

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

Formation Headquarters

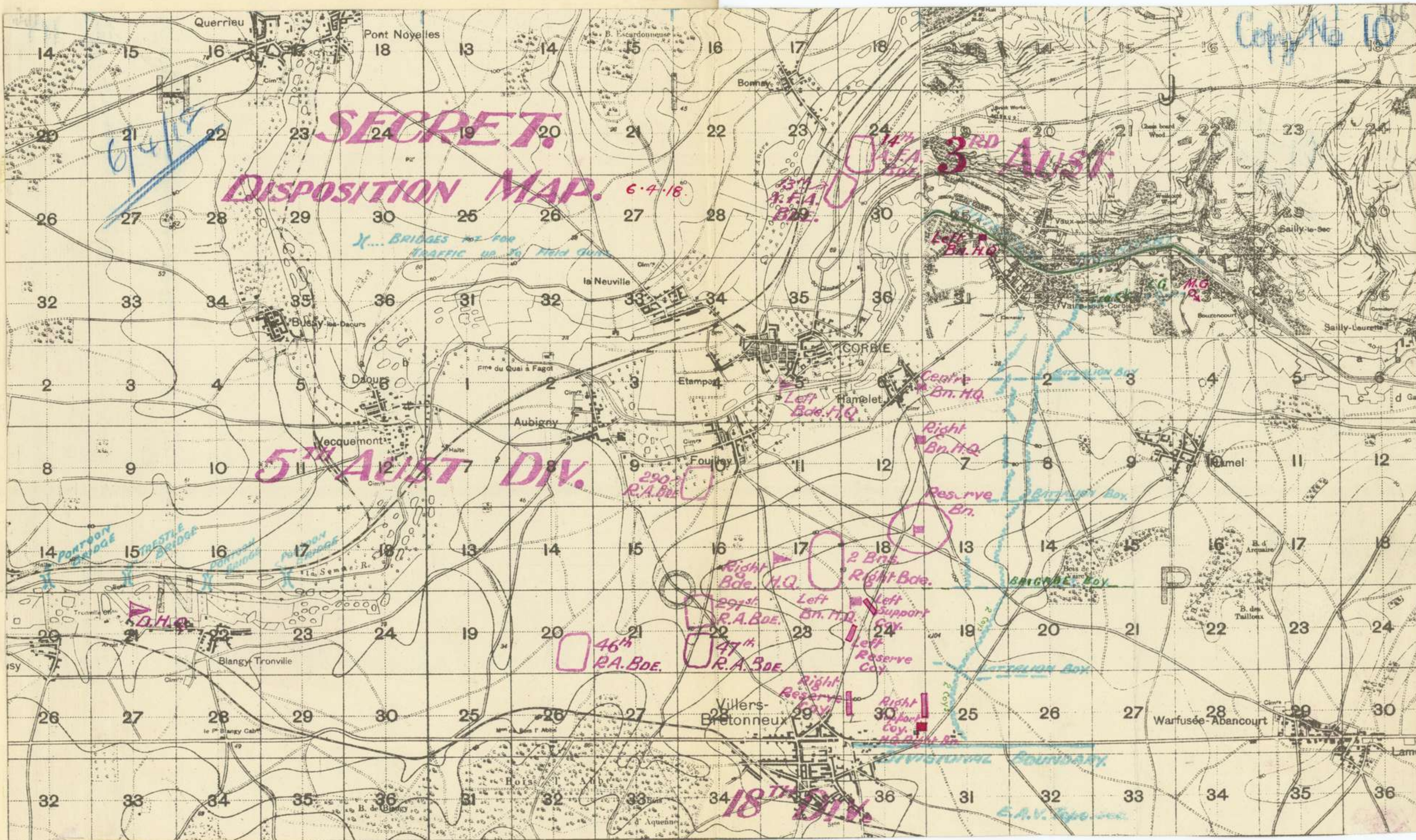
Item number: 1/50/26 Part 6

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

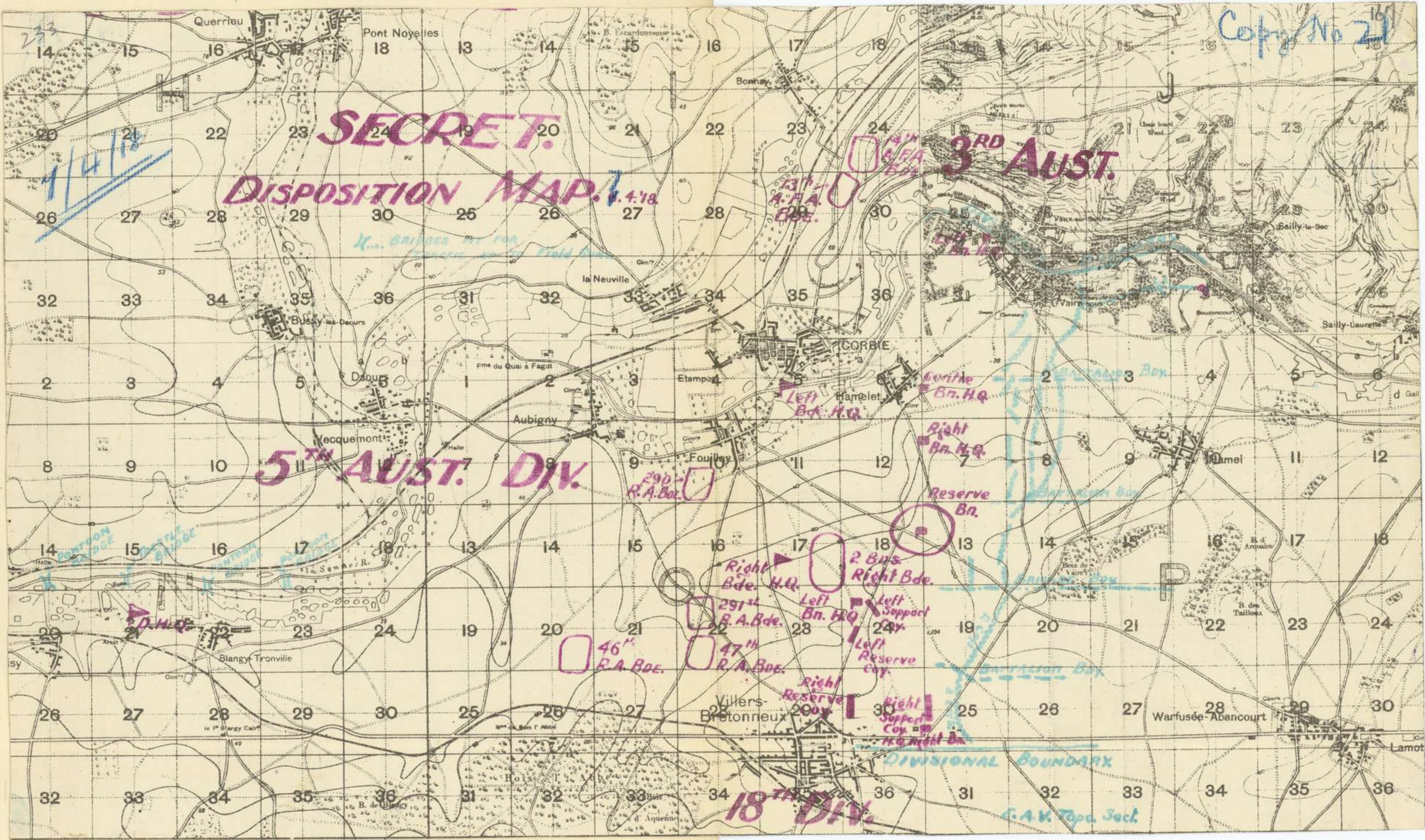
April 1918

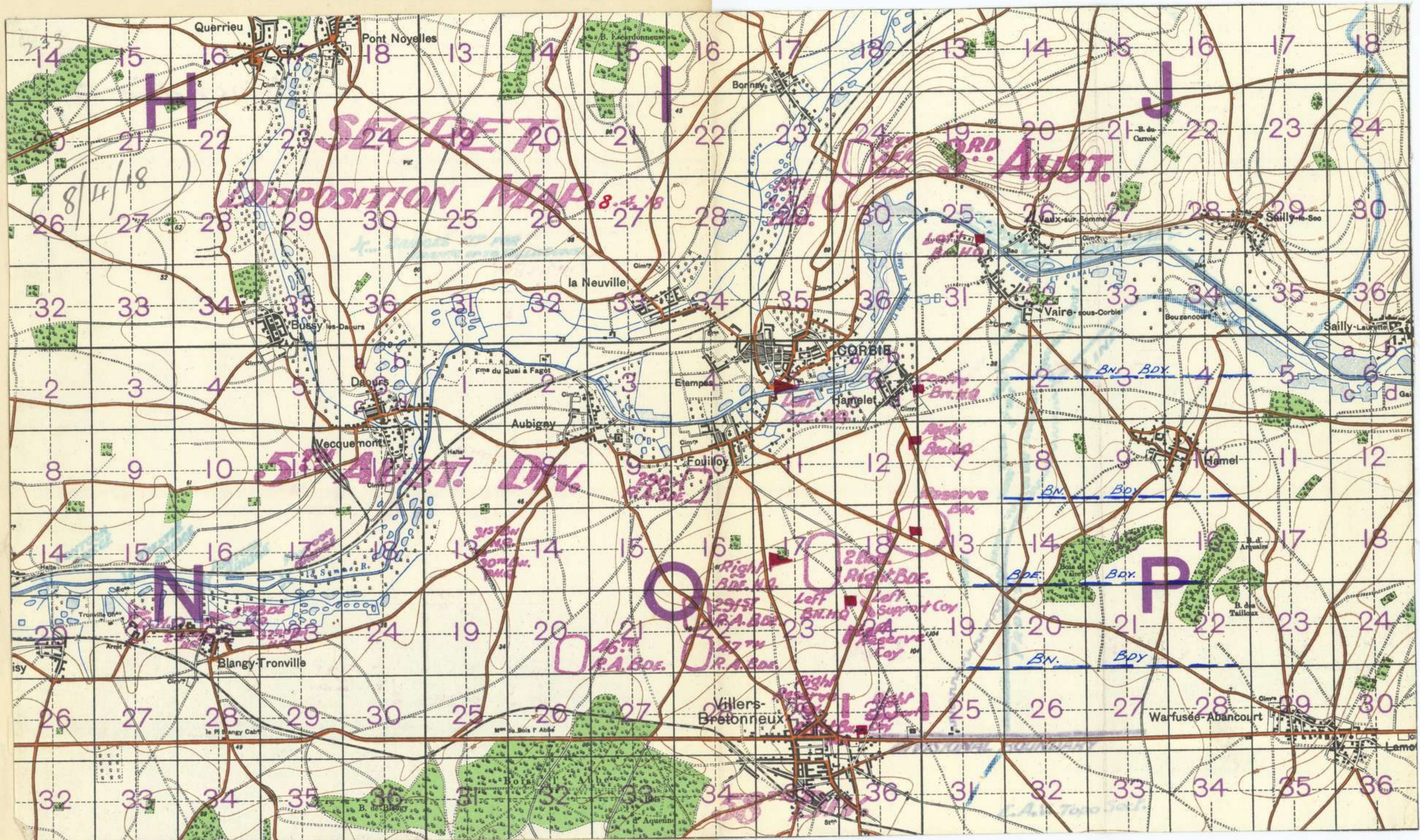


AWM4-1/50/26PART6



Copy No 21





Appendix 10

G11/4310.

8th Infantry Brigade
 14th Infantry Brigade
 15th Infantry Brigade
 Divisional Artillery
 Divisional Engineers
 Pioneer Battalion
 5th Machine Gun Bn.
 Divisional Train.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENCE.

1. Anti-aircraft defence in the Divisional area will be organised on the lines laid down in 5th Aust. Div. G11/3630 of 18/2/18, and is to be put in hand forthwith.
2. Owing to the fact that portions of the Divisional front are under close and direct enemy observation the 1st Echelon will, where necessary, be sited sufficiently far back to allow of the full use of the A.A. guns composing it.
3. Aircraft will not be fired on until they have been definitely identified as hostile, either
 - (a) By enemy markings
 - (b) By hostile action (bombing or M.G. firing on our troops).
4. Armour piercing ammunition is on indent and will be issued as soon as available.
5. Infantry Brigades will detail officers to supervise and control anti-aircraft defence arrangements in their Brigade areas.
6. Particular attention will be paid by all units to the A.A. protection of billets and horse lines.
7. Infantry Brigades, Divisional Artillery, Pioneer Battalion, Divisional Train, and Divisional Engineers will forward maps to Divisional Headquarters showing their anti-aircraft arrangements.

9th April 1918.

(sgd) G.F. WOOTEN Major G.S.
 5th Australian Division.



233

APPENDIX 104

170

233
WD

SECRET.

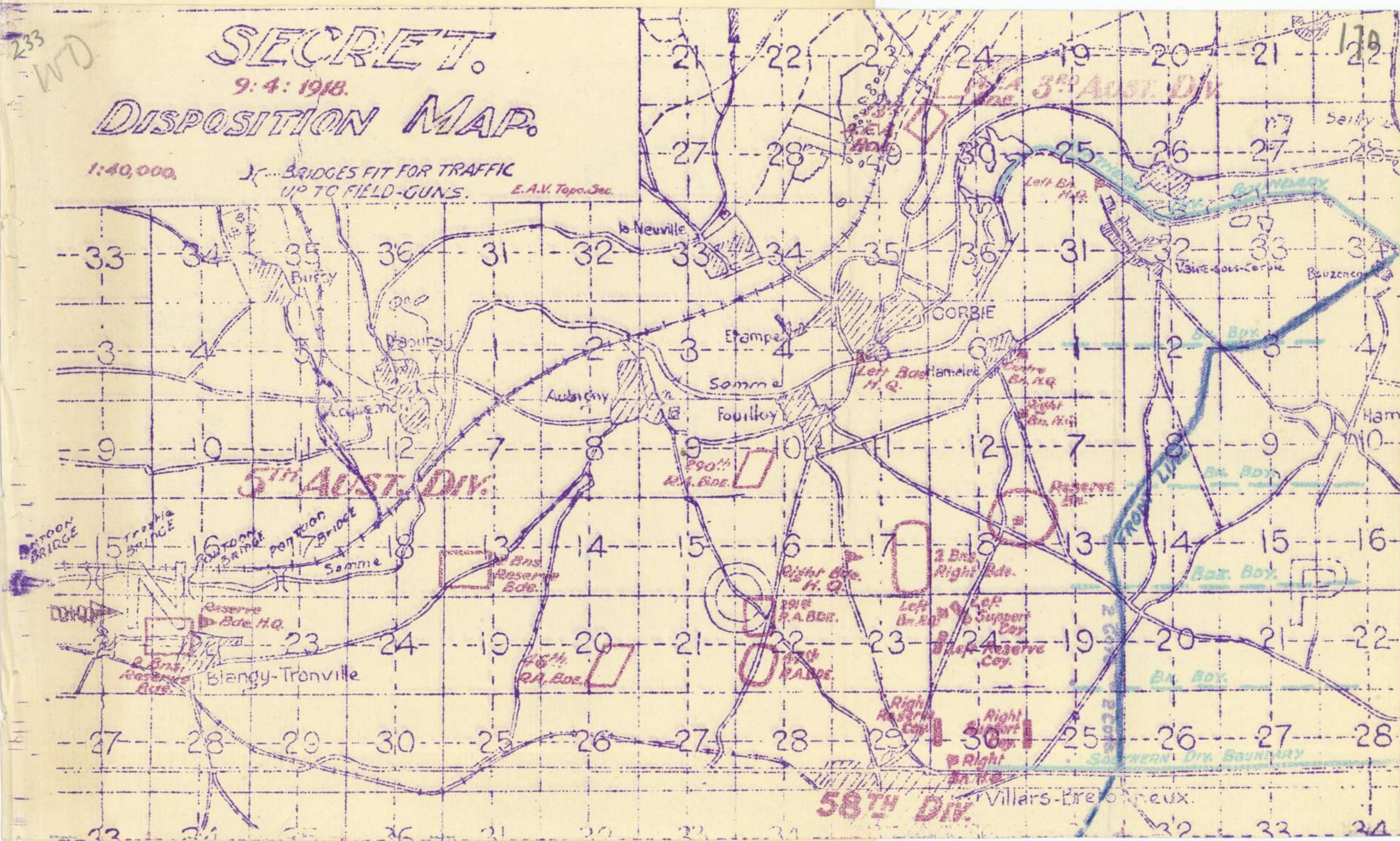
9:4:1918.

DISPOSITION MAP.

1:40,000.

BRIDGES FIT FOR TRAFFIC
UP TO FIELD-GUNS.

E.A.V. Topo. Sec.



233



APPENDIX

171

SECRET.

Third Army No. G.14/543.



- IV Corps.
- V Corps.
- VI Corps.
- VII Corps.
- IX Corps.
- X Corps.
- XVII Corps.
- Cav. Corps.
-

DEMOLITION OF BRIDGES AND WATER SUPPLY.

1. Where railway bridges cross over roads, or road bridges cross over railways, the destruction of which would interfere with road traffic, bridges will be prepared for demolition by A.D.G.T.(III) under orders of the Army. After preparation is completed by the Railway Construction Engineers the demolition parties will be detailed by R.C.E. and will stand by the bridges. The actual order for demolition will be given by a responsible fighting Commander under arrangements to be made by Corps Headquarters.

2. Railway water supplies will not be destroyed by Railway Construction Engineers, but will be left for the use of troops. Demolition, when necessary, will be carried out by Divisional Engineers. Corps must ensure that Divisions knew the railway water supplies for the demolition of which they are responsible.

Louis Langman

Major General,
General Staff, Third Army.

20th March, 1918.

Copies to :- C.E.
A.D.G.T.(III).
"Q".

Goobace 9.8.8

*S1
93 kl
CRE*

P.E.O.

SECRET.

Third Army, G.14/543
X Corps, G.108/17/15.

- 5th Australian Divn.

C.R.
Q.

For information.

Rs Yohett

Major,
General Staff, X Corps.



CRE, 5. AD. [Signature]

C.E. III Corps No.H/3/6/4.

III Corps 'G.S'.

" " 'Q'.

G.O.C., R.A. III Corps.

5th Australian Division.

14th Division.

18th "

58th "



Pontoon Bridges for Field Artillery, Horse Transport and Infantry have been thrown across the River AVRE at T.8.c.3.8.; S.8.a.2.3., and across the SOMME at N.14.d.1.3., N.15.c.8.4., N.16.c.5.2. and one will be put across the SOMME tonight 6/7th at N.17.c.8.3.

Almond

7-3

6/4/18.

Brigadier General,
Chief Engineer, III Corps.



Army Form C 2123
(In books of 100.)

"C" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....	Words..... £ s. d.	Received. From.....	Sent, or sent out. At.....m.	Office Stamp.
Charges to Collect.....			By.....	To.....	
Service Instructions.....			By.....	Received.....m.	

Handed in at..... Office.....m

TO *5 Has. Bn.*

*Sender's Number. <i>F 16</i>	Day of Month. <i>6</i>	In reply to Number.	AAA
----------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------	------------

found map of in my H3/6/4 of today should read 56423

Cap N Hill CHE Vallumb v. v. v. done

the report to the names of P. v. v. have been amended

FROM *Ce. 3 Corps*

TIME & PLACE

*This line should be erased if not required.

600,000.—John Bissan, Ltd.—6/17—3280 Forms C9193.



B/36

6/4/18

C.R.E.

Reference Pontonn Bridge 'A' (N.16.c.8.2)

Approach to bridge from northern bank of river is being corduroyed and will be ready to take guns by noon today.

Cutting and level crossing is being constructed over railway line at about N.16.c.8.5 and will be completed at about 4.0 p.m. today. This will give connection across open fields to road at N.10.c.

There is an existing earthen road running parallel and south of railway line westwards and passes under railway connecting with earthen road to LAMOTTE. Please see sketch.

Approaches to Bridges 'A', 'B' and 'C' will be staked out and marked with notice boards.

(Signed) W.G.FARQUHAR Major,
O.C. 8th Field Company, A.E.

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

Forwarded for your information.



C. R. E.,
5th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.
No. 83/20/13
Date 6/4/18

Maup
Lieut. & Adjt.
for C.R.E.
5th Australian Division.



C.R.E.

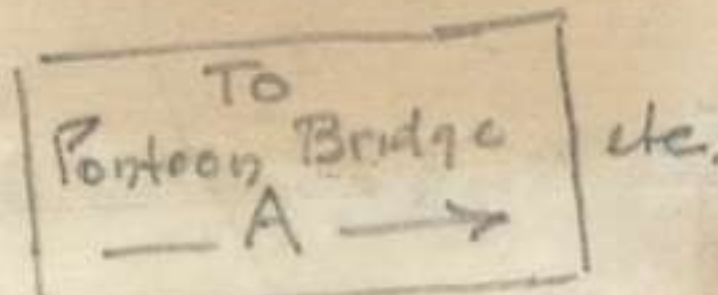
13/37. 6/4/18.

In reply to your N.475.—

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| "A" BRIDGE.— | Pontoon.— | MAP Location. | N.16.C.7.2. |
| "B" BRIDGE.— | Trestle — | do | N.15.C.8.4. |
| "C" BRIDGE.— | Pontoon.— | do | N.14.d.0.2. |
| "D" BRIDGE.— | Pontoon.— | do | N.17.C.7.3. |

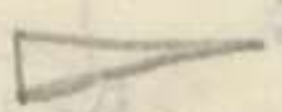
Method of marking tracks.—

Notice boards have been erected



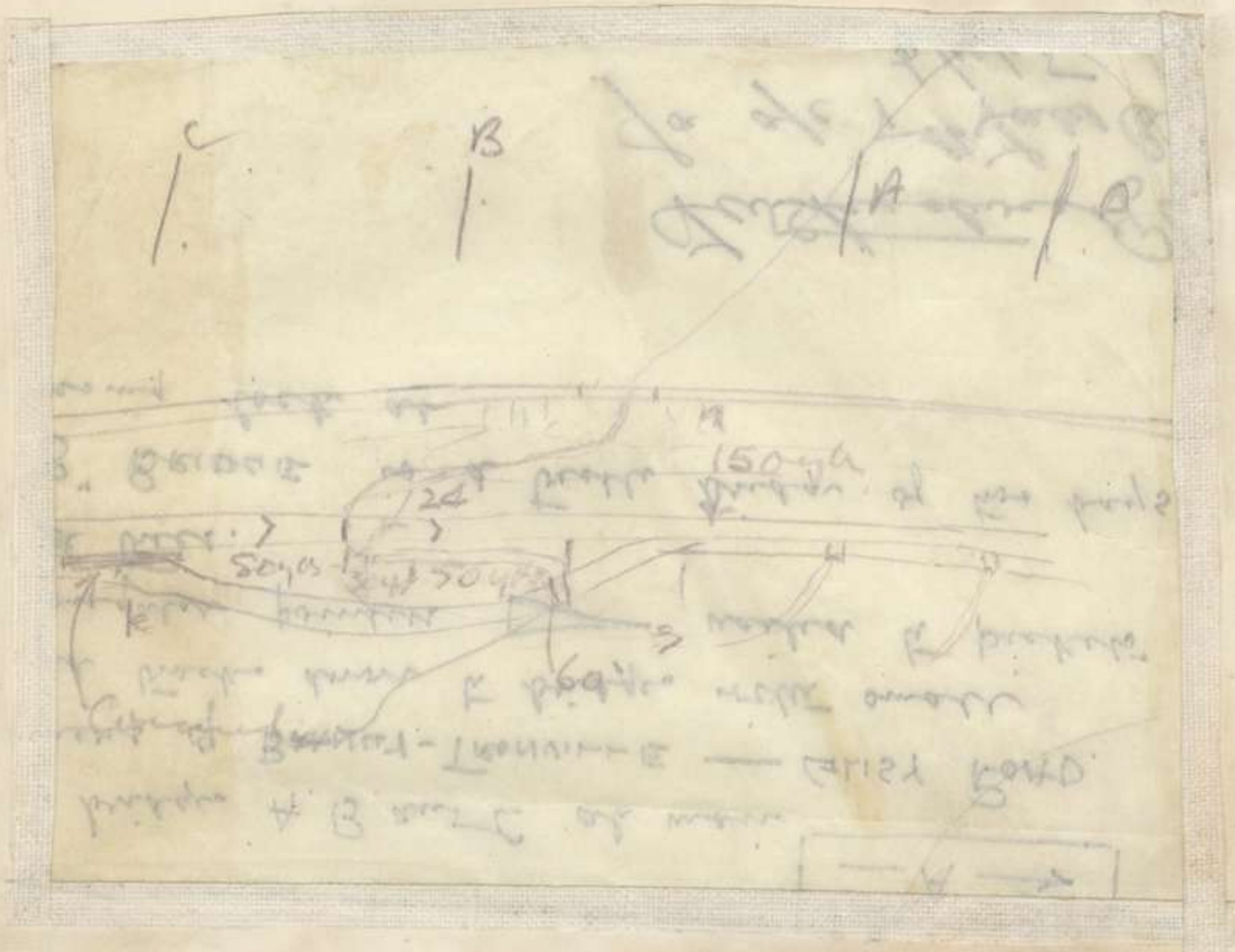
for bridges A, B, and C, at main

corners of BRANCY-TRONVILLE — GLISY ROAD.

and tracks down to bridges with small
triangular pointers  nailed to pickets
and trees."B" BRIDGE is a trestle bridge of two bays
crossing lock at

The Structure Dept
for ops & the Lake by H.E.
6/4/18





C.E. III Corps No. E/1/7/4.

- C.R.E. III Corps Troops.
- D.A.D.R. III Corps.
- 5th Australian Division.
- 18th Division.
- 58th Division.

for information



You will be responsible for upkeep of roads within the Corps Boundaries East of the D.G.F. Line as far as the grid T.24.c.0.0. - N.24.a.0.0.

The present D.G.F. Line runs as follows :-
N.18.c.0.0. - LONGUEAU Church - M.29.central -
M.38.a.0.9. - M.38.b.0.1. - N.31.c.5.0. to
T.1.central and thence South Eastwards along
Railway.

ARMOUR

Brigadier General,
Chief Engineer, III Corps.

7/4/18.
WF.

und. for use
CHE to see
comply please

[Handwritten signatures and initials]



14th Division.
5th Aust. Divn.
Aust. Corps.
G.O.C., R.A.
Corps H.A.



III Corps No. G.O. 8778.

8.4 The tracks to the pontoon bridges at N.14.d, ⁰²
N.15.c, N.13.c¹² and N.17.c¹³ are closed to all traffic,
except in case of an emergency. These tracks are being
made across marshy ground, and with the material and
labour available cannot be made sufficiently strong to
stand continuous traffic.

7.4.1918.

C. Fuller
B.G.G.S.
III Corps.

J.S.P.

*Go to the transform
all units
14/08/18*



g 10.1.

All units and III corps
have been informed ~~of bridge~~ location
of ^{these} bridges.

[Signature] *[Signature]* *[Signature]*
File *[Signature]*



HEADQUARTERS, 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS.

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

Herewith are forwarded sketches of the undermentioned bridges showing approaches.

- 'A' sheet 62D N.16.c.7.2
- 'B' " " N.15.c.8.4
- 'C' " " N.14.d.0.2

These bridges are suitable for 18 pounders and Infantry in fours.

Sketch showing 'D' Bridge (N.17.c.7.3) will be forwarded tomorrow. sheet 62D

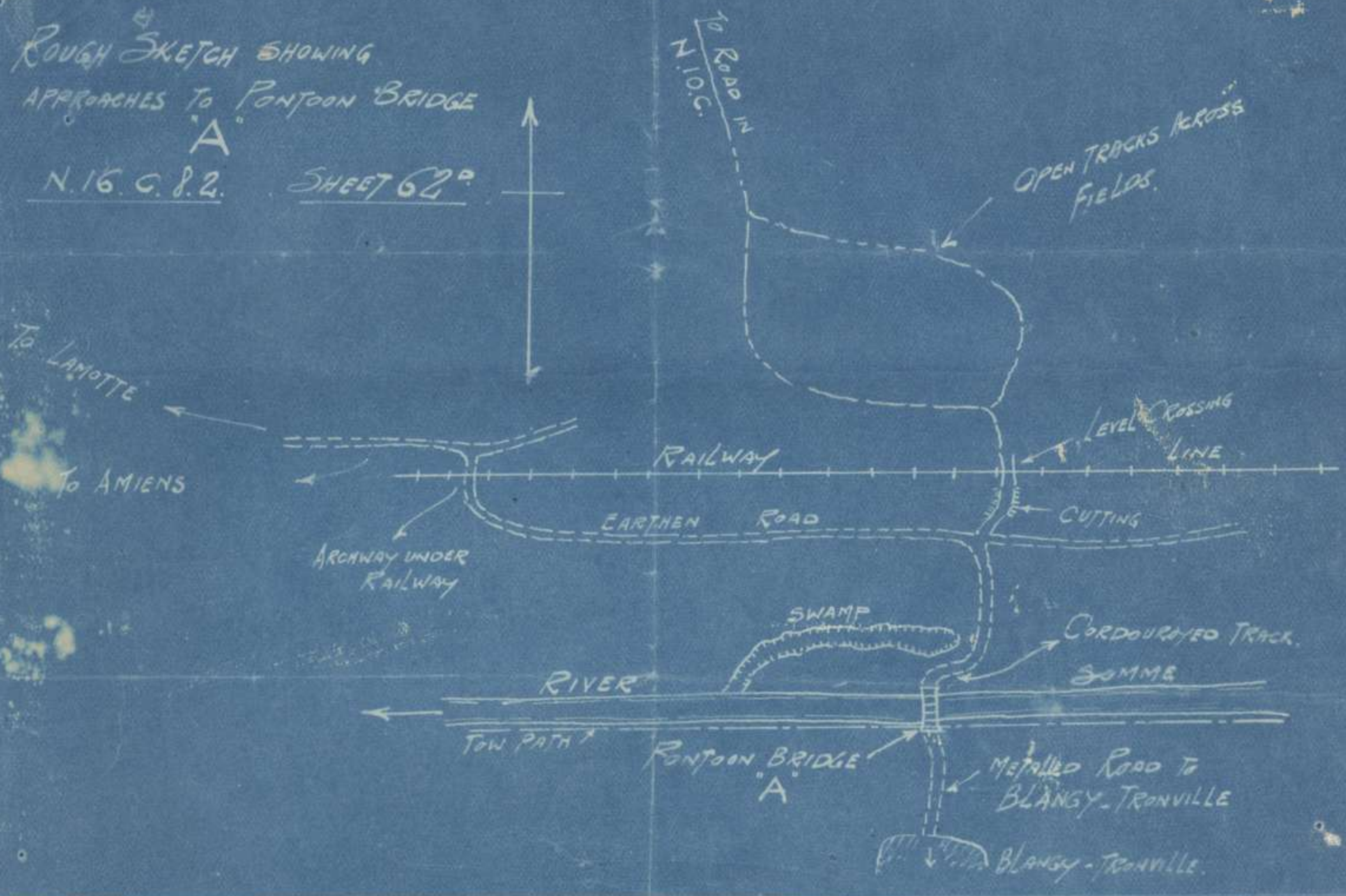
C. R. E.,
5th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.
No. 83/20/18
7th April, 1918

oc
Ly. P. base
7/2/18
[Signature]

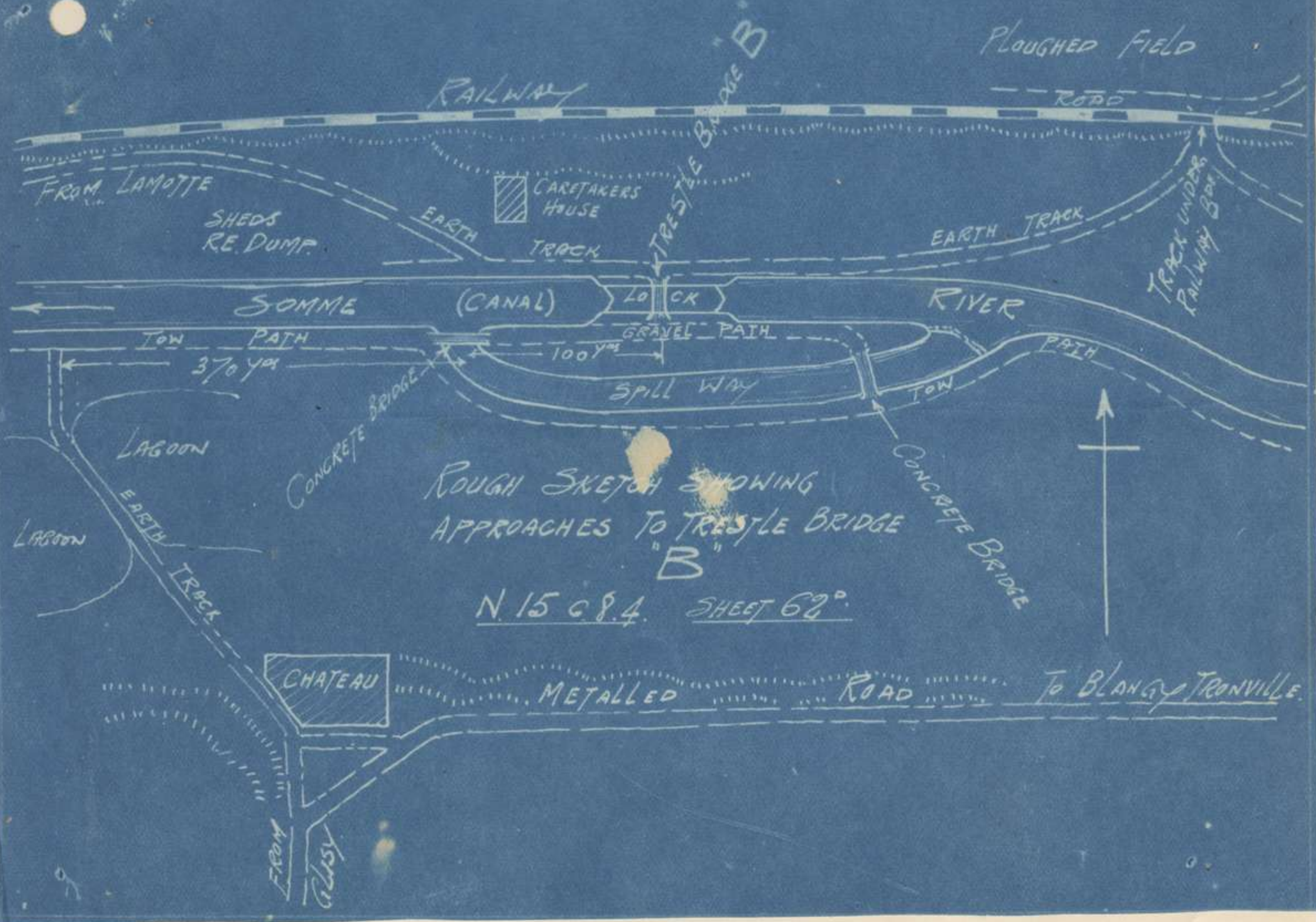
Lieut-Col. A. E.
C. R. E.
5th Australian Division....

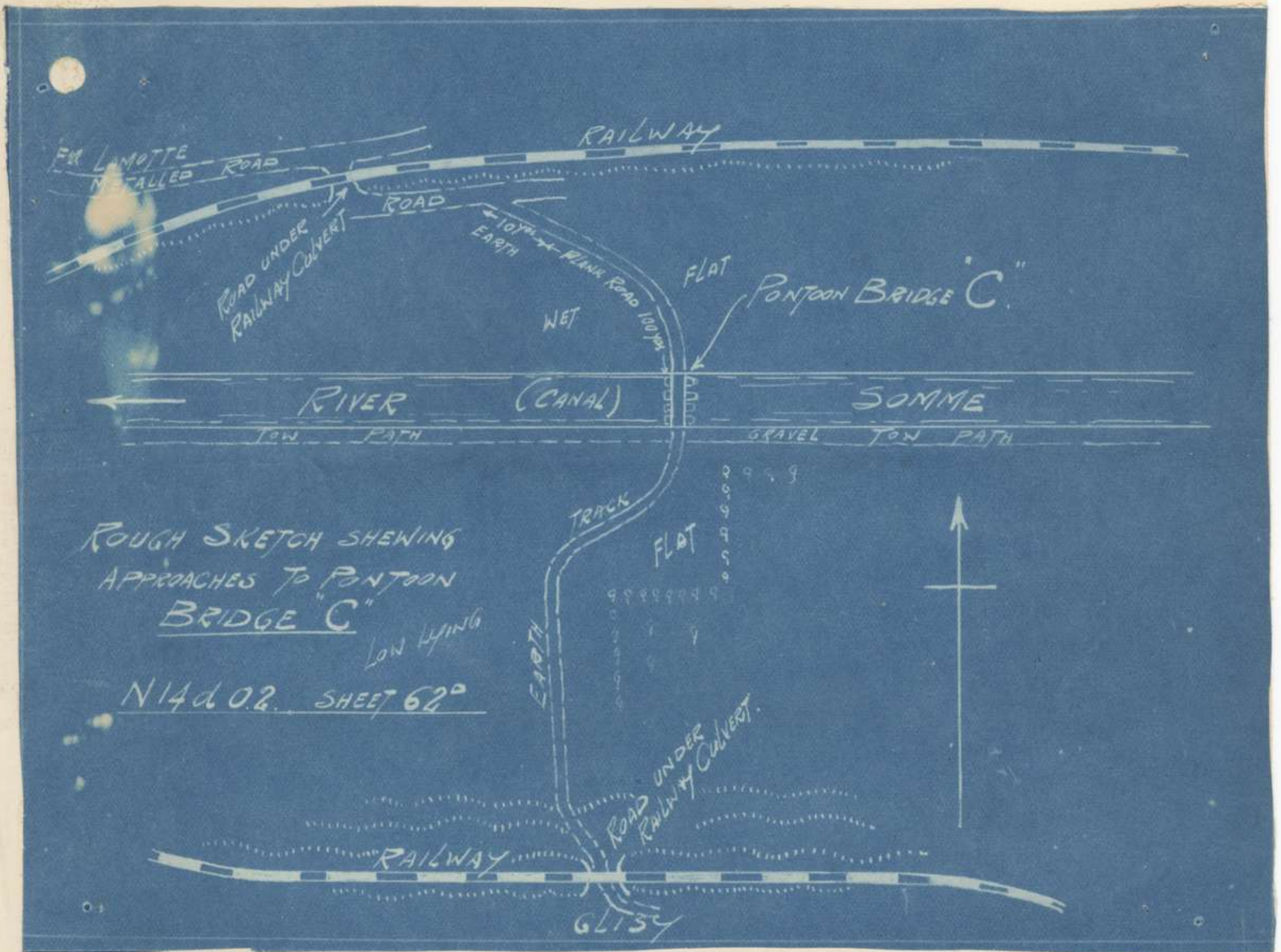


ROUGH SKETCH SHOWING
 APPROACHES TO PONTOON BRIDGE
 "A"
 N. 16. C. 8. 2. SHEET 62°



ROUGH SKETCH SHOWING
 APPROACHES TO TRESTLE BRIDGE
 "B"
 N. 15 C. 8. 4. SHEET 62°





HEADQUARTERS, 5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS

5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION A.
No. 416/597
Date 10.4.18
12-38 pm

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

Forwarded herewith for your information is a copy of
Report on Existing Bridges over SOMME River between CAMON and
SAILLY-le-SEC*

C. R. E.,
5th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.

No. 83/20/27
Date 7th April. 1918

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut-Col. A.E.
C.R.E.

5th Australian Division.



REPORT ON EXISTING BRIDGES OVER SOMME RIVER BETWEEN
CAMON AND SAILLY-le-SEC.

APPENDIX 11

185

O. C.

8th Field Company, A.E.

In accordance with your instruction relating to memo. from C.R.E. dated 6th April '18 No.83/20/9, I have this day made a reconnaissance of all the bridges on the SOMME River from CAMON to SAILLY-le-SEC and now beg to report as follows :-

- (1) The positions of all bridges are shown on accompanying tracing. Map locations refer to Sheet 62D.
- (2) The towpath or narrow roadway follows along the left or southern bank of the Canal from CAMON to CORBIE and from CORBIE upwards it follows the right bank.
- (3) The main road from CAMON to LONGUEAU passes over a steel truss bridge at M.16.d.8.4. This bridge will carry any load and has been built high enough to allow the River boat traffic to pass underneath.
- (4) The Railway Bridge at N.13.d.8.1 is a heavy steel truss bridge with high embankments on either end - suitable for Infantry to cross.
- (5) Bridge 'C' at N.14.d.0.2 is a medium pontoon bridge of 5 bays and will carry Infantry in fours or Field Guns.
- (6) Bridge 'B' at N.15.c.8.4 is a trestle bridge of two bays across Lock and will carry Field Artillery.
- (7) Bridge 'A' at N.16.c.7.2. is a medium pontoon and Weldon trestle bridge of 5 bays and will carry Field Guns or Infantry in fours.
- (8) Bridge 'D' at N.17.c.7.3 is a Pontoon and Weldon Trestle medium bridge similar to Bridge 'A'.
- (9) Descriptions and sketches showing approaches to 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' have already been furnished.
- (10) The Railway Bridge at N.12.d.4.3 is a heavy steel truss bridge. The Railway Line on either side of bridge is on a high embankment and the approach is impracticable for horse traffic. The Bridge can be used by Infantry in fours walking on the sleepers.
- (11) Lock situated at N.12.b.9.3. The lock gates being closed form bridges at both ends wide enough to take Infantry in single file.
- (12) The main road from DAOURS to AUBIGNY passes over steel truss bridges over the Canal at O.1.c.2.5 and over the Spillway at N.6.d.8.5. Both these bridges will carry any load.
- (13) Railway Bridge at O.2.b.7.3 is a Masonry Arch Bridge. As in the case of the other Railway Bridges, the high embankments render it impracticable for vehicular traffic but is suitable for Infantry in fours.
- (14) Main road from CORBIE to FOUILLOY passes over steel truss bridge at Lock at O.5.c.4.7 which will carry any load.
- (15) Two barrel-pier foot bridges of 7 bays each have been constructed at O.6.a.9.8 and O.6.a.9.9 suitable only for Infantry in single file.
- (16) Barrel pier foot bridge of 8 bays at J.25.d.5.5 suitable for Infantry in file.
- (17) A barrel pier foot bridge suitable for Infantry in single file was being built by 9th Field Co.A.E. at J.32.b.7.7; was not completed by noon today.
- (18) Barrel pier foot bridge at J.28.c.9.1 of 8 bays suitable for Infantry in single file.
- (19) The steel truss bridge at J.34.b.3.3 was demolished by 11th Field Co.A.E. on night of third instant, *but is now fixed up for file.*

(sgd) R.A. Holmes Lieut.

7th April 1918

8th Field Co A.E

With reference to Para 19 of report by Lieut. HOLMES on Bridges over SOMME, a foot bridge has now been constructed over demolished steel truss bridge at J.24.b.3.3. (sheet 62d).

CEM.



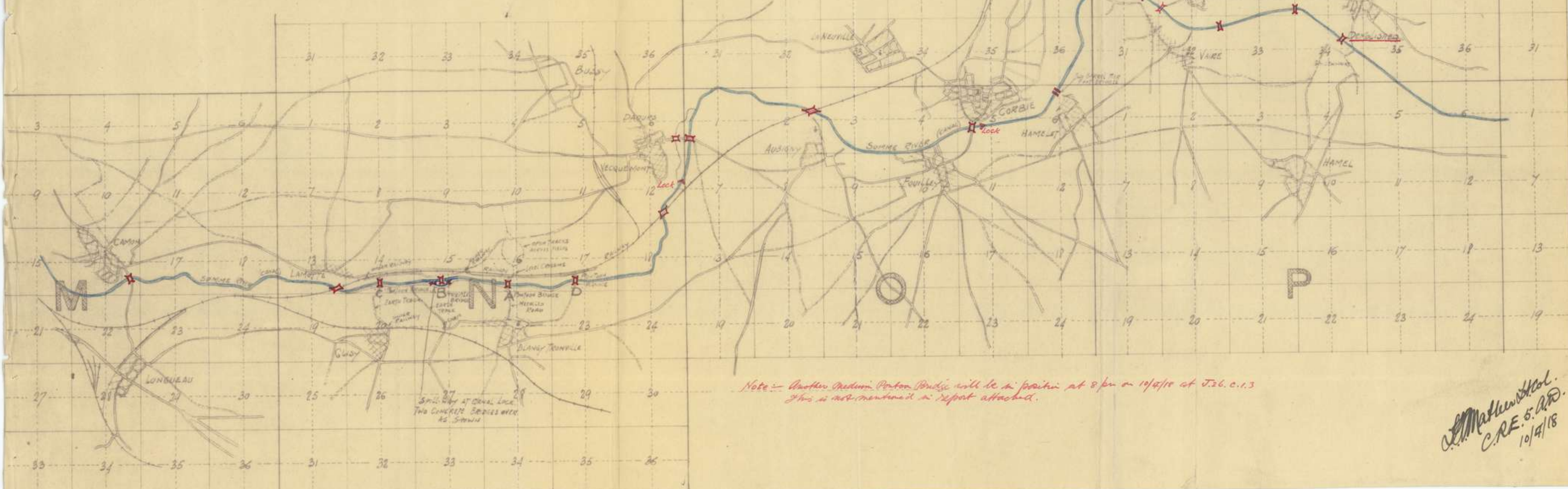
G

H

I

J

PART OF SHEET 62° — SCALE 1:40000
SHOWING BRIDGES ON SOMME RIVER.



Note - Another Medium Ponton Bridge will be in position at 8 pm on 10/4/18 at T.26. c.1.3
This is not mentioned in report attached.

C. R. E. S. A. P.
10/4/18

8th Infantry Brigade	Divisional Signal Co.
14th Infantry Brigade	Divisional Train
15th Infantry Brigade	A.D.M.S.
5th Machine Gun Bn.	A.P.M.
5th Pioneer Battalion	
Divisional Artillery	
Divisional Engineers	

616/4336

The tracks to the pontoon bridges at N.14.d.O.2, N.15.c.8.4, N.16.c.7.2 and N.17.c.7.3 are closed to all traffic except in case of an emergency. These tracks are being made across marshy ground, and with the material and labour available cannot be made sufficiently strong to stand continuous traffic.

9th April 1918.

Copy to "C"

Robertson
 Lieut-Colonel G.S.
 5th Australian Division.



SECRET

III Corps
G.O.8759
9.4.1918.



C.E. }
18th Division. }
58th Division. } for information.
5th Aust.Divn. }
"Q" }
Fourth Army. }

1. Preparations will be made by the C.E., III Corps to blow craters at the road crossings and road junctions, as follows:-

- 1e Pt. BLANGY Cabaret - N.28.d.2.5. ✓
- Cross roads - T.9.b.9.0. ✓
- Cross roads - BOVES T.7.c.4.7. ✓
- Cross roads E. of CAGNY - M.34.a.9.5. ✓
- Road crossing, W. of LONGUEAU - M.22.c.0.8. ✓

Approved

[Signature]

Information all concerned

[Signature]

Headquarters, III Corps.

B.G.G.S.
III Corps.



SECRET

G18/4463

8th Infantry Brigade
 14th Infantry Brigade
 15th Infantry Brigade
 5th Pioneer Battalion
 Divisional Artillery
 5th M.G. Battalion.

1. Mines for the destruction of main roads are being prepared at the following locations:-

By the 5th Divisional Engineers.

Sheet 62D 0.18.b.5.3. (Cross roads)
 0.11.a.5.1. do
 0.10.d.6.8.
 0.29.c.9.4. (Cross roads)
 0.36.a.3.6. do
 0.30.c.2.3. (Just E. of Road junction).

By III Corps Engineers.

H.25.d.2.5. (BLANGY CABARET)
 T.9.b.9.0. (Cross roads)
 T.7.c.4.7. do
 M.34.a.9.5. do
 H.22.c.o.8. (Crossing N. of LONGEAU).

2. Should it be necessary to fire these mines it is estimated that craters 24 to 30 feet in diameter and 12 to 15 feet deep will be formed.

10th April 1918.

J. H. C. C. C.
 Major,
 General Staff.
 5th Australian Division.

Copy to Divisional Engineers.



Headquarters 5th. Australian Divisional Engineers

Headquarters,
5th. Aust. Division. G.



Mines for the destruction of main roads are being prepared at the following locations. I will inform you immediately they are completed.

- Sheet 62D. 0.18.b.5.3. (Cross Roads)
- 0.11.a.5.1. do
- 0.10.d.6.8.
- 0.29.c.9.4. (Cross Roads)
- 0.36.a.3.6. do
- 0.30.c.2.3. (Just east of road junction).

It is calculated a crater ~~24~~ to 30 feet diameter, and 12 to 15 feet deep would be formed at each site, if the charges had to be fired.

10.4.18.

C. R. E.,
5th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.

No. 71/173/18

Date.....

[Signature] Lieut-Col., A.E.,
C.R.E., 5th. Australian Division.

