

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/46/6 Part 2

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 3rd  
Australian Division

April 1917



AWM4-1/46/6PART2

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 27.

1/4/17.

Reference Maps.-

BELGIUM 1/100,000, Sheet HAZEBROUCK.  
1/10,000 28 S.W. 4, - PLOEGSTEERT.

1. Reference 3rd Australian Division Order No. 26 dated 31/3/17.-
  - (a) Para. 2, Sub-para (a).-  
after "10th Australian Infantry Brigade" add "less 2 Battalions"
  - (b) At end of para. 2 add sub-para.-  
"(c) Two Battalions will march on the 5th April from the QUELMES area to ST OMER, and on the 6th April the personnel of these two Battalions will proceed by train from ST OMER to STEENWERCK whence they will move by route march to ARMENTIERES."
2. Para. 4 of Divisional Order No. 26 dated 31/3/17 is cancelled, and the following substituted.-
  - "4. (a) On the 7th April one Battalion of the 9th Aust. Inf. Brigade will move to PLOEGSTEERT WOOD, and one Battalion to OOSTHOVE FARM. (The two Battalions of the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. arriving in ARMENTIERES on the night of the 6/7th April will be available for the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. as a tactical reserve on the 7th April).
  - (b) On the 8th April one Battalion of the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move to NIEPPE, and the Headquarters of the Brigade will be established at BRUNE GAYE.
  - (c) The Battalion of the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. moving to PLOEGSTEERT WOOD will take over from the Battalion of the 1st N.Z. Brigade the accommodation in PLOEGSTEERT wood as follows.-
 

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Battalion Headquarters and 1 Coy. | CRESLOW.         |
| One Company                       | TOUQUET BERTHE   |
| One Company                       | GLOSTER HOUSE    |
| One Company                       | PLOEGSTEERT HALL |
|                                   | (U.20.c. 6.3 .)  |
  - (d) Special instructions as to working parties will be issued later."
3. The attached move table is to be substituted for that issued with Div. Order No. 26.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.H. Reynolds.  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff.

Issued at... 8 P.M.

P.T.O. for DISTRIBUTION.

War Diary

-2-

1/4/17.

DISTRIBUTION

- Copy No. 1 A.D.C. for G.O.C.  
 2 "G" Staff  
 3 "A.Q." Staff  
 4 C.R.A.  
 5 " for 8th F.A.Bde.  
 6 C.R.E.  
 7 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
 8 10th -do-  
 9 11th -do-  
 10 3rd Aust. Div. Sig. Co.  
 11 3rd Aust. Div. Train.  
 12 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.  
 13 A.D.M.S.  
 14 A.P.M.  
 15 74th Inf. Bde.  
 16 2nd ANZAC (for information)  
 17 N.Z. Division "  
 18 25th Division "  
 19 57th Division "  
 20 "L" Special Coy. R.E.  
 21 War Diary  
 22 File  
 23)  
 24) Spares.

TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR MARCH TABLE ACCOMPANYING THIRD AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION ORDER NO. 26 Dated 31-3-17.

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March Table to accompany Third Australian Division Order No. 27  
Dated 1-4-17.

| Date.      | Unit.                                   | From.              | To.                                     | NOTES.   |
|------------|---|--------------------|---|--|
| Apl. 5th.  | 10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.<br>less 2 Bns. | QUELMES.           | HAZEBROUCK.                             | To be clear of ARQUES<br>by noon.  |
| Apl. 5th.  | 2 Bns. of<br>10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.   | QUELMES.           | ST. MARTIN-<br>AU-LAERT<br>&<br>ARQUES. | To entrain at ST. OMER<br>on 6th. April for STEEN-<br>WERCK, thence by route<br>march to ARMENTIERES.  |
| Apl. 6th.  | 10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.<br>less 2 Bns. | HAZEBROUCK.        | ARMENTIERES.                            | Head not to reach Cross-<br>roads on BAILLEUL-<br>ARMENTIERES Road, East of<br>LA CRECHE before 2 p.m.   |
| Apl. 8th.  | 9th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.                 | ARMENTIERES.       | LE ROMARIN<br>area.                     | 1 Bn. & M.G. Company,<br>ARMENTIERES.<br>( 1 Bn. PLOEGSTEERT WOOD.<br>( 1 Bn. OOSTHOVE FARM.<br>( These two Battalions to<br>( be in position on 7th.<br>( April).<br>1 Bn., Field Co. Engrs.<br>& T.M. Battery, NIEPPE. |
| Apl. 10th. | 8th. F.A.B.                             | TILQUES<br>area.   | WALLON-CAPPEL.                          | Not to enter ARQUES<br>before noon, via LONGUEN-<br>ESSE.  |
| Apl. 11th. | 8th. F.A.B.                             | WALLON-<br>CAPPEL. | Wagon Lines.                            |  |

On the march a distance of 300 yards between Units will  
be maintained.

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## THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 28.

## Reference Maps.-

2/4/17.

- 1/20,000 28 S.W. and 36 N.W.  
 1/10,000 28 S.W.4 PLOEGSTBERT  
 1/100,000 BELGIUM, Sheet HAZEBROUCK.

1. Third Australian Division Orders No.26 dated 31st March, and No.27 dated 1st April, together with March Tables are cancelled
2. In addition to the existing frontage, the Division will take over on the 6th April, the line North from ST YVES AVENUE to ASH LANE (U.8.c.60.63) inclusive.  
 The Northern boundary of the Division will then run from front line at ASH LANE inclusive to U.13.b.0.8, due south to HYDE PARK CORNER - RED LODGE Road, to HYDE PARK CORNER, by PLOEGSTBERT - LE BIZET road to present Divisional boundary at the WARRAVE - thence by the present Divisional boundary to STEENWERCK Station, thence to PONT DE PIERRE (36/A.10.d.0.8.) - thence by the CABT DE SAULE - GRAND BEAUMART - LE VERRIER road to the boundary of the Corps back area.
3. (a) On the 6th instant, the 74th Inf. Bde. will take over from 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. that portion of the line from the River LYS to GLENGORSTLE AVENUE (U.22.c.1.2.), and will establish its Headquarters at FONT DE NIEPPE.  
 (b) On 6th instant, the 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will take over from the 1st New Zealand Brigade, the line from ST YVES AVENUE to ASH LANE (inclusive), and hold a frontage from GLENGORSTLE AVENUE (inclusive) to ASH LANE (inclusive), and will establish its Headquarters at BRUNE GAYE.  
 (c) Above moves will be carried out under arrangements to be made between Brigadiers concerned, and the reliefs will be completed by 12 mid-night on the 6/7th April.  
 (d) Brigades will hand over maps, Defence schemes, &c. to Brigades relieving.  
 (e) The southern boundary of the Left Brigade Sector will be from GLENGORSTLE AVENUE (inclusive) to U.21.d.73.01., thence along the TOUQUET BERTHE - PLOEGSTBERT Road (inclusive) to where it meets the Divisional Boundary.
4. On completion of the moves the line will be held as follows.-
 

|              |                                |                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Right Sector | (EFINETTE- HOULLINES Sector)   | 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| Centre       | (LE TOUQUET Sector)            | 74th Inf. Bde.       |
| Left         | (PLOEGSTBERT - ST YVES Sector) | 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
5. (a) The Battalions of the 74th Inf. Bde. not in the front line will be distributed as follows.-
 

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 1 at LE BIZET       | } Available for work in LE TOUQUET Sector |
| 1 at PONT DE NIEPPE |   |
| 1 in ARMENTIERES    | (undergoing training)                     |

P.T.O.

War Diary

## Appendix No 29

-2-

2/4/17.

5. (b) The Battalions of the 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. not in the front line will be distributed as follows.-
- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 in PLOEGSTELBERT WOOD | ) Available for work in PLOEGSTELBERT- ST YVES |
| 1 in CATACOMBS          | ) Sector under C.R.E.                          |
| 1 in OOSTHOVE FARM      | Available for work in PLOEGSTELBERT - ST YVES  |
|                         | Sector under C.R.A.                            |
6. (a) In accordance with attached Move Table, the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. (less 2 Battalions) will move from QUELIMES on April 5th, to WALLON CAPPEL, and on April 6th, march from WALLON CAPPEL to ARMENTIERES.
- (b) 2 Battalions of the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will march on the 5th April from QUELIMES Area to ST OMER, and on the 6th April the personnel of these two Battalions will proceed by train from ST OMER to STEENBERCK, whence they will move by route march to ARMENTIERES.
7. (a) The 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. in the right sector of the line under arrangements to be made between Brigadiers concerned. The relief to be completed by 12 midnight on the 8/9th April, when the 9th Inf. Bde. will be billeted in ARMENTIERES.
- (b) The 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will hand over Defence Schemes, Trench Stores, Log Books, Maps, &c. to the relieving Brigade.
8. On the 10th April, the 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move by march route to QUELIMES, as per attached move table.
9. (a) In accordance with the attached Move Table, the 8th Aust. Field Artillery Brigade will leave WILQUES Area on the 10th April and return to its wagon lines by march route, arriving on the 11th April.
- (b) Maps of the training area will be handed over to the relieving Brigade.
10. "Q" Branch will make the necessary administrative arrangements for the above moves.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

E.H. Reynolds.

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff.

Issued at 11.30 p.m.

(3).

2-4-17.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1 A.D.C. for G.O.C.  
2 "G" Staff.  
3 "A.Q". Staff.  
4 C.R.A.  
5 " for 8th. F. A. Bde.  
6 C.R.E.  
7 9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.  
8 10th. do.  
9 11th. do.  
10 3rd. Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.  
11 3rd. Aust. Div. Train.  
12 3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn.  
13 A.D.M.S.  
14 A.P.M.  
15 74th. Inf. Bde.  
16 2nd. ANZAC (for information).  
17 N.Z. Division.  
18 25th. Division.  
19 57th. Division.  
20 "L" Special Coy., R.E.  
21 War Diary.  
22 File.  
23 Spare.  
24 "

Appendix No. 29

TO BE SUBSTITUTED FOR MOVE TABLE ACCOMPANYING THIRD AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION ORDER No. 27 dated 1-4-17.

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Move Table to accompany Third Australian Division Order  
No. 28 Dated 2-4-17.

-----

| Date.      | Unit.                                   | From.              | To.                                  | NOTES.   |
|------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Apl. 5th.  | 10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.<br>less 2 Bns. | QUELMES.           | WALLON-<br>CAPPEL.                   | To be clear of<br>ARQUES by noon.  |
| Apl. 5th.  | 2 Bns. of<br>10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.   | QUELMES.           | ST. MARTIN-<br>AU-LAERT<br>& ARQUES. | To entrain at ST.<br>OMER on 6th. Apl.<br>for STEENWERCK,<br>thence by route<br>march to ARMENTIERES.  |
| Apl. 6th.  | 10th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.<br>less 2 Bns. | WALLON-<br>CAPPEL. | ARMENTIERES.                         |  |
| Apl. 10th. | 9th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.                 | ARMENTIERES.       | BORRE.                               | By any route South<br>of BAILLEUL-HAZE-<br>BROUCK Railway, and<br>not to cross above<br>Railway East of Level<br>Crossing $\frac{3}{4}$ mile West<br>of STRAZEELE Station. |
| Apl. 11th. | 9th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.                 | BORRE.             | RENNESECURE.                         |  |
| Apl. 12th. | 9th. Aust.<br>Inf. Bde.                 | RENNESECURE.       | QUELMES.                             |  |
| Apl. 10th. | 8th. Aust.<br>Field Arty.<br>Bde.       | TILQUES<br>Area.   | WALLON-<br>CAPPEL.                   | Not to enter ARQUES<br>before noon.<br>Via LONGUENESSE.  |
| Apl. 11th. | 8th. Aust.<br>Field Arty.<br>Bde.       | WALLON-<br>CAPPEL. | Wagon Lines.                         |  |

On the march, a distance of 300 yards between Units  
will be maintained.

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SECRET

COPY No. ....

APR 30

84

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER NO. 29.

8th. April, 1917.

Reference Map, HAZEBROUCK 5a, 1:100,000

1. The 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade, 9th. Australian Machine Gun Company, 9th. Australian Trench Mortar Battery, together with 869th. Company A.A.S.C., and one Section 9th. Field Ambulance, will form a Brigade Group under G.O.C., 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade, and will move on 9th., 10th., and 11th. instants to BAYENGHEM-LES-SENINGHEM area, as per attached March Table, for training.
2. The personnel only will proceed to ST. OMER by rail on the 10th. and 11th. instants, and on the 11th. and 12th. by march route to BAYENGHEM-LES-SENINGHEM area.
3. All transport will proceed by road in three marches, commencing on 9th. April. This does not refer to mechanical transport, for which separate instructions will be issued by "Q".
4. Supply railhead will be at STERNWERCK up to 10th. instant for consumption on 11th. instant, and ST. OMER from 11th. instant inclusive.  
Supplies for the journey will be arranged by Divisional Train.
5. The billets in the training area will be in the BAYENGHEM-LES-SENINGHEM area, as per 2nd. Army No. S.Q. 289 of 6-4-17, which has been issued to Brigades.  
This area will be reconnoitred by billeting representatives 24 hours in advance.
6. (a). 12 clear days will be available for training.  
(b). Programme of training will be prepared by 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade, and two copies forwarded to reach Divisional Headquarters by 11th. instant.  
(c). The Commandant, 2nd. Army Musketry School, TILQUES, will allot facilities for Musketry Training.  
(d). Contact Patrol work will be carried out in conjunction with the 42nd. Squadron, R.F.C., under arrangements to be made direct by 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade.  
(e). Maps of the Training Area will be issued by Divisional Headquarters.
7. Completion of all moves and location of Headquarters will be reported to Divisional Headquarters by wire.
8. "Q" Branch will make the necessary administrative arrangements for the above moves.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

D.C.

*J. H. A. in.*  
Major.-  
General Staff.

FOR DISTRIBUTION, P.T.O.

*War Diary*

Appendix No 30 (2).

Issued at 11.30 a.m.

- Copy No. 1 A.D.C. for G.O.C.
- 2 "G" Staff.
- 3 "Q" Staff.
- 4 C.R.A.
- 5 C.R.E.
- 6 9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 7 do.
- 8 do.
- 9 10th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 10 11th. do.
- 11 3rd. Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
- 12 3rd. Aust. Div. Train.
- 13 3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn.
- 14 A.D.M.S.
- 15 D.A.D.O.S.
- 16 A.P.M.
- 17 7th. Infantry Brigade.
- 18 2nd. ANZAC. (For information).
- 19 New Zealand Division.
- 20 25th. Division.
- 21 57th. Division.
- 22 42nd. Squadron, F.F.C.
- 23 War Diary.
- 24 File.
- 25 Spare.
- 26 "
- 27 "

(a) The area will be reconnoitred by British reconnaissance parties 24 hours in advance.

(b) The billets in the training area will be inspected by the 42nd Squadron F.F.C. and the 7th Infantry Brigade. The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(c) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(d) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(e) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(f) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(g) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(h) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(i) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(j) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(k) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(l) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(m) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(n) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(o) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(p) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(q) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(r) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(s) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(t) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(u) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(v) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(w) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(x) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(y) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

(z) The 42nd Squadron F.F.C. will be responsible for the journey to the billets.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Major

General Staff

FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE

TABLE OF MOVES OF PERSONNEL ONLY OF NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

8-4-17.

TO TRAINING AREA.

APRIL, 1917.

| Date.     | UNITS.  | ENTRAIN AT.-     |                  | DETRAIN AT.- |           | Billets on de-trainment. | Report for Bill-ets to. | Instructions for 2nd. Day of move.  |
|-----------|---|------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|
|           |   | Maximum Numbers. | Trn.No. Station. | Time.        | Station.  |                          |                         |   |
| April 10. | 35th. Bn.   | 800              | 1 BAILLEUL.      | 12.30 pm.    | ST. OMER. | 3 p.m.                   | MAIRIES.                | March under Brigade arrangements on following day to bill-ets in the BAYENGHEM-LBS-SENINGHEM Area as de-fined in 2nd. Army No. S.Q. 289 of 6-4-17 |
| "         | 36th. Bn. )<br>1/2 M.G. Coy )<br>1/2 T.M. Bty )<br>Sect. Fld. )<br>Amb. ) | 1400             | 2 STEINWERCK.    | 2.30 pm.     | do.       | 4.30 pm                  |                         |   |
| April 11. | 33rd. Bn.   | 800              | 3 BAILLEUL.      | 12.30 pm.    | do.       | 3 p.m.                   | do.                     |   |
| "         | 34th. Bn. )<br>1/2 M.G. Coy )<br>1/2 T.M. Bty )<br>Bde. H.Q. )            | 1400             | 4 STEINWERCK.    | 2.30 pm.     | do.       | 4.30 pm                  |                         |   |

REMARKS.

Officers may carry valises in trains,  
but no other baggage is to be carried.

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Appendix No 30

8-4-17.

MARCH TIME TABLE.

| Serial No. | U. I. T.                                | Date.     | M O V E.              |  | Route.               | Under Orders of. | Report for billets to.        | Supply Railhead.   |
|------------|---|-----------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|            |   |           | From.                 | To.                                    |                      |                  |                               |  |
| 1          | Mounted Portion<br>9th. Aust. Inf. Bde. | 9th. Apl. | 3rd. Aust. Div. Area. | LYNDE.                                 | Via HAZE-<br>BROUCE. | 3rd. Aust. Div.  | MAINE.                        | 9th. Aust. Inf. Group draw rations at ST. OMER for the first time on 11th. April for consumption 12th. |
|            | do.                                     | 10th. "   | LYNDE.                | HALLINES.                              | ARQUES.              | do.              | do.                           |  |
|            | do.                                     | 11th. "   | HALLINES.             | BAYENGHEM-<br>LES-SEMING-<br>HEM Area. | SETQUES.             | do.              | Under Bde. arrange-<br>ments. |  |

Appendix No. 30

COPY.

G.1/279.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,  
15th April, 1917.

Headquarters,  
2nd A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

The following copy report by 10th Brigade on attempted raid on our trenches at HOBBS FARM, HOUPLINES SECTION, on night 12th/13th instant, is forwarded for your information:-

Enemy Artillery.

1. Opened at 10.17 p.m. on Localities 14, 15, 16 and 17 consisting of Minenwerfer on Front and Support Lines and H.E. on Support Line. Continued until about 11.30 p.m.

OUR ARTILLERY.

2. The S.O.S. Signal was sent up from Locality 14 at 10.21 p.m. Barrage opened at 10.26 p.m. from Right Group Artillery. Subsequently a liaison barrage was put down by Centre Group Artillery. The 10th A.L.T.M. Bty., also opened fire on their SOS lines. Artillery ceased fire at 11.10 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS.

3. Almost immediately the barrage commenced communications were cut in the unburied portion of the line between Battalion Headquarters and Companies. Linesmen and Signallers were immediately sent out to repair the breaks, which were many. These were mended and communication restored at 12.50 a.m.

ENEMY RAID.

4. At 10.45 p.m. an enemy raiding party, number estimated at 40, reached the outer edge of our wire, but were driven back by Lewis Gun and Bomb fire. The enemy withdrew and a fighting patrol was immediately sent out from our trenches to search for casualties and identifications, but failed to find any.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

5. No identifications could be found on night of the raid, but on night of 13th/14th April the body of one dead German was brought in, on whom was found a disc shewing him to belong to R.J.R. 228, 2 K N R, 1144. His equipment and rifle were also found, together with other portions of equipment, and many stick bombs. The equipment had in most cases been made in SAXONY. The rifle was from DANZIG (1916). On a belt found in NO MAN'S LAND an under-Officer's sword-knot was attached.

It is probable that other casualties occurred but we have no direct proof of this except that the Germans withdrew hurriedly.

OUR CASUALTIES.

6. Our casualties were slight, resulting wholly from shell fire, and numbered 1 Officer (2/lieut.M.H.O. WHITTAKER) and 15 O.R. wounded.

The remainder of the night was quiet.

(Sgd) J.H.F.PAIN. Major.-G.S.  
for G.O.C. Third Australian Division.

Copied 12-5-17.



Report on Hostile Raid carried out on  
April 15th, 1917, on the front  
held by 10th Cheshire Regt.

-----

At 7.45 p.m. on the 15th instant the enemy opened a heavy bombardment with light and heavy guns and heavy trench mortars on the Brigade front from the River LYS to the head of AYR. ST. The bombardment was mainly on our front line, but the Supporting Points in rear were shelled as well.

The bombardment on the front line was almost immediately narrowed to the front, - Head of LONG AVENUE - ESSEX CENTRAL FARM, and grew in intensity. Our Stokes Mortars in LONG AVENUE at once put up a barrage opposite the head of LONG AVENUE.

The enemy's barrage lifted at 7.47 p.m. and 40 to 50 Germans entered our trench in two parties at the following points:-

- (a) Post at Northern extremity of Gap C (marked x on sketch)
- (b) 50 yds. South of ESSEX CENTRAL (Marked x on sketch).

(a) The Lewis Gun detachment garrisoning the strong point in the middle of GAP C were buried during the bombardment and so were unable to engage the enemy as he crossed NO MAN'S LAND at the Northern end of this GAP.

The Sentry on duty at the post at the Northern end of GAP C (point of entry of Southern raiding party) was wounded. The remainder of the Lewis Gun team were in the concrete dugout which was bombed by the enemy. Our casualties: 1 Killed and 2 wounded.

This party of the enemy then travelled along our front line trench, crossing LONG AVENUE and working northwards towards MONMOUTH HOUSE. When just South of MONMOUTH HOUSE one of our Lewis Guns was brought into action (marked on sketch), but it was put out by the first bomb thrown by the enemy.

(b). The northern raiding party, after entering our trench just South of ESSEX CENTRAL worked south along our front line trench and was opposed by a Lewis Gun in position between MONMOUTH HOUSE and ESSEX CENTRAL (marked on sketch). The Lewis Gun jammed and the sentry destroyed it with a bomb.

The two parties of the enemy apparently met at MONMOUTH HOUSE, and at this point left our trenches, taking with them 7 of our men (10th Cheshire Regt.) all of whom formed the teams of the two Lewis Guns marked "L.G." on sketch.

Machine and Lewis Guns opened fire on the enemy as he left our trenches, and it is thought that some were hit, but no bodies have been recovered either in our trenches or in NO MAN'S LAND.

The Front Line trench between LONG AVENUE and ESSEX CENTRAL the posts at the Northern end and in the centre of C GAP, the junction of LONG AVENUE and NAPOO AVENUE, and SUFFOLK AVENUE have been considerably damaged by shell fire.

The enemy put down a box barrage on the line - centre of GAP C - junction of NAPOO and LONG AVENUES - Head of SUFFOLK AVENUE.

Our casualties are as follows:-

|             |             |    |
|-------------|-------------|----|
| Other Ranks | Killed      | 13 |
| "           | Wounded     | 18 |
| "           | Shell-shock | 3  |
| "           | Missing     | 7  |
|             |             | 41 |

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-2-

The salient points appear to be :-

(1) That the enemy practically attacked immediately the bombardment opened, and he was into our trenches before our garrison had time to prepare for him, and there is no doubt that he effected a surprise.

(2) The enemy's stay in our trenches ( 5 minutes) was so brief that the supporting troops did not reach the front line until he had withdrawn.

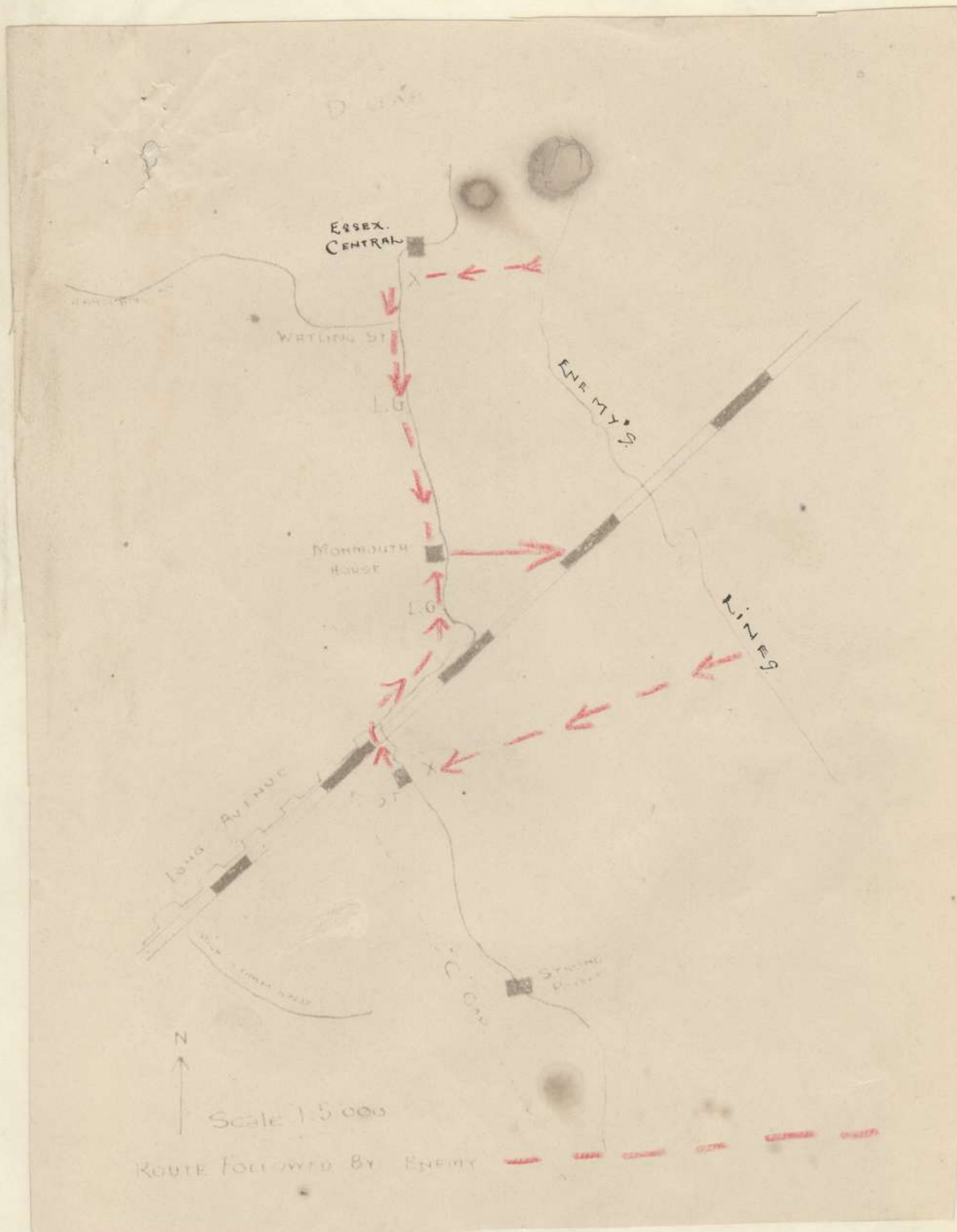
(3) The method of bombardment used by the enemy, namely, bombarding on a wide front and narrowing to a limited frontage, made it difficult to locate the exact point selected by him to enter our trenches.

Consequently, the task of the artillery was most difficult.

16-4-17.

(Sgd) C.E. BOAD. Lieut-Colonel.  
Commanding 7th Infantry Brigade.

Copied 12-5-17.





20/4/17.

Copy 15 92  
APPX 33

1. (a) The 57th Division are taking over the EPINETTE - HOUPLINES Sector. The frontage of this Division will then extend from the River LYS on the South to ASH LANE inclusive.
 

(b) The 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will accordingly be relieved by the 171st Inf. Bde. under arrangements to be made between the Brigadiers concerned, the relief will be completed by mid-night April 26th.

On completion of relief, the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be billeted in ARMENTIERES.

(c) The 10th Machine Gun Company will be withdrawn from the ARMENTIERES defences and relieve the 207th Machine Gun Coy. which will move to billets in PONT DE NIEPPE.
2. The 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve the 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. in the PLOEGSTBERT - ST YVES Sector under arrangements to be made between the Brigadiers concerned. The relief to be completed by mid-night 28th April.
 

The 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move into billets in ARMENTIERES.
3. (a) The 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move from the Training Area on the 25th April, arriving in the Divisional Area on the 27th April, and moving into billets.-
  - 2 Battalions in ARMENTIERES.
  - 1 Battalion in PONT DE NIEPPE
  - 1 Battalion in WATERLANDS.

(b) The 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve the 75th Inf. Brigade in the LE TOUQUET sector under arrangements to be made between the Brigadiers concerned, the relief to be completed by midnight 29th April.
4. Brigades being relieved will hand over all maps, & defence schemes, trench stores, &c. to relieving Brigades.
5. The Divisional Headquarters will move to STEENWERCK on 30th April, the move to be completed by 12 noon.
6. (a) The 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. less the 11th Field Company and less the 11th Field Ambulance (less 1 section) will move to the BAYENGHEN-LES-SENINGHEM Area by March Route on the 30th of April, arriving in the Training Area on the 2nd May.
 

(b) 12 clear days will be available for training, and a programme of training will be submitted, in duplicate, to Divisional Headquarters by the 24th instant.

(c) The Commandant 2nd Army Musketry School, TILQUES will arrange facilities for musketry training.

(d) The Brigade will make arrangements direct with No. 42 Squadron R.F.C. for contact patrol work.
7. The Southern boundary of the Division will be amended from April 30th (inclusive) to run as follows.- (Ref. Map. 1/20,000, sheet 36) 36.G.10.b.9.9. - G.5.b.6.4. - B.25.c.8.5. - B.26.d.0.5. - along CROIX DU BAC - LES TROIS TILLEULS road inclusive to LES TROIS TILLEULS - along BAILLEUL - ARMENTIERES railway to railway bridge over River LYS - along River LYS to FME. DELMOTTE (C.19.b.1.1) - thence direct to C.15.d.0.1. and along River LYS to front line.
 

57th Division will be responsible for all bridges over River LYS.

Waw Diary

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P.T.O.

## Appendix No 33

-2-

20/4/17.

9. "Q" Branch will make necessary Administrative arrangements for the above moves.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

S.H. Reynolds.  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff.

Issued at 11.30 p.m.

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| 7          | 11th -do-                   |
| 8          | 171st Inf. Bde.             |
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| 16         | O.C. Special Coys. R.E.     |
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| 18         | Spare                       |
| 19         | "                           |

## THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER NO. 31.

21st. April, 1917.

copy 1017  
APPX 34

1. INTENTION. It is intended to discharge gas on the Divisional front on nights when the weather conditions are favorable.  
The gas on the Divisional front South of the River LYS will be discharged by "L" and "N" Special Coys. R.E., and on the front North of the River LYS by "A" and "K" Special Coys., R.E.  
In addition to the gas cloud attack, projectors will be fired from a position North of the River on positions opposite the 10th. Brigade front.
2. RELEASE OF GAS. The gas will be discharged under instructions to be issued by G.O.C.'s, 7th. Brigade and 11th. Aust. Inf. Brigade, in consultation with O.C., "A" Special Coy. R.E., and under instructions to be issued by G.O.C., 10th. Aust. Inf. Bde., in consultation with O.C., "N" Special Coy., R.E.
3. PROJECTORS. (a). The projectors will be fired under orders to be issued by G.O.C., 10th. Aust. Inf. Bde., in consultation with the G.O.C., 75th. Brigade, and O.C., "N" Special Coy., R.E.  
(b). The projectors may be fired independently of the gas discharge, but if favorable opportunity offers, they will be fired simultaneously with one or other of the discharges on the North or on the South of the River LYS.
4. RELEASE OF SMOKE. In addition to discharge of gas, arrangements will be made by the G.O.C.'s, 75th. Brigade, and 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde., to release smoke, as may be required by the O.C., "A" Special Coy., R.E.
5. WARNING OF DISCHARGE. (a). Warning of the intention to discharge gas will be given to Divisional Headquarters six hours before Zero hour, by the G.O.C.'s, 75th. Brigade, and 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde., and the O.C., "A" Special Coy., R.E. for discharge North of the River, and by the G.O.C., 10th. Aust. Inf. Bde., and O.C., "N" Special Coy., R.E., for discharge South of the River.  
(b). The Brigadiers concerned will be responsible for warning any Corps or Divisional troops in the Brigade Area, and also adjoining Brigades.
6. PRECAUTIONS. (a). The front line from which gas is to be discharged, will be cleared to a distance of 250 yards on either flank of the gas, with the exception of sentries, machine gunners, and one Infantry Officer per Gas Sector, who will wear their Box Respirators fully adjusted, from Zero minus 5 to Zero plus 30.  
(b). The Infantry Officer remaining in the gas Sector North of the LYS will keep in touch throughout the whole operation with the Officer commanding "A" Special Coy., R.E., and those remaining in the gas Sector South of the LYS, will keep in touch with the O.C., "N" Special Coy., R.E.  
(c). O.C., Signal Coy., will arrange the necessary communications between O's.C., Special Companies, R.E., and the Brigadiers concerned.

P.T.O.

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L.M.

6. PRECAUTIONS. (a). Special precautions will be taken to ensure that the trenches in front of and for 100 yards on either side of the line of fire of the projectors are cleared of troops, with the exception of those mentioned in sub-para. (a).  
(Cont).
7. CODE. (a). The following code will be used for giving warning of gas discharge. -  
"Candidates will report today at (11) o'clock".  
This will mean that gas will be discharged that night at 11 o'clock.  
(b). In the event of O.C., Special Companies, R.E., finding the weather conditions unfavorable, prior to Zero hour, the Zero hour may be postponed for one or more hours, in which case a message will be sent as follows:-  
"Candidates report (1) hour later".  
This will mean Zero has been advanced one hour.  
(c). In the event of weather conditions being so unsuitable as to preclude any possibility of discharge of gas that night, the following message will be sent:-  
"Candidates will not report today".  
(d). The decision as to whether conditions are suitable for gas discharge is left entirely with the O.C., "A" Special Coy., R.E., who will be able to give provisional opinion one hour before Zero. The final decision at Zero hour as to the suitability of the weather is left entirely to the discretion of the Officers of the Special Companies, R.E., in the gas Sectors.
8. ARTILLERY ACTION. It is important that conditions should be normal from about Zero less one hour.  
(b). Artillery will, however, stand by for retaliation from Zero, in case enemy replies to gas waves.  
(c). Arrangements are being made for the Heavy Artillery to carry out a bombardment on FRELINGHIEN three hours after Zero hour. In order to enable this to be done, the Brigadier concerned will arrange to inform the C.R.A. direct when gas has been discharged or projectors fired in the direction of FRELINGHIEN.
9. SYNCHRONIZATION OF WATCHES. When the message "Candidates will report today at ( ) o'clock" has been sent out, the O.C., Div. Sig. Coy., will synchronize the watches of those concerned.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

D.C.

E. H. Reynolds.  
Lieut-Colonel.-  
General Staff.

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|          | 6.  | 11th. " " "                 |
|          | 7.  | 75th. Inf. Bde.             |
|          | 8.  | 3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn.      |
|          | 9.  | O.C., "A" Special Coy. R.E. |
|          | 10. | " " "K" do.                 |
|          | 11. | " " "L" do.                 |
|          | 12. | " " "N" do.                 |
|          | 13. | 57th. Division.             |
|          | 14. | New Zealand Division.       |
|          | 15. | 2nd. A. & N. Z. Army Corps. |
|          | 16. | Corps Heavy Artillery.      |
|          | 17. | War Diary.                  |
|          | 18. | File.                       |
|          | 19. | Spare.                      |

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER NO. 32.

22nd. April, 1917.

1. The 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade will return from the Training Area to the Divisional Area on the 25th. April, in accordance with the attached March Table.
2. The 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade, with the 11th. Machine Gun Coy., Light Trench Mortar Battery, Coy. of Divisional Train and one Section Field Ambulance, will move to the Training Area on the 1st. May, in accordance with the attached March Table, and occupy the billets in the BAYENGHEM - LES - SENINGHEM Area now occupied by the 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade.
3. (a). 12 clear days will be available for training.  
 (b). Programme of Training (in triplicate) will be prepared by the 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade and forwarded to Divisional Headquarters by the 27th. April.  
 (c). Facilities for Musketry Training will be allotted by the Commandant, 2nd. Army Musketry School, TILQUES.  
 (d). Contact Patrol Exercises will be carried out in conjunction with the 42nd. Squadron, R.F.C., under arrangements to be made direct by the 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade.  
 (e). Maps of the Training Area will be handed over by the 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade to the 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade.
4. Completion of all Moves and Location of Headquarters will be reported to Divisional Headquarters by wire.
5. On the 2nd. May supplies for the 11th. Australian Infantry Brigade Group will be drawn from railhead by Supply Column lorries, which will refill Divisional Train wagons at STRAZERIE, under arrangements to be made by "Q" Branch.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 6 p.m.

*E.H. Reynolds*  
Lieut-Colonel.-  
General Staff.

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| 5          | C.R.E.                 | 19 | New Zealand Division.         |
| 6          | 9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.   | 20 | 25th. Division.               |
| 7          | 10th. " " "            | 21 | 57th. Division.               |
| 8          | 11th. " " "            | 22 | 42nd. Squadron, R.F.C.        |
| 9          | 11th. " " "            | 23 | War Diary.                    |
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| 12         | A.D.M.S.               | 26 | "                             |
| 13         | D.A.D.O.S.             | 27 | "                             |
| 14         | A.P.M.                 | 28 | "                             |

War Diary

MARCH TIME TABLE.

| UNIT.                    | DATE.           | MOVE.                                 |   | ROUTE.      | REPORT FOR<br>BILLETS TO. | SUPPLY<br>RAILHEAD.                                    | REMARKS.                                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|---------------------------|--|---|
|                          |                 | From.                                 | to.   |             |                           |  |   |
| 9th. Aust. Inf.<br>Bde.  | 25th.<br>April. | BAYENGHEM -<br>LES-SENINGHEM<br>AREA. | ARQUES AND<br>RENNESCURE.                                     | Direct.     | Mairies.                  | Draw for<br>last time<br>at ST. OMER<br>on 26th. inst. |   |
| do.                      | 26th.<br>April. | RENNESCURE<br>and ARQUES.             | STRAZEELE.  | "           | Mairie.                   |  |   |
| do.                      | 27th.<br>April. | STRAZEELE.                            | Divisional<br>Area.   |             |                           |  |   |
| 11th. Aust. Inf.<br>Bde. | 1st. May.       | Divisional<br>Area.                   | STRAZEELE.  | Direct.     | Mairie.                   | Draw for<br>first time<br>at ST. OMER<br>on 3rd. May.  |   |
| do.                      | 2nd. May.       | STRAZEELE.                            | EBBLINGHEM<br>Area.   | HAZEBROUCK. | Mairie.                   |  | Will clear<br>HAZEBROUCK<br>by 10.30 a.m. |
| do.                      | 3rd. May.       | EBBLINGHEM<br>Area.                   | ARQUES,<br>HALLINES,<br>WIZERNES,<br>ST. MARTIN,<br>AU LAERT. | Direct.     | Mairies.                  |  |   |
| do.                      | 4th. May.       | ARQUES & C.                           | BAYENGHEM -<br>LES-SENINGHEM<br>Area.                         | Direct.     | Mairie.                   |  |   |

Appendix No 35

COPY.SECRET.PROJECTOR DISCHARGE?April 28th/29th 1917.

455 Projectors were discharged at 12.33 a.m. at the first discharge. The remaining 45 guns did not fire, owing to continuity of circuits being broken by concussion. It was not possible to get these batteries recharged in time for a second zero after 35 minutes.

The discharge seemed successful. Although no direct evidence was secured by the FRELINHIEN raiding party, indirect evidence procured by them showed the bridge at FRELINGHIEN (C.11.c. 45.90) to be apparently unguarded and no enemy were in the western fringe of the village near the bridge.

This is shown by the fact that near the bridge the patrol was forced to ford a wide dyke, a far from noiseless proceeding as the water was neck-deep. During this operation one of the patrol "pulled-off" his rifle accidentally. No consequent action was taken by the enemy.

Two burst bombs were discovered near the bridge head and it seems that the bridge was well caught by the gas.

Infantry Officers in the line observed the bombs bursting near FRELINGHIEN.

45 guns remain which could be discharged when required, preferably in conjunction with discharge of the remaining cylinders in the line.

(Sgd) A.S.PELLING. Capt., R.E.

29-4-17.

O.C. "N" Special Company, R. E.



(C O P Y) 29/4/17.

To, Intelligence Officer,  
75th Infantry Brigade.

REPORT ON GAS ATTACK - 29/4/17.  
-----

Gas was successfully discharged by us from two places of our sector at 12.30 a.m. this morning (29/4/17) :-

- (a) by cylinders in E Gap U.28.a. & c.
- (b) by projectors, firing from a line from NORTH BLOCK to CARTERS FARM C.10.c. These were directed on FRELINGHIEN

At the same time smoke bombs were lit along the whole of our front.

(a) The discharge was completed at 12.45 a.m. and the officer of the Special Company R.E. considered the attack one of the most successful they have accomplished.

Immediately at the commencement of the discharge the Enemy put up GREEN VERY Lights and then alternately GREEN and RED, which were followed at once by a bombardment of our FRONT line with light and heavy artillery, light and heavy T.Ms. and Rifle Grenades. Enemy also opened up M.G. Fire and Rifle fire but this ceased after 5 minutes, opposite E Gap which pointed to the gas affecting his rifles and M.Gs. His T.M. activity almost ceased in this area after 25 mins., but the artillery bombardment lasted 45 minutes. Just prior to the discharge our front line troops were withdrawn except for a few teams of LEWIS GUNNERS, none of which suffered casualties. One runner sustained a slight wound on the cheek from shrapnel.

The ~~front~~ front line trench and SUFFOLK AVENUE were slightly damaged but this is being repaired.

The garrison of front line of left centre company was sent to CHESHIRE AVENUE and suffered no casualties from the bombardment. They returned to front line at 2.15 a.m. during which a N.C.O. was slightly wounded by a rifle grenade.

At 2.5 a.m. a reconnoitring patrol consisting of 1 officer, 1 Sgt. 1 L/Cpl. from Left Centre Company also 1 L/Cpl ~~fr~~ of the R.E. left our front line trench at South end of E Gap. They received definite instructions from R.E. Officer that should they smell gas at all, they were to return. In this matter they were guided by the R.E. N.C.O. In spite of numerous Very Lights which were being sent up by the enemy they proceeded across NO MAN'S LAND, and were fired on three times. Sounds of the enemy working in his trenches were heard, hammering &c.

Enemy was also throwing bombs into his own wire and there were signs that there was still plenty of the enemy alive in his front line. Having got up close to the wire the R.E. N.C.O. gave the gas alarm. The patrol put on their box respirators and returned to our lines at 3.2 a.m.

The R.E. personnel sustained one casualty. This man removing his box respirator too soon. He died in 5 minutes. (b) The projectors were fired at 12.35 a.m. Three Batteries of which were failures. The enemy immediately put up his S.O.S. signal and sounded a high pitched horn.

He retaliated on our right company sector after five minutes with Field Guns which ceased after firing for about 6 minutes. Two trench mortars also fired for a short time from direction of FRELINGHIEN.

There was no further retaliation in this sector. No projectors fell in or near our lines, and we suffered no casualties in our right company.

Situation now quite normal on our front.

(Sd) R.P.HALL, 2/Lt.  
11th Cheshire Regt.

29/4/17.  
8.5.a.m.

(COPY) 29/4/17.  
SECRET."A" Special Co. R.E.  
O.P./ 179  
29/4/17G.S. 3rd Australian Division.REPORT ON GAS DISCHARGE ON 3rd AUST. DIV. FRONT.

1. Cylinders were installed as follows:-
 

|        |                         |           |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------|
| K Coy. | SEAFORTH - ANTON'S FARM | 505 cyls. |
| A Coy. | ST YVES                 | 180 "     |
| " "    | 'G' Gap                 | 120 "     |
| " "    | 'E' Gap                 | 208 "     |
2. Arrangements were made to fill the space between E and G gaps with smoke into which White Star Hand Grenades were to be thrown so as to make it more difficult for the enemy to detect the flanks of the gas.
3. The discharge was unfortunately divided between two nights, the 180 at ST YVES being discharged at 12.30 a.m. on the night 27/28th. Of these, 7 were either only partially emptied or else not turned on for various reasons. I sent out orders cancelling the discharge three quarters of an hour before zero, but owing to the slowness of an operator, this message took forty five minutes to reach the section Commanders' Hqrs., and by this time the discharge had already begun. The section in E gap was only stopped by a 'phone message while that in G Gap could not have discharged in any case as was also the case in K Company.
4. The remainder were discharged at 12.30 a.m. on the night 28/29th. Sections in E Gap and G Gap claimed to have emptied all their cylinders while K company claimed 495 out of 505. If these figures are correct there should be 17 cylinders undischarged on the Divisional Front.
5. As intended the space between E and G Gaps was filled with smoke. Triple candles were used and proved fairly satisfactory
6. The discharge on "A" company front took ten minutes or under, on the K coy. front, about twenty minutes. The difference is due to the fact that the former company used a separate pipe to each cylinder, the latter used four-ways. The former method permits a higher concentration of gas.
7. The enemy retaliated with field guns and trench mortars on the right of K Coy and on E and G gaps but the retaliation was not severe. As has usually been my experience in a discharge unaccompanied by our own artillery, this retaliation began about 10 minutes after zero.  
There was no retaliation of any kind on the previous night.
8. Green and red lights were visible from Brigade Headquarters where I was, beginning about three minutes after zero and lasting until some time after the discharge.
9. CASUALTIES. On the night of the 27/28th, three men of "A" Company were slightly gassed. On the night of the 28/29th "A" Coy lost 1 killed, apparently from the effects of gas (not quite certain), 1 wounded, while three men claimed to be gassed and one to be suffering from shell shock. 'K' Coy. had nine cases of gas poisoning, none killed.
10. The reconnoitring patrols sent out on the 'A' Coy. front and accompanied each by an N.C.O. of the Company, in no case penetrated the enemy's wire, and brought back no information. I have received no information of the "K" Coy. patrol.
11. Projectors installed near BUTCHER'S SHOP were fired at 12.35 P.T.O.

(2).

a.m. Some of the drums did not leave the projectors immediately, but all except 45 were got rid of by 1 a.m. The original arrangement had been to fire off any that were left with artillery bombardment three hours after zero, but this arrangement was altered to meet the wishes of the 75th. Brigade, who could not clear their lines twice, and it was arranged that as many as possible should be got off within half an hour of zero.

12. Discharges also took place from "L" and "N" Coys., South of the River at the same zero (12.30 a.m.).

(Sgd). E. V. SLATER, Capt.

O.C. "A" Special Coy., R.E.