

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/46/9 Part 4

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

July 1917



AWM4-1/46/9PART4



Appendix 46 (e)



1 11th Aust Inf Bde Order N<sup>o</sup> 84

2 -do- Division Circular N<sup>o</sup> 1

3 -do- N<sup>o</sup> 2

4 9th Aust Inf Bde Order N<sup>o</sup> 85

5 -do- 86



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*gpc. [unclear]*

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 84

28th July, 1917.



Reference Map 1/10000, and tracings issued with Diversion Circular No. 1 and tracing "Z" (attached).

(1) INFORMATION.

- "a" The enemy troops opposite the Divisional Front are the 16th Division. The enemy regiment holding the line are probably the 68th and the 28th, the latter holding the Northern portion.
- "b" The enemy system of holding the line is as follows:- One Battalion of each regiment in posts, trenches and shell holes in NO MAN'S LAND, One Battalion in the WARNETON line and vicinity, and the remaining Battalion in rest billets, some distance back.
- "c" Locations of known enemy posts, and machine guns have been issued to all concerned - these have been developed into an all round defended system.

(2) INTENTION.

- "a" On "Z" day at Zero hour, which will be notified later, the 11th Australian Infantry Brigade employing the 42nd Battalion on the left and 43rd Battalion on the right will mop up the enemy trench systems and posts in NO MAN'S LAND opposite that portion of our front from O.35 Central to U.5.d.50.40., and within 150 yards of the WARNETON line.
- "b" Establish a line of posts III, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII with Communication Trenches to our front line.
- "c" Complete the consolidation of the Red Dotted Line.

The detailed distribution and action will be as set out in 11th Australian Infantry Brigade Diversion Circulars Nos. 1 (amended) and 2.

(3) APPROACH MARCH.

Assault Battalions will depart from T.2. Central in Motor Lorries at Zero minus 6 hours and arrive at T.6.c., at Zero minus 5 hours.

Following will be subsequent times at various places:-  
place. Approximate time of arrival of head of column.

43rd Battalion	WYTSCHAETE-MESSINES-PLOEGSTEERT Road.	Zero minus 3 hrs. 30 mts.
42nd Battalion	do do do do	Zero 3 hrs. 30 mts.
43rd Battalion	Junction of CROSS ANENUE & Support Line.	" " 1 hr. 45 "
2nd Battalion	Junction of GAPAARD & Support Line	" " 1 hr. 45 "
43rd Battalion	Assembly trenches.	" " 1 hour
42nd Battalion	do do	" " 1 "

(4) ARTILLERY.

- "a" Artillery action and barrage time table will be as per Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.
- "b" The Artillery will be ready to act on the S.O.S., signal at any time after Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes. Should the S.O.S., go up prior to this the Artillery Task will not be interfered with but the rate of fire will be quickened.  
The S.O.S., action will extend along our whole front as shown by the S.O.S., line on the Artillery barrage Map. The S.O.S., rocket will be at once acted upon. There will be no waiting for confirmation by wire.

10.95a

*gpc. [unclear]*  
27/7/17

*gpc.*



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(5) MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

The action of machine guns and trench mortars will be as per Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.

Messages to and from machine guns and Stokes mortar personnel will be handed in at the nearest Headquarters.

(6) GAS AND SMOKE.

Gas and smoke will be employed as stated in Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.

(7) CONTACT PLANES.

Contact planes will fly at Zero plus 2 hours, and at Zero plus 5 hours. Flares will be lit when called for by the plane.

Special planes may fly at other hours in the event of the situation being obscure. In this case Flares will be lit when called for, in the ordinary way.

The markings of the Contact planes will be as follows:-

Two black panels flying from the right lower wing of the Contact plane; size about two feet by one foot.

Red ground flares will be used and will be lit singly.

(8) TIME OF ASSEMBLY.

Assaulting Battalions will be assembled in their assembly trenches by Zero minus 1 hour.

(9) COMMUNICATIONS.

Signal communication arrangements will be as detailed in Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.

(10) S.O.S. ACTION.

The S.O.S., action prior to Zero will be as follows:-

Should the enemy attempt to bombard our trenches within 15 minutes of Zero hour, the Field Artillery will not reply to the S.O.S., Signal, in order that there may be no danger of the Infantry mistaking our retaliatory action for the opening of the barrage. Field Artillery retaliatory action will be normal during the remainder of Y/Z night up to Zero minus 15 minutes. Arrangements are being made that any bombardment of our trenches on Y/Z night shall be countered by prompt and overwhelming counter-battery work. Officers Commanding Units will ensure that all ranks are warned that the S.O.S., will be operative up to Zero minus 15 minutes, and that a barrage going down before that hour must not be taken for the advancing barrage.

S.O.S., action during the operations will be as per para 4 "b" and as stated in Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.

(11) ASSEMBLY AND WITHDRAWAL OF ATTACKING TROOPS AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFENCE OF THE LINE.

The G.O.C., 9th Infantry Brigade will arrange to keep clear the following Communication Trenches from Zero minus 4 hours until Zero plus 15 minutes:-

FANNY C.T. OWL TRENCH (connecting FANNY and GAPAARD Communication Trenches) GAPAARD AVENUE (from OWL TRENCH to Front Line) WELLINGTON New Switch (Support Line to Front Line) CROSS AVENUE (to Front Line) ADELAIDE AVENUE.

The G.O.C., 9th Infantry Brigade will also arrange to clear the following trenches (except for Lewis Guns and Crews) for the assembly of 11th Infantry Brigade Troops who are due to arrive at Zero minus 1 hour 45 minutes:-

P.T.O. Support /



(11) Continued.

SUPPORT LINE:- CROSS AVENUE to ADELAIDE AVENUE and WELLINGTON NEW SWITCH to CAPAARD AVENUE.

FRONT LINE:- From CROSS AVENUE to GAPAARD AVENUE (with the exception of 9th Brigade Lewis Guns and Crews and patrols returning from NO MAN'S LAND) The 9th Brigade will leave in 1 Officer per platoon Front.

OLD FRONT LINE )  
and ) West of the whole of the Red Dotted Line.  
NEW ASSEMBLY )  
TRENCH. )

In view of proximity of our Artillery barrage to our Front Line from Zero to Zero plus 3 minutes, 9th Brigade Lewis Guns and Crews will have to provide for their own safety and protection during this period.

From darkness to daylight or Zero hour, whichever comes first on "Z" day, the 9th Brigade will arrange for patrols to be active in NO MAN'S LAND within our own sphere but these patrols will not go out so far as to render them liable to casualties from our desultory Artillery fire during the night. This Artillery fire will not come nearer than 200 yards to our front line. Owing to the amount of Artillery fire concentrated on the enemy's posts, it is possible he may abandon some of them and establish himself in shell holes. It will be the duty of the 9th Brigade patrols to ascertain these new positions and to communicate them to the 11th Brigade prior to Zero hour.

As the 11th Brigade patrols go over the top, the 9th Brigade troops will close in and be responsible for the defence of the front line except that portion of it which lies between the two ends of the Red Dotted Line.

The G.O.C., 9th Brigade will be responsible for the defence of the line throughout, notwithstanding that fact that the above mentioned portion between the extremities of the Red Dotted Line will be defended by the 11th Brigade Troops.

By 3 a.m. on "A" day, the whole of the 11th Brigade Troops will be withdrawn and the 9th Brigade will take over the new Red line and the various posts that will by then have been established. From midnight onwards on Z/A night the 9th Brigade will take over the patrolling in NO MAN'S LAND beyond the Red posts.

The guns of the Machine Gun barrage will remain in their positions ready to support the 9th Brigade with S.O.S., action but the Stokes mortars of the 10th and 11th Brigades will be withdrawn by 3 a.m. on Z/A night under orders to be issued by the G.O.C., 11th Brigade.

(12) WATCHES.

Watches will be synchronised daily between 7 and 9 p.m., from now on by an Officer from Brigade Headquarters. Details with regard to this have been passed to Units concerned.



(13) REPORTS.

Reports will be sent to Brigade Headquarters G.U.I.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*L. H. Wootton*

Major.  
Brigade Major, 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1 G.O.C.  
2 B.M.  
3 S.C.  
4 to 9 42nd Battalion.  
10 to 14 43rd Battalion.  
15 11th M.G. Coy.  
16 11th T.M. Battery.  
17 to 19 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
20 to 22 3rd Aust. Div.  
23 41st Battalion.  
24 44th Battalion.  
25 Bde. Bombing Officer.  
26 Bde. Sig. Section.  
27)  
28) 10th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
29 C.R.A.  
30 C.R.E.  
31 11th Field Engineers.  
32 9th T.M. Battery.  
33 10th T.M. Battery.  
34 Capt. Anderson, Div. L.T.M.O.  
35 Lt. Bateman, 9th Bde. Hdqrs.  
36 1st N.Z. Bde.  
37 63rd Inf. Bde.  
38 File.  
39 War Diary.



11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,  
16th July, 1917.

D I V E R S I O N    C I R C U L A R    N o . 1 .



Reference Maps. Tracing "A" attached.  
1/10000 Special Sheet 8150/5.

STRENGTHS, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS ETC.

(1). STRENGTH OF ASSAULT.

(a) Officers and Headquarters	Officers.	Others.
Battalion Headquarters (C/O, Adjutant and Signalling Officer or Sergeant.)	2 or 3	6 or 7 Signallers
Medical Company Headquarters.	1	8 Runners. 16 Stretcher Bearers.
Platoon Headquarters.	1	3 Signallers. 4 Runners.
	1	2 Runners.

Officers should be sent with platoons to all Red posts and platoons digging Red Dotted Line and C.T's, but only 50% of platoon Commanders of Assault will be Officers, therefore exclusive of R.M.O., Officers will be:-

1 Battalion Headquarters	=	3
4 Company do	=	4
Platoon Officers	=	12
<b>Total</b>		<u>19 Officers.</u>

(b) SIGNALLERS.

The 5 platoons going to Red posts will each have three Signallers.

	Signallers.	
1 Battalion Headquarters	1 Officer or Sgt.	7
4 Company Headquarters		12
2 platoon posts		3
		<u>25</u>

As 42nd Battalion have 3 posts to establish they will have 28 Signallers - No other Signallers to be used.

(c) RUNNERS.

1 Battalion Headquarters	6
4 Company Headquarters	16
16 platoons	32
	<u>54</u>

All Cooks, pioneers, Sanitary Squad, Bandsmen, C.Q.M.S., and such like Administrative details difficult to replace will not be used.

*For Major  
to  
DIO. June  
1917.*

Sections - each of 1 N.C.O. (Sgt L/Sgt. Cpl. or E/Cpl) and 6 men =	7.
4 Sections each 7 =	28 in platoon.
16 platoons =	448
Batmen to 19 Officers =	19
Signallers.	25
Runners.	54
Stretcher Bearers. (Battalion Headqrs.)	16
2 Stretcher Bearers to accompany each platoon	32
	<u>594 Other Ranks.</u>

If 43rd Battalion and 42nd Battalion cannot supply the 32 Stretcher Bearers the deficiency will be made up from 41st and 44th Battalions. 41st Battalion will attach the required number to 43rd Battalion, and 44th Battalion will attach the required number to 42nd Battalion. These men must be at once trained in First Aid.

*R10 537m ackgd*



STRENGTHS, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS ETC. Continued.

- (2). Fighting Kit as per S.S. 135. para XXI., except:-  
 VI. Only carry 24 hours rations in haversack (no great coat or oil sheet). *Plus iron ration*  
 VIII. 3 Mills Bombs; Bombing Section to carry 14 Bombs and 1 "P" Grenade.  
 IX. Only required if Contact plane operates. Every Officer in Charge of platoon going to either of 5 Red posts must have runner or batman to carry 2 S.O.S. Rockets complete. platoon Officers digging Red Dotted Line also require 2 S.O.S. Rockets each.

X. The following Sand Bags will be carried :-

Assaulters	...	5
Red post parties	...	10
Red Dotted Line parties	...	10
C. T. parties	...	10

Rifle Grenadier Sections will carry 10 Rifle Grenades per man (if possible with separate rods) and 1 "P" Grenade.

Lewis Gun Sections will carry 5 magazines per man, except No. 1 who carries the Gun.

Assaulters will not carry any large entrenching Tool; they will rely on shell holes, filled Sand Bags, and entrenching Tools. Wire Cutters and Breakers at rate of 2 to every Section in first line of the wave will be carried.

Red post Garrison. Each man will carry either 1 pick or 1 shovel in the proportion 3/picks to 5 shovels.

Red Dotted Line and C.T. parties. Every man will carry 1 pick and 1 shovel.

	picks.	Shovels.
Total for each Battalion	175	200
	100	275

(3). Distinguishing arm Bands will be worn on right arm <sup>4"</sup> below Battalion colour patch, as under:-

Assaulting Troops	...	Yellow.
parties to establish Red posts	...	Red.
parties to consolidate Red Dotted Line &)		
C.T., parties	)	white.

(4). Every Company and platoon Commander will carry a 1/20000 Map showing:-  
 (a) WARNETON Line.  
 (b) 18 enemy posts bombarded by Artillery.  
 No other Maps will be carried, nor will any sketches etc., be carried that will convey information to the enemy of our Red posts or new line.

(5). Each platoon will carry 1 stretcher and Battalion Stretcher Bearers 8 stretchers. In addition R.M.O.'s will arrange for 50 stretchers at each Aid post.

Large entrenching tools in proportion of 3 shovels



(1).

The Infantry will be divided into four parties:-

(a) ASSAULTING TROOPS	=	8 platoons	42nd Battalion
		8	" 43rd Battalion
		<u>16</u>	

Each Battalion is to attack on a two Company front in one wave and mop up under cover of creeping barrage all posts between our Lines and WARNETON Line, in squares O.35.d - U.5.b, and U.5.d.

These Troops will not advance closer than within 200 yards of WARNETON Line (where it exists) or about 125 yards from enemy wire (where any exists).

It is necessary that all posts reported active are known to Assaulters in order to be ready to envelope and mop them up.

Distance to advance Eastward must be known and recognised on map and ground.

The cleaning up of enemy posts is merely supplementary to the establishment of our Red posts, and also the consolidation of our Red Dotted Line, but it is considered that the cleaning of "No mans Land" is necessary to allow of digging to commence on these posts.

At conclusion of advance there should be reorganisation in order to bring Sections of same platoons together.

Lateral touch of platoons and Companies will be necessary, for as the various Sections of Rifle Grenadiers, Riflemen and Bombers withdraw, Lewis Gun Sections must be reassured as to lateral touch, and in the event of Units being spread laterally at certain points, the Sections of Rifle Grenadiers, Riflemen or Bombers will not withdraw until Zero plus ~~two hours~~ <sup>four to five minutes</sup>, and will then withdraw with Lewis Gun Sections, otherwise Lewis Gun Sections become isolated and are unable to withdraw. The platoon Commander must not therefore withdraw until Bombers are withdrawing.

(b) PARTIES TO ESTABLISH THE RED POSTS.

1 platoon to each of posts III, IV, V, VI, and VII, and VIII  
43rd Battalion to supply platoons VI, and VII., and 42nd Battalion to supply platoons for III, IV, and V.

These platoons follow Assaulters, either as a wave or in Artillery formation, and finally mop up all country between our Front Line and Red posts III, to VII., inclusive and definitely establish themselves and dig and consolidate these posts with best field of fire and observation to North, East, and South that is offering.

The posts are to be constructed to hold a maximum garrison of one platoon (28 men) and a minimum of two Sections (14 men). Whilst Assaulters are to East of these posts <sup>the</sup> whole platoon is to be employed on consolidation. It will be necessary to subsequently withdraw Assaulters through these posts to dig Red Dotted Line. Consequently these platoons require to be best Troops and well disciplined and trained and definitely know that our Troops will be passing East to West through them, but that these post platoons are to remain.

This passing through of Assaulters will be done by Companies by Sections, thus:-  
Zero plus 1 hour Rifle Grenade Sections of 4 platoons of each of two Companies of each 42nd and 43rd Battalions.  
Zero plus 1 hour 15 minutes Rifle Sections of 4 platoons of each of 2 Companies of each 42nd and 43rd Battalions.  
Zero plus 1 hour 30 minutes Bombing Sections of 4 platoons of each of 2 Companies of each 42nd and 43rd Battalions.  
Zero plus 1 hour 45 minutes Lewis Gun Sections of 4 platoons of each of 2 Companies of each 42nd and 43rd Battalions.

Therefore at Zero plus ~~30 minutes~~ <sup>the hour</sup> the whole of the five posts will establish their Lewis Gun Sections in front or to a flank of their posts (protected by 2 or 3 Bombers) as early protection to the Red post.

Special precautions will be taken to prevent the Lewis Gun Sections covering the Red posts mistaking the first or subsequent wave moving back, for the enemy. When the Assaulters are all back, the protection of the Red posts will devolve on the garrison of the Red posts and their Lewis Gun Sections in front of them. This protection is supplemented by Artillery and Machine Gun fire, on a call for S.O.S.

At night patrols and posts from these posts will furnish local protection 50 yards to East of these posts to give early warning of attack on posts.

Immediately posts III, IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII have been captured each



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ACTION OF INFANTRY.(b) PARTIES TO ESTABLISH THE RED POSTS. Continued.

This local protection will be further safeguarded by patrols sent out from Red Dotted Line as follows :-

43rd Battalion.

- Right Company. (Right flank) from U.S.d. 40.75 towards WARETON Line and protecting attack of No. VII. post from South and to co-operate with 9th Brigade patrols on South.
- Right Centre Company. From vicinity of post No. VII. to protect attack of post VII from S.E. and East and to co-operate with Right Coy. and Left Centre Coy., patrols.
- Left Centre Company. From vicinity of post VI. to protect attack on post VII from N & N.E. and post VI. from East and co-operate with Right Centre Coy., and Left Coy., patrols.
- Left Company. From vicinity VI to protect attack on post VI from N.E. and N., and to co-operate with Left Centre Coy., 43rd Battalion's and right Coy., of 42nd Battalion's patrols.

42nd Battalion.

- Right Company. From post V to protect it from S.E. and East and co-operate with patrols on flank.
- Right Centre Company. From post IV., to protect it from S.E. and East and V., post from N.E.
- Left Centre Company. From post III., to protect it from S.E. and East and IV post from N.E.
- Left Company. From post II., (old) to protect it from S.E. and East and No. III., from N.E.

(c) C.T. PARTIES.

1	Platoon for post VII.	)	43rd Battalion.
1	" " " VI.	)	
1	" " " V.	)	42nd Battalion.

These parties commence digging from the posts and dig westwards to Red Dotted Line. They will move in Artillery formation or as a wave.

(d) PARTIES TO CONSOLIDATE RED DOTTED LINE.

4 Platoons - 42nd Battalion.  
4 " - 43rd Battalion.

Platoons to move in Artillery formation or in wave. To sight, lay out, dig and consolidate Red Dotted Line. If "C" and "D" (125 yards) and "E" to "F" (150 yards) has been dug by 9th Brigade prior to Zero, it will leave 300 yards to dig, i.e., about 300 yards to each Battalion.

2. On return of 2 Companies to each Battalion of Assaulters to Red Dotted Line they will augment digging parties of Red Dotted Line, and on C.T.'s as follows :-

Two platoons of Right Company of 43rd Battalion Assaulters (less 4 Lewis Gun Sections and Guns) will dig the C.T., to post VII., from Red Dotted Line, and thus augmenting platoon digging from post VII., to West.

Two platoons of this Company will dig C.T. from advanced front line U.S.b. 35.40. to Red Dotted Line U.S.b. 55.45. U.S.d. 45.65 to post VIII.

Left Company of 43rd Battalion Assaulters will provide one-two platoon (less Lewis Gun Section and Guns) to dig C.T., to post VI., from Red Dotted Line, thus augmenting platoon digging from post VI., eastwards.

The Lewis Gun Sections of the above 5 platoons will remain in old advanced front line.

This leaves 7 platoons of 43rd Battalion digging Red Dotted Line. "CT from advanced F.L. at U.S.b. 28.70 to the red dotted line at U.S.b. 38.18 has been dug by 9th Brigade. If all above tasks are completed a C.T. will also be constructed from adv F.L. at U.S.b. 35.40. to Red dotted line at U.S.b. 55.4



ACTION OF INFANTRY, Continued.

Right Company of 42nd Battalion Assaulters will supply one platoon (less Lewis Gun Section) to dig from Red Dotted Line to post V, thus augmenting the one platoon digging from post V to Red Dotted Line.

Left Company of 42nd Battalion Assaulters will supply one platoon (less Lewis Gun Section) to dig to post IV.

One platoon (less Lewis Gun Section) to dig C.T. from advanced Front Line at U.5.b.2.8. to Red Dotted Line at U.5.b.45.80., and two platoons (less Lewis Gun Section) to complete dig to post III., from Front Line (It is expected that 100 yards will be dug prior to Zero day). These 5 Lewis Gun Sections remain in our old advanced Front Line.

This leaves 7 platoons of 42nd Battalion digging Red Dotted Line. When platoons have finished C.T.'s., they will help on Red Dotted Line and vice versa.

(3). The centre of the attack is U.5.b.00.60. - U.6.a.00.60. North point is O.35 Central. South point is U.5.d.5.4. This gives 600 yards to 43rd Battalion and 700 yards to 42nd Battalion.

(4). When Assaulters are passing East to West they will leave 25% of their Bombs, Ammunition, Lewis Gun magazines and Sand Bags distributed in posts III., to VII., inclusive.

(5). The governing principle of digging C.T.'s., posts and trenches will be to get under cover by Sections. It is better to have four sections of trench down early to proper depth of 4 or 5 feet with 5 or 10 yards between each, than to have a shallow trench throughout. Sapping under cover and out of observation can go on later and make trench continuous then or at night fall, which will allow digging above ground.

If digging on posts or Red Dotted Line, Bombers and Rifle Sections should dig on right or left flank of platoons as case may be and Lewis Gunners in the centre and generally in advance of the position. Rifle Grenadiers start the C.T., to the rear.

(6). If Machine Guns or Artillery prevent large digging parties on the C.T.'s., or Red Dotted Line by day, an Officer on the spot must thin men down into our two present lines from O.5.d.1., to U.5.d.40.75., and rest them preparatory to a vigorous dig when it gets dark.

(7). a. Nos. 1 and 2 of Lewis Gun Sections with Gun and all magazines of platoons of parties "C" and "D" (see para 1 above) for original C.T.'s., and Red Dotted Line will remain in our old Front Line until a position is dug for Lewis Gun, which should be ready for their accommodation at Zero plus 2 hours.

b. The Guns of these platoons which are on C.T.'s., to posts will establish themselves in Red Dotted Line in vicinity of these C.T.'s., so that they can be picked up by their Sections.

(8). Company, platoon, and Section leaders, also runners and signallers will - starting on 18th instant - reconnoitre routes to Front Line.

(9). Stretcher Bearers will reconnoitre routes to new Aid posts.



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(1). Artillery prior to Zero day is to bombard all enemy posts in NO MAN'S LAND, that is, posts 1 to 18 and also strong points in and West of WARNETON Line. Also to cut wire at six places in WARNETON Line.

Artillery plan prior to Zero day (Divisional memo G 1/343/a of 12/7/17) can be perused at this Office.

On Zero day Artillery will commence barrage on a frontage of 1,500 yards (line O.35.b.-d., on North to line U.5.d. U.11.b., on South) starting at a point 150 yards East of our present Front Line and posts.

It will remain on this line for three minutes, to give our Assault Troops time to issue from their trenches. It will lift at Zero plus three minutes and creep forward at rate of fifty yards a minute, and will come to a halt on the WARNETON Line.

The barrage will be thickened and continued from U.11.b. on South by Artillery from NEW ZEALAND Division and 3" Stokes Mortars by 11th Infantry Brigade - particularly on enemy posts 16, 17, & 18.

On North the Artillery barrage will be continued from O.35.b., Northwards by 10th Brigade 3" Stokes Mortars and will co-operate with Artillery action of Division on our left. Particular attention will be paid by 10th Brigade 3" Stokes Mortars to enemy post No. 2, and enemy trench astride MILITARY ROAD O.35.b.9.1. to O.35.b.7.8. Construction of Mortar positions will be started forthwith.

The barrage will be at rate of four rounds per gun a minute from Zero to Zero plus fifteen minutes - it will then drop to 3 - then 2 - then 1 round a gun a minute. Heavies and 4.5 Hows. reserved for Counter Battery and for shelling back areas.

It is proposed to cease fire at Zero plus four hours. It is not definitely decided whether prior to Zero plus four hours certain guns or Batteries will be taken out to extend barrage of 18 pounders to North or South of 1,500 yards frontage and to cover from DOUVE to BLAWEPOORTBEEK from Zero plus 30 minutes and to quicken fire on this line or the 1,500 yards frontage on a call for S.O.S. to repel local counter attack.

It is quite definitely fixed, however, that after Zero plus four hours the S.O.S. line will extend from LA DOUVE RIVER to BLAWEPOORTBEEK, the line of S.O.S. being U.11.b.85.45, thence to WARNETON Line at U.6.c.37.0., thence along WARNETON Line to O.36.c.1.5., thence to O.35.b.9.1., O.35.b.7.8., O.29.d.45.05. This S.O.S. can be thickened up by 3" Stokes Mortars of all three Brigades, but a re-arrangement of 9th Brigade 3" Mortars will be necessary to fire 150 yards East of newly established Red post and Red Dotted Line.

(2). All four Machine Gun Companies will employ 12 Guns (48 in all) on whole Divisional front; barraging a line 50 yards East of WARNETON Line in squares O.36.c. - U.6.a., and U.6.c., and in squares U.12.a. and O.36.a., barraging on enemy wire, i.e., 50 yards West of WARNETON Line. This barrage will extend to LA DOUVE RIVER on South and to BLAWEPOORTBEEK on North. From Zero to Zero plus 30 minutes fire will be practically continuous, but from Zero plus 30 minutes to Zero plus four hours, fire will gradually slacken, ceasing at Zero plus four hours, but increasing rate of fire on S.O.S.

One Vickers Gun at each U.5.d.25.45 and O.35.d.1.4, crossing at U.5.b.78.27., require to be moved to O.35.d.35.10., and U.5.d.45.10., and to fire to cross and to protect new Red posts - not to come into action until after withdrawal of Assaulters and then only on a call for S.O.S.

(3). Artillery will send Liason Officer to each 42nd and 43rd Battalion Headquarters.

(4). Smoke from either 4" Mortars, Candles or Variety Bombs will be used in U.11.b. and U.12.a.



CONTRIBUTORY ACTION BY 9TH AND 10TH BRIGADES  
PRIOR TO ZERO.

1. Completion of two Battalion Headquarters (10th Brigade)
2. Completion of four Company Headquarters.
3. Completion of two Aid posts. (10th Brigade)
4. Extension of FANNY C.T. and CROSS C.T. to our Old Front Line West of MESSINES.
5. Completion of new switch of WELLINGTON AVENUE, North of HUN'S WALK.
6. 9th Brigade patrols will exploit success of our destructive bombardment of the enemy posts in "No Man's Land" by patrols and permanent posts, and will report on any change of position of enemy posts and Machine Guns.
7. 11th and 10th Brigades will construct suitable emplacements for 5" Stokes Mortars for Zero day, and 9th Brigade will construct new emplacements to cover our proposed new Red posts.
8. Siting and selection of positions for Vickers Guns at O.35.d.35.70 and U.5.d.45.10.
9. Digging Red Dotted Line from "C" to "D" - 125 yards  
from "G" to "F" - 150 yards  
C.T. from present Front Line at O.35.d.1.3. towards Red post III - 100 yards.  
Digging portion of the Brown Line "A" - "B" starting from "B".
10. Establishment of 4 Company Dumps, one at each of  
U.5.b.25.05.  
U.5.b.40.30.  
U.5.b.03.70.  
U.5.b.12.95.

Each Dump is to contain:-

200 Bombs.

2 Boxes S.A.M.

500 Sand Bags - *50 kils of water*

These are in addition to the two Dumps of ricks and Shovels to be established at U.5.b.15.40. and U.5.b.2.8.

*25.37*



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Contributory action by 9th Brigade on Zero day.

1. From Zero minus 4 hours to Zero "In" routes will be left clear of troops. These trenches will be policed at the front and support line to prevent any out traffic in them.
2. From darkness to daylight or Zero hour ( whichever arrives first) have patrols active in "NO MAN'S LAND".
3. From Zero minus one hour until Zero Support Line will be cleared from CROSS AVENUE to ADELAIDE AVENUE and GAPAARD AVENUE to new Switch of WELLINGTON AVENUE (North of HUNS WALK - CINEMA ROAD) to allow of approach march.
4. From Zero minus 1 hour to Zero plus 15 minutes, the front line also the advanced line in U.5.b. and O.35.d. and the posts in O.35.d. will be cleared from CROSS AVENUE to GAPAARD AVENUE, except for the Lewis Gun Sections and patrols returning from "NO MAN'S LAND" and one Officer per Platoon front.  
As the 11th Brigade parties leave the trenches the 9th Brigade close in and adopt the normal defensive position, with exception that the front line and advanced front line from O.35.d. 1.2. to U.5.d.40.75. ( a frontage of about 750 yards) remains at disposal of 11th Brigade troops until relieved as per para. 6 below.  
The Lewis Gun teams of the 9th Brigade remain on this 750 yards frontage as before.  
Any 11th Brigade troops on this frontage fight under the orders of the G.O.C. 9th Brigade in the event of an enemy counter-attack.
5. At Zero hour 9th Brigade will demonstrate with Lewis Gun and rifle fire on the right and left flanks of the operation, but orders are to be issued to ensure that there is no fire on to squares O.35.d. - U.5.b. - and U.5.d.
6. The 9th Brigade will relieve the 11th Brigade in the Red posts and Red dotted line on Z/A night, commencing at 12 midnight and completing at 3, a.m.
7. The 9th Brigade will take up patrolling N. East and South of the Red posts after midnight Z/A night.
8. On Z/A night they do all patrolling from U.5.d.40.75 to LA DOUVE River and from CINEMA ROAD inclusive to BLAUWEP OORTBEEK.
9. G.O.C. 9th Brigade and his Battalion Commanders remain in tactical defence of the line during the whole operation, and in event of attack, the control is in his hands. The G.O.C. 11th Brigade, C/Os. 42nd and 43rd and all Officers and N.C.Os. and men co-operating with Ninth Brigade Officers, N.C.Os. and men to secure defeat of enemy.
10. G.O.C., Brigade Major, and one other Officer 11th Brigade are to be allowed to come into 9th Brigade Headquarters and use their Signal service runners and communications from Zero minus 8 hours until relief of 11th Brigade troops at 3, a.m. on Z/A day.
11. It is considered that by midnight digging will be complete, and if the relieving troops of 9th Brigade could bring up wire and picquets the posts could be partly wired on the same night. No. VII post to be wired on South and South-East back to our front line in vicinity of U.5.d.45.65 and No. III post to North to join up to post II.
12. Observers of 9th Brigade will assist with information re advance and action of our troops.  
No carrying parties are being provided by 11th Brigade and 9th Brigade are responsible for defence of line the replenishment of the four Company Dumps at U.5.b.25.05.  
U.5.b.1.3.  
U.5.b.03.70.  
U.5.b.12.95.  
will be under their control.



GENERAL.

1. Instructions re Contact planes will be issued later.
2. No Engineers or pioneers will assist in the operation.
3. Prisoners will be sent under escort direct to Brigade Headquarters.
4. Battalions must evacuate all their wounded prior to being relieved by 9th Brigade Units.
5. Every effort is to be made to bury all dead during night Z/A.
6. There must be liaison by N.C.O's or reliable privates to all flank Battalions, Companies and platoons. Liaison will also be maintained from front to rear between Assault Troops and posts, posts and Red Dotted Line and vice versa.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*G. F. Wootton*  
 Major.

Brigade Major, 11th Inf. Bde. A. I. F.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1.	General Officer Commanding	By hand.
2.	Brigade Major.	"
3.	Staff Captain.	"
4.	42nd Battalion.	"
5.	43rd Battalion.	"
6.	11th Machine Gun Company.	"
7.	11th Trench Mortar Battery.	"
8.	3rd Australian Division.	D.R.L.S.
9.	9th Aust. Inf. Bde.	"
10.)		
11.)	3rd Australian Division.	"
12.)		
13.)	9th Aust. Inf. Bde.	"
14.	41st Battalion.	By hand.
15.	44th "	"
16.)		
17.)		
18.)	42nd Battalion.	"
19.)		
20.)		
21.)		
22.)	43rd Battalion.	"
23.)		
24.	Brigade Bombing Officer.	Without Tracing.
25.	Brigade Signalling Section.	By hand.
26.	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.	"
27.	11th Field Coy.	D.R.L.S.
28.	11th Field Ambulance.	"
29.	C.R.C.	"
30.	C.R.E.	"
31.	File.	"
32.	War Diary.	"



## 11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,  
25th July, 1917.

D I V E R S I O N      C I R C U L A R      N o .   2 .



## (1) SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Following are the arrangements for Signal Communication:-

## "a" posts to Company Headquarters.

- i Visual (except from post No. 6)
- ii pigeons ( 4 birds per post)
- iii Runners ( 2 men per post)
- IV Flares to Contact plane.

## "b" Company Headquarters to Battalion Headquarters.

- i Telephone (D.3) Open wires laid in trenches, one route to each Company Headquarters with laterals providing alternative routes, from Battalion Headquarters.
- ii power Buzzer. One with the right Company Headquarters of each assaulting Battalion, working to amplifier at ~~left~~ *Right* assaulting Battalion Headquarters, and alternatively to amplifier at Brigade Headquarters.
- iii Visual, except from left Company of Right Assault Hdqrs. Battalion. Visual may be obtained from Left Company of Right Assault Battalion through to Brigade Observation post.
- iv pigeons, 4 birds per Company Headquarters (i.e. 2 birds per Company).
- v Runners, 4 per Company, i.e., 8 at each Company Headquarters.

## "c" Battalion Headquarters to Brigade Headquarters.

- i Buried Lines. (D.IV) "A" and "B" Battalions will be teed in to Right and Left Assault Battalion Lines respectively so that they can listen and keep in touch with the situation.
- ii power Buzzer. (To Brigade Headquarters' amplifier) The power-Buzzers at present with "A" and "B" Battalion Headquarters will be moved on Y day to the Headquarters of the Assault Battalions. Amplifier at Left Battalion Headquarters can receive power Buzzer messages from Brigade Headquarters.
- iii Visual. (Right Battalion to Brigade Headquarters only).
- iv Runners, 6 per Battalion Headquarters.
- v pigeons, 4 birds to each Battalion Headquarters.

## "d" Brigade Headquarters to Divisional Headquarters.

- i Buried Lines.- 3 pairs to Divisional Headquarters.  
3 pairs to L.G. (Artillery Exchange).

"e" One mile of cable will be held in reserve at each Advanced Battalion Headquarters for use as required during the operation.

"f" i pigeons will be drawn from the Divisional pigeon Refilling point, WULVERGHEM.

ii After Zero hour pigeons will be drawn from Signalling Office of 9th Brigade.

"g" A Line will be reserved at each Assault Battalion Headquarters for use of the Artillery Liaison Officer with the Battalions concerned. Line will run direct to Artillery Group concerned.

"h" A diagram of Signal Communication is attached.

GAS AND SMOKE /

11.5 am Ack  
Copy for GAC.  
Jm  
25/7/17

J. R. DARGO  
John



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(2) GAS AND SMOKE.

Smoke will be used on the Southern flank of the operation to prevent enemy observation from WARNETON. The smoke screen will be provided by

"a" Varley Smoke Bombs fired from 4 Mortars of the 11th Trench Mortar Battery operating from our front line in U.11.

"b" Smoke Candles (provided the wind is favourable) operated by Third Pioneer Battalion.

"c" New Zealand Artillery will put a Smoke Screen in squares 12.a., and 12.b.

"d" Third Australian Divisional Artillery will put a Smoke Screen in squares O.35.b., and O.36.a. at Zero

All these Smoke Screens will commence and continue until Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes.

Smoke Shell will be used by the 18 pounders (on the WARNETON Line) commencing at zero plus 55 minutes, to screen the withdrawal of the advanced Troops (1st wave) through the line of posts. This Smoke Screen will continue to Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes.

Gas. Gas Shell will be used by the Heavy Artillery in counter battery work.

No Cloud Gas is to be employed.

NOTE. This cancels para (4) page 6 of 11th Brigade Diversion Circular No. 1 of 16/7/17.

(3) MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

"a" For purposes of evacuation during the Diversion, Medical posts will be established as follows:-

	<u>R. A. P's.</u>
43rd Battalion	U.4.d.3.2.
42nd Battalion	O.34.a.9.3.
"C" Battalion	U.3.c.40.80.
"D" Battalion	O.33.c.70.15.

ADVANCED DRESSING POST.  
CURRIE AVENUE. U.7.b.4.8.

ADVANCED DRESSING STATION.  
KANDAHAR FARM. T.10.b.7.6.  
MAIN DRESSING STATION AND DIVISIONAL COLLECTING POST.  
WESTHOF T.19.b.4.5.

DIVISIONAL REST STATIONS.  
RAVELSBERG.  
BAILLEUL.

"b" Lines of Evacuation.

Evacuations will be made from R.A.P's to Tramline heads at:-

(a) Northern Sector O.32.d.55.75.

(b) Southern Sector U.3.d.70.10.

by hand carriage through Communication Trenches or overland.

"c" Medical Stores, Comforts, Drugs, Dressings etc.

These will be drawn in the ordinary way.

"d" Spare Blankets and Stretchers.

These will be drawn from reserve at WESTHOF.

"e" Casualty Clearing Station Cases.

Cases which do not require dressing before reaching the Casualty Clearing Station will be marked with "O.K." on the bandage in 1" letters

Field Ambulance personnel will clear from R.A.P's WESTWARDS.

ARTILLERY /



(4) ARTILLERY.

"a" prior to Z Day harassing fire will be employed nightly against enemy garrison in NO MAN'S LAND.

"b" I. On Z day the Infantry will assault under cover of a creeping barrage.

II. The barrage will open on a line approximately 150 yards East of our Front line and will stand there for three minutes, it will then advance in lifts of 100 yards every two minutes West to East on parallel N and S lines (thus at U.5.b.7.0. it remains until Zero plus 7 minutes) until it reaches the WARNETON line, where it will stand until Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes. At Zero plus 55 minutes 25% of shells of this barrage will be smoke shell. The Smoke Screen thus formed will cover the withdrawal of the advanced infantry.

At Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes the 18 pounders will search forward from the WARNETON line at the rate of 100 yards per minute, for five minutes, and will stand 500 yards East of WARNETON line for 10 minutes. They will then jump back to the WARNETON line. During this action all guns will be ready to jump back to the S.O.S., line should the S.O.S., signal be fired.

"c" All available howitzers and heavy guns will be employed on counter battery work from Zero onwards, firstly with gas shell and then with destructive fire.

"d" S.O.S., action for the line of posts becomes operative at Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes.

The S.O.S., signal rocket remains the same as at present.

"e" At Zero plus 4 hours, the Division North of the FLAUWEP OORTBEEK will be operating, and some Third Divisional guns are assisting, but irrespective of above all Third Divisional Guns will be available to us at all times should S.O.S., be called for

"f" Barrage plan and time table is attached. S.O.S., line to cover line of posts is shown purple dotted.

"g" The New Zealand Artillery are co-operating by firing on WARNETON line South of GAPPAARD WARNETON ROAD from Zero to Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes. At Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes they will conform to the Artillery plan of Third Divisional Artillery, as per sub para "b" above.

NOTE:- The above cancels para (1), page 6 of 11th Brigade Diversion Circular No. 1 of 16/7/17.

(5) TRENCH MORTARS.

9th, 10th and 11th Light Trench Mortar Batteries will co-operate as follows:-

9th Light Trench Mortar Battery will employ 8 guns and bombard posts 7, 8, 9, and 10 and trenches in their vicinity from Zero to Zero plus 1 minute. 25 Shells per Mortar will be fired during this period.

At Zero plus 1 minute, 9th L.T.M. Battery will cease fire and will make dispositions for S.O.S., action to fire in U.6.a.

10th Light Trench Mortar Battery will bombard post 2 and crater on MILITARY ROAD, also enemy trench from O.35.b.90.05 to O.35.b.60.65., from Zero to Zero plus 3 minutes intensely and from Zero plus 3 minutes to Zero plus 15 minutes at a decreasing rate of fire, ceasing fire at Zero plus 15 minutes. No. 2 Mortar (firing in the vicinity of post 3) will cease fire at Zero plus 5 minutes. 10th L.T.M. Battery will employ 6 Mortars, 2 being kept in reserve.

After Zero plus 15 minutes, 10th L.T.M. Battery will make dispositions for S.O.S. action in O.35.b.

11th L.T.M. Bty./



11th Light Trench Mortar Battery. Four Mortars of the 11th L.T.M. Battery will be employed for use with Varley Smoke Bombs to create smoke screen N.E. of WARNETON. (See para 2).

Four Mortars will be employed in destructive fire on post 15 and Machine Gun position at U.5.d.73.28, operating from Zero to Zero plus 8 minutes. These Mortars will cease fire at Zero plus 8 minutes and stand by to take on enemy Machine Guns, and for S.O.S. U.G.c.0.5., to U.12.a.0.5.

The detailed dispositions and employment of Light Trench Mortar Batteries will be arranged by the Divisional L.T.M.O.

(6) MACHINE GUNS.

On "Z" day the Artillery creeping barrage will be preceded by a Machine Gun barrage. This barrage will be carried out by 48 Guns, 10 Guns remaining in reserve. There will be four Machine Guns in the front line, two at O.35.d.35.75., and two at U.5.d.50.10., to protect the flanks of the line of Red posts by oblique fire (these four guns are silent guns - to be kept for S.O.S., action only.) The total Machine Guns thus available is 62.

From Zero plus 30 minutes to Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes 50 % of the guns employed on the barrage will search the ground to a distance of 100 yards East of the WARNETON line. At Zero plus 1 hour 50 minutes Machine Gun barrage will conform to Artillery plan (as per para 4 "b").

Machine Gun barrage and S.O.S., plan is attached. Detailed Orders are being issued to Machine Gun Company Commanders by the D.M.G.O.

NOTE:- This cancels para (2) page 6 of 11th Brigade Diversion Circular No. 1 of 16/7/17.

(7) AIRCRAFT.

Contact planes will fly at Zero plus 2 hours, and at a later time, to be notified. Distinguishing marks of the plane and other details will be notified later.

(8) PRISONERS.

prisoners will be sent by Battalions under escort to dug-out (U.2.c.30.85) off WOODEN ROAD West of MESSINES where they will be taken over by A.P.M. prisoners must not be allowed to converse. A.P.M. will be informed as to whether they have been searched for papers etc., or not.

NOTE:- This cancels para 3 page 9 of 11th Brigade Diversion Circular No. 1 of 16/7/17.

(9) ASSEMBLY TRENCHES.

Owing to amended Artillery plan new assembly trenches have been constructed by 9th Brigade from O.35.d.15.15 to U.5.b.28.20., to permit of infantry being assembled 150 yards West of Artillery barrage on this frontage at Zero hour.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*G. J. Anderson*  
Major  
Brigade Major, 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1	G.O.C.	29	C.R.A.
2	B.M.	30	C.R.E.
3	S.C.	31	11th Field Engineers.
4)		32	9th T.M. Battery.
to 9)	42nd Battalion.	33	10th T.M. Battery.
10 to 14	43rd Battalion.	34	File.
15	11th M.G. Coy.	35	War Diary.
16	11th T.M. Battery.	36	Capt. Anderson. (3rd Div.
17 to 19	9th Aust. Inf. Bde.		L.T.M.O.)
20 to 22	3rd Aust. Division.		
23	41st Battalion.		
24	44th Battalion.		
25	Bde. Bombing Officer.		
26	Bde. Sig. Section.		
27)			
28)	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.		



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Appendix No 46 E

11TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

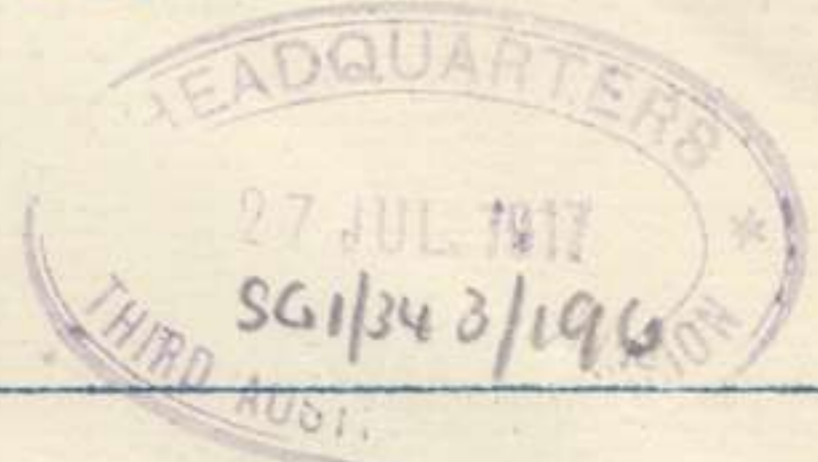
BM 11/59

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Headquarters,  
26th July, 1917.

DIVERSION CIRCULAR No. 2.

ADDENDA.



Reference 11th Infantry Brigade Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17:-

PAGE 2, para (2) GAS AND SMOKE.

add " Artillery smoke will also be employed on posts 3 and 13, and in the vicinity of O.36.b.70.50., and the WARNETON Line between the CINEMA ROAD and GARDE DIEU.

PAGE 1, para I SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

add " Messages for G.O.C., 9th Brigade will be addressed 'CAPSTAN G.U.1'. Those for G.O.C., 11th Brigade will be addressed 'G.U.1'. This system will come into force from the time the G.O.C., 11th Brigade establishes his Headquarters at G.U.1, and will continue to be until he leaves that Station.

Following is a list of code names and position calls to be used by advanced Battalion Headquarters and Companies during the operation:-

BATTALIONS.

U N I T.	Map Reference.	position Call.
43rd Bn. Right Advanced Hdqrs.	U.4.a.90.20.	GU 11.
42nd Bn. Left Advanced Hdqrs.	O.34.d.90.55.	FU 21.

COMPANIES.

U N I T.	Company.	Map Reference Coy. H.Q. using.	position Call.	Code name allotted.
43rd Bn.	B)	U.5.d.27.80.	GU 12	ROSE
43rd Bn.	C)			TULIP
43rd Bn.	D)	U.5.b.15.45.	GU 13	PANSY
43rd Bn.	A)			VIOLET
42nd Bn.	A)	U.5.b.25.87.	GV 1	LILY
42nd Bn.	C)			DAISY
42nd Bn.	B)	O.35.d.14.12.	GV 2	PINK
42nd Bn.	D)			ASTER

Thus, messages to and from Brigade or Battalion will be addressed by position Call only, but messages to and from Companies are to be addressed by Code Name followed by position Call; i.e., a message to 43rd Battalion from "B" Company, 43rd Battalion would be addressed to 'GU 11' and address from 'ROSE, GU 12', and vice versa. This will also apply to pigeon messages.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*G. L. Lico*  
Major.

Brigade Major, 11th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

To all recipients of 11th Brigade Diversion Circular No. 2 of 25/7/17.

10.45a  
achg

*Jg.*

DMSO seen



4

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 85.

-----

Brigade Headquarters,  
26th July, 1917.



Reference Map: 1/10,000 SPECIAL SHEET 8150/5,  
also SPECIAL TRACING.

-----

INFORMATION.

1. The Allied Armies of the North are about to undertake the Offensive. At the same time the 5th Australian Division in conjunction with the Divisions on its flanks will create a Diversion. From patrol reports and aeroplane photos enemy appears to be holding the ground in front of the WARMETON LINE with a series of entrenched posts which in many cases have been connected by a trench system. The enemy troops opposite our front at present are the 16th Division composed of 28th I.R., 38th I.R. and 29th I.R., probably in that order of battle from North to South. The Regiments immediately opposite the Brigade front are probably the 38th I.R. and on the Northern end portions of the 28th I.R.

INTENTION.

2. On "Z" day and Zero hour, to be notified later, the 42nd on the left and 43rd Battalion on the right, will mop up enemy's posts and works in NO MAN'S LAND opposite that portion of our front line extending from O.35. Central to U.5.d.50.40. They will then establish the SIX RED POSTS and complete the digging of the Red Dotted Line and prolong saps to RED POSTS already commenced by this Brigade.

ACTION OF THE  
11TH AUST. INF.  
BRIGADE.

5. The 42nd and 43rd Battalions will each attack on a two Company front in three waves. Assembling troops will assemble in specially constructed trenches in the front line system, and also in portions of front line. The assaulting troops will advance at zero in three waves. The first wave of Two Companies of each Battalion will go forward to clear NO MAN'S LAND and establish a protective line of posts beyond the Red and Brown Posts. The Second wave of Three Platoons of each Battalion will establish and consolidate the six Red Posts. The Third wave will consist of balance of 42nd and 43rd Battalions, less carrying parties, and will move out and complete the Red Dotted Line. The First wave will commence to withdraw to front line and Red Dotted Line at Zero plus one hour, the movement continuing till Zero plus two hours, by which time the whole of the First wave should be back. When the first wave is back the Red Post garrisons will be responsible for their own protection. To prevent our men mistaking this movement for a retirement the O.Cs. 35th and 33rd Battalions will warn their men that this withdrawal to the Red Dotted Line will take place as part of the scheme.

10.35 am  
Ackd



- 2 -

IN AND OUT  
TRENCHES.

4. The following trenches are allotted for traffic :-

IN ROUTES: - CROSS AVENUE  
ADELAIDE AVENUE  
FANNY'S C.T.  
GAPAARD AVENUE  
WELLINGTON SWITCH

They must be kept clear of all "OUT" traffic from Zero minus four hours until Zero.

The portion of OWL TRENCH between FANNY'S C.T. and GAPAARD AVENUE must also be kept clear of all traffic between those hours.

OUT ROUTES:- PINE AVENUE  
WELLINGTON AVENUE  
BOVEN AVENUE

35th and 36th Battalions will make the necessary arrangements for policing of the "IN" Routes in order to enforce the above traffic regulations.

CLEARANCE  
OF LINE.

5. From Zero minus one hour to Zero plus fifteen minutes the front line and also the Red Dotted line in U.5.b. and d. and O.35.d. from GAPAARD AVENUE to ADELAIDE AVENUE will be cleared of all troops except for Lewis Gun Sections and patrols returning from NO MAN'S LAND, and one Officer per platoon front. The Assembly trenches will also be cleared.

From Zero minus one hour until Zero the support line will be cleared from GAPAARD AVENUE to WELLINGTON SWITCH, and also from ADELAIDE AVENUE to CROSS AVENUE to allow of approach march of 11th Australian Infantry Brigade Units.

Details of each clearance have been issued to 11th Australian Infantry Brigade and 35th and 36th Battalions.

RESUMPTION  
OF NORMAL  
DISPOSITIONS.

6. As assaulting troops leave the trenches 35th and 36th Battalions will resume normal defensive dispositions except that the front line and Red Dotted Line from O.35.d.1.2 to U.5.d.40.75 remains at disposal of 11th Australian Infantry Brigade Units.

DEMONSTRATION  
BY FRONT LINE  
BATTALIONS:

7. At Zero hour 35th and 36th Battalions will arrange to demonstrate with Lewis Gun and rifle fire on right and left flanks of the operation, but it must be ensured that there is no fire on to squares O.35.d. - U.5.b. and U.5.d.

ARTILLERY  
ACTION.

8. Artillery barrage action has been issued to front line Battalions. The initial barrage will be put down from Zero to Zero plus three minutes, and from then on it will move by a hundred yards lifts every two minutes until it rests on the WARNETON LINE. Artillery of the New Zealand Division will co-operate and barrage on the WARNETON LINE.

Smoke shells from Artillery will be employed North of WARNETON on posts 5 and 13 in vicinity of O.35.b.70.50 and on the WARNETON LINE between CINEMA ROAD and GARDE-DIEU.

From Zero plus fifty five minutes to Zero plus one hour forty five minutes, *Artillery* will intermingle smoke shells and so cover the withdrawal of First wave of assaulting troops from its position in front of the WARNETON LINE.



- 8 -

ARTILLERY  
ACTION.  
(cont)

8. At Zero plus one hour fifty minutes the Artillery barrage will move forward by 100 yards lifts to a line 500 yards east of the WARWETON LINE, remaining on this line for ten minutes and then lifting back on to the WARWETON LINE. It will die down at Zero plus two hours ten minutes.

The Corps Heavy Artillery will do Counter Battery work as long as enemy guns remain in action and interfere with our Infantry.

## VICKERS GUNS.

9. A special Machine Gun barrage by 48 guns has been arranged by the D.M.G.O. At Zero it will come down 300 yards beyond our present front line working back by regular lifts until it reaches the WARWETON LINE, except between O.36.a.20.00 and U.8.c.53.45 on which front it will continue to advance to a line 50 yards beyond WARWETON LINE.

The above position will constitute the S.O.S. line for Vickers Guns.

From Zero plus thirty minutes until Zero plus two hours, 50% of the guns will be employed on searching ground East of the WARWETON LINE, but they will immediately reform on the S.O.S. Line on the rocket signal being sent up.

Two Vickers Guns will be emplaced in vicinity of O.34 Central to cooperate with 37th Division. Two more guns will be in vicinity of O.55.d.35.75 and two others in vicinity of U.5.d.50.10 to assist in repelling any counter attack. Of these four two will be in position remaining silent until counter attack is launched.

Vickers Gun barrage will cease at Zero plus two hours and Guns will be ready to open S.O.S. at any time after Zero plus one hour fifty minutes.

Messages for or from Vickers Guns will be handed in at the nearest Headquarters.

STOKES  
MORTARS.

10. Captain ANDERSON, 10th A.L.T.M. Battery, will command work of Stokes Mortars on Divisional Front. The O.C. 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will emplace 8 Mortars about centre of Brigade Front to engage posts 7, 8, 9 and 10, trench joining these, and the communication running back from them along SUNKEN ROAD in U.5.b. at Zero hour.

At Zero plus one minute they will cease firing and remain ready for S.O.S. action to protect posts V 5, VI 8 and VII 8. Special precautions must be taken that the garrisons of these posts and their protective screen suffer no casualties from the fire of those Mortars.

The 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will not open on S.O.S. call until Zero plus two hours.

The 10th A.L.T.M. Battery will engage targets North of CINEMA ROAD.

The 11th A.L.T.M. Battery will engage targets and form a smoke screen on Southern end of Divisional Front.

All Stokes Mortars will be prepared to quicken up the rate of fire if hostile machine guns become active.

At 3 a.m. on Z/A night the 10th and 11th A.L.T.M. Batteries will be withdrawn from the line. O.C. 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will reconnoitre and arrange positions for the 8 guns of 9th A.L.T.M. Battery to cover the entire Brigade front and posts with S.O.S. action.



ARTILLERY  
S.O.S. ACTION.

11. The S.O.S. action prior to Zero hour will be as follows :-  
Should the enemy attempt to bombard our trenches within fifteen minutes of Zero hour, the Field Artillery will not reply to the S.O.S. signal in order that there may be no danger of the Infantry mistaking our retaliatory action for the opening of the barrage. The Field Artillery retaliatory action will be normal during the remainder of Y/Z night up to Zero hour minus fifteen minutes.

Arrangements will be made by the C.R.A. with Corps Heavy Artillery that any bombardments of our trenches during Y/Z night shall be countered by prompt and overwhelming counter battery work. Steps will be taken to ensure that all ranks are warned that the S.O.S. will be operative up to Zero minus fifteen minutes, and that a barrage going down before this hour must not be mistaken for the advancing barrage.

The Artillery will be ready to act on the S.O.S. signal at any time after plus one hour fifty minutes. Should the S.O.S. signal go up prior to this, the Artillery task will not be interfered with, but the rate of fire will be quickened. The S.O.S. action will extend along our whole front in accordance with the S.O.S. line on the Artillery barrage map. The S.O.S. rocket will at once be acted upon. There will be no waiting for confirmation by wire. At Zero plus four hours a portion of the Divisional Artillery will be diverted to help the 37th Division, but on our S.O.S. signal being sent up, these guns will at once go down on the S.O.S. line in front of the 3rd Australian Division.

## CLOUD SMOKE.

12. If weather conditions are favorable the 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion will arrange for cloud smoke discharge on our right flank.

## AIRCRAFT.

13. A contact plane will fly at Zero plus two hours and Zero plus five hours. Special planes may fly at other hours.

SIGNAL  
COMMUNICATION.

14. 42nd Battalion Headquarters will be located at -  
O.34.d.90.50 - Position call F.U.21  
43rd Battalion Headquarters will be located at -  
U.4.a.80.25 - Position call G.U.11

From Zero minus eight hours until relief of 11th Australian Infantry Brigade Troops at 3 a.m. on Z/A night, messages for 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will be addressed "CAPSTAN G.U.1", those for 11th Australian Infantry Brigade will be addressed "G.U.1".

35th and 36th Battalions will ensure that all messages reaching them which are apparently intended for 42nd or 43rd Battalions are immediately forwarded on.

PRISONERS  
OF WAR.

15. Any prisoners captured will be taken back to New Brigade Headquarters at U.2.c.30.80 where they will be handed over to A.P.M.



## PATROLLING.

16. From darkness to daylight or Zero, whichever comes first, on "Z" day, 35th and 36th Battalions will arrange for patrol activity on their respective fronts. These patrols will not go out so far as to render them liable to casualties from our desultory artillery fire which will not come nearer than 200 yards to our front line. It is possible that the enemy may abandon some of his posts owing to this fire, and establish himself in shell holes. Patrols must ascertain these new positions and report locations immediately to Brigade Headquarters.

From midnight of Z/A night, 35th and 36th Battalions will take over the patrolling of NO MAN'S LAND on their respective fronts beyond the Red Posts.

RELIEF OF 11th  
Australian  
INFANTRY BRIGADE.

17. By 3 a.m. on Z/A night the 11th Australian Infantry Brigade Troops will be withdrawn and the 35th and 36th Battalions will take over their original sectors including the Red Dotted Line and Red Posts.

Details of this relief have been issued to 11th Australian Infantry Brigade and 35th and 36th Battalions. Battalions will arrange to bring up a supply of wire to put out in front of the Red Posts.

RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR DEFENCE.

18. The G.Q.C., 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will be responsible for the defence of the line throughout the operations notwithstanding the fact that troops of 11th Australian Infantry Brigade are holding portions of the line.

## WATCHES.

19. Units will send watches to Brigade Headquarters daily by 7 p.m. for synchronisation.

## REPORTS.

20. Reports to Brigade Headquarters (CAPSTAN G.U.1) at U.3.a.1.1.

21. A C K N O W L E D G E.

*L. E. Pearce*

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

E.R.



Issued at 11 p.m. to -

Copy No.

To whom.

1	File
2	War Diary
3	} 3rd Aust. Division.
4	
5	
6	
7	Bde. Sig. Officer
8	Capt. R. GADD - 35th Bn.
9	Lieut. S.B. BATEMAN - 55rd Bn.
10	55rd Bn.
11	54th Bn.
12	55th Bn.
13	56th Bn.
14	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
15	9th A.M.G. Coy.
16	10th A.M.G. Coy.
17	207th M.G. Coy.
18	1st N.Z. Inf. Bde.
19	11th Inf. Bde.
20	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
21	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
22	7th A.F.A. Bde.
23	8th A.F.A. Bde.
24	9th Aust. Field Coy.
	"D" Coy. 3rd Pioneer Bn.
	Spare.



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Appendix N. 462

186

SECRET.

Copy No. ....

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 86.

Brigade Headquarters,  
29th July, 1917.

Reference Map: Sheet 28 S.W. - 1/20,000.

RELIEF:

1. The 11th Australian Infantry Brigade will relieve 9th Australian Infantry Brigade in the MESSINES SECTOR on night of 29/30th July - relief as per Table attached to be completed by 3 a.m. on 30th July.

This Order cancels Brigade Order No. 85 so far as it concerns the action of the 35th and 36th Battalions. The 9th Aust. M.G. Company and 9th Aust. L.T.H. Battery will remain in position to carry out their tasks in Minor Offensive Operation referred to in above quoted Order.

All details of relief to be mutually arranged between Commanding Officers concerned.

VICKERS & LEWIS GUNS:

2. The 2 guns of 9th Aust. M.G. Company emplaced in the front line will be relieved by 2 guns of 11th Aust. M.G. Company.

Eight Lewis Guns and teams from each of 33rd and 34th Battalions will remain in the front line Brigade area under Command of G.O.C. 11th Australian Infantry Brigade until Y day - 4 per Battalion in each of the GREEN and YELLOW lines in their respective Battalion Areas. Lewis Gun Officers will make the necessary reconnaissance for the emplacement of their guns.

ADVANCED PARTIES AND SPECIALISTS:

3. Advanced parties and specialists of 41st and 44th Battalions have moved into "A" and "B" Battalion Areas on night of 28/29th July.

TRENCH STORES:

4. Trench Stores and Gum Boots on issue to 35th and 36th Battalions will be handed over to 41st and 44th Battalions respectively.

Trench Stores and Gum Boots on issue to 33rd and 34th Battalions will be stacked in small dumps in the "C" and "D" Battalion Areas respectively, and placed under charge of a guard. 41st and 44th Battalions will take over these dumps as soon as possible.

Duplicate copy of receipt for all stores etc. taken over to be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters by noon on 1st August.

MAPS ETC.

5. All maps, plans, defence schemes etc. of "A" and "B" Battalions will be handed over to 41st and 44th Battalions. Those of "C" and "D" Battalions will be taken over by "E" and "F" Battalions of 10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

PRECAUTIONS:

6. East of WULVERGHEM Units will move in parties not larger than Companies. O.Cs. Battalions will have routes reconnoitred so as to avoid as much as possible ground constantly shelled.

915a

Ackgd.



.....007 7900  
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 55

- 2 -

STANDINGS & Q.M. STORES: 7. Units will retain, until further orders, their present standings and Q.M. Stores.

MOTOR WAGONS: 8. If motor wagons become available for transport further instructions will be issued.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS: 9. Brigade Headquarters will close at U.S.a.l.l. at 3 a.m. on 30th July and reopen at Brigade Detail Camp (T.9.d.3.4) at same hour.

REPORTS: 10. Completion of front line Battalion reliefs will be reported to Brigade Headquarters in code, by wire,

11. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Major.  
Brigade Major.  
Ninth Australian Infantry Brig

Issued at 5.30 a.m. to -

Copy No.	To whom.
1	File
2	War Diary
3	3rd Aust. Division.
4	
5	Bde. Transport Officer
6	Bde. Signal Officer.
7	33rd Bn.
8	34th Bn.
9	35th Bn.
10	36th Bn.
11	9th A.M.G. Coy.
12	10th A.M.G. Coy.
13	207th M.G. Coy.
14	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
15	1st N.Z. Inf. Bde.
16	11th Inf. Bde.
17	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
18	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
19	9th Aust. Field Coy.
20	"D" Coy. 3rd Aust. Pion. Bn.
21	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
22	Spare.
23	

EMP.



RELIEF TABLE

Issued with Copy No. 4 of 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 36.

Date	Unit	Relieved by -	New Location	Time	Remarks.
Night 29/39th	33rd Bn.	---	NEUVE EGLISE	7.55	Unit to move out as soon after dusk as possible.
- do -	34th Bn.	----	HILLSIDE CAMP	-----	- do - - do -
- do -	35th Bn.	41st Bn.	DOUVE RIVER CAMP	on relief	
- do -	36th Bn.	44th Bn.	- do -	- do -	
- do -	9th Bde Hqrs & Bde. Sig. Section	11th Bde. Hqrs & Bde. Sig. Section	Bde. Detail Camp T.9.d.3.4.	3 a.m.	

EHR.

Appendix No. 468