

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/50/18 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

August 1917



AWM4-1/50/18PART1

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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			Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour		
BLARING-HEM	1917 August		<p>A pouring wet day. G.S.O II took B.G.C. 14th Infantry Brigade and C.O's of battalions to see the Training Area West of LUMBRES, so that they could get an idea of the ground over which they will be working.</p> <p>The big battle is at a standstill owing to rain. The attacking Corps are the XIV, XVIII, XIX and II Corps, under the command of General GOUGH, Commanding Fifth Army. Our Divisional Artillery is with the 15th Division of XIX Corps.</p> <p>Training Memorandum No. 121, with reference to the move to "W.1" Training Area, was issued.</p> <p>Training Memorandum No. 122, with reference to instruction for Defence against Gas Shells, was issued.</p>	<p>App. "B"</p> <p>App "B"</p>
		2. 3 p.m.	<p>The Chemical Adviser of Second Army called today and we arranged for him to give a lecture on the new enemy gas shells, commonly called the "mustard" shell.</p> <p>A demonstration was held at TERDEGHEM (Second Army Grenade School) in Light Trench Mortar Battery drill. G.O.C., G.S.O. I, and several officers of the Division attended.</p> <p>Another very wet day.</p> <p>The move of the 14th Infantry Brigade Group to the Training Area was postponed this evening by the Corps owing to an extension of time being given to the 3rd Infantry Brigade.</p>	
		3.	<p>Rained magnificently all day.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander called on the B.G.G.S. of the Corps this afternoon. We wired to 32nd Division, 48th Division, and 8th Division for the return of Lieut. MERKEL, Captain GODFREY, and Lieut. GOODLAND. All these officers have now been away on attachment for Staff Training for three months.</p> <p>The following Training Memoranda were issued:-</p> <p>No. 123 with reference to the I ANZAC Corps School.</p> <p>No. 124 with reference to Training in "W.1." Training Area.</p> <p>No. 125 with reference to a lecture by the Chemical Adviser, Second Army on gas shells, at 5.30 p.m. on Monday August 6th.</p>	<p>App "B"</p> <p>"</p> <p>"</p> <p>"</p> <p>"</p>
		4.	<p>Rained again today - a sweet country.</p> <p>M.G.G.S., Second Army (Major General C.H. HARRINGTON C.B. D.S.O.) called today, but unfortunately missed seeing the G.O.C. G.S.O. I and G.S.O. II reconnoitred the westerly portion of "W" Training Area, named "W.2."</p> <p>G.O.C. interviewed Brigadiers and C.O's today, regarding carelessness in handling Government</p>	

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BLARINGHEM	August 4.		property, excessive and duplication of demands entailing much waste of time and money.	Appendix I
	5.		G.S.O. II dined with 42nd Squadron R.F.C. at BAILLEUL. Met Captain BLAKE whom he relieved as G.S.O. III at MELBOURNE nearly three years ago. Captain BLAKE now attached to 42nd Squadron for instruction. 1st amendment to Training Memorandum No. 124 issued.	App "B"
	6.		The 14th Infantry Brigade moved to LUMBRES by bus and march route. Major S.B. POPE D.S.O., G.S.O. II, II ANZAC Corps, whose Headquarters are now at FLETRE, came to tea. G.S.O. I (Lieut. Col. WAGSTAFF, C.I.E., D.S.O., R.E.) lectured Brigade Staff Officers at 3.0 p.m. Chemical Adviser, Second Army lectured to a full house today. We had the lecture in the School-house, BLARINGHEM, and nearly 150 officers of the Division, and all Gas N.C.O's attended.	"
	7.		This is the first day's training of the 14th Infantry Brigade in "W.I." Training Area, West of LUMBRES. The following Training Memoranda were issued:- No. 126, giving the names of winners of the essay on Field Firing at THIEPVAL. No. 127, with reference to a lecture on "Intelligence" by Brigadier General J. CHARTERIS D.S.O. at 6.0 p.m. on Thursday, 9th August.	
	8.		G.S.O. I, Second Army, Lieut-Colonel MURRAY D.S.O. (59th Rifles) came out to see the 14th Infantry Brigade training today. Terrific downpour of rain in evening about 7 p.m. - 7.30 p.m; came down in sheets. Second amendment to Training Memorandum No. 124 issued.	App "B"
	9.		G.O.C. and A.A. & Q.M.G. went to HAVRE BASE to see records, etc. Brigadier General CHARTERIS from G.H.Q. lectured this afternoon on Intelligence to certain officers. It was a most interesting and very instructive lecture. We kept him to dinner, also Brigadier General TIVEY, Commanding 8th Australian Infantry Brigade. Spent quite a jolly evening listening to General Charteris' yarns.	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARINGHEM	August 10		<p>14th Infantry Brigade returned from the Training Area West of LUMBRES by bus and march route. 8th Light Trench Mortar Battery gave a very good demonstration of battery drill in the grounds of the Chateau BLARINGHEM. The Commandant of the Second Army Bombing and Trench Mortar School was present. Notes on the drill attached.</p> <p>Major LEE the Commandant of the Second Army Bombing and Trench Mortar School also presided over a conference of bombing officers. Minutes of meeting attached.</p> <p>G.S.O. II dined with Brigadier General V.T. BAILEY, Commanding 142nd Brigade, 47th Division at BOISDINGHEM</p> <p>G.O.C. and A.A. & Q.M.G. returned from HAVRE this evening.</p>	<p>See App. "D"</p> <p>App. "E"</p>
		11.	<p>General BIRDWOOD called about lunch time and saw the Divisional Commander. We heard today that Captain C.R.E. JENNINGS from A.A.G's office is going to be our new D.A.A.G., instead of Captain BAILLIEU.</p> <p>General CARRUTHERS and Colonel TAYLOR came to tea today.</p>	
		12.	<p>Beautiful day - quite fine. The Corps Chemical Adviser came to lunch. We arranged for him to give a lecture on the new gas shells.</p> <p>Training Memorandum No. 128, re lecture on Gas Shells to be given by C.A. I ANZAC Corps at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday August 14th.</p>	App "B"
		13.		
		14. 5.30 p.m.	<p>General Sir A. GODLEY Commanding II ANZAC Corps came to tea today.</p> <p>C.A. I ANZAC Corps lectured to a crowded house on the new gas shells. The lecture was given in the School-house, BLARINGHEM.</p>	
		15.	<p>Major BETTS, Assistant Superintendent P.T. and B.F., Second Army inspected all our P.T. & B.F. Staff instructors, both A.G.S. and Divisional Instructors. He then lectured to them, and afterwards told the General that he was pleased - they were a fine lot of N.C.O's.</p>	

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	1917			
	August			
BLARINGHEM	16		<p>A big attack was launched today by the Fifth Army. Good progress reported by 10 a.m. Ordinary training being carried out in the Division during the day. Training Memorandum No. 130 was issued. It dealt with a lecture to be given by Major General C.H.HARRINGTON C.B., D.S.O. M.G.G.S. Second Army - subject "Staff Duties" - in the Chateau BLARINGHEM at 5.0 p.m. Monday August 20th.</p>	App "B"
	17.		<p>A splendid day - fine and hot. General Staff Memorandum No. 151 dealing with the policy in the air and giving instances and examples of the work being done, was issued.</p>	App "A"
	18.		<p>Lieut-Colonel TOLL Commanding 31st Bn., Lieut-Col. F.H.FRANCIS, Commanding the Divisional Train, and Lieut-Colonel CAREY, C.R.E. dined at "A" Mess tonight.</p>	
	19.		<p>A special order, arranging for a march past of seven battalions, 3 machine gun companies, 3 light trench mortar batteries, one Field Co., one Field Ambulance, and a detachment of the Divisional Train, to pass the Corps Commander, was issued.</p>	App "C"
	20		<p>The Corps Commander was very pleased with what he saw. Troops and transport marched past the Corps Commander for over an hour, while bands of the 8th and 14th Infantry Brigades and 2 battalion bands played continuously.</p>	
		3 p.m.	<p>There was a conference of Brigadiers, Battalion Commanders, with the G.S.O. I.</p>	
		5 p.m.	<p>A lecture on Staff Duties was given by Major General C.H.HARRINGTON C.B. DS.O in the Chateau, BLARINGHEM. He told the assembled Staff Officers a great deal of what is going on in France, and spoke on the size and expansion of the Army. It was a very good lecture on Staff Officers, their responsibilities, work, privileges, and duties, emphasising the fact that Staff Officers are merely servants and that the war would be won by the troops in the trenches.</p> <p>The lecture was very much appreciated, and was well delivered. Captain C.R.E. JENNINGS, our new D.A.A.G. arrived this afternoon to take up his new duties.</p>	

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BLARINGHEM	August 21		The Divisional Commander with his A.D.C., also Colonel HEARNE (A.D.M.S.) went on leave to ENGLAND. Major KING, G.S.O. II went on leave (four days) to PARIS. Brigadier-General E. TIVEY C.B. D.S.O. V.D. will command the Division during General HOBBS' absence.	
	22		A special order was issued with reference to a march past of four battalions, 1 M.G.Co. and 1 L.T.M. Battery, 1 Field Co, 1 Field Ambulance, to pass the G.O.C. II ANZAC Corps on the 22nd instant at The Church BLARINGHEM.	Appendix G
	22		Selected troops marched past the G.O.C. II ANZAC Corps (General GODLEY), who was opposite the CHURCH, BLARINGHEM. It was a very good display, and the Corps Commander was very pleased with it. In the afternoon, G.S.O. I went to a Stokes Mortar demonstration at RAVELSBURG, near the 3rd Australian Divisional Headquarters, where the possibilities of a Stokes Mortar smoke barrage were shewn.	See App "F"
	23		Training Memo. No. 131, re a Signal Scheme to take place on the 24th inst. was issued.	App "B"
	23		The day was a little dull, and we had a slight shower about midday.	
	24		A very fine day. A Signal Scheme was carried out near LYNDE commencing at 2.30 p.m.	
	25		We received advice of an inspection by the Commander in Chief on Wednesday 29th August. A warning order was issued, and the ground reconnoitred. Training Memorandum No. 132 was issued, dealing with a Divisional Signal School for the elementary instruction in signalling of officers selected to understudy battalion Signal Officers, to be commenced at BLARINGHEM on the 29th instant. Major KING returned from leave to PARIS.	App "H"

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	1917			
	August			
BLARING- HEM	26		<p>We heard unofficially today that Lieut-Colonel C.M.WAGSTAFF C.I.E. D.S.O. R.E. who has been G.S.O. I of this Division since its formation, is likely to be given a higher appointment on the Commander-in-Chief's Staff.</p> <p>Lieut-Colonel A.H.SCOTT D.S.O. Commanding the 56th Battalion went to England to report to the India Office, regarding a transfer to the Indian Army.</p> <p>Lieut-Colonel WAGSTAFF saw B.G.G.S. I ANZAC Corps with reference to the proposed inspection by the C.in C., and fixed up some details.</p>	
	27.		<p>A wet day. Orders for the rehearsal of the inspection were published. See Division Order No. 156, Appendix "J"</p>	App "J"
	28		<p>It is another wet day, so the rehearsal in the morning was postponed until 3.0 p.m. when C.O's, Adjutants, Company Commanders, and markers met on the ground.</p> <p>Division Order No. 157 with reference to the inspection by the Commander-in-Chief, was published.</p>	App "J"
	29.		<p>The Commander-in-Chief this morning inspected certain units of the 5th Australian Division. See Order No. 157, Appendix "J".</p> <p>He arrived about 12 noon, and rode on to the parade ground; the whole parade presented arms, after which the inspection of the entire parade was made.</p> <p>The Commander-in-Chief expressed great pleasure to General TIVEY, Commanding the parade (General HOBBS being in England) and said that if the review had been practised for a long time, it could not have been done better.</p> <p>Lieut-Colonel C.M.WAGSTAFF C.I.E., D.S.O., R.E., Major D.M.KING D.S.O., M.C., and Colonel BRUCHE C.M.G. were presented to the C. in C., who thanked them for their magnificent work.</p> <p>The day had been a wet one, and shortly after the parade was finished, rain came down in torrents.</p> <p>Parade State and Names of Commanding Officers attached.</p>	App "K".

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BLARING- HEM	1917 August 30	31.	<p>Rained intermittently throughout the day.</p> <p>The weather is still very dull.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 153 dealing with the change in the enemy's defensive system as a result of the operations in FLANDERS, was issued. A copy of "Notes on recent operations" compiled by G.S.O. I is attached to the G.S. Memo. See Appendix "A"</p> <p>A congratulatory letter on the work of the artillery (under 16th Division) during operations on the 16th instant is attached.</p> <p>1st September 1917.</p>	<p>App "A"</p> <p>App "L".</p>

[Handwritten Signature]
MAJOR,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

GENERAL STAFF MEMORANDUM No. 151.

1. It is desirable that all ranks should know more of the work of aircraft in operations such as those now in progress, in order that the greatest possible benefit can be obtained by more perfect cooperation between the arms on the ground and the Air Service.
2. The Air Service acts offensively. Troops must realize two main points regarding this:-
 - (a) The offensive action is carried on chiefly some distance behind the enemy lines, and therefore out of sight of our troops.
 - (b) To keep machines back for local defensive work is a waste of effort.
3. It follows therefore that the troops on the ground must deal with enemy machines flying low, without calling for aircraft assistance more than is necessary.
4. In connection with this the following points should be brought to the notice of all ranks:-
 - (a) It is much easier for an individual to see an aeroplane in the sky than it is for the aeroplane to see an individual on the ground.
 - (b) It is extremely difficult to estimate from a flank the approximate positions of machines. Hostile aircraft are frequently reported as being over our lines when in reality they are patrolling half a mile behind their own lines.
 - (c) There is little danger of battery positions or troops being spotted by single-seater scout machines even when flying low; the view of the ground out of this type of machine is bad, and normally the pilot is looking out for other aeroplanes. The two-seater when flying low is dangerous to infantry as the observer is able to report whether trenches are occupied or not, but it is practically impossible for the observer in a two-seater to give the exact co-ordinates of a battery position by flying over it at an altitude of 500 feet or less, owing to the speed of the machine. It is still more difficult for him to point out accurately the exact position of a battery by firing "Very" Lights over it, for the same reason. This light, however, may be a signal for an "area" shoot.
 - (d) The effect of firing ammunition from aeroplanes into front line trenches is chiefly moral; few casualties have been caused by this method of attack unless masses of troops are found on roads or in the open.
5. In a combined offensive action the Air Service plays a considerable part, and where this action is carried out within view of the troops it is, naturally, a great encouragement to them. The attached copies of the Summary of the R.F.C. work on the Battle Front on July 31st. are issued in order that all ranks may have an idea of what is done. Brigades and units will arrange that this summary is read out to the men on any convenient parade.

APPENDIX A

- 6. In the ARRAS Battle, very good results were obtained also by our machines flying low in cooperation with an infantry attack. Good results will always be obtained by these tactics owing to the demoralizing effect produced on the enemy, and to the encouragement given to our own troops.
- 7. There appear to be possibilities of developing this cooperation in future operations with good results, especially in the attack on the further infantry objectives, even at the expense of foregoing such assistance during the earlier stages of the battle when the infantry are fresh and artillery cooperation is more assured.

Crew staff

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

17th August 1917.

Distribution:

- 8th Infantry Brigade
- 14th Infantry Brigade
- 15th Infantry Brigade
- 5th Pioneer Battalion
- Divisional Engineers
- Divisional Signal Co.
- Divisional M.G. Officer
- Divisional Musketry Officer

Copies.

- 7
- 7
- 7
- 1
- 4
- 1
- 1
- 1

Copies to:

- "Q"
- Divisional Artillery

3 (for information).

In a combined offensive action the Air Service plays a considerable part and where this action is carried out within view of the front it is naturally a great encouragement to them. The attached copies of the Summary of the R.F.C. work on the battle front on July 1st are issued in order that all ranks may have an idea of what is done. Brigades and units will average that this Summary is read out to the men on any convenient parade.

16/203

GENERAL SUMMARY OF R. F. C. WORK
ON THE BATTLE FRONT ON JULY 31st.

The attached is a short summary of work carried out by pilots and observers in squadrons of the two Brigades North of the LYS and the G.H.Q.Wing, R.F.C. on July 31st 1917.

The weather throughout the day was as bad as it could be for an aerial offensive, clouds ranging from 500 to 1,000 feet in the morning, and rain in the afternoon.

In addition to the attached the Corps squadrons of the two Brigades carried out 58 contact patrols. All these were done at a very low altitude in a storm of rifle and machine gun bullets.

The two Brigades and the G.H.Q.Wing flew a total of 396 hours 25 minutes and fired 11,258 rounds with machine guns at targets on the ground.

A few low flying hostile machines were encountered, fighting in most cases taking place under 200 feet; six were brought down and one balloon.

Three of our machines are missing.

ENEMY TROOPS ENGAGED FROM THE AIR
BY INDIVIDUAL FIGHTING MACHINES.31 - 7 - 17.

Particulars.

1. Attacked transport in POELCAPPELLE from 200 feet. One horse killed - driver of the wagon fell off his seat. Enemy in shell holes engaged.
2. Flew to ABEELHOEK Aerodrome - dropped three 20-lb. bombs - just missed hangars. Saw mechanics in the sheds - fired at them from 50 feet. Mechanics ran about in all directions. A machine gun opened fire on him from the ground; he returned the fire and silenced it.
3. Saw men leading horses on ROULERS - ISEGHEM Road - fired 140 rounds into them from 200 feet. Went up into the clouds and when next he came down he found himself over LILLE.
4. Dropped three 20-lb bombs from 200 feet on HEULE Aerodrome hitting the tops of two sheds. When the bombs were dropped a number of mechanics who were on the aerodrome lay flat on the ground. He turned and opened fire on them from 50 feet. They then got up and ran about in all directions. He dropped a fourth bomb on HEULE Station. He then flew to CUERNE Aerodrome, firing at the mechanics who were getting out a machine from 50 feet. He then turned towards MENIN, fired at two trains and a party of 200 infantry who rushed into the ditch. He also fired at two men on horseback. He then saw an old two-seater hostile machine flying at a height of 500 feet. This he attacked and brought down. A large number of Germans collected round the wrecked machine but were at once dispersed with his machine gun fire. A total of 590 rounds were fired.
5. Attacked a party of the enemy from 500 feet. They were scattered.
6. Met a hostile machine at 200 feet, fought it down to 50 feet and then saw it crash. After this, he fired on gun teams met on the MENIN - YPRES Road. The troops were scattered.
7. Flew to HERSEAUX Aerodrome and fired into hangars from 200 feet. Six scouts were on the aerodrome, one of which was set on fire. Mechanics scattered all over the aerodrome.
8. Went down to 400 feet at COUCOU Aerodrome and fired 180 rounds into the hangars.
9. Went down to 150 feet and fired 200 rounds into the hangars at RECKEM Aerodrome.
10. Fired 250 rounds into a convoy a quarter of a mile long just North of MENIN from 200 feet. He returned to his aerodrome for more ammunition and again went out.

- 2 -

Particulars.

11. Fired 100 rounds from 400 feet into the German trenches at the junction of the IX and X Corps.
12. Fired 100 rounds from 400 feet into the German trenches at the junction of the IX and X Corps.
13. Fired 100 rounds from 300 feet into 12 tents just West of MENIN. The occupants fled in all directions. On returning, he saw another encampment and fired 100 rounds into it from a low altitude.
14. Flew out to GHELUWE and fired into a number of huts from 200 feet. He then flew up and down the MENIN-YPRES Road at 200 feet, engaging parties of troops as he did so and fired 150 rounds.
15. Fired into a mass of huts from 200 feet at GHELUWE. The occupants ran about. He came back along the MENIN-YPRES Road at the same altitude, firing at odd troops.
17. Flew to HOUTHEM and came down to 100 feet. When one mile this side of DADIZEELE, he engaged a car which at once turned into a side road and went as fast as it could to TERHAND where it stopped outside a house. He followed it all the way, firing at it. He clearly saw one of the occupants firing his revolver at him. When the car stopped, two people got out and dragged a third into the house. He then saw some troops crossing a bridge over KEULEBECKE Stream and fired on them. They were all scattered, leaving five corpses on the bridge. His ammunition being finished, he fired two Very lights at the panic-stricken men and flew home.
18. Crossed the lines at a low altitude and saw a small party of infantry at SPRIET. He engaged them from a height less than 100 feet. They were scattered and left four dead on the road. He then went along the ROULERS - MENIN Road and fired on a car, which stopped and went backwards. He turned and poured more ammunition into it. The car suddenly stopped but nobody got out.
19. Dropped eight 20 lb. bombs on MARCKE Aerodrome from 200 feet. He then fired 47 rounds into the hangars.
20. Attacked parties of troops on the YPRES - MENIN Road from 200 feet. On going further East he saw some machine gun emplacements with troops. He went down to 100 feet and fired 140 rounds into them. They were scattered.
21. Fired 80 rounds from 500 feet into a column of horse and motor transport two miles long, on the GHELUWE - MENIN Road. Great confusion was caused.

/22.

- 3 -

 Particulars.

- 22 Fired 90 rounds from 800 feet into a battalion of infantry closed up in TENBRIELEN. All the men dashed into the houses and ditches. He then fired 50 rounds from 600 feet into some transport on the WERVICQ - BECELAERE Road.
- 23 Fired on three wagons drawn by horses and scattered them.
- 24 Fired 50 rounds into lorries north-east of HOUTHULST FOREST from 600 feet. One lorry was overturned.
- 25 Fired 250 rounds from both guns on transport from a height of 500 feet near MENIN. Two of the lorries collided and all the drivers jumped into a ditch.
- 26 Fired 250 rounds from 300 feet into gun pits south-east of ARMENTIERES.
- 27 Fired 250 rounds from 300 feet into gun pits south-east of ARMENTIERES.
- 28 Fired 300 rounds at transport on the BECELAERE - ZONNEBEKE Road from 500 feet. There were two cars amongst the transport.
- 29 Fired 250 rounds at 300 feet on parties of troops.
- 30 Fired 100 rounds from 200 feet at parties of troops on the ground.
- 31 Went down to 100 feet and fired 300 rounds at troops near WESTROOSEBEKE, scattering them in all directions and causing several casualties. He then attacked a field battery from the same height near POLYGON WOOD and two men were seen to fall: the remainder ran away.
- 32 Fired 200 rounds on a camp west of MENIN from 300 feet.
- 33 Chased a hostile A.A. gun mounted on a lorry along the WARNETON - COMINES Road and fired 200 rounds from 200 feet.
- 34 Flew along the roads on the enemy's side of the lines at about 200 feet. A few rounds were fired at a fatigue party of 20 men who scattered. He then came across a big horse lorry with a man sitting on top and opened fire without result. He then fired on various carts and lorries and on troops having their morning wash. He afterwards fired two bursts at the basket of a balloon: the man in the basket stood up and waved his hands. Before returning to his aerodrome he fired on a few targets (living) east of HOUTHULST FOREST.
- 35 Went down to 50 feet over MOUVEAUX Aerodrome and fired 300 rounds into twelve two-seaters which were lined up. He was then attacked by three enemy aeroplanes and slightly wounded.

Particulars.

36. When flying at 1,000 feet he saw two Companies of infantry on the COMINES - DEULEMONT Road and fired 800 rounds into those. The enemy took cover and returned the fire.
37. They fired 400 rounds from a height of 400 feet into enemy troops on a canal bank.
38. Fired 300 rounds from 800 feet into hutments and stationary transport at KORENTJE.
39. Attacked several hostile machine guns from a low altitude.
40. Fired four drums of ammunition into hostile troops when low down.
41. Attacked hostile infantry with their machine guns from a low altitude.
42. When crossing the lines near LANGEMARCK at 100 feet they fired into the trenches.
43. When flying over the enemy's country at 500 feet he observed a gun, carriages and horses. He fired 50 rounds into them causing the horses to rear up.
44. While at a height of 100 feet East of POLYGON Wood a machine gun opened fire on him from the ground - he dived down even lower and emptied a drum into the emplacement and dispersed the gunners.
45. When at 1,000 feet near GHELUVELT he saw 50 infantry on the road; he dived down and opened fire on them.
46. Engaged a Field Battery East of POLYGON Wood when two men were seen to fall.

- 5. -
BOMBING.

	Particulars.
1.	Went out to ABWELHOEK Aerodrome carrying four 20-lb. bombs. He flew over the sheds at 300 feet and pulled the handle to drop his bombs. This bent and with difficulty he released three of them, but just missed the hangars.
2.	Flew to MARCKE Aerodrome and dropped eight 20-lb. bombs from 2,200 feet which burst close to the hangars.
3.	Dropped one 230-lb. bomb on HEPLINNES (East of ROULERS) from 1,500 feet. The bomb burst on the Railway line and caused a large explosion.
4.	Went down to 100 feet and dropped one 230-lb. bomb on GRAMMENE (between THIELT and DEYNZE). The bomb failed to explode.
5.	Dropped one 230-lb. bomb from 600 feet on a Railway track at INGELMUNSTER. The bomb missed the target by a few feet.
6.	Flew out to HEULE Aerodrome while it was still dark, circled round the aerodrome at 200 feet and dropped one bomb which hit a shed. This caused great excitement amongst mechanics who were seen running all round the shed. He then flew round another corner of the aerodrome and dropped a second bomb which hit another shed. The third bomb went through the roof of a third shed, smoke being seen to come out of it. A fourth bomb failed to release whilst over the aerodrome but dropped off over HEULE Station between a goods train and a big shed.
7.	Dropped eight 20-lb. bombs on HEULE Aerodrome from 2,000 feet. Two bursts were seen in front of the hangars.
8.	Dropped eight 20-lb. bombs on INGELMUNSTER Aerodrome from 1,800 feet.
9.	Opened fire with machine gun on various targets at a height of about 200 feet. He came upon two or three cottages with tents round them where various troops were washing. One 20-lb. bomb was dropped on these.
10.	Dropped seven 20-lb. bombs from 700 feet on a Railway station between COURTRAI and AUDENARDE, probable VICHTÉ.

- 6 -

DECISIVE COMBATS.Particulars.

1. When over TERHAND at a height of 2,000 feet he was attacked by two enemy aeroplanes. He went into a spin; the enemy aeroplanes followed him down, one diving past him. The latter and he flattened out at about 200 feet. He then fired a burst at short range and brought the hostile machine down, which was seen to crash.
2. Met a hostile machine over WESTROOSEBEKE at a height of 200 feet. They fired at each other until within 50 feet of the ground when the hostile machine side-slipped and crashed.
3. Met a hostile machine over WESTHOEK at a low altitude. The hostile machine was brought down and crashed.
4. Encountered two enemy aircraft East of POLYGON Wood. He fought first the one and then the other at a low altitude, bringing both down.
5. On returning from bombing HEULE Aerodrome and engaging troops on the ground he saw a hostile two-seater flying at about 500 feet just below the clouds. He zoomed up and got very close under the enemy aeroplane's tail without being observed. On firing half a drum the hostile machine started to go down, but he followed firing his Vickers gun. The enemy aeroplane then crashed just South of WEVELGHEM.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

GENERAL STAFF MEMORANDUM No. 152.

WEARING OF STEEL HELMETS.

1. With reference to pamphlets S.S. 127 ("Drill with Small Box Respirators"), S.S. 534 ("Defensive Measures against Gas Attacks"), and S.S. 535 ("Gas Defence" (printed card)), it has been found that with the strap worn at the back of the head, the Steel Helmet will not remain in place during vigorous action, such as bayonet fighting, bombing, jumping over trenches, and that as a result the men are frequently without any head protection at the very moment when it is most urgently needed.
2. In future, therefore, the strap will be worn on the point of the chin at all times when on duty, special stress being laid on the word point. If it is behind the point of the chin and round the gullet, the strap has to be so tight in order to retain the helmet during vigorous action as almost to cause strangulation, whereas on the point of the chin a grip can be taken of it by a natural movement of the jaw.
3. Instructions for drill with the Small Box Respirator Practice B.1. in S.S. 127 and page 35, S.S. 534 should be amended as follows:-
After "Nose Clip" add "At the same time knock off the Steel Helmet from behind with the left hand."
4. It has been proved by experience that no delay worth considering in the matter of adjusting the respirator is imposed by this change.

Saxton, Capt.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

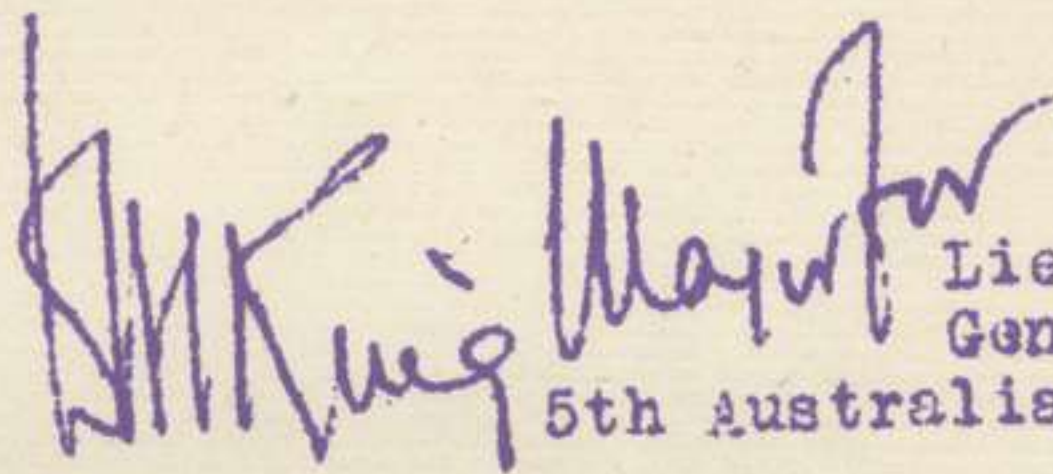
August 21st 1917.

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D.A.D.O.S.	1
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Divisional Gas Officer	1
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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

GENERAL STAFF MEMORANDUM No. 153.

1. Attention is directed to the Memorandum "Notes on recent operations" which was issued on 21st August 1917.
2. A further letter (No. S.G. 840/7 dated 24th August 1917) from Fifth Army Headquarters regarding the change in the enemy's defensive system as a result of the operations in FLANDERS, has now been received and a copy is attached. This letter is not to be reproduced but the Divisional Commander wishes Brigadiers to impress these lessons on all officers by means of conferences and lectures, and to train their troops accordingly.
3. Our future plans are affected broadly in two directions:-
 - (1) The depth of our offensives;
 - (2) the tactical dispositions for attack.
 Instead of having to attack the enemy in definite lines of trenches, hereafter we must expect to find him irregularly disposed, but disposed to the best tactical advantage and making full use of all arms.
 We must not only alter our bombardment and barrage plans in consequence, but troops must now advance in a fighting formation behind a barrage which will move slowly enough to allow them to fight in areas behind it - a form of semi-open warfare wherein troops are protected by a slow barrage in depth.
 THE RIFLE WILL AGAIN BECOME THE PRINCIPAL WEAPON AND THIS MUST BE INSTILLED INTO THE TROOPS.



Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

31st August 1917.

Distribution:

8th Infantry Brigade	1 copy
14th Infantry Brigade	"
15th Infantry Brigade	"
5th Pioneer Battalion	"
Divisional Engineers	"
Divisional M.G. Officer	"

Copy to:

Divisional Artillery
File
War Diary.

APPENDIX A

SECRET

Fifth Army,
S.G. 840/7
24th August, 1917.

MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED IN OUR ATTACK FORMATIONS
TO MEET THE ENEMY'S PRESENT SYSTEM OF DEFENCE.

1. The difference between the enemy's tactics of last year and of this are very noticeable. Last year, on the SOMME, he fought for every yard of ground and his method of doing so was to fill his trenches, both first, second and third lines with troops and machine guns. Once the ground was lost to him he never made any serious efforts to retake it.
2. Having learnt his lesson from these battles, where he was defeated time after time, he has now changed his method of defence. As has been conclusively proved, both by experience and by captured documents, he now relies on -
 - (a) Distribution of the defenders in depth:
 - (b) Immediate local counter-attacks:
 - (c) Previously prepared counter-attacks on a large scale, that is to say that the fighting is now of a much more open nature, and that trench warfare and trench to trench attacks are becoming things of the past.
3. As is well known, our system of attack which has gradually evolved from the earlier battles of the SOMME, consists in sweeping over, in a series of waves, the whole of the front to be attacked as quickly as the state of the ground will permit. These waves are protected by a moving shrapnel barrage and moppers-up are left behind in the captured trenches to prevent any interference with our troops who have already passed over the trench. This system of waves was introduced because they were thought to be the best formation to enable us to complete as quickly as possible the capture of the ground which had been prepared for us by the artillery. Fighting in between trenches was comparatively rare.
4. This system of attack, which was successful so long as we knew where the enemy were and where opposition was likely to be met, requires some modification in order to meet the new system of defence and for these two reasons :-
 - (i) We cannot be certain where the advanced troops of the enemy will be - in front of, behind, or in his trench systems.
 - (ii) On what portion of the front his previously prepared, apart from local, counter-attacks are going to fall, that is to say, that in addition to the enemy's defence being more active than it was we are ourselves more ignorant of dispositions and probable action.
5. The modifications required in our present system of attack appear to be -
 - (a) We must be prepared to fight the enemy wherever met with between our starting point and our objective.
 - (b) We must have fresh and organized troops in hand to meet counter-attacks wherever they may fall.

This means that our formations must be more flexible and capable of greater freedom of manoeuvre.

6. To fulfil condition (a) it would appear that we should no longer attack in waves, as once the wave is launched control is lost, and without control, it is not possible to take on an unforeseen contingency.

The advance should be in small columns in artillery formation covered by one or two lines of men at least 5 spaces interval. The object of the waves is to draw the enemy's fire, to engage him, to locate his defences, and to ensure freedom of manoeuvre to the attacking columns. They act in fact as an advance guard covering the main body. As before, they will keep very close to our barrage and will not stop their advance until their objective is reached.

The object of the columns is to deal decisively with any hostile strong point, fortified shell holes etc. in front of which the leading wave may have been checked. Many of these strong points will, undoubtedly, have been located beforehand by reconnaissance or from photographs.

When this is the case special parties will be told off to deal with them if necessary. Many other points will only be discovered by fighting, and when this happens everything will depend upon the resource and resolution of junior commanders and the way in which they handle their small columns.

Behind these columns "moppers-up" will follow, also moving in small columns. They should be detailed to definite areas; not as hitherto to trench lines. In certain cases it may be wise to tell off these "mopping-up" parties to garrison certain posts when cleared.

7. To fulfil condition (b) arrangements must be thought out and practised beforehand to move fresh troops up to take the place of the troops who have completed their fighting but may possibly be too attenuated, too disorganized and too exhausted to hold on to the ground won in the face of a strong counter-attack. In making plans for attack careful^{very} calculation must be made as to:-

(a) the number of troops necessary to ensure initial success

(b) the number necessary to meet counter-attacks.

Having decided on the number of troops which is necessary care must be taken to ensure that there shall be a constant flow from rear to front until the battle has been finally won.

The pre-war conception of reserves as being troops who are kept stationary and in hand in order to meet eventualities can no longer hold good. This is due to the difficulties of communications and consequent lack of knowledge of the situation and delay in issue of orders in time to put the reserve into the fight.

Moreover, even if communications happen to be perfect the distance to be covered and the hurry of any move will cause the reserves to arrive exhausted themselves.

If we are going to a depth of more than 300 yards these fresh troops must be close up at the commencement of the attack. They must advance behind the attack and really support the troops in front, but it must be clearly realised by everyone what their role is and with whom the initiative and responsibility for action lies.

The responsibility lies quite distinctly with the O.C. Reserves (battalion or company, as the case may be) and it is his duty to deploy at once and attack the enemy when he sees our troops being pressed back, covering his own advance by rapid fire of machine guns, Lewis guns and rifles.

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8. Certain modifications appear necessary in the pace of the creeping barrage. These are -

(a) More frequent halts of the barrage to allow of the mopping up to be completed before the advance re-commences

(b) The further the creeping barrage proceeds from the starting point the slower must its rate of progress be since the further the infantry advance the greater the resistance they will meet with.

9. During training, troops are to practice meeting counter-attacks at various stages of the attack and reorganizing after they have been successfully dealt with. Every attack exercise should produce a counter-attack situation at some stage.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

NOTES ON RECENT OPERATIONS.

The problem that will be set us in our next attack will probably be very similar to that which was experienced on the front of say the XVIII or XIV Corps in their last attack. This problem can be defined as follows:-

The enemy front for a depth of from 500 to 1000 yards will be held by promiscuous posts held by groups with machine guns increasing in density to the rear and possibly finishing in a well defined defensive line. The limit of our advance, of course, will be the limit of our protective barrage. The advance over this defended area will necessitate a number of smaller attacks against the enemy strong points as located and a general mopping up of the area. This will be followed by

- (1) The enemy's immediate counter attacks preceded by a short bombardment, and
- (2) A heavy counter attack fairly well organised and preceded by a really heavy bombardment.

As regards the advance, our principles of open warfare will hold good. If objectives can be defined, definite waves should be allotted to take these and mop them up. The Leap Frog principle should be adopted when more than one objective is in view. Some rough data for calculation are as follows:-

The area to be passed over and mopped up should be divided into areas of the following dimensions:-

Breadth: for a battalion from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 yards per man of strength.
Depth: 300 yards per battalion.

DEFINITION OF OBJECTIVES.

Enemy trench systems, it will be assumed, will be entirely obliterated; in any case, they will not be recognisable. In several recent attacks, the following procedure was found to work well:-

A protective barrage of artillery was laid down beyond the objectives set out in orders. The attacking troops had orders to push out outposts up to this barrage. Under cover of these outposts a line in rear was selected and consolidated and when ready for occupation the outposts were withdrawn. This seems to be a good method for guidance in most cases.

FOLLOWING A BARRAGE.

Troops have recently worked within 40 yards of a moving barrage. It is absolutely necessary to get up close.

RUSHING STRONG POINTS.

A great lesson learnt was that it is no use sitting down and looking at small strong points held by machine guns; when identified these strong points must be taken on at once. Lewis machine guns engage their attention in front and the usual enveloping tactics are pursued without delay. Another point is that where a strong point holds up one portion of the line temporarily, other portions of the advance line must not hold back but carry on their advance.

RESISTING COUNTER ATTACKS.

The enemy barrage which prefaces his counter attacks is now very heavy and it extends from the position which he thinks our men have reached, back for a considerable distance. It follows therefore, that the troops holding the front line gained are faced with the warding off of the counter attacks entirely on their own except for our own artillery and machine gun barrage put down on receipt of S.O.S. Now, the enemy does not know exactly where we have got to; if there is one of his own lines within the objective, that should be avoided as he will shell that to a certainty. When the barrage comes down, our men should at once move forward of it and rely on their machine guns and rifles to deal with such of the enemy's infantry who come through our S.O.S. barrage.

Another point is that our front line troops must be self-reliant and self-contained for some time, probably 48 hours, as the Boche barrage behind them will make it very difficult either to get up reinforcements or send up ammunition or food. This point must be borne in mind in equipping the assaulting troops for the final objective.

FORMING UP.

The preliminary forming up of the assaulting troops is of great importance. It may be taken that the troops for assault will be in the line for some 48 hours previous to going over. They must make their own assembly trenches if such are possible, or mark out their forming up lines. It is on this preliminary forming up that success or failure often depends and great attention must be paid to it.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

- (a) Troops should go into the line with 48 hours supplies.
- (b) Dumps under battalion arrangements containing another 48 hours supplies with ammunition and stores should be formed close in rear of the front line.
- (c) Brigade dumps of 24 hours supplies should be formed about 2000 yards in rear. This will be filled by Division using pack mules, but at this dump special parties from battalions should live, say, one platoon per battalion, and the duty of these parties will be to take up stuff from this dump to the points immediately in rear of the line, not at regular intervals at night, but whenever there is a lull in the enemy's shelling by day or night. This replenishment of the forward dumps as opportunity offers has been made a great point of. YUKON packs have been used practically exclusively in the present shell-torn, wet country.

21st August, 1917.

APPENDIX B

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 121

1. With reference to para. 11 Training Memorandum No. 120 of 31st July, the 14th, 15th and 8th Infantry Brigade Groups will proceed to "W" Training Area on the 3rd, 8th and 15th August. This area is sub-divided into sub-areas "W.1" and "W.2" as defined on map attached.
- (a) The 14th Infantry Brigade Group will proceed to billeting area, south of "W" Training Area on the 3rd August, "W.1" sub-area being allotted to it for training.
- (b) The 15th Infantry Brigade Group will proceed to billeting Area north of "W" Training Area on the 8th August, "W.2" sub-area being allotted to it for training.
- (c) The 8th Infantry Brigade Group will proceed to billeting area, south of "W" Training Area on the 15th August, "W.1" sub-area being allotted to it for training.
- Each Brigade Group remains three clear days in their new areas for training.
2. First line transport will move by road. It is probable that dismounted personnel will move by bus. Details will be given later.
3. The following is the billeting accommodation in the whole area:-

		Accommodation	
		Officers	Other Ranks
South and "W.1"	(LOTTINGHEM VERVAL	29	800
	(AFFRINQUES		775
	(LART	2	272
	(LE HAMEL	1	104
	(NIELLES LE BLEQUIN	50	1300
	(BAYENHEM by SENINGHEM	20	600
	(SENINGHEM	20	600
North and "W.2"	(COLOMEY	20	600
	(BOUVELINGHEM	28	1066
	(WESTRECOURT	14	515
	(VAL d'ACQUIN	11	360
	(HARLETTES	4	100
	(QUERCAMP	18	690
	(PETIT QUERCAMP	2	50
	(LE BUISSON	3	200
	(HAUTE PANNE	1	70
	(NEUVILLE	2	160
	(JOURNY	15	350
	(ALQUINES	20	550
	(HAUTE LOQUIN	77	150
(HAUTE PLANQUE	-	90	
(BAS LOQUIN	2	75	
(WARLEZ	2	90	
(BULESCAMPS	2	100	
(FROMENTELLES	6	220	

APPENDIX B

4. For the three days' training, the following programme is suggested:-

First day. Morning - A & B battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes
 Afternoon - C & D battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes
 Evening - A & B battalions fire control.
 Machine Gun Company - Preliminary Practice

Second day. Morning - D & C battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes.
 Afternoon - B & A battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes
 Evening - C & D battalions fire control
 Machine Gun Company - barrage fire.

Third Day. Morning - Brigade does "Z" scheme.
 Afternoon - Exercise without troops for Officers.
 Evening - Machine Gun Company - Overhead fire demonstration.

5. For every exercise with or without troops, a carefully thought out scheme will be prepared the day beforehand, and thoroughly explained to those taking part.

6. The fact of ground being under cultivation will not restrict the movements of troops within the areas, as arrangements have been made to compensate owners for any damage caused. At the same time steps should be taken where possible to avoid unnecessary damage, and schemes are arranged to avoid crops as much as possible.

7. Ammunition will be issued from the following dumps on application to the Area Commandant and the Commandant Second Army Musketry School, TILQUES, respectively:-

At LUMBRES for S.A.A., Bombs, Stokes Mortar Ammunition, bayonet fighting apparatus, wire etc.

At Second Army Musketry School TILQUES for targets and appliances.

There is no blank S.A.A. available.

8. Trenches may be dug in the area, provided they are filled in on termination of the training period.

9. All maps issued by Area Commandants will be returned to them before Brigade Groups leave the Training Area.

10. Separate Administrative Instructions as regards supplies, billeting and transport arrangements, will be issued later by "Q" Branch of the Division.

Curwag Staff

Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

1st August 1917.

Distribution:

8th Infantry Brigade
 14th Infantry Brigade
 15th Infantry Brigade
 5th Pioneer Battalion
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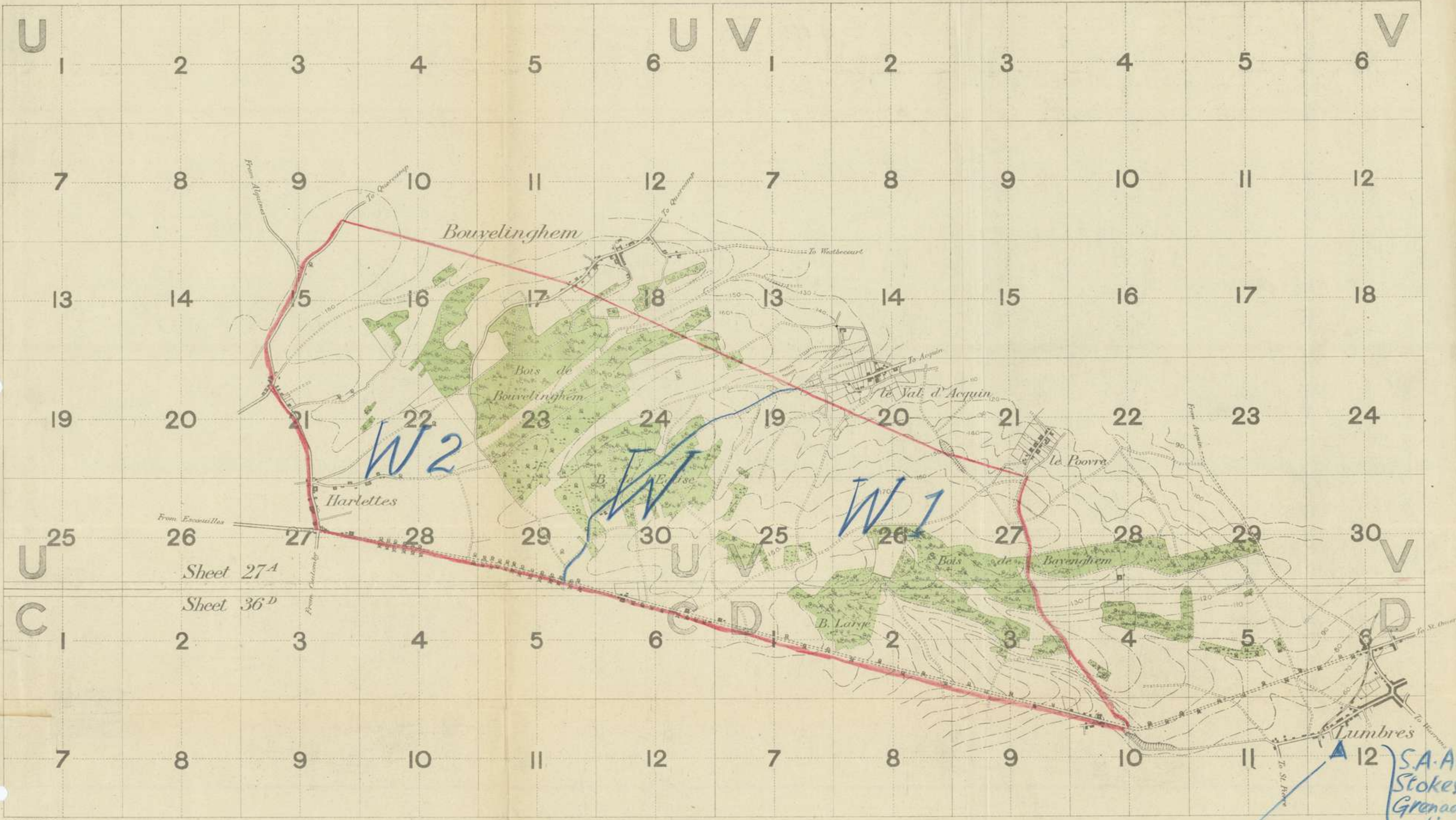
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"W" Training Area Commandant
Col. Parkinson.

Col. Coughman.

S.A.A.
Stokes
Grenade
Wire
Bayonet
Fighting
Apparatus

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 122.

1. In order that the instructions and information issued with regard to the new enemy type of gas shell may be brought to the notice of and understood by each individual of all ranks as early as possible, the Divisional Gas Officer will instruct personally all officers and Gas N.C.O.'s, under the following programme of the units mentioned:-

Thursday	2nd August	2 battalions	} 15th Brigade
Friday	3rd August	2 battalions	
Saturday	4th August	Bde H.Q., M.G.Co. L.T.M.Batt. 15th F.Co. 15th Field Amb.	
Monday	6th August	2 battalions	} 8th Brigade.
Tuesday	7th August	2 battalions	
Wednesday	8th August	Bde H.Q., M.G.Co. L.T.M.Batt. 8th Field Co. 8th Field Amb.	
Thursday	9th August	Pioneer Battalion	} 14th Brigade.
Friday	10th August	2 battalions	
Saturday	11th August	2 battalions	
Monday	13th August	Bde H.Q., M.G.Co. L.T.M.Batt. 14th F.Co. 14th Field Amb.	
Tuesday	14th August.	Div. H.Q., Div. Train. and details.	

2. Brigades and units will arrange direct with the Divisional Gas Officer regarding the time and place of the instruction.
3. Gas drills for the men will be carried out daily in all units for 15 minutes.
4. Attention will be drawn to the instructions in S.S. 534, sections 59 - 61; these instructions are to be strictly carried out in the case of gas shelling by the enemy.
5. In drills attention should be paid to the practices with the small box respirator. (S.S.534, Appendix I. Drill with box respirators and tube helmets.
6. Special attention is needed to drill in:-
 - (a) Speaking while exhaling only (Practice E.)
 - (b) Clearing gas from the mask. (Practice F.)

S. S. M. Capt
 Lt. Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

1st August 1917.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX B

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A.D.V.S.	1
Camp Commandant	1
D.A.D.O.S.	1
A.P.M.	1

Copies to:
 Divisional Gas Officer
 "Q"

Brigade	Units	Days
15th	3 battalions	Thursday
	3 battalions	Friday
	3rd H.Q. M.G.Co.	Saturday
	L.T.M. Batt. 15th F.Co.	
8th	3 battalions	Monday
	3 battalions	Tuesday
	3rd H.Q. M.G.Co.	Wednesday
	L.T.M. Batt. 8th F.Co.	
14th	Pioneer Battalion	Thursday
	3 battalions	Friday
	3 battalions	Saturday
	3rd H.Q. M.G.Co.	Monday
	Div. H.Q., Div. Train and details	Tuesday

- Brigades and units will arrange direct with the Divisional Gas Officer regarding the time and place of the instruction.
- Gas drills for the men will be carried out daily in all units for 15 minutes.
- Attention will be drawn to the instructions in S.S. 334, sections 59 - 61; these instructions are to be strictly carried out in the case of gas shelling by the enemy.
- In drill attention should be paid to the practices with the small box respirator. (S.S. 334, Appendix I. Drill with box respirators and tube helmets.
- Special caution is needed to drill in -
 (a) Breathing while exhaling only (Practice B.)
 (b) Clearing gas from the mask. (Practice F.)

Robertson
 Lieutenant-Colonel
 General Staff
 5th Australian Division

1st August 1918

F.T.O.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 123.

I ANZAC CORPS SCHOOL.

1. With reference to Training Memorandum No. 114 dated 14th July 1917, the following courses at I ANZAC Corps School will terminate on Saturday, 4th August, on which date students leave the School to rejoin their units:-

Stokes Mortar,
Bombing,
Lewis Gun
Intelligence and Scouting.

2. The next courses will assemble at the Corps School, Gough Huts, AVELUY, on Wednesday 8th August.

Vacancies are allotted as follows:-

STOKES MORTAR.

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
8th Infantry Brigade	1	
14th Infantry Brigade	1	
15th Infantry Brigade		
<u>Instructors</u>		1
8th Infantry Brigade		2
14th Infantry Brigade		1
15th Infantry Brigade		5.
<u>Reinforcements. 14th Inf. Bde.</u>		

BOMBING.

Each Infantry Brigade	1	4
5th Pioneer Battalion		1

LEWIS GUN.

8th Infantry Brigade	1	4
14th Infantry Brigade	-	4
15th Infantry Brigade	1	4
5th Pioneer Battalion		1

INTELLIGENCE AND SCOUTING.

Each Infantry Brigade	1	
14th Infantry Brigade		2
15th Infantry Brigade		2

3. Personnel detailed to attend these courses will proceed by train from EBBLINGHEM at 11.35 a.m. on the 7th August. Parties will report to R.T.O. EBBLINGHEM 30 minutes before the time of departure of the train, which will be a "Personnel" train.
4. All students will go properly and cleanly clothed, and will take full marching order, including steel helmets and box respirators.

APPENDIX B

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5. The 14th Infantry Brigade will leave its personnel behind when the Brigade group leaves for the new training area, and will advise "Q" Branch of the Division of the whereabouts of this personnel.
6. Nominal rolls of the candidates selected to attend will be forwarded to this office not later than the 5th instant.
7. Rations to and for the 8th instant will be carried.
8. Transport to EBBLINGHEM will be arranged by "Q" of the Division.

H. King Major for

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

3rd August/17.

Distribution:

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14th Infantry Brigade
15th Infantry Brigade
5th Pioneer Battalion

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"Q"
I ANZAC Corps
Commandant, Corps School
D.A.D.O.S.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 124.

Training Memorandum No. 121 dated 1st August is cancelled.

1. With reference to paragraph 11 Training Memorandum No. 120 of 31st July, Brigades will carry out training in "W" Area as follows:-

14th Infantry Brigade Group

March to billeting area South of "W" Training Area.

Monday August 6th,

Training in "W.1" Area.

August 7th, 8th, and 9th.

March back to LYNDE Area.

Friday August 10th.

15th Infantry Brigade Group (less 15th Field Co.)

March to billeting area North of "W" Training Area.

Saturday August 11th.

Training in "W.2" Area.

August 12th, 13th and 14th.

March back to SERCUS Area.

Wednesday August 15th.

8th Infantry Brigade Group (less 8th Field Co.)

March to billeting area South of "W.1" Training Area.

Saturday August 18th.

Training in "W.1" Area.

August 19th, 20th and 21st.

March back to RACQUINGHEM Area.

Wednesday August 22nd.

2. Brigade Commanders will issue orders direct to Field Ambulances; and in the case of the 14th Infantry Brigade to the 14th Field Company as well.

3. The following is the billeting accommodation in the whole area:-

		Accommodation	
		Officers	Other ranks
South and "W.1"	(LOTTINGHEM Verval	29	800
	(AFFRINQUES	30	775
14th and 8th Bdes.	(LART	2	272
	(LE HAMEL	1	104
	(NIELLES LE BLEQUIN	50	1000
	(BAYENGHEM by SENINGHEM	20	600
	(SENINGHEM	20	600
	(COLOMBY	20	600

APPENDIX B.

	Accommodation	
	Officers	Other ranks
BOUVELINGHEM	28	1066
WESTRE COURT	14	515
VAL d'ACQUIN	11	360
HARLETTES	4	100
QUERCAMP	18	690
PETIT QUERCAMP	2	50
LE BUISSON	3	200
HAUTE PANNE	1	70
NEUVILLE	2	160
JOURNY	15	350
ALQUINES	20	550
HAUTE LOQUIN	7	150
HAUTE PLANQUE	-	90
BAS LOQUIN	2	75
WARLEZ	2	90
BULESCAMPS	2	100
FROMENTELLES	6	220

4. For the three days' training, the following programme is suggested:-

First day.	Morning	-	A. & B Battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes.
	Afternoon	-	C & D battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes.
	Evening	-	A & B battalions fire control. Machine Gun Company - Preliminary Practice
Second Day.	Morning	-	D & C battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes.
	Afternoon	-	B & A battalions do "X" and "Y" Schemes.
	Evening	-	C & D battalions fire control. Machine Gun Company - barrage fire.
Third Day.	Morning	-	Brigade does "Z" Scheme.
	Afternoon	-	Exercise without troops for officers.
	Evening	-	Machine Gun Company - Overhead fire demonstration.

5. For every exercise with or without troops, a carefully thought out scheme will be prepared the day beforehand, and thoroughly explained to those taking part.
6. The fact of ground being under cultivation will not restrict the movements of troops within the areas, as arrangements have been made to compensate owners for any damage caused, At the same time steps should be taken where possible to avoid unnecessary damage and schemes arranged to avoid crops as much as possible.
7. S.A.A. may be drawn from the Second Army Musketry School, TILQUES, under instructions to be issued by "Q" branch of the Division. Musketry stores will be available for issue to Brigades within a few days. Arrangements for drawing these will be notified later. No blank S.A.A. is available.
8. Trenches may be dug in the area, provided they are filled in on termination of the training period.
9. All maps issued by Area Commandants will be returned to them before Brigade Groups leave the Training Area.
10. Separate Administrative Instructions as regards supplies, billeting and transport arrangements, will be issued later by "Q" Branch of the Division.

August 3rd 1917.

W. King Major for
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

APPENDIX B

Distribution	Copies
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	1
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	1
A.D.M.S.	1
D.A.D.V.S.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Div. M.G. Officer	1
Copies to:	
Divisional Artillery	1
Divisional Bomb Officer	1
D.A.D.O S.	1
"Q"	1
Area Commandant "W"	
(Balletting) Area LUMBRES	1
Area Commandant "Y"	
(Training) Area LUMBRES.	1

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FIRST AMENDMENT TO TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 124.

1. With reference to paragraph 1 of Training Memorandum No. 124 the following alterations are made in the arrangements for the 15th and 8th Infantry Brigades:-

15th INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP (less 15th F.Co.)
 March to billeting area South of "W" Training Area.....Saturday, 18th August.
 Training in "W.1" Area.....19th, 20th, and 21st August.
 March back to SERCUS Area.....Wednesday 22nd August.

8th INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP (less 8th F.Co.)
 March to billeting area South of "W" Training Area.....Thursday, 30th August.
 Training in "W.1" Area.....31st Aug., 1st, 2nd Sept.
 March back to RACQUINGHEM Area.....Monday, September 3rd.

King Meyer for Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

5th August 1917.

Distribution:

	Copies.
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	1
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	1
A.D.M.S.	1
D.A.D.V.S.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Div. M.G. Officer	1
Copies:	
Divisional Artillery	1
Divisional Bomb Officer	1
D.A.D.O.S.	1
"Q"	1
Area Commandant	
"W" (Billeting) Area LUMBRES	
Area Commandant	
"W" (Training) Area LUMBRES.	

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECOND AMENDMENT TO TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 124.

The arrangements set forth in 5th Australian Division Training Memorandum No. 124 dated 3rd August 1917 (as issued in amended form in the First Amendment to such Memorandum dated 5th August 1917) are cancelled, and no further movements to the Training Area will take place.

August 8th 1917.

S. Astum Capt
M. Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

Distribution	Copies
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	1
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	1
A.D.M.S.	1
D.A.D.V.S.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Div. M.G. Officer	1
Copies:	
Divisional Artillery	1
Divisional Bomb Officer	1
D.A.D.O.S.	1
"Q"	1
Area Commandant	
"W" (Billeting) Area LUMBRES	
Area Commandant	
"W" (Training) Area LUMBRES.	

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 125.

LECTURE.

1. The Chemical Adviser, Second Army, has kindly consented to lecture to Officers and N.C.O's. of the Division on the effects of the new type of enemy gas shells, at 5.30 p.m. on Monday August 6th 1917.
2. The lecture will be given in the Schoolhouse, BLARINGHEM.
3. As many officers as possible will attend, and all gas N.C.O's.
4. Transport will be arranged by "Q" Branch of the Division. The numbers attending will be wired not later than Saturday August 4th.

J.H. King Major for

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

August 3rd 1917.

Distribution	Copies.
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	4
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	4
A.D.M.S.	5
D.A.D.V.S.	2
D.A.D.O.S.	1
A.P.M.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Divisional Gas Officer	1
Divisional Bomb Officer	1
Divisional Musketry Officer	1
Copies to:	
Chemical Adviser 2/Army	1
Divisional Artillery	1
"Q"	1

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 126.

1. Reference Training Memorandum No. 107 paragraph 5 and G1/3886 paragraph 3 - the prizes for essays have been awarded as follows:

I. Prize for Lieut-Colonels and Majors.

Major J. McArthur 29th Battalion.

II. Prize for Captains and Subalterns. (Divided)

Lieut. A.E. Keys 57th Battalion.
 Capt. J.J. Marshall 55th Battalion.

2. The work of the following officers is also highly commended:-

Lieut-Colonel C.S. Davies 32nd Battalion.
 Capt. J.A. Chapman 30th Battalion.
 Lieut. R. Walter 55th Battalion.

3. The divisional commander is very gratified with the good quality of the work submitted all through, and with the evident interest taken in the scheme by all concerned.

S. Arthur Capt
 for Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

August 7th 1917.

Distribution	Copies.
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade.	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1

Copies to:

"Q"
 File
 A.D.C. to G.O.C.
 War Diary ✓

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 127.

1. A lecture on "Intelligence" will be given by Brig-General J. CHARTERIS D.S.O. at 6 p.m. on Thursday 9th August at the Chateau BLARINGHEM.
2. 2 Officers from each of the following units will attend:-
 Brigade Headquarters 8th and 15th Brigades; battalions of 8th and 15th Infantry Brigades; 5th Pioneer Battalion; Divisional Engineers.
 One of these officers in each case will be the intelligence officer of the unit.

August 7th 1917.

S. J. ... Capt
 for Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

Distribution	Copies
8th Infantry Brigade	5
15th Infantry Brigade	5
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	2

Copies to:
 14th Infantry Brigade
 "Q"
 A.D.C. to G.O.C.
 War Diary
 File

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 128

LECTURE.

1. A lecture on "Gas Shells" will be given by the Chemical Adviser 1st ANZAC Corps at 5.30 p.m. on TUESDAY AUGUST 14th 1917.
2. The lecture will be given in the Schoolhouse, BLARINGHEM.
3. All Officers who were unable to be present at the last lecture will attend. As many N.C.O's as can be spared will also attend this lecture.
4. Transport will be arranged by "G" Branch of the Division. The numbers attending will be wired not later than Monday August 13th.

W. King Major for

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

August 12th 1917.

Distribution :-

	copies.
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	4
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	4
A.D.M.S.	5
D.A.D.V.S.	2
D.A.D.O.S.	1
A.P.M.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Divisional Gas Officer	1

Copies to:-

Chemical Adviser	
1st ANZAC Corps	1
Divisional Artillery	
(for information)	1
"G"	1

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 129.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS SCHOOL.

1. The present infantry and technical courses at the above School terminate shortly, the students marching out to rejoin their units on the 23rd instant.
2. The next courses assemble at the School on 26th August 1917, and vacancies are allotted as follows:-

<u>INFANTRY</u>	Officers	Other Ranks
Each Infantry Brigade	6	12
Pioneer Battalion	2	2
Medical Services	-	5
Divisional Train	-	1
5th Aust.Div. Base Depot	-	1
<u>STOKES MORTAR.</u>		
8th Infantry Brigade	1	-
14th Infantry Brigade	1	-
<u>Instructors</u>		
8th Infantry Brigade	-	2
14th Infantry Brigade	-	1
15th Infantry Brigade	-	1
<u>Reinforcements</u>		
15th Infantry Brigade	-	5
<u>BOMBING.</u>		
Each Infantry Brigade	1	4
Pioneer Battalion	-	1
<u>LEWIS GUN</u>		
8th Infantry Brigade	1	4
14th Infantry Brigade	1	4
15th Infantry Brigade	-	4
Pioneer Battalion	-	1
<u>INTELLIGENCE.</u>		
8th Infantry Brigade	1	1
14th Infantry Brigade	1	2
15th Infantry Brigade	1	1

3. The following will be detailed by the A.D.M.S., O.C. Divisional Train and O.C. 5th Aust.Div. Base Depot respectively to fill the vacancies allotted to the Medical Services, Divisional Train, and 5th Aust.Div. Base Depot for the Infantry Course:-

APPENDIX B

6774	S/Sgt.	Hughes	8th Field Amb.
6603	Sgt.	R. Roberts	" " "
6705	Cpl.	Cosier	" " "
4496	Pte.	Gibson	" " "
2604	L/Cpl.	R. J. Adams	15th " "
188	Cpl.	E. A. Wintle	28th A.A.S.C.
2868	T/W.O.	L. V. Duxbury	5th Aust. Div. Base Depot.

4. Particular attention will be paid by O's.C. to see that candidates are correctly and cleanly dressed. Full marching order, including steel helmets and box respirators, must be taken and colour patches worn, by all ranks.
5. Nominal rolls will be forwarded to this office not later than the 20th instant.
6. Further particulars regarding transport arrangements and train timings will be issued when they become available.

St. King

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th Australian Division.

August 16th 1917.

Distribution:-

8th Infantry Brigade
14th Infantry Brigade
15th Infantry Brigade
5th Pioneer Battalion
Divisional Train
5th Aust. Div. Base Depot

Copies

7
7
7
1
2
1

Copies to:

I ANZAC Corps
I ANZAC Corps Schools
D.A.D.O.S.
"Q"

1
1
1
1

Adms

3

The following will be detailed by the A.D.M.S., O.C. Divisional Train and O.C. 5th Aust. Div. Base Depot respectively to fill the vacancies allotted to the Medical Section, Divisional Train and 5th Aust. Div. Base Depot for the Infantry course:-

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APPENDIX B

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

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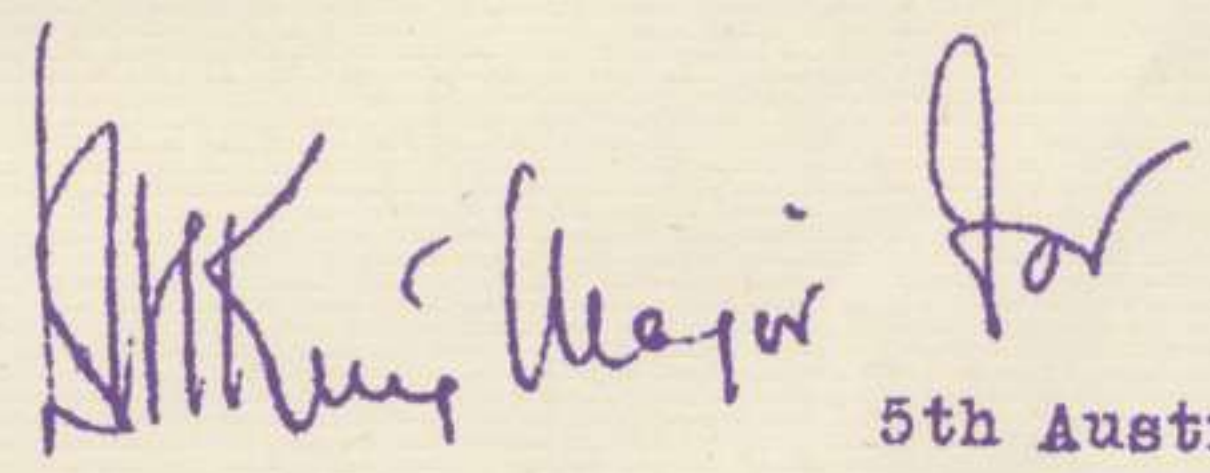
ADDENDUM TO TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 129

- 1. In continuation of Training Memorandum No. 129 dated 16th August, 1917, the arrangements for the move of personnel to the Corps School, AVELUY, on 26th August, will be as follows:-

A special train leaves EBBLINGHEM at 11.0 a.m. on 25th August, arriving at ALBERT about 10.0 a.m. on 26th August.

Transport to EBBLINGHEM Station will be arranged by "Q" Branch of this Division.

- 2. Rations will be taken to and for the 26th instant.



Lieut-Colonel
General Staff
5th Australian Division

20th August 1917.

Issued to all recipients of Training Memorandum No. 129.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 130.

LECTURE.

1. A lecture on Staff Duties will be given by Major-General C.H. HARRINGTON C.B., D.S.O., M.G.G.S. Second Army, at the Chateau BLARINGHEM at 5.0 p.m. on Monday August 20th 1917.
2. The Divisional Commander wishes all Staff Officers, Staff Trainees, and other officers attached to Divisional and Brigade Staffs to attend this lecture.

W. King Ma sir for

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,

5th Australian Division.

16th August, 1917.

Distribution:-

8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	1
15th Infantry Brigade	1
Divisional Artillery	1
Divisional Engineers	1
Divisional Signal Co.	1
A.D.M.S.	1
D.A.D.V.S.	1
D.A.D.O.S.	1
A.P.M.	1
Divisional Machine Gun Officer	1
Divisional Bomb Officer	1
Divisional Gas Officer	1
Divisional Musketry Officer	1
"Q"	

Copy to:

M.G.G.S., Second Army 1.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 131.

1. A Signal Scheme will be carried out near LYNDE on 24th August at 2.30 p.m.
2. The following will take part:
 Skeleton Divisional Headquarters,
 14th Infantry Brigade Signal Section,
 All Battalion communication personnel, 8th Infantry Brigade,
 Details, Divisional Signal Company.
3. The exercise will demonstrate the working of the principles laid down in S.S. 148 ("Forward Interoommunication in Battle"), Section VIII.
4. The following will attend the instruction:-
 All remaining Signal officers and N.C.O's that can be spared.
 5 officers each Infantry Brigade,
 1 officer Pioneer Battalion,
 1 officer Divisional Engineers.
5. Spectators will rendezvous at the junction of roads in B.12.c., Sheet 36A.

Sastman Capt
 Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

22nd August 1917.

Distribution:	Copies
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Divisional Engineers	1
Divisional Signal Co.	4
A.D.M.S.	1
Copies to:	
I ANZAC Corps	1
"C"	1.

GENERAL IDEA.

A North Eastern (WHITE) Force is operating against a South Western (KHAKE) Force.

KHAKE's main infantry line of defence runs along the CANAL DE NEUF FOSSE with outposts along the line of the road LA BELLE HOTESSE - Cross roads B.12.c.7.2. - Le MONT D'HIVER. Artillery is mostly on the RACQUINGHEM Ridge.

WHITE Forces are on the line CASSEL - HAZEBROUCK, with outposts along the line SERCUS - RENESCURE.

SPECIAL IDEA, (KHAKE).

The 5th KHAKE Division is disposed as follows:-

The 1st (imaginary) Brigade holds the line BLARINGHEM Bridge to Chateau de BAMBECC. It has five outpost companies on the front Cross roads B.12.c.7.2 to B.10.a.8.9. The main body (2nd and 3rd (imaginary) Brigades) is along the road BLARINGHEM Bridge - WARDRECQUES Station.

Similar forces are on the flanks.

Orders have been received to push forward and make good a line through T.30.central - T.28.central, and establish strong outposts there.

The Divisional boundaries are: On the right, B.12.c.7.2 - B.6.d.1.4 - T.30.b.7.0 - U.19.a.3.1 - U.13.central. On the left, B.10.a.2.9 - B.4.central - T.29.a.2.4 - T.23.a.9.0 - T.17.b.8.0.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 132.

1. A Signal School for the elementary instruction in signalling of officers selected to understudy Battalion Signalling Officers will assemble at BLARINGHEM by 6 p.m. on Tuesday 28th instant. The class will be accomodated at the camp recently occupied by the Prisoners of War Company, and will last 14 days.
2. Two officers from each battalion (including Pioneer Battalion) will attend. Batmen in the proportion of one batman to two officers will be brought. In addition the 8th and 14th Infantry Brigades will each detail one cook to accompany their Brigade party.
3. Arrangements for rations and supplies will be made by the O.C. Divisional Signal Company. Transport arrangements will be made by "Q" Branch of this Division.

Latimer
 m Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th Australian Division.

August 25th 1917.

Distribution:-	Copies.
8th Infantry Brigade	7
14th Infantry Brigade	7
15th Infantry Brigade	7
5th Pioneer Battalion	1
Copies to:	
Divisional Signal Co.	2
A.D.M.S.	1
"Q"	1
A.P.M.	1
Camp Commandant	1
Divisional Train	1