

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/48/24

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 4th
Australian Division

March 1918



AWM4-1/48/24

CONFIDENTIAL.

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DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

GENERAL STAFF, 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

FOR

MARCH, 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

Edmund Mays

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Edmund Mays
for GOC 4 ADW*

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SCHERPENBERG.	Mar. 1st		Fine dull morning - afternoon wet. G.S.O.1 and G.S.O.11 1st Aust. Div. visited forward area and inspected works in progress. G.O.C. motored to KEMMEL and inspected 13th Field Amb. and then to VIERSTRAAT and inspected 12th Field Amb.. Wire from G.H.Q. stated probable raid on our front on night 1/2nd.	Appx. 1 Int. Summary Appx. 2 Amendt. to Location List
MERRIS	2nd		Morning fine cloudy, afternoon snow. Command of "C" Divisional Sector passed to G.O.C. 1st Aust. Div. at 10 a.m. Div. H.Q. closed at SCHERPENBERG at 10 a.m. and opened at MERRIS at same hour. About 9.40 p.m. on night 1st hostile raiding party of about 120 strong raided our outposts south of the CANAL. The relief of 13th Bn. by the 10th Bn. was in progress and both Bn's suffered casualties through hostile barrage which consisted of 5.9's, 4.2's and T.M's. 1 Off. 4 O.R. of raiding party taken prisoners. Communications forward of Bde H.Q. was bad owing to the buried cable route having been blown out by a shell. Our S.O.S. artillery barrage was prompt and very effective.	Appx. 3 Amendt. to Location List.
MERRIS	3rd.		Cloudy day with cold wind. Gen. BIRDWOOD and G.O.C. visited 13th Bde. H.Q. LOCRE and attended Church parade in Concert Hall. Presentation of medals and ribbons after the church parade. G.S. Circular No. 72 issued to all units.	Appx. 5 Amendt. to Location List. Appx. 4 G.S. Cir. 72.
	4th		Cold Cloudy day. Units commence training. Bdes improving training facilities in their respective areas.	Appx. 6 Dist. of Units

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE~~-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERRIS	Mar. 5th		Fine Bright day. G.O.C. motored to LOCRE. Training continues. Major-General E.G. Sinclair Maclagen C.B., D.S.O. arrived back from leave.	
	6th		Fine, bright day. Gen. Maclagen assumed command of Division. D.A. & Q.M.G. Aust. Corps visited Div. H.Q. G.O.C. visited Corps H.Q. and interviewed Col. DODDS and Col. ROSS. Training continues.	
	7th		Dull cloudy day. Training continued. G.O.C. visited 4th Bde. H.Q. and then motored to SCHERPENBERG to see C.R.A.	
	8th		Fine bright day. G.O.C. inspected 12th M.G. Coy route marching and then motored to 12th Bde H.Q. and interviewed Brig.-Gen. GELLIBRAND. Discussed training and C. in C's inspection. G.S.02 arrived back from leave. Training continues.	
	9th		Fine warm day. G.O.C. motored to 13th Bde. H.Q. and then called at 1st and 5th Div. H.Q. G.S.01 proceeded on leave. Training continues.	
	10th		Fine clear day. Gen. BIRDWOOD and G.O.C. attended church parade of 4th A.I. Bde. at NEUVE EGLISE. Presentation of ribbons and medals after parade and then the Bde. marched past. G.S.0.3 and Rents Officer No. 6 area inspected 4th & 13th Bdes training area and selected sites for rifle ranges and training grounds.	
	11th		Fine warm day. Training of units continue. G.O.C. accompanied by C.R.E. inspected 3rd Zone of	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C.2118/14.

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~~INTELLIGENCE~~-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERRIS	March 11th		defence in Aust. Corps Sector. D.A.G., A.I.F. visited Div. H.Q. also S.M.T.O.	
	12th		Fine clear day. G.O.C. visited 46th Bn. H.Q. and discussed training with Lieut-Col. FORD. Rode to 45th Bn. and watched the Coys. training. B.G. G.S. Aust. Corps visited Div. H.Q. and discussed the Support Division Defence Scheme with G.O.C., C.R.E., and G.S.O.2. G.S.O.2 visited 4th & 13th Bde. H.Q. and discussed details for the manning of the 3rd Zone.	Appx. 7 Dist. of Units.
	13th		Fine clear day. Training continues. G.O.C. visited Corps H.Q. and had a further discussion with Gen. WHITE on the Support Div. Defence Scheme.	
	14th		Misty morning - Afternoon fine. G.O.C. visited 13th Bde. H.Q. and accompanied by G.O.C. 13th Bde. XXX inspected 49th, 51st and 52nd Bns. at training. Training continues.	Appx. 8 Amendt. to to Dist. of Units.
	15th		Fine day. Training continued. G.O.C. attended a conference of Div. Commanders at Corps H.Q. and afterwards had an interview with Gen. PLUMER.	
	16th		Fine bright day. Training continues. G.O.C., B.G. G.S., Aust. Corps and C.R.E. inspected 3rd Zone (ARMY LINE) of defence from NIEPPE to KEMMEL.	
	17th		Fine clear day. Gen. GRIMWADE and G.S.O.11 training Aust. Corps visited Div. H.Q.	Appx. 9 Dist. of Units.
	18th		Fine clear day. G.S.O.1 inspected 3rd Zone of defence from NIEPPE to KEMMEL. G.O.C. inspected	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C.2118/14.

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERRIS	March 18th		48th Bn. at work and then motored to 4th Div. Train and inspected horse lines.	
	19th		Wet. showers and mist. Training of units continue.	
	20th		Misty morning - fine afternoon. G.O.C. and G.S.O.2 visited 5th Aust. Div. H.Q., DRANOUTRE. Gen. GELLIBRAND, Col. MACARTNEY and Col. ROSS visited Div. H.Q. Training continued.	
	21st.		Fine and clear. Training continued. Conference of Brigadiers, C.R.E., A.A. & Q.M.G. and G.S.O.2 held at Div. H.Q. to discuss dispositions etc. for taking over new front. G.O.C. inspected 12th Bde. transport at METEREN.	Appx. 10 Amendt. to Dist. of Units.
	22nd 23rd		Fine bright day. Training continued 4th Bde commenced wiring switch line near NIEPPE. Fine bright weather. Aeroplanes very active after dark. Enemy still shelling back areas with H.V. Guns.	
BASSEUX	24th		Fine and clear. Orders issued for the commencement of the march south. Personnel to go by bus transport and Div. Artillery by road. Order for staging of transport countermanded - much difficulty caused but complied with satisfactorily. Destination of personnel changed three times causing confusion and making it practically impossible to billet troops. G.S.O.1 returned from leave.	Appx. 11 Div. Ord. 102.
	25th		Fine and bright, frosty. Division moved by busses to BESSEUX Area. Transport reached HERMAVILLE. Div. Artillery to HOUDAIN. Position seems obscure on SOMME front in parts. Division under 10th Corps for tactical purposes and administered by 6th Corps. Div. Commander visited X Corps H.Q.	Appx. 12 Order 102 addendum.
	26th		Bright and fine. Reported that Bosches had broken through at HEBUTERNE and that armoured cars were moving on SOUASTRE. Ordered to block roads and intercept cars. Apparently only a rumour spread by German Agents. Div. next ordered to refill part of the line vacated, countermanded almost immediately and on information that HEBUTERNE was held by enemy. One Bde (4th) was ordered by Army to attack and recapture the village while the 12th and 13th Bdes. moved to POMMIER and BIENVILLERS. This was also countermanded and Div. less 4th Bde. ordered to march to SENLIS - HEDAUVILLE areas while 4th Bde occupied HEBUTERNE and was placed under 62nd Div., 4th Corps temporarily. The countermanding of orders from higher authority caused endless work and exhaustion to the troops generally.	
BAYLIEUX	27th		Fine and bright. Division less Arty. and 4th Bde. arrived in SENLIS - HEDAUVILLE areas after marching most of the night. March was of a tactical nature and flank guards were provided on left. After four hours rest 12th and 13th Bdes. groups were moved into 9th Div. Sector and 12th Bde proceeded to take over line from DERNANCOURT (exclusive) to S.W. ALBERT, E.3.D.1.5.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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BAIZIEUX.	March 27th		Bns. moved into position by daylight and relief completed after dusk. 13th Bde distributed in depth in rear of 12th Bde and entrenchments dug. Supporting platoon posts constructed which can eventually be linked up to form a line. 24th M.G. Coy manning G.H.Q. line in advance of BAIZIEUX. 4th Pioneer Bn. dug line in advance of LAVIEVILLE. Bde. H.Q. at LAVIEVILLE, not considered wise to remain in village at present as when possible they are heavily shelled by the enemy. 15 Whippet Tanks moved to HENENCOURT WOOD and are available for use in event of line breaking.	Appx. 13 Div. Ord. 104.
	28th		Fine and cloudy. 35th Div. on right, 17th Div. on left. Enemy attacked our line in early morning and was ejected by 47th Bn. who captured 1 off. and 34 O.R's just north of DERNANCOURT Further attack at 9.30 a.m. again repulsed and 6 O.R's and 4 M.G's captured. Enemy reported reported moving in preparation to delivering attacks at various points opposite our front and were dispersed by artillery fire. Owing to evidence of possible attacks a request was made that the two Bdes of Artillery belonging to 9th Div. and Army Arty. who were due for relief should remain an extra 24 hours. 12th Bde co-operated with 35th Div. during their operations against DERNANCOURT assisting with two companies. Attack was not successful and companies suffered severely. Our aeroplanes very active and had control of the air. Good liaison arranged between Bns. Bdes and Divs. Rear H.Q. at VADENCOURT shelled with H.V. Gun, no casualties. Work commenced on Bde H.Q. for forward Bde as present site in LAVIEVILLE not suitable and would be untenable in event of area strafe.	Appx. 14 Dist. of Units.
	29th		Overcast with light rain in morning, clear night. Situation unaltered and exceptionally quiet. Improvement of positions constructed as platoon posts improved and work continued generally. An exceptionally quiet day, the enemy firing very little shell. Our guns continued to fire on approaches and caught a large column of transport on the FREYCOURT - ALBERT Road causing great havoc. Our men are in excellent spirits and are confidently awaiting the next hostile assault. Patrolling carried out by night to ensure that the enemy is not massing close to our lines. Corps Commander desires that in event of having to fall back the line will pivot on flank near ALBERT. Decided to dig a further defensive line on reverse slope in rear of present line of resistance and orders issued accordingly. G.O.C. 13th Bde., visited D.H.Q. midday and was informed of proposed taking over of 35th Div. front and the Div. Commanders wishes in connection therewith.	Appx. 15 D.O. 105.
	30th		Dull and wet with poor visibility. B.G. G.S. 7th Corps called during morning and discussed taking over 35th Div. front. G.O.C. 13th Bde called at D.H.Q., 35th Div. and arranged details mutually for the taking over that night. Our artillery continued to fire on enemy roads towards	Appx. 16 Summary of Operations.

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WAR DIARY

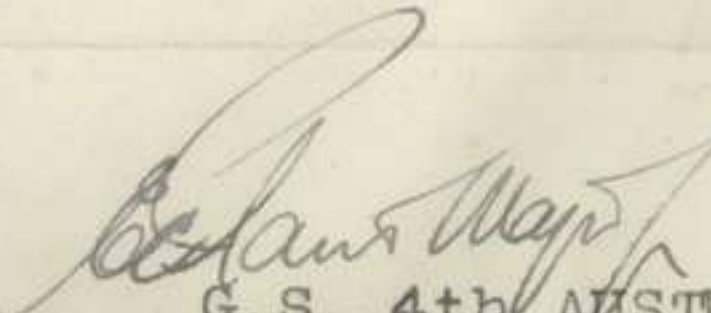
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAZIEUX	30th 31st		<p>his rear and caught more convoys of transport. Direct hits were observed and result of disorganisation observed. Hostile artillery fire was very light except for intermittent bursts. Enemy planes were active during morning but inclemency of weather prevented flying later. 13th Bde took over front held by 35th Div. from BUIRE HALTE to junction with 12th Bde near DERNANCOURT. 3rd Aust. Div. extended their front northwards and are now on our right.</p> <p>Overcast with intervals of wet and fine periods. Again very quiet on whole area. 13th Bde holding their front with three coys. in front line. Two Bns 13th Bde disposed in vicinity of BRESLE WOOD form Divl. reserve and will not be employed without reference to this office. Work of improving and strengthening posts is being proceeded with satisfactorily. G.O.C. visited 12th and 13th Bde H.Q's</p> <p>Owing to trouble from DERNANCOURT arrangements have been made to destroy the village by shell fire at 5.30 p.m. tomorrow with a hurricane bombardment to last 15 minutes. 12th and 13th patrols to push into village on cessation of fire.</p>	<p>Appx. 17 Summ. of Operations.</p> <p>Appx. 18. Div. Order 106. Appx. 19. Dist. of Units.</p>


Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
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WAR DIARY

OF

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

FOR

MARCH, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Intelligence Summary.
2.	Amendment to Location List.
3.	Amendment to Location List.
4.	G.S. Circular No. 72.
5.	Amendment to Location List.
6.	Location List.
7.	Location List.
8.	Amendment to Location List.
9.	Amendment to Location List.
10.	Amendment to Location List.
11.	Divisional Order 102.
12.	Divisional Order 102 (addendum).
13.	Divisional Order 104.
14.	Location List.
15.	Divisional Order 105.
16.	Summary of Operations.
17.	Summary of Operations.
18.	Divisional Order 106.
19.	Location List.

For Official Use Only.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 238.

From 6 a.m. 28th Feby. to 6 a.m. 1st March, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

* tracks and communications in

1 OPERATIONS. The usual harassing fire was carried out, principally on following areas :- *P.7.B, P.3.D, P.8.A, J.33.A & B, J.34.C, JAGER TRENCH in J.33.A and J.27.C. Bursts of fire were put down on J.27.C. 7.6, POOL FARM (J.32.B) END FARM (J.27.D) LOCK 5 (O.12.B) PUMP FARM (O.12.B) KIKI FR. (P.8.C) and CIRCUS POINT (P.2.C). A party at P.2.D.30.03 was engaged by 18 pounders and casualties inflicted.

(b) Trench Mortars. Stokes Mortars engaged enemy positions at LOCK 6 and H.G. positions in forward area.

(c) Machine Guns. Vickers Guns carried out a useful programme of harassing fire during the night. By day low flying enemy aeroplanes were engaged.

(d) Aircraft. Very active throughout the day, constantly over enemy lines. An enemy plane was driven down by our machines opposite the left Battalion sector.

(e) Patrols. The whole Divisional ^{Front} was vigorously patrolled throughout the night. Special attention was paid to the left Brigade sector where a screen of patrols was thrown out to cover the relief of that Brigade. A patrol heard tapping in vicinity of LOCK 5. Several other working parties were heard, otherwise very little enemy movement was noticed. An enemy patrol of two was seen to leave MAY FARM and go towards CIRCUS POINT and when about 70 yards from the former place was halted by what appeared to be a night post. A thin copper wire was picked up running from GAME COPSE to edge of HESSIAN WOOD and returning to COPSE. Our patrol cut this in several places.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Quieter than the previous two days. The principal areas shelled were Support Line, OLAF AVENUE, track leading from IMPERIAL AVENUE to BELGIAN WOOD group (J.31.C & D) I.28.D and O.8.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. Fairly quiet on Right Brigade sector, but very alert, machine guns firing on slightest sound in No Man's Land. M.G's were more active than the previous two days. Trench Mortars also showed slightly increased activity.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Work. Wiring party heard about 50 yds west of Lock 6. Tapping heard in vicinity of LOCK 5. Working party near LOCK 6. Party of 6 working between GAME COPSE and P.1.C.60.55. A large party of about 40 were again observed working along ridge from P.6.A.3.3 to P.6.C.4.6 for 2 1/2 hours during the morning.

(b) Machine Guns. Active guns located at LOCK 6, MAY FARM, CIRCUS POINT, GAME COPSE.

(c) Trench Mortars. Firing from CANAL bank near LOCK 5 on our Right flank. Also from LOCK 5 firing on Coy H.Q. in O.12.A. A Mortar fired from Railway bank on 149th Mag. B from O.6.C.40.05.

(d) Strong Point. There appears to be a strong point at O.12.C.8.8. (observer).

P.T.O.

(2).

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 7 a.m. one plane crossed our lines and patrolled forward areas. At 3.30 p.m. a triplane patrolled forward areas. This was again seen about 5 p.m. 4.45 p.m. 3 planes flew in direction of YPRES. 5.20 p.m. a plane unsuccessfully attacked one of our balloons. All these were heavily engaged by our A.A. fire. One balloon was up at 74° G.B. from O.11.A.25.45.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

At 2 p.m. considerable movement in vicinity of LOCK 4. At frequent intervals throughout the afternoon officers were seen to enter and leave a round pillbox at LOCK 5 which is used as an O.P. A good deal of individual movement around CIRCUS POINT, DAMP COPSE and FUNNY FARM at about 6 p.m. Also at BERRY COTTS (J.27.A) and GLASS HOUSES (J.28.B) throughout the day. A party of 22 came from P.6.C.1.2 at 10 a.m. and passed out of sight at P.6.B.2.5. Several small parties on road from P.5.A.0.5 to J.35.D.95.05 during the afternoon.

Railways. A light railway is under construction in vicinity of DEVILS ELBOW (P.7.S.5.3).

Trains. 9.30 a.m. two trains S.E. of COMINES travelling South.
11 a.m. two trains near WERVICQ.

O.P. A round pillbox near LOCK 5 is used as an O.P. Two men observing all day from rear of concrete dugout at P.2.B.90.55.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy gun - apparently anti-tank gun - can be distinctly seen about 1000 yards from O.6.C.40.05 on a bag. Bearing of 210 degrees from that point. Close to gun is a camouflaged position which appears to be a new pillbox.

Signals. A lamp was signalling from O.6.D.30.40 at 5 p.m.

Smoke. was seen rising from factory smoke stack to the left of WERVICQ Steeple (observed from O.6.C.40.05).

R. H. Stewart L.
for
Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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APPENDIX. 2

appx 2 War Diary APPENDIX 2

Amendment to Location List - dated 21st February, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet	Map Square 1/40,000	Remarks.
4th Aust. Inf. Bde H.Q.	29	S. 18. D. 2.1	WATERLOO CAMP
13th Battalion		H. 23. A. 3.0	
15th Battalion		I. 34. C. 1.1	BLUFF
4th A.L.T.H. Bty		T. 25. D. 2.1	KENT CAMP
13th Aust. M.G. Coy		H. 23. A. 3.0	
13th A.L.T.H. Bty		H. 18. D. 8.3	
4th Aust. Field Arb.		S. 17. CENTRAL	RAVELSBURG
12th Aust. Field Arb.		Rue Benott Cortyl	BAILLEUL
13th Aust. Field Arb.		Rue de Musre	BAILLEUL
24th Aust. M.G. Coy.		H. 29. D. 2.4	LOORE HOF FARM

Other units no alteration.

W. Stewart Lt.

for Brigadier-General,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

As at 8 a.m. 2nd March, 1918.

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APPENDIX.

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appx 3

War Diary

Amendment to "Distribution of Units"- dated 3rd March, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet	Map Square 1/40,000	Remarks.
14th Battalion.	28	T. 14. A. 4. 2	NEUVE EGLISE HUTTING FARM R. E. FARM
15th Battalion		T. 15. B. 4. 5	
4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.		N. 15. C. 1. 5	
Div. Supply Col.		S. 13. CENTRAL	
Other units no alteration.			

Amulox with Capt

for Brigadier-General,
Commanding, 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

As at 8 a.m. 5th March, 1918.

APPENDIX. 4

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION,Headquarters,
3rd March, 1918.G.S. CIRCULAR NO. 72.

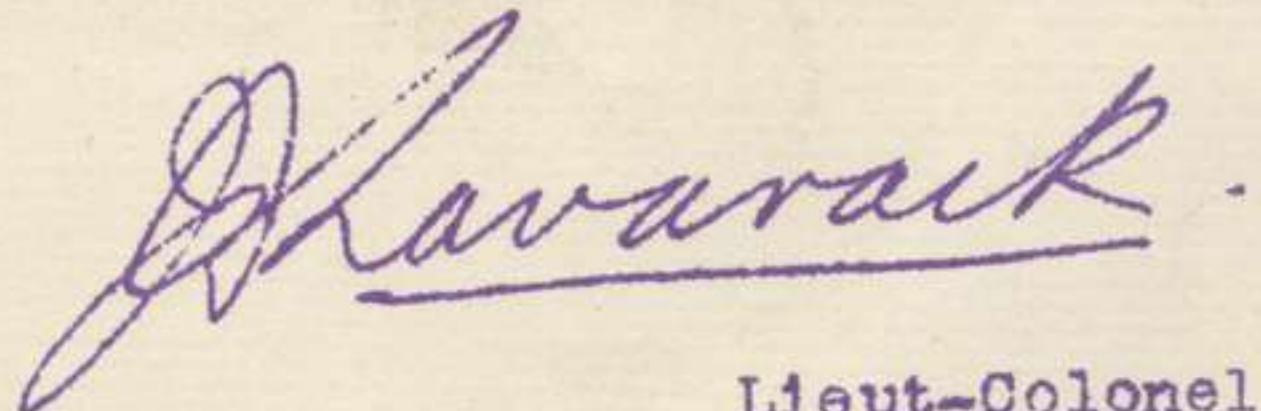
1. During the present period out of the line progressive training will be carried out as far as the facilities allow. It is realised that the areas available are probably insufficient for anything more advanced than a limited amount of Company training.
2. A start will be made at once with individual and specialist training particular attention being paid to the use of the rifle and all other Infantry weapons. Rapid loading must be practised and all units must be in possession of sufficient dummy cartridges for the purpose. A minimum of 1000 per Battalion must be provided for. Brigades will forward a statement of their requirements to bring the amount in their possession up to this minimum by the 5th inst.
3. Immediate steps will be taken to put all training arrangements into thorough working order. The C.R.E will detail an officer per Infantry Brigade whose duty will be to supervise the provision and maintenance of training facilities under the Brigade Commander. Any skilled labour required by this officer will also be provided by the C.R.E. when the Brigade Commander requires it.
4. Platoon Rifle Competitions in accordance with O.B./1618/D, Army Rifle Association Platoon Competition, should be instituted as soon as possible with a view to the selection of a platoon to represent the respective brigades in the Divisional Final.

These competitions will be commenced by the selection, by competition, of a platoon to represent each company, then one to represent each battalion, and finally one to represent each Brigade. The Company and Battalion Competitions must be decided by the 18th inst. and the Brigade competitions by the 25th inst. The Divisional Final will be decided at a date to be notified later, but should Brigades go into the line in the meantime, the winning platoon in the Brigade Competition may be kept out of the line, subject to the Divisional Commander's approval, until the competition is finally decided. The composition of all competing platoons, except for bona fide evacuations and reinforcements, will be as on 1st March, 1918, and a certificate to this effect will always be provided by C.O's concerned.

5. The mornings, up to 12.30 p.m., will be devoted to individual and specialist training, the afternoons to Recreational Training. Every endeavour must be made to ensure that every man takes part in the Recreational Training and that it is not confined to competitions between selected teams, with the bulk of the units taking the part of onlookers only.

Distribution.

4th Aust. Inf. Bde	7
12th " " "	7
13th " " "	7
4th Aust. Div. Arty	3
C.R.E.	2
Pioneer Bn.	1
A.D.M.S.	1
24th Aust. M. G. Coy	1
Sig. Coy	1
G.O.C.	1
A.Q.	1



Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

=====
 Amendment of "Distribution of Units" - dated 3rd March, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet.	Map Square 1/40,000	Remarks.
10th A.F.A. Bde	28	N.7.0.7.3	DEVON CAMP
11th A.F.A. Bde		I.32.B.	LOOK 7
B.T.M.O.	36A	E.12.CENTRAL	
Dib. Sig. School	28	No. 1 Place Plichon	BAILLEUL
Other units no alteration.			

Alexander Capt.

for Brigadier-General,
 Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

As at 8 a.m. 6th March, 1918.

appx 5

War Diary

appet 6

War Diary

SECRET.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution of Camps.

Unit.	Sheet	Map Scale 1/40,000	Remarks.
<u>DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS.</u>	36A	F. 1.0	HERRIS
<u>4th Aust. Inf. Bde H. Q.</u>	28	S. 18. D. 2.1	WATTELOO CAMP
13th Battalion		T. 14. B	NEUVE EGLISE
14th Battalion		T. 14. D.	NEUVE EGLISE
15th Battalion		T. 15. A	HUTLING CAMP
16th Battalion		T. 20. A. 1.1	ALDRSHOT
4th Aust. A. G. Coy.		T. 25. D. 2.1	
4th A. L. T. Bty.			KENT CAMP.
<u>12th Aust. Inf. Bde. H. Q.</u>	27	X. D.	HETEREN
45th Battalion		K. 17. C. 3.4	HETEREN AREA
46th Battalion		X. 26. D. 4.3	HETEREN AREA
47th Battalion		X. 15. D. 7.8	HETEREN
48th Battalion		X. 15. C. 8.9	HETEREN
12th Aust. A. G. Coy.		X. 15. B. 9.1	HETEREN
12th A. L. T. Bty.		X. 15. D. 3.8	HETEREN
<u>13th Aust. Inf. Bde. H. Q.</u>	28	H. 23. C. 4.4	LOCRE
49th Battalion		H. 29. A. 8.8	BUR BARR CKS
50th Battalion		H. 19. D. 4.4	KEMMEL SHELTERS
51st Battalion		H. 29. C. 8.5	WAKEFIELD HUTS
52nd Battalion		H. 29. C. 8.5	DONCASTER HUTS
13th Aust. A. G. Coy.		H. 23. A. 3.0	LOCRE
13th A. L. T. Bty.		H. 18. D. 8.3	LOCRE
<u>4th Aust. Div. Artillery H. Q.</u>		H. 17. B.	SCHERPENBERG
10th A. F. A. Bde		I. 32. A. 90.97	LANKOF CHATEAU
11th A. F. A. Bde		I. 26. D. 05.05	LANKOF CHATEAU
D. A. C.		H. 23. D. 5.9	ALA LINES
D. T. A. O.		N. 16. D. 2.4	LAITERJE
<u>4th Aust. Div. Engineer H. Q.</u>	36A	F. 1.0	HERRIS
4th Aust. Field Coy	28	T. 19. B. 8.4	
12th Aust. Field Coy.	36	B. 1. D. 8.5	WATTS LINES
13th Aust. Field Coy.		B. 1. D. 8.5	
4th Aust. Div. Signal Coy.	36A	F. 1.0	HERRIS
24th Aust. A. G. Coy	28	H. 29. D. 3.5	LOCRE HOF FARM
4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.	36	B. 1. D. 8.5	WATTS LINES
<u>4th Aust. Div. Train H. Q.</u>		A. 6	LA CRECHE
14th A. A. S. C.	28	F. 11. C. 3.3	LA CLYTTTE
7th Coy. A. A. S. C.	36	A. 6	
26th Coy. A. A. S. C.			LA CRECHE
27th Coy. A. A. S. C.	28	H. 23. C.	LOCRE
S. S. O.	36	A. 6	LA CRECHE

P. T. H. O.

		(2)	
RAILHEAD	36	A. 17	STRENNEROK
Div. Supply Col.		S. 13. CENTRAL	
A. D. L. S.	36A	F. 1. C	MERRIS
4th Aust. Field Ambulance	28	S. 17. CENTRAL	RAVELSBURG
12th Aust. Field Ambulance		Rue Banctt Cortyl	BAILLEUL
13th Aust. Field Ambulance		Rue de Musre	BAILLEUL
4th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec.		H. 17. B. 5. 3	SOHRPENBERG
4th Aust. Mobile Vet. Sec.		S. 29. B. 2. 2	
Reinforcement Camp		S. 25. D. 9. 8	S. of BAILLEUL
4th Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.		I. 31. CENTRAL	VOORNEZEELE
D. A. D. O. S.		Rue de Metern	BAILLEUL
D. A. D. V. S.	36A	F. 1. C	MERRIS
D. R. G. O.		"	"
Div. Claims Officer		"	"
Div. Paymaster		"	"
Div. Gas Officer		"	"

W. H. G. ...
 Brigadier-General,
 Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

As at 8 a.m. 3rd March, 1918.

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APPENDIX 7
War Diary

SECRET.

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution of Units.

UNIT.	Sheet.	Map Square 1/40,000.	Remarks.
<u>Divisional Headquarters.</u>	36 A.	F.1.c.	MERRIS.
<u>4th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	28	S.18.d.2.1.	WATERLOO CAMP.
13th. Battalion		T.14.b.	NEUVE EGLISE.
14th. Battalion		T.14.a.4.2.	NEUVE EGLISE.
15th. Battalion		T.15.b.4.5.	HOTTING CAMP.
16th. Battalion		T.20.a.1.1.	ALDERSHOT.
4th. Aust. A.G. Coy.		T.25.d.2.1.	KENT FARM.
4th. A.L.T.M.B.		T.25.d.2.1.	KENT FARM.
<u>12th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	27	X.15.1.	METEREN.
45th. Battalion		X.17.c.3.4.	METEREN AREA.
46th. Battalion		X.26.d.4.3.	METEREN AREA.
47th. Battalion		X.15.d.7.8.	METEREN.
48th. Battalion		X.15.c.8.9.	METEREN.
12th. Aust. A.G. Coy.		X.15.b.9.1.	METEREN.
12th. A.L.T.M.B.		X.15.d.3.8.	METEREN.
<u>13th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	29.	M.23.c.4.4.	LOCRE.
49th. Battalion		M.29.a.8.8.	BUP BARRACKS.
50th. Battalion		M.19.d.1.4.	KELHEL SHOOTERS.
51st. Battalion		M.29.c.9.5.	WARFIELD HUTS.
52nd. Battalion		M.29.c.8.5.	DOUGASTER HUTS.
13th. Aust. A.G. Coy.		M.23.a.3.0.	LOCRE.
13th. A.L.T.M.B.		M.18.d.8.3.	LOCRE.
<u>4th. Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q.</u>	28.	N.20.d.2.8.	KLEIN FARM.
10th. A.F.A. Bde.		N.7.c.7.3.	DEVON CAMP.
11th. A.F.A. Bde		I.32.b.	LOCK 7.
D.A.C.		L.23.d.5.9.	ALLA LINES.
D.T.A.C.	36 A	E.12.central.	
<u>4th. Aust. Div. Engineer H.Q.</u>	36 A.	F.1.c.	MERRIS.
4th. Aust. Field Coy.	28	T.19.b.8.4.	
12th. Aust. Field Coy.	36	B.1.d.8.5.	WATTS LINES.
13th. Aust. Field Coy.		B.1.d.8.5.	
4th. Aust. Div. Sig. School		No.1 Place Plichon	BAILLEUL.
4th. Aust. Div. Signal Coy.	36 A.	F.1.c.	MERRIS.
24th. Aust. A.G. Coy.	28	M.29.d.3.5.	LOCRE HOF FARM.
4th. Aust. Pioneer Bn.		M.15.c.1.5.	R.E. FARM.
<u>4th. Aust. Div. Train H.Q.</u>	36	A.6.	LA CRECHE
14th. Coy. A.A.S.C.	28	M.11.c.3.3.	LA OLYTTE.
7th. Coy. A.A.S.C.	36.	A.6.	
26th. Coy. A.A.S.C.			LA CRECHE.
27th. Coy. A.A.S.C.	28	L.23.c.	LOCRE.
S.S.C.	36	A.6.	LA CRECHE.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX 7

2.

RAILHEAD	36	A.17.	STEMWERCK.
Div. Supply Column	28	S.3. Central	
A.D.M.S.	36.A.	F.1 c.	MERRIS.
4th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.	28	S.17. Central	RAVELSBURG.
12th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.		Rue Benoit Cortyl	BAILLEUL.
13th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.		Rue de Euse	BAILLEUL.
4th. Aust. Div. San. Section		M.17.b.5.3.	SCHERFENBERG.
4th. Aust. Mobile Vet. Sec.		S.29.b.2.2.	
Reinforcement Camp		S.25.d.9.8.	S. of BAILLEUL.
4th. Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.		I.31. central	VOORMERKELE .
D.A.D.O.S.		Rue de Meteren	BAILLEUL.
D.A.D.V.S.	38 A.	F.1, c.	MERRIS.
B. S. O.	28	M.29.d.3.5.	LOORE HOF VARM.
Div. Claims Officer.	36 A.	F.1, c.	MERRIS.
Div. Paymaster		"	"
Div. Gas Officer.		"	"

13th. March, 1918.

Alhewell Captain
 for Major-General,
 Commanding 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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APPENDIX 8

SECRET.

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War Diary

Amendment to Distribution of Units - dated 15th March, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet.	Map Square 1/40,000	Remarks.
5th Battalion	27	H. 29. A. 8. A	DONCASTER HUTS.
18th Aust. Field Amb.		S. 9. D.	KOGILLIGAN CAMP.
Other units no alteration.			

Albuxwell

for Major-General,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

at 15th March, 1918.

~~SECRET.~~

appx 9

Low Diary

Amendment to Distribution of Units - dated 13th March, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet	Map Square 1/40,000	
1st Field Amb.	28	S. 10. D.	KE. RSEBROE
Other Units no alteration.			

Alhewaswell Capt

for Major-General,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIA DIVISION.

As at 8 a.m. 15th March, 1918.

War Diary Appendix 10

SECRET. Amendment to "Distribution of Units" - dated 15th March, 1918.

Unit.	Sheet.	Map Square 1/40,000	Remarks.
15th Aust. Field Amb.	8D	M. 17. ^C 3. 9	CURRAGH CAMP.
D. A. D. O. S.	36A	F. 9. A.	OUTTERSTEENE.
Other units no alteration.			

As at 9 a.m. 25th March, 1918.

Amherstwell Capt
Commanding ^{for} Major-General,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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20

SECRET.

Copy No. 20

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 102.

Reference map HAZEBROUCK 5A, 1/100,000. Headquarters, 33rd. March, 1918.

1. The 4th. Australian Division will move from MERRIS AREA to BUSNES AREA on the 24th. and 25th. insts., in accordance with table attached.

2. On arrival in BUSNES AREA units will be allotted to Brigade Groups as under; G.O.Cs. concerned will administer same till completion of subsequent moves.

4th.A.I.Bde.	12th.A.I.Bde.	13th.A.I.Bde.	4th.Aust.
4th.A.M.G.Coy.	13th.A.M.G.Coy.	13th.M.G.Coy.	Div.Arty.
4th.Fld.Ambce.	12th.Fld.Ambce.	24th.M.G.Coy.	4th.Aust.
4th.Fld.Coy., Engrs.	12th.Fld.Coy. Engrs.	13th.Fld.Ambce.	M.V.S.
7th. Coy. A.A.S.C.	26th.Coy.A.A.S.C.	13th.Fld.Coy.Eng.	14th.Coy.
	4th.Pioneer Bn.	Div.San.Section.	A.A.S.C.
		27th.Coy.A.A.S.C.	

3. Dismounted personnel will be conveyed by motor busses as follows :-

No. 1 COLUMN.

Embussing Point, X.20.d.1.9. (Head of Column facing West)

12th. A.I.Bds.	4th. Aust. Div. H.Q.
12th. M.G.Coy.	4th. Div. Signal Coy.
26th. Coy. A.A.S.C.	

No. 2 COLUMN.

Embussing Point, T.20.A.8.2. (Head of Column facing East)

4th. A.I.Bde.	4th. Fld. Ambce.
4th. Fld. Coy. Engrs.	12th. Fld. Ambce.
12th. " " "	7th. Coy. A.A.S.C. and
4th. M.V.S. (dismounted)	4th. Aust. Div. Train H.Q.
4th. M.G. Coy	

No. 3 COLUMN.

Embussing Point, M.23.d.2.7 (Tail of Column)

13th. A.I.Bde.	13th. Fld. Ambce.
13th. M.G.Coy.	Div. San. Section.
4th. Pioneer Bn.	24th. M.G.Coy.
13th. Field Coy.	27th. Coy. A.A.S.C.

4. The Transport of each Brigade Group, as shown in para 3, will march under the orders of a Senior Officer told off by each Infantry Brigade, who will also arrange billeting.

5. Staff Captains of Brigades and Artillery will proceed by car to BUSNES on the 24th. inst. accompanied by the D.A.Q.M.G., under arrangements to be notified by 'Q' of Division. Billeting parties will move under Brigade arrangements.

P.T.O.

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6. Supplies will be carried as follows :-

Transport Personnel - Iron ration and unexpended day's ration.
One day's ration (25th) Supply Wagons.

Dismounted Personnel :- Iron ration and unexpended portion of
days ration (25th.)

Rations for consumption on 26th. inst. will be dumped in
BUSNES AREA and collected by Supply Wagons on arrival. Location
of Dumps will be notified by 'Q' of Division.

Artillery rations for consumption on 26th. instant will be
dumped at HAVERSKERQUE on 24th. inst. and collected by Supply Wagons.
Rations for consumption on 27th. inst. will be dumped in BUSNES AREA.

RAILHEAD :- On 26th. inst - TIMQUES.

AMMUNITION :- Units will move with Echelon full.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE.


Major,
G.S., 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 12 midnight.

Copies : Normal.

- 4th. Aust. San. Section. 24
- Extra copies : 4th. Aust. M.V.S. 25
- Area Comdt. - MERVILLE. 26
- do. ESTAIRES. 27
- do. HAVERSKERQUE. 28
- 15th. Corps. 29
- 1st. Corps. 30
- Aust. Corps. 31)
- 32)

The transport of each Brigade Group, as shown in para 5, will march under the orders of a senior officer held out by each Infantry Brigade, who will also arrange billeting.

Small contingents of Engineers and Artillery will proceed by rail to BUSNES on the 26th. inst. accompanied by the Divisional Engineer, who will be notified by 'Q' of Division.

Billeting parties will move under Brigade arrangements.

TABLE OF MOVES ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH 4th AUST. DIV. ORDER NO. 192.

Serial No.	Date	Unit.	From	To	Route	Remarks,	Initials
1.	24th March.	4th Div. Artillery	MERRIS AREA	HAVERSKERQUE	VINUX BERQUIN	By road. Not to enter MERVILLE before 4 p.m. 10th A.F.A. Bde via NORBECQUE .. HAVERSKERQUE Road. Billets on application to Town Major.	
2.	March 24th	Transport of No. 1 Column.	METEREN AREA.	MERVILLE AREA.	VIEUX BERQUIN	Composition of No. 1 Col. is shown in para. 3. By road. Not to enter MERVILLE before 1 p.m. Billets on application to Town Major, MERVILLE.	
3.	March 24th	Transport of No. 2 Column.	NEUVE EGLISE AREA.	ESTAIRES AREA.	STEINWERCK	Composition of No. 2 Col. is shown in para. 3. By road. To be clear of STEINWERCK at 1 p.m. Billets on application to Town Major, ESTAIRES	
4.	March 24th	Transport of No. 3 Column.	LOCRE AREA	ESTAIRES AREA	NEUVE EGLISE-STEINWERCK	Composition of No. 3 Col. is shown in para. 3. By road. Not to reach STEINWERCK before 1.30 p.m. Billets on application to Town Major, ESTAIRES.	
5.	March 25th	4th Div. Artillery	HAVERSKERQUE	BUSNES AREA	Direct	Own time.	
6.	March 25th	No. 1 Col.	METEREN AREA.	BUSNES	-	By busses. Time to be notified later. Units of Col. will be embussed and debussed under orders of G.O.C. Brigade.	
7.	March 25th	No. 2 Col.	NEUVE EGLISE AREA.	BUSNES Area.	-	ditto	
8.	March 25th	No. 3 Col.	LOCRE AREA	BUSNES AREA	..	ditto.	
9.	March 25th	Transport No. 1 Col.	MERVILLE	BUSNES AREA	Direct	To clear MERVILLE by 9 a.m.	

P.T.O.

APPENDIX

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Serial No.	Date	Unit.	From	To.	Route	Remarks.
10.	March 25th	Transport No. 2 Col.	ESTAIRES	BUSNES AREA	BERVILLE - ROBECCQ	Commence march at 8.30 a.m.
11.	March 25th	Transport No. 3 Col.	ESTAIRES	BUSNES AREA	BERVILLE - ROBECCQ	March at 9.30 a.m.
12.	March 25th	Div. H.Q.	MERRIS	BUSNES	Direct.	Closes at MERRIS noon and re-opens at same hour.

Orders for move of 4th Div. Salvage Coy. and 7 & 8 Medium Trench Mortar Batteries will be issued later.

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APPENDIX

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APPENDIX
War Diary

SECRET.

Copy No. 20

A D D E N D U M T O
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 102.

Headquarters,
24th March, 1918.

Reference map HAZEBROUCK 5A, 1/100,000.
" " LENS 11. 1/100,000.

1. That portion of the 4th Australian Division proceeding by lorries on 25th instant will move to HERMAVILLE Area and not to the BUSNES Area as ordered. Billeting parties at BUSNES have been notified accordingly.
2. Vickers and Lewis Guns will accompany personnel moving by lorries on 25th instant.
3. Embussment as follows :-

<u>No. 1 Column.</u>	Embussing point X.20.D.1.9 (Head of Column facing West). Time 10 a.m. Debussing TINGUES.
<u>No. 2 Column.</u>	Embussing point T.20.A.8.2 (Head of Column facing East). Time 6 a.m. Debussing TINGUES.
<u>No. 3 Column.</u>	Embussing point M.29.A.5.3 (Head of Column facing North). Time 6 a.m. Debussing TINGUES.
4. Transport of 4th Australian Division will continue its march so as to reach BUSNES Area tonight. Orders have been issued direct to transport officers concerned by D.H.Q. Instructions for the move from BUSNES Area to HERMAVILLE Area will be issued tomorrow.
5. The Div. Artillery will move as previously ordered. 7^R and 8^R Medium Trench Mortar Batteries will be conveyed by lorries as arranged with D.T.H.Q.
6. On arrival in HERMAVILLE Area 4th Australian Division will cease to be Army reserve and will come into G.H.Q. Reserve.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E. Law
Major,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 11.30 p.m.

Distribution.

- Normal.
- | | | |
|--------|------------------|-------------|
| 24, 25 | Australian Corps | 2. |
| 26 | Area Commandant, | HERMAVILLE. |
| 27. | " " | BUSNES. |

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SECRET

APPENDIX 13 26
War Diary
Copy No. 50

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 104.

Reference 1/100,000 Map ALIENS Sheet 17,
" 1/40,000 Map ALBERT combined.

Headquarters,
27th March, 1918.

1. The situation roughly is as follows :-

The 3rd Australian Division is moving into position between SAILLY LE SEC and MERICOURT L'ARBRE. Thence the line of the ANCRE and the railway is held by British troops up to ALBERT, half of which was in possession of the enemy last night. Thence the line is held northward along the high ground West of the ANCRE.

2. The Division will take up positions S.W. of ALBERT and North of the ANCRE to oppose any advance of the enemy between the ANCRE and the ALBERT-ALIENS Road or an advance astride that road.

3. (a) The 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. will occupy positions facing EAST and South East on the high ground S.W. of ALBERT in squares E.7 and E.13, with two battalions distributed in depth. The remaining two battalions will be distributed in support on the low ground in D.17 and D.23.

(b) The 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move to a position in Divisional Support in the low ground between BRESLE and the ANCRE, with its battalions bivouacked in covered positions.

(c) The 12th and 13th Aust. Field Coys. will be at the disposal of the 12th and 13th Aust. Inf. Bdes. respectively.

(d) Bearer subdivisions of the 12th and 13th Field Ambulances will accompany their respective Brigades.

(e) Train transport will remain with units.

4. The 4th Aust. Pioneer Bn. is placed at the disposal of the G.O.C., 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. for work in constructing defences. They will be used to complete a definite task during night 27/28th and will then move back into Divisional Reserve in the vicinity of BAIZIEUX.

5. (a) The 24th Aust. B.G. Coy. will move into Divisional Reserve, bivouacking between WARLOY and BAIZIEUX.

(b) The 4th Aust. Field Coy. will move into Divisional Reserve to the neighbourhood of BAIZIEUX.

6. The Divisional Artillery will take up positions in readiness just W. of WARLOY and will reconnoitre positions with a view to covering the crossings of the ANCRE from BUIRE (inclusive) to ALBERT (inclusive) and also with a view to covering the approaches from ALBERT especially the main ALBERT - ALIENS road where it runs over the high ground East and South East of LAVIEVILLE.

7. (a) Units will make every endeavour to get into touch with neighbouring units on the front and flanks and will pass on all information to this office rapidly. This is specially applicable to the front from BUIRE (inclusive) along the ANCRE to ALBERT (inclusive).

(b) Locations of units and Headquarters will be notified to this office as soon as possible. Brigade Headquarters locations are required at the earliest possible moment, in order that communication

P.T.O.

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may be established.

8. All Bivouacs are to be tactically arranged with a view to minimising casualties from shell fire and will be covered by Out-posts pushed out to the EAST and SOUTH EAST.

9. Portions of the Divisional Train not accompanying Units will bivouac just EAST of VADEMCOURT.

10. Ammunition refilling point for today, 27th, will be the road junction about V.19.A.1.C, where ammunition will be dumped at about 3.30 p.m. Ammunition available today about 150,000 S.A.A. per Bde.

11. Future refilling points for ammunition and supplies will be notified daily.

12. Divisional Headquarters will remain at BAIZIEUX.

13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

G. Lavarack

Issued at

Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution. Normal

Copies to, 24, 7th Corps.
25, 3rd Army.
26, 3rd Aust. Division.
27, 9th Division.
28, 12th Division.
29, Australian Corps.

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War Diary

SECRET.

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution of Units.

Map Sheets, 57D and 62D. I.E.M.S., A.I.E.M.S.

Unit.	Location	
Divisional Headquarters		
"A" Echelon	C.6.c.8.5.	BAIZIEUX.
"B" do.	U.27.b.	VADENCOURT.
4th. A.I. Brigade	<i>Attached to 62nd Div.</i>	
12th. A.I. Bde.	D.10.b.3.4.	LAVIEVILLE.
13th. A.I. Bde.	D.7.a.5.5.	N. of Road.
4th. Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q.	C.6.c.8.5.	BAIZIEUX.
D.A.C.	C 7A	TOUTENCOURT. <i>Agnicourt</i>
4th. Aust. Div. Engrs. H.Q.	C.6.c.	Billet No. 56.
4th. Aust. Div. sig. Coy.	C.6.c.8.5.	BAIZIEUX.
24th. Aust. M.G. Coy.	<i>C 68 63</i> D.1.a.1.9.	
<i>CRE</i> 4th. Aust. Pioneer Bn.	<i>Baizeux</i> V.21.c. central	<i>Billet No. 49</i>
4th. Aust. Div. Train	U.27.b.	VADENCOURT.
S.S.O.		VADENCOURT.
Railhead	O.16.a.	BELLE EGLISE FARM.
4th. Div. M.T. Coy.		
1 Section (H.Q. and Supply)	U.1.a.	TOUTENCOURT.
1 do. (Ammunition)	B.12.	BEAUCOURT.
A.D.A.S.	U.27.b.	
4th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.	TOUTENCOURT.
12th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.		WARLOY.
13th. Aust. Fld. Ambce.		WARLOY.
D.A.D.O.S.		VILLERS BOGAGE.
D.A.D.V.S.	U.27.b.	VADENCOURT.
mob. Vet. Section	<i>C 7A</i>	TOUTENCOURT.

As at noon, 28/3/18.

A. Williams
Major-General,
Commanding 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

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APPENDIX 1529

War Diary

Appx 15

SECRET.

Copy No. 201

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 105
Headquarters,
29th March, 1918.

Reference maps 1/40,000
Sheets 57 D.
62 D.

1. The 13th Aust. Infantry Brigade will make all preparations to take over from the 35th Division the defence of the line from the Road and Railway crossing about E.20.B.2.5. (inclusive to 13th Brigade) to the station (HALTE,) at BUIRE (exclusive). Thence the defence of the line is to be taken over by the 3rd Aust. Division.
2. The relief may take place on the night 30/31, and preparations will be made accordingly.
The relief will not commence, however, until orders are received from this Headquarters.
3. Details of the relief will be arranged by the G.O.C. 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. direct with the 35th Division, whose H.Q. are at BERRENGOURT.
4. Two battalions 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. will remain in Divisional Reserve in the present locations of the 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. Reserve Battalions, and will not be used without reference to the Divisional Commander.
5. The front taken over will be held lightly on the line of the railway with a main line of resistance along the spur from about D.24.central to about R.13.D.
6. The boundary between 12th and 13th Bde. areas will be the BERRENGOURT-LAVIEVILLE Road through E.15.B.9.1. and D.12.D.8.8.
7. The new front will be covered by 2 ^{of the R.F.A. Brigades} ~~of the R.F.A. Brigades~~ now covering the front of the 35th Division. Arrangements for assuming responsibility for the Artillery support of the new front will be made direct between C.R.A's concerned.
8. The main line of resistance of the Division will continue to be the forward slopes of the spurs running East and South towards the ANCRE, and this line will continue to be covered by an outpost line along the Railway Line between BUIRE and ALBERT. The main line of defence will be designated the Firing Line and will be defended to the utmost, by counter-attack if necessary.
9. In addition a Support Line will be constructed, under brigade arrangements, on the North-Western side of the re-entrant running from E.2.D. to E.7.b., across the neck in E.7.C., and on the North-Western side of the re-entrant running from D.14.B. to D.23.b. and thence across to D.23.A.

The G.O.C. Left Brigade will be responsible for the construction and manning of this line as far as the Boundary Road, (inclusive) and the 13th A.I. Bde. will place 2 Companies of Pioneers at his disposal for the purpose from today 29th.

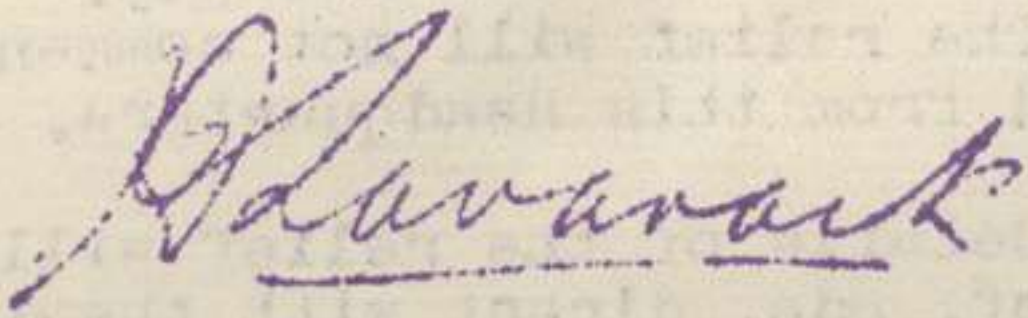
The G.O.C. Right Brigade will be responsible for its construction and manning South of the Boundary Road (exclusive).

P.T.O.

10. The line already constructed by the 13th Aust. Infantry Brigade between RIBELONT and MILLENCOURT, running East of LAVIEVILLE, will be known as the Reserve Line, and will be manned by the Left Brigade as far as the Boundary Road (inclusive) and by the Right Brigade South of the Road (exclusive).

11. Except as regards Para. 9, action on which will be taken at once, this order is anticipatory, and will only be put in operation on receipt of further orders from this Office.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.



Lieut. Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 5.30 P.M.

Distribution Normal.

Copies to -	34	35th Division.
	25	17th Division.
	26	7th Corps.
	27	3rd Aust. Division.

For Official Use Only.

Appx 16 *Hean* *Drum*

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 239.

From 6 a.m. 29th March to 6 a.m. 30th March, 1918.

Not to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our artillery was very active during the period against enemy roads. Good shooting was observed and enemy traffic much disorganised.

(b) Trench Mortars. An enemy party in E.10 was engaged and dispersed. A Machine Gun was silenced and suspected positions engaged. Snipers were also quietened by firing the T.M. from between the houses.

(c) Machine Guns. Our guns, with direct fire, fired on roads in E.3.B. and E.4.A and caused casualties. Enemy parties in E.10 and 16 were also engaged.

(d) Aircraft. Activity was slight owing to weather conditions.

(e) Patrols. Divisional front was patrolled during the night. One Officer patrol operating near road junctions in E.15.C were heavily engaged by hostile Machine Guns. Another officer patrol working in E.9.B and D. found no enemy but heard a Machine Gun at approx. E.9.B.5.8.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

One enemy killed in E.3.D. 229th ^{I.R.} Regt. Normal.

3. RAIDS.

Enemy attempted to raid one of our posts at E.3.D.10.00 at 10.30 p.m. They were repulsed leaving dead in our hands. Identifications as above.

4. ENEMY ARTILLERY.

In forward areas was quiet. Back area shoots and village strafing was carried out periodically.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Alert, but except for attempted raid in E.3.D. No offensive spirit was shown.

6. (a) Work. was noticed in E.28, ~~E.28~~ K.3 and 4 as if enemy were digging in on high ground there.

(b) Machine Guns. Enemy Machine Guns were active during the night firing on our forward areas, roads and tracks.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

16 enemy planes flew low over our lines at daybreak; they were driven off by A.A. and M.G. fire.

8. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Movement on roads still continues, this was interfered with by our artillery.

Snipers on both sides were active.

Signal lamps were observed on high ground behind ALBERT. No connected message could be picked up. Most messages seemed to be in a code of single letter groups.

H. S. G. S.
Lieut. Colonel
G. S. 4th Australian
Lieut.-Colonel

For Official Use Only.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 240.

From 6 a.m. 30th March to 6 a.m. 31st March, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

- (a) Artillery. Our artillery was fairly active throughout the period. Roads and approaches from ALBERT were kept under bursts of fire. Several small parties of infantry moving towards DERNANCOURT were engaged and dispersed.
- (b) Trench Mortars. Stokes Mortars engaged hostile machine guns in E. 21.A, and E. 15.B and D.
- (c) Machine Guns. Vickers Guns carried out indirect fire on Roads and tracks EAST of ALBERT and DERNANCOURT. Several good targets presented themselves in E. 16 and E. 10 and these were fired on by Machine Guns.
- (d) Aircraft. Our planes were not as active as usual.
- (e) Patrols. The divisional front was actively patrolled throughout the night. Liaison patrols operated between flank units and flank divisions. Patrols operated to eastern edge of wood in E. 10 but no enemy movement was observed.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy was not as alert as usual. No offensive spirit was shown. Hostile artillery was fairly active on rear areas. H.V. Guns shelled LAVIEVILLE, CONTAY and FRANVILLERS.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Machine Guns. Hostile Machine Guns were not as active as usual. It was noticed that a large proportion of bullets fired were tracer bullets.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Enemy planes were active throughout the day, flying low over the front line system.

8. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Much movement was seen and heard in vicinity of DERNANCOURT. This was engaged by our artillery.

H. Craig. Capt
for
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.Copy No. 204th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 1003Headquarters,
31st March, 1918.

Ref. Maps 1/40,000 Sheets 57D & 62 D.

1. It is known from patrol reports that the enemy maintains a certain number of Machine Guns in DERIANGCOURT.
2. An Artillery bombardment of DERIANGCOURT will take place on the afternoon of the 1st April with a view to inflicting damage on the enemy and destroying the cover from which his Machine Guns operate.
3. The operation will be carried out in the form of a HURRICANE Bombardment between 5.30 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. on the 1st April.
4. All artillery details of the bombardment will be arranged by the C.R.A. direct with the Heavy Artillery.
5. To ensure the safety of our own troops the area held by the 12th and 13th Aust. Inf. Bdes. will be cleared for a distance of 500 yards back from a line drawn between the following points :- E.20.D.7.6, E.20.B.5.5 and E.15.C.5.3. This, if not down before daylight, will be completed by 3.30 p.m. in order to allow the guns time for registration.
6. As soon as possible after the completion of the bombardment the village will be patrolled by both Brigades with a view to ascertaining if it is still held and the amount of damage caused by the bombardment. Mutual arrangements will be made between 12th and 13th Aust. Inf. Bdes. to ensure co-operation between the patrols.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

P. A. Wainwright
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 7 p.m.,

Extra Copies to

24. 7th Corps.
25. 3rd Aust. Division.
26. 17th Division.
27. 160th Bde., R.F.A.

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SECRET.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution of Units.

Unit.	Map Square 1/20,000	Remarks.
<u>Divisional Headquarters</u>		
'A' Echelon	O.6.C.8.5	BAISIEX
'B' Echelon		VADENCOURT
<u>4th Aust. Inf. Bde.</u>		Detached to 62nd Division.
<u>12th Aust. Inf. Bde H.Q.</u>	D.10.B.3.4	LAVIEVILLE.
45th Battalion	D.16.CENTRAL	
46th Battalion	V.29.C.3.6	
47th Battalion	D.12.D.6.9	
48th Battalion	D.13.D.5.3	
12th Aust. M.G. Coy.	D.10.B.	LAVIEVILLE.
12th A.L.T. Coy.	V.28.C.0.1	
<u>13th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	D.7.A.CENTRAL	N. of road.
49th Battalion	D.4.A.5.6	
50th Battalion	V.21.D.4.3	
51st Battalion	D.1.C.9.9	
52nd Battalion	D.1.CENTRAL	
13th Aust. M.G. Coy.	D.8.D.2.8	
13th A.L.T. Coy.	D.8.A.5.3	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Artillery H.Q.</u>	O.6.C.8.5	BAISIEX.
10th A.F. Bde.	D.10.B.4.2	
11th A.F. Bde.	D.5.B.1.4	
51st Brigade R.F.	V.27.D.3.7	HEWENCOURT
150th Brigade A.F.	D.10.B.7.1	TOUTENCOURT
9th D.A.C.		BAVELINCOURT
4th Aust. D.A.C.		BAVELINCOURT
D.T.A.C.	White Chateau	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Engineer H.Q.</u>	O.6.C.	BILLET NO. 40.
4th Aust. L.G. Bn.	O.6.C.8.5	BAISIEX.
5th Aust. Pioneer Bn.	V.21.C.CENTRAL	
6th Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.	O.6.C.8.5	
25th Aust. M.G. Coy.	O.6.C.8.5	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Train</u>		VADENCOURT
7th Coy. S.C.	Detached with 4th A.I. Bde.	
14th Coy. S.C.		AGNICOURT
26th Coy. S.C.	U.26.D.	Nr. CONTAY.
27th Coy. S.C.	U.26.D.	Nr. CONTAY.
S.S.C.		VADENCOURT.
Railhead		BELLE EGLISE FARM.
4th Aust. Div. M.T. Coy.		VILLERS BOGAGE
1 Sec. (H.Q. & Supply)		VILLERS BOGAGE.
1 Sec. (Ammunition)		VILLERS BOGAGE.
<u>M.D.S.</u>		VADENCOURT
4th Aust. Field Amb.		TOUTENCOURT
12th Aust. Field Amb.		WARLOY
13th Aust. Field Amb.		WARLOY

attached.

P.T.O.