AWM4

Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

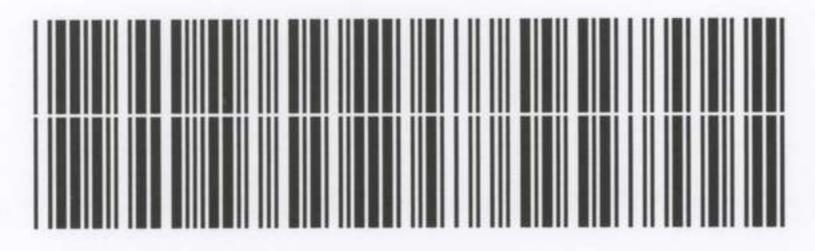
Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/44/8

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 2nd

Australian Division

March 1916



AWM4-1/44/8

Army Form C. 2118

WAR DIARY

Place	Date	Hour 6	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks reference Append
	Mar			
4	lst		Uneventful.	
M	2nd		Definite orders received stating that the Division is to proceed to FRANCE in about 2	
			weeks time.	
M	3rd) 4th)		Uneventful.	
YM/	5th		Orders issued for withdrawal of Division from Desert Post East of ISTAILIA and for	
			its concentration at MOASCAR Camp close to ISMAILIA.	
TIM	6th		Orders were issued detailing the groups for embarkation. Order of embarking,	
			7th Brigade Group, followed by Divisional Headquarters. 5th Brigade Group 6th Brigade	
			group followed by Divisional units.	
J.	7th to 16th		Uneventful.	
Jan 19	16th		Headquarters of Division embarked on S.S. "Themistowles" for MARSEILLES.	

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

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

General Hall
Vol 2 27

Remarks and

Place Date	e Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks an references to Appendices
M	farch		
la 17th to 20th		Uneventful	
A 21st		Divisional Headquarters reached MARSEILLES.	
A44 22nd	a	Divisional Headquarters entrained for BERQUETTE. 20 miles South of DUNKIRK.	
23rd 24th	d)	Uneventful.	
Lul 25th	n	Division is billetted as follows:- 7th Brigade MORBECQUE, 5th Brigade STEENBECQUE	
which is	6	6th Brigade ROQUETOIRE. Divisional Artillery are to come to LYNDE. Divisional Headquarters	
	8	are at LAMBRES.	
AM to 28th		Uneventful.	
28tr	h	Divisional Headquarters moved to BLARINGHEM.	
Lun 29tr	h	7th Brigade were put through gas in order to give the men confidence in the efficacy	
400		of their helmets.	
		Arrangements were made for Officers N.C.O's and men to attend courses at the following	
		Schools: - Trench Mortar, Grenade, Sniping and Gas.	-
		1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/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,

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

General Haff Val 2. 28

Place Date Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
March		
LU1/ 29th	Arrangements were made for the other Infantry Brigades also to go through gas and	
	for each Brigade to witness experiments with liquid fire. A proportion of the personnel	
	having it passed over them.	
4M/ 30th	Uneventful.	
Ally 31st	Lord Kitchener inspected men from the 5th and 6th Brigades and 4th Artillery Brigade	
	A small amount of musketry practice has been carried out during the period of rest	
	in billets but this has been very much restricted owing to the lack of range accommodation.	
the second second	It has been impossible to do training other than route marching etc owing to the prohibition	
	of troops moving across country.	
	File of papers in connection with holding of Desert line herewith Lieut- Colonel, G.S. For G.O.C. 2nd Australian Division.	Appx
	1875 Wt W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.	c

Appendix Nº 49

IVISION

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

APPENDIX XLIX
WAR DIARY

PAPERS, ORDERS etc re HOLDING DESERT LINE.

SECRET.

CIRCULAR No. 3.

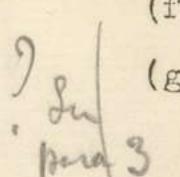
SUEZ CANAL DEFENCES.

SITING AND ORGANISATION OF DEFENSIVE LINES.

The problems in the defence of the Canal are not identical with those that arise in France and the Dardanelles. The difficulties the enemy meets in supplying water, &a., to his troops would compel him to win a victory in two or three days, or retire.

- Ine is sited at an average distance of 11,000 yards from the water way. It includes all important points from which observed fire can be directed upon the Canal, and will suffice to prevent interference by shell fire with traffic. The second line will be about 4,000 yards in rear of the first, and although it surrenders many points whence an enemy can observe the Canal, it is sufficiently advanced to prevent any serious shelling of ships. The third line consists of the original defences along the Canal.
- The lines will not be continuous trench lines, but will consist of a series of fortified localities the garrisons of which will vary from a battalion, or less, up to a brigade, with a complement of guns and other ordnance with a good stock of machine guns. Each locality is to be prepared to resist enveloping or all round attack. The primary role of these garrisons is passive defence. These localities may be compared to rocks round which a torrent may surge without sweeping them away. The spaces between are for development of counter-uttacks strokes by other troops.
- In addition to being capable of all round defence, the localities must be capable of a step by step defence against penetration of any portion, and all portions must be capable of mutual support. Facilities must be afforded for moving troops under cover within the localities to reinforce any portion. Great dependence is to be placed upon oblique fire of machine guns from concealed positions.
- a battalion should be continuous to the extent that it should be possible to move from end to end under gover, but it is not necessary that there should be a continuous fire trench, provided that fire can be brought to cover the ground in front of all portions of the entanglements which should be continuous except for such small gaps as are referred to later. There may be intervals between Battalion or even Company localities, provided that fire can be brought to bear on the ground between.
- 6. In siting fire trenches, the following must always be torne in mind :-
- (a) a short field of fire to the immediate front, say 50 to 100 yards beyond the obstacle is sufficient to stop an assault.

- (b) an entanglement enfiladed by fire of rifles, and especially machine guns, is a deadly obstacle to an assault.
- (c) concealment from enemy's artillery is of first importance; a trench which has not been shelled cannot be captured.
- 7. A combination of (a), (b) and (c) is the most satisfactory location for our trenches.
- 8. The natural tendency to look for long rango "a good field of fire" in front of our trenches, in general overlooks the fact that such a position means that our own fire trenches must necessarily be much exposed to the enemy's observation, and if he has good observation our trenches will be overwhelmed by accurate artillery fire.
- owing to the danger of artillery fire. Sky lines are equally objectionable, but the existence of higher ground in rear of our trenches will be most valuable affording, as it does, good observation posts for our own Artillery, and cover for the guns themselves. Trenches sited on the forward slope cannot be reinforced as all communication trenches are exposed.
- 10. The ideal terrain for the fortified localities should therefore possess as many as possible of the following:-
- (a) difficulty of location of our fire positions by the enemy's artillery observers,
- (b) facilities for mutual support of fire trenches by oblique fire,
- (c) concealment of sites of support trenches and strong points,
- (d) facilities for covered communications from rear to front and laterally,
- (e) opportunities for the establishment of our Artillery Observation-Posts,
- (f) cover from view our artillery,
- (g) facilities for artillery support, e.g. our advanced trenches must be sufficiently far in advance of the Artillery, and at a relatively suitable level to admit of effective bursting of shrapnel fire upon an attack,
- (h) cross fire on to any point which would assist enemy's observation
- 11. It will frequently be found that in the SUEZ CANAL Zone the most suitable location for fire trenches is at the rear edge of a plateau, the valley giving cover for supports and reserves, whilst the rising ground further west affords Artillery observation posts and cover for our guns.
- of the organisation of a defensive locality, i.e. one of the "Rocks" referred to in para. 3, and the following are some notes as to details:-
- ENTANGLEMENTS. should be 30 yards from fire trench to be beyond bombing range. They should be composed of knee high entanglement 5 yards deep in front of a double apron fence, a gap of four



7

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The second secon

four yords being left between the two entanglements. Oblique gaps for the laste of patrols should be left at about every 100 yards. The entanglements should be invisible to the enemy and they must be fully exposed to our own fire. High wire entanglement is so difficult to conceal that it may often be advisable to substitute know high wire for the double apron fence, reserving the latter for use only on ground which admitsof its concealment. Every effort must be made by bushes, colouring posts, etc., to conceal entanglements.

LISTENING POSTS to hold three or four men should be run out through the wire it about 100 yard intervals. They should be well wired. They are not shown in the diagram.

FIRE TREMCH to afford 7 feet of cover, traverses at 32 feet central intervals, 9 feet thick, 6% feet from front to rear, width of trench 4 feet at a height of 4 feet from floor. Fire step 1 foot wide and 4 feet 6 inches below top of parapet for level ground, but this height must be increased for firing up hill and decreased for firing down hill. No elbow rest is to be given as this increases the exposure of occupants to shell fire (see type drawing).

COLL AND OR TRAFFIC TRENCH to be 10 yards in rear of fire trench connected to it at every alternate traverse by an approach trench. All dugouts (see type drawing) to be provided in the traffic trench, as also latrines and cooking places and rater tanks, bomb stores, and ammunition and tool depots.

TRACE OF FIRE TRENCH - long straight lengths are to be avoided. The trace must be broken to take advantage of all opportunities which the ground may afford for oblique fire of machine guns, and enfilade of dead ground and entanglements. Salients of reasonable proportions are of great advantage owing to the opportunities they give for emplacing flanking Hachine Guns. Artificial ones must be made where the ground does not provide themconstantly.

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS. should never be sited with the object of fire to the front, but should be disposed so as to enfilled lengths of wire entanglement, or dead ground in front of an adjacent portion of the line such as referred to in paragraph 6(a). Emplacements should usually be in pairs, one "covered" for use by day if required, the other for fire "en barbette" for use by night. The former will usually have a small arc of fire forming as it were a "fixed jet", while the latter may have a large arc, but "stops" must be arranged to prevent fire coming on to our own line. The utmost care must be taken to conceal Machine Gun emplacements. Overhead cover must be invisible from the front. Dugouts must be provided into which gun and crew can retire under bombardment.

LOOK OUT POSTS fitted with good but invisible overhead cover are to be provided at frequent intervals. They need not necessarily be in the fire trench.

THE SUPPORT TRENCH should be about 60 yards in rear of Fire trans, i.e. 50 yards behind treffic trench, to which there should be run up trenches at about 50 yards lateral intervals.

For 30 yards in front of the support trench it must be possible to fire directly down the bun up trench so as to defeat bomb attacks. The support trench should be organised for fire on the same lines as the front fire trench, at intervals, and be provided with dugouts in a traffic trench at these portions of the trench, but fewer dugouts are wanted in support trenches than for firing line (say 1 to 2).

STRONG POINTS

all round defence and provided with wing trenches and dugouts into which the garrison can retire if shelled. These points require careful siting to be as concealed from observation as possible. The junction between the wing trenches and the main work must be straight and fined down for 50 yards so that they cannot be bombed. Strong points must afford each other mutual support by oblique rifle and machine gun fire. They are rocks to hold out after the enemy has passed them and to assist our counter attack.

AVERUES OR MAIN COMMUNICATIONS are usually required at about 800 yards apart. They should be led to a strong point which should command them for 30 yards of straight to prevent bombers working up them. They should on no account pass between two strong points. There should be short lengths of fire trench out of these avenues at intervals to command the ground between adjacent avenues. Avenues must admit of the passage of a stretcher.

ones being in the traffic trenches. Dans Special Avenues, smaller

required along all avenues near their junction with the support

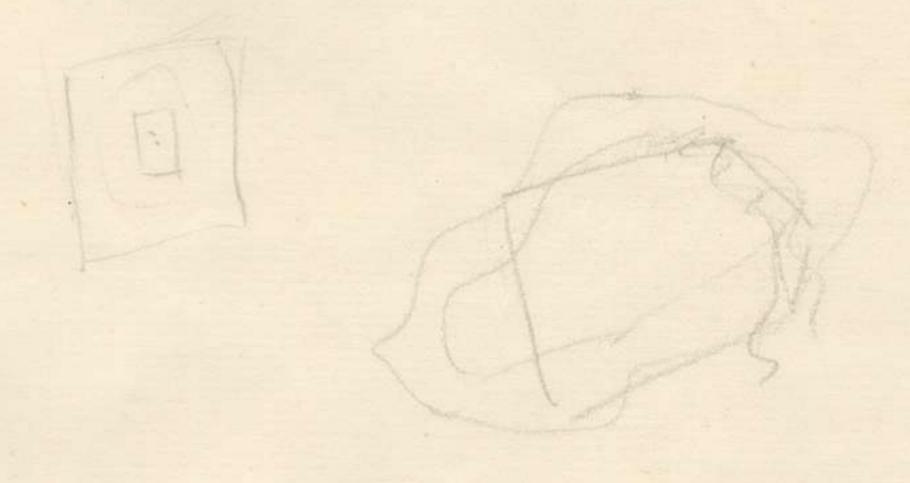
sited to fire obliquely and may be arranged at any suitable points not necessarily in the fire trench. They should have steel loop-

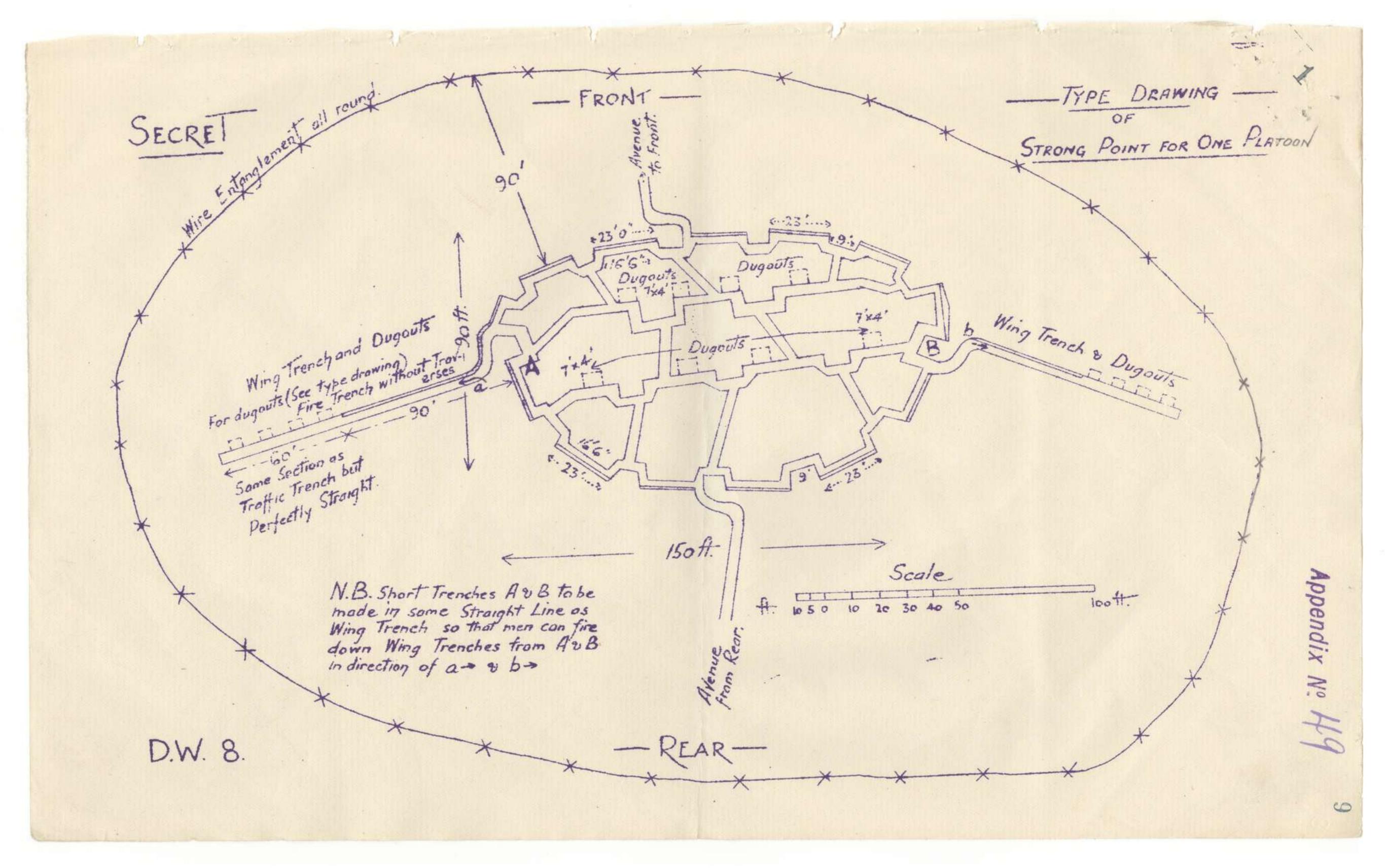
WATER TANKS. It is most important that these should be well protected from damage by shells or bullets which might prove disastrous, as it might be impossible to bring up or store fresh supplies.

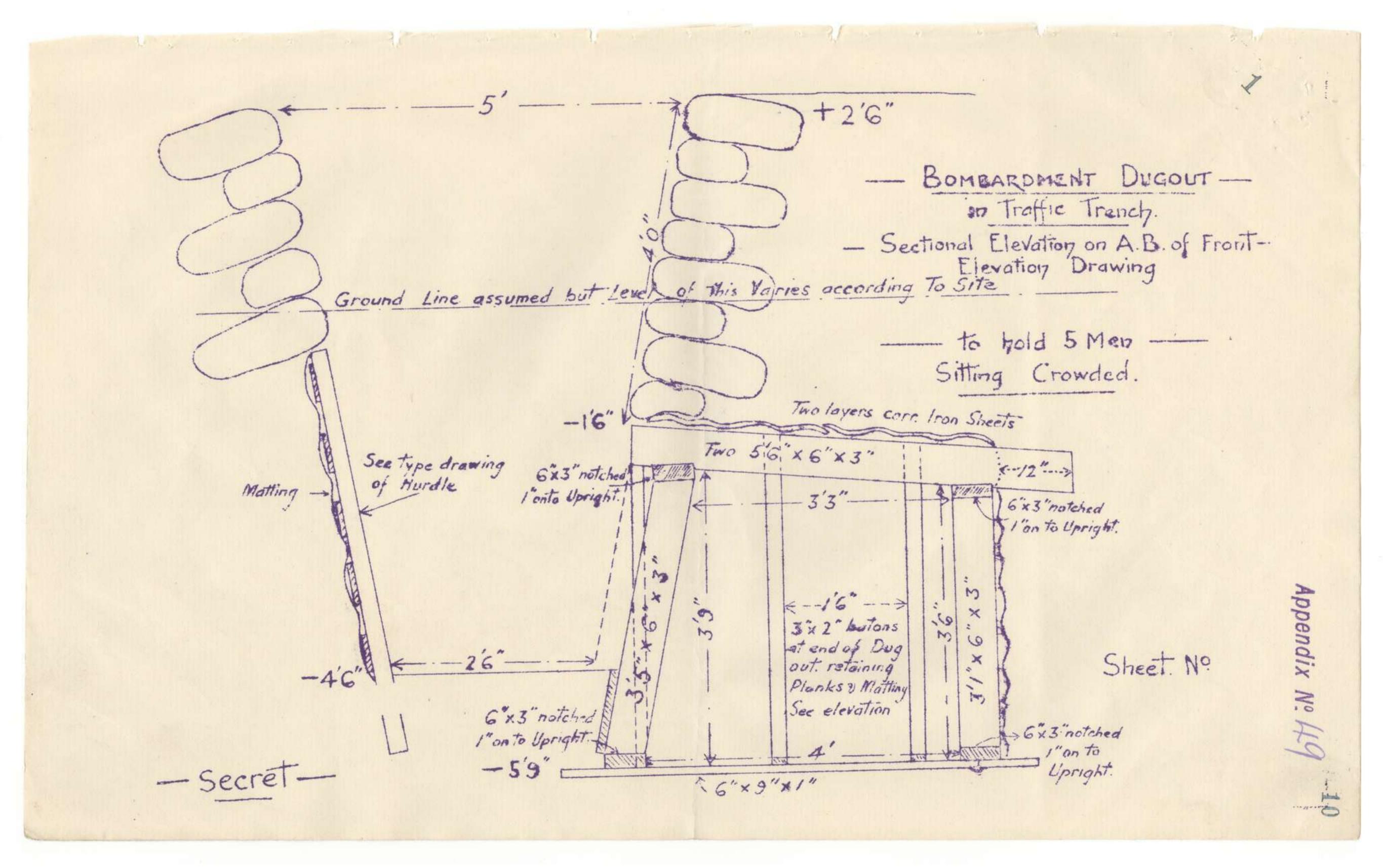
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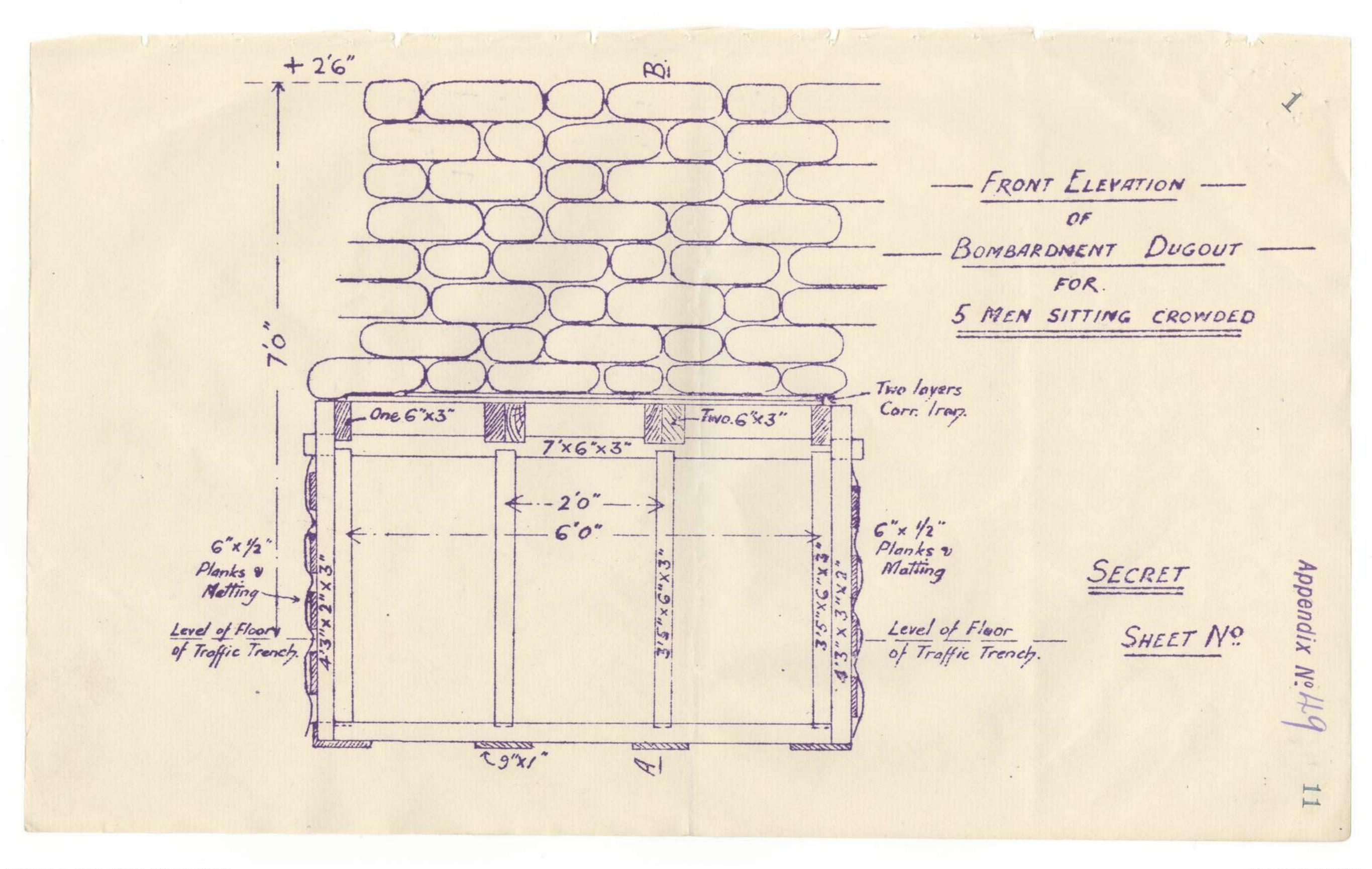
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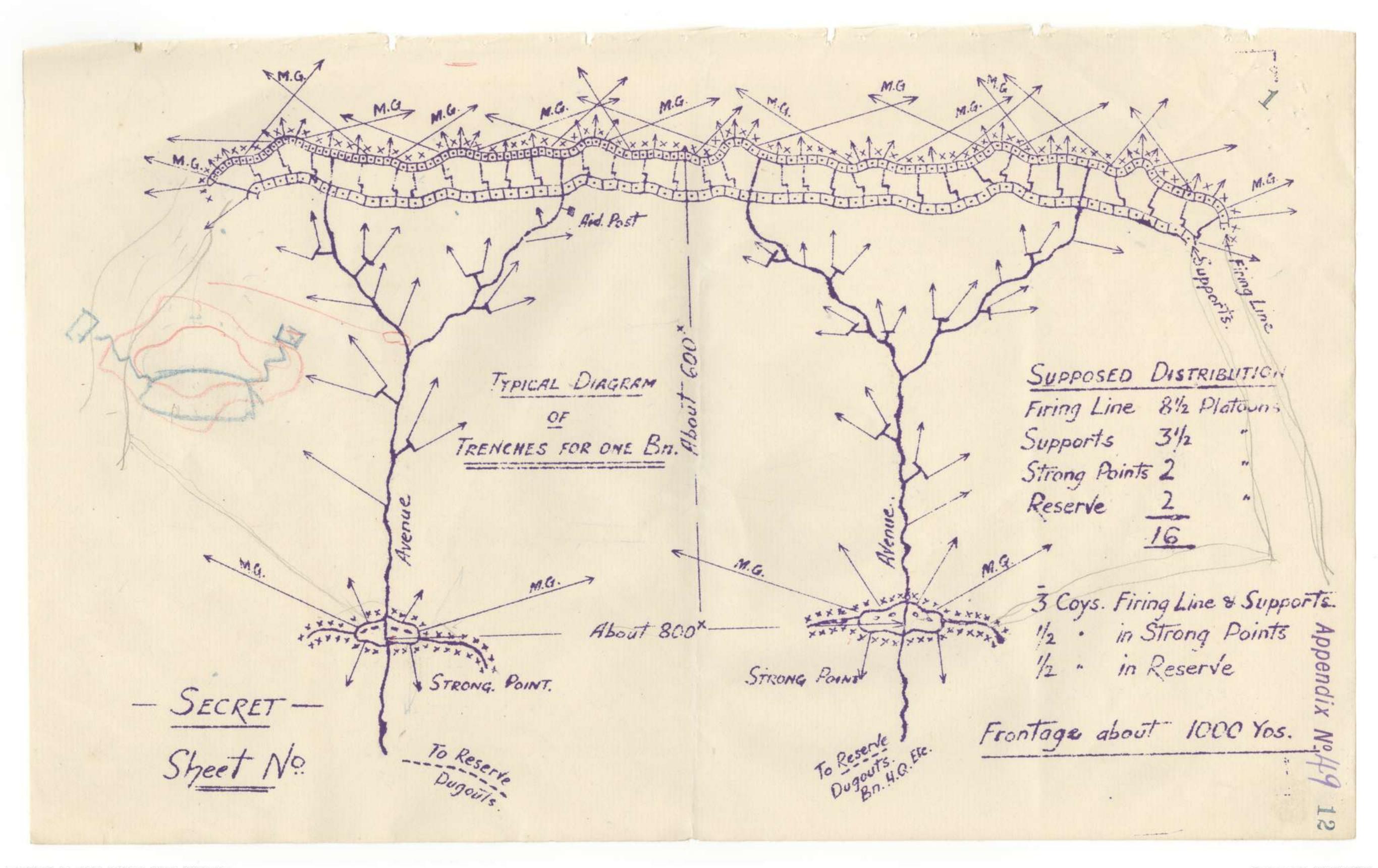
(signed) P. G. GRANT, Colomel, Chief Engineer, Canal District.

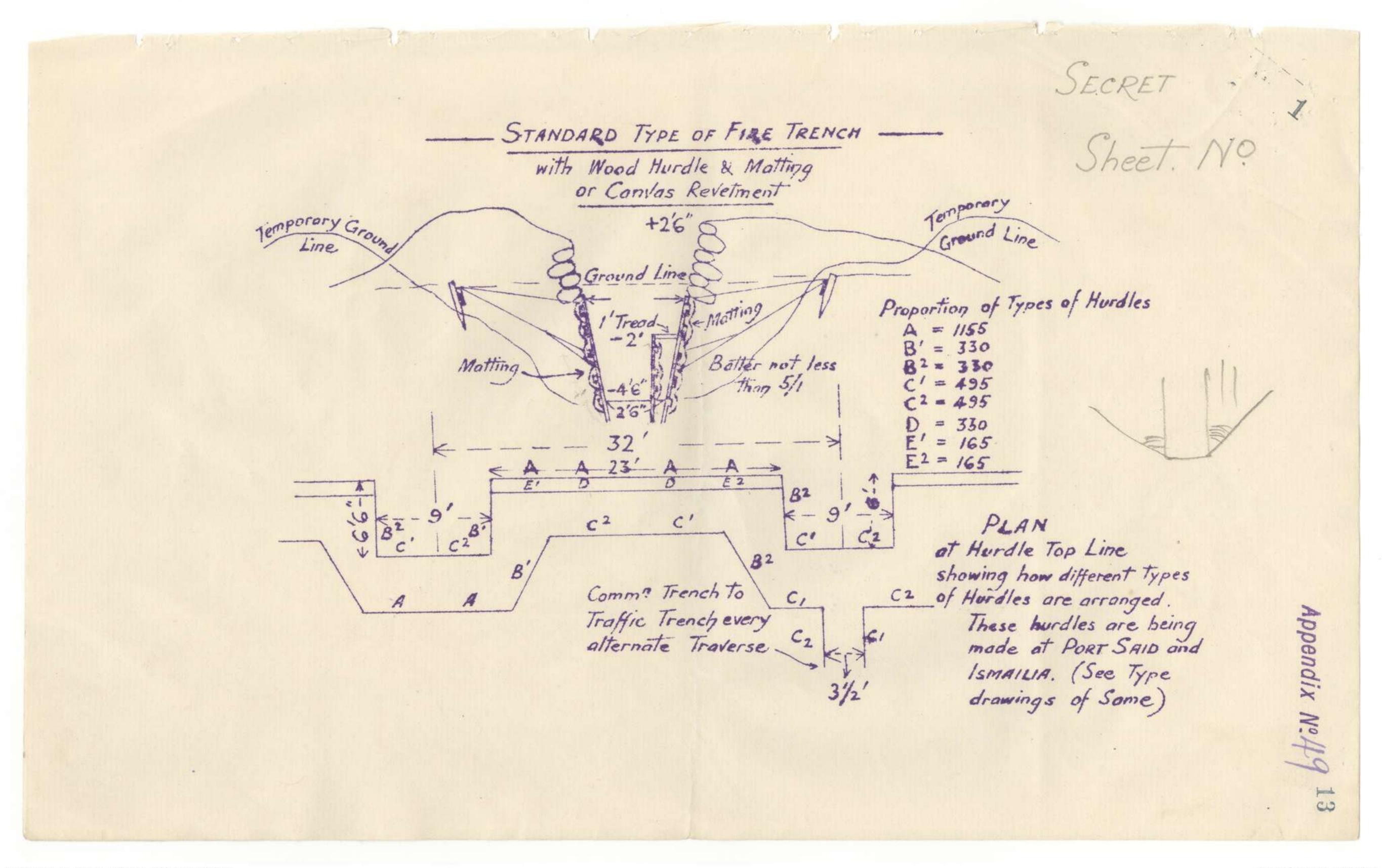


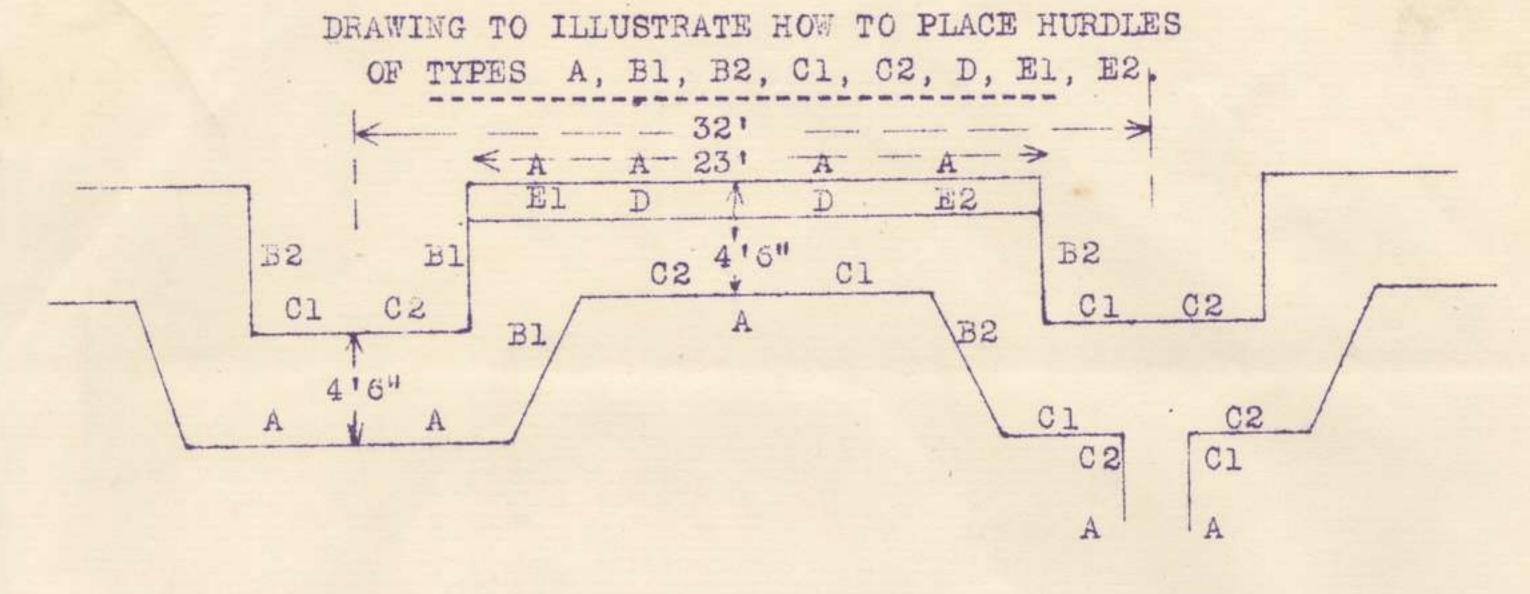


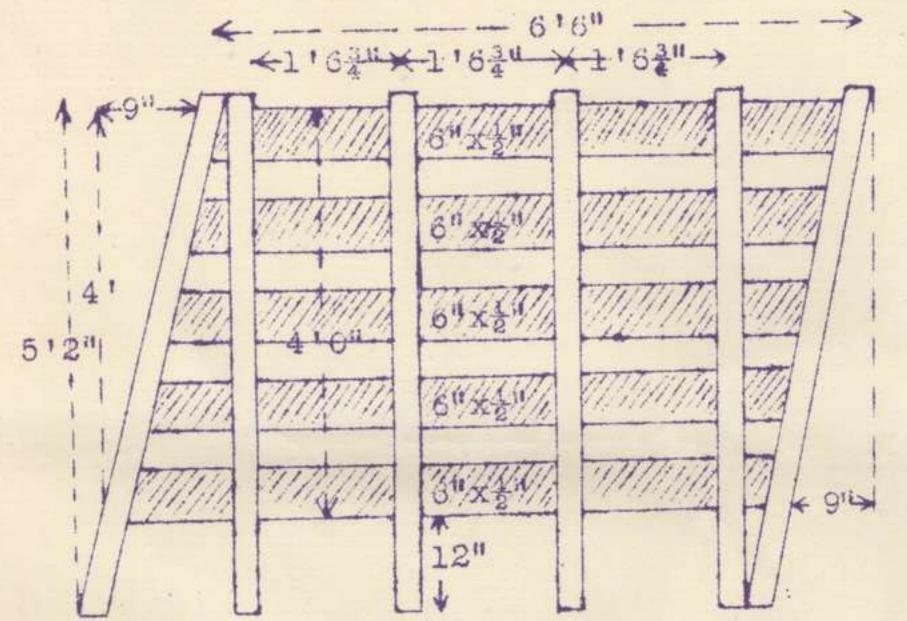






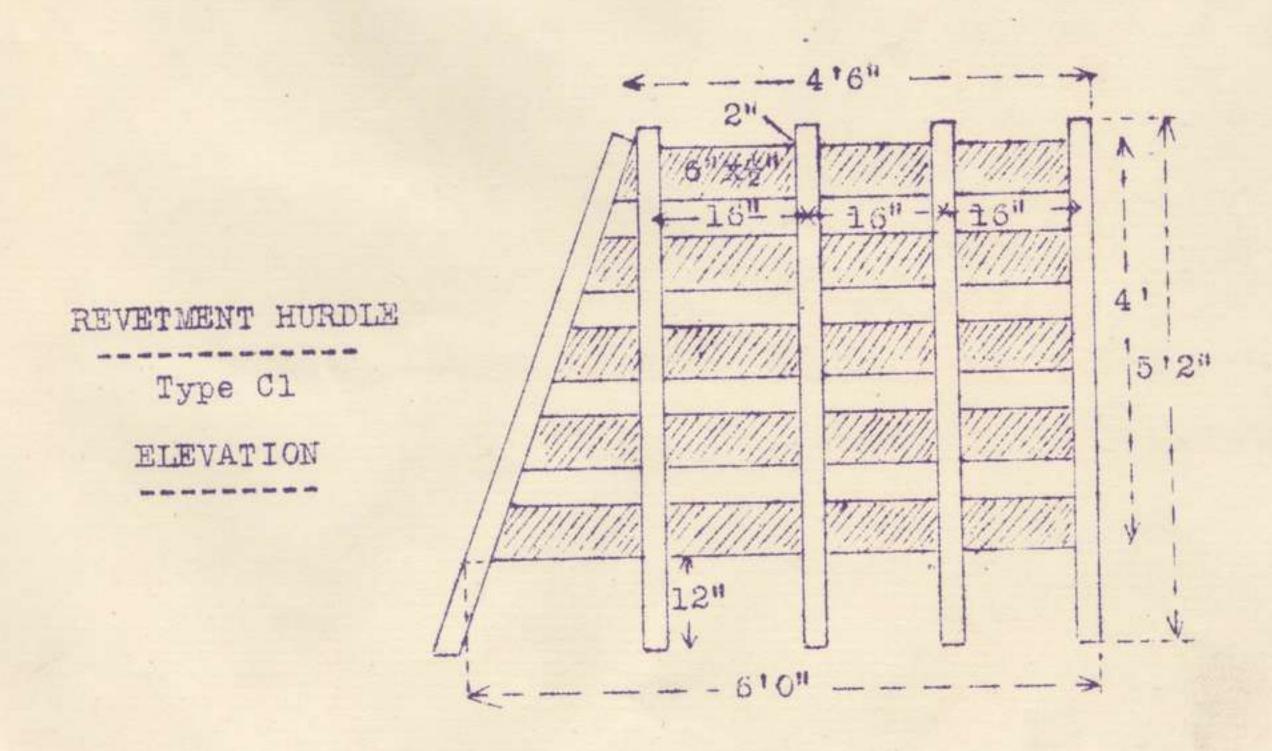






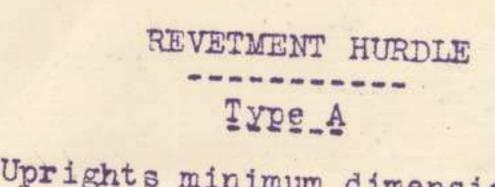
Type Bl.

For other dimensions see type A

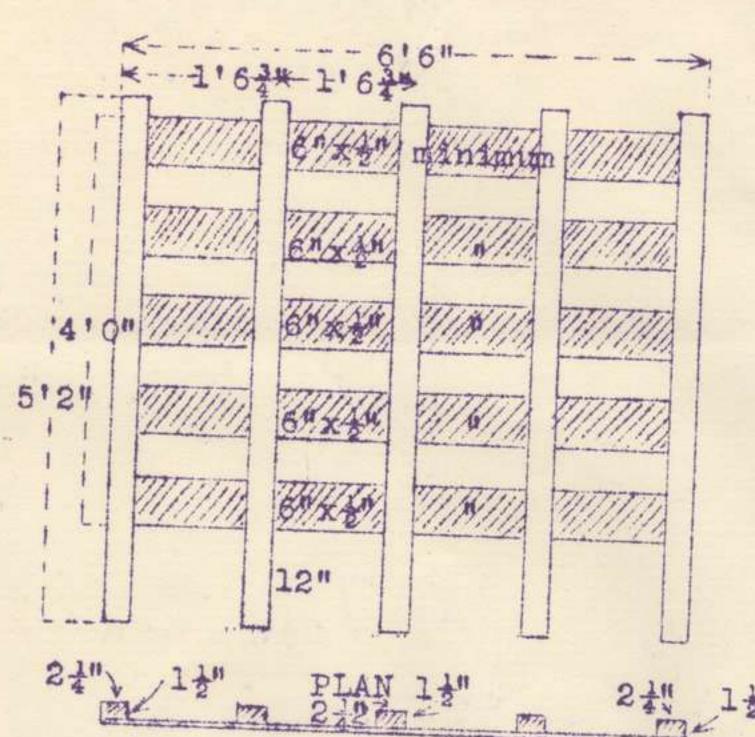


For other dimensions see Type A

ELEVATION



Uprights minimum dimension 21"x 11" less sawcuts but see separate instructions re sawing timber



<-11634 > 4 0" 12"

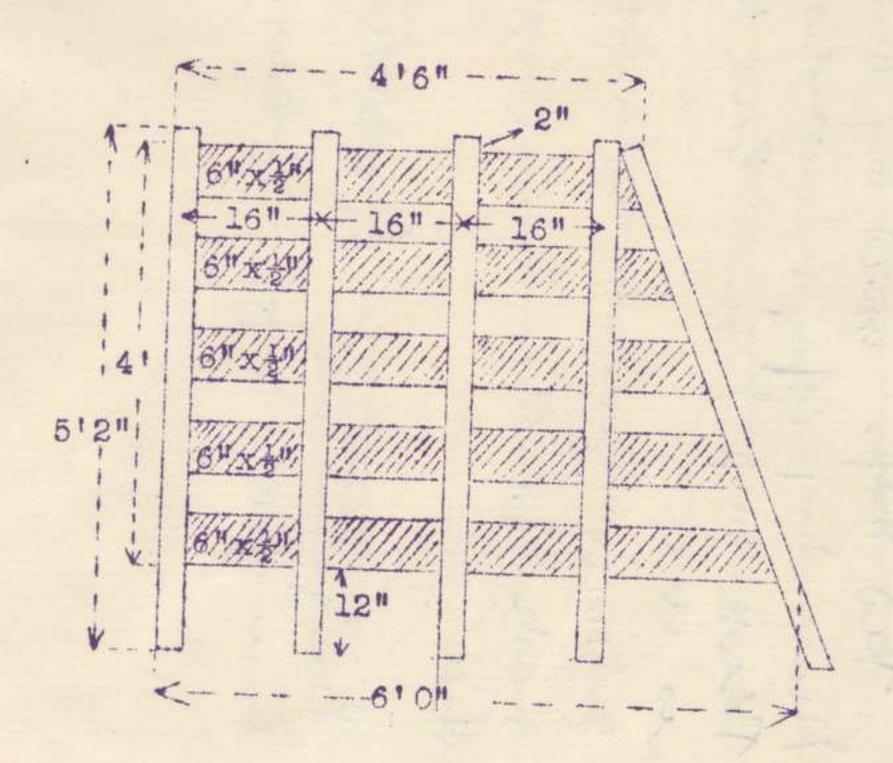
REVETMENT HURDLE

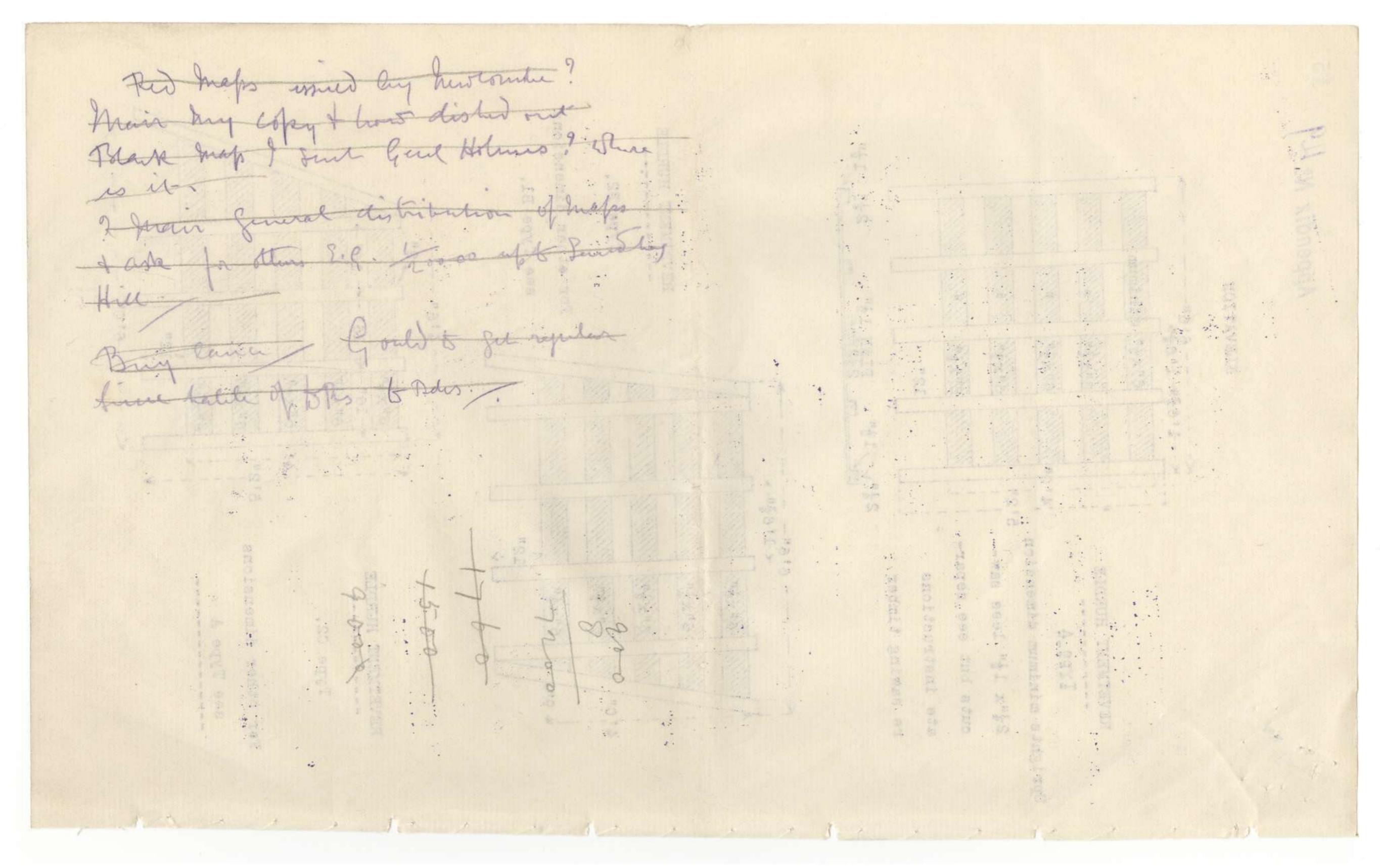
Type B2.

For other dimensions see Type Bl.

Type C2.

Fer other dimensions see Type A



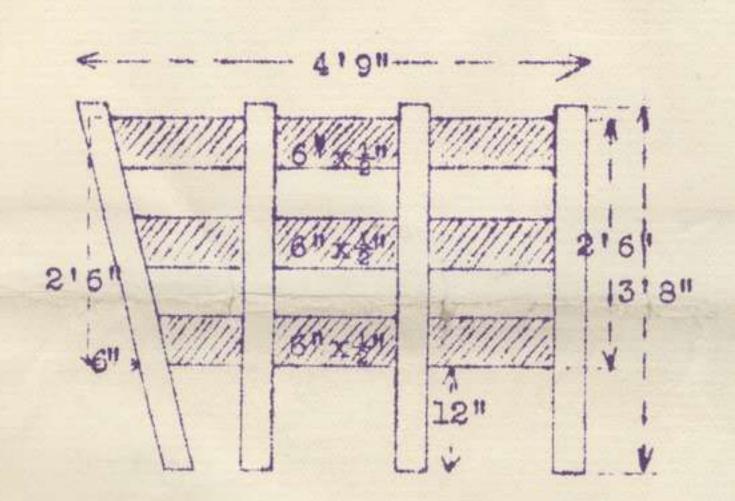


Sheet No.

Type D

3184

For other dimensions see Type A

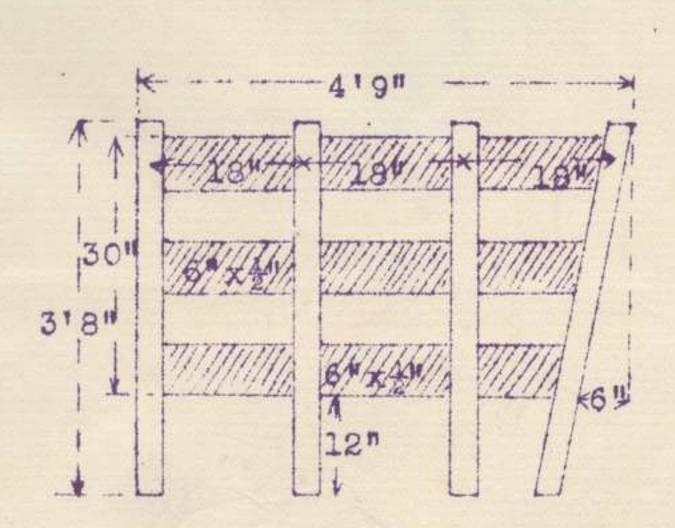


REVETMENT HURDLE

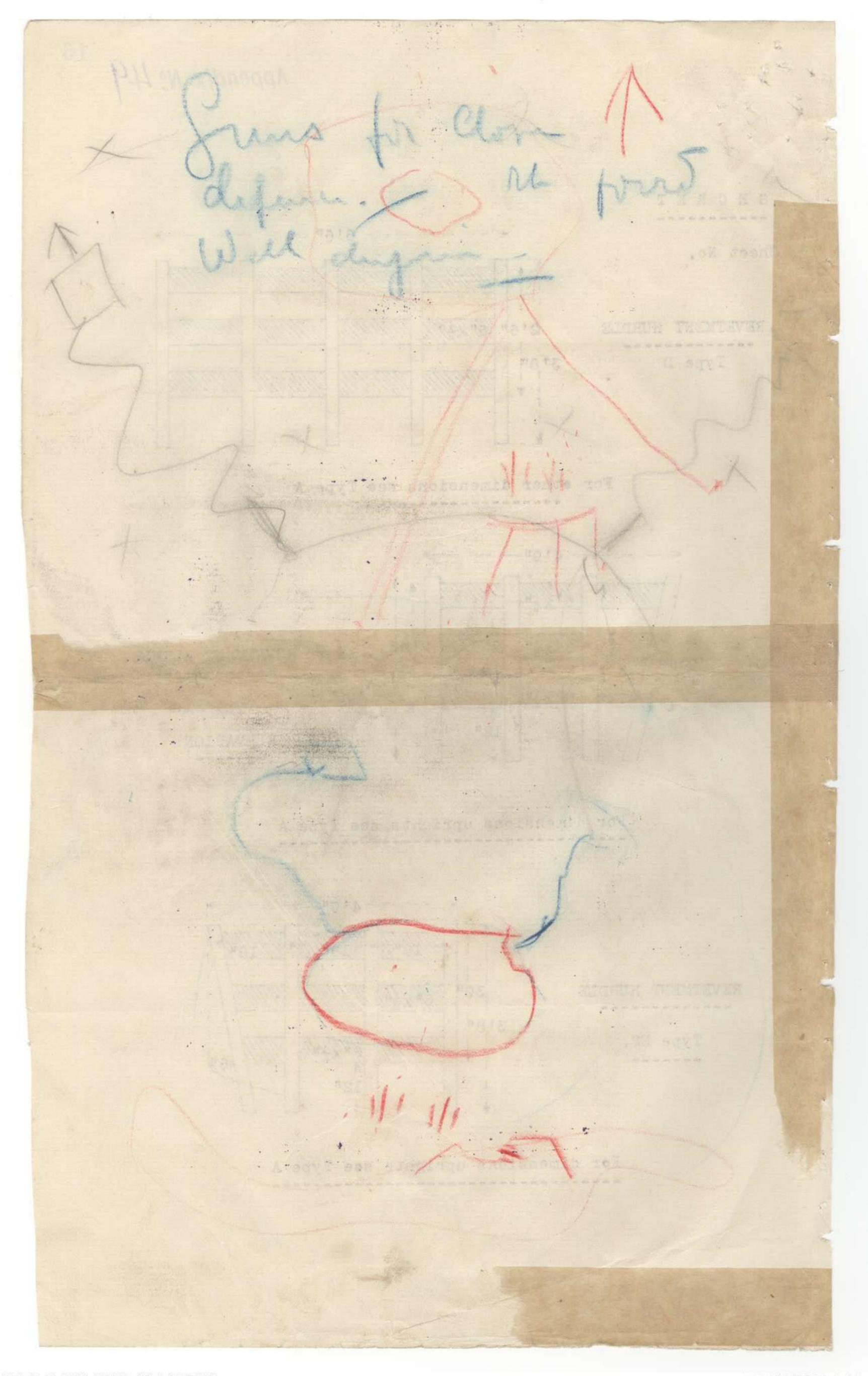
Type El. ELEVATION

For dimensions uprights see Type A

Type E2.



For dimensions uprights see Type A



C.R.No. 7/7/4 Gb.



SECRET.

Appendix NºH9 191 17

BT. Rewfleet 28/7000

BY CORPS

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS

Headquarters,

2nd. Australian Division. N.Z. & A. Division.

Subject: Training / Principles of / Instructions from G.H.Q.

Attached hereto is a copy of a SECRET memo from the Commander in Chief defining the role of the M. E. F., and conveying General Sir Archibald Murray's wishes for the full utilisation of the time at our disposal for preparation.

2. In transmitting this memo. the Army Corps Commander directs me to say he feels sure that Divisional Commanders will by all means in their power advance the state of preparedness of their units and do their utmost to raise the state of training and the moral to that standard which will ensure success.

ISMAILIA,

22/1/1916.

Brigadier-General, General Staff,

A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

Cosos SM BUM Cosos SEVM Cosos Sar. G.S. 126.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS? MEDITERRANEAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, 20th. January, 1916.

General Officer Commanding Australian & New Zealand Army Corps.

- 1. The Commander in Chief wishes to take an early opportunity of impressing on Corps Commanders the urgent necessity of taking immediate steps to make their Corps in every way fit to take the field.
- 2. The Chief of the Imperial General Staff has described the role of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force as being that of the "strategical reserve of the Empire", and as such it must as soon as possible be made fit to act offensively elsewhere.
- 3. The operations on the Gallipoli Peninsula naturally led to admixture of units and an obnormal state of affairs in which units became immobile and could not be trained in the many essentials requisite for offensive operations.
 - The Commander-in-Chief is most anxious that at the earliest moment possible, units should be sorted out and courses of training commenced. As regards the latter, he leaves all details to Corps Commanders, but he desires that special attention should be paid to the training of company, platoon and section commanders, to marching, shooting, bombthrowing and machine-gun work.
- 5. The time available for training is obviously very short, and Sir Archibald Murray considers that every available moment should be devoted to it. He hopes that Corps Commanders will consequently grant leave sparingly and only in special cases. Finally, he trusts that everyone will now be so fully employed in training himself for war that the sight of large numbers of officers and men walking about the streets and sitting about in hotels and cafes at all hours of the day with apparently nothing to do will be a thing of the past.

(sgd.) A. Lynden Bell, Major-Gneral, Chief of the General Staff, Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.

Ву

Lieut.-General Sir ALEXANDER J. GODLEY, K.C.L.G., C.B., Commanding AUSTRALIAN & MET ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

ISMAILIA, 23rd. January, 1916.

Ref.MAP OF SINAI PENILSULA 125,000

A.

1. (i) The section of the line to be prepared for the protection of the SUEZ CANAL allotted to the A. . N.Z. Army Corps extends from KABRIT, exclusive, to a point la miles south of EL FERDAN station and has been designated "No. II Section".

The position to be prepared and occupied lies some 11,000 yards to the east of the Canal.

- (ii) Instructions have been received for the preparation and occupation of the new line to begin on the 23rd, instant.
 - (iii) The troops allotted to the Army Corps comprise :

2nd. Aust. Div.

N.Z. & A. Div.

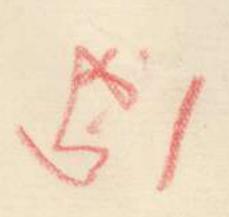
derps troops .-

A Mounted Division when formed (less 1 Bdc.),
52nd. Div. Artillery,
25th. Battery,
Aust. Siege Bettery,
N.Z.

32nd. "Brigade.
Highland mountain Bde.
55th. Aust. Siege Battery,
54th. ""
58th. Siege Battery.
Two (2) Naval 12-pdrs.
Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train.
14th. Fortress Co., R.E.
134th. Army Troops (late Fortress) Co., R.E.

- 2. The Army Corps will be distributed as follows :-
 - (i) On the allotted front of No. II Section lst, AUSTRALIAN DIVISION "A" Sub-section.

Boundaries - South : a line starting from 1
mile north of the Coal Depot
opposite KABRIT and running through



- ~-

through and including point 370 8. E. of KITYB EL HABASHI.

North: a line from LAKE TIMSAH I mile south of BIR EL FOWER running excluding through and including point 530 (KATALIB EL KHIEL).

2nd, AUSTRALIAN DIVISION .- "B" Sub-section.

Boundaries - South : the northern boundary of 1st. Aust. Div.

> North : a line running from the Canal starting from a point 17 miles south of EL FERDAN and running 1.14 immediately north of point 290.

- (ii) In reserve N.Z. & A. Div. at MOASCAR.
- (iii) The distribution of Light Horse Brigades and Corps Artil. lery will be communicated separately.
- 3. The general alignment upon which troops will be placed in the front line has been pointed out to Divisional Commanders and extends .
 - 1st. AUSTIALIAN DIVISION from KITYB EL HABASHI, inclusive, to KATAIIB EL KHEIL, exclusive.
 - and, AUSTRALIAN DIVISION from KATAIIB EL KHEIL, inclusive, to a point 1 mile north of the HILLOCK marked 40' high.
- The left front of the 1st. Aust. Div. will be in the (a) forward position of the two reconnoitred, i.e., towards HILL 620, and the right of the End. Aust. Div. will be thrown forward correspendingly. The left of the 2nd. Aust. Div. may be thrown back to the rearward of the two positions reconnoitred, i.e. behind the hill marked 40' high, and the adjoining division will be so informed by the G.O.C. 2nd, Aust, Div.
- (b) Divisional commanders will allot frontages to brigades and it is desired that in each division one brigade of infantry be held in divisional reserve. The position for the divisional reserve (see para, 6) will be selected immediately and communicated to Army Corps headquarters with a detailed sketch. Allotment of the line to battalions will be made by brigadiers in consultation with the C.R.E's., who will have selected positions marked and works traced.

A memo, by Colonel Grant, Chief Engineer, Canal Defences, indicating the general nature of the entrenchments, communication trenches and works which should be constructed has been issued to divisional commanders (see S42/1) and this will be used as a guide.

The points to which the Army Commander wishes to draw attention are:

- (i) A prolonged siege conflict is improbable.
- (ii) The enemy's lines of communication will not give him unlimited freed m of manoeuvre. This implies -
- (a) that we should endeavour to be strong on all possible avenues of approach.
 - (b) that we should seek opportunities of upsetting the enemy's plan by the element of surprise.
- (iii) In some cases it is necessary to forego the advantages of a good field of fire in order to avoid artillery bombard. ment. At the same time it must be borne in mind that night attacks are most probable and the existence of deed ground in our front may enable the enemy to mass unseen.
 - (iv) The opportunity given us of siting trenches from the enemy! point of view should be taken full advantage of.
 - (v) Liovement by night will in all probability be made along wadis or valleys.
- (vi) Works on the line will not be continuous but must afford each other mutual support, and the intervening ground must be covered by effective rifle fire. Intervals may in some instances be effectively covered by small works slightly withdrawn and connected to the main line. Works will naturally be of varying strength but each must be self contained.
- (vii) The artillery of divisions must be disposed to cover the ground close in front of all works.
- Divisional camps have been laid out at SERAPEUL and FERRY POST on the east bank of the Canal, and these places have been indicated as Div. Hd. wrs. and may be so used at the discretion of divisional commanders.
- 6. The communications now in process of construction comprise a 2'5" railway as far as the position of the reserve brigade and a 15' made roadway to the same place; thence to points in the front line connection will be by Decauville tramways and a 9' roadway. The direction in which it is desired that these latter roadways and

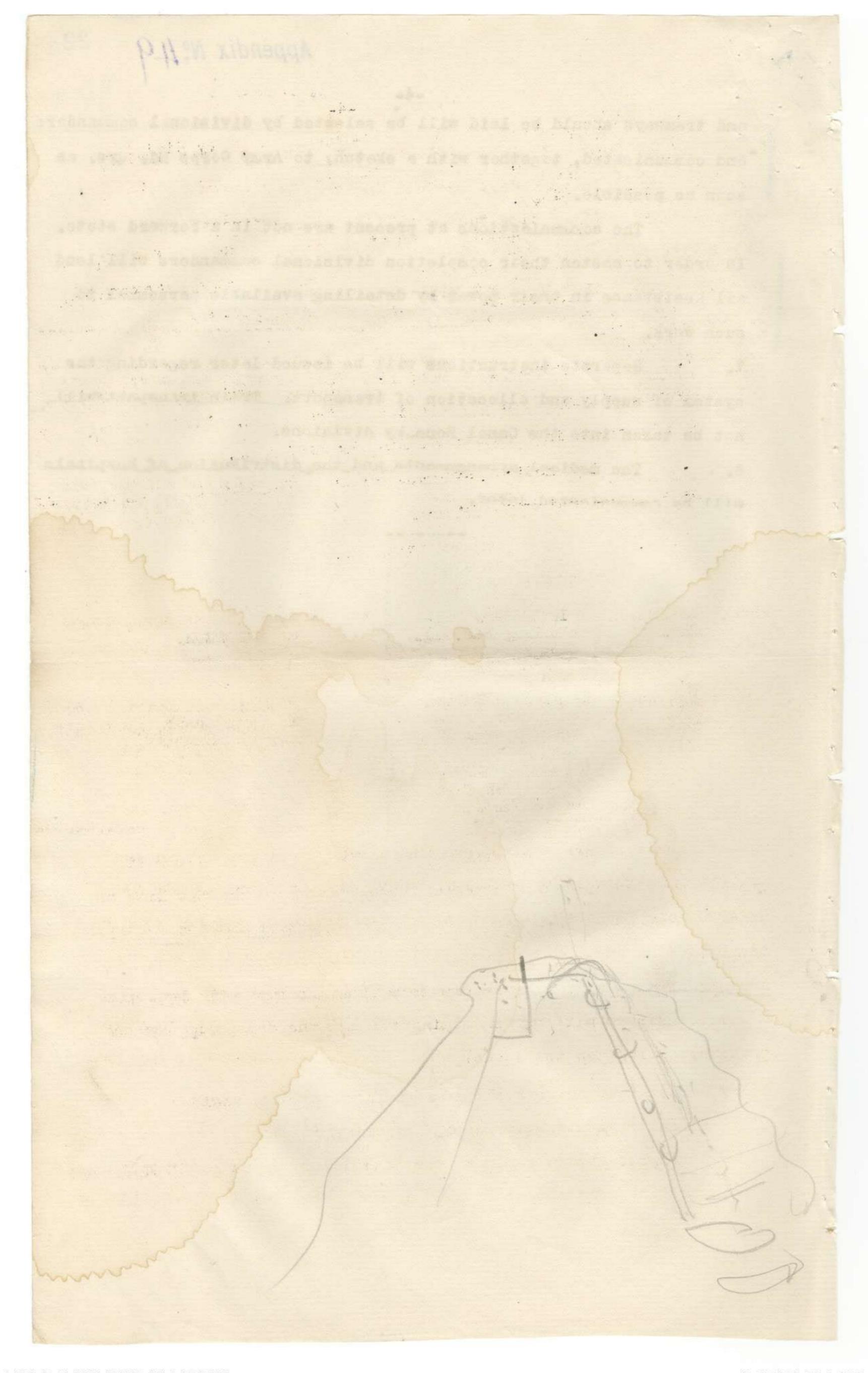
top hond it is.

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and tramways should be laid will be selected by divisional commanders and communicated, together with a sketch, to Army Corps Hd. Urs. as soon as possible.

The communications at present are not in a forward state. In order to hasten their completion divisional commanders will lend all assistance in their power by detailing available personnel to such work.

- Separate instructions will be issued later regarding the system of supply and allocation of transport. Train transport will not be taken into the Canal Zone by divisions.
- 8. The medical arrangements and the distribution of hospitals will be communicated later.



B.

9. The movement of the 1st. and 2nd. Aust. Divs. to the new line will begin on the 24th. instant and continue gradually.

The necessary railway time tables will be issued direct to divisional commanders by the D.A.D.R.T.

10. (i) The following moves will take place on the dates shown :

Date	Division	Units	From	To
Jan. 24th.	lst.Aust. Div.	Hd. Qrs. & 2 Bns. of 1 Bde. (in-cluding Bde. Sig. Sec.) 1 F.Co.Engrs.	TEL EL KEBIR.	By rail and march route to SERAPEUM.
	2nd.Aust. Div.	Hd. Qrs. & 2 Bns. of 1 Bde. (in- cluding Bde.Sig. Sec.) (1 F.Co. Engrs. will join from FERRY POST).		By rail and march route to FERRY POST, (detraining at MOASCAR).
25th.	lst.Aust. Div.	<pre>l Inf. Bde. (in- oluding Bde.Sig. Sec.) l F.Co. Engrs.</pre>	11	By rail and march route to SERAPEUM.
17	2nd.Aust. Div.	Hd.Qrs. & 2 Bns. of 1 Bde. (in- cluding Dde.Sig. Sec.) (1 F.Co. Engrs. will join from SERAPEUM).		By rail and march route to FERRY POST, (detrain- ing at MOASCAR).

On the day of movement troops will move into camps at SERAPEUM and FERRY POST continuing the movement to the new line on the following day. Divisional Staff Officers will allot the camping grounds.

(ii) Troops will move at War Establishment but with 1st. line transport only. (Note: in moving through the desert it may be necessary to lighten the loads).

Kits and baggage will be on field service scale.

Two blankets per man will be carried.

Tents will be taken to the divisional cause at SERAPEUM and

and FEET POST.

men surplus to establishment, spare kits and stores will be placed in a "details camp" at TEL EL KEBIR under divisional arrangements.

- (111) Troops will caffy 150 rounds ammunition, filled water bottles and two days' rations.
- il. (i) The supply and maintenance of units first advanced to the new line will be arranged by the Canal Defences command until the communications and system are sufficiently established to be handed over to divisions. The rail will be used as far as it is available and thereafter recourse will be had to camel transport.
- (ii) The 1st. and 2nd. Aust. Divs. will each send a Divisional Supply Officer to ISMAILIA to report to the a/D. of S. & T. in advance of the troops. Each bde will bring with it a brigade supply officer and small supply and transport details, the numbers of which have been communicated separately (see File 76/9 Qa, dated 22/1/16.).
- 12. Work on the new line will begin at once. A supply of tools and revetting materials will be made available at rail head (of 2'6" railway) by the C.E., Canal Defences.
- Every precaution will be taken in regard to sanitation; it is essential that the ground be kept clean. Should the railway programme make it impossible for troops to reach their destinations without an intermediate halt, proper latrine arrangements will be made at the temporary camping place.

A supply of sanitary materials is evailable at the divisional camping grounds immediately east of the Canal at SERAPEUM and FERRY POST, and a certain quantity is being moved forward to rail head.

NOTE :- Part "A" of this order is SECRET.

C. B. B. WHITE,

Brigadier-General,

General Staff,

A. . N. Z. Army Corps.

Issued at 2.0. p.m.

Copy No.

G.S. File

A.D.C. to G.O.C.

B.G., R.A.

B.G., R.E.

"A"

A.A.I.T.

G.H.U., M.E.F.

9 th. Corps.

15th. "

Canal Defences

Distribution - continued.

Copy No.	To
12 13 14 15 16 & 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Mounted Division. 1st. Aust. Div. 2nd. Aust. Div. N.Z. & A. Div. 52nd. Div. 1st. A.L.H.Bde. 2nd. A.L.H.Bde. 3rd. A.L.H.Bde. 3rd. A.L.H.Bde. 25th. Battery. Aust. Diege Battery. N.Z. 32nd. Siege Bde. Highland mountain Bde.
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 - 40	55th. Aust. Siege Battery. 58th. Siege Battery. R.A.N. Bridging Train. 14th. Fortress Co. R.E. 134th (Army Troops) Co. R.E. retained.

Appendix Nº 49
SECRET.

EXTRACTS FROM SECRET MEMORANDUM No. 1147C, dated 20/12/1915, by Vice-Admiral R. H. PEIRSE, Commanding in Chiof.

x x x x x x x x x x x 2. The Commanding Officer of the Canal Defence Flotilla is Captain W.B.MACDONALD, who will issue detailed orders as necessary from time to time

x x x x x x x x x x x 4. The duties of the Canal Defence Flotilla are:-

(a) To prevent minelaying by the enemy.
(b) To sweep certain channels daily.

(c) To watch those parts of the eastern bank that are not defended by the Army.

5. One ship is detailed as guardship for the Bitter Lakes and works in conjunction with the Canal Defence Flotilla.

x (b) ORGANISATION OF PATROLS.
DEVERSOIR and GREAT LAKE PATROL.- Six armed motor launches

are based on ISMAILIA for these patrols, viz .-

(i) DEVERSOIR Patrol - comprises the waters contained by the channel and a line drawn due east from Southern Light of Northern Channel.

(ii) GREAT LAKE Patrol - the waters south of this line, until coming into the beam of guardship searchlight.

At daylight, the DEVERSOIR and CREAT LAKE Patrols meet at the South end of marked channel and sweep to DEVERSOIR GARE.

A houseboat with armed guard from "Requin" was stationed in a selected position south of DEVERSOIR but has had to be withdrawn for the winter and is now at kilo. 85.

(iii) TOUSSUM Patrol - an armed launch patrols these waters from dusk until the arrival of Hopper 34 at 9.30 p.m. who stations herself at kilo. 84, and, working her searchlight in conjunction with "Requin" lights up the waterways between Lake TIMSAH and TOUSSUM.

ORDERS FOR PATROLLING.Officers are to go away at night whenever possible.
Tugs are always to take a pulling boat in tow when on patrol.
Communication between east and west banks of the Canal is forbidden, any one seen attempting to swim the Canal is to be arrested, or fired on if necessary.

Patrol launches when passing steamers in the Canal are to stop close to their own side of the channel and secure to the bank. At night, if there is an Officer in the boat, he is always to take charge while a steamer is passing. Launches are to secure to the bank in plenty of time before the passing steamer gets close enough to dazzle them with her searchlight.

It must be remembered that a ship in the Canal cannot see a launch any distance at night, and beyond stopping her engines, can do nothing to avoid the boat, so that the whole responsibility for avoiding collision rests with the launch herself.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH LITTLE BITTER LAKE PATROL. -

8. (a) By day - with guardship and KABRET by visual and thence by telegraph or telephone.

By launch to GENEFIE and thence by telegraph or telephone.

By wireless to Hopper 35.

(b) By night - By visual with guardship and all armed launches.

SECRET AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

SECRET

Divisional Headquarters,
Tel-el-Kebir, 23rd January 1916.

5th Infantry Brigade
5th Infantry Brigade
7th Infantry Brigade
Wajor S.F. Newcombe D.S.O., R.E.

Reference Map SINAI PENINSULA 1/250,000.

Corps Orders have just been received reference occupation of line and Divisional Orders will be issued as early as possible.

The Boundaries of 2nd Divisional area are as follows:-

On the South

A line from LAKE TIMSAH 1 mile South of BIR-EL-FOW through and including point 530 KATATIB-EL-KHEIL

On the North

A line running from the Canal starting from a point 19 miles South of EL FERDAN and running through Point 450 due East.

The general alignment upon which troops will be placed in the front line is as follows:-

Second Australian Division

From KATAIIB-EL-KHEIL inclusive to point 1 mile of Mushroom headed contour.

The left front of the 1st Australian Division will the forward position of the two reconnoitred; towards Hill at first E of KATALIB EL KHELL THE RISET EX EXE AND the right of the Second Australian Division will be thrown forward correspondingly. The left of the 2nd Austrian Division will be thrown forward to positions reconnoitred i.e. behind the Mushroom headed contour. As soon as this portion of our line is definitely fixed the 5t Brigads will inform Divisional headquarters so that Division on our left may be notified.

The point of junction between the 5th and 6th Brigades will be decided by the Brigade Commanders in sultation in accordance with the suggestions made whe went over the ground.

SHOOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No 4.

SECRET

Tel-el-Kebir, 24th January 1916

60m no 1

Reference Map of SINAI PENINSULA 1/250,000.

Information 1. (a) Information regarding the enemy is given in the Intelligence Summary attached hereto.

CANAL which has been allotted to the A. & N. Z. Army Corps extends from KABRIT, exclusive on the South to a point limites South of EL FERDAN Station on the North. This portion of the line has been designated as No II Section. The front to be held lies roughly 11000 yards to the East of the Canal. Instructions have been received for the preparation and occupation of this line forthwith. It will be held by the First and Second Australian Divisions forward and the N.Z. & A. Division in reserve.

The following Corps troops have also been

allotted for the defence of No II Section:
A Mounted Division (less 1 Brigade)

52nd Divisional Artillery

25th Battery.

Australian Siege Battery

N.Z.

"Brigade

Wighland Mountain Brigade

32nd "Brigade
Highland Mountain Brigade.
55th Austr Siege Battery
54th ""
"
58th Siege Battery
"
"

Two Naval 12 pounders
Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train.
14th Fortress Co., R.E.
134th Army Broops (late Fortress) Co., R.E.

Allotment 2. The front allotted to the Second Australian Division of front is bounded as follows:-

On the South

A line from LAKE TIMSAH 1 mile South of
BIR-EL-FOWER through and including point 530
KATAIIB-EL-KHEIL

On the North

A line running from the Canal starting from
a point 14 miles South of EL FORDAN and running
through point 450 due East.

The general alignment upon which troops will be placed in the front line will be as follows:-

From KATAIIB-EL-KHEIL inclusive to a point about 1 mile North of Mushroom headed contour North of point 353. The right of the 6th Brigade will conform to the left of the 1st Australian Division and will be situate near the hill at first E of KATAIIB-EL-KHEIL. The left of the 5th Brigade may be thrown back to the rearward of the two positions reconnoitred i.e. West of Hill shown by Mushroom headed contour. As soon as this portion of our

4.1. hie

2.

line is definitely fixed the 5th Brigade will inform Divisional Headquarters in order that the Division on our left may be notified. The point of junction between the 5th and 6th Brigades will be decided by the Brigade Commanders in consultation in accordance with the suggestions made when they went over the ground. The 7th Brigade will be in a position or positions in reserve which will be indicated to the Brigade. Commander. The Distribution of the Artillery and position of Divisional Headquarters will be decided later.

- Type of B. The attention of all concerned is invited to the Defences Memorandum by Colonel Grant, Chief Engineer, Canal Defences indicating the general nature of the entrenhhments. This has already been circulated. The points to which attention should be paid are as follows:-
 - (a) A prolonged siege conflict is improbable.
 - (b) The enemy's lines of communication will not give him unlimited freedom of manoeuvre. This implies that we should endeavour to be strong on all possible avanues of approach and should seek opportunities of upsetting enemy's plans by the element of surprise.
 - (c) In some cases it may be necessary to forego the advantages of a good field of fire in order to avoid artillery bombardment. At the same time it must be borne in mind that night attacks are most probable and that the existence of dead ground in our immediate front may enable the enemy to mass at close quarters unseen. The possibility of fanatical rushes must not be lost sight of also the possibility of rifles and machine guns jambing through becoming clogged with sand.must be considered.
 - (d) The opportunity given us of sighting trenches from the enemy's point of view should be taken full advantage of.
 - (e) Movement by night will in all probability be made along wadis or valleys.
 - (f) Works on the line will not be continuous hut must afford each other mutual support and the intervening ground must be covered by effective rifle fire. The intervals may in some instances be effectively covered by small works slightly withdrawn and connected to the main line. The works will naturally be of varying strength but each must be self contained.
 - (g) Divisional Artillery must be disposed so as to cover the ground close in front of all works.
- ommunictions c comprise a 2'6" railway as far as the position of the reserve ransportbrigade and a 15 feet made roadway to the same place; the communication thence to points in the front line will be by Decauville tramways and a 9 feet roadway. The direction in

which it is desired that these latter roadways and tramways should be laid will be decided on the ground and notified to the Army Comps by Divisional Headquarters. The communications at present are not well advanced. In order to hasten their completion Commanders will lend all assistance in their power by detailing available personne for such work. Separate instructions will be issued regarding the system of supply and allocation of transport. Train transport will not be taken to the Canal zone by Divisions. The order in which the units move down and the times of ______ starting also medical arrangements and distribution of Ambulances will be notified later.

Troops moving to the line

- 5. On the day of departure from THL-EL-KEBIR troops will move into Staging Camp about 1 mile beyond FERRY POST continuing the movement to the new line on the following day. Troops will move at war establishment but with first line transport only. .. In crossing the desert it may be necessary to lighten loads. Kits and baggage will be off field service scale, 2 blankets per man will be carried. Tents will be taken to the Divisional Staging Camp. Men surplus to establishment, spare kits and stores will be placed in a "Details Camp" at TEL-EL-KEBIR under Divisional arrangements. Troops will carry 150 rounds of ammunition, filled water bottles and two days rations. A supply of tools and revetting materials will be made available at rail head of 2'6" railway by the Chief Engineer Canal Defences. Erigades will requisition accordingly and will begin work forthwith.
- Sanitation 6. Every precaution will be taken in regard to sanitation. It is essential that the ground be kept clean. Where it is found impossible for troops to reach their destination without an intermediate rest proper latrine arrangements will be made at the temporary bivouacing place. A supply of sanitary materials will be available at the Divisional Staging Camp and at rail head.
- Reports 7. Reports will continue to be rendered to Divisional Headquarters at Tel-el-Kebir until further orders.
 - 8. Recipt of this Order will be acknowledged.

G.H. JACKSON Major General Staff.

Issued at - 4 p.m.

- Copy No	27.1	G.S. File	Сору	No	9.	6th Brigade
/	2	A.D.C. for G.O.C.	-	7 -	and the same of th	7th "
	3	C.R.A.	-		11	13th Light Horse
	4	C.R.E.	-		12	G.S.O.1
-	5.	A. Q.	-			G. S. O. 2
	6.	A.D.M.S.	-			G.S.O.3
D.	-	Div. Sig Co.	-			Divisional Train
	8.	5th Infantry Brigade			17	May Jackson.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Confidential

Divisional Headquarters, Tel-elKebir, 24th January 1916

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 2.

Reference 1/250,000 - SUEZ
AKABA
PORT SAID
RAFA

The following extracts from the Interligence Summaries January 13th. - January 22nd., are forwarded to you for information.

1. Rain & Water. (a) North Road. Light rains only. Additional

Wells are being dug at Gererat, Mazar, Malha, Kasseiba,

Bir-el-Abd and El-Afein. Considerable forces could move

"long this route as far as water is concerned, but the

difficulties for transport remain the same.

(b) Central Road. Heavy rain on slopes of Gebel Yelleg.

This only affects the water supply at Hassana. A large

resevoir at Hassana is full of water. This resevoir e

contains sufficient water for a large force. Wadi-el
Arish has been in flood and water is obtainable in it's

bed between Kossaima and Hassana. No water in pools at

Rodh Salem, Wadi Mukshrieb, nor in rock eisterns in

Gebel Yukshrieb.

(e) South Road. Heavy rain. The wells and pools are reported to be full at following places: Bir Themada, wadi Bruk, wadi Elhas, wadi Tawal, wadi-el-Gerab, wadi sudr, wadi-el-Arish. Water at Ain-Sudr and Nekhl is practically inexhaustible.

Railway. The completed railway still stops three kilometres S. of Bir Saba.

Roads. Wadi Rodh Salem. The road eastward is being metalled past Mehnedret Abugurun to the head of the Wadi-el-Letheili. Gravel is being put down and a hard surface made by hand. The road is finished from where the Wadi-el-Letheili reaches the plain to Hassana.

PAGE 2.

A metalled road is being constructed from Um Shinam to El-Auja.

Troops have been located at the fellowing places :-

Bir Saba 8.000 - 14.000 Rafa 1.000 Gaza 2.000 El Arish 700 El Auja 7.000 Kassaima 2.000 Nekl 3.00 Ainsudr 100 Akabar 1.000 Magdhaba 200 El Abd 170 Maghara 250 Hadeira 200 Hassana 3.000

Enemy Patrols have been seen at the following points:- Wadi Gineh, Bir-el-Abd, El-afeira, Katir and Romani.

General. An Agent reports (January 20th.) that troops are being sent to Bir Saba at the rate of five trains per day.

German Officers are reported to be at Rafa.. These are engaged in surveying and reporting on the Water Supply.

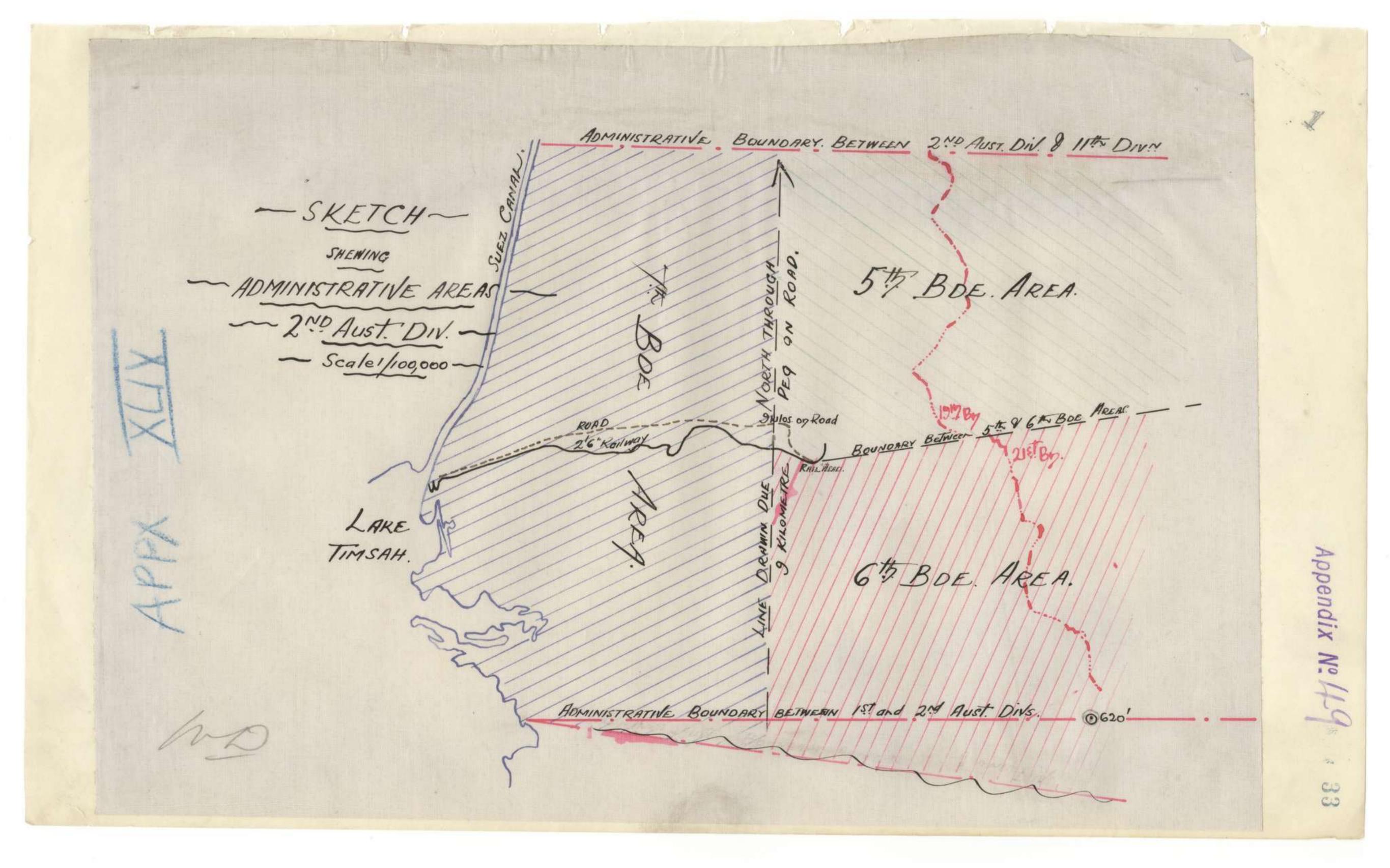
It is reported that the Turkish Army will start marching towards the Canal on February 4th.

Aeroplanes and Seaplanes. All Allied planes in use in the Canal Districts are marked as follows :-

A group of concentric circles of red, white and blue on the underside of each lower plane, and the tail plane painted with red, white and blue vertical stripes.

It is reported that Turkish planes have a red circle and erescent under both wings.

Jevocument Captains General Staff



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1009896



SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

Divisional Headquarters,
Tel-el-Kebir, 28th. January, 1916.

Divisional Artillery.

Divisional Engineers.

5th. Infantry Brigade.

6th. Infantry Brigade.

7th. Infantry Brigade.

Details.

The attached Secret document is circulated - to those concerned for information.

Division is in the Canal Zone, that a portion of the troops shall continue to train while the remainder are carrying out the making of entrenchments for the defence of the Zone.

General Staff.

V

the order ha. B Lieutenent-General Sir A. J. GODLEY, E.C. L.G., C.B., Commanding Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Headquarters, ISMAILIA, 3/8/1916. TROOPS OF 1. The detail of Corps Troops set forth in Army Corps ARMY CORPS. - Order No. 1, pars. 1(iii), is cancelled and the fallowing 1 Flight of No. 14 Sqn. R.F.C. A mounted division when formed (less 1 bde.) 1 company, Bikanir Camel Corps. x 35th, Bde., R.G.A.-25th. Battery. 131st. 32nd. Siege Bde .-37th. Battery. Aust. Siege Bde .-54th. Battery 58th. Siege Battery. 57th. Field How. Bde. Highland Mountain Bdg. 84th. Siege Battery (1 Sec.) Royal Aust. Naval Bridging Train. 14th. Fortress Co., R.H. 134th. Army Troops (late Fortress) Co., R.E. 8th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

UPCN WHICH WORKS ARE BEING PRE PARED . - .

substituted .-

130th

38th.

55th.

NOMENCLATURE 2. The easternmost line upon which work is now in progres OF POSITIONS will be known as the "FRONT LINE".

> The lines close to the Canal bank will be known as the "INNER LINE".

The works prepared between the two lines mentioned wil. be known as the "INTERMEDIATE LINE".

COMMIND. -

3. Upon arrival in their allotted areas of Divisional Headquarters the command of all lines within respective subsections will be assumed by divisional commanders.

RELIEF OF TROOPS NOW IN COCUPA-TICH OF LINES.-

4. All units now in the subsections allotted to divisions which do not form part of, or have not been definitely attached to divisions, will be relieved and sent to join their units.

The following exceptions to this order will be permitted as a temporary measure . -

- (i) The 8th. Inf. Bde. less 2 buttalions will remain and be attached to the 1st. Aust. Div.
- (ii) The 30th. Bn. (of 8th. Aust. Inf. Bde.) will remain an be attached to the End. Aust. Div.
- (iii) The detachments of the Bikanir Canel Cores now with respective subsections will remain attached.

5.

PATROLLING OF IMIAN DINE .-

5. The INNEF LIME will be patrolled regularly on the system now is vogue. The present commanders of the INNER LINE will, when handing over to divisional commanders, furnish a written report emplifing the system. In present circumstances the object of patrolling the IMMER LINE is to guard against mines and abstructions being placed in the Canal and the action of ill-disposed persons. Divisional commanders will submit to Army Corps Headquarters any proposals for change in the present system of protecting the INNER LINE which they consider desirable.

The action taken by H.M. Royal Navy regarding patrolling is detailed in the accompanying memorandum.

A report that the Canal is clear will be made to Army Corps Hd. Qrs. at 7.30 a.m. daily by each division.

BRIDGES . -

6. Three bridges will be made available at SERAPEUM and three at FERRY POST.

The arrangements for the construction of approaches therete will be made by the Army Corps.

Orders regarding the management of bridges and the control of traffic will be issued in Army Corps Routine Orders.

BRIDGE HEADS .- 7. "Bridge heads" will be constructed on the eastern bank of the SUEZ CANAL, one at SERAPEUM and one at FERRY POST, by the 1st. and 2nd. Aust. Divs. respectively, to cover the bridge mentioned in para. 6.

> Each "bridge head" will be capable of occupation by a force of two battalions and one battery, and will be complete in evdry detail including overhead cover, wire entanglements and communication trenches.

> Arrangements will be made for housing the garrisons of these "bridge heads" within the perimeter. Wo other units nor camps of native employees, etc., will be permitted within the perimeter.

TAGING WPS.-

PORTS .-

8. The divisional camps laid out on the east bank of the Canal at SERAPEUM and FERRY POST will be known as "staging oamps". Divisional commanders will appoint a commandant of eac of these camps.

The following reports will be rendered to Army Corps Headquarters by General Officers Commanding "A" and "B" Subsections:-

(1) Daily .-(a) Canal all olear or otherwise, - to reach Army Con Hd. Qrs. at 0730.

"Summary of events" covering the 24 hours ending (d) 0600, - to reach Army Corps Hd. Qrs. at 1100.

"Intelligence summary" covering the 24 hours ending 0500, - to reach Army Corps Ed. ars. at 1100.

Wookly .- Progress report, to reach Army Corps Hd. Qi at 1800 on Saturdays. This report will detail the distribution of troops, give summaries of the progress of defensive works and of the process of roads, railways, pipe lines, water supply, ote. This report will be rendered in triplicate, but was one copy only of any accompanying plans. i pro forme will be issued separately.

10

CUTTLILIGENCE . -

Reports of visible movements of the enemy or of actual contact with hostile troops will be made by telegraph to Army Corps Hd. Qrs. through brigades and divisions, neighbouring organisations being informed at the same time. The information will be recorded in the intelligence diary.

Any other matter affecting intelligence, not of an urgent nature, will be reported in the daily intelligence

summary.

AIR CRAFT .-

Information of enemy aircraft will be transmitted to Army Corps Hd. Qrs. by the quickest means, and will afterwards be repeated to brigades and divisions.

JANES OF OCHUNICATION DEFENDS.- Hd. Qrs. are at ISMAILIA, has been made responsible for the protection of the railway from ZAGAZIG to ISMAILIA, and also the railway PORT SAID - ISMAILIA - SUEZ, and of the Sweet Water Canal from ZAGAZIG to ISMAILIA and along the Canal. For this purpose the following troops have been placed under his command as Officer Commanding, Lnes of Communication Defences.

Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade. 19th. Garrison Bn., The Rifle Brigade.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENDANT.

13. Brigadier-General Watson has been appointed Administrative Commandant of ISMAILIA district (exclusive of MOASCAR and inclusive of ZAGAZIG).

COLPANY.

14. A "Memorandum of the measures taken by the Suez Canal Company with the Military Authorities", prepared at General Hd. Qrs., has been issued to divisions and to commanders of INNER LINES of subsections.

C.B.B.WHITE, Brig.-General, General Staff, Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

Issued by A.C. Sigs. at 8.0 p.m. Copy No. G.S. file A.D.C. to G.O.C. C.R.A. C.E. ngn A/A.I.F. G.H.Q., H.E.F. 9th Corps 10 15th Corps. B.G. i/o L. of C. Defences. 11 Mounted Division 12 C.C. Co., Bikanir Camel Corps 13 lat. Auct. Div. 14 2nd. Aust. Div. 15 N.Z. & A. Div. 15 O.C. No. 14 Sqn., R.F.C. 17 1st. A.L.H.Bda. 18 2nd, A.L.H.Bde. 19 3rd, A.L.H.Bde. 20 N.Z.M.R.Bde. 35th. Bde., R.G.A. 22 32nd. Siege Bde. 23 Aust. Siege Ede. 24

· Distribution - continued.

0	25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32		58th. Siege Battery. 57th. Fld. How. Ede. Highland Hountain Ede. 84th. Siege Battery. R.A.N. Bridging Train 14th. Fortress Co., R.E. 134th Army Troops Co., R.E. 8th. Inf. Ede.
	7.7	15	reteined.



SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER No 5

Secret

Albury Hill
(2* miles West by South
of 353)
6th February 1916.

Reference - Map Sinai Peninsula 1/850,000.

Information

1. The detail of Corps troops shewn in Para. 1. (b) of Divisional Order No. 4 dated 24th Manuary 1916 has been cancelled and the following has been substituted:-

1 Flight of No. 14 Sqn R.F.C. A mounted division when formed (less 1 Bde). 1 Company, Bikanir Camel Corps. 35th Bde., R.G.A. 25th Battery. 130th 131st 32nd Siege Bde. 37th Battery. 38th Aust. Siege Bde. 54th Battery 55th 58th Siege Battery. 57th Field How, Bde. Highland Mountain Bde. 84th Siege Battery (1 Sec). Royal Aust. Naval Bridging Train. 14th Fortress Co. R.E. 134th Army Troops (late Fortress) Co., R.E. 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Nomenclature
of positions
upon which
works are
being prepared.

2. The Easternmost line upon which work is now in progress will be known as the "Front Line". This includes keeps and local support works.

The line close to the Canal bank will be known as

the "Inner Line".

The works to be prepared later between the two lines mentioned will be known as the "Intermediate Line".

Command.

3. The command of the whole of the Second Divisional area within the boundaries defined by Para. 2. of Divisional Order No. 4 has been assumed by the General Officer Commanding the Division. This area is designated as "B"Subsection of No 2 Section.

The line held by the 5th Infantry Brigade will be known as the 5th Brigade front and that held by the

6th Brigade as the 6th Brigade front".

The 7th Brigade have taken over the Inner line within the Second Divisional boundaries, and have detailed ed a Battalion for its defence.

A detachment of the Bikanir Camel Corps has been allotted to the Division for reconnaissance work.

Patrolling
of Inner
line.

4. The Inner line will be patrolled regularly on the system now in vogue. If the Brigade Commander of the 7th Brigade wishes to alter the system of patrols

M

1.

indicated to him by the troops he relieved he will submit his proposals to Divisional Headquarters In the present circumstances the object of patrolling the Inner line is to guard against mines and obstructions being placed in the Canal, and the action of ill disposed persons.

Copy of the action taken by His Majesty's Royal Navy regarding patrolling has been forwarded

to the G.O.C. 7th Infantry Brigade.

Routine Orders.

Bridges.

5. 3 bridgeswill be made available at the FMRRY POST. The Army Corps has undertaken the arrangements for the construction of approaches thereto.

Orders regarding the management of bridges and the control of traffic will be issued in Army Corps

Bridge heads.

6. A bridge head will be constructed on the Eastern bank of the Canal. The General Officer Commanding 7th Brigade and C.D.E. will take this matter in hand forthwith. The former will report to Divisional Headquarters as soon as he has reconnoitred the position, so that the Divisional Commander may go over the ground and give his sanction for work to be commenced. The bridge head will be capable of occupation by a force of two Battalions and one Battery.

Alternative positions for the Battery will be selected on either side of the Canal. The works constituting the bridge head will be completed in every detail including overhead cover, wire entangle-

ments and communication trenches.

Arrangements will be made for housing the garrison

of the bridge head within the perimiter.

No other units or camps of native employees etc will be permitted within the perimiter. Steps should be taken forthwith to move any such native camps.now there.

Arrangements for housing should also be proceeded with at once.

Reports

7. The following reports will be rendered to Divisional Headquarters as shewn below: - References being made to 1/250,000 map.

From Inner line - Canal all clear" or otherwise to reach Corps Headquarters 0730.

Repeated to Divisional Headquarters at the same hour.

Morning Operation report covering 24 hours ending 0600 rendered by Brigades - to reach Divisional Headquarters at 0900.

hours ending 0600 to reach Divisional Headquarters at 0900.

Weekly progress report, on the proper form, rendered by Brigades, to reach Divisional Headquarters at 1400 on Saturdays. Copies of the prescribed form have been issued to Brigades and until further copies are available the reports will have to be in manuscript.

Intelligence

8. Reports of visible movements of the enemy or of actual contact with hostile troops will be made to Divisional Headquarters by the quickest means.

Neighbouring organisations will be informed at the same time. The information will also be recorded in the Intelligence report.

Other matter affecting intelligence not of an urgent nature will be merely included in the Intelligence report.

Aircraft.

9. Information of hostile aircraft will be transmitted to Divisional Headquarters by the quickest means, being repeated immediately after to adjoining organisations. Instructions will be issued later with regard to firing upon hostile aircraft.

Suez Canal Company.

10. A copy of a Memorandum of the measures taken by the Suez Canal Company has been issued to the G.O.C. 7th Brigade for the information of the Commander of the Inner line.

Biring with ball cartridge__

11. When it is intended to carry out musketry exercises with ball cartridge 24 hours warning must be given to Divisional Headquarters, the message being repeated to adjoining Brigades.

Precautions must be taken to clear the front and

reconnoitring patrols must be warned.

(Signed) G.H.JACKSON Major, General Staff.

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Copy No 1 to G.S. Fial
             A.D.C. for G.O.C.
             C.R.A.
             C.R.E.
             Aq.
             A.D.M.S.
             Divisional Signal Coy.
             5th Infantry Brigade
                    -do-
             6th
      "10
             7th
                      -do-
             13th Light Horse.
      211
      "12
             Major Newcombe D.S.O., R.E.
             Divisional Train.
      413
             Bikanir Camel Corps x
      114
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x also copy of Divisional Order No. 4.

NOTE - The receipt of this Order will be acknowledged.

9954

SECRET.

COPT NO. ...

AUSTRA IAM AND DET ZEALAND AREA CORPS.

Ismailia,

With February. 1

General Staff Circular No. 10.

The following will be added to the "Secret" memo,

issued with Army Corps Order No. 2 dated 3/2/1916.

Naval orders to patrol boats on the Canal have hitherto permitted fire to be opened on any rowing boats on the Canal by night,

In view of the fact that it has been found necessary sometimes to use rowing boats for military purposes at night, it has now been decided that the naval patrol boats will challenge before opening fire,

for military purposes by night are warned that they just stop immediately, if challenged, so as to permit the naval patrol boats coming up to inspect them.

Brig,-General,
General Staff,

Australian and New Zealand Army Corps,

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COPY.

AUS TRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

To/

1st Australian Division. 2nd Australian Division.

Subject - Completion of front line defences.

Ga/800 forwarded to you at 1800 today -

Commanders to give their greatest attention new to the completion of the front trenches of the "Front" or first lines.

It is from these front trenches that the enemy should be met and engaged, and there should be no question of retirement from them unless overwhelmed and driven out by heavy and concentrated artillery fire. It is very unlikely that the amount of artillery or ammunition for this can be brought against us.

fire of at least 400 years and should be sited as to be free from any dead ground in front and to give mutual support to one another.

- The "Reeps" or "Strong-points" may be retained as at present sited, but work on them sho uld be a secondary consideration and the revetting material available should be first used to complete the front line trenches. These "Keeps" should be constructed to hold small garrisons of, at the outside, one company, and these garrisons must be entirely independent of the troops holding the advanced trenches.
- The second or "intermediate" line should now be decided upon and marked out as soon as possible, and work begun upon it, as far as this can be done without delaying the completion of the front line.
- 4. With reference to Army Corps Order No. 2 para 7. dated 3rd February. 1916, all animals are to be at once cleared out of the area selected for the bridge head and encampment east of it.

Above will be confirmed in writing.

Addressed 1st Australian Division, repeated 2nd Australian Division.

(Signed).

L. Dodington
Major G. S.
Brig-General
General Staff
A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

ISMAILIA.

7th February, 1916

48 Letter on 41/8/4 for taken SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. Divisional Headquarters. 7th February, 1946. U. C. Divisional Engineers. 5th Infantry Brigade. 6th Infantry Brigade. 7th Infantry Brigade. sjor Newcombe. The attached copy of a signal message received this evening from A. A. N. Z. Army Corps is forwarded for your information. The Divisional Commander wishes you proceed with the front line trenches, leaving the keeps as they are for the present. It can be decided later how to adapt them .. for defence by one Company. The G.O.C. 7th Infantry Brizade and Divisional Staff will arrange forthwith to move all troops out of the area to be included in the Fridge head defences; the former will report as soon as he has selected tis general line of defence so that the Divisional Commander may approve and work be proceeded with without delay. The intermediate line will be decided upon by the Divisional Commander, and instructions issued later as to its construction. General Ttaff.

COPY OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM ANZAC 7/2/16.

Corps Commander wishes Divisional Commanders give greatest attention now completion front trenches of front line. Enemy should be met and engaged from these trenches and there should be no question of retirment from them unless overwhelmned and driven out by heavy and concealed artillery fire. Very Unlikely that amount of artillery and ammunition for this can be brought against us. They must have ample field fire least 400 yards and sited to be free from dead ground in front and give mutual support. Two. Keeps may be retained as present sited but work on them should be secondary consideration and revetting materail available used complete front line trenches first. Keeps should be constructed hold small garrisons at outside one Company and these must be entirely independent of troops holding advanced trenches . Three. Intermediate line should now be decided upon and marked out soon as possible and work begun as far as can be done without delaying completion front line. Four. Reference Army Corps order 2 para 7 third instant all arrivals must be cleared out of area selected for bridge head and encamped east of it. Above will be confirmed in writing. Addressed 1st Australian Division, repeated 2nd Australian Division. Acknowledge.

6 Brig 46/16 1-2m2 Canab Dron with reference to and tructions from A. N.Z. A. Corps bowned who your G. 923, the advanced trenches on the front were ested in connection with the reverse slope positions which were looked on as the main line either in case of arm attack by Large forces or at night rutten them 2. Than today curried out a fresh recommandance of arraneit trenches could be modified resite to fulfil conditions now land down 3. It was from that to seems the regiments fellow Of five free from dead ground, it will be necessary to sale trenches on very exposed positions, grow lette cover for Dupporto and exponen communication trenches to botto fire and view. Moreover their siting will make effection artiller support more deficile if the attack is pressed home In order to comply strictly with conditions as regard dead ground the frontage occupied by Battalions would have to be greatly increased in order to bring flanking for on what we otherwise be clear grown. Even admitty shorter fields of fin them two the dispersion of the Ballolini wo great and trustile a source of weateness in case of night attacks or alticks

present home by superior numbers. 4 It is especially in connection with night attacks that difficulties ares. In order trecens field of fire henshes much be total with up on forward slopes and a close range offen a cky lun the attack horover huch of the grown in front which by day is covered from a flook becomes practically dead at night. Troops after a preliminar day attack such ponts could be used at most prior to assult. The extent of front to be occupied will mor promot effection of ingrand is much too great to be effectively awept by the humber of high likely to be available 5-. It is concluded that, assuring no very serve bombardment, the defence of a forward I'm present no great diffraulties by dry but an allach by might after a preture action by day would be dettult to meet with troops as underposal. 6. Under the creemstances Leverly respectfully that Waysten of defence and orting of tremely areful and the front is enfer to hold, present better offmhinting for Artilly Luffport both by day and inght and for conster attack that a purely forward luce supporter by a small keeps

7. I therefore request permission to complete by him as originally designed although it does not comply with later instructions. I originally endeavoured to lay out works which appeared hest to met the testimation rather than to where right to working and Low mable to find any other by out which esten I'm my Buttetin commanders would with confidence hold. 8. Vendig decision I propose toproceed line treaches as we form part either of the original or morfies denom 6 Romale 9. 416 Con 6th Del Pon ly g or on 10-2, 6 (a) forward him hunt hu (b) Phips hus not be how mornially decreared in Evys. (C.) Formand work to les for or with

APPX XIIX

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters.

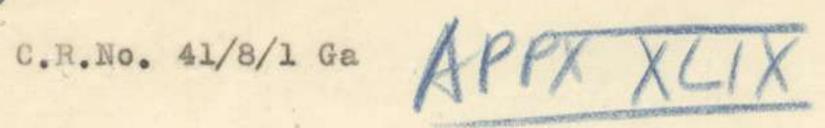
15th February 1916.

5th Infantry Brigade. 6th Infantry Brigade. 7th Infantry Brigade. C. D. E.

Herewith for your information copy Anzac General Staff Circular No 15 with reference to Siting and organisation of defence lines, also copy of Anzac Memorandum No 41/8/2 dated 7/2/1916 therein referred to.

(Signed) Brodie Mair

Captain General Staff.



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Ismailia, 14/2/1916.

General Staff Circular No. 15.

Subject: Siting and organisation of defence lines.

The undermentioned memorandum from General Headquarters is forwarded for information and guidance, and in the case of the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions, in confirmation of this office memorandum No. 41/8/2 dated 7.2.1916.

As a result of his inspection of certain portions of the defensive line east of the Suez Canal, the Commander-in-Chief has come to the conclusion that too much attention is paid, in the siting of works, to avoidance of any possibility of their being subjected to heavy artillery bombardment, while, on the other hand, any attempt to gain a good field of fire has, in many cases, been entirely abandoned.

The Commander-in-Chief is of opinion that the problem of defence presented to us in this country is a very different one from that which has to be solved in FRANCE. In the latter theatre, thanks to ample means of transport, the enemy is able to bring up large quantities of heavy artillery and ammunition; and, therefore. the concealment of works, which would otherwise be subjected to the heavy and continuous bombardment of which our troops have had so much experience, is a matter which claims close consideration.

In the case of the defences which we are now preparing. on the contrary, owing to the obviously great difficulties which the enemy would have to surmount. the number of guns and the amount of ammunition which he could bring against us is likely to be strictly limited. The concealment of works thus becomes of less importance, while the advantages of a good field of fire are correspondingly increased. It should be noted that it is, in any case, practically impossible to conceal trenches, constructed in the desert, from the air, and that the enemy's aircraft may be expected to have a comparatively easy task in this respect, whatever precautions as regards siting are taken. Moreover, as the Posts which form part of the Canal Defences must necessarily, in many cases, be a considerable distance apart, a good field of fire is especially important so to cover the ground in the intervals and to bring cross-fire to bear on gaps between posts or groups of trenches.

In these circumstances the Commander-in-Chief desires that experience gained in France should not be

allowed more than its due weight in the very different circumstances which obtain in this theatre; and that considerations of concealment should not be allowed to obscure the importance of siting works in such a way as to give opportunities for inflicting the greatest loss on an advancing enemy, and for supporting an active defence such as trench warfare does not admit of in the main theatre.

> Brig. - General, General Staff,

A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

Issued to/

1st Australian Division 2nd Australian Division New Zealand and Australian Division.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Divisional "eadquarters, 17th February 1916.

5th Infantry Brigade 6th Infantry Brigade 7th Infantry Brigade

Attached copy of Corps General Staff Circular No. 16 dated 15th inst is forwarded for your information.

With reference to para 2 (a) and (b) of this Circular, where the possibility of withdrawal is contemplated, the Divisional, Commander has ruled that there shall be no withdrawal, wide copy of Corps letter C.R. No 41/8/2 Ga which was forwarded to you under cover of my G131 of 15th inst.

With regard to para. 2 (b) and (c) the positions for the works will be selected by the General Staff and pegged out, after which the 7th Brigade will probably be directed to construct them, though in all probability they will be accupied by troops other than those of this Division.

Major.

Btaff. General

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters. 20th February, 1916.

Divisional Artillery.

Herewith copy of Anzac G. S. Circular No. 16 Subject - Siting and Organisation of Defence Lines - for your information.

M358. APPX XLIX

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters.

20th February, 1916.

Divisional Engineers.

Herewith copy of Anzac G. S. Circular No.

16 Subject - Siting and Organisation of Defence Lines
for your information.

Major

General Staff.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Appendix Nº 49

'C.R.No, 41/8/2 Ga.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

ISMAILIA, 15/2/1916.

General Staff Circular No. 16.

Subject: Siting and organisation of Defence Lines.

The following points regarding the selection of the "Intermediate" Line of Defence have been raised by the 2nd Australian Division (G/50 dated 11/2/1916):-

- i, What is the approximate number of troops that it is intended shall form the Carrison?
- ii. Where do the flanks of neighbouring Divisions rest as regards this line?
- 2. As regards (i) -
 - (a) The defence of the "Front" Line is entrusted to a Division in each subsection, and it may be assumed therefore that the garrison of a rearward line which would only come into action after withdrawal, would be considerably less.

Again, if the total force allotted for the defence of the canal at some future time is reduced, it may be necessary to withdraw from the present "Front" line, and make the "Intermediate" line the first.

The available garrison may therefore be taken to be a brigade in each subsection, for the purpose of selecting positions and constructing the works.

(b) As regards the works themselves, it would seem best to construct a few strong posts (say 3 or 4) on, or immediately covering the lines by which a withdrawal from the "Front" line would be effected. The central one of these should obviously cover the metalled road and railway. These strong posts should be constructed to hold about a battalion, and would have the same functions as regards the whole subsection, as each small strong post in the front line bears to the part, viz., to split up an attack, and form rallying points from which counter attacks can be initiated.

The garrison of the "Intermediate" line would be found, if and when necessary, by troops other than the Division entrusted with the defence of the "Front" line.

- (c) As regards the siting of these works, the frontage of the line should be reduced as much as possible so as to render the defence easier, and should cover the most vulnerable portions of the Canal. Thus in the case of "A" subsection, the works should cover the front DEVERSOIR TUSSOUM, and in the case of "B" subsection, the front FERRY POST South of EL FERDAN, the frontage of the lakes being eliminated.
- As regards (ii). As the line is not more or less continuous, as is the case with the front line, no exact point

of junction with Divisions right and left is necessary, but the works should be constructed at a distance of about 6,500 yards from the Canal, and when Divisional Commanders have selected positions for the works, a sketch plan shewing these should be submitted to Army Corps Headquarters for transmission to neighbouring Corps and Divisions.

Major,

Major,

General Staff,

// A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

Issued to /

1st Australian Division.

2nd Australian Division.

New Zealand and Australian Division.

C.R.No. 61/1/1 Ga.



Copy of Secret Letter No. G.S. Z 32 dated 6.3.1916.

From: C.G.S., G.H.Q., M.E.F.

To: G.O.C., 1st Anzac.

The following revised orders for the Canal Defence Flotilla are forwarded for your information.

To/

1st Australian Division 2nd Australian Division.

For information and retention. Attention is particularly directed to the paragraphs marked.

> General Staff, 1st A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

ISMAILIA,

7.3.1916.



Ismailia,

Friday, 3rd March, 1916.

REORGANISATION OF CANAL DEFENCE FLOTILLE.

Little Bitter Lake Patrol.

Twelve Motor Launches are to supersede the armed Launches and Houseboats now employed in the defence of the Little Bitter Lake.

Six are to be employed at a time, to remain one week in the Lake, be relieved by the other six and return to Ismailia.

They are to be stationed as follows -

1	attached	to Guard	Ship al	oreast Ki	llometre	118
1	Anchored	east of	Channel	abreast	do	121
1	do	do	do	do	do	124
1	do	do	do	do	do	127
1	do	do	do	do	do	130
1	attached	to Naval	Hopper	do	do	132

With the exception of the two launches attached to the Guardship and Hopper they are to burn their semrchlights during dark hours, working together, and so light up the waters between KABRIT and GENEFFA.

At daylight they are to weigh and sweep from KABRIT to GENEFFA as follows -

The Launch attached to the Guardship and the Launch at Kilo. 121 will form the 1st pair and sweep from KABRIT to Kilo. 124.

The Launches at Kilos 124 and 127 will form the 2nd pair and sweep from north of Kilo. 124, to make an overlap, to Kilo. 129.

The Launch at Kilo. 130 and that attached to the Hopper will form the 3rd paid and sweep from Kilo. 129 to GENEFFA Gare.

When the sweeping is completed the Senior Officer of the Division will report the fact to the Officer in Command of the Naval Hopper who is the Senior Officer in the Little Bitter Lake.

After sweeping, the Launches will return to their Stations.

The object of this defence is to revent Mine-laying. Persons on the shore or in the water after dark are therefore to be fired on.

Small boats are to be fired on and floating objects investigated and destroyed. Patrol Launches' dinghys must therefore ke only be used after dark for investigation purposes.

Searchlights must never be thrown on passing ships.

Provisions and correspondence will be delivered daily by Armed Launch from Port TAUFIQ.

Cases of sickness must be reported to the Guardship.

Communications are to be by Visual Signals.

Telegrams and Important Orders will be sent to the Guardship via KABRIT or to the NAVAL HOPPER via GENEFFA.

(Sgd) W. G. MACDONALD,

Captain, R.N.