

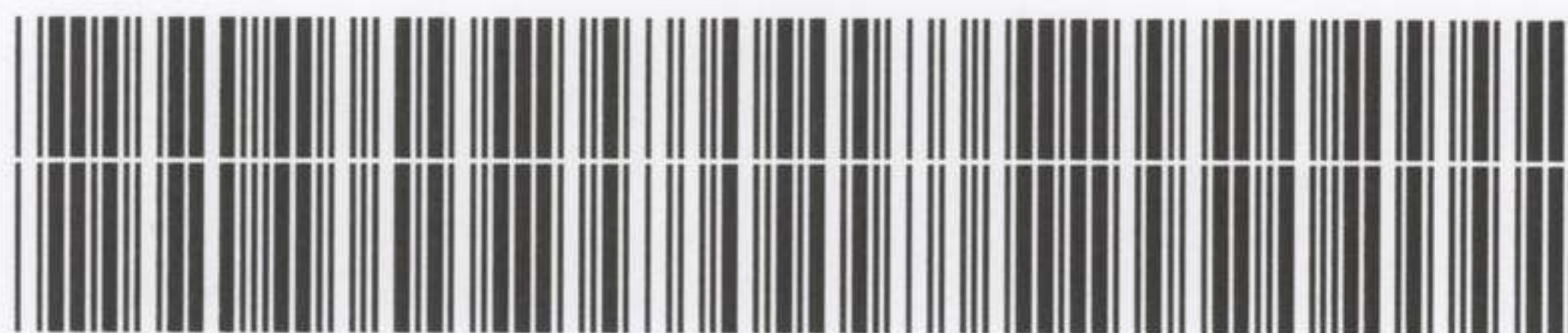
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/29/7 Part 1

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters, 1st  
ANZAC Corps

August 1916



AWM4-1/29/7PART1



or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY.	August 1916. 1st.		Enemy artillery fire greatly hampered work on trenches. Our right brigade sapped forward for 100 yards in <u>EMU AVENUE</u> running from X.5.c.28 towards road junction X.5.a.37 POZIERES was shelled with varying intensity during the night.	S. S. Butcher J.S.

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or  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY	August, 1916.			
		2nd.	<p>During the night the work of consolidation of the new forward line was continued and good progress made (see plan attached.) Appendix 1.</p> <p>Our artillery continued the bombardment of the enemy's positions in O.G.1 and O.G.2 and the 5th Bde. were able to occupy about 100 yards of O.G.1 south of the Railway; but eventually owing to heavy machine gun fire had to abandon a portion of it.</p> <p>There has been no diminution of the enemy's shelling which has been continuous, causing severe casualties. O.O. No. 18 issued.</p> <p>Casualties - (Est.) 2nd A.Div. 10 off. 380 o.r.</p>	
		3rd	<p>During the early part of last night the enemy shelling decreased and further progress was made in consolidation of our front line. Between 5 and 6 a.m. POZIERES Village was again heavily shelled and during the afternoon a barrage was kept up along the old German trench to the W. of the village and across to the CHALK PIT making communications very difficult.</p> <p>Casualties :- Estimated. - 2nd A.Div. 12 off. 60 o.r.</p>	
		4th	<p>The night was fairly quiet and enabled the preparations for the attack arranged for the evening to be completed. Both early morning and afternoon reports showed that the situation was normal and the enemy fairly quiet though at times the shelling was heavy.</p> <p>The disposition for the attack and the objectives of the respective units were as follows :</p> <p>On the right - 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. objective X.5.a.9-5 to BAPAUME ROAD and TORR AVENUE up to point where it crosses the tramline at X.5.b<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>-5.</p> <p>In the centre - 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. 1st objective R.35.c.6.0. to R.34.d.7.7. - 2nd objective R.35.c.8<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>-1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> to R.34.b.6.0. The WINDMILL was also to be captured.</p> <p>On the left - 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. 1st objective R.34.d.7.7. to R.34.a.9.1. - 2nd objective R.34.b.6.0. - to R.34.b.1.2. A special party was to be detailed to seize and hold trench joining R.34.a.9.1. and R.34.b.1.2.</p> <p>The 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. was moved into Divisional Reserve at SAUSAGE VALLEY. One bn. was distributed to brigades in the line for fatigue work. The 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. was moved to the BRICKFIELDS.</p>	

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# WAR DIARY

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY.	August 1916.			
	4th. (Ctd)		<p>The artillery continued a special programme of bombardments throughout the day. The attack was commenced at 9.15 p.m.</p> <p>By 12.15 a.m. on the morning of the 5th all objectives were reported to have been taken and the work on consolidation of the newly won positions was commenced.</p> <p>Casualties. Estimated - 3 off. 100 o.r.</p> <p>See Plan - Appendix 1 (a).</p>	
	5th.		<p>During the early morning the enemy made two counter attacks both of which were repulsed and several prisoners were taken. Many of the enemy surrendered. At 9.50 a.m. a party of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. seized the WINDMILL.</p> <p>O.G.2 was found to be practically destroyed throughout its whole length and was held with machine guns and Lewis guns. During the whole day the positions won were subjected to a fierce and accurate bombardment from guns of all calibres. In spite of this our troops held on with the greatest gallantry in spite of heavy casualties. O. Order 19 issued.</p> <p>Casualties - Estimated. 2nd A. Div. 35 off. 2400 o.r. 4th " " 2 " 105 "</p> <p>See plan - Appendix 1(b).</p>	
	6th.		<p>Enemy again counter attacked during the night but was repulsed and we were still able to maintain the positions gained. It was found impossible to hold the O.G.2 line which afforded no protection; posts were therefore thrown out in front and held by Vickers and Machine Guns and no attempt was made to hold the line itself.</p> <p>During the night the following reliefs took place -</p> <p>12th Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. who withdrew to TARA HILL.</p> <p>4th " " " was moved to SAUSAGE VALLEY, one bn. relieved one bn. of 6th Bde. and the 12th Bde. took over a portion of the 7th Bde. front. The 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. were moved up to the BRICKFIELDS.</p> <p>Further offensive operations on the N. of POZIERES were contemplated but were cancelled to allow of a more complete preparation.</p> <p>Casualties. 4th A. Div. 15 off. 233 o.r.</p> <p>Operation Order No. 20 issued.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

## Summary of Events and Information

### Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ONTAY	August 1916. 7th.		<p>By 9 a.m. the relief of the 2nd Aust.Div. by the 4th Aust.Div. was completed and the G.O.C. of the 4th Aust.Div. assumed command of the line with Hd.Qrs. at TARA HILL. Throughout the day the enemy's shelling was severe both on the front line trenches and on back areas. Several shells were thrown into ALBERT. The 4th Div. Hd.Qrs. were also shelled.</p> <p>The total number of unwounded prisoners taken during the past three days amounts to 4 officers and 447 other ranks making a total of 12 officers and 607 other ranks since the 23rd July.</p> <p>Casualties. -</p> <p>Operation Order No. 21 issued.</p> <p>See Plan-1 (c).</p>	<p>S. S. Butcher</p> <p>8/1</p>

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S. S. Butcher  
8/1



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY.	August, 1916.	8th.	<p>2nd Div. Hd. Qrs. moved to Canaples. 1st " " " " Rybempre.</p> <p>Morning report from 4th A. Div. - normal. Shelling intermittent during night. No material damage. Patrols report many strong posts 300 yds. in front of O.G.2. Small parties in shell holes. At about 10.40 a.m. an attempt at a counter attack was made by a small party of the enemy south of the BAPAUME ROAD. Two prisoners were captured, by us. Improvement to trenches continued. during the day, enemy's shelling being lighter. At 9.30 a.m. an attack was carried out on the enemy's trenches north of POZIERES towards MOUQUET FARM after an intense bombardment. The objective was reached but as the 12th Div. failed to make good on their left our right was obliged to withdraw to original line. Casualties. - 4th Aust. Div. 10 officers. 452 o.r.</p>	
		9th.	<p>Further reports confirmed the situation. Our hold on the right of the objective was maintained. Patrols were able to push forward from our right and met with no parties of the enemy. Little enemy shelling was reported. Orders were issued to continue the offensive tonight; attack to commence with preliminary bombardment at midnight. Plan shows situation at 6 p.m. Casualties. - Estimated - 18 officers 430 o.r. Operation Order No. 22 issued. See plan - appendix 1 (d).</p>	
		10th	<p>During last night the offensive was continued and a successful attack on the positions from which we were forced to retire, was carried out by the 4th Bde. We also took over a portion of RATION TRENCH from the 12th Division on our left. On the right we joined up point 34.b.60 to b.24 and held the line shown on the attached plan. H.M. The King visited Corps Hd. Qrs. and the members of the Staff were presented. He afterwards inspected the 2nd and 6th Inf. Bdes. and visited Hospital at WARLOY. Casualties - Estimated. 10 officers 340 o.r. Operation Order No. 23 issued. See plan - Appendix 1 (e).</p>	

S.S. Butcher  
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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY	August, 1916.	11th	In the early morning a further advance was made by the 4th Bde; a strong trench in front of the previous line was captured. 49 prisoners were taken during the last two days fighting. The day was comparatively quiet and we were able to consolidate the positions won. Casualties - Estimated - 4th Aust.Div. 10 off. 340 o.r. See plan - Appendix 1 (e).	
		12th	The summary of operations for the week ending 6 p.m. on the 11th instant gives full details of the operations during this period. The offensive was continued at 10.30 p.m. and a further gain of 250 yards on a front of 1000 yards was made. Casualties were slight. The line gained was as follows - 34.a.38 to 33.a.81 including the CHALK PIT. Number of prisoners during 24 hours - 19. Casualties - Estimated - 4th Aust.Div. 11 off. 400 o.r. See plans - Appendix 1 (f).	
		13th	Two counter attacks were attempted but did not materialise. Our artillery was prompt in shelling the enemy as they were forming up. A working party was seen in front of the right bn, and was dispersed by machine gun fire with heavy casualties. Enemy shelling was intermittent but not intense. Relief of the 4th Inf.Bde. by 13th Inf.Bde. was commenced. At 11.40 p.m. a message from 2nd Corps was received saying that a severe counter attack against their right had been delivered and was partially successful. Casualties - 4th Aust.Div. 3 off. 275 o.r. See plans - Appendix 1 (g).	
		14th	Owing to counter attack by enemy against the bde. on our left, one company of the 50th Bn. was forced to bend back in order to form a defensive flank. Later in the day the post at point 81 was reoccupied and the line held as before. Our right was heavily shelled towards evening. At 10 p.m. an attack was delivered by 51st, 13th, 50th Bns. on German positions east & south-west of MOUQUET FARM. 13th Bn. took two lines of trenches but were forced to retire. The other bns. were also driven back as the result of machine gun fire. 11 prisoners were captured and 1 m.g. Our liner remains unchanged. Casualties - 4th A Div. 1 off. 260 o.r. Operation Orders 24, 25 and 26 were issued.	
		15th.	Except for enemy shelling, the day passed without any active <del>enemy</del> operations taking place. We were able to further improve trenches and continue reliefs of 4th Div. by 1st Div. The 2nd Bde. relieved the 12th and the 1st Bde. moved to BRICKFIELDS. Casualties. - 4th A.Div. 19 off. 675 o.r. Operation Order No. 27 issued.	

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Operation Order No. 27 issued.

S.S. Bullock  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
60 NTAY.	August, 1916.			
		<u>16th.</u>	<p>Enemy artillery active all day. Attack launched by 13th, 50th and 51st Battalions failed. 18 prisoners taken. At 5 p.m. 4th Aust.Div. was relieved by 1st Aust.Div. 4th Div.Hd.Qrs. opened at RUBEMPRE. During night of 16th/17th several enemy counter attacks failed. Casualties. - - Operation Order No. 28 issued. See plan - Appendix 1 (h).</p>	
		<u>17th.</u>	<p>At 10.30 a.m. enemy aeroplane brought down S. of POZIERES. QUARRY reconnoitred and found unoccupied. Enemy movements reported in vicinity of MARTINPUICH. Situation normal. Work on assembly and communication trenches was carried on. Order No. 29 issued.</p>	
		<u>18th.</u>	<p>Some doubt existed as to exact position of our trenches. Progress made in sapping and improving communication trenches. At 10.35 p.m. 1st Div. reports that left bde. attack has failed. Severe losses incurred. Situation report at midday clears up doubt as to our trenches. More progress made in sapping. 4th Aust.Div. Hd.Qrs. opened at CANAPLES : 2nd Aust.Div.Hd.Qrs. at RUBEMPRE. At 8.45 p.m. 1st Div. reports patrolling on SWITCH LINE and discovers trench full of dead Germans. See plan - Appendix 1 (j)</p>	
		<u>19th.</u>	<p>During the night of the 18th/19th operations were carried out both N. &amp; S. of the BAPAUME ROAD. South of the road the objective was gained except that portion between the head of MUNSTER Alley and X.5.b.99. The latter portion was almost obliterated. Heavy machine gun fire was met with. MUNSTER ALLEY and our whole line between it and BAPAUME ROAD were heavily shelled during night. To the north of the road the attack towards MOUQUET FARM encountered very heavy shelling. The line at 6 p.m. was reported to run approximately as follows :- X.6.a.04 - X.5.b.99 - R.35.d.45 - c.48 - R.34.b.60 - R.34.b.24 - R.28.c.92 - R.34.a.39 - R.33.b.55 - R.33.a.81. Operation Order No. 30 issued. See plan - Appendix 1 (j).</p>	
				S.S. Butcher G.S.



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CONTAY.	August, 1916.			
		20th.	During the night 19th/20th the right bde. front was fairly heavily shelled. Shortly after dawn the enemy were seen by our patrols moving back in small parties between tramline and BAPAUME ROAD. 100 enemy were observed moving in extended order in the direction of THIEPVAL along ridge in R.28.d. at 2.45 p.m. Much work done on saps, front line and communications. Front of our right brigade runs - X.6.a.14 in fairly straight line to R.35.d.30.35 to R.35.c.48. A block was established at R.33.b.48. Casualties - Estimated - 16th to 20th Aug. 1st Aust.Div. 57 off. 1526 o.r. Operation Orders 31 and 32 issued.	
		21st	During the night of 20/21st the enemy carried out heavy retaliation fire on O.G.1 and 2 & communication trenches. Some gas shells fell in the vicinity of the SUNKEN ROAD trench. A counter attack against our post at R.33.b.55 was repulsed. The enemy trenches opposite our right brigade were heavily shelled by enemy's own guns. Six enemy aeroplanes came over our lines. Div.Hd.Qrs., dropping bombs, one of which caused casualties in Div. wagon lines. In accordance with ANZAC ORDER NO. 32 operations were undertaken by the left bde. in line commencing at 6 p.m. Just before these operations the enemy counter attacked in the vicinity of the QUARRY and was repulsed. The left attack occupied its objective, the centre was partially successful and the right was held up by machine gun fire and artillery fire, near point 95. The line held now runs R.28.c.90 - to 93 - 73 - then a gap to 76. Line held from 76 - 36 then a gap to 01. It is again held from 01. to R.27.d.91 to R.33 to 59 to 48 thence to the left no change. Casualties. 1st Aust.Div. 6 off. 260 o.r.	
		22nd.	During night of 21st/22nd, 2nd Aust.Inf. <sup>Bde.</sup> was relieved by the 5th Aust.Inf.Bde. Enemy bombarded front line heavily. During the day there was considerable of O.G.1 and communications. As far as known our line on N. flank as follows - R.28.c.8.1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 34.a.3.9 $\frac{1}{2}$ . - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .9. - 2.6 $\frac{1}{2}$ . - 27.d.91 - 33.b.59 - 78 - 55 - 23 - 33.a.81. 11 prisoners of 69th Regt. and a machine gun were captured during the operations on the evening of the 22nd. Casualties - 1st Aust.Div. - 15 off. 460 <del>other</del> other ranks.	
		23rd.	During the night of 22nd/23rd patrols of 9th Bn. penetrated to MOUQUET FARM and found no enemy in the Farm or south of it. The 3rd Aust.Inf.Bde. were relieved by the 6th Aust.Inf.Bde. At 9 a.m. the G.O.C. 2nd Aust.Div. took over command of the line from G.O.C. 1st Aust.Div. Shelling generally quieter during the day. Enemy aircraft active during morning. Casualties. - 2nd A.Div. 2 off. 106 o.r. Operation Orders Nos. 34 and 35 issued.	S.S. Bullock See plans - Appendix 1 (13.5)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY.	August, 1916.			
		24th.	During the night enemy's artillery was active and a heavy barrage was thrown in rear of our lines (left bde.) along SUNKEN ROAD. During the day the artillery fire quieted down considerably. Work was carried on deepening and improving trenches and communications. Operation Order	
		25th.	A quieter day and night. During the night the enemy maintained a light fire. Our aeroplanes were active and successful in driving enemy machines back over their own lines. Good progress was made in improving communications and front line. At 7 p.m. the enemy put artillery barrage on POZIERES and the front line of our left brigade in line. Casualties. - 2nd Aust.Div. 7 off. 389 o.r. (for 24th and 25th). Operation Order No. 36 issued.	
		26th.	In the early morning of the 26th the left brigade attacked in accordance with ANZAC Order No. 35. The attack was only partially successful. Points 27 and 54 remained in the enemy's hands but we occupied point 77 and a line of shell holes nearly up to MOUQUET FARM and a line of trenches from just E. of 27, 59, 91, 01. At about 9 a.m. the enemy appeared to be massing for a counter attack but owing to our artillery fire it did not materialise. Strong bombing attacks on our gained positions were also beaten off. By evening the situation was quieter and the shelling less. A further attack of ours on point 54 at noon was unsuccessful. A British aeroplane was brought down behind our lines; both observer and pilot were fatally injured. Casualties - - Operation Order No. 37 issued.	
		27th.	During the night there was but little artillery activity. During the day the enemy artillery shelled intermittently. Weather interfered with work of consolidation. The 5th Bde. were relieved by the 7th Bde. Casualties - 26th and 27th - 2nd Aust.Div. 17 off. 742 o.r.	
		28th.	During the night of the 27th/28th the hostile artillery fire increased. During the night we occupied points 27 and 54 but before positions could be consolidated, enemy counter attacked in superior numbers and we were compelled to evacuate them. The 2nd Aust.Div. handed over to the 4th Aust.Div. at noon. Casualties - 4th Aust.Div. 2 off. 134 o.r. Operation Order No. 38 issued.	
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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY.	August. 1916.	29th.	<p>There was heavy shelling throughout the night of the 28th/29th. Considerable damage to trenches caused and some casualties. Division reports line held as follows by 3 Bdes. -</p> <p>Right bde. from X.5.b.93 to R.35.c.48  Centre " t8 R.33.b.59 (28).  Left " " R.33.c.69.</p> <p>Casualties. - 4th Aust.Div. - 1 officer 77 o.r.  Operation Order No. 40 issued.</p>	
		30th	<p>On the night of 29th/30th an attack was made by the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. on the line R.28.c.95 66 - 36 - 03. - R.27.d.73 - 42. The attack reached its objective but the enemy were in great strength and counter attacked vigorously at once and we were compelled to withdraw to our original line. We inflicted severe losses on the enemy. On the centre and right bde. fronts the night was fairly quiet. During the day work on repair of trenches was continued. The weather conditions were bad and the trenches full of mud and water. The enemy shelling on our left bde. front was heavy at times during the day and some damage was caused to trenches.</p> <p>Casualties -  Operation Order No. 41 issued.</p>	
		31st.	<p>During the night 30th/ 31st there was continuous and heavy shelling along the front of the centre brigade. Trenches still in very muddy condition. During the day ene,y artillery activity was normal.</p> <p>Casualties. - 4th Aust.Div. - 2 off. 52 o.r.</p>	

S. S. Butcher  
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CENTRAL REGISTRY.

Central Registry No. and Date.

Attached Files.

SUBJECT, AND OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

WAR DIARY  
APPENDICES

AUGUST - 1916.  
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Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
Appendix	1 (a to k)	-	-	Situation maps.	
"	2	-	-	Weekly Operation Summaries	
"	3	-	-	Operation Orders 18 to 41.	
"	4	-	-	Summary of Operation Messages received daily for month of August, '16.	
"	5	-	-	Report by 2nd A.Div. on Operations 23-8/8/16.	
				P. A.	Date

Schedule of Correspondence.

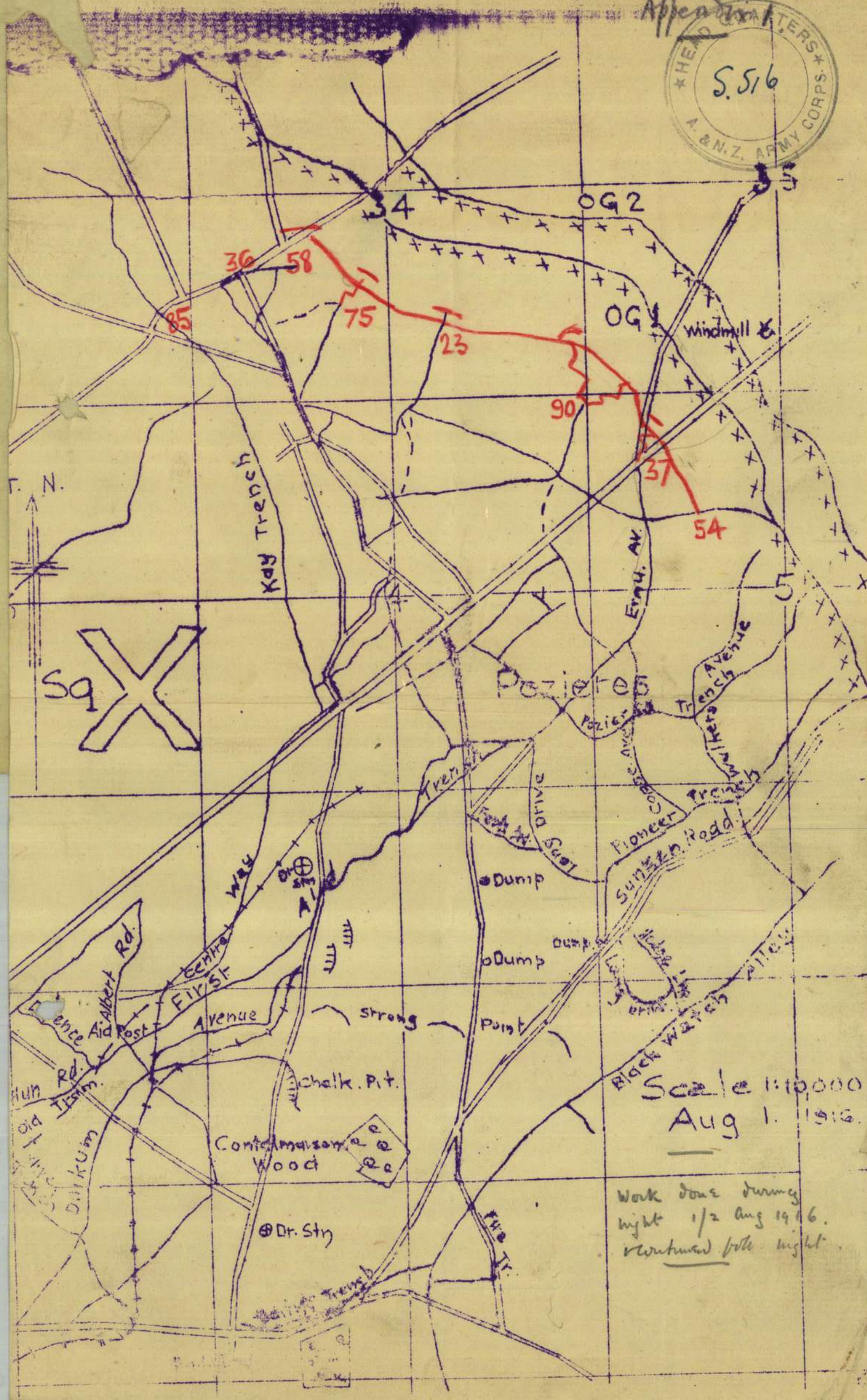


Inter-Office Minutes.

NOTE.—Inside sheets to be attached to this page.



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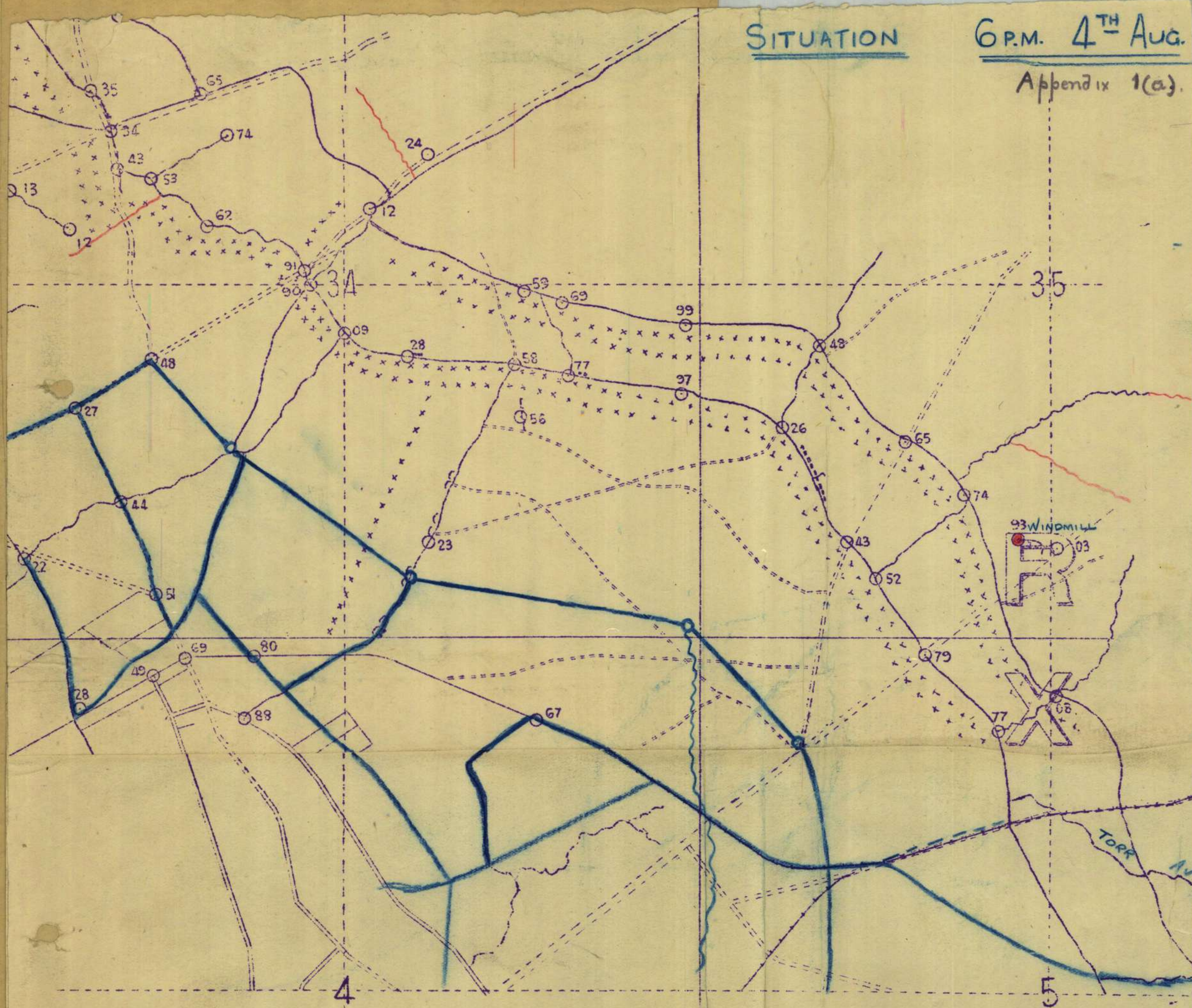


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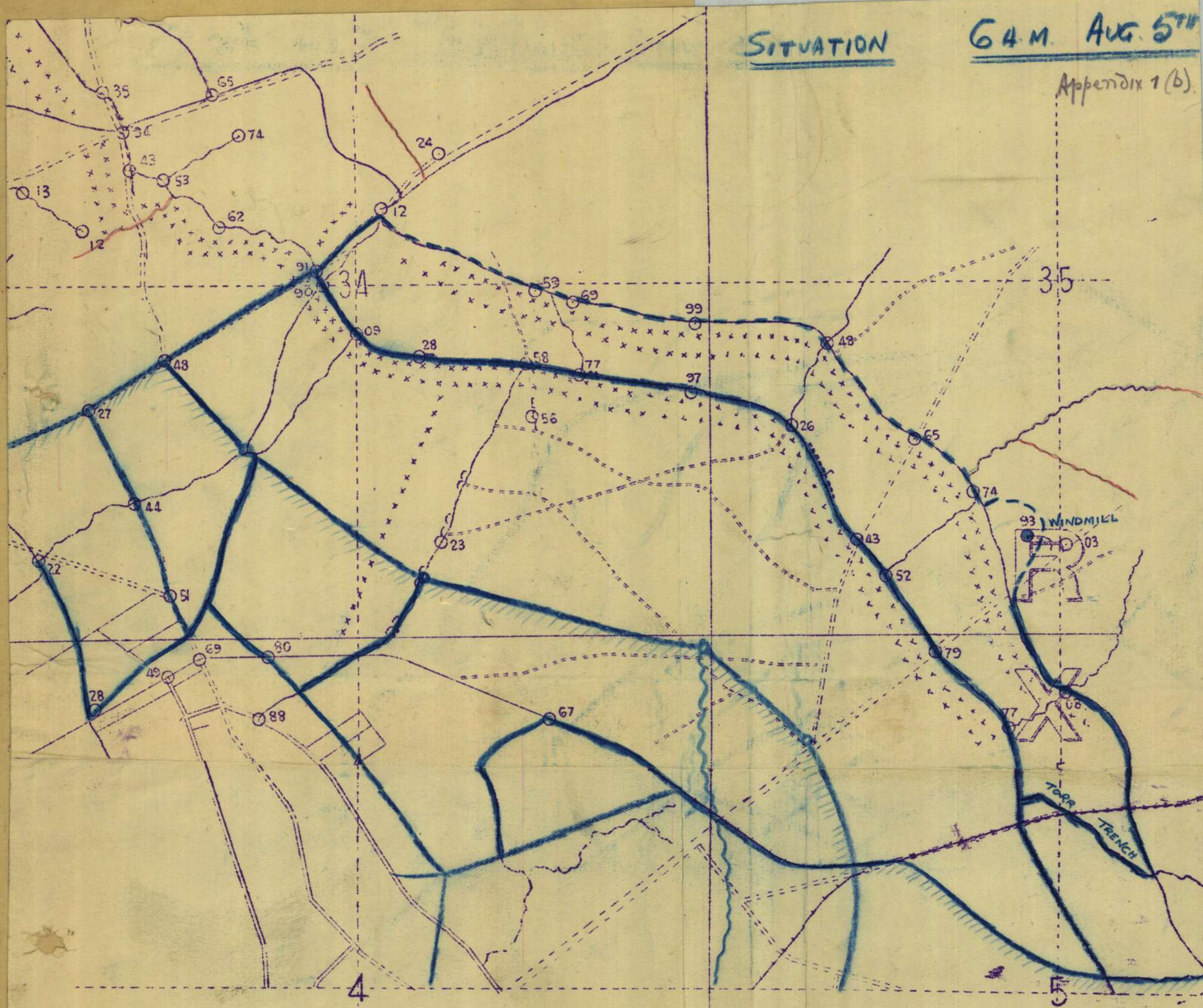


SITUATION6 P.M. 4<sup>TH</sup> Aug.

Appendix 1(a).





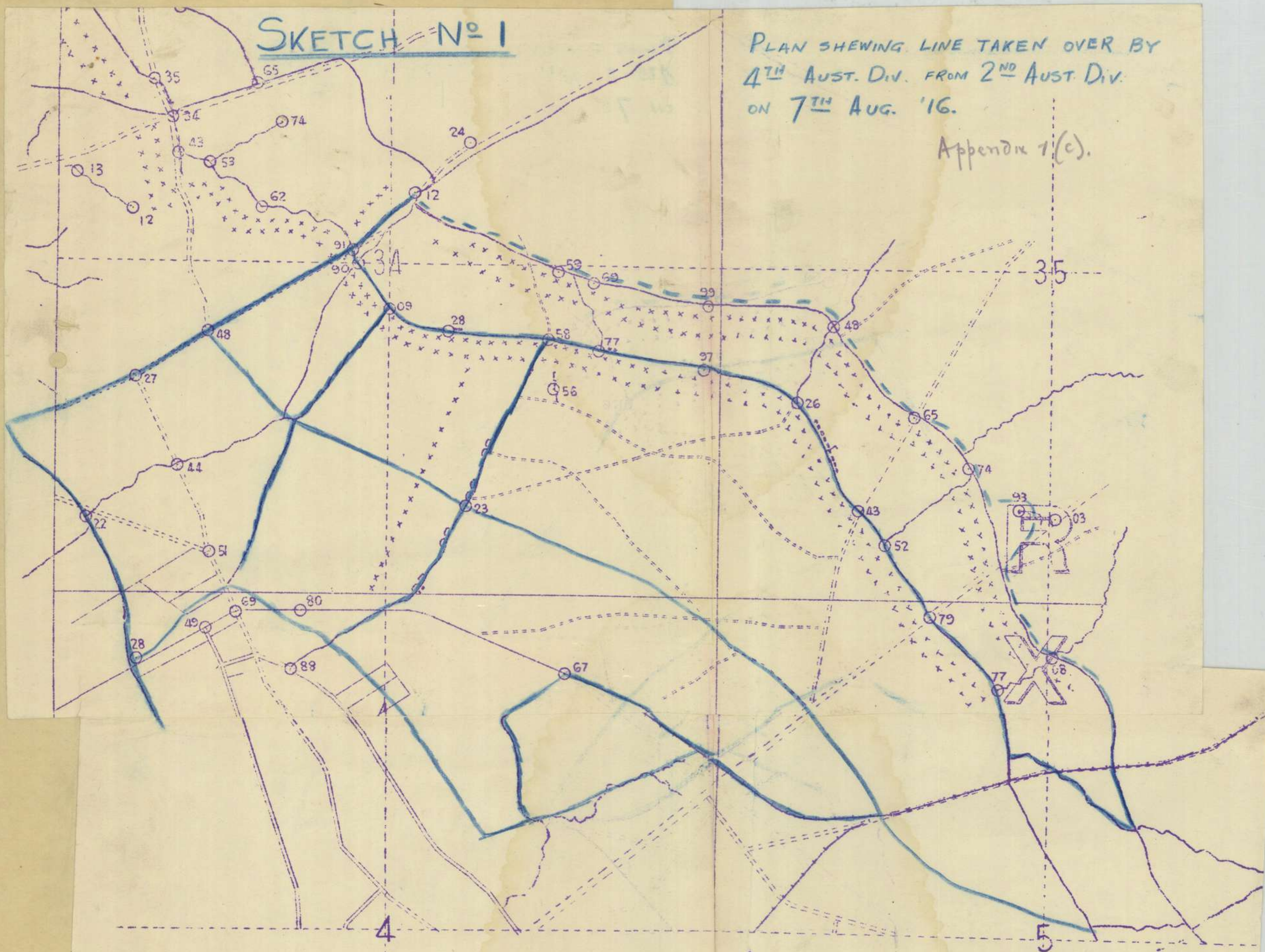




SKETCH N<sup>o</sup> 1

PLAN SHEWING LINE TAKEN OVER BY  
4<sup>TH</sup> AUST. DIV. FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> AUST. DIV.  
ON 7<sup>TH</sup> AUG. '16.

Appendix 1 (c).





6.

LINE HELD BY 1<sup>ST</sup> ANZAC

SHEWN THUS

*Appendix*

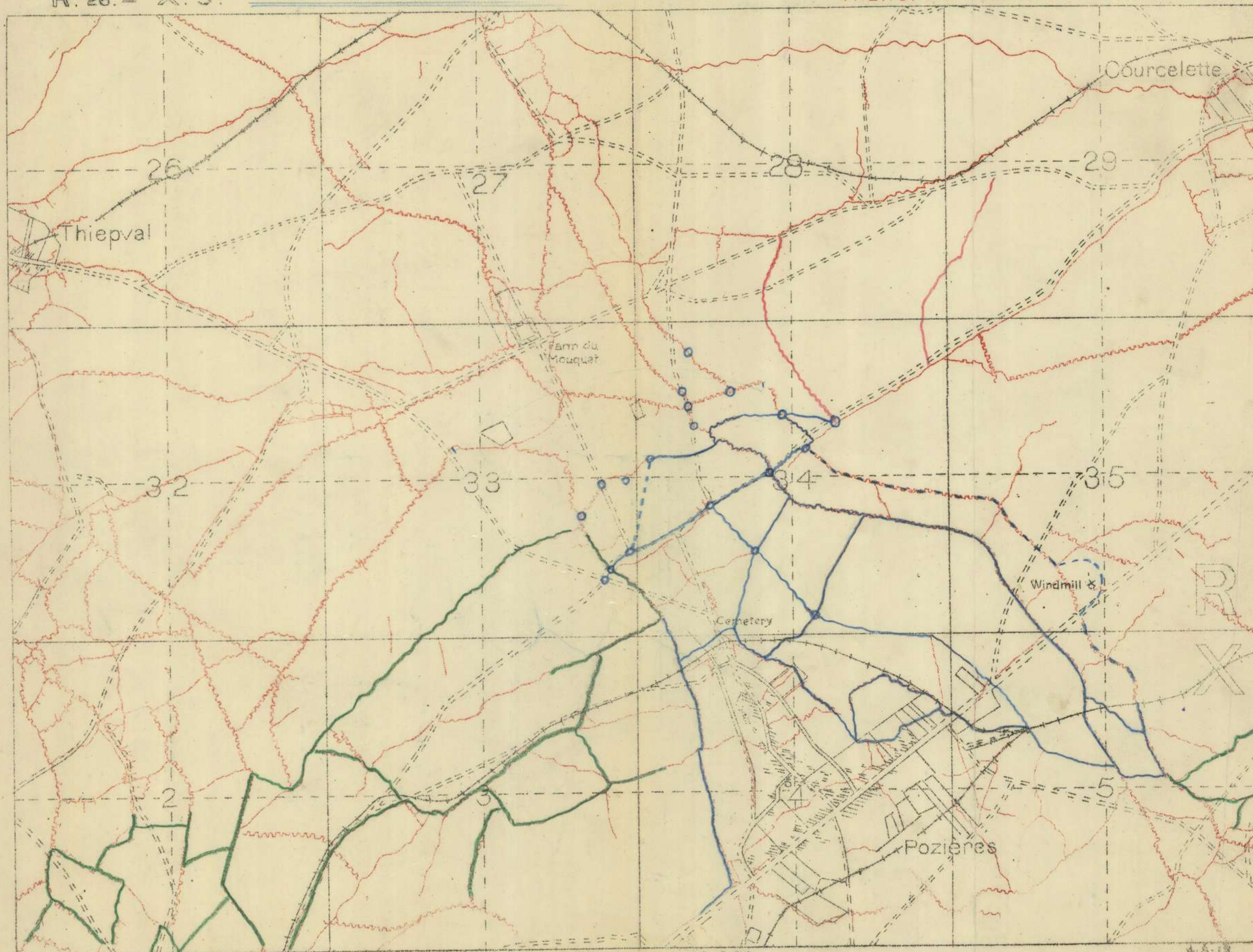
SITUATION

6 P.M. AUG. 9<sup>th</sup> 15

Appendix 7(a)

R. 26. - X. 5.

TRENCHES CORRECTED TO 3.8.16.

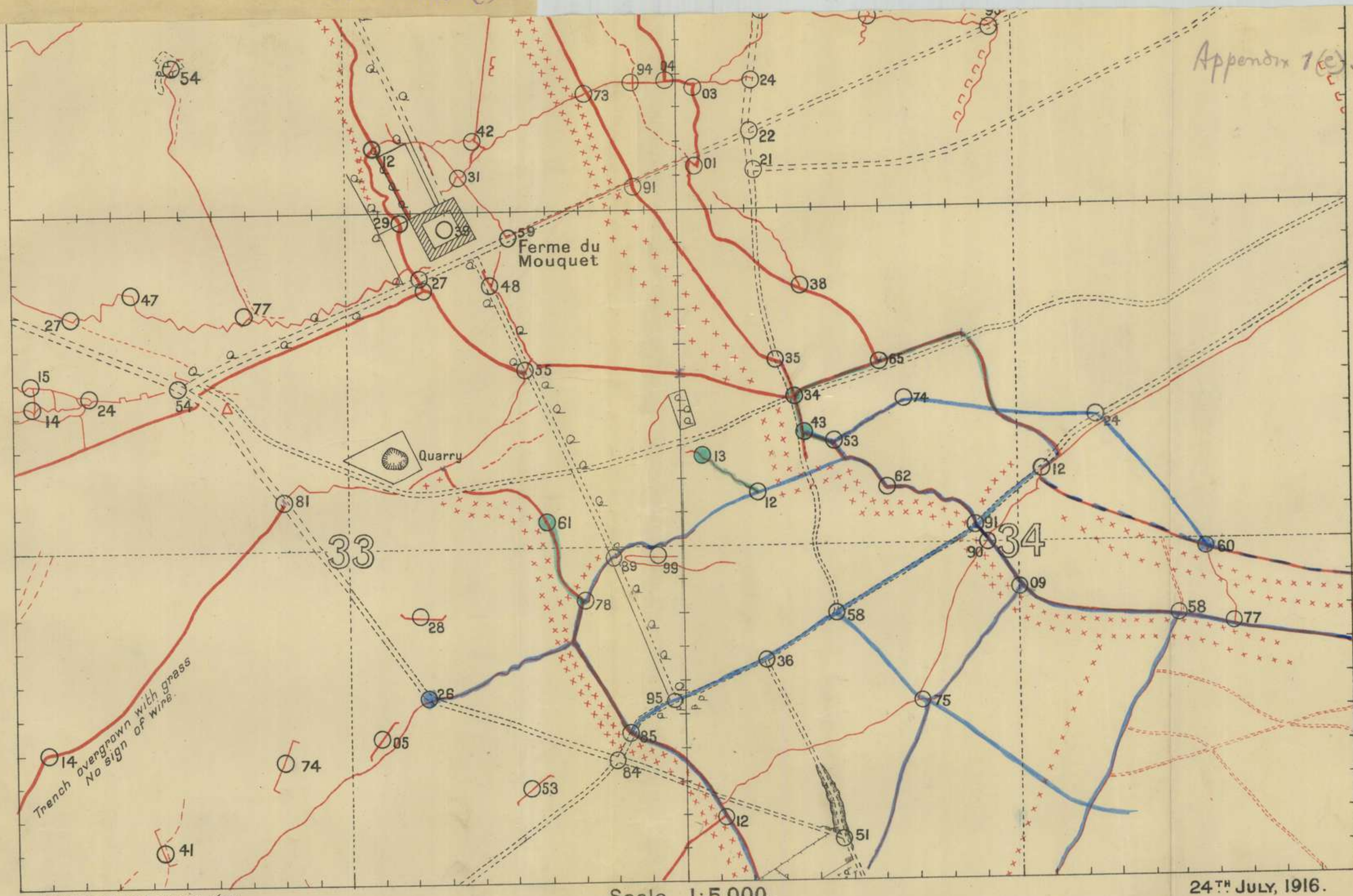


PAINTING COY. R.E. 5<sup>th</sup> SECTION. (115)

SCALE. 1:10,000.

4.8.18





Situation at 6 p.m. Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> shewn in BLUE.  
 Line gained by 6 a.m. " 11<sup>th</sup> " " GREEN.



LINE HELD BY 1ST ANZAC  
SHEWN THUS

Appendix  
1 of

PLAN N°1

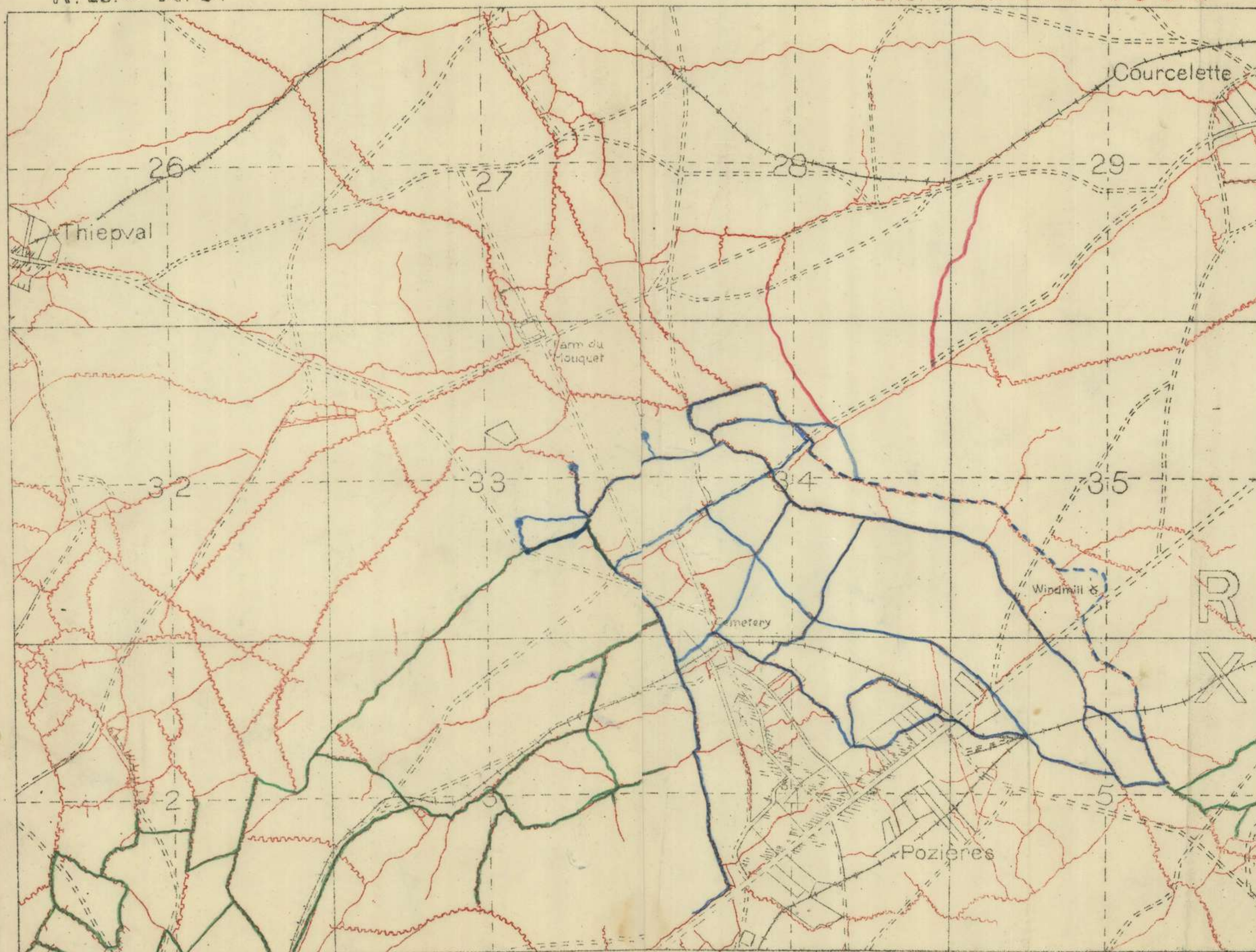
SITUATION

GRM. AUG. 12<sup>TH</sup>

Appendix 1 (f).

R. 26. - X. 5.

TRENCHES CORRECTED TO 3.8.16.

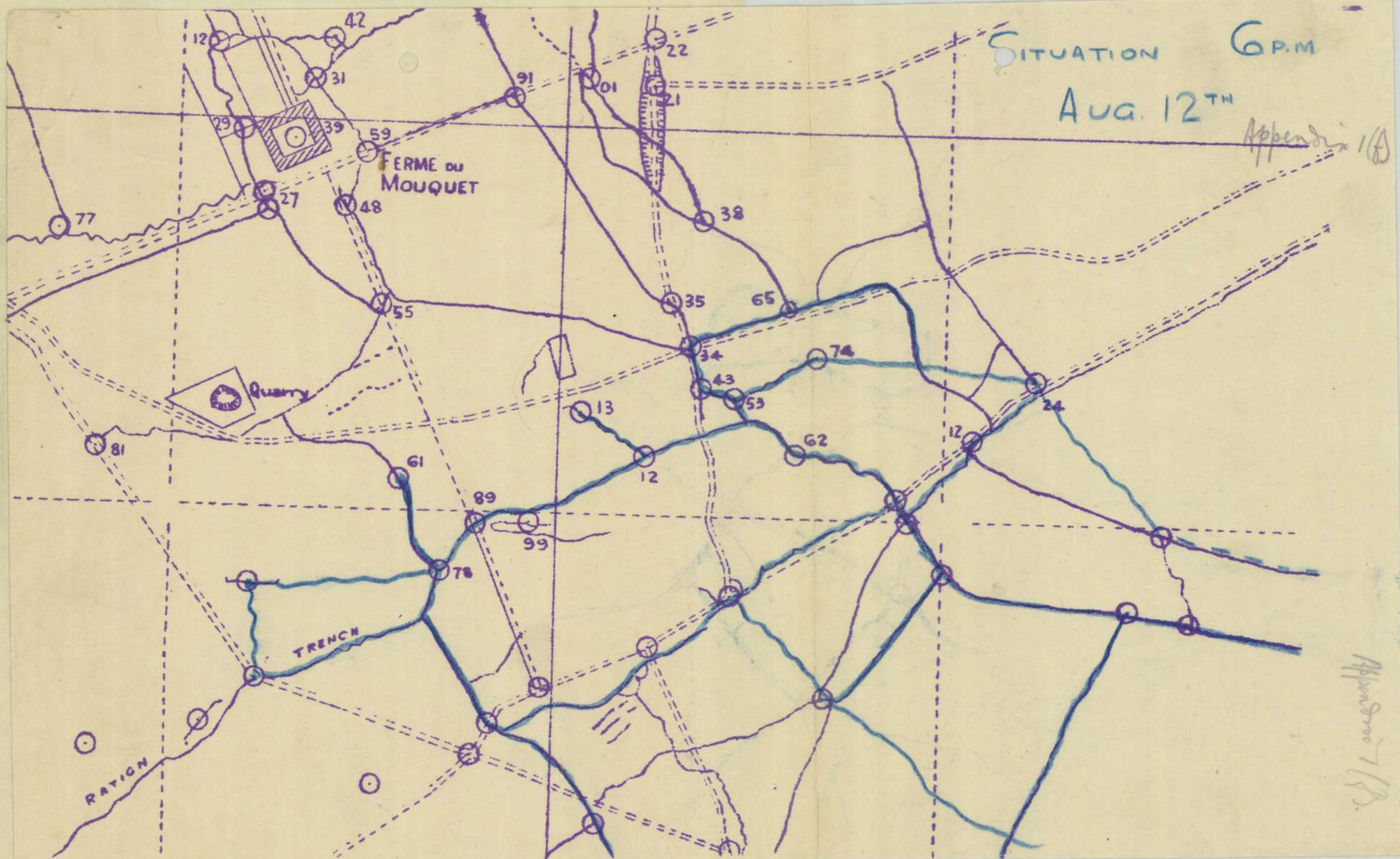


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SCALE. 1:10,000.

4.8.16







LINE HELD BY 1<sup>ST</sup> ANZAC  
SHEWN THUS

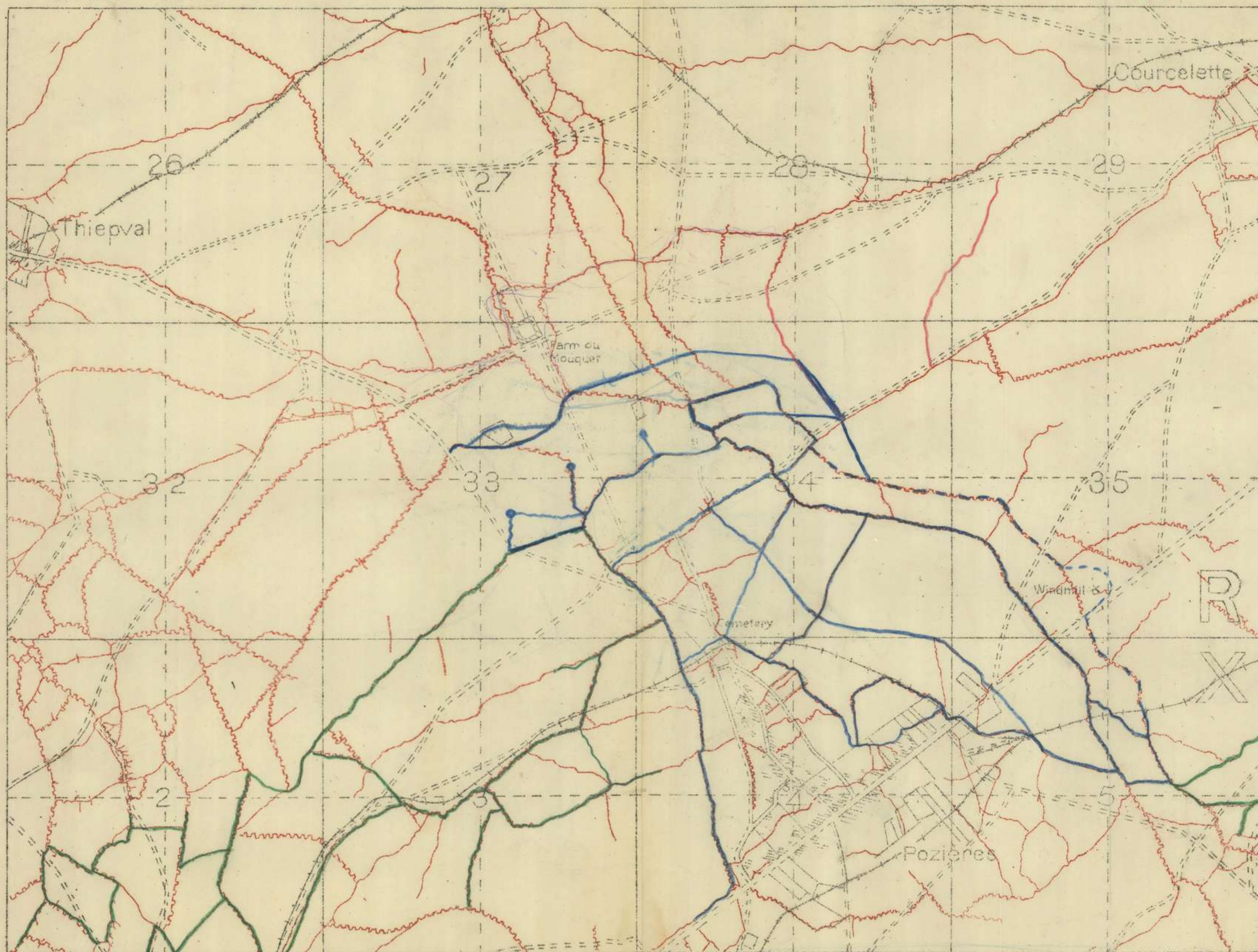
N<sup>o</sup> 2

*Appendix*  
SITUATION

6 A.M. AUG. 13<sup>TH</sup> 1919  
*Appendix*  
1919

R. 26. - X. 5.

TRENCHES CORRECTED TO 3.8.16.

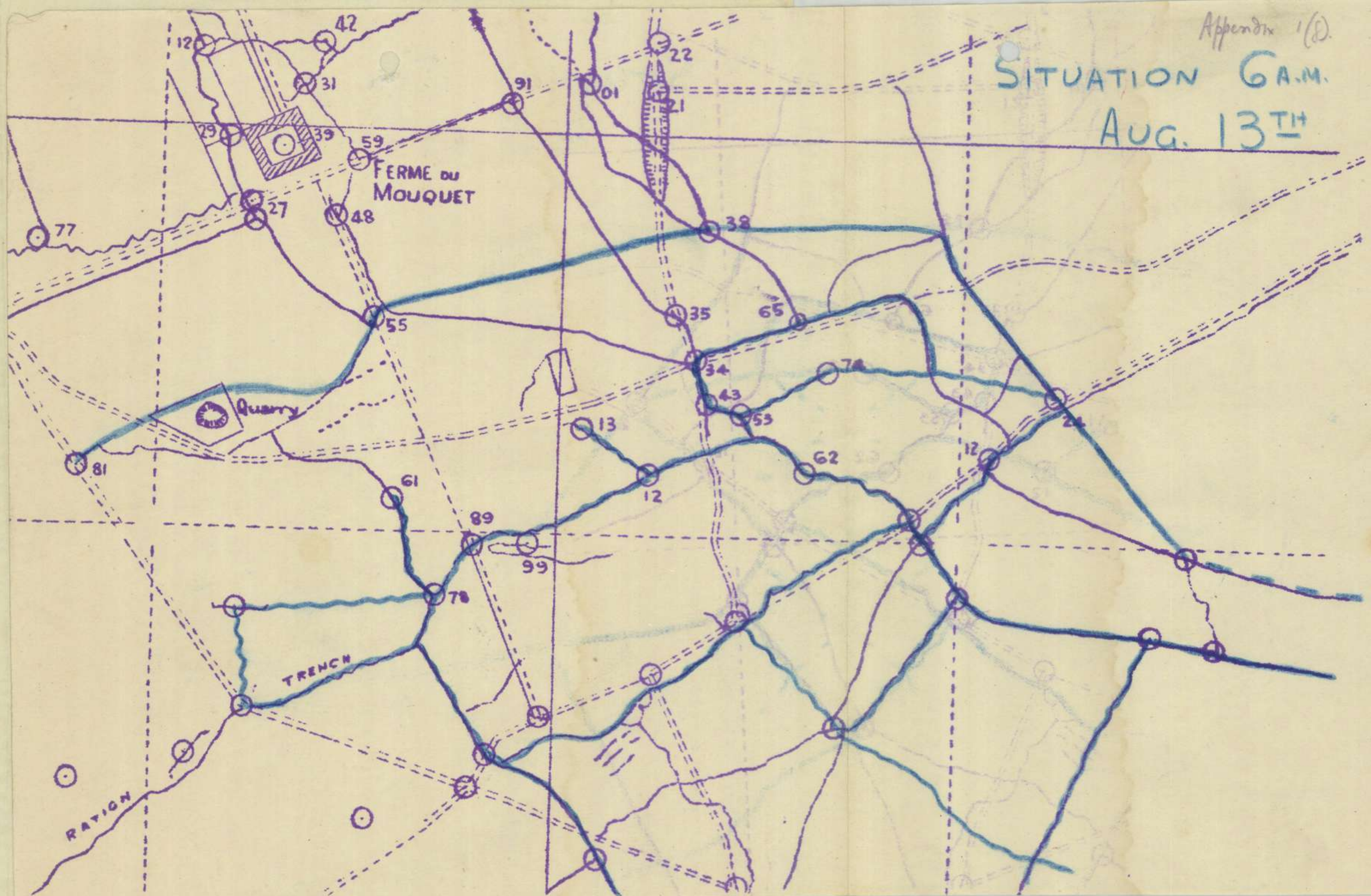


1<sup>ST</sup> PRINTING COY., R.E. 5<sup>TH</sup> SECTION. (115)

SCALE. 1:10,000.

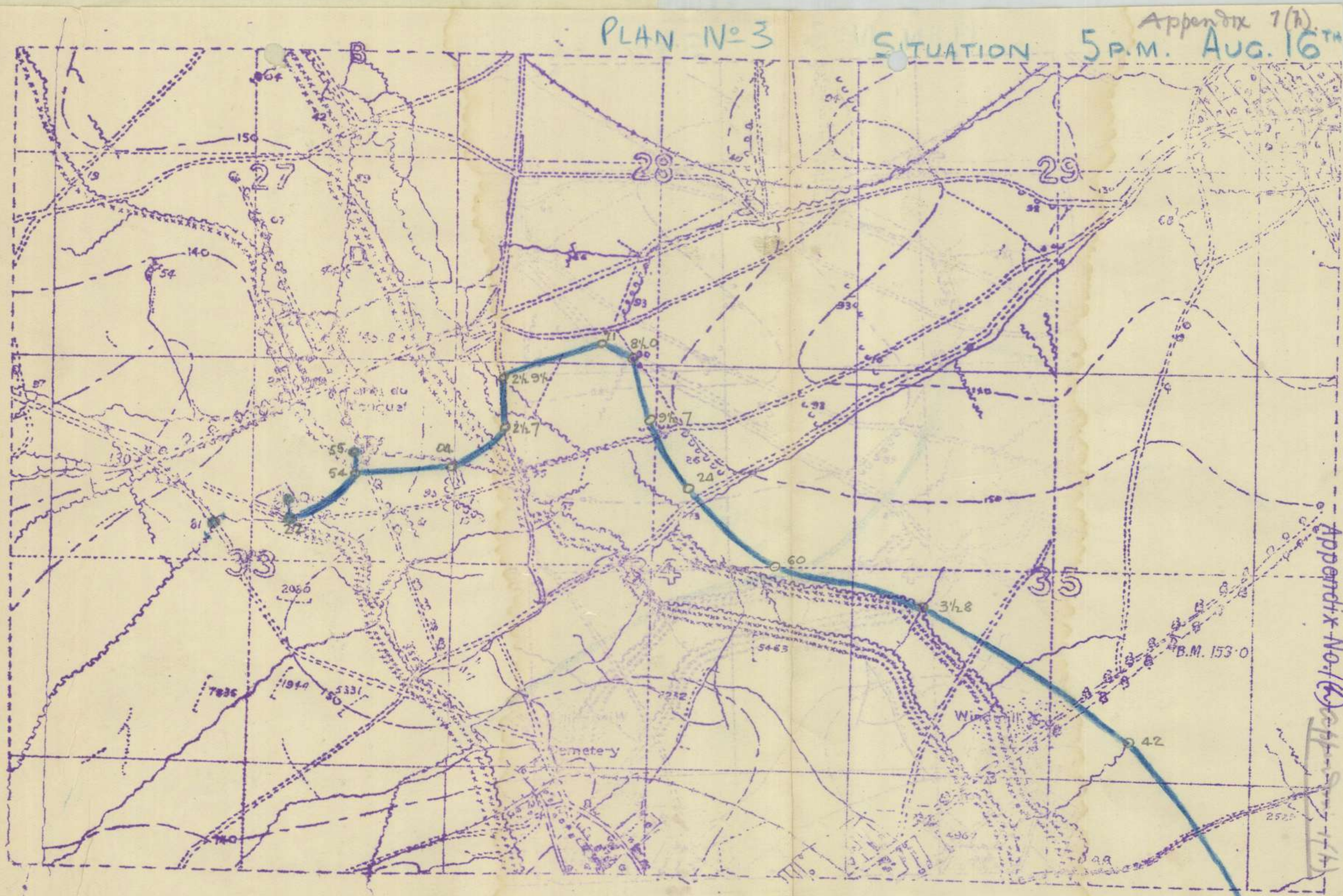
4.8.16





Appendix No. 11/18





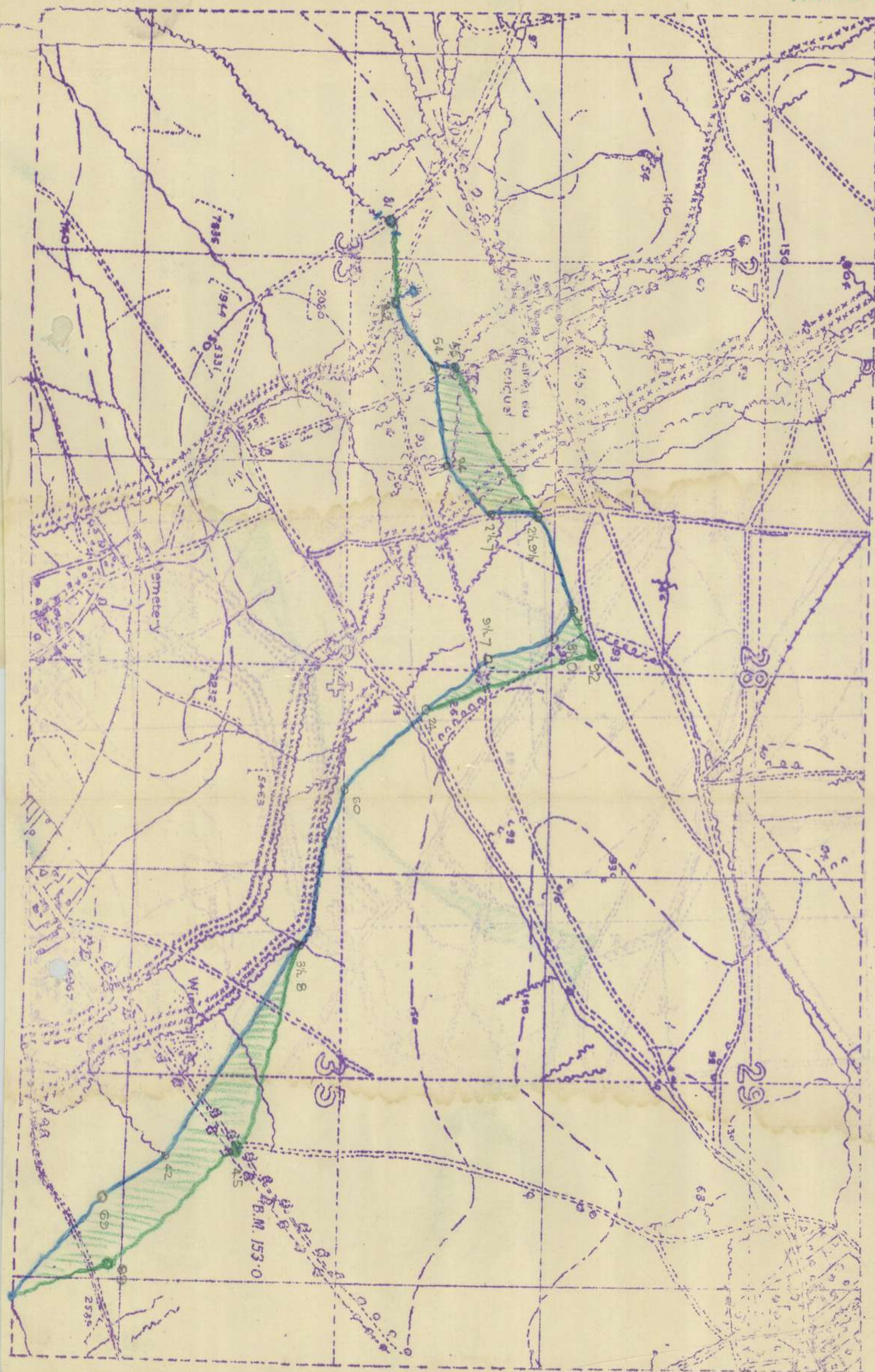


Appendix No. 14

LINE HELD AT 6 PM AUG. 18<sup>TH</sup> SHOWN THUS

" " " 6 A.M. " 19<sup>TH</sup> " "

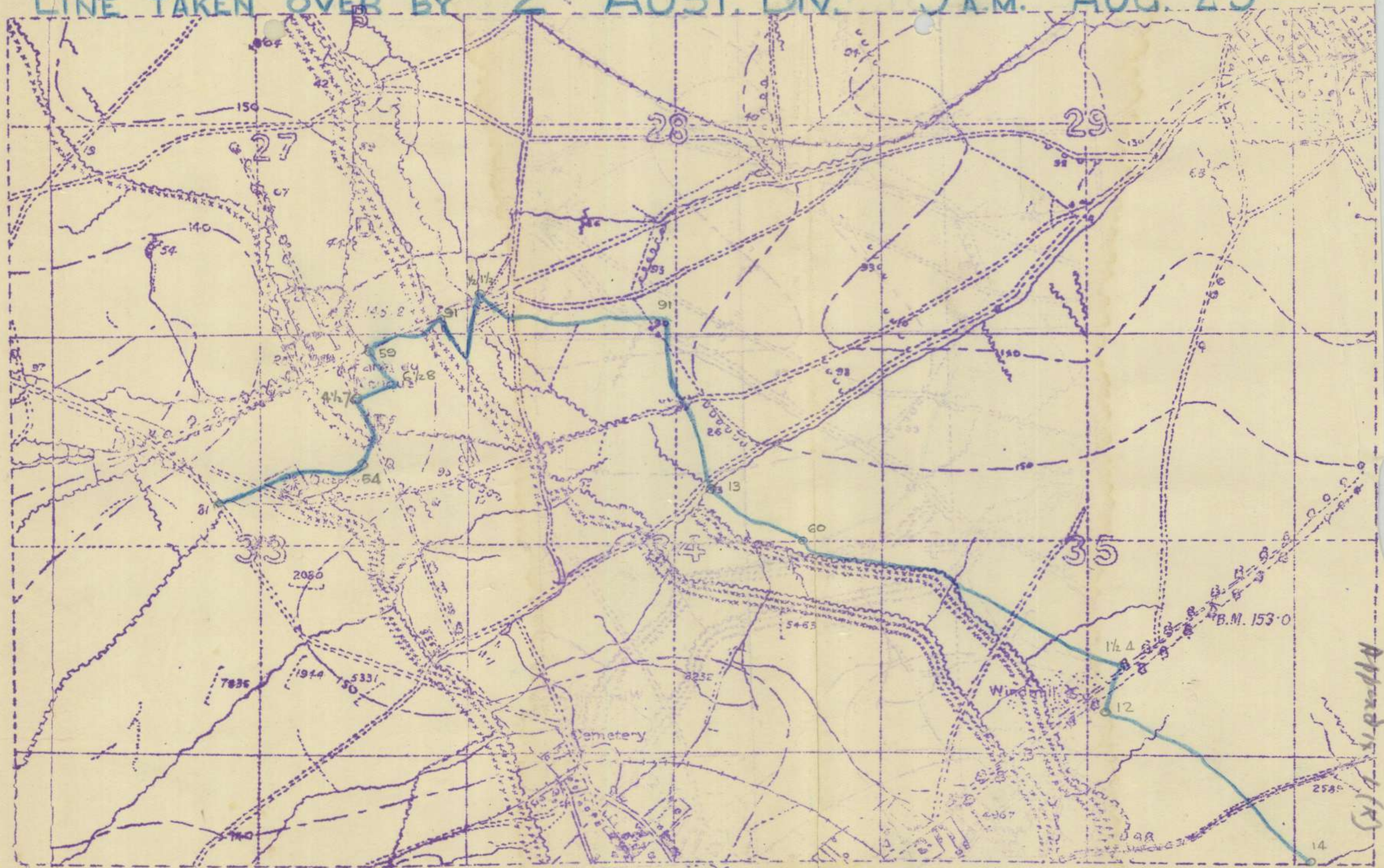
GROUND GAINED " "



Appendix No. 14 - 22



LINE TAKEN OVER BY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUST. DIV. 9 A.M. AUG. 23<sup>RD</sup>





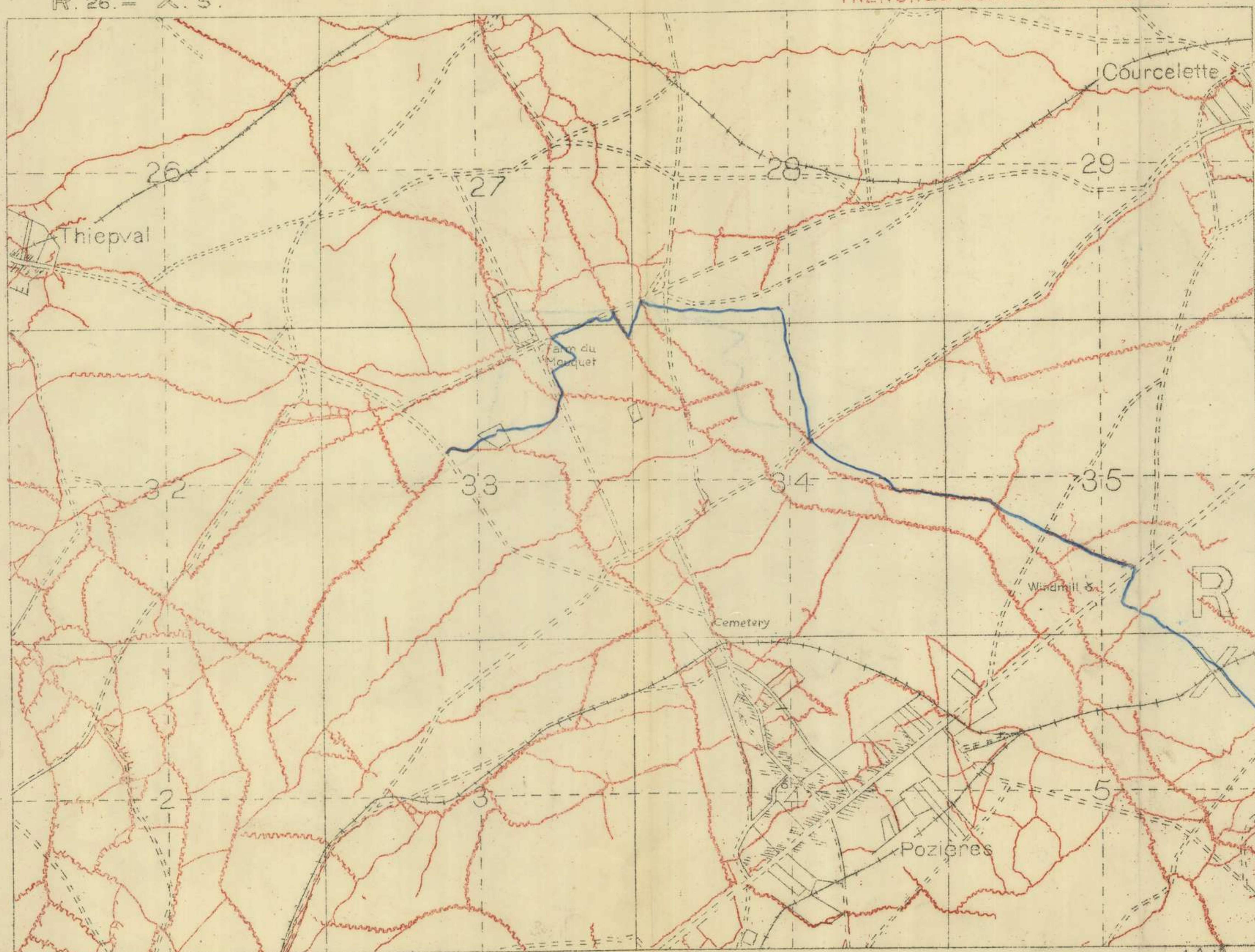
6

Appendix  
No 1 (K)LINE TAKEN OVER BY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUST. DIV. 9 AM AUG 23<sup>RD</sup>

Appendix 1 (K) 24

R. 26. = X. 5.

TRENCHES CORRECTED TO 3.8.15.

1<sup>ST</sup> PRINTING COY. A.E. 5<sup>TH</sup> SECTION. (113)

SCALE.

1:10,000.

4.8.15



1st. A.&amp;N.Z.A.C. S. 568

SECRET

Summary of operation for week ending 6. p.m. Friday 4th August 1916.  
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On the night of 28th/29th July the 2nd Aust.Div. attacked the German positions North and North-East of POZIERES. The objectives were:-

(i). The enemy's second lines known as O.G.1 and O.G.2 from the vicinity of the BAPAUME ROAD to R.34.central.

(ii). The ridge north of the Cemetery from R.34.central to R.33.d.4.3. inclusive.

The disposition of Brigades was as follows:- The 5th Bde. on the right, the 7th Bde. in the centre, and the 6th Bde. on the left.

The right Bde. was held up by heavy machine gun fire and was unable to reach its objective.

In the centre 3 battalions penetrated O.G.1 and a few men got into O.G.2. which was strongly held.

It was not found possible to hold O.G.1 without holding O.G.2 and a withdrawal to the original position was therefore ordered.

On the left the 6th Bde. partially succeeded and established themselves from R.34.c.9.5. to the road at R.34.c.4.8..

Observation of the objectives of these operations was difficult. In places there was a certain amount of wire still uncut which held the troops up.

The remainder of the period under review was spent in improving the defences of the village of POZIERES, and in digging a new line nearer to the enemy's trenches with a view of renewing the attack after further artillery preparation.

A set programme of daily bombardments was carried out and by 3rd August reports from patrols and aeroplanes indicated that the enemy's wire was practically destroyed.

Orders for an attack on the night of the 4th/5th Aug. were issued. The 12th Aust.Inf.Bde. was placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. 2nd.Aust.Div. and moved to SAUSAGE VALLEY in support, and the 4th. Aust Inf.Bde. was moved up to the BRICKFIELDS N.W. of ALBERT in Reserve.

Throughout the whole period the enemy's shelling has been severe and has caused considerable casualties both in the front line trenches and in back areas.

The attached plan shows the situation at 6.p.m. on the 4th instant.

Casualties.	0	Killed O/R	Wounded O/R	Missing O/R	Total. 0	O/R.
	-	-	-	-	96	3041. (estimate)

Aug. 5th. 1916

Lieutenant-General.  
Commanding 1st. A.&N.Z.ARMY CORPS.



REPORT ON ENEMY COUNTER ATTACK  
ON O.G.1 and O.G.2 on 7 - 8-16.

At daybreak on 7-8-1916, the 14th Inf.Bn. 4th Bde. was holding the front from 35.c.2.6. and 4.8. to 34.d.5.8. and 59. Lieut. Cooper, Bn. Lewis Gun Officer, 26th Bn. who had remained in the line after the relief of his Battalion, together with his guns, placed his Vickers and Lewis Guns in position at 34.d.2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.4.

The enemy broke through O.G.1 and O.G.2 at about points 48 and 26 and various parties of them (estimated to be several hundreds) formed up for attack on our next line. Lieut. Cooper's guns opened fire into them, killing large numbers. A platoon which had in the meantime advanced from strong point 23 captured the remainder. About 20 of the enemy surrendered to Lieut. Cooper's party. A total of 91 prisoners was taken altogether.

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War Diary.



FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

*Appendix No. 2.*

REPORT ON  
ENEMY ATTACK ON 16th BN. 11-8-1916.

Reference Map :- Ferme du MOUQUET. 1/5,000.

The 16th Bn. front line was from 33.d.2.8. - 78 - 99 - 34 a.12.43 with advanced Lewis Gun post at 34.a.13.

Owing to heavy shelling the trench 33.d.2.8. to 78 was only held by a few men, the garrison being withdrawn to safety in trench 26-78.

At about 2 p.m. observers reported enemy leaving MOUQUET FARM in large numbers. Small columns in single file - from 6 to 10 men - kept leaving the Farm and spreading fanwise, formed a thick line from 33.a.8.1. - QUARRY - 33.b.5.5.

The enemy shelling increased in intensity and realising that an attack was impending, the trench 33.d.2.8. to 78 was remanned and the H.Q. Lewis Detachments were sent to 34.a.12.

At about 3 p.m. the first enemy wave advanced on the 16th who met them with a very heavy rifle fire and Lewis gun fire. The enemy advanced most resolutely, but the fire was so great he desisted in his efforts in about 15 minutes. The Lewis gun fire on the enemy's left flank (enfilade fire) was particularly effective, the Germans falling in scores. The S.O.S. signal was sent to the artillery who quickly put up an 18 pdr. barrage, which greatly assisted the defence.

It is estimated that the enemy used two battalions in the attack, but they could not get closer than 100 yards to the trenches, each wave withering away under the rifle and machine gun fire.

Some of the enemy were beckoned to come into our line and at least 20 prisoners were thus taken, probably more.

The defeated enemy sought refuge in dugouts near the QUARRY and the Heavy Artillery were then asked to bombard the QUARRY and MOUQUET FARM. This message was sent by pigeon post. The Heavies soon opened a most destructive fire which hunted many men out of the QUARRY and many direct hits were observed on MOUQUET FARM.

The 16th Bn. met the attack most gallantly, despite their great exertions fighting and digging under great shell fire during the previous three days. Their rifle fire was rapid and accurate and the bearing of the men showed conspicuous coolness and confidence.

(SGD.) J.M.A. DURRANT.  
Major.  
B.M. 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

12/8/1916.



SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, FOR PERIOD  
4th to 11th AUG. 1916.

After the failure to capture O.G.1 and O.G.2 on the night of 28th/29th July preparations were at once put in hand to advance our line nearer to the objective, and, under direction of the G.O.C., R.A., 1st A. & N.Z.A.C., to commence a systematic bombardment of the German trenches and approaches, and to destroy the wire in front of them. The preliminary measures comprised :-

- (a) Improving communications up to the line from which the attack was to be launched.
- (b) Digging an assembly trench at 200 to 300 yards from O.G.1.
- (c) Improving the existing trench running parallel to the Tramline N.E. of POZIERES.
- (d) Sapping forward from existing strong points in the new forward trench.
- (e) Making emplacements for medium and 4" Stokes T.Ms. on both flanks of the attack.

Owing to heavy enemy shelling it was not until the 3rd instant that the work was so far advanced as to justify the issue of definite orders for the attack. This was finally fixed for the night of 4th/5th August.

Two objectives were given to the attacking troops :-

- (a) O.G.1 from the Tramline (X.5.a.9.5.) to R.34.a.9.1.
- (b) O.G.2 from R.35.c.8 $\frac{1}{2}$ .1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . to R.34.b.1.2.

These objectives were allotted as follows :-

- (a) To the 5th Aust. Inf.Bde. from X.5.a.9.5. to BAPAUME road at X.5.a.7.9. and to junction of TORR AVENUE and TRAMLINE. O.G.2 in front of this portion was shown by air photographs to have been practically obliterated.
- (b) To the 7th Aust. Inf.Bde. from R.35.c.6.0. to R.34.d.7.7. in O.G.1. and from R.35.c.8 $\frac{1}{2}$ .1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . to R.34.b.6.0. in O.G.2. Orders were given to push forward strong patrols with Lewis Guns to the portions of O.G.2 between R.35.c.8 $\frac{1}{2}$ .1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . and R.35.c.7.4. which had been nearly obliterated, and to occupy and consolidate shell craters.
- (c) To the 6th Aust. Inf.Bde. from R.34.d.7.7. to R.34.a.9.1. in O.G.1, and from R.34.b.6.0. to R.34.b.1.2. in O.G.2. This brigade was ordered to form a defensive flank from R.34.a.9.1. to R.33.d.8.5.

On the evening of the attack the enemy's trenches were subjected to a final bombardment by heavy artillery from 5 to 6 p.m. This called forth heavy retaliation from the hostile artillery and a heavy barrage was put down S. and S.E. of POZIERES which somewhat delayed the march of the assaulting troops to the assembly trenches, but by 9 p.m. the enemy fire had died down to a slow rate and all troops were in position.

The infantry assault on the first objective was made under cover of an intense bombardment lasting three minutes and was everywhere successful. The enemy was surprised in the middle of a relief, and all resistance was quickly overcome. O.G.2, after ten minutes intense bombardment was also carried and the garrison either captured or killed. From 350 to 400 prisoners were captured during the night and next morning. It is probable that he suffered heavily from our bombardment, and many Germans, together with their machine guns, must have been buried in the dugouts, the entrances to which had, in nearly every case, been blown in.

The work of consolidation of the captured position was at once put in hand, and a number of strong points made. Steps were taken to thin the line, but difficulty was experienced in collecting men in the dark, and in getting them through the enemy barrage, which, shortly after the attack, became very intense, and caused us many casualties.

The enemy attempted to counter-attack next morning, but the attack was apparently stopped by our artillery barrage, as it did not materialise.



The newly captured positions were subjected to bombardments which at times became very intense during the next day and night. The O.G.2 line which for a portion of its length is on the northern slope of the ridge, and in view of the enemy artillery, was entirely destroyed, and our troops were withdrawn to O.G.1. The consolidation of this line proceeded as well as circumstances permitted.

On the night of the 5th/6th the 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. in the right sector, taking over also a portion of the front held by the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde., which had suffered severely from the enemy bombardment.

A battalion of the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. was also moved up into the line to support the 6th Aust. Inf. Bde., to whom orders had been issued for a further attack on the German line lying to the north of our line from R.34. central to R.33.d.8.5.

On the 6th it was decided in view of the exhaustion of the men to relieve all units of the 2nd Australian Division in the line.

The relief of the 6th & 7th Aust. Inf. Bdes was begun on the afternoon of the 6th. The 4th Aust. Inf. Bde. took over the front of the 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. and part of the front of 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. and the 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. extended its flank northwards to join up with the right of the 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.

The 6th and 7th Aust. Inf. Bdes. were withdrawn to TARA VALLEY. The relief was hampered by enemy artillery fire, and was not completed till the morning of 7th August.

Two strong counter-attacks were made by the enemy on the morning of 7th August. Parties of Germans succeeded in penetrating the O.G.1 line, but prompt counter attack from the newly dug line which had formed the 'jumping off' place for the assault on O.G.1 and O.G.2, by detachments of the 14th and 26th Bns. resulted in the entire party being either killed or captured.

At 10.30 a.m. on the 7th August the command of the line was handed over to the G.O.C. 4th Aust. Division, the C.R.A. 2nd Aust. Division remaining in command of the Artillery till the 9th August.

Plan No.1 shows the line as taken over by the 4th Aust.Div. on the morning of the 7th instant.

On the night of the 8th/9th the 15th Battalion 4th Inf. Bde. co-operated with the right bn. of the 12th Division against trench R.34.a.7.4. to R.33.d.5.7. The objective was heavily shelled during the day and the assault was launched at 9.20 p.m. The infantry advanced under a heavy barrage which was kept on the objective for three minutes; as the barrage lifted they pushed forward and entered the trench. Just before reaching the trench the left portion of the 15th Bn. line was met with cross fire from machine guns established in point 78 and suffered fairly heavily on that part of the line, but they were able to seize the objective, taking about 28 prisoners. They immediately started to consolidate the position and to try and get touch with the Regiment on their left. This they could not do as the enemy still held point 78, where they enfiladed our line, which had to be brought back, and the line then stood R.34.b.2.4., a.7.4., 5.3., C.2.7.

Throughout the day enemy artillery concentrated fairly heavily along our front but position remained unchanged.

Work on improvement of fire and communication trenches gone on with.

Plan No. 2 shews the situation at 6 p.m. August 9th.

Certain trenches were taken over from the 12th Division during the 10th by the 16th Bn. This enable the attack to be delivered from a more favourable direction, and under cover of a heavy bombardment, R.34.a.1.2. to R.33.d.5.7. was carried.

The 15th and 16th Bns. cooperated in this attack, and the advance was covered by artillery barrage and whole of objective was gained, about 30 prisoners and 3 m.guns taken. The line then ran R.33.d.2.6. - 7.8. - 8.9. - 9.9. R.34.a.1.2. - 5.3. - 7.4. - 9.5. b.2.4. This line was held and was subjected to fairly heavy bombardment throughout the day. Our artillery maintained a slow barrage all along the front, and carried out some very good counter battery work.

Situation at 6 p.m. on August 10th is shown on Plan No. 3.



During the 11th, the 13th Battalion relieved the 15th Battalion and during the night the 13th and 16th Battalions co-operated in an attack against R.34.a.9.6. -5.3. - 3.4. - 4.3. R.33.b.6.1. d.2.8. Enemy's defence was feeble and attack was successful all along the line and about ten prisoners were taken. About 3.30 p.m. reports were received that the enemy's infantry were concentrating for an attack in the neighbourhood of MOUQUET FARM and 1,000 yards S.E. of POZIERES. Within a short time a heavy concentration of artillery fire was directed into these areas.

Enemy shelling fairly heavy throughout the day.

At the time this report was closed, 6 p.m., 11th August, the lines to the 4th & 12th Inf.Bdes. were cut by shell fire, and no further news was to hand.

The situation is shown on plan No. 3.

Casualties. (estimated).

2nd Aust Div.	135	off.	2343	o.r.
4th " "	84	"	1841	"
4th " "				
Total.	-	119 off.	4184	o.r.

1st A. & N.Z.A.C.  
12-8-1916.

*Crabtree*  
Lieutenant-General.  
Commanding 1st A. & N.Z.A.C.



SECRET.1st A. & N.Z.A.C.SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR WEEK ENDING  
19-8-16.  
-----

1. - During the afternoon of the 11th, much movement was observed in the vicinity of MOUQUET FARM. The artillery got on to several targets there and caused heavy losses to the enemy. The left of our lines was subjected to a heavy bombardment and under cover of same the 9th Jaeger Battalion (which had concentrated in vicinity of MOUQUET FARM) attempted to enter our line. As soon as they got into NO MAN'S LAND they were met by artillery and machine gun fire, and their attack was easily broken up. Over 40 prisoners were taken.

Throughout the night enemy artillery kept an intense barrage around POZIERES.

Our patrols were active and East of O.G.2 in vicinity of MUNSTER ALLEY encountered enemy digging party covered by bombers.

13th Battalion attacked strong trench from R.34.a.34 to 96. They were met with little opposition and gained the objective with slight casualties. 7 prisoners were taken.

2. - During the night of 12th/13th a patrol was sent out to reconnoitre Sunken Road. They were fired on by enemy from direction of R.35.c.23 and were forced to return.

Front line and communications were shelled by enemy fairly heavily throughout the day.

An enemy aeroplane was brought down by artillery fire, about 4 p.m., and was seen to fall in vicinity of COURCELETTE.

At 12 midnight an attack was launched against enemy line R.33.a.81, Quarry, and b.55, R.34.a.17, 28, R.28.a.40, 05, 6D, 05, and from there to be continued out and linked up with the trench running from R.28.a.95 to R.34.b.12. At R.34.a.98 the 12th Division co-operated on our left by attacking 6th Avenue. The attack was carried out by 13th and 50th Battalions. The whole of the objective was shelled throughout the day and later in the night an intense bombardment was concentrated all along the line. At 12 p.m. the assault was launched under cover of a heavy barrage. The first wave followed up and got close under the barrage which was kept on the objective for 5 minutes; as soon as it lifted the enemy trench was rushed and entered. The whole of the objective was gained with the exception of post at 55.

The line then ran from left to right R.33.a.81 along South of the Quarry up to 33, 95, R.34.a.17, A.28, R.28.c.51, 71, joining existing communication trench R.34.a.98 and then back to R.34.b.24.

The existing trenches were immediately improved, strong points established, and preparation made to resist enemy counter attack. A new line was dug and by daylight was in good condition. The quarry was searched and found to be unoccupied. A Lewis gun point was established in 81 to command the entrance to the Quarry. Extensive dug-out was taken at R.34.a.87.

Touch was gained with the 12th Division on our left in 6th Avenue, and the whole situation was satisfactory.

3. - The enemy shelled the positions gained throughout the night 13th/14th. During the afternoon a battalion of infantry was observed moving across country from PYS to LE SARRS and at night a counter attack was launched against 6th Avenue. The left of the attack was easily repulsed by machine gun and rifle fire from post 81, but they pushed on and regained 6th Avenue. Artillery barrage was immediately established along our front, and defensive flank thrown back from 81, covered by artillery. At 5.30 a.m. the 12th Division counter-attacked and enemy was again driven from 6th Avenue and strong post established in same by 12th Division.

W. H. H. H.

X



4. On the 16th the enemy artillery was active throughout the day. Our artillery concentrated on MOUQUET FARM and the surrounding trenches, all of which were heavily shelled. At 10 p.m. an attack was launched by 13th, 50th, and 51st Battalions against R.33.a.8.1. B.48, R.27.d.9.1. 73, 94, 04, R.28.c.0.3. 24, 36, 66, and 95, then to connect up by existing trench from R.28.c.9.5. to R.34.b.24. The usual barrage was put on to the objective and at 10.5. p.m. the assault was delivered. The right battalion had gone about 150 yards when it was met with severe rifle and machine gun fire from R.28.c. They pushed on and engaged the enemy at close quarters but were forced to withdraw owing to cross machine gun fire. They captured 7 prisoners (69th Regt) and it was found later that, as soon as the intense bombardment had started the enemy had pushed out strong posts and held a line with machine guns in shell holes in front of his trenches. The 13th Bn. pushed out to the assault and took the first trench with little opposition, but met with strong opposition from the 2nd trench. They pressed on and dislodged the enemy, who withdrew from his trenches. We immediately began to consolidate. The enemy in the meantime began to rally, and the 13th Bn. finding themselves isolated and not being able to get touch with the Bn. on their right and left were forced to withdraw. They withdrew on to the original line bringing with them 11 prisoners. The 50th Bn on the left had met with strong opposition as soon as they left the trenches and failed to gain their objective. The enemy kept up heavy artillery fire all along the line throught the day of the 16th and at 5 p.m. the 4th Aust.Div. were relieved by 1st.Aust Div.

Plan No. 3 shews the line taken over by the 1st.Aust Div. on the 16th instant.

5 During the night of the 16th/17th several counter attacks were delivered against our left brigade none of which reached our lines. In one of these 6 lines of infantry advanced but were forced back with heavy losses.

6. At 10.30 a.m. on the 17th an enemy aeroplane was brought down in flames south of POZIERES.

During the remainder of the period under review the situation remained unchanged. Work on assembly and communication trenches was carried out with a view to future operations.

CASUALTIES.	Killed.		Wounded		Missing		Total	
	Off.	o/r	Off.	o/r	Off.	o/r	Off.	o/r
4.Aust.Div.	16	360	31	1754	59		47.	2114

1st Aust.Div. Est.casualties. 17-8-16. 10 officers. 300 o/r.

Lieut-General.  
Commanding 1st. A.&N.Z.A.C.

19-8-16



1st A. & N.Z.A. Corps.SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR WEEK ENDING 26-8-16.

On the night of the 18th orders were issued to the 1st Aust. Div. for the following operations at 8 p.m. -

- (i) Operation "A". The establishment of the left bde. on the line R.28.c.9.1., R.34.a.25.85. to 05.80. to R.33.b.55 to R.33.a.81; and the construction of a strong defensive flank in R.34.b. connecting with the post at R.34.b.24.
- (ii) Operation "B". The capture by the right bde. of the German trenches between the head of MUNSTER ALLEY and the sunken road at R.35.d.46; and the construction of posts from the last named point to R.35.c.48.

The first of these operations was unsuccessful and the attack made little progress. Heavy machine gun fire was encountered from point 95.

South of the BAPAUME ROAD the objective was gained except for the portion between the head of MUNSTER ALLEY and X.5.b.99. During the next 48 hours the time was occupied in improving and straightening out our line but the work was considerably hindered by hostile shelling.

During the night of the 20th/21st the enemy counter-attacked against our post at R.33.b.55 but were repulsed; heavy enemy casualties were reported. About 5.30 p.m. on 21st an enemy counter attack was attempted against the QUARRY. This was easily repulsed. At 6 p.m. operations by the left bde. were commenced with a view to establishing our line on the THIEPVAL - COURCELETTE Road and occupying the portion of the enemy's trenches on the high ground to the east of MOUQUET FARM.

These operations were partially successful and we were able to establish our line at 3 points on the road. The right of the attack met with strong opposition and no advance was made.

On the 22nd the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. of the 2nd A. Div. relieved the 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. and the subsequent 48 hours were spent in establishing our line with a view to a subsequent offensive.

During the above operations 11 prisoners and 1 machine gun were captured.

At 9 a.m. on the 23rd, the command of the line was assumed by G.O.C. 2nd Aust. Div. The line handed over is shown on the attached plan. During the remainder of the period under review, good progress was made in the improvement of the line.

Patrols were active and some encounters with parties of the enemy took place to our advantage.

The operations of the Corps on our left resulted in fairly heavy retaliation directed against our positions South of the MOUQUET FARM but no serious damage was done.

The activity of the enemy's artillery has on the whole been below normal and the conditions in the front trenches are reported as easier.

Casualties. - (estimated) 80 officers 2250 o.r.

26-8-1916.

*Clark*  
Lieutenant-General.  
Commanding 1st A. & N.Z.A.C.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
FROM 6 p.m. 26-8-16 to 6 p.m. 31-8-1916.  
-----

2nd Australian Division in the line. -

In the early morning of the 26th the left brigade attacked with the intention of occupying R.33.b.27, R.33.a.77, R.33.a.54, and establishing posts at R.27.d.73, R.27.d.42, R.27.d.12.

The attack was not entirely successful, the strong points R.33.a.54 and R.33.b.27 remaining in the enemy's hands.

We occupied R.33.a.77, a line of shell holes close up to MOUQUET FARM and a line of trenches from just East of R.33.b.27 - R.33.b.59 - R.27.d.91 - R.28.c.01.

About 9 a.m. the enemy was reported to be massing for a counter attack in the neighbourhood of MOUQUET FARM; our artillery fire prevented any attack being developed.

At noon a further attempt was made, after half an hour's bombardment to take point R.33.a.54, but was not successful.

Strong bombing attacks against our newly won positions were made early in the afternoon; they were repulsed.

A British aeroplane was brought down behind our lines N.E. of POZIERES; the pilot and observer were fatally injured.

On the 27th, the 5th Bde. was relieved by the 7th Bde.

The weather hindered the work of consolidation.

Our artillery bombarded enemy trench in R.34.b. at 7 p.m.; the enemy are reported to have vacated the trench during the bombardment.

During the night 27th/28th August the left bde. attacked points R.33.b.27 and R.33.a.54; the objectives were gained but the enemy made a strong counter attack and we were compelled to withdraw.

At noon on the 28th Aug. the 4th Aust. Div. took over from the 2nd Aust. Div.. For line taken over see plan attached.

Several parties of Red Cross men were seen.

Enemy aircraft were more in evidence; three of their aeroplanes crossed our lines during the afternoon.

During the afternoon of the 29th Aug. our heavy artillery shelled enemy's trench in R.27.d. with the result that enemy left the trench and ran back; they were caught by our Lewis Gun fire and suffered heavily.

The enemy made a bombing attack at midnight which was driven back with loss.

During the night 29th/30th the 4th Inf. Bde. attacked; the objective being the line R.28.c.95 - 66 - 36 - 03 - R.27.d.73 - 42. The objective was reached but the enemy counter-attacked immediately with considerable strength, and we were compelled to withdraw to our original line. Severe losses were inflicted on the enemy.

Several of the enemy's red cross parties were at work round MOUQUET FARM during the day, and our stretcher bearers with white flags were not molested while collecting wounded in NO MAN'S LAND.

The weather conditions were very bad and the trenches full of mud and water.

On the night 30/31st August, the 47th Bn. relieved left battalion of the 4th Bde.; the 48th Bn. relieved the right bn. of the 4th Bde.

Five hostile aeroplanes crossed our lines in the morning.

On September 1st, hostile artillery was much quieter during the day but during the whole week the enemy have shown continued artillery activity, causing many casualties and much damage to our front line and communication trenches.



Many enemy working parties have been seen and broken up by our machine and Lewis-gun fire, and in some cases by artillery.

Casualties. -

	<u>Estimated only.</u>	
2nd Aust. Div.	15 officers	- 600 o.r.
4th " "	20 " "	1,000 o.r.
<hr/>		
Total	35 " "	1,600 o.r.
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1st A. & N.Z.A.C.  
2-9-1916.

*S. S. Bullock*  
Lieutenant-General.  
Commanding 1st A. & N.Z.A.C.

War Diary.