRIL Arrangements were, however, made to push through to FAVRIL (a distance of 18 miles) The men were relieved of their packs which were stacked and placed under a guard until arrival of transport for their delivery. In order to get as far ase possible in daylight a halt was not made for lunch until 1400. FAVRIL was reached	
				- OB

WAR DIARY 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

Army Form C, 2113.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 6.
51H AUST DIVL. SIGNAL. Co.

DESCRIPEL.  Lieut. F.J.Murphy rejoined Unit on 2/11/18. Lieut. R.T.Millar was admitted to hospital siok on 8/11/18 and rejoined on 25/11/18. 2/Lieut. T.G.B.C.Exown was detached for duty as C. i/o Australian Signal personnel at Signal Bepot R.F., ABERVILLE on 24/11/18. Lieut.S.T.W.TOUNG.MC and Lieut. S.T.AMERE proceeded on "1914" leave to the United Kingdom on 10/11/18 and Lieut.  G.S.Hahning, Mr proceeded to attend a course at No.2 Centre, Central Wireless School on 9/11/18. 16. Officers 56 Other ranks Strength 51/1/18 19. Officers 581 Other ranks On leave in Trance during month 10 Officer 16. Other ranks On leave in Trance during month 10 Officer 16. Other ranks On leave in Trance during month 10 Officer 26. Other ranks On leave in Trancy during month 10 Officer 27. Other ranks On leave in Trancy during month 10 Officer 27. Other ranks On leave in Trancy during month 20 Officers 27. Other ranks Rejoined from sick and wounded Reinforcements from Base  Two other ranks attended a sixtweeks course at Aust. Corps Signal School. One other rank was despatched for training as Pilot in A.F.C. One Other rank was taken on strength on transfer from another Unit. One N.C.C. was transferred to another Unit on being commissioned.  Two Officers and two other ranks visited Salvage Installations at the Base.  HORSES AID MULES. Establishment  Strength 30/11/18  Two rides, 3 light draughts and 1 mule were evacuated to M.V.S. during month, and 15 rides and 9 light draughts were drawn from Base.	Place Dat	ite Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HORSES AND MULES. Establishment Strength 30/11/18 Two rides, 3 light draughts and 1 mule were evacuated to M.V.S. during month, and 15 rides and 9 light draughts were drawn from Base.  Charter Base.			Lieut. F.J.Murphy rejoined Unit on 2/11/18. Lieut. R.T.Millar was admitted to hospital sick on 8/11/18 and rejoined on 23/11/18. 2/Lieut. T.G.B.C.Brown was detached for duty as 0. i/c Australian Signal personnel at Signal Depot R.E., ABEEVILLE on 24/11/18. Lieut. G.W.YOUNG and Lieut. S.BAREER proceeded on "1914" leave to the United Kingdom on 10/11/18 and Lieut. G.S.Haining, MM proceeded to attend a course at No.2 Centre, Central Wireless School on 9/11/18. Establishment  Strength 30/11/18 On leave to United Kingdom during month On leave in France during month On leave in Italy during month To hospital sick during month To hospital injured during month To hospital injured during month Rejoined from sick and wounded Reinforcements from Base Two other ranks attended a sixtweeks course at Aust. Corps Signal School. One other rank was despatched for training as Pilot in A.F.C. One Other rank was taken on strength on transfer from another Unit. One N.C.O. was transferred to another Unit on being commissioned.	
			HORSES AND MULES.  Establishment  Strength 30/11/18  Two rides, 3 light draughts and 1 mule were evacuated to M.V.S. during month, and 15 rides	
C.O. STH AUST. DIV'L. SIGNAL CO				
			Chan or Dans Can	
A5834 Wt W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.				

254

## WAR DIARY.

of

#### 5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL CO.

for

#### MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1918

#### LIST OF APPENDICES.

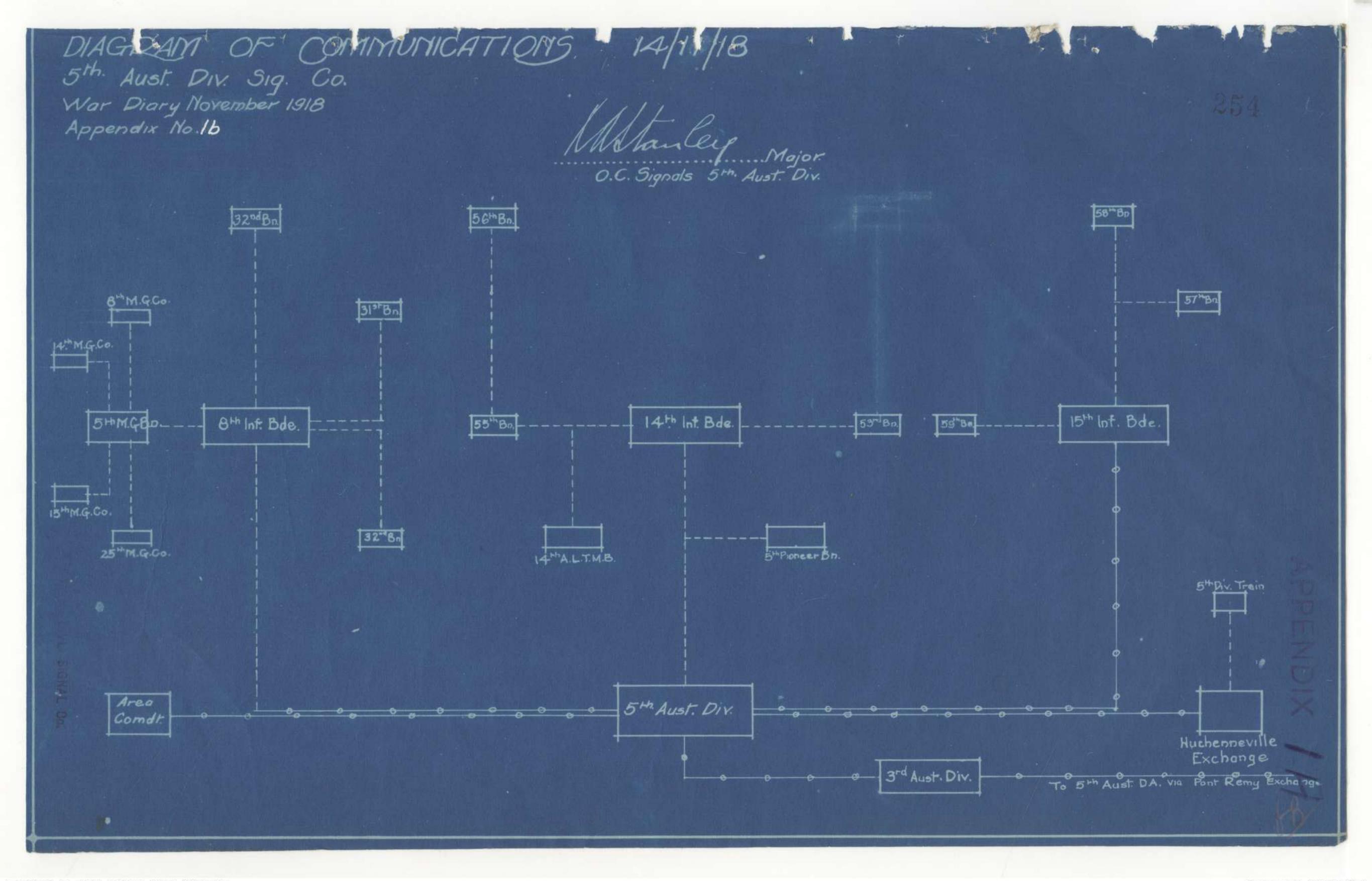
No.

#### Subject.

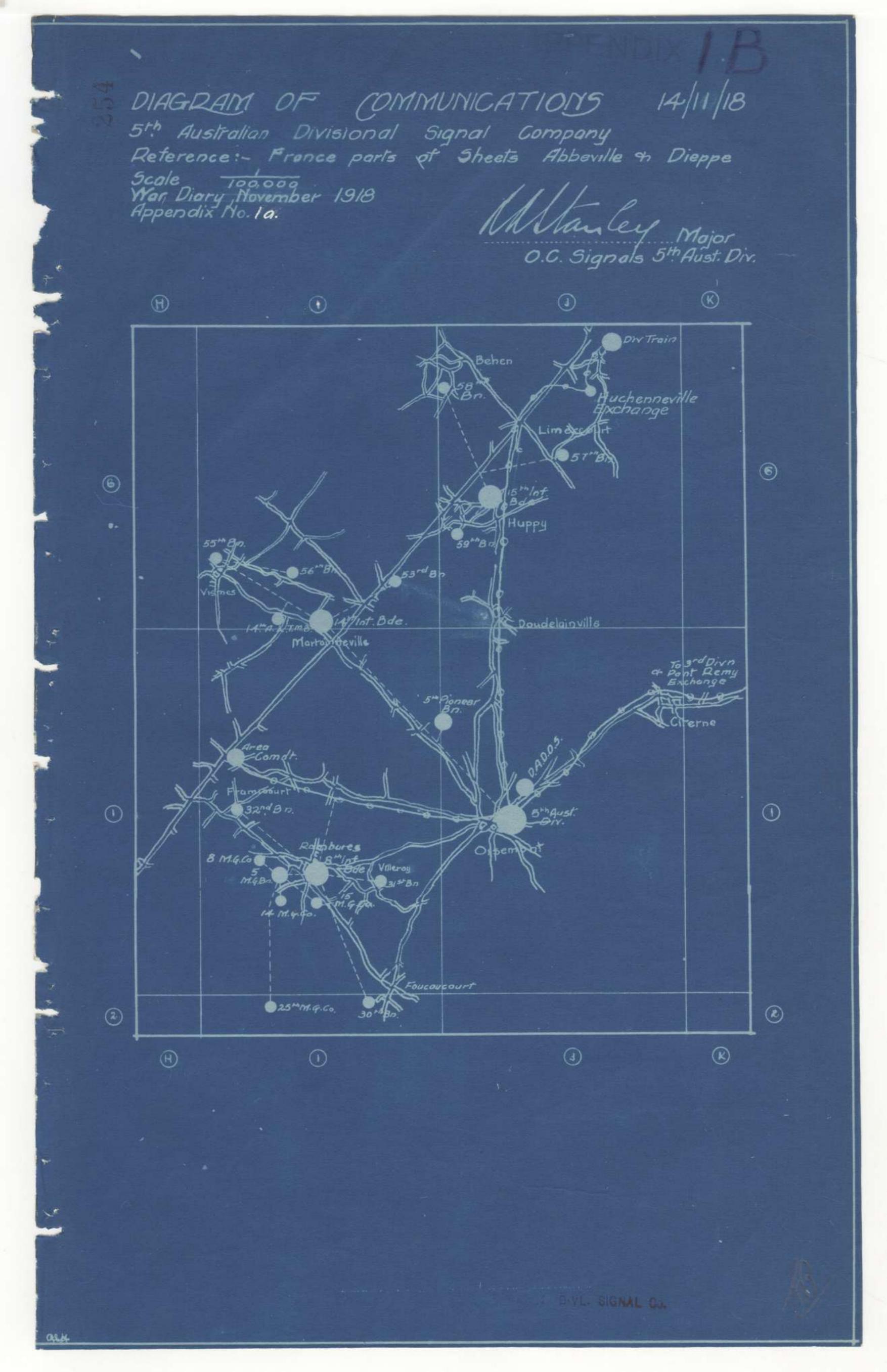
- / 1. (a)Route diagram of communications (b)Circuit diagram of communications
- / 2. Traffic chart of D.R.L.S. and Telegrams . 3. Traffic chart of Telegrams, A.B. & C.
- 4. Company Routine Orders
- 5. Parade state of G.O.C's Inspection 20/11/18
- 76. List of Telephone subscribers.

BIN ALL DIVL. SIGNAL Co.





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1009593



# SPECIAL COMPANY ROUTINE ORDER.

by

Major R.A. STANLEY, D.S.O., Commanding 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

#### 214. REVIEW OF 8th BRIGADE GROUP.

At a Review of the 8th Brigade Group held at RAMBURELLES on the 23rd inst., the 5th Australian Divisional Signal Company was represented by 100 men drawn from Headquarters, Wireless, and Nos.l and 2 Sections.

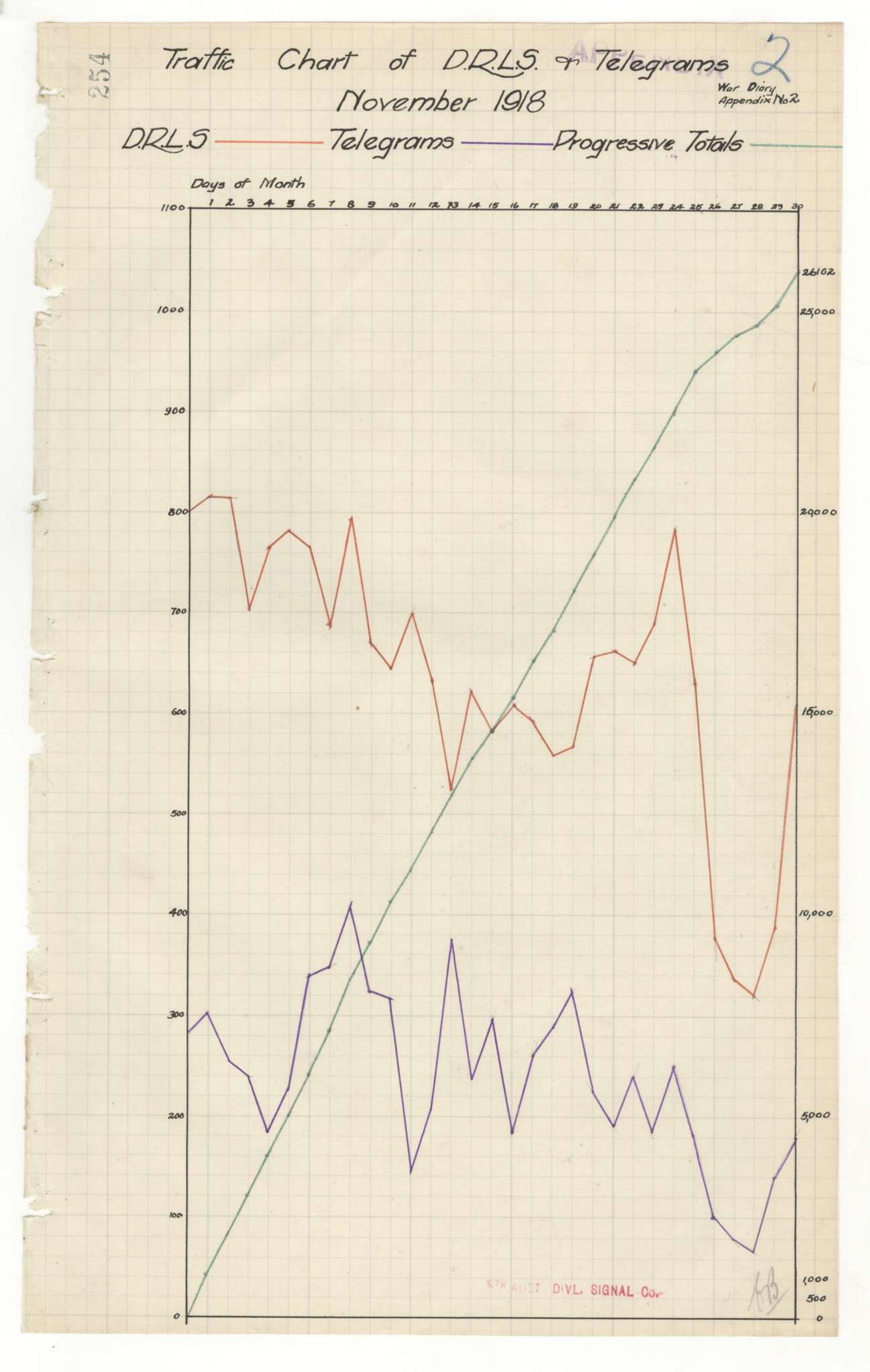
The Divisional Commander desires to express to members of the Company his appreciation of the parade of this Unit. He recognises that the Company has few opportunities for training in ceremonial drill, but apart from this consideration the turn-out was excellent and reflects very great credit on all ranks.

C.O. STH AUST. DIV'L SIGNAL CO

24th November 1918.

B

5TH AUST DIVL. SIGNAL Co.





by

Major R. A. STANLEY. D.S.O. Commanding 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

9th November 1918.

#### HONOURS AND REWARDS. 211.

Theumndermentioned decorations have been awarded :-

#### DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.

No. 17466 Sapper R. E. NICKOLLS, 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

SECOND BAR TO THE MILITARY MEDAL.

No. 3548 Sergeant E. R. JARVIS.M.M. 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

## BAR TO THE MILITARY MEDAL.

No. 3690 L/Cpl. A. A. WEIR.M.M. 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

#### MILITARY MEDAL.

No. 188 Sergeant J. H. CLARK, 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

No. 1935 Sapper C. R. KIMBALL,

-do-No. 2780 Sapper D. D. BRUCE,

#### PROMOTIONS. 212.

No. 616 T2/Cpl. A. PATERSON to be 2nd Corporal 29.10.18 vice Bell. No. 616 2/Cpl. A. PATERSON to be Temporary Corporal 29.10.18 to

No. 2890 I Cpl. A.W. GREEN

No. 459 Sapper L. SAVAGE

No. 14152 Sapper E. DAVIES

complete establishment.

No. 5309 T2/CPl. A.R.JONES. to be 2nd Corporal 1.11.18 vice Hanley. No. 5309 2/Cpl. A.R.JONES to be Temporary Corporal 1.11.18 vice Hanley.

No. 2238 T2/Cpl. R.J.SMITH to be 2nd Corporal 31.10.18 vice Roberts.

to be Temporary 2nd Corporal 30.9.18 vice Matheson.

to be Temporary Corporal 17.9.18 vice Fulwood.

to be Temporary 2nd Corporal 9.10.18 vice Sloan.

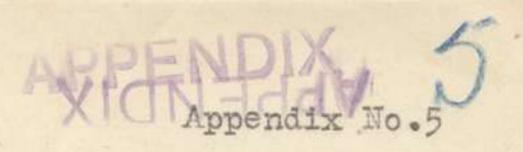
#### APPOINTMENTS. 213.

No. 658 Sapper L.H. HARRIS Appointed Lance Corporal 1.11.18 No. 4247 Sapper A.H.JARRETT -do-1.11.18 No. 4387 Sapper H.J. CALLENDER -do-30.9.18 -do-No. 16373 Sapper G.BAKER 25.9.18

For O.C. 5th Aust. Div. Signal Co.

5TH AUST DIVL. SIGNAL CO.



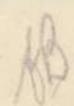


## FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.

# PARADE STATE FOR INSPECTION BY G.O.C. THE DIVISION.

	Officers	Other	Animals	Vehicles	Motor cycles.
Establishment State 2/11/1918	16	356 381	123	26 26	22
Absent on duty with Sections attached to Div. Art. H.Q., 13th & 14th A.F.A. Bdes., 8th, 14th & 15th Inf. Bdes., and 5th MG. Bn.	8	154	56	14	5
On leave, command, and absent sick from -do-	1	32	1.		_
ON PARADE Headquarters Section ,	5	50	9	2	6
Wireless Section	-	24	-	-	-
No.1 Section	2	53	34	8	-
ON DUTY.  Headquarters Section	2	20	4	2	7
Wireless Section	***	8	-	-	-
No.1 Section	-	12	-	-	-
ABSENT WITH LEAVE.  Headquarters Section	1	10	-	-	-
Wireless Section	-	4	-	-	-
No.1 Section	-	. 6	-	-	**
ABSENT SICK. Headquarters Section	-	3	-	-	-
Wireless Section	-	-	-	-	-
No.1 Section	-	1	-	-	-
ON COMMAND.  Headquarters Section	-	4	-	-	4
Wireless Section	-	-	-	-	-
No.1 Section	-	-	-	-	-
ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.  Headquarters Section	-	-	***	-	-
Wireless Section	-	_	-	-	-
No.1 Section	-	-	-	-	-
	19		104	26	22
	-			-	A .

5TH AUST DIVL. SIGNAL Co.



#### 5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

## LIST OF TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS - 28/11/18

- Huchenville Exchange (Divisional Train & Div.Rft.Wing) 1.
- 2. 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade (2 rings)
  5th Aust. Pioneer Battalion (3 rings)
- 3. 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade
- 4. 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade (5th M.G.Bn. through 8th Bde.)
- 5. G.O.C. 6. General Staff
- "A" & "Q" Branch
- 0.C.Signals
- 9. Signals Mess
- 10. C.R.E.
- 11. Signals Orderly Room
- 12. Area Commandant, Translay
- 13. 3rd Aust. Division.
- 14. D.A.D.O.S.
- 15. D.A.P.M. 16. --
- 17. Camp Commandant
- 19.
- 20. Linemen and Mechanics.