

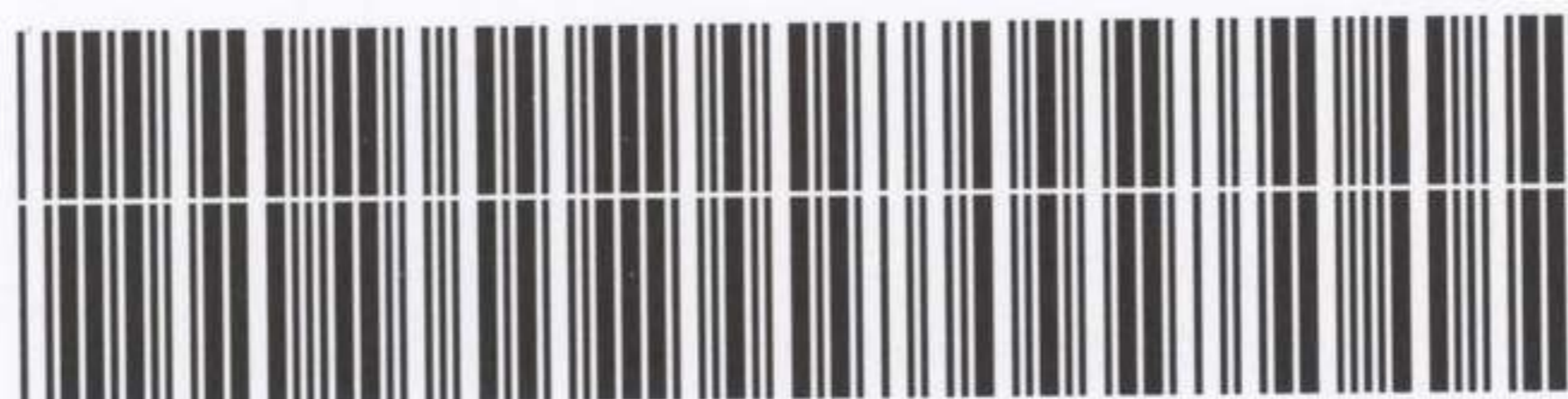
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/27/36

**Title:** 8th Field Company, Australian  
Engineers

August 1918



AWM4-14/27/36



L. 20,000-5/18-11069.

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.	
No.....	1918
Date.....	

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

8<sup>TH</sup> FIELD COY. AUSTR. ENGRS.

FOR

AUGUST (1-31) 1918

Signature of Officer compiling *W. Steadman R. Cope*

Signature of Officer Commanding *W. Steadman R. Cope*



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 1/40000

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

517

8th Army Form C. 2118.  
AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No.....  
Date.....

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy FE

Sheet (1)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
H.20.6.4.4.	1-8-18		<p>N<sup>o</sup>. 2 + 4 sections complete with transport moved out at 8 a.m. to N.12.d.3.2. and took over Camp previously occupied by 2 sections of 13<sup>th</sup> Field Coy FE. The remainder of the company being employed in improving the Camp, + building bomb proof horse lines. Company Strength 1-8-18</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Disposition</th> <th>Off</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Actually with unit</td> <td>5</td> <td>175</td> </tr> <tr> <td>On Command</td> <td>3</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sick in Area</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Effective Strength</td> <td>8</td> <td>201</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Disposition	Off	O.R.	Actually with unit	5	175	On Command	3	23	Sick in Area	-	3	Total Effective Strength	8	201	
Disposition	Off	O.R.																	
Actually with unit	5	175																	
On Command	3	23																	
Sick in Area	-	3																	
Total Effective Strength	8	201																	
	1-8-18		Disposition of Coy at 6 p.m. 1-8-18																
			Coy H.Q. + 2 sections	H.20.6.4.4.															
			2 Sections	N.12.d.3.2.															
			Coy Transport lines	H.20.6.4.4.															
	2-8-18		2 Sections constructing pile bridge at N.12.d.3.1. remainder of Coy																

(A.7092). Wt. W12539/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



Reference Map 62  
Scale 1/40000

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.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN  
ARMY FORM C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.

221

Sheet (1)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

H.20.6.4.4. 1-8-18

No. 2 + 4 sections complete with transport moved out at 8 a.m. to N.12.d.3.2. and took over Camp previously occupied by 2 sections of 13<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E. The remainder of the company being employed in improving the Camp, + building bomb proof horse lines.  
Company Strength 1-8-18

Disposition	Off	O.R.
Actually with unit	5	175
On Command	3	23
Sick in Area	-	3
Total Effective Strength	8	201

complete

1-8-18

Disposition of Coy at 6 p.m. 1-8-18

Coy H.Q. + 2 sections H.20.6.4.4.

2 Sections N.12.d.3.2.

Coy Transport lines H.20.6.4.4.

2-8-18

2 Section constructing pile bridge at N.12.d.5.1. remainder of Coy.

T. H. ...



Reference Map 62<sup>d</sup>  
Scale 40000

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

8<sup>th</sup> Army Form C. 2118.  
AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No.....  
Date.....

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy FE

Street 12

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H 20.6.4.4.	2.8.15		<p>employed constructing bomb proof Home Line + recreational training. In accordance with instructions preparation was made to move under cover of darkness to Camp site in the vicinity of N.21.C. A reconnaissance was carried out of over land track between H.25.6. &amp; LAMOTTE-Brebiere + Camp site during the day. H.9.2 section + Coy Transport moved out from P.O.W. at H 20.6.4.4 at 8.50 p.m. 3.8.15, and travelled via H.25.6.25. to LAMOTTE-Brebiere across military bridge at N.16.C.4.4. to camp site at N.20.d.9.1. arriving at 11 p.m. Nos. 2 + 4 section complete with transport having moved from N.12.d.3.2. independently reported on arrival.</p>	the day.
	4.8.15		<p>On the morning of 4.8.15 preparations were commenced for the offensive action that was to take place on the 5.8.15. Bridging equipment was unloaded + parked, spare stores, + men packs etc packed + placed under a guard. Heavy vehicles were sent during the morning to collect wiring material, picks + shovels, sand bags, tracing tapes etc from CHATEAU Dump at M.36.6.3.2., and 5<sup>th</sup> Div R.E. Dump there being found at D.26.d.1.</p>	
	10.8.15		<p>On the night of 4<sup>1/2</sup>-5-8-15 two sections moved out in batch order to trenches in the FLOBIIGNY Line at O.20.0.6.6.</p>	the

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



Reference Map 62<sup>nd</sup>  
 Scale  $\frac{1}{40000}$

8TH AUSTRALIAN Army Form C. 2118.  
 FIELD COMPANY.  
 No. ....  
 Date .....

WAR DIARY  
 or  
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AF.

Sheet (3)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. 20. d. 9. 1.	4. 8. 15		<p>Early in the morning on the 5<sup>th</sup> 8-15 the remaining two sections moved out in battle order to shelters in Terrace at O. 17. C. 7. 6. Later in the morning advanced Coy H. Q. moved to 8<sup>th</sup> Bde H. Q. dug out at O. 24. C. 30. 25. Coy Transport, + Rem H. Q. remaining at N. 20. d. 9. 1. Four Sappers detailed to assist in the loading of supply tanks, reported to ops supply tanks during morning, with instructions to remain with tanks until RE. stores had been delivered at the final objective.</p> <p>Lieut BURROWS M. C. 14<sup>th</sup> Field Coy reported at 3. P.M. + was attached to Coy for duty during the offensive action.</p> <p>On the afternoon of 4-8-15 instructions were received that the date of the attack has been postponed until the morning of 8-8-15.</p> <p>at 9.30 P.M. night 7/8-8-15 information was received that supply tanks had been destroyed by hostile shell fire, and that Coy vehicles would be required to transport evening stores to final objective. This necessitated the rearrangement of</p>	

To

10-8-15

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C. 2118/14.

the  
 2



Reference Map, 62<sup>nd</sup>  
Scale 40000

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.

Sheet (4)

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

8TH Army Form C. 2118.  
AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
Date.....

251

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
H 20 d. g. s. 4. 8-15			<p>loads on the Coy heavy vehicles, wagons were unloaded and despatched to 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust Div R.E. Dump at N. 29. d. 5. 4. and loaded with wiring store returning to Rear H.Q. at 1. a.m. 8-8-15.</p> <p>During the night of 7/8<sup>th</sup> 8-15 1 M.C.O. + 1 sapper reported to 13<sup>th</sup> Aust Artillery Bde to assist in get guns forward.</p> <p>On the day + early night of 7/8<sup>th</sup> 8-15 The two forward sections were occupied in staking out assembly lines + tracks, making slings for Lewis guns, and in removing old wire entanglements from in front of assembly lines.</p> <p>Rear Section were occupied in making notice boards, collecting tools, stores, etc.</p> <p><u>Allotment of work to Sections during and after Attack.</u></p> <p>The two sections being in Terrace at O. 17. C. 76 were allotted to 8<sup>th</sup> A.I. Bde to assist in consolidation of positions after capture. One section to accompany each of the assaulting Bns. + moved in the immediate rear of its Bn.</p> <p>Every man in both of these sections carried the following, Battle order, + 40 lbs iron ration with 2 water bottles</p>
To			
	10-8-15		

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

108

11



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 40,000

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.)

8TH AUSTRALIAN Army Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No. ....  
Date .....

251

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

Sheet (5)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
H20 d.g.v.	4-8-18		<p><u>Forward Sections Continued</u></p> <p>Shovels 70% } To Strength of Section pickets 30% } Nails 3" <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> lb per man. Wire Cutters 8 pair per Section Hand axes 8 " " Tracing Tapes 1 per man.</p> <p><u>REAR SECTIONS</u></p> <p>These were to move forward from their positions at D.20.9.6.6. so as to cross the Green line at ZERO + 5 km. One of these sections was allotted for.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Reconnaissance + reports on all roads + tracks in the Captured Area.</li><li>(2) Marking of these tracks, + clearing away obstacles when found</li><li>(3) Reconnaissance + reports on all train lines, + B.G. Railway in area and estimate of all rolling stock.</li><li>(4) Report on all R.F. Dumps located in Captured Area.</li><li>(5) Any work which was obvious and urgent.</li></ol> <p>The following was carried by this section</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Battle order + 40 lb iron ration</td><td>Hand axes 6 per Section</td></tr><tr><td>Notice boards (iron) 2 per man</td><td>Wire Cutters 3 per Section</td></tr><tr><td>paint + brushes</td><td>Felling Axes 2 " "</td></tr><tr><td>Nails 3" <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> lb per man</td><td>Cycles 4 " "</td></tr></table>	Battle order + 40 lb iron ration	Hand axes 6 per Section	Notice boards (iron) 2 per man	Wire Cutters 3 per Section	paint + brushes	Felling Axes 2 " "	Nails 3" $\frac{1}{4}$ lb per man	Cycles 4 " "	
Battle order + 40 lb iron ration	Hand axes 6 per Section											
Notice boards (iron) 2 per man	Wire Cutters 3 per Section											
paint + brushes	Felling Axes 2 " "											
Nails 3" $\frac{1}{4}$ lb per man	Cycles 4 " "											
	To											
		10-8-18										

the

or



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 4.0000

8TH AUSTRALIAN ARMY Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No .....  
Date .....

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.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

Sheet (6)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																								
H 20.d. 9.1.	4.8.18.		<p>The other Section was allotted for.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Reconnaissance and reports on all water points, wells, springs etc in Captured Area.</li> <li>(2) Development, sampling, and marking of all sources of water supply.</li> <li>(3) Report on all R.E. Dumps Captured in Area.</li> <li>(4) Any work which was <u>obvious</u>, and urgent.</li> </ol> <p>The following was carried by this section.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Bottle order with 48 lbs iron ration</td> <td></td> <td>Sample bottles</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shovels</td> <td>4</td> <td>Hand axes</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>picks</td> <td>2</td> <td>Nails per man</td> <td>4 lb</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tracing Taper per man</td> <td>1</td> <td>Cycles per Section</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Notice boards (iron) "</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>paint + brushes</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Bottle order with 48 lbs iron ration		Sample bottles	12	Shovels	4	Hand axes	8	picks	2	Nails per man	4 lb	Tracing Taper per man	1	Cycles per Section	4	Notice boards (iron) "	2			paint + brushes				
Bottle order with 48 lbs iron ration		Sample bottles	12																									
Shovels	4	Hand axes	8																									
picks	2	Nails per man	4 lb																									
Tracing Taper per man	1	Cycles per Section	4																									
Notice boards (iron) "	2																											
paint + brushes																												
	10-8-18.		<p>Coy Transport was to push forward as soon as possible and deliver all wiring stores to The Red + Blue line if possible.</p> <p>Coy H.Q. was to move forward from Bde H.Q. at Zero + 4 hrs and included 3 cyclists as runners which were to be</p>	<p>Appendix No 2.</p> <p>the</p>																								



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>

Scale  $\frac{1}{40,000}$

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.

Sheet (7)

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy F.E.

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN ARMY Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No. ....  
Date. ....

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H20d.9s.	4.8.18		<p>increased by two mounted orderlies as soon as it was possible for them to get through. The two forward sections moved with their respective Bns to their assembly points lines on the night of the 7/8<sup>th</sup> - 8-18 <u>without casualties</u>.  <u>Work carried out by Coy after ZERO Hour 4.20 am 8.8.18.</u>  <u>Forward Sections.</u>            Whilst moving forward from the <u>Green line</u> * notes were made on all captured R.E. Dumps by Section Officer, and main roads in one or two places were cleared of fallen trees.            On arrival at the <u>Red line</u> standard design strong points were sited, &amp; taped out, as (per attached print) * work was then commenced digging in this line, in order to conform to the 4<sup>th</sup> Post Dir work on the left flank. a party was organised and put on collecting captured wiring material, and a double apron barb wire fence erected South from <u>PERonne FRIENS Road</u> for 450yds.            Work on the Right Bn front on the <u>Red line</u> was confined</p>	
To				*Appendix No-2.
	10-8-18			*Appendix No-1.



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 1/40000

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.

Sheet (8)

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.	
No. ....	251
Date .....	

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
H.20.d.g.1.	4-8-18		<p>To digging, there being no wiring stores within carrying distance, six standard strong points were dug and completed on this line. On the left B.M. section six standard strong points were taped out, three of these were completed, and three partly dug behind wire erected. (Posts were garrisoned)</p> <p>On moving forward to the Blue line, trenches, though a little overgrown with grass were found to be in comparatively good condition, being wide + deep.</p> <p>A series of posts were established in this line, and garrisons were put on first stepping their respective positions.</p> <p>At 12.45 P.M. Coy Transport Officer with 3 pontoon wagns + G.S. wagon loaded with wiring stores, 2 tool carts and 1 L.C.S. wagon loaded with petrol tins of water repeated at advanced Coy H.Q. established at Q 33.C.3.6.</p> <p>while teams were feeding. Transport officer went forward and reconnoitered tracks and forward dump sites. Later the 3 pontoons + G.S. wagon went forward and a dump was established a little in rear of the Blue line at</p>
		10	
		10-8-18	

465  
A



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 1/40,000

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.)

8<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.  
Army Form C. 2118.  
No. ....  
Date .....

251

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

Sheet (9)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H20.d.g.1	4-8-18		<p>W.6.b.2.3, This enabled wiring work on the <u>Blue line</u> to be proceeded with. <del>on</del> on the Right Bn front. Wire erected is as shown on attached print, approximately 700 yds. After delivering wiring stores at W.6.b.2.3. Theoy. vehicles went back to Captured German Dump at Q 27.c.2.3. and were loaded with screw pickets and a heavy type of French wire. wagons. Then proceeded to temporary transport line established at BAYONVILLERS Q 32.c.6.3. where horses were fed &amp; watered.</p> <p>At 5 p.m. The 3 pontoon &amp; G.S. wagons with wiring stores &amp; the L.G.S. wagon with pickets &amp; 2 loads went forward and established another dump in rear of the <u>Blue line</u> at Q 30.d.6.0. A party of sappers then went on and erected 450 yds of wire entanglement during that night as shown on attached print.</p> <p>On reaching the <u>Blue line</u> at BURROWS. 2 sappers went forward to the railway siding in front of the final objective to where a 11.2" German Railway gun, 2 ammunition wagon, 2 armoured coaches, &amp; other carriage abandoned by the enemy, was standing. The carriage at the end of</p>	
	10-8-18			

9



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
 Scale 1/40000

8TH  
 AUSTRALIAN FORM C. 2118.  
 FIELD COMPANY.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

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.

Sheet (10)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H2O.d.g.i.	4-8-18		<p>The train were on fire. These were disconnected and 3 hauled clear. Steam was raised, and Railway gun complete two wagons of ammunition + two armoured coaches were brought behind our own lines to a point on the line about W.S. central where the rails had been broken by shell fire.</p>	
			<p><u>REAR SECTIONS</u>          At ZERO + 4 1/2 hrs These sections passed the GREEN line and commenced work on their respective jobs.</p>	
			<p><u>Roads, + Trambines.</u> By 4 p.m. on the 8-8-18 about 19 miles of roads + tracks had been repaired or, and notice boards erected stating whether roads were for mechanical or horse transport, obstructions such as blown down trees, and large holes were cleared away or filled in. The method of reporting on these roads, tracks, and trambines by special reconnaissance + report prints proved to be very satisfactory, and fast. By evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> last party detailed for reporting on trambines and railways had completed their jobs.</p>	

10

10-8-18

A7092). Wt. W12839/M1297 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale 40000

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.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No .....  
Date .....

Sheet (11)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H20. d. 91	4-8-18		<p>On the whole, lines were in a fair condition, but lines differed largely from those shown on maps issued to units before the attack.</p> <p>Very little rolling stock other than the following was found to be of much use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Engine Steam (Baldwin)</li> <li>7 Bogey wagons</li> <li>1 " Water wagon</li> <li>3. Small Tip Trucks</li> </ul> <p>Locations of, and reports on all captured R.F. dumps in the area with lists of quantities (approx) of materials on each were sent back.</p> <p>At 4 p.m. instructions were received to detach one section to report to 14<sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Bde H.Q. and carry out any necessary work. The section which had been on roads, and tramlines and had just about completed its reports was ordered back to join the 14<sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Bde at WARFUSSE. FIBANCOURT where it reported at 7 p.m. section took cart accompanying section</p>	
		10		
	10-8-18			

A7092). Wt. W12839/M1298 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

the



Reference Map 62<sup>D</sup>  
Scale  $\frac{1}{40000}$

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8TH  
AUSTRALIAN ARMY  
FIELD COMPANY. Form C. 2118.  
No .....  
Date .....

251

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

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.

Street (12)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H 20. d. 9. 1.	4-8-18		<p><u>WATER Supply</u></p> <p>By 11 a.m. 3 good wells had been located and samples obtained and sent back to R.M.O. for testing purposes. Windlasses on these were repaired and pending the receipt of result of test of samples submitted, notice boards were erected stating that water was "unfit for drinking". Results of these test were received late in the afternoon, when these notice boards were removed, and others erected stating water was fit for drinking, &amp; required so many measures of bleaching powder per water cont.</p> <p>Two large storage tanks (empty) 10 ft in diameter with a 6" main leading into them were found at 925. d. 8. 4. The main was followed up but without results.</p> <p>At 1 p.m. a large well covered with heavy timber and fitted with large hand pump was located at 935. d. 7. 9. pump was in good order, and test gave water fit for drinking. Direction notice boards were erected for all wells, and one sapper was left in charge of well at 935. d. 7. 9. to keep pump in order.</p>	
	10-8-18			

12



Reference Map 62<sup>nd</sup>  
Scale 40,000

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.)

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.  
Army Form C. 2118.  
No. ....  
Date .....

251

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

Sheet (13)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H20.d.g.1	4-8-18		<p>During The 8<sup>th</sup> + 9<sup>th</sup> - 8-18 Three few wells were used freely and apparently there was not serious shortage of water Cyclist as runners proved to be very satisfactory as all tracks could be used on account of dry weather at 4 P.M. The remaining two hot carts, additional water &amp; Coy ration (cooked) for the 9<sup>th</sup> sent reported to advanced H.Q. from Rear H.Q. as previously arranged.</p> <p><u>SALVAGE of RAILWAY GUN &amp; TRAIN.</u></p> <p>A party of one section of sapper was put on during the night of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> to repair B.G. railway in in W.S.O This necessitated taking up the damaged sections of rails and replacing them with rails taken up from line between W 5 central and <u>Blue line</u>. Rails that would not fit were successfully cut with one slab of Gneiss placed vertically with edge of slab in close contact with web of rail. (slab being cut to fit)</p> <p>As the boiler of locomotive attached to Railway gun was practically empty. 300 gallons of water was taken up in water cut from BAYONVILLERS during the night Steam was raised early in the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> but</p>	
	10-8-18			



Reference Map 62<sup>b</sup>

Scale  $\frac{1}{40000}$

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.)

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.
No. ....
Date.....

Army Form C. 2118.

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

Street (14)

25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H20.d.g.i.	4-8-15		<p>when starting locomotive on up grade the train ran back with the result that bogey of Gun Carriage ran off the rails on one side. Work was then commenced packing up carriage and eventually Gun Carriage was replaced on rails, another 300 gallons of water was taken up to loco in Coy water cart from BAYONVILLERS during the evening. Steam was again raised and Gun &amp; Train moved back to W.3.d.2.E. during the night of 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>-8-15.</p> <p>Early in the morning of the 10-8-15 Lieut MALCOLM R.E. arrived from Corp H.Q. with instructions to take over gun &amp; Train, These were handed over, and receipt obtained from him.</p> <p>Work was resumed early on morning of 9-8-15 on wiring <u>Blue line</u> but had to cease on account of the activity of enemy's Snipers &amp; machine guns.</p> <p>At 11 a.m. 9-8-15 the 29<sup>th</sup> &amp; 31<sup>st</sup> Bns resumed the offensive and advanced the line, working in conjunction with the Brigade on the right.</p> <p>At 10 a.m. Coy Heavy Transport loaded with wiring stores.</p>	

To

10-8-15

14



Reference Map 62<sup>A</sup>  
 Scale 40,000

15

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.  
 No. ....  
 Date .....

25

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

WAR DIARY  
 or  
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Sheet (15)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H.20.d.g.1.	4-8-15		picks & shovels went forward, and established another dump at 9.30. E.S.4.	
Q33.C, 3.6.	"		On the afternoon of 9-8-15 REAR H.Q. and the remainder of Company Transport moved up from H.20 d. g. 1 WORK. Carried out by Section attached to RESERVE Bde (14 <sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Bde)	
			Dug outs in Warfusse - Abincourt were thoroughly examined for mines, nothing suspicious was observed. Demolition & sign boards were erected in village	
	10		Artillery reported in the afternoon of 9-8-15 that land mine existed in Square P.27.d. Instructions were sent to this section to search for, and remove any mines in that locality	
			Lt Dunn & party carried this search, and found and removed 3 small box land mines. A report with sketch of land mine attached was forwarded to C.R.E.	
	15-8-15		The formation of a motor cyclist forward report centre by the C.R.E. proved of great assistance to Coy runners and enabled reports to get back quicker than would have been the case if it had not been formed.	

15



Reference Map 62<sup>20</sup>  
Scale 1/40000

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.

Sheet (16)

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AE

8TH AUSTRALIAN ARMY FIELD COMPANY.	Form C. 2118.
No. ....	
Date .....	

251

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q.33.C.3.6.	8-8-18		Lieut Paton reported back to advanced Coy H.Q. at Q.33.C.3.6. on the afternoon of 8-8-18 from R.E. school of instruction ROUEN.	
"	10-8-18		Early in the morning of 10-8-18 instructions were received that the 5 <sup>th</sup> Div would go into Corp Reserve and that this unit would move back to O.26.d. as early as possible. Coy H.Q. Sections, & Coy Transport moved independently and move was completed by 1 p.m. Coy H.Q. 4 sections & Coy Transport being located at O.26.d. 6.9. however 3 letters being created for personal & horses being picketed on open lines under cover of the trees. The weather conditions prior to, and during the operation were very favourable. light rains, with overcast skies & ground mist prevailed up to the day prior to the attack which rendered enemy observation extremely difficult. A heavy ground mist existed at zero hour (4.20 a.m.) this lifted a little later, and the weather remained fine	



Reference Map 62-D  
Scale 40000

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.  
Army Form C. 2118.  
No. ....  
Date .....

8th Field Coy A.E.

Street 17

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
O.26.d.6.9.	10-8-15		Throughout the operation except for a light shower during the night of 7/9-8-15 the total casualties during the operation up to when the Coy moved back into reserve were. 3 O.R. wounded. 2 horses killed, + 1 wounded (evacuated) by shell fire.	
"	11-8-15		1st Lieut Burrows M.C. attached reported back to his unit 11.8.15. On the morning 12-8-15 the Coy working two reliefs of two sections each commenced erecting huts + tents at the new Divisional H.Q. This work was completed and occupied in the afternoon of 13-8-15.	
"	13-8-15		1st Lieut Brain reported back from Camp Rest Camp 12-8-15 Two O.R. of this unit together with representatives from other units from the Street Coy were inspected by H.M. King George V at DADORS on the morning of 12-8-15. 1st Lieut Paton departed on leave to O.K. on 13-8-15.	
"	14-8-15		On the morning of 14-8-15 all Coy stores etc. together with seven pack were left under guard at O.26.d.6.9. and	

17



Reference Map 62<sup>d</sup>  
Scale 1/40000

257

8TH  
AUSTRALIAN ARMY Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No. ....  
Date .....

251

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

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.)

Sheet (18)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
D. 26. d. 6. 9.	14-8-15		<p>Coy H.Q. Dismounted personnel &amp; Transport moved out at 5. a.m. Transport moving independently; to W. 22. C. O. 3. route taken being via VILLERS BRITONNEUX &amp; MARCELCAVE. arriving at 11. 30 a.m. Transport being located at W. 26. 7. 9. Coy being employed during the afternoon in erecting bivouac shelter.</p>	
10.	15-8-15		<p>Lieut Hopton reported back from U.K. home on the afternoon of 14-8-15. On the afternoon of 14-8-15 instructions were received that the attacks that was to take place on the morning of 15-8-15 had been postponed and Coy was to stand by to move at an hour notice.</p>	
	16-8-15		<p>At 9-30 a.m. H.Q. Dismounted personnel &amp; Transport moving independently march out from W. 22. C. O. 3 and travelled by overland track skirting BILLOUCOURT, WEINCOURT, &amp; BAYONVILLERS to Gailly P. 6. d. 9. 3 where the Coy took over from the 73<sup>rd</sup> Coy R.E. 17<sup>th</sup> English Division. Time of arrival 12. noon.</p> <p>At 2 p.m. The same day Nos 1 &amp; 2 sections complete with Fuel Carts moved out to advanced billets at Q 20. 6. 7. 6.</p>	<p>405</p>

A7092). Wt. W12839/M1292 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/Carr 8/14.



Reference Map 620

Scale 40000

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

7<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AE

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.  
 No. ....  
 Date: .....

251

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.

Sheet (19)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
P.B.d.g.3.	16-8-18		Coy Strength morning of 16-8-18																
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Disposition</th> <th>Off</th> <th>O.R</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Actually with unit</td> <td>7</td> <td>180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ON Command</td> <td>1</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sick in Area</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Effective Strength.</td> <td>8</td> <td>211</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Disposition	Off	O.R	Actually with unit	7	180	ON Command	1	28	Sick in Area	-	3	Total Effective Strength.	8	211	
Disposition	Off	O.R																	
Actually with unit	7	180																	
ON Command	1	28																	
Sick in Area	-	3																	
Total Effective Strength.	8	211																	
P.B.d.g.3.	20-8-18		<p>The work carried out by this unit during the period from 16-8-18 to 20-8-18 inclusive consisted of.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The construction a 21-0 span girder Bridge to Carry M.T. at K. 35.d.g.g.</li> <li>(2) The erection of Divisional Bath at Cressy Q 3.d.g.5.50.</li> <li>(3) The erection of Horse troughs on Canal bank (with in &amp; out troughs) at Q 1.C.20.65. + P. 5.d.6.3.</li> <li>(4) The gas proofing, repairs &amp; improvements to Div Artillery <sup>HO</sup> dug out at Q 7.C.3.3. including the erection of Officer mess tent, and electric light installation in dug out.</li> <li>(5) The completion of light pile foot bridge at Q 3.d.6.9.</li> </ol>																

19



Reference Map 62<sup>13</sup>  
Scale 1/40000

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.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

8TH  
AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No .....  
Date .....

Army Form C. 2118.

251

Sheet (20)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
P.6.d.9.3.	15-8-15		<p>(6) The dismantling of Div H.Q. erected at O.27 d 5.7. and the re-erection of H.Q. etc at new Div H.Q. at O.11.C. including the supervision of Pioneer labour engaged in leveling H.Q. sites etc.</p> <p>(7) The salvaging of 3 ton lorry that had gone through medium pontoon bridge at VAIRE some Corbie J.26.C.0.1. and the dismantling of bridge afterwards.</p> <p>(8) The clearing of fallen trees etc from tow path in Q.2.</p> <p>(9) Camp improvements including the erecting of Officers Mess kitchen and mess shelters.</p> <p>(10) Reconnaissance of all dug outs in the Div Area</p> <p>(11) Reconnaissance of all Bridges over the SOMME Canal between VAIRE some Corbie and the front line.</p> <p>(12) Salvaging &amp; transportation of various materials used on the various jobs.</p>	
	20-8-15		<p>To detail see daily work reports. (Appendix 3)</p>	
	21-8-15		<p>At 2 P.M. on 21-8-15 H.Q. section &amp; transport moving independently west out from P.6.d.9.3. &amp; Q.20.b.7.6. and travelled via VAIRE some Corbie to VAUX SUR SOMME, J.26.d.3.1. where Coy bivouaced under canvas. Houses being picketed in the open.</p>	<p>* Appendix N<sup>o</sup> 3 1</p>

20



Reference Map 62<sup>0</sup>  $\frac{1}{40000}$

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8TH  
AUSTRALIAN  
Army Form. C. 2118  
No. ...  
Date

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.

Sheet (21)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
I. 26 d. 31	22-8-15		During this period the Coy was employed in cleaning equipment etc, working & repairing vehicles and in checking and overhauling Coy equipment.	
to			Bathing parades were held daily, full advantage being taken of the Lomond Canal during this period.	
25-8-15			on the evenings of the 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> the 5 <sup>th</sup> Division Concert party gave concert in the vicinity of the Camp in Lark was well attended and greatly appreciated.	
26-8-15			Coy Inspection parades were held daily, and recreational training carried out.	
			At 1. P.M. on August 26 <sup>th</sup> the Coy moved from Post Bickels in VAUX Q 23. d. 03, to relieve the 1 <sup>st</sup> Field Coy H.E. previous to moving from VAUX the Coy Bridging equipment with one section complete with transport No 4 was attached to the Div Bridging Detachment under Capt J.P. Caddy, and moved under his orders. All spare baggage & packs were left in charge of a guard at VAUX. Owing to arrangements	



Reference Map 62<sup>nd</sup> S.W. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>20000</sub>  
62<sup>nd</sup> S.W. "

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY  
Army Form C. 2118.  
No. ....  
Date .....

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.

Sheet (22)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy HE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N.23.6.5.5.	27-8-15		<p>being altered Coy took over from 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy HE beginning night of 26/27 August at 9.23.0.0, moving up to 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy Camp at R.19.0.0.0. on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> on the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Bridging detachment was disbanded No. 4 section + Bridging equipment rejoining Coy. On the night of 26/27<sup>th</sup> August the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde Bde was relieved by the 8<sup>th</sup> Bde Inf Bde with two Bns in the line, + two Bns in support.</p> <p>Divisional boundaries were as follows. Northern Bdy - Grid line running East through M32.0.0.0. 62° S.W. Front-line (approx) was - M.26.0.5.0. to M32.0.0.0.</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde instructions were to keep in close touch with the enemy throughout his retirement. The 8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy being affiliated with the 8<sup>th</sup> Bde Following were the duties allotted to this Coy by the C.R.E.</p> <p>(1) Reconnaissance, and report on all roads, tracks + tramlines in the evacuated area.</p>	
	To			
	31-8-18			

has 27



WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

8TH AUSTRALIAN  
Army Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No. ....  
Date.....

231

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

7<sup>th</sup> Field Coy I.A.F.

Sheet (23)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. 23. 6. 55.	28-8-15		<p>(2) The Development of all wells and sources of water supply.</p> <p>(3) The Provision of Splinter proof accommodation for Bde, and Bn Headquarters Staff.</p> <p>(4) To search for, and remove all road mines, traps etc</p> <p>(5) Report on all captured dumps, &amp; Rolling stock</p> <p><u>PREPARATORY WORK</u></p> <p>Sections were allotted for work as follows.</p> <p>(a) Two Sections to work in conjunction with life, and Right line Bns, and carry on work on laid down in Nos 1, 2, &amp; 5. Cyclist from these sections were told off for reconnaissance of roads, trenches &amp; dumps. White prints for reports being supplied by C.R.E.</p> <p>Balance of Sappers of these sections were told off for the development of wells, &amp; water supply. Sections were to move on a complete unit with all Transport.</p> <p>Section Pack Horses were to accompany Sappers, and were to carry the following loads.</p> <p>Lashings 12" 16, Nails 3" &amp; 4" lbs 10, Hand saws 2, Axes Slicing 6, Axes Hand 4, Tracing Tapes 6, S Hooks 4, picks 2.</p> <p>In addition to above the following were carried by the Sappers of each section</p>	

To

31-8-15

23



8TH  
AUSTRALIAN  
Army Form C. 2118.  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No ..... 20  
Date ..... 27

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy A.E.

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.

Sheet (24)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. 23-6 5.5.	28-8-18		<p>shovels 6, picks 6, Axes, 3, Saws 2, Hammer 4, Nails <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> lb per man Wire Cutters 2, Trenching Tape 3, As these sections were to accompany him Bms they were responsible for assistance to Bms for splinter proof accommodation. (B) One section was responsible for provision of splinter proof accommodation for Bde H.Q. as laid down in No 3. (C) One section in Reserve. (d) One Officer (Superintendent) and two cyclists to carry out work as laid down in No 4. Sections as in (b) &amp; (c) also were to move or complete with with transport. On the night of 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> the two line sections moved forward from camp at R. 19. d. o. o. to their respective Bn H.Q. <u>Operations.</u> Early on morning of 28<sup>th</sup> the enemy began to retire our Bms following him up closely. At 8.30 a.m. advanced Coy H.Q. moved to M 25. c. o. o. Reserve section moved with it and was engaged in clearing</p>	

to

31-5-15

24



Ref Map sheet 62 SW 20000

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8th Field Coy F/E

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.

Sheet (25)

8TH
ARMY
FIELD COMPANY
No. ....
Date .....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks refer Appe.
N.23.6.5.5.	28-8-15		<p>main road West of Foucaucourt. of fallen trees. Party searching for road mine located, and removed 19 from main road running through Foucaucourt. Two small craters were found to have been blown in main road at approx N.25. d. 5.4. Reserve section moved forward to make this passable for traffic.</p> <p>Repts from sections on Road and water were rather late in being received, Main metalled roads were found to be in good condition, but eastern track in nearly every case were overgrown and impassable owing to the usage of trenches in the area passed over. Most of the wells that did exist in the village were found to have been destroyed, but a few were found in valley in square N 15 + 16 not badly damaged which were put in order.</p> <p>Front line by night fall was approximately North + South through N 14 Central giving an advance of from 6 to 7 thousand yards.</p> <p>During the afternoon instructions were received to detail one section for Bridging Detachment which</p>	
	31-8-15			

(A7092) Wt. W12839/M1293. 75 .p.o. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Form/C.2118/14.

25



Ref Map Sheet 62<sup>50</sup> S.W. 20000

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8TH AUS ARMY Form C. 2118.	
FIELD COMPANY.	
No .....	221
Date .....	

7<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AF

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.

Sheet (26)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. 23. 6. 5. 5.	28-8-10		<p>was again being found, and reserve section (N° 2) was sent back to report to Capt Caddy. Coy's bridging equipment reported to Bridging Detachment earlier in the afternoon. At 1-30 p.m. Advanced Coy H.Q. moved to N 30. c. 4. 6. H.Q.s transport moved up during afternoon to Rhateau at N. 27. d. 7. 3.</p> <p>On the 29<sup>th</sup> the advance was very rapid the front line being established in the old trench system through 0. 14, 20, &amp; 25 before noon. Beyond the search for road mine &amp; reconnaissance on roads. no attempt was made to search for and develop wells. on the line sections were instructed to keep well up to the Infantry to assist in crossing the SOMME if found necessary, 7 road mine were located and removed from Cross road at N 27. c. 5. 4. and two from road at N 33. c. 4. 7. Main road was to be found to be blown at N. 30. c. 2. 4, also at both Cross roads in VILLERS CARBONNEL, a party of sappers were put on to clear a passage around them</p>	

To

31-8-10

96



Ref Map sheet 62° SW 20000

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy 17E

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY. Form C. 2118.

No. ....

Date. ....

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.

Sheet (27)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. 23. 6. 5. 5	25-8-15		<p>Hostile shelling on the forward slope to the river and VILLERS was very heavy during afternoon and night of 29<sup>th</sup>. During afternoon posts were established by the Infantry on Western Bank of Canal. Reconnaissance showed that main bridge at O. 26. d. had been demolished also foot bridge west of Ther. 200 ft of Cork floats for light foot bridge were brought forward by motor lorry, and dumped on main road at N. 30. c. 2. 4. After dark 160 ft of Ther was taken down to HAPLINCOURT by G.S. wagon and dumped close to stream and a light foot bridge was constructed across canal at O. 26. c. 2. 4, utilizing portions of old demolished bridge.</p> <p>Advanced Coy HQ was established during the evening in LINCE trench N. 30. c. 2. 6.</p> <p>As on previous day, all main roads were found to be good with exception of places blown in and around VILLERS, Eastern roads did not exist.</p> <p>On the 30<sup>th</sup> night of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Bde was relieved by the 32<sup>nd</sup> English Division. Coy moved back on the afternoon of the 30<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> trench in</p>	

10

31-8-15

27



Reference map 62  $\frac{1}{40000}$

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AIF

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY. Army Form C. 2118.

No.....

Date.....

251

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.

Sheet (25)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
-------	------	------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

N 23.6 5.5. 25-8-15

to

31-8-15

FAY N. 23.6.5.5. less No 2 section + pontoon vehicles which were still attached to Bridging Detachment, H.Q. vehicles. Landing moved up during the morning. All ranks were very tired, but very cheerful. Total Casualties during operations were

Died of wounds 1 O.R.

wounded 7 O.R.

On the morning & afternoon of the 31<sup>st</sup> two sections were engaged in fitting up new Divisional H.Q. at FONTAINE M. GAPPY. and one section erecting shelters for 8<sup>th</sup> Bde H.Q. Coy Strength.

Disposition	off	O.R.
Actually with unit	8	193
On Command	1	40
Sick in Area		1
Total Effective Strength	9	234

Reinforcements

1 off + 40 O.R. from G.B.D.

28



Ref Map 62° 40000

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy HE

8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.
Army Form C. 2118.
No.....
Date.....

251

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.

Sheet (29)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N.23.65.5.	31-8-15		On the 28-8-15 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieut Browne previously W.O. in this Coy reported from G.B.D. in R.F. Cadet school NEWARK England. Decorations immediate awards for acts of gallantry during the operations of August the 8 <sup>th</sup> + 9 <sup>th</sup> N <sup>o</sup> 2998 Sapper L.J STRAHAN Military Medal N <sup>o</sup> 2447 " J.H PALMER " " Notification of awards 5 <sup>th</sup> Div H.Q. A59/7645 of 6-9-15 Copy of recommendations for awards attached. See appendix 4 Q.M. Report	Appendix N <sup>o</sup> 4
			Rations have maintained their usual high standard not with standing the numerous moves, and difficulties brought about by the operations and distances advanced. Fat returns have not been as high as usual owing to the Coy being split up, and the lack of opportunities for covering same.	
			A number of cases of complaints were received from the Australian companies which were	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 82 Forms/C2118/16.

29



Ref Map 62 <sup>ch 1</sup> / 40 000

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy AF

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.

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.

Sheet (30)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N 23. 6 5. 5.	31-5-75		<p>Highly appreciated by the Sappers.          Sappers and Ordnance were invariably received promptly with the exception of Tool Chest poles of which there seems to be only a limited <sup>number</sup> carried at the Ordnance Base Supply Depot. Q.M. Report attached          Coy Transport has had a fairly busy time during the month and greatly <sup>difficultly</sup> has been experienced in moving the Coy equipment, owing to the extra equipment in the shape of Lewis Guns &amp; accessories that have been allotted to the Coy recently, vehicle having to make an extra journey in every case to bring it forward. For particulars &amp; transport report see Appendix 6.</p>	<p>*Appendix No 5.          *Appendix No 6.</p>

30



251

## WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

31

OF

8<sup>th</sup> FIELD COY. A.E.

FOR

AUGUST (1-31) 1918

8 <sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.	
No. ....	.....
Date.....	.....

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Report and Print (litho).
2	Area map.
3	Works Reports
4	Recommendations for Honours & Rewards
5	D.M.S. Report for month
6	Transport Officer's Report
7	Graph (Disposition of Company).



Report on work carried out by

251

8<sup>th</sup> FIELD COY R.E.during the operation of 8/9<sup>th</sup> inst.8<sup>th</sup>  
AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.

PREPARATORY WORK. - Coy moved on night of 3<sup>rd</sup> inst. from P.O.V. Cage Camp (H.20. b. 4.4) to GLISTY, bivouacking on arrival in gully at N.20. d. 9.1. On 4<sup>th</sup> inst. all bridging equipment, spare stores and men's packs were stacked at this site and left under a guard. Heavy wagons were sent during morning of 4<sup>th</sup> to collect wiring material, pickets and shovels, sandbags, tracing tapes &c from CHATEAU R.E. Dump and 15<sup>th</sup> Div. R.E. Dump then being formed in O.26. d. On night of 4/5<sup>th</sup> two sections moved to trenches in AUBIGNY LINE at O.20. a. 6.6. Early on morning of 5<sup>th</sup> inst. other two sections moved to shelters in terrace at O.17. C. 7.6. On morning of same day advanced Coy H.Q. moved to 8<sup>th</sup> BDE H.Q. dugout at O.24. C. 30. 25. Transport and rear H.Q. remained at GLISTY Camp. Four sappers were detailed to assist in loading up of supply tanks and were to remain with these and see R.E. Stores delivered at the final objective. On evening of 7<sup>th</sup> inst. all supply tanks for left BDE were destroyed by shell fire which necessitated the re-arrangement of loads on Coy heavy wagons. The three pontoon wagons and G.S. wagon were loaded on night 7/8<sup>th</sup> with wiring material only, this being drawn from 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust. Div. Dump. 1 M.C.O. and 1 sapper were detailed to 13<sup>th</sup> F. ART BDE to assist in getting guns forward. On the day of 7<sup>th</sup> and early night of 7/8<sup>th</sup> the two forward sections were occupied in staking out assembly lines and tracks, making slings for Lewis guns, and clearing away old wire entanglements in front of assembly lines. Rear sections were occupied in making notice boards, collecting tools and stores &c.



ALLOTMENT of WORKS to SECTIONS during and after ATTACK.

251

The two sections living in terrace at O.17.5.7.6 were allotted to BOE. To assist in consolidation of positions after capture. One section was to accompany each of the assaulting BNS and moved in the immediate rear of its BN.

Every man in both these sections carried the following:-

Battle Order and 48 hrs rations with 2 water bottles.

Shovels 70% } Strength of section \_\_\_\_\_  
Picks 30%

Nails 3" — 1/4 lb. per man.

Wire Cutters — 8 pairs per section.

Hand Axes — 8 per section.

Tracing Tapes 1 per man.

Two Rear Sections. - These were to move forward from their position at O.20.5.6.6. so as to cross the Green Line at Zero + 5 hrs.

One of these sections was allotted for:-

- 1) Reconnaissance and reports on all roads and tracks in captured area.
- 2) Marking of these tracks and clearing away obstructions where found.
- 3) Reconnaissance and reports on all tram lines and B.G. railway in area and estimate of all rolling stock.
- 4) Report on all R.E. Dumps located in area.
- 5) Any work which was obvious and urgent.

The following was carried by this section,-

Battle Order - 48 hrs rations.

Notice Boards (iron) 2 per man

Paint and brushes.

Nails 3" 1/4 lb. per man.

Hand Axes 6 per section

Wire Cutters 3 per section

Axes 2 per section

Cycles 4 per section.

The other section was allotted for:-

- 1) Reconnaissance and report on all water points, wells, springs etc in captured area.
- 2) Development, sampling and marking of all sources of water supply.
- 3) Report on all R.E. Dumps captured in area.
- 4) Any work which was obvious and urgent.



The following was carried by the sections

251	Battle Order and 48 his rations.	
	Shovels	4
	Picks	2
	Tracing Tapes	1 per man
	Notice Boards	2 per man
	Paint and Brushes	
	Sample Bottles	12
	Hand Axes	8
	Nails	1/4 lb. per man
	Cycles	4 per section

Transport was to push forward, as soon as possible and deliver all wiring stores to the Red and Blue lines if possible.

Coy H.Q. was to move forward from BDE H.Q. at Zero + it his and included 3 cyclists as runners which were to be increased by two mounted orderlies as soon as it was possible for them to get through. Two forward sections moved with their respective BNS to their assembly lines on night of 7/8<sup>th</sup> without casualties.

WORK carried out by Coy after ZERO Hour.

Forward Sections: whilst moving forward from the green line notes were made on all captured R.E. Dumps by section officers. Main Roads in one or two places were cleared of fallen trees.

On arrival at the Red Line standard design strong Points were sited and taped out as shown on attached print. Work was then commenced, digging in on this line. On the left flank of this line, in order to conform to 4<sup>th</sup> Div. work, a party was organised and put on collecting captured wiring material and a double apron barb wire fence erected south from road for 150 yds.

Work on the right BN front on the Red Line was confined to digging, there being no wiring stores within carrying distance. Six standard strong Points were dug and completed on this line. On the Red Line left BN sector, 6 standard strong Points were taped out, three were completed and three partly dug behind



the wire erected.

APPENDIX

251

Posts were garrisoned. On moving forward to the Blue Line trenches though a little overgrown with grass were found to be in comparatively good order, being wide and deep.

A series of posts were established in this line and garrisons were put on fire stepping their respective positions. At about 3 p.m. Coy heavy transport arrived with wiring material and this was taken forward and dump established a little in rear of Blue line at W.6. b. 2.3. This enabled wiring work on the Blue Line Right B.N. front to be proceeded with. Wire erected is as shown on attached print - approximately 700 yds.

Coy wagons after delivering their loads at W.6. b. 2.3. were sent back to captured German Dump at Q.27. c. 2.3. where they were loaded with long screw pickets and a heavy type of trench wire. Horses were watered at BAYONVILLERS and at 8 p.m. the above 4 wagon loads were taken forward and delivered in rear of Blue line at Q.30. d. 6.0.

Party of sappers then went on and erected 450 yds of wire entanglement during that night, as shown on attached print.

On the right B.N. front, LT BORROWS and two sappers had gone out to railway siding and brought a locomotive Railway Gun, 2 Ammunition wagons and 2 Ammunition coaches to point on railway line about W.6 central. Line at this point was broken by shell fire.

Rear sections - at zero + 4 1/2 hrs these sections passed Green line and commenced work on their respective jobs.

ROADS and TRAMLINES. - By 4 p.m. on 18th about 19 miles of roads and tracks had been reported on and notice boards erected stating whether roads were for mechanical or horse transport. Obstructions such as blown down trees



and large holes were filled in method of reporting on these roads, tracks, and tram lines by special reconnaissance and report points proved to be very satisfactory and fast. By evening of 8<sup>th</sup> inst. party detached for reporting on tram lines and railways had completed their jobs.

On the whole lines were in a fair condition, but lines differed largely from those shown on maps issued to units before the attack.

Very little rolling stock, for light railways other than the following was found to be of much use -

- 1 Engine Steam (Baldwin)
- 7 Bogey wagons
- 1 " water wagon
- 3 small tip trucks
- 2 truck loads, Beauville.

Locations of and reports on all captured R.E. dumps in area with lists of quantities (approx) of materials on each were sent back.

At 4 pm. instructions were received to detach one section. This section to report to H.Q. 14<sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde and carry out any necessary work.

Section which had been on roads and tram lines and had just about completed its reports was ordered back to join 14<sup>th</sup> Bde, at WARFUSSE-ABANCOURT where it reported at 7 pm.



By 11 am: 3 good wells had been located and samples obtained and sent back for testing purposes. Windlasses on these were repaired and pending receipt of result of the test of samples notice boards were erected stating water was "unfit for drinking". Results of these tests were received late in the afternoon, when these boards were removed and others were erected stating water was fit for drinking & required so many measures of bleaching powder per cast.

Two large storage tanks (empty) 10 feet in diameter with 6" main leading into them were found at Q 28 d. 8. 4, main was followed up without results.

At 1 p.m. a large well covered with heavy timber and fitted with large hand pump was located at Q 35 a. 7. 9. Pump was in good order and a test gave water fit for drinking.

Direction notice boards were erected for all wells, and one sapper was left in charge of well at Q 35 a. 7. 9. to keep pump in order.

During the 8th & 9th, these four wells were used freely and apparently there was no serious shortage of water for troops in the area.

Cyclists as runners proved to be very satisfactory as all tracks could be used on account of dry weather.

### Salvage of Railway Gun and Train

A party of one section of sappers was put on during the night of 8/9th to repair B.G. railway line in W 5 a. This necessitated taking out damaged sections of rails and replacing them with rails taken up from line between W 5 central and Blue line. Rails which would not fit were successfully cut with one slab of gun cotton.



As boiler of locomotive was practically empty 300 Gals were sent up in water cart. from Bayonvillers

Steam was raised early in morning of 9<sup>th</sup> but when starting loco on up grade train ran back a few yards with result that bogey of gun carriage ran off the rails on one side

Work was then commenced jacking up carriage and eventually gun carriage was replaced. Steam was again raised and gun and train moved back to W3 d 2.8

Early in morning of 10<sup>th</sup> Lt Malcolm R.C. arrived from Corps H.Q. with instructions to take over gun and train, Receipt was obtained from him

Work was resumed early in morning of 9<sup>th</sup> on wiring of Blue line. but this had to cease as snipers & m. Guns were active from enemy side

At 11 am. line was moved forward by 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Battalions

Another dump of wiring material, picks & shovels was formed at Q 30, c.8.4. on morning of 9<sup>th</sup> inst. with Coy transport

In addition to pontoon wagons and G.S. wagon two sections tool carts and section limbers moved up to Bayonvillers where Coy transport lines were formed at midday on 8<sup>th</sup> inst. In afternoon of 9<sup>th</sup> balance of Coy. transport & rear H.Q. moved up to same place.

Works carried out by sections attached to Reserve Brigade (14<sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Bde).

Dugouts in Wanfusse - Ahincourt. were thoroughly examined for mines, nothing



suspicious was observed. Directing and sign-boards were erected in village.

Artillery reported to me in afternoon of 9<sup>th</sup> that land mines existed in Sq. P 27 d. Instructions were sent to this section to search for & remove mines in this locality.

Lt Dunn, and party carried out this search, and found & removed 3 of these small box land mines. Sketches of these were rendered with report direct to C.F.E.

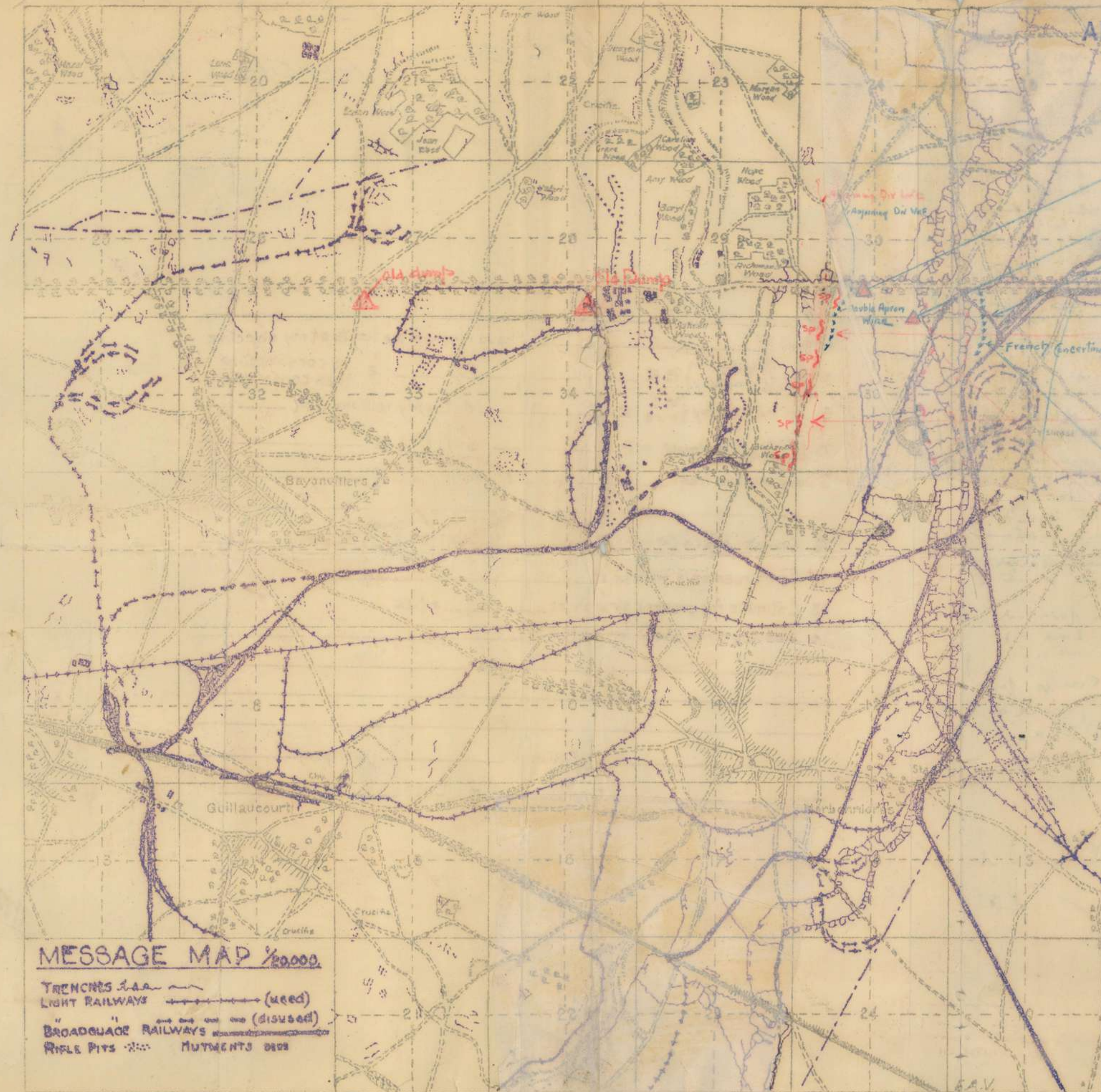
Coys and Transport moved back to Wood at 0.26 d. on morning of 10<sup>th</sup> and bivouaced.

The formation of a motor cyclist forward report centre by C.F.E. proved of great ~~and~~ assistance to Coy runners and enabled reports to get back much quicker than would have been the case if not formed.

W. G. Fitzgerald Major  
oc. 8<sup>th</sup> July 1918, A.F.C.







New Wire Dump  
 New Wire Dump  
 Some buildings cleared here for fire field  
 These 3 sp laid out and commenced wiring commenced. Completed this way  
 These sp Dog No wiring done.

No wire remaining on the line. Connection as shown but slow by me.

Existing trenches in good condition. Wire & trench. These were five steps at once for posts.

MESSAGE MAP 1:20,000  
 TRENCHES *---*  
 LIGHT RAILWAYS *—+—+—+* (used)  
 BROADGAUGE RAILWAYS *—+—+—+—+—+* (disused)  
 RIFLE PITS *••••*     MOUNTAINS *▲▲▲*



41 Summary of work.

N 2 Secy with L/P  
Battalion of 8th Bde.

To 9.30

Proceeded with 30th Bns  
to final objective.

Made reconnaissance of  
Red Line. Site and taped  
out S.P. as shown on map.

Digging commenced including  
much handicapped by  
and shovels. Some work  
of the sand. Bns appear  
to be short.

Made reconnaissance of  
objective (Blue Line) found  
 trenches in good order somewhat  
overgrown with grass but  
serviceable, very wide & deep  
Fire stopping pits - also required  
by Garrison. No wire.

Wiring as shown commenced  
as soon as material available.

Stone Tanks failed to arrive  
causing considerable delay -  
Consolidation of both lines  
well stocked. wiring material

dumps were encountered  
on way forward as points  
shown.

Dumps formed (or formed)  
wiring on each line of  
defence, as shown.

Engineer Section Camp for  
this period was formed at  
Ashwell wood. P 35.20

Moved back at 9.30.  
10. 8.18

D. Board

8.45  
10/8/18

ES

APPENDIX No. 1.

- To \_\_\_\_\_
1. I am at \_\_\_\_\_
  2. I have reached the limits of my objective \_\_\_\_\_
  3. My {Platoon / Company} is at \_\_\_\_\_
  4. {is consolidating / has consolidated} \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Am held up by {M.G. / wire} at \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Enemy holding S.P. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. I {am / am not} in touch with \_\_\_\_\_ on {right / left} at \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Am shelled from \_\_\_\_\_
  9. Am in need of \_\_\_\_\_
  10. Counter attack forming \_\_\_\_\_
  11. Hostile {Batt / Co. / Pl. / Coy.} active at \_\_\_\_\_
  12. Reinforcements wanted \_\_\_\_\_
  13. Estimate my present strength at \_\_\_\_\_ rifles.
  14. Add any other useful information \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Platoon \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Battalion \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ m Date \_\_\_\_\_

MESSAGE MAP  
 FORM 1  
 1918



257

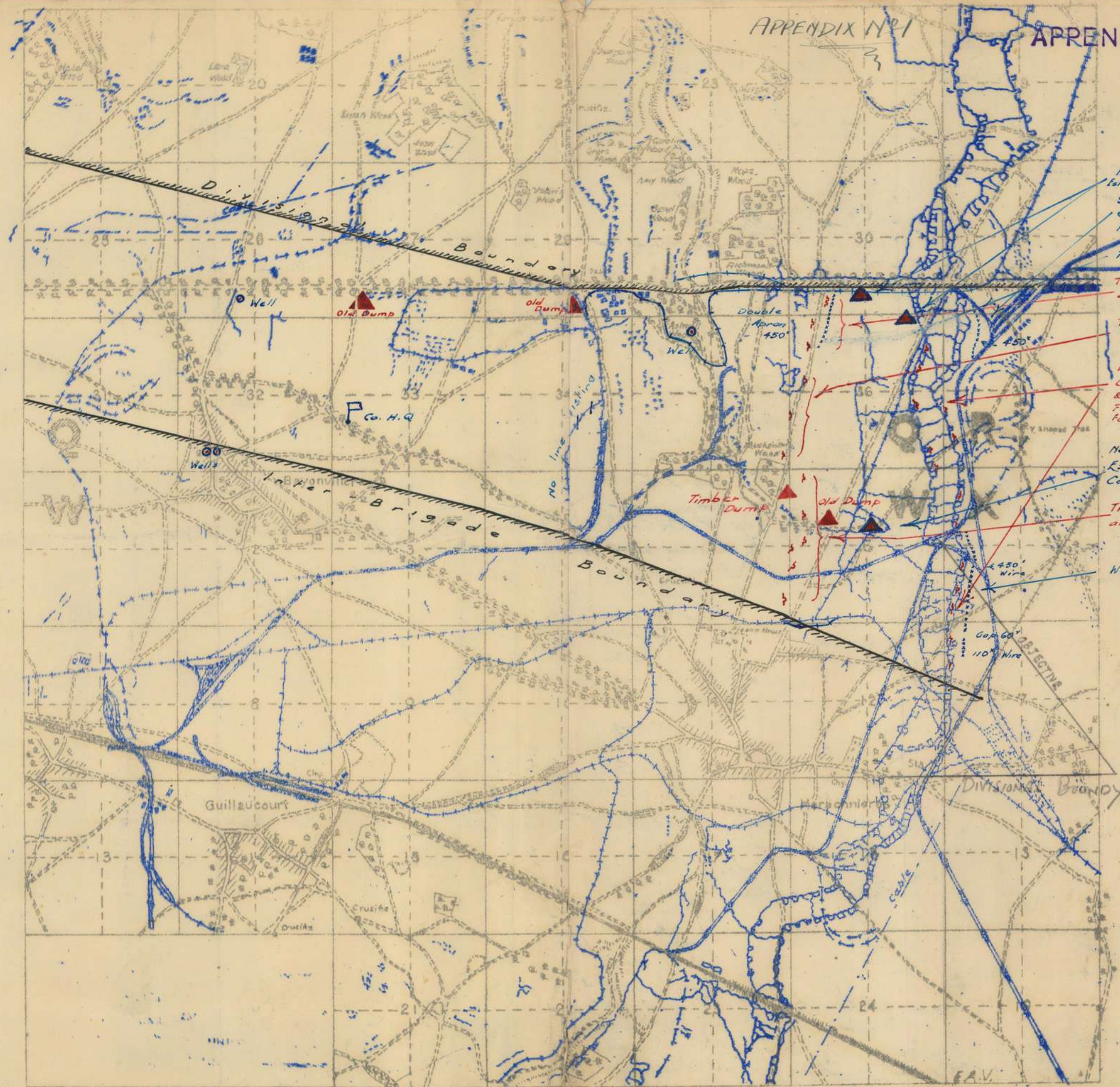
APPENDIX No 1

APPENDIX

47

AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY

Works: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



New Wire Dump  
Established with Coy Transport

Some Buildings  
Cleared Iron here  
for fire field.

French Concertina

These strongpoints  
are partly dug

These strongpoints  
are dug

Existing Trenches in  
Good Condition, wide  
& high. These were  
fire stepped at once  
for Garrison.

New Wire Dump  
Established with  
Coy Transport

These six strongpoints  
are completely dug

Wire Erected  
Double Apron



RECEIVED 19-5-18.

FRANCE.

EDITION 2 EDITION 2.A. (LOCAL)

SHEET 62° S.W. 1:20,000

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 6-6-18

FRANCE.

EDITION 3 A. (LOCAL)

Appendix n° 2.

SHEET 62° S.E. 43

SECRET  
MAP NO. 10

D'DIV  
3RD AUST DIV

B DIV  
4TH AUST DIV

C DIV  
2ND AUST DIV

A DIV  
5TH AUST DIV

2ND CAN DIV

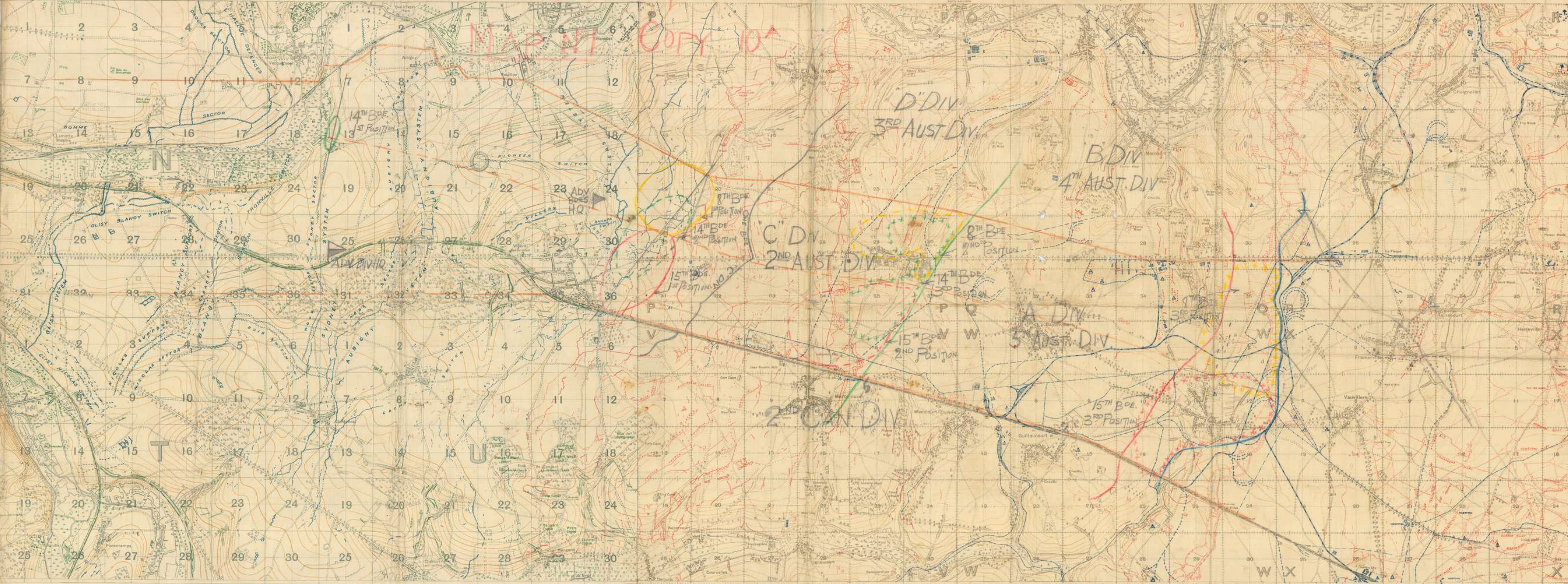
15TH BDE  
3RD POSITION

14TH BDE  
1ST POSITION

14TH BDE  
2ND POSITION

8TH BDE  
1ST POSITION

15TH BDE  
2ND POSITION



APPENDIX



251

Sent		Date
At	m.	Service.
To	From	
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO *ARR*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
<i>0676.</i>	<i>17</i>		

Works up to ending 6pm 17th inst sea  
 section dismantled Rear HQ camp  
 & loaded same & delivered to new HQ sea  
 section in 7 tonnes below on  
 occasion with HQ sea section  
 removed from stream at Giruwa  
 Derry bridge set, dismantled &  
 equipment stacked at Bridge Head  
 Dump area 6 Jan post boxes on Art. HQ.  
 depart Q7.C.3.3 sea Drive 8 piles  
 for footbridge at Q3 d 69, but work heavy  
 & bracing & shoring partially completed sea  
 slung heavy R.B. loads into position  
 on Rock Bridge at K 35 d. 99 & excavated  
 back work for bearings & setting material  
 for job sea 200 yds. Torpedo chest of

From	
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor: Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. *AA*

251

Sent		Date
At	m.	Service.
To	From	
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO *✓*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA

trees in Q7 sea box, Building  
 equipment & other baggage  
 brought up during day from  
 sea

From	<i>S. J. L. by AR</i>
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor: Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. *AA*

APPENDIX 3 *AA*





257

45

at 8:30.

This afternoon lifted girders (4) into position and excavated for bearings.

If you cannot draw timber (other than decking) from dumps - I think I can salvage stuff without much trouble from CERISSY village and about Pioneer bridge.

Will you let me know if a wagon will return in the morning for this, or if you can supply from dumps & could meet wagon with party at Cerissy Church at any time in morning.

Will also require about 6 24" bolts if you have them. There were some down at Pile bridge at POWERS there may possibly be still there.

Have you heard anything.



... shall I look about for  
something, as a makeshift,

No 2

7/10/18

17.8.18

De laan

2/10/18  
of 87th



251

3

APPENDIX

46



251

## DAILY WORKS REPORT

AUGUST 17<sup>th</sup> 47

PLACE	N <sup>o</sup> of MEN	WORK COMPLETED	REMARKS
Q 7.C. 5.3.	1 N.G.O. 3 SAPS.	Erecting Gas-proof Doors on Deep dug-outs 4 Complete 1 80% Complete	Started 8 A.M. Truck left 4-30 P.M. Material used 100 ft 3"x3" timber 13 yds Union Cloth.
P. 7.C. 0.2.	2 SAPS 1 OFF 30 P.M.S.	Clearing & levelling off for erection of 6 Arming Huts 1 Mess Hut 1 Cookhouse Work completed.	Started 10-30 AM
		<i>[Signature]</i> 17/8/18	A. J. Brampton Lt 1st Field Coy HE

## 251 WORKS REPORT. No 1 Section. 17/8/18. 47

PLACE	PARTY	PARTICULARS OF WORK
Q 3d. 6.9	1 N.C.O. 9 Sappers	Drove 8 Light piles, braced same & completed road bearers on bridge Bridge will be complete to-morrow morning. Re Div Baths:- I waited until 10am to-day for LIEUT Toohy, but he failed to keep the appointment.

*[Signature]*  
Lieut.



251

Sent		Date
At	m.	Service.
To	From	
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By

257

TO 6.P.I.E.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 0682	18		

Work report ending 6 pm. 18<sup>th</sup> inst. see  
see section creating armstrong huts and  
mess huts, kitchens etc. at A.H.A. and  
Lock Bridge at K35. d. 9. 9. - R.S.I. spiked  
into position - structures placed. heavy  
timbers as wheels cut & prepared ready  
for erection. hatches cut in stone abutments  
and all material carted into site and  
(note - this bridge should be ready for  
transport on night of 19<sup>th</sup>). see 1<sup>st</sup> in  
foot bridge at Q3 d. 6. 9. completed and  
beach tow path cleared of trees & shell holes  
filled from Q2. 6. 8. 8. to Q5. 6. 4. 1. and  
material for Div better drawn from  
wrecker dumps & carted to site at Q3 d. 9. 1.  
and 800 bricks collected ahead from

From	
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)  
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

48

Sent		Date
At	m.	Service.
To	From	
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By

257

TO

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
*			

Village for his job see same before  
trough with great rail & pump  
erected at Q1. C. 20. 65. see kitchen  
erected at Coy H.Q. camp and  
Artillery H.Q. dugout Q7. C. 3. 3. -  
Gas proofing completed; Officers mess  
huts 80% completed and electric  
wiring being fitted in dugout and  
transport occupied in drawing  
stores from LA FLAQUE and  
MATAIR DOMPS and moving section  
relatives.

From 1<sup>st</sup> Det Coy A.R.

Place

Time 7 pm.

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)  
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

W.G. Ferguson

APPENDIX 3

3

48



Progers Defoni No 2 Secw  
Bridge MERICOURT

Wep 25/1

Quilts set in position with  
splicing pieces, spreaders etc  
complete.

Struts and Straining pieces cut  
ready to fix

Shoved easily base, decking  
a ribbons on by tomorrow  
night

Can you send up a bag of  
cement and some sand some  
time tomorrow, will require this  
to grout in around ends  
of struts in brick walls of lock  
Have sufficient timber on  
for now to complete.

Corps bridge officer as  
for today, they will probably  
be placing tank bridge  
beside ours across lock  
in course of a few days.

49

Field  
18/8/18  
4/9/18

25/1

O.C.  
8th Field Coy. A.S.

In connection with your  
instructions re R.E. material  
for divisional baths, I have  
left Capt. Lockman + Sapper  
Stanger to take delivery & act  
as a guard overnight.

Step Dunn Lt.

Wep 25/1

49



251

## DAILY WORKS REPORT

AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup>

50

PLACE	N <sup>o</sup> of MEN	WORK COMPLETED	REMARKS
Q 7.C.33	1 N.C.O 3 SAPS	Erecting Gas-proof Doors + Officers Mess Hall Gas-proof Doors Complete Officers Mess 80% Complete	Started 8.A.M. Finished at 7 P.M. Material used 50 ft 3x3". 125 ft 4x1" 22 sheets corr. Iron.
Q 7.C.33	1 SAPP	Wired + connected three Electric lights	Started 1.P.M. Finished off 4.P.M.
		18/8/18	A. J. Crampton Lt 8 <sup>th</sup> Field Coy FE
			<u>W.C.P.</u>

## 251 WORKS REPORT. No 1 Section 18/8/18 50

PLACE	PARTY	PARTICULARS OF WORK
Q 3.d.69	1 N.C.O 4 Sappers	Completed foot bridge
Somme Canal.	3 N.C.O's 11 Sappers	Filled in shell holes & cleared toe-paths of trees etc from Q 2 b 8.8 to Q 5. b.4.1.
Q 2.d.95	2 Sappers.	Solved 800 bricks from village of Chipilly for Divisional baths.
		<u>W.C.P.</u> Alex L. Quinn Lt.



257



257 TO LAPE 51

Sender's Number. * <u>0688</u>	Day of Month. <u>19.</u>	In reply to Number. <u>AAA</u>
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Works report and is of from 14<sup>th</sup> inst and  
 section working on repairs of huts  
 at HQ. and 20x10 low. Iron  
 building for Div. Bath's needed at  
 Q.3.d. 95.50. and Bridge at K 35.d.g.g.  
 can now take traffic (M.T.) and  
 finishing off to be completed  
 tomorrow and in and out tracks  
 for horse trough made at  
 Q.1.c 20.65. and clearing trees  
 out of canal between GILLY  
 and CROBY. and Reconnaissance  
 of dugouts proceeding in Div Area  
 and shelter at Ark HQ dugouts  
 and electric wiring completed and  
 transporting stores to various jobs

From <u>John J. A. J.</u>		
Place <u>LAPE</u>		
Time		

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z) W. J. Parquer  
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorized to telegraph in his name.







257 WORKS REPORT 10 Section 19/8/18 93

PLACE PARTY PARTICULARS OF WORK

Q3 d 95.50 3 N.C.O.s Erecting Div. Baths.  
10 Sappers. Material Used:- 750' - 3x2" - 250" -  
6x1" (Salved); 80 Sheets - 7' Iron;  
28 lbs Nails; 3 Doors (Salved).  
Canal: 1 N.C.O. Completed cleaning timber from  
3 Sappers. bank of Canal.

~~W.D.~~

Alex. Dume Lieut.

257

Field  
19/8/18

O.C.  
8th Field Coy A.F.

Would you please let me  
have one half lumber to morrow  
to report to me at Q3 d 95.50  
(Div Baths) at 8.30 am.

Work in connection with the  
Divisional Baths will be  
completed to morrow ~~at 8.30 am~~

Re rations:- I find on  
further investigation that  
Maconochies were issued in  
crew of bacon but was not  
used as the section dislike  
this ration for breakfast.

Alex Dume Lt

~~W.D.~~

93



251

54

WORKS REPORT

No 1 SECT 8 - F. COY A.E.  
Period from 5 P.M. Aug 18<sup>th</sup> - To 5 P.M. Aug 19<sup>th</sup> - 18

Place  
Gully  
Bridge

No of men

Work Done

11

Completed Assessment for  
water point & gauged for  
direction board.

2<sup>nd</sup> Coy's  
Camp

2

Completed Officers'  
mess kitchen.

Wey

Wey

257

54

08 8767

Work on Mearscourt Lock

Bridge - Completed -

Section will be employed.

Tomorrow cleaning up and

finishing off

Left Bridge open to right -

but put small sign up to

the effect that was open to

the line transport & field guns

will remove this in morning.

\* erect proper signs. Did

this to give cement a chance

to set in side walls.

Will work out actual load

& let you have some tomorrow

in meantime am satisfied

quite OK for MT.

Switch Haversh

Wey

No 2

Wey



257

55

APPENDIX 23



TO		C.R.E.		55
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA	
* 0693	20.			
<p>Works reports ending before 20<sup>th</sup> inst see section on works D.H.A. completed jobs at midday and rejoined Coy AAA Section and internal fittings of Div Batts completed and tanks and showers 50% completed and Bricks, timber etc. salvaged from relays and four wire troughs erected at T.S.D. 6.3. and Bridge over Loch K.S.D. 9.9. completely finished off and Replacing steps in artillery dugout Q7.C.3.3. and fittings completed and Reconnaissance of dugouts in Div. area in progress and Reconnaissance reports on all bridges from Vaux to front line completed and transport carting stores + minor improvements to Coy Camps</p>				
From	carried out.			
Place	A. J. Coy. A.H.			
Time				
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.			(Z)	N. G. Dargachian
Censor.			Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	

\* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.



257

257

DAILY WORKS REPORT

AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup>

56

PLACE	NO. MEN	WORK COMPLETED	REMARKS
Q 7.C 3.3.	1 NCO 1 Sapper	Taking out old steps putting in new ones in entrance to bug-out (30) making table fall off. Work Complete	Started 8 AM Finished 12 PM
		WLD	20/8/18 A. J. Crampton Lt 1st Field Coy FE







257

57

Works Report No 3 Section 8<sup>th</sup> F.B. of A. E.  
From 6 pm. 19. 8. 18. To 20. 8. 18.

No. 1.	No. men.	Work done	Material used
Place.			
P. 5d. 6-3	8.	Horse troughs	60 feet H. troughs all other timber saved.

No. 2.	No. men.	Work done	Material used
Gully	2.	Dugouts excavation 4' x 6' 1 foot deep.	1 trough cover. all timber saved.

~~15/10~~

Both jobs completed.  
except for ~~part~~ do make found

*[Signature]*



257

13



251 WORKS REPORT No 1 Section 20/8/18 58

PLACE	PARTY.	PARTICULARS OF WORK
Q3 2.95.50	5 N.C.O's 17 Sappers	Completed erection of Div Baths, Shed etc, 250% Completed erection of Tanks, Showers etc Material Used - 700 bricks (salved); 1 cask cement; 200' 8"x11" (salved); 30 Duck walks (salved) 4-10' lengths 8"x8" (salved); 6-5'-10"x3" (salved); 10 lbs nails; 6 cu byds Metal sand. New Dump Lt.

M.D.



Immediate

copy

Date Recommendation passed forward Confidential at 257  
Received Passed  
Brigade 11/8/18  
Division  
Corps  
Army

Divisional Engineers

5<sup>th</sup> Australian Division Australian Corps

Schedule No.	Unit	Regt. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended. (Date & place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	8 <sup>th</sup> Field Company A.E.	2998	Sapper Leslie James Strahan	For conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. In the attack east of VILLERS BRETONNEUX near AMIENS on the 8 <sup>th</sup> August, Sapper Strahan was with a section accompanying the assaulting Battalion. On the final objective being reached east of HARBONNIERES, a long range 11 1/2 inch gun on railway mounting was seen on a siding 200 yards beyond front line. A locomotive with several ammunition wagons and coaches which were on fire was also on the siding. Without hesitation this man volunteered and went forward with his section officer and in spite of enemy machine gun and rifle fire, assisted to raise steam on the locomotive, shunt the burning coaches on to another siding, couple up with gun and ammunition wagons and bring them back safely into our own lines. His great courage and determination in the face of the enemy resulted in the capture of an extremely valuable gun and locomotive, and it is worthy of the very highest recognition.	W. D. J. Wm. Lieut. Col. A.E. 5 <sup>th</sup> Australian Division.	Distinguished Conduct Medal.	
	Do.	21447	Sapper John Henry Palmer			Do.	

Appendix No. 149



Appendix W5

Report on "Q" Branch 8<sup>th</sup> Div to A.E.

For August 1918

Lat Returned 50 lbs A Class  
 Cardboard returned to all 20 lbs  
 Jam Burton do do 80

Rations generally throughout the month maintained a fair standard. Bread especially very good issue. Vegetables were very scarce, potatoes being only issue of this commodity.

Orders on Ordnance were invariably received promptly.

The following were received through the Australian Comforts Fund for month:-

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Cases Cocoa & milk | 2 Cases Limes          |
| 2 do Biscuits        | 1 Case 2 mas. Biscuits |
| 2 do Fruit           | 2 Cases Plum Marmalade |
| 1 do Curry           |                        |
- W. W. W. [Signature]

August 1918

Tools & Necessaries Received & Returned

Articles	Recd.	Retd.	Remarks
Bags, nose	50		Drum
Brushes, paint, oval	1		
do do No 9	2		
Bags, ration	30		
Blades, saw, hand, 12"	6		
Recycle parts	various	various	
Charts, pad, transport	1	1	No 4 Chart
Collars, head, large	1		
Covers, 6x6 wagon, limb, etc	1	1	No 2 Seat
Churns, roller	7		
Hose, suction, 3/4" bore, water cart	1	1	Water Cart
Shovel, etc	60		
Knives, paring	1		Postmaster
Leather, sole, band	2		"
Paint, Brunswick Green	56		
do Ivory, black	140		
Soles, draught, No 17 w/h Gt	3	1	
do do No 20 Tool Cart		2	
Soap, soft	50		
Soles, 1st billed size 10	25		Postmaster
Kettles, anti-Gas	6		
Suits, anti-Gas, combination	4		
Locks, electric		1	
Wheels, 2" class "C" 200A	2		

251

APPENDIX 5

60

60



August 1918

257

Equipment necessary Rec'd Ret'd Remarks	Rec'd	Ret'd	Remarks
Bottles, water	40	30	Balance
Carries water, bottle leather	40	30	Do
Bandoliers		1	
Haversacks, mt	1		
Full thro's	50		
Packs, wet		3	
Respirators, S.B	10	7	
Rifles, Sm R.C.		2	

*W. J. Wainwright*

19

August 1918

257

Clothing & necessaries Received Returned

Articles	Rec'd	Ret'd	Remarks
Braces	20		Pair
Breeches, mt	19	21	"
Do Do	15	6	"
Boots, ankle, tan	21	15	"
boots, great, mt		5	
Hats, felt		1	
Tackets, S.D.	18	16	
Do Cardigan		1	
Gases, leather	16		Pair
Leggings, leather		5	"
Knives	46	32	"
Shets, ground	2	2	

*W. J. Wainwright*

19

APPENDIX 5

19



APPENDIX No 6  
8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy Transport Report  
for month ending August 31<sup>st</sup> 1918.

Ref Map 62<sup>nd</sup> 40000

Present Location N. 23. 6. 5. 5.

Due to the change in the class of work carried out by this Division in conjunction with the Division of the Coy. the work carried out by the Coy Transport has been of a varied nature.

At 8.30 p.m. on 3<sup>rd</sup> Coy Transport moved out in rear Coy from P.O.W. at H. 20. 6. 4. 4. and travelled by overland tracks to N. 20. 4. 9. 1 via La Motte & Blangy. Chateau arriving at 11 p.m. Horses were picketed on lines run between vehicles & men bivouaced in the open.

From the 4<sup>th</sup> to the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> Coy Transport was engaged in

- (1) Drawing R.E. Stores preparatory to the coming offensive.
- (2) Carrying Rations & water up to forward sections, and advanced H.Q.

At 9.30 p.m. on the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> instructions were received that

Storage Tanks had been destroyed by shell fire and the Coy Transport would be required to carry wiring stores to final objective the following day. R.E. stores were unloaded, and heavy wagons sent to draw wiring stores from 2<sup>nd</sup> Div Dump at N. 29. 6. 5. 4. Stores were drawn & wagons returned at 1 a.m. on morning of 8<sup>th</sup>.

Instructions were issued the evening of 7<sup>th</sup> (copy attached) as to how the Transport would move on the morning of the offensive. (8<sup>th</sup>)

At 7 a.m. on the 8<sup>th</sup> Coy Heavy vehicles loaded with wiring stores & Tail Carts and one L.O.S. wagon loaded with petrol tins of water moved out from N. 20. 4. 9. 1. via overland tracks, arriving at O.R. 4. d. 3. 5. at 9 a.m. In accordance with prearranged plan I moved the transport along the VILLERS. BRETONNEUX & HAMLET Road to O. 18. 6. 4. 5. Thence along FOUILLOY-WARFUSSE & BANCOURT Road. progress was extremely slow owing to gun lorries in front being held up by the bad condition of the road. I made a reconnaissance

APPENDIX 6  
62



3  
to try & move overland this was extremely difficult in places owing to existing tracks & Barbed wire obstacles. progress was slow owing to having to fix in tracks & remove obstacles & transport proceeded, road was regained about P.21.d.8.4. no further hitch occurred and transport reported at advanced H.Q. Q.33.C.3.6 at 12.45 P.M. while the horses were being fed in company with Lt Col Atkinson I made a reconnaissance of tracks up to the Blue line and decided to try and get wiring stores to W.6.B.2.3. just in rear of Blue line later the 3 pontoon & G.S. wagon moved forward and a dump was established at W.6.B.2.3. at 3 P.M. That afternoon on return of heavy vehicles to ad H.Q. wagon proceeded to capture Peronne Dump at Q.27.C.2.3. and load wiring stores, returning to Coy Transport lines at BAYONVILLERS Q.32.C.6.3. where Tank Cars etc had been parked at 8 P.M. Heavy vehicles moved out again travelling via main Peronne Road to Q.30.d.6.0. just in rear of Blue line where another Dump was established, at 10 A.M. morning of the

4  
Coy Heavy Transport loaded with wiring stores picked up & moved from Captured Peronne Dump went forward and established another dump at Q.30.C.5.4.

On 17<sup>th</sup> afternoon of 9-5-18 remainder of Coy Transport moved up from N.20.d.9.1.

At 9.30 A.M. morning 10-8-18 Coy Transport moving independently travelled by overland tracks avoiding WARFUSSE ABANCOURT to D.26.d.6.9. men erected bivouacs & horses were picketed under trees.

At 8.15 on the morning of 14<sup>th</sup>, Coy Transport moved independently from D.26.d.6.9. and travelled via VILLERS BRITONNEUX & MARCEL CAVE to W.26.B.7.9. men erected bivouacs and horses were picketed in small ravine.

At 9.30 A.M. on the morning of 16<sup>th</sup> Transport moved independently to GAILLY P.6.d.9.3. by overland tracks, skirting GILLOUCOURT, WEINECOURT, & BAYONVILLERS, and took over lines from 75<sup>th</sup> Field Coy R.E.

On the afternoon of 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 P.M. Transport moved independently to VAUX sur SOMME. 126.d.3.1.

At 1 P.M. on 26<sup>th</sup> Transport moved independently via MORCOURT to Q.22.d. horses being picketed between vehicles



5  
steps back to give protection from  
Bomb splinters  
pontoon wagons with Bridging  
equipment <sup>251</sup> were detached  
during the afternoon and together  
with pontoon equipment from  
other Div Field Coy was formed into  
a Bridging detachment. This was  
disbanded the same evening &  
wagons rejoined Coy.

At 9 a.m. morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> Coy  
Transport, <sup>moved</sup> out to R.19.C.F.O. Section  
Transport was attached to Section  
during the afternoon to move  
under section officers orders during  
the pending operations.

At 4 p.m. on the afternoon of 25<sup>th</sup>  
pontoon wagon moved out, and  
again joined Div Bridging Detachment  
which was again being formed.

At 6.15. The remainder of Coy  
Transport moved up via main  
Paronne Road to FOUCANCOURT M25.C.O.S. Lines  
being picketed in old trenches.

At 9-30 a.m. on the morning of  
the 30<sup>th</sup> H.9 vehicles moved to  
FAY N.23.6.5.5. shed 62<sup>nd</sup> where it  
was rejoined by N° 1.3+4 section  
Transport. N° 2 being attached to  
bridging detachment. <sup>64</sup>

4  
ANIMALS

Horses and mules have lost a  
little condition compared with  
last month, this is chiefly  
due to heavy work that  
they have had to do.  
The reduction in rations,  
the extreme difficulty in obtaining  
water in the battle areas,  
and not being able to devote  
the same time to grazing &  
to previous month, an amount  
of the number of mules;  
although full advantage has  
be taken of every opportunity  
offered.

Animal Strength

Rides	H.D.	L.D.	Packs	Mules	Total
14	Nil	47	4	7	72
Casualties <del>to</del> Killed by shell fire 2 L.D.					
Wounded & evacuated 1 "					Total 3
REMOUNTS Nil					

VEHICLES STRENGTH as per Establishment

A fair number of running  
repairs have had to be  
carried out during the month  
The under carriage of the <sup>64</sup>

251

APPENDIX 6

64



G.S. wagon has been reconstructed.  
a new tank has been fitted to  
water cart, several G.S. & h.G.S.  
poles have been replaced,  
4 Load Cart poles have broken  
and great difficulty has been  
experienced in replacing them none  
being available from D.A.D.O.S.  
up to date.

I would like to bring under  
your notice the following  
N.C.O.'s for the excellent assistance  
they rendered during the  
month especially during the  
operation of the 8" & 9" guns

- 4576. M<sup>r</sup> L/Cpl Atkinson, S.
- 4584 " 2<sup>nd</sup> Cpl Stewart, R.
- 2511 " Cpl Casey, L.M.
- 6005 " L/Cpl Brown, L.W.

in the order named.  
In conclusion I would like  
to bring to your notice the  
extreme difficulty in moving  
Coy equipment with the present  
establishment of vehicles, due  
chiefly to the extra Lewis guns  
and ammuni. that have been  
added recently to coy equipment.  
This has been very pronounced  
during the operation of

the last month when it  
has been necessary to make  
an extra journey with the  
G.S. wagon to bring up the  
extra equipment, which  
apart from the wear and  
tear on vehicles, & extra  
long journeys to the teams  
renders the company immobile  
if it was required to  
do a long trek

Substradwell Coy  
Troop Officer  
7<sup>th</sup> Field Coy HE  
31-5-18

251

APPENDIX 6

65

65



8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy H.Q.  
Transport Orders for 2-5-15

257

Raville 5.11.15  
Breakfast. 5.45 A.M.

Transport will move in two sections  
as follows.

1<sup>st</sup> Section Capt. Sturwick,  
Cpl Casey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cpl Stewart, Lpts. Brown  
& Hinkson.

3 pontoon wagons load with R.E. material  
11° 1 + 3 Load Carts.

11° 1 L.C.S. wagon.

2<sup>nd</sup> Section, Sergt Wilkinson, Cpl Moore.

11° 2 + 4 Load Carts

Coy C.S. wagon

11° 4 L.C.S. wagon.

Remainder of Coy Transport  
to remain at present transport  
lines in charge of Fav. Sergt Gold.

1<sup>st</sup> Section will move out  
at 7.11.15.

2<sup>nd</sup> Section at 9.11.15.

each horse to carry double  
mosebag feed.

66

Dress.

Full working order. Start helmet,  
to be worn. No Respirators  
at the start position.

Rations & water.

Independent portion of days ration  
& iron ration to be carried  
in transport.

Water bottles to be filled.

to be sent with 1<sup>st</sup> Section to carry

remainder of days ration

for 8<sup>th</sup> Sect. packing gear

& four tin water.

2<sup>nd</sup> Section.

C.S. wagon will carry four

ration for forward transport

for 9<sup>th</sup> Sect. 11° tin water

& additional packing gear

& Driver Dixie.

L.C.S. wagon will carry

11° 2 section blankets & 11°

1 2 + 3 section dunnage & 4 tin

of water.

Driver Rendal & Murray will

move out independently at

7.11.15 with 2 day rations for

both men & horse and report

to c/o 8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy at proposed

15

251

APPENDIX 6

66



advised Coy H.Q. in the vicinity  
of Q 33 central N.E. of BAYENVILLE

Rations

Q.M.S. to arrange that all  
rations for forward sections  
are prepared & loaded on  
L.C.S. wagons together with  
27. Tins<sup>water</sup> and ~~some~~ some  
transport lines in line  
to meet guide at Q 23 central  
with ~~some~~ guide line to  
forward transport lines.  
Every care must be taken  
to ensure that rations  
are properly packed, and  
mark their destinations

W. Shadwell Capt  
8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy HE  
10. P.M. 7.8.15

67

Transport Order N° 2 of 5.8.15  
11 P.M. 7.8.15

owing to further instructions  
N° 2 sections must be  
cancelled.

L.C.S. wagons will now forward  
loaded with working stores  
with N° 1 section

N° 1 2 & 3 sections Cook, gear, together  
with N° 2 sections & Driver  
Blankets will be loaded on  
L.C.S. wagons & now  
forward with Q.M.S.

Sergeant Wilkinson & N° 2-4 food  
Calt. he will stand by  
for instructions

W. Shadwell Capt  
8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy HE  
11. P.M. 7.8.15

67

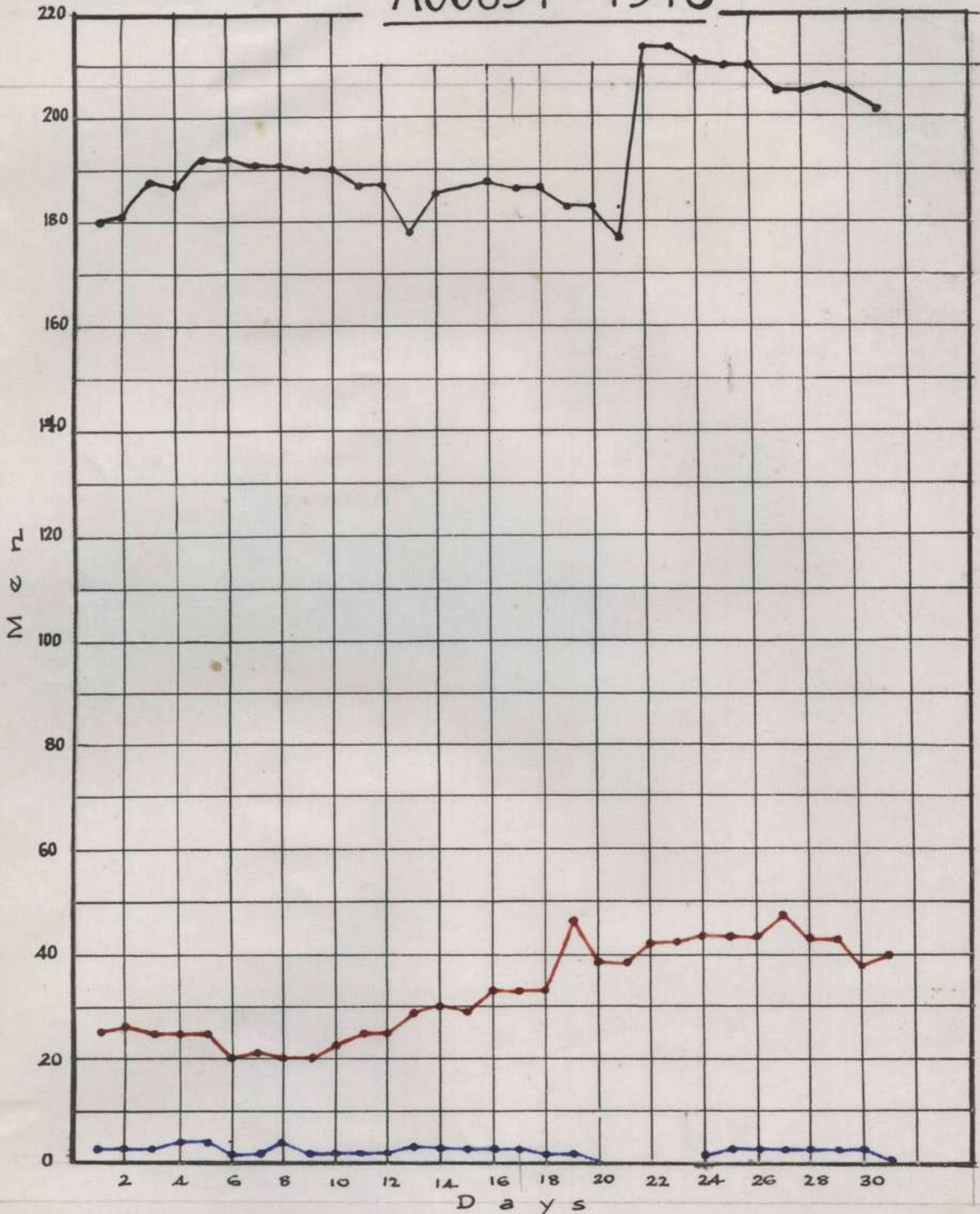


25  
 8TH  
 AUSTRALIAN  
 FIELD COMPANY.  
 No. ....  
 Date .....

Appendix No 7 68

— GRAPH —

Shewing Disposition of Company for  
AUGUST 1918



LEGEND

- Actually with unit —●—●—
- On Command —●—●—
- Hospital —●—●—
- Casualties etc. for Month 13 Reinforcements etc. for Month 41



Headquarters 5th. Australian Divisional Engineers.

257  
2 5TH. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ENGINEER INSTRUCTION No. 35.

-----oooo0000oooo-----

Ref. Map HARBONNIERES 1/40,000.

1. Under instructions from Aust. Corps the operations prepared under Engineer Instruction No. 30. will be postponed until further orders.

2. PREPARATORY MEASURES.

(1) In order to secure and strengthen the battle front the nibbling tactics which the Division has formerly employed will be continued. The Line shown in GREEN, (see attached map), represents the first phase of the operations. When these objectives are secured, further objectives are to be considered.

It is desired in this manner to obtain a strong position from which to continue the offensive to secure adequate protection to the flank of the offensive and to continue the pressure which is being exerted on the enemy.

(2) Artillery activity in addition to ordinary protection will embrace the destruction of all wire shown within the limits of the objectives laid down for the battle and subsequent exploitation.

It is considered that the intervals allowed will permit of more complete preparation of counter-battery action.

3. HOSTILE ACTIVITY.

Reports tend to show that the present enemy artillery activity is almost entirely based on the employment of larger calibre guns, such as 5.9 inch guns.

The enemy has however employed heavy gas shoots on the fronts of the French, Canadian and III Corps. It is therefore to be anticipated that these tactics will be pursued and careful arrangements will be made with regard to all places likely to be objectives of artillery action of this nature. Troops should be withdrawn from woods and villages and from any other places which it may be anticipated that the enemy will shell.

Where carrying parties are required to pass through such localities special measures will be prepared to ensure that they are checked and adequate police arrangements made in the event of a gas bombardment.

4. SALVAGE.

The great shortage in signal cable requires that all good cable should be salvaged as far as possible. Divisions in the forward area will salvage as much as possible in their areas. C.C. Signals will arrange for the salvage of cables in back areas and will obtain the necessary assistance for this from Divisions in reserve.

Ammunition left in back dumps and in old battery positions will be collected without delay.

5. . ACKNOWLEDGE (Field Companies and Pioneers)

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

15th August 1918

5th Australian Division...

DISTRIBUTION -	Copy No. 1	8th Field Co.	Copy No. 5	'G'
	2	14th Field Co.	6	'Q'
	3	15th Field Co.	7	C.E. Aust Corps
	4	5th Pioneer Bn	8 - 10	War Diary
			11-12	File.



257

90



Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Received.	Sent, or sent out.	Office Stamp.
			From.....	At.....m.	70
Charges to Collect			By.....	To.....	
Service Instructions			By.....		
Handed in at.....			Office.....	Received.....	9:30
TO	To: <i>1st Coy Engineers</i>				
* Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.		AAA	
<i>N 175</i>	<i>20</i>				
<p><i>Reconnaissance and brief report showing nature and loads of all bridges forward of and including bridge between Vaux and Vaise * required at once</i></p>					
<p>8TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.</p> <p>No. <i>Vaise</i></p>					
<p><b>WAR DIARY.</b></p>					
<p><i>Rec'd 9.50 a.m.</i></p>					
FROM	<i>CRG 1st Aust Div</i>				
PLACE & TIME					



257

71

Report on  
Sonne Bridges between  
Baine & Pioneer  
Bridge at Casey.

No 1. Heavy girders over  
Sonne, 108 ft long  
all loads except banks.

3 in Larri  
Ref. I 26 @ 1.2

No 2. over ditch north of  
River, 10 ft span, 9' 6"  
wide - 6 12" x 12" lumber  
beams - all loads except  
banks. same ref as No 1

No 3. alongside No 2, span 10 ft  
10 ft road width - beams 9'  
8" H steel girders.  
all loads except banks  
ref same as No 1.





15  
No 4. Barrel <sup>over Somme</sup> bridge, <sup>2</sup> spans each  
of 4 barrels, length 66 ft,  
width 4' 6" 257  
needs repair

Ref. J 27. C. 9.0.

No 5. Over ditch north of Somme  
single span 18 ft, 8' 6" road  
width - bearers 6' 12" x 12"  
timber - 3 Am lorries

Ref. J 34 b 4.2.

No 6. over ditch north of Somme  
single span 16 ft, road  
width 16 ft -  
load 3 Am lorries

Ref J 34 b 0.6

112

251  
No 7.

over Somme  
126 ft long, 8 equal bays  
on heavy timber trestles  
10 parallel 8" # steel girders  
bearers - 10 ft road width

load 3 Am lorries dead load

Ref - J 34 b 0.6.

No 8. Foot Bridge over Somme  
built of half timbers  
5 spans of 15 ft, 5 ft road  
width  
Reference

P bd 29

Note. The concrete bow  
truss bridge near here  
has been demolished &  
needs repair or reconstruction  
to make Somme traffic-  
able.

112



257

No 9.

Pondum Bridge

43

over Avenue  
15 ft bays, 9 ft road

Q. I. C. I. 7

had 4.2.

No 10: over ditch north of Avenue

single span brick arch  
reinforced with 18" # steel  
girders span 14 ft  
all loads.

Ref Q. I. a. 0.2.

257

No 11: over Avenue  
single span 20 ft road  
width 10 ft -  
beams 2 18" # steel  
girders

Ref full loads

Ref Q. I. C. 3. 7

No 12: over Avenue  
20 ft span  
10' 6" road width  
7 12" log beams

all loads except loads

Ref Q. I. C. 3. 7

No 13: over ditch south of  
Avenue - single span  
15 ft 10" # steel girder - beams  
2 18" # steel girders - all  
loads -

Ref Q. I. C. 3. 7.

73



No ~~14~~

over ditch south of

Tomme

25 ft. single span 12' 6"  
road width. 8 12" x 12"  
squared timber bearers.

Load G.A. :

Ref Q I / 9.2.

No 15. over ditch south of

Tomme

27 ft long in 3 9' spans  
on 6" piles, road width

8' 6" load G.A.

Ref: Q. 2 / 6. 7. 5

No 16 over mill stream

15 ft span 16' wide, 3'  
thick brick girded 9" steel  
girders - all loads - a  
guard rail should be erected  
to reduce width by 3 ft  
as the width of bridge was

1/4

been extended by that amount  
in a very weak manner  
relatively to the remaining  
width of road -

Ref Q 3 a. 0. 7.

No 17. Bridge over Tomme

as per sketch attached

32 ft long - 8' 3" road  
width - load 3 ton  
lorries load slow

Ref Q 2 / 8. 9

No 18. Footbridge over

Tomme 60 ft long x 3' 6"  
single span of filled logs.

Ref Q 3 a 2. 9.

No ~~19~~ Footbridge over Tomme

mixed timbers & filled logs  
60 ft x 4' 6"

Ref Q 3 a 9. 6

1/4



No 20. 4 over, Somme  
Good bridge 60ft long  
made of three timbers still  
trafficable but in poor  
order - not worth repair -  
width 3ft.  
Ref. Q 3 b 2.3

251

No 21. 4 over bridge over marsh  
40ft long, filled logs, 2' 6"  
wide, good order.  
Ref Q 3 b 5.1

No 22. 4 over bridge over Somme  
good order - new spans  
on trestles length 65ft,  
width 2' 6"  
Ref Q 3 b 5.0

No 23. 4 over bridge over marsh  
good repair  
2 spans each 25ft, 3ft  
wide  
Ref. Q 3 d 7.6

15

No 24. "Dunbar" Bridge  
Single span steel girder  
bridge

load marked on bridge  
"17 tons sur 1 Essieu"  
span 67ft road width  
9' 6"

Ref Q 3 d 5.6

J. A. Robertson  
S. I. Coy. L. E.

15

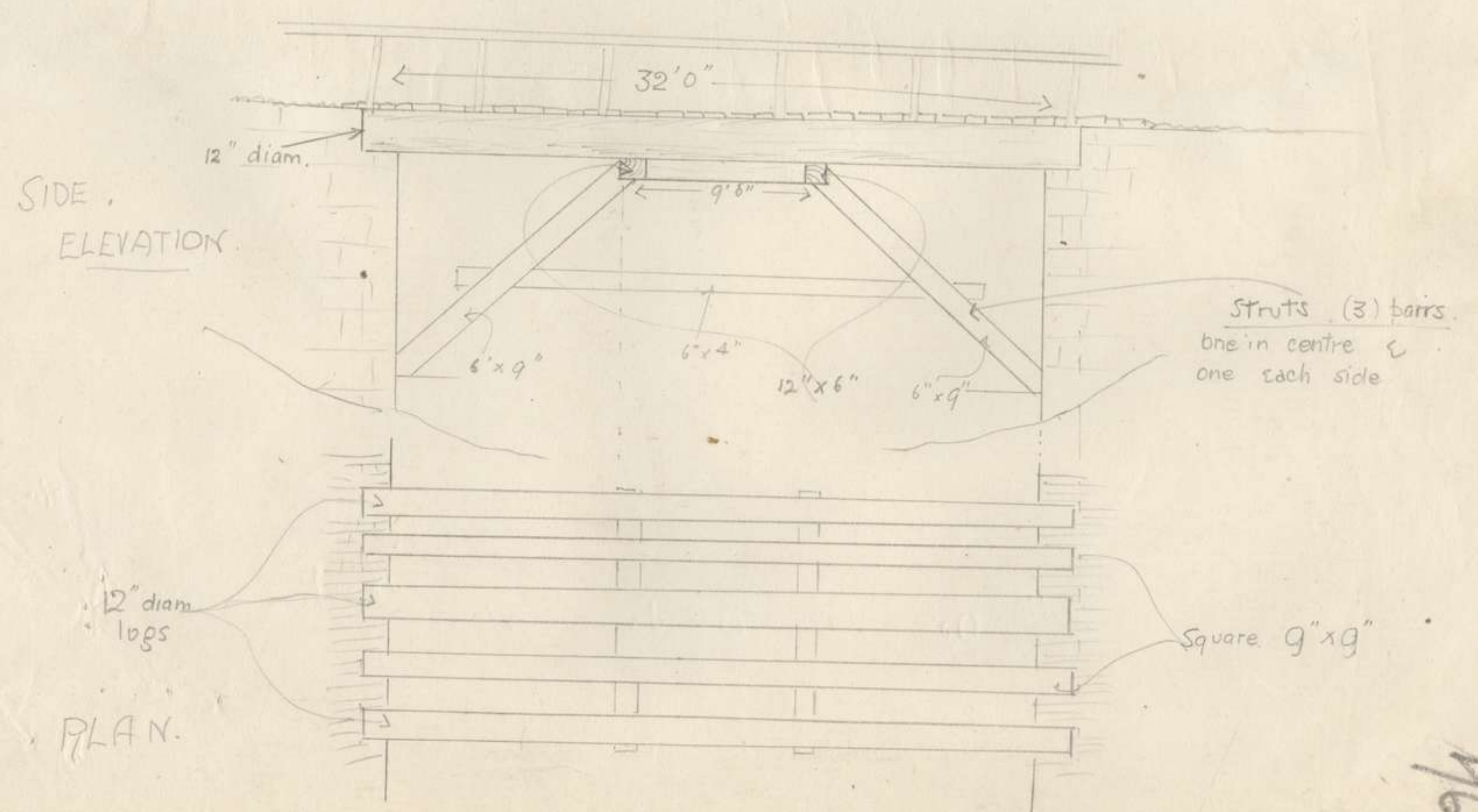
251

APPENDIX

15



251



46



Report on SOME VALLEY Bridges  
up stream from Bridge at  
Q 3 d 9.5.

251



<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>span</u>	<u>Width roadway - Load.</u>		<u>Remarks</u>
Q 4 c 04	Bosche Bridge. Heavy Trestle. Rough Timber (over Canal)	60'	18'	Anything except Tanks.	Good Condition. In use.
Q 10 d 5.3 9.0	Light foot bridges on foot track across Swamps (over Streams)	15'	3'	Foot Traffic.	Good Condition.
Q 10 d 4.4	Punt Footbridge 2. punts. 30' x 8' x 3' (Over Canal).	60'	3'	Foot Traffic.	" "
Q 5 d 3.1	Bosche Pontoon. 4 Boats. (over Canal)	60'	12'	Field Guns	Good condition, Boats 26' x 4'9" x 2'10" double chesed, 15' roadway spans. Superior banks on bank to make available for 4 ton axle load. approach from roadway west of Canal. Good roadway. access East side to towpath only.
Q 5 d 7.6 8.5	2 Timber bridges on 154 Steel joists. (4) (over Streams)	12'	10'	7ld Guns	Good condition. Recking old a requires attention. In main traffic line as on roadway road from Towpath to <del>the</del> MERICOURT village. * Requires general overhaul.
K 35 d 9.9	Steel & Timber, Single Span Truss. (over Canal at Lock) MERICOURT.	21'	8'	MT	Main road bridge, rebuilt, 19.8.18.
do.	Brick Arch over canal ditch.	8	12'	any load.	
K 36 a 1.1	Timber bridge.	30'	10'	7ld Guns. (over ditch)	avoiding road to lock.

APPENDIX

117



K 35 d 5.9  
 K 35 c 9.7  
 2 Light timber bridges  
 30'  
 20'  
 4'  
 Horses.

These bridges are on line of track over swampy ground, from lock bridge to roadway at K 35 c 7.7 If these bridges were made to accommodate wheeled traffic, track would be sufficiently good for dry weather traffic.

K 29 d 3.2  
 Remains of old stone bridge over stream. x damaged wooden bridge, (military)  
 45'  
 10'  
 nil.

These two bridges, impassable. Stone bridge blown, Timber bridge, smashed by shellfire. Shellfire on these bridge is continuous and accurate and any replacing would probably be useless, good alternative road is mentioned above to K 35 d 5.9 to K 35 c 7.7.



K 30 c 2.8  
 Wair footway over sluices from canal to stream  
 20'  
 2'  
 foot traffic

Good conditions.

K 30 b 8.2  
 Light timber footbridge over canal  
 60'  
 18"

Very rough, impassable, 3 parts. 30' long & wide, 3' deep at North bank, ready to swing.

L 25 c 9.3  
 Light timber footbridge over canal  
 60'  
 18"

Very rough, impassable, (1 part from portion of this bridge)

L 32 c 4.3  
 do  
 do  
 do

L 31 d 9.4  
 Footbridge (over ditch)  
 15'  
 3'  
 foot traffic

to path over swampy ground

Note ① Standard bridges along towpath, width of towpath, 10' spans, timber deck on 5 1/2" x 8" steel girders, any load except tanks, all in good condition at 8:— Q 10. d 4.3, Q 5 b 6.6, L 25 c 9.3.

② There are 6 or 7 piers in this stretch of river. Between Cerisy & Mercovert & Balance (ward near ERICHHEM). They are all in good condition, strongly built, 32' long & wide, 3' 6" deep, wood, also a number of barrel piers (Bosche) at Q 5 b. in lagoons ready made up x

APPENDIX

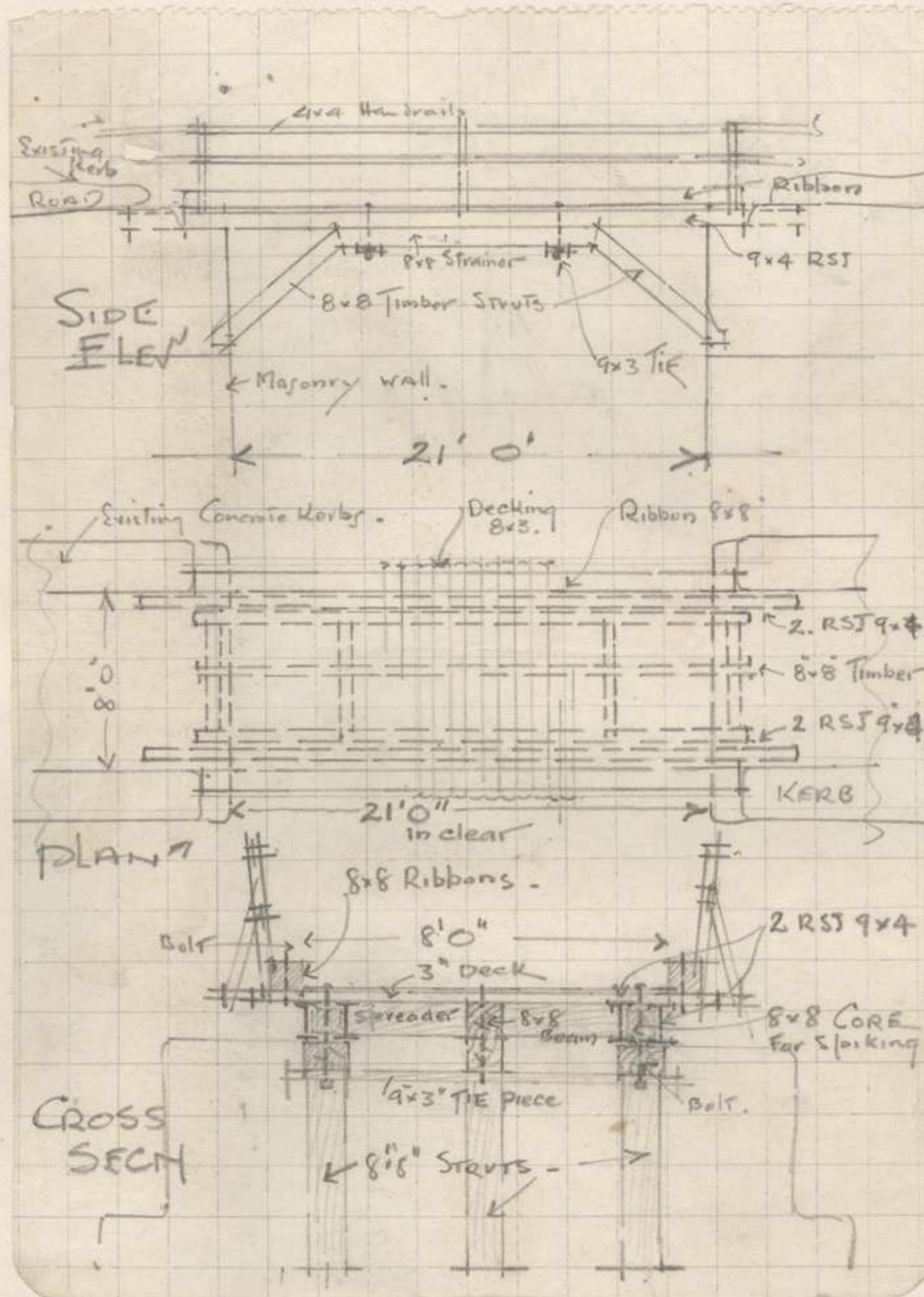
MS



*Handwritten signature*

APPENDIX





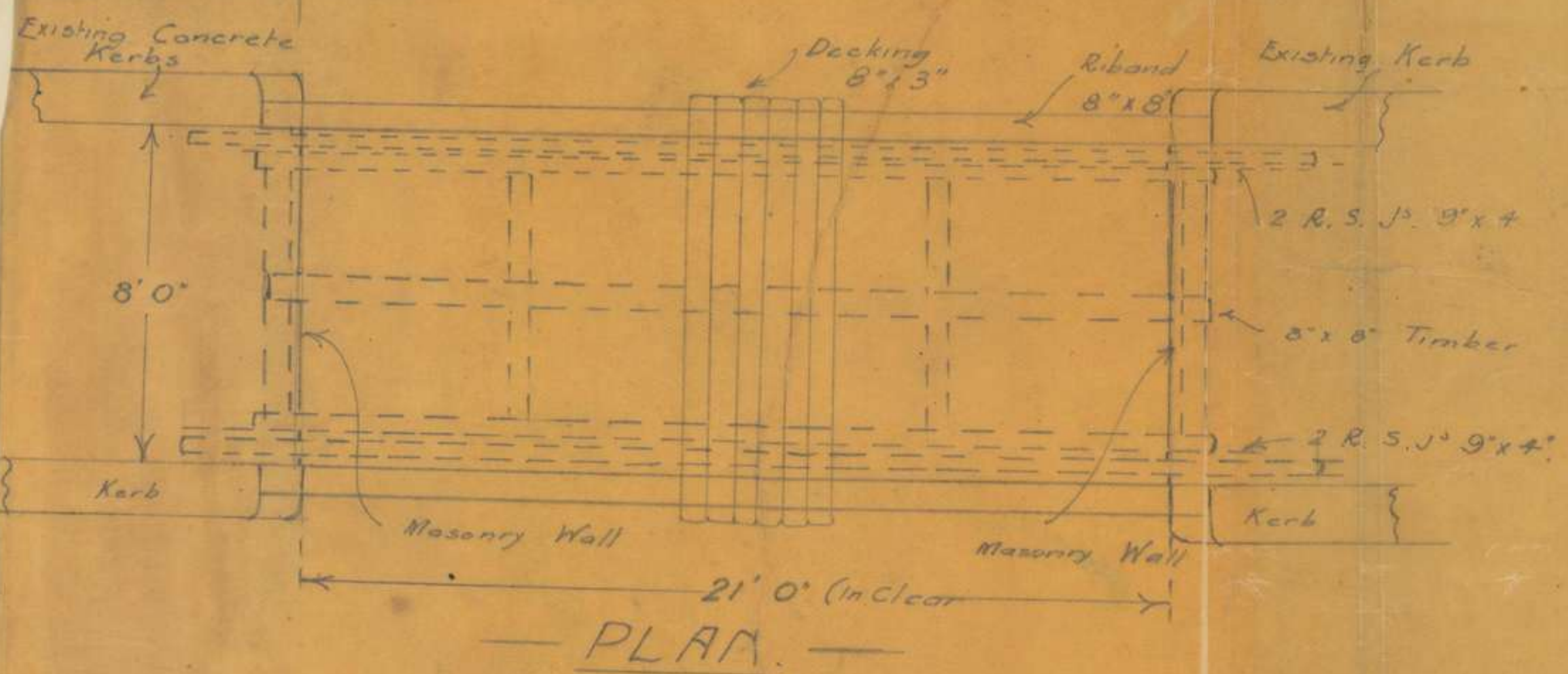
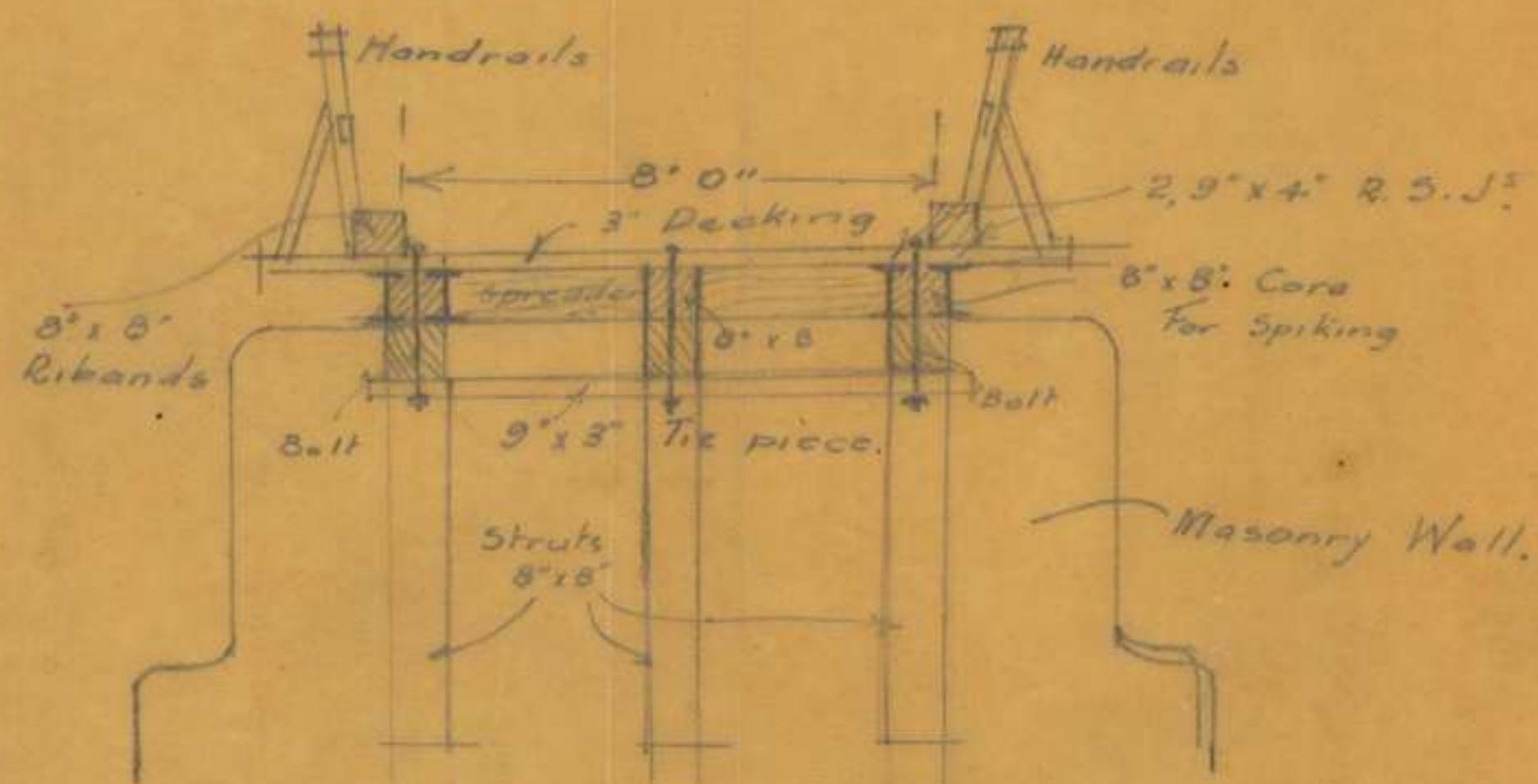
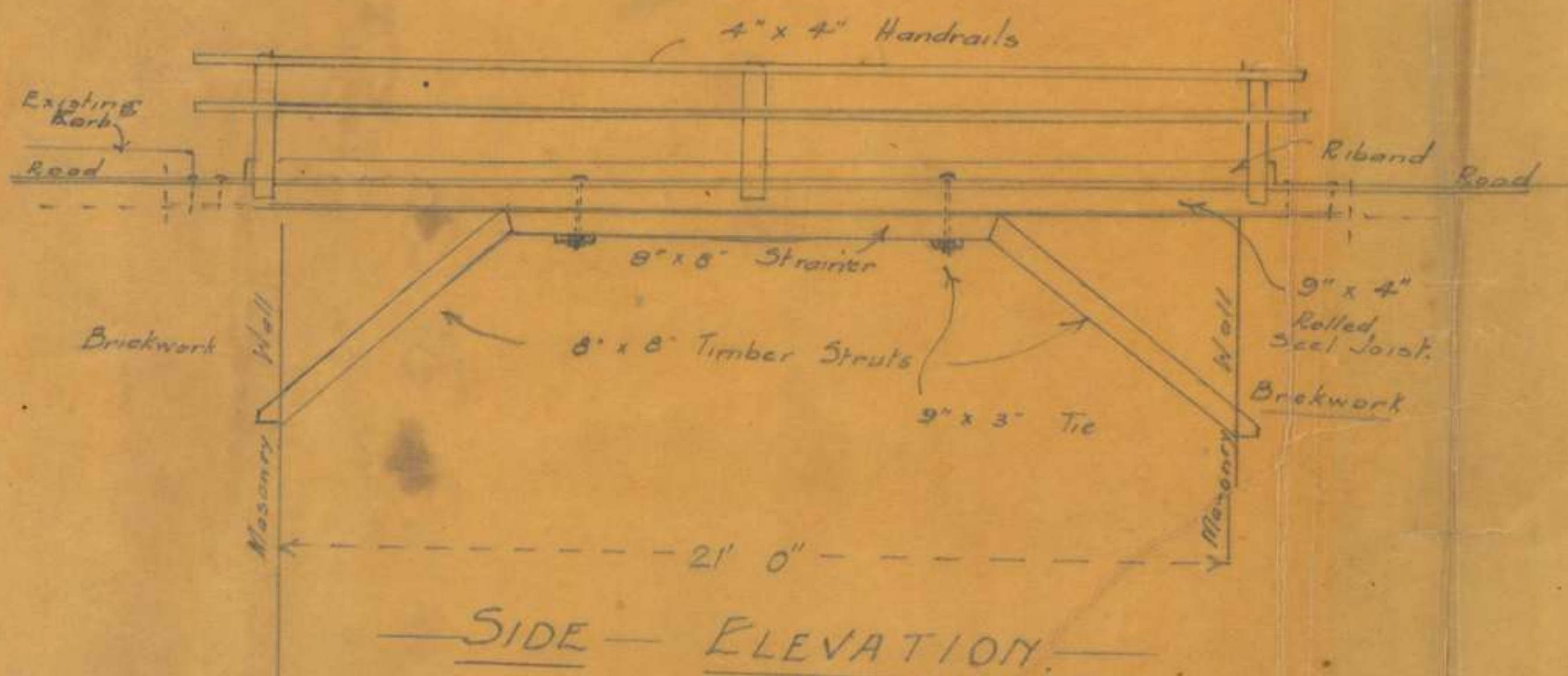


251

# 251 WAR DIARY

80

80



CROSS SECTION

SCALE 1/4" = 1 FT.

B<sup>th</sup> A. E.



251

62<sup>nd</sup> N.W.  
1:20,000

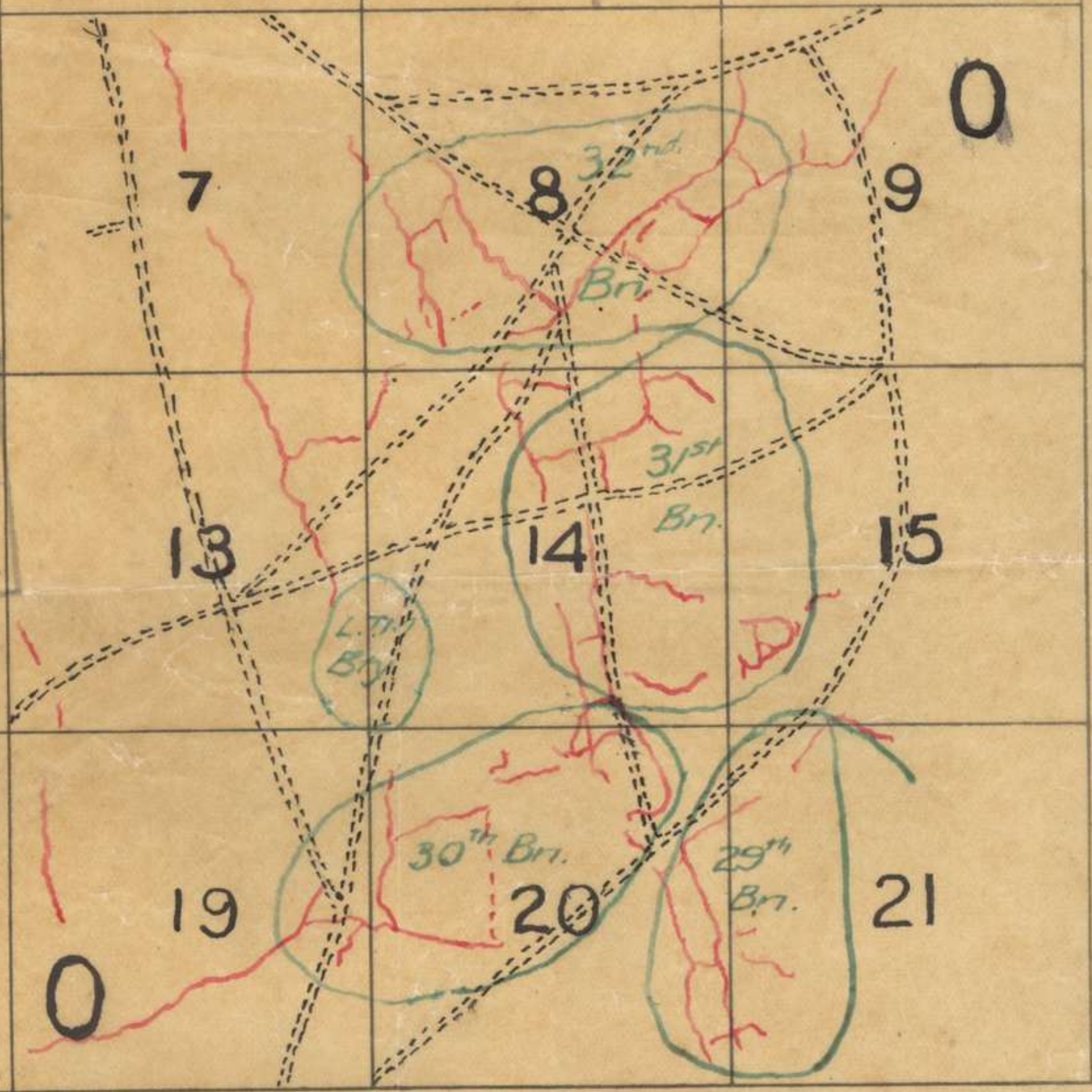
8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN INF. BDE

SECRET.

81

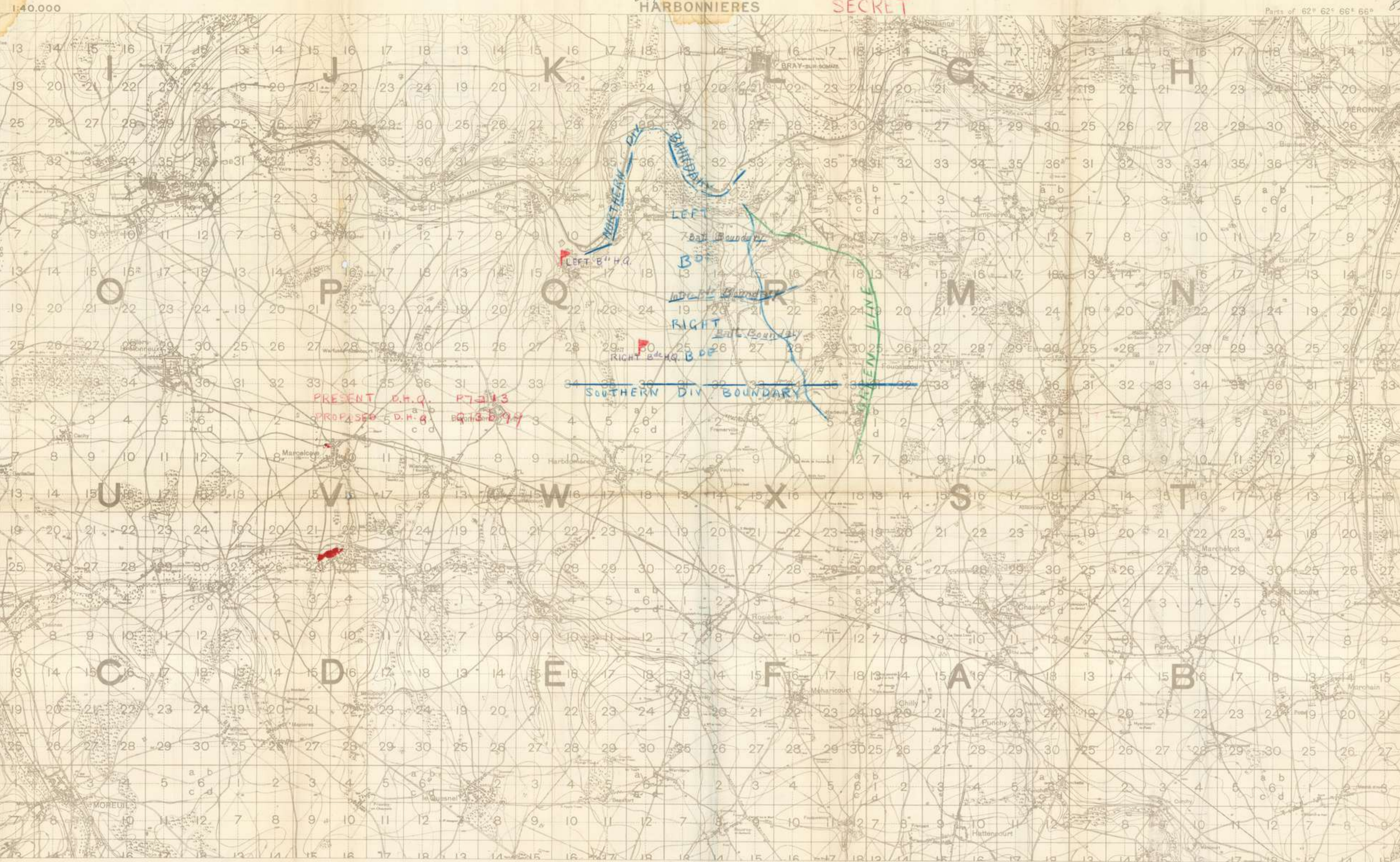
*W. G. J.*

8<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN  
FIELD COMPANY.  
No. ....  
Date .....



9-8-18.







WAR DIARY  
FILE



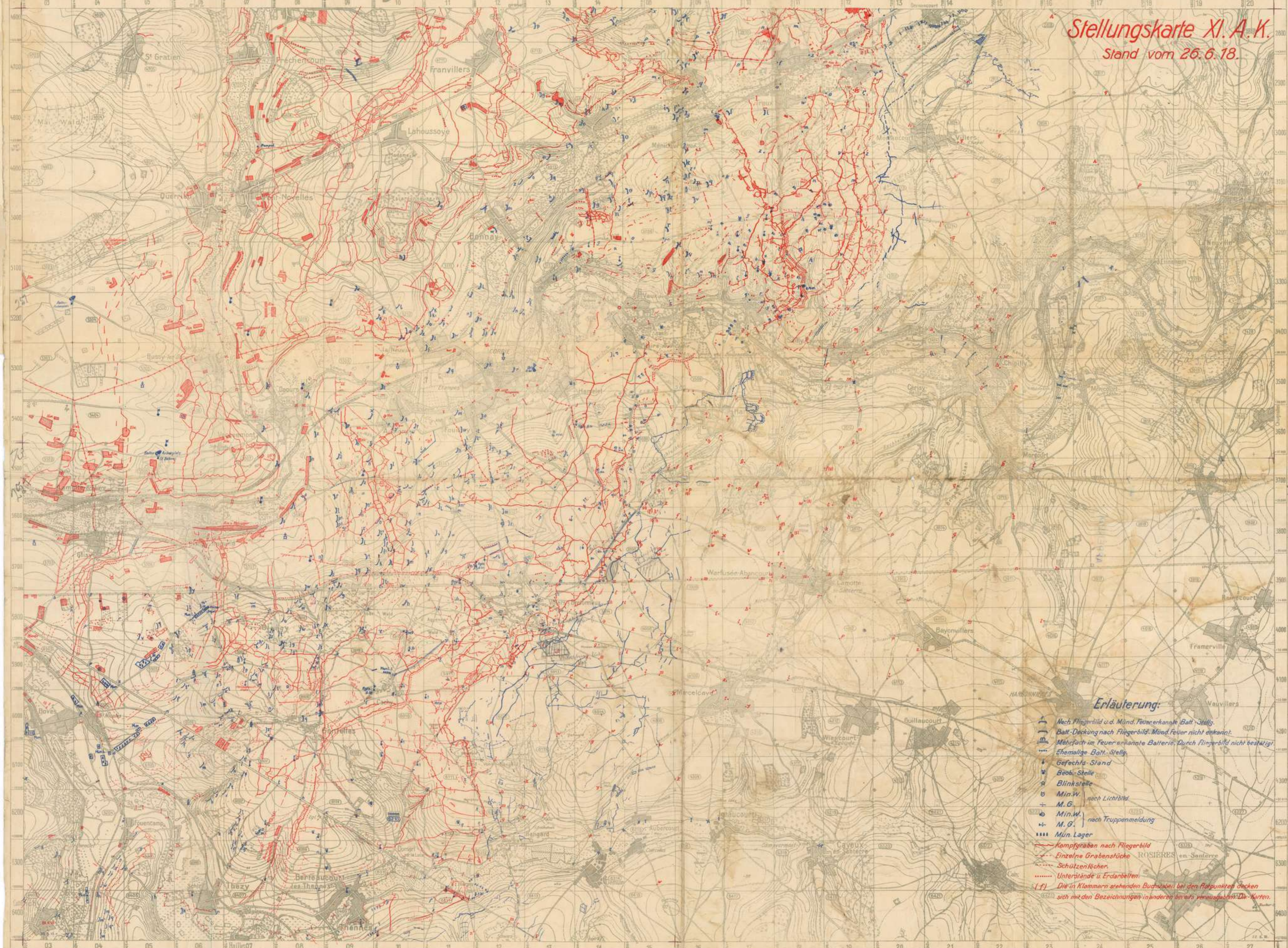
APPENDIX

251



Zusammendruck Corbie - Bray.

Stellungskarte XI. A. K.  
Stand vom 26. 6. 18.



- Erläuterung:**
- nach Fliegerbild u. d. Münd. Feuererkannte Batt. -Stells.
  - Batt. -Deckung nach Fliegerbild. Münd. Feuer nicht erkannt.
  - Mehrfach im Feuer erkannte Batteries. Durch Fliegerbild nicht bestätigt.
  - Ehemalige Batt. -Stells.
  - Gefechts-Stand
  - Beob. -Stelle
  - Blinkstelle
  - Min. W. nach Lichtbild
  - M. G.
  - Min. W. nach Truppenmeldung
  - M. G.
  - Min. Lager
  - Kampfgraben nach Fliegerbild
  - Einzelne Grabenstücke
  - Schützenlöcher
  - Unterstände u. Erdarbeiten
  - (f) Die in Klammern stehenden Buchstaben bei den Fliegerpunkten decken sich mit den Bezeichnungen in anderen bereits veröffentlichten Karten.

Anfertigung und Druck von der Meeres- und Luftbild-Abteilung 15. 1. 1918.  
Anfertigung durch Gruppenabteilung III. Bearbeitung durch Feldz. Gruppe der Verm.-Abt. 12 (1. 5. 18.)

83.

83



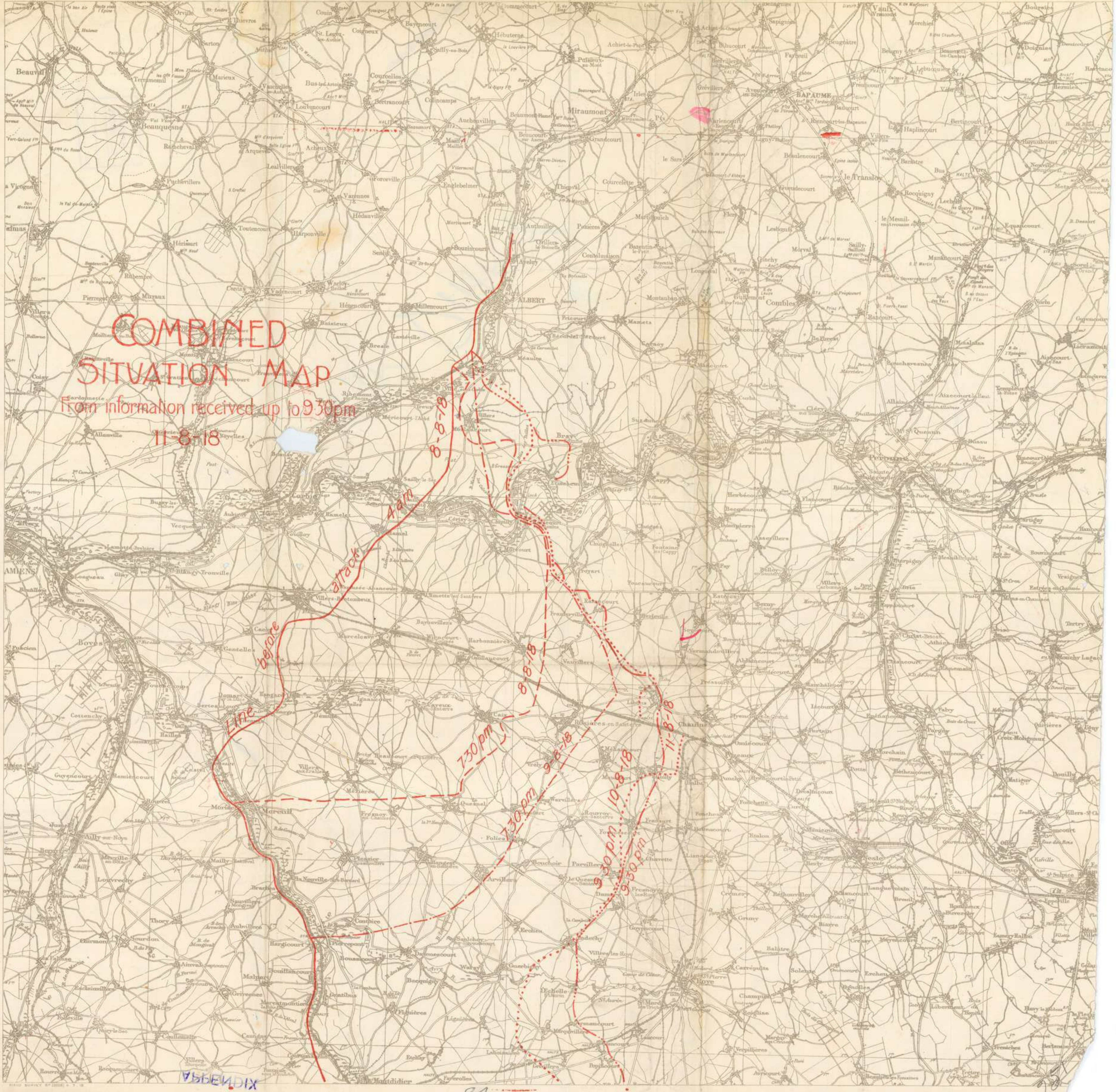
25

84

.251

84

84



**COMBINED  
SITUATION MAP**  
 from information received up to 9:30 pm  
 11-8-18

Line  
 before

attack  
 4 AM

8-8-18

7:30 PM

7:30 PM

9-8-18

10-8-18

11-8-18

APPENDIX

84



84

11

F 251

WAR DIARY

Operations  
829 Aug 1918

APPENDIX

8th AUSTRALIAN FIELD COMPANY.	
No.	.....
Date.	.....