

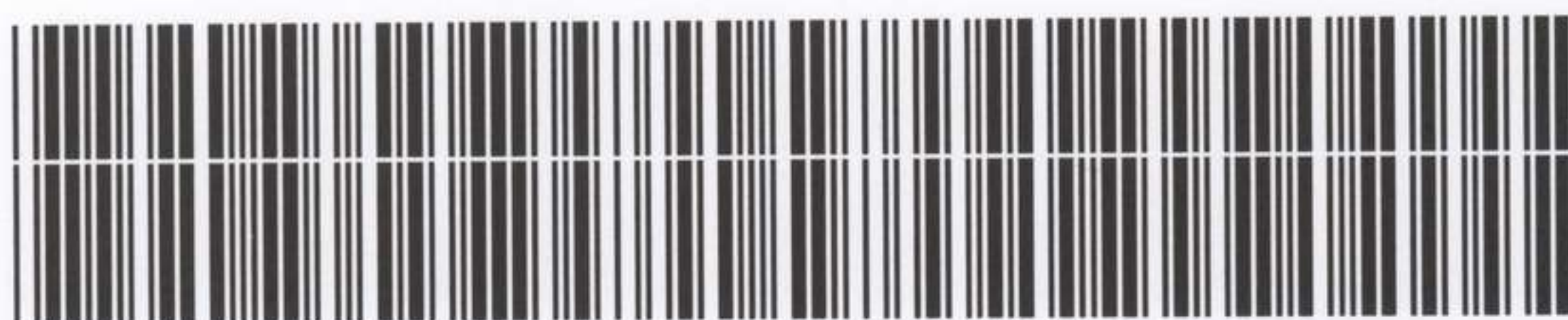
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/50/19 Part 1

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 5th  
Australian Division

September 1917



AWM4-1/50/19PART1



## WAR DIARY

or

## -INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY-

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.  
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will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>SEPTEMBER 1917.</u>			
BLARING- HEM	1.		A very dreary sunless day, with a strong wind blowing. Colonel WAGSTAFF took Colonel PECK round, and introduced him to the various C.O.'s. Major A.J. BOASE Brigade Major of the 7th Australian Infantry Brigade (formerly G.S.O. III of this Division) came and had dinner here.	
	2.		The G.O.C. and Colonel WAGSTAFF dined with the Corps Commander at LA MOTTE. It rained in the morning, but was fairly fine in the evening. General Staff Memorandum No. 154, dealing with the enemy's new defensive tactics, was issued. Training Memoranda, Nos. 133 and 134, dealing with a lecture to be given by the Chemical Adviser on 5th instant, and the I ANZAC Corps School respectively, were issued.	App"B" App"C"
	3.		A fine day. G.S.O. II went to STEENVORDE and saw the 23rd Division, and to RENINGHELST and saw the 47th Division. He was accompanied By Lieut. MAUSS, liaison officer.	
	4.		Another fine summer day. The 55th Battalion gave a very good exhibition at their sports at LYNDE. Company drill competitions, Lewis gun competitions, bomb throwing competitions, and a rag-time competition were carried out, and very good work was shewn throughout. In addition there was an exhibition of rapid-wiring work. A company cooking competition was exceptionally good, and excited much interest among the Divisional Staff. In the evening, Lieut-Colonel WOODS (Commanding the 55th Battalion) gave a dinner, the following members of the Divisional Staff being present:- G.S.O. II and G.S.O. III, Lieut J.M. Hobbs (A.D.C.), D.A.D.V.S., D.A.D.O.S., D.A.Q.M.G., also Captain Langan, M.O. of the Divisional Train. Training Memorandum No. 135, with reference to a lecture to be given by Captain A.D. ELLIS Divisional Bomb Officer on the 8th instant, was issued.	App"C"



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARING- HEM	5		<p><u>September 1917.</u></p> <p>The Divisional Commander, accompanied by G.S.O. II, witnessed an exhibition of drill by the 8th Light Trench Mortar Battery. It was a very good show, shewing good handling and splendid 'esprit de Corps'.</p> <p>We received the Corps Preliminary Instructions No. 1, re offensive operations against the PASSCHENDAELE RIDGE. Two interesting appreciations of the problem were included in these instructions.</p> <p>3 p.m. The Divisional Commander with Staff and D.A.D.V.S. inspected all pack animals of the Division. The animals were drawn up in a field quite close to Divisional Headquarters.</p> <p>5.30 Major L.J. BARLEY Chemical Adviser, Second Army lectured on the "mustard gas", and gave his audience a sniff of this truly disgusting beastliness.</p> <p>Training Memorandum No. 136, arranging for the following lectures, was issued:-  "System of supply from Base to Railhead". By Capt. G.T.K. Clarke A.S.C., R.S.O. EBBLINGHEM,  "Forward traffic communication during offensive operations". By Lt-Col A.B. CAREY C.R.E.</p>	
	6.		<p>G.O.C. and G.S.O. I went to KEMMEL in the hopes of being able to get a view of the PASSCHENDAELE RIDGE, but it was far too misty.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 155 re S.O.S. Signal was issued.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 156, "Notes on recent fighting" was issued.</p>	<p>App "B".</p> <p>App "B".</p>
	7.		<p>We issued Preliminary Instructions No. 1 at 12 noon.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander and Staff watched the 56th Battalion practising the new system of attack; (see General Staff Memoranda Nos. 154, and 156)</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 157 "Notes on recent fighting" was issued.</p> <p>In connection with the practice attack of the 56th Battalion, it is noticed that the men are certainly learning to use their rifle once more, and before we go to STEENVORDE on the 17th, it looks as if everybody in the Division will have a good idea of the present fighting.</p> <p>Captain G.T.K. CLARKE A.S.C. (R.S.O. at EBBLINGHEM) gave a very amusing and interesting lecture on the duties of an R.S.O. The lecture created roars of laughter, and was much appreciated by all. In the evening, he came to the Chateau for tea. He is said to be a parson in civil life.</p>	<p>App "A".</p> <p>App "B".</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARING- HEM	8.		<p><u>8 September 1917.</u></p> <p>General Herbert PLUMER, Commanding Second Army, came down to the vicinity of SERCUS this morning spent from about 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. watching the 15th Infantry Brigade exercise with troops. He collected all the officers round, and after the criticisms of the Brigade and Divisional Commanders, he spoke to the officers for half an hour. His instructive criticism was very much appreciated by every officer present. He emphasised the necessity for silence as an officer commanding troops in action requires the entire attention of his men. Amongst many other things, he pointed out that there was no necessity to get nervous because it was found there were gaps in our line when the objective was reached. He pointed out that the Boche was quite as nervous in pushing into these gaps, so that we were really in the better position of the two. (See Appendix "D", giving criticism on the exercise. App "D") General Plumer informed the Divisional Commander that we were training on the right lines, and he was very pleased with what he had seen.</p>	
	9.	2.30 p.m.	<p>A beautiful fine, warm, sunny day. We issued Preliminary Instructions No. II. We shewed Lieut-Colonel MURRAY (training, Second Army) and Lieut-Colonel HANBURY from the General Staff, SALONIKA, the 8th Brigade method of firing the Light Trench Mortar without using the tripod; that is to say, they fix a sling on the Mortar at each end pass it round the shoulder, keeping the right knee in front of the base plate, and judge the angle. The result is that from the word "action" they can get a round off in 5 seconds. Both officers were delighted, and asked us to arrange a big demonstration for next Saturday, the 15th instant. The Divisional Commander, and G.S.O. I and II motored to Corps Headquarters at HOOGRAAF this evening and saw General BIRDWOOD and staff. General COX (formerly Commanding the 4th Australian Division) was there, apparently over on a visit from England. General Staff Memorandum No. 158 "Notes on recent fighting" was issued. App "B" General Staff Memorandum No. 159 "New offensive tactics" was issued. App "B"</p>	



## WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM O. 2110.

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARING- HEM.	10		SEPTEMBER 1917.	
		3p.m.	<p>We withdrew Preliminary Instructions No. 1, as the Corps Commander considered that it was unwise to publish so much of the intentions of the Second Army in the forth-coming operations. The Divisional Commander this morning watched the 30th and 31st Battalions practising the attack on RACQUINGHEM RIDGE.</p> <p>Lieut-Colonel A.B.CAREY C.M.G. D.S.O., C.R.E. of this Division gave a lecture to officers in the Schoolroom BLARINGHEM on the subject of "Forward Traffic Communications".</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 160 on "The Protective Barrage" was issued. App "B"</p> <p>Orders for the move of the D.M.G.O. and 1 officer and 2 other ranks each of the 8th and 14th Machine Gun Companies to the forward area, were received.</p>	
		11.	<p>Major BETTS, Superintendent of Physical Training and Bayonet Fighting gave a most inspiring lecture to the whole of the 8th Infantry Brigade this morning, on the subject of Bayonet Fighting. He gave them several illustrations of how to kill Boches.</p> <p>We received Corps Preliminary Instructions No. 4 today, and issued our amended Preliminary Instructions No. 1. App "A"</p> <p>The Divisional Commander watched the 53rd Battalion practising the attack near EBBLINGHEM. App "B".</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 161 on "New Offensive Tactics" was issued.</p>	
		12.	<p>The Divisional Commander watched the 8th Infantry Brigade practising the attack on RACQUINGHEM RIDGE.</p> <p>Major L.J.BARLEY D.S.O. Chemical Adviser Second Army lectured to about 180 N.C.O's of the Division on the subject of "Gas". He had a model of a dugout on the platform, and gave a demonstration of clearing any dugout by lighting a fire in it.</p> <p>We received a letter today giving details of the Senior and Junior Staff Courses which start at CAMBRIDGE on the 1st October.</p> <p>Lieut-Colonel DAVIES (The Leicester Regiment) Commanding 32nd Battalion dined with the General tonight.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 162 on "Artillery" was issued. This memorandum is especially interesting as it marks a change in our methods, though the principles still hold good. App "B".</p> <p>It has been a very fine day.</p>	
		5.30 pm		



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARING- HEM.			SEPTEMBER 1917.	
	12		Preliminary Instructions No. 3 were issued. We published Training Memorandum No. 138 with reference to a lecture by Brigadier General R.P.BENSON C.B. C.M.G. G.O.C. R.A. V Corps, on "Artillery".	App "A"
	13		The Divisional Commander was present at the 15th Infantry Brigade practice attack near MORBECQUE. At 2.30 p.m. the 56th Battalion (Lieut-Col A.H.SCOTT D.S.O.) held a tournament near EBBLINGHEM. Although the afternoon was cold and dreary, the show was a very good one. One very interesting exhibition was that of an attack under cover of a smoke barrage. Rifle grenades were fired, and these burst into smoke. Under cover of this smoke, the riflemen attacked with bayonets fixed, afterwards firing rapid bursts. The cooking exhibition, too, was very good.	
	14.		The Corps Commander, General Sir William Birdwood, saw the 8th Infantry Brigade carry out a practice attack on RACQUINGHEM RIDGE this morning. Lieut-Colonel MURRAY (G.S.O. I (Training) Second Army) was also present. The Divisional Commander was very pleased with the display, and the Corps Commander thought it was very good too. At 5 p.m., Brigadier General R.P.BENSON C.B., C.M.G. G.O.C. R.A. V Corps lectured to about 200 officers in the Schoolroom BLARINGHEM on the subject of "Artillery". He spoke a good deal about the necessity for close liaison between the two arms of the service, and explained the causes of short-shooting by means of a diagram on the black-board. The lecture was very well received. Preliminary Instructions No. 4 were issued this afternoon	App "A"



## WAR DIARY

5th Aust Div.

Army Form O. 2110.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARING- HEM	<u>SEPTEMBER 1917.</u>			
	15		<p>At 11.30 a.m. the 8th L.T.M. Battery gave a demonstration on RACQUINGHEM RIDGE illustrating the advantages of firing the Stokes Mortar with a sling instead of using the tripod. Several Officers from different units in Second Army attended.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander inspected all transport of the Division, and was well pleased with the turnout, which was good.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander also inspected some units of the 14th Brigade this morning, in the attack. He was not pleased with the orders and arrangements which shewed a lack of decision.</p> <p>The Brigade Staff were informed of this -</p> <p>Divisional Order No. 158, with reference to the move of the Division to STEENVOORDE AREA and thence to forward areas of I ANZAC Corps, was issued.</p> <p>General Brown V Corps lectured to about 200 officers on "Artillery" in the School House, BLARINGHEM.</p>	App. "A"
	16		<p>General Birdwood, the Corps Commander presented some medals to the Divisional Artillery to-day.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander was present.</p> <p>General Staff Memoranda - Nos. 163 and 164 dealing with "Station Code Calls" and "Nucleus left behind during operations" were issued.</p>	App. "B"
	17		<p>The whole Division moved to STEENVOORDE AREA by march route, except Divisional Headquarters (See Order 158).</p> <p>The Divisional Commander and G.S.O.I attended a Corps Conference. The Commander-in-Chief was present.</p> <p>A very fine day.</p> <p>Preliminary Instructions No. 5 were issued.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 165, with reference to "Station Code Calls" was issued.</p>	App. "A" App. "B"



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will be prepared in manuscript.				Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour			
	SEPTEMBER 1917.				
BLARING-HEM	18		Divisional Headquarters moved to RENINGHELST, and the Division moved from STEENVOORDE AREA, and billeted as follows :- 8th Infantry Brigade 3 miles W of RENINGHELST 14th Infantry Brigade near RENINGHELST 15th Infantry Brigade 1 mile N of RENINGHELST.		
RENING-HELST	19		Preliminary Instructions No. 6 were issued. The following Officers arrived for Liaison duty in connection with the forthcoming operations:- Major W.J.R. Cheeseman M.C. 30th Battalion " A.J.G. Simpson 56th " " H.G.L. Cameron 60th " Capt., R.G. Legge M.C. took over duties of Brigade Major 14th Infantry Brigade vice Major G.F. Dickenson. The Divisional Commander received approval for this change from the Corps. The reasons necessitating it were that the Staff work in this Brigade had not been up to the standard required for operations. The Divisional Commander, after considering it for many weeks insisted on a change. Major Dickenson was ordered to rejoin 4th Australian Division. General Staff Memoranda Nos. 166, 167 and 168 were issued.		
	20		The Second and Fifth Armies attacked to-day at 5.40 a.m. The operations were for a limited objective, and were very successful. It is a fine day, and the rain does not seem to have made any difference to the "going". Major Cheeseman, our Liaison Officer, with the 1st Australian Division has been sending back a good deal of information concerning the 1st Division's attack. See Appendix "E" for Diary Operations as collated by this Division. General MacLagan and Lieut-Col., Barnard, the G.O.C. and G.S.O.I 4th Australian Division called to-day.		
D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14					App. "A"  



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>SEPTEMBER 1917.</u>			
RENING- HELST	21		<p>The 14th Infantry Brigade moved to the CHATEAU SEGARD AREA this evening. G.S.O.II and the three Liaison Officers went out to-day to, GLENCORSE WOOD and saw O.C. 5th Battalion 1st Australian Division, also General Heane Commanding 2nd Infantry Brigade, and ascertained a lot of points regarding the successful operations which were carried out yesterday.</p> <p>The following Orders were issued :-</p> <div style="margin-left: 100px;"> No. 159 re move of 14th Brigade to CHATEAU SEGARD AREA )  No. 160 (subsequently cancelled) )  No. 161 re relief of 1st Australian Division by 5th Australian Division ) </div> <p>Preliminary Instructions No. 7 also issued.</p>	App. "A" App. "A"
	22		<p>A dull uninteresting morning, but no rain yet. Amendment No. 1 to Order 161 issued. The 14th Brigade to-night take over line from 2nd Infantry Brigade, 15th Infantry Brigade move to CHATEAU SEGARD AREA this evening.</p>	App. "A"
DICKEBUSCH	23		<p>A fine day. The 5th Australian Division took over command of the Right Division Sector of I ANZAC Corps front at 10 a.m. to-day. The 15th Brigade moved up into line to-night and took over half our Sector from the 14th Infantry Brigade. The 2nd Divisional Headquarters is only about 100 yards away - SMYTH CAMP. We are at Walker Camp, DICKEBUSCH. The weather is perfect. Preliminary Instructions No. 8 reference Liaison arrangements were issued. General Staff Memorandum No. 23, reference "S.O.S." was issued.</p>	App. "A" App. "B"



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DICKE-BUSCH	24		<p><u>SEPTEMBER 1917.</u></p> <p>A conference of Divisional Commanders, C's.R.A. and G.S.O's I, of the 4th Australian Division and 5th Australian Division was held at Divisional Headquarters by the Corps Commander at 2 p.m.</p> <p>At 3.15 p.m., the Army Commander held a conference in connection with the forthcoming operations.</p> <p>Division Order No.162, and Preliminary Instructions Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 were published.</p>	App "A"
	25		<p>The YPRES-MENIN Road and vicinity were very heavily barraged this morning.</p> <p>The enemy attacked the 1st Middlesex Regiment of the 98th Brigade, 33rd Division on our right at about 5.30 a.m., and succeeded in taking part of their front line.</p> <p>There was very heavy enemy shelling of our front all day.</p> <p>At 2 p.m. a counter attack was made by the 98th Brigade, the 58th Australian Battalion and 1 company of the 60th Australian Battalion cooperating. At 5.8 p.m. we received a message from our Liaison Officer with the 33rd Division that all the 33rd Division is back on its original front.</p> <p>Preliminary Instructions No. 16 were issued.</p>	App "A"
	26		<p>ZERO Hour was 5.50 a.m.</p> <p>For Order of Battle as on 25th September, see Appendix "F"</p> <p>For plan of attack (forward to I ANZAC Corps on 22nd September) see Appendix "G".</p> <p>At 5.50 a.m. we attacked, and attained our objectives successfully after very heavy fighting on the right. For Diary of telegrams received and sent, telephone conversations, discussions, decisions during operations, see Appendix "H"</p> <p>The weather was ideal.</p>	<p>App "F"</p> <p>App "G"</p> <p>App "H"</p>



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			<u>SEPTEMBER 1917</u>	
	27		For Diary of messages received and sent and telephone conversations, see Appendix "H". For Advance Report of the operations , and Report on work of Engineers and Pioneers, see Appendix "I".	App "H" App "I"
	28		The 4th Australian Divisional Headquarters (SMYTH CAMP) about 100 yards away from our own Headquarters was badly bombed tonight.	
	29		The relief of the 5th Australian Division by the 7th (British) and 21st (British) Divisions was arranged - to take place on the night 30th September/1st October. The enemy attacked the right company front of the 32nd Battalion (the right battalion of our Right Brigade) and the Brigade on our right at about 6.50 p.m. The 32nd Battalion wired that they had disposed of the first wave and consider that they can easily hold him. Our barrage opened while the S.O.S. rocket was still in the air - which speaks well for the artillery covering our front.	



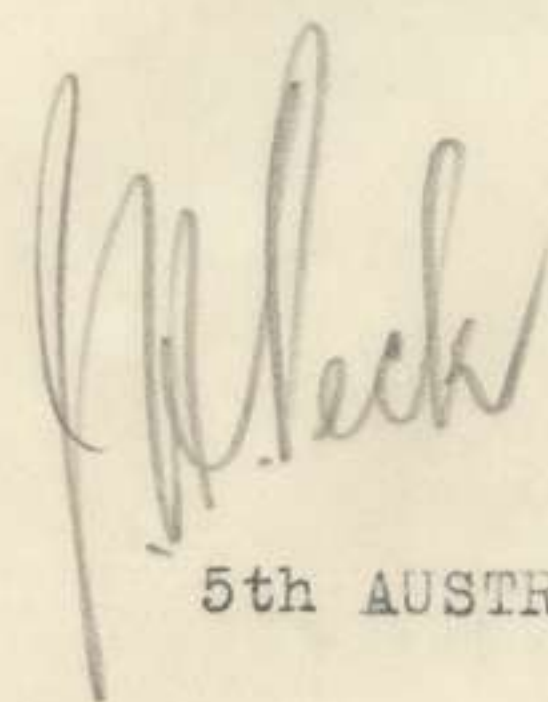
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DICKE- BUSCH.	30		<p><u>SEPTEMBER 1917.</u></p> <p>The 5th Australian Division was relieved in the line tonight by the 7th and 21st Divisions. The relief passed off without incident. For papers in connection with the relief, Defence Scheme, and administrative arrangements handed over, see Appendix "J"</p> <p>For Consolidated Casualty Return, see Appendix "K"</p> <p>Intelligence Summaries are attached as Appendix "L" Locations of Units are attached as Appendix "M" Wireless Press News is attached as Appendix "N". Report on Medical Services is attached, marked Appendix "O". <i>Consolidated Casualty Report attached as Appendix "P".</i></p>	<p>App "J"</p> <p>App "K"</p>



Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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(A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14



SECRET

Copy No. 37

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 158.

Ref:- Sheets 27 and  
36A. 1/40,000.

Headquarters  
15th September 1917.

1. The 5th Australian Division (less Artillery and detached units) will move by march route, in accordance with the attached march table from the BLARINGHEM Area to the STEENVOORDE Area, and thence to forward areas of I ANZAC Corps.
2. The following distances will be maintained on the march:-  
From BLARINGHEM Area to STEENVOORDE Area:-  
400 yards between Brigades.  
200 " " Battalions.  
100 " " Companies.  
From STEENVOORDE AREA to the FORWARD Area:-  
500 yards between Battalions and other units.  
200 " " transport of units and other troops.  
100 " " Companies.
3. One Officer per Battalion will be detailed to keep a look-out for hostile aeroplanes. If a hostile aeroplane is sighted the column will be halted, and the men will be ordered to remain steady at the side of the road and not look upwards.
4. A halt of 10 minutes will be made at 10 minutes before each clock hour. A halt of one hour will be made for dinners at 12 noon on the 17th instant. Troops will be concentrated for the meal on any stubble or ploughed ground in the vicinity.
5. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.
6. Orders for the movements of Field Ambulances on 18th inst. will be issued by A.D.M.S.
7. Divisional Headquarters will close at BLARINGHEM at 12 noon on 18th September and open at RENINGH LST at the same hour.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

*J. H. Beck*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

P.T.O.



APPENDIX *a*

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Issued at 7.30 a.m. to :- Copy No.

8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade	3
25th Aust. M.G. Co.	4
Divisional Engineers	5
Divisional Signal Co.	6
Divisional Train	7
S.S.O.	8
A.D.M.S.	9
D.A.D.V.S.	10
Div. Salvage Co.	11
D.A.D.O.S.	12
A.P.M.	13
Camp Commandant	14
French Mission	15

Copies to :-

I ANZAC Corps	16
47th Division	17
Div. Artillery	18
5th Pioneer Battalion	19
Area Commandant, STEENVOORDE	20
Area Commandant, WIPPENHOEK	21
Area Commandant, RENINGHELST	22
Area Commandant, DOMINION	23
Area Commandant, BLAIRINGHEM	24
5th Aust. Div. Wing, I ANZAC Corps	25
Reinf. Camp.	26
I ANZAC Corps School	27
A.C. to G.O.C.	28-29
"G"	30-31
"Q"	32
War Diary	33
1st Australian Division	34
2nd Australian Division	



MARCH TABLE ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 158.

Serial No.	UNIT	DATE	FROM	TO	STARTING POINT.	TIME	ROUTE	REMARKS
1	"A" Brigade Group 15th Infantry Bde. 15th Field Amb. 29th Co. A.A.S.C.	17th	BLARINGHEM AREA	STEENVOORDE AREA.	Cross Roads Sheet 27. U.22.d.50.95	9.0 a.m.	LONGUE CROIX - U.5.c.4.8 - KOOR- TEN LOOP - ST. SYLVESTRE CAPPEL - P.23.c.8.2 - P.24.a.4.3 - thence to billett- ing areas as allotted.	Not to enter STEENVOORDE before 12 noon
2	"B" Brigade Group 14th Inf. Bde. 14th Field Co. 25th M.G. Co. 14th Field Amb. 28th Co. A.A.S.C. Div. Salvage Co. Mob. Vet. Section	17th	do.	do.	do.	10.15 a.m.	do.	do.
3.	"C" Brigade Group 8th Inf. Bde. 8th Field Co. 8th Field Amb. 18th Co. A.A.S.C.	17th	do.	do.	As selected by Brigade Group Com- mander.	As order- ed by Brigade Group Command- er.	RENESECURE - T.14. a.6.4. - BAVIN- CHOVE - OXELAERE - P.4.b.7.3. - thence to billett- ing areas as allotted.	do.

APPENDIX A



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SERIAL No.	UNIT.	DATE.	FROM	TO.	STARTING POINT.	TIME.	ROUTE.	REMARKS.
4	Div. Headquarters	18th	BLAIRINGHEM	RENINGHELST	-	-	-	-
5	"A" Brigade Group (as for serial No. 1 less 15th Fld. Ambulance.)	18th	STEENVOORDE AREA	DOMINION AREA	Sheet 27 K.35.d.4.3.	8 a.m.	ABEELE -L.33.c.2.3. -RENINGHELST- G.29.a 5.6.- G.24.c.5.5. to DOMINION Camp at G.23.b.5.5.	March to be completed by 2 p.m.
6	"B" Brigade Group (as for serial No. 2 less 14th Fld. Ambulance.)	18th	STEENVOORDE AREA	RENINGHELST AREA	Sheet 27 K.33.d.6.2.	9.15am	Same as "A" Brigade Group to G.33.c.2.3 then via G.27.d.7.5 to RENINGHELST STAGING AREA at G.27.b.5.8.	March to be completed by 2 p.m.
7	"C" Brigade Group (as for serial No. 3 less 8th Fld. Ambulance.)	18th	STEENVOORDE AREA	WIPPENHOFF AREA	Sheet 27 G.2.b.0.9.	11 a.m.	* ABEELE -L.34.d.1.4. thence to areas as allotted.	March to be completed by 2 p.m. One Bn. via K.36.d.1.2. to area in K.30.c.

APPENDIX A



APPENDIX <sup>A</sup>SECRET.Copy No. <sup>19</sup>

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.159.

Ref: Map, Sheet 28  
BELGIUM, 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
21st September/17

1. The 14th Infantry Brigade (less detached units) will move to the Chateau SEGARD Area by march route today, 21st instant.  
Route: via OUDERDOM - St. HUBERTSHOEK - HALLEBAST - DICKEBUSCH - CAFE BELGE.
2. Units will move in file and maintain the following distances:-  
 Between platoons 50 yards.  
 Between Companies 200 yards.  
 Between battalions 500 yards.  
 The usual precautions to prevent observation by enemy aircraft will obtain.
3. Subject to the terms of this order, the arrangements for the march will be made by G.O.C. 14th Infantry Brigade.
4. Administrative instructions will be issued separately.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.



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

Issued at 2 p.m. to:

14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
8th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Engineers  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
S.S.O.  
A.D.M.S.  
D.A.D.V.S.  
A.P.M.  
D.A.D.O.S.

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Copies to:

Divisional Artillery  
5th Pioneer Battalion  
I ANZAC Corps  
1st Australian Division  
3rd Australian Division  
Area Comdt. CHATEAU SEGARD Area  
"G"  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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22.



## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 160

## Reference Map:

Sheet 28 BELGIUM 1/40,000  
and Map E attached.

Headquarters,  
21st Sept. 1917.

1. The Division will relieve the 1st Australian Division in the line in accordance with the Move Table attached.
2. The sector at present held by the 1st Australian Division with one Brigade will be held by the Division on a two-Brigade front. Each Brigade will be disposed on a one-battalion front, and each battalion on a two-company front. The principle of distribution in depth will be adhered to.
3. Subject to the terms of this order, details of the relief will be arranged mutually between the Brigade Commanders concerned.
4. The relief of the Divisional Sector will be completed by 8 a.m. on the 24th September. At 10 a.m. the command of the sector will pass to the G.O.C. 5th Australian Division.
5. Reinforcements and surplus personnel will remain in their present billets until moved to reinforcement camps under separate administrative orders.
6. Administrative instructions will be issued separately.
7. The position of Divisional Headquarters in the line will be notified later.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*J. H. Peck*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 630 p.m. to:

	Copy No.
8th Infantry Brigade	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade	3
Divisional Engineers	4
Divisional Signal Co.	5
Divisional Train	6
A.D.M.C.	7
D.A.D.V.S.	8
A.P.M.	9
D.A.D.O.S.	10
S.S.C.	11
Camp Commandant	12
Copies to:	
I ANZAC	13
1st Australian Division	14
2nd Australian Division	15

	Copy No.
3rd Australian Division	16
4th Australian Division	17
9th Division	18
23rd Division	19
Divisional Artillery	20
5th Pioneer Battalion	21
"G"	22-23
"C"	24
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	25
War Diary	26.

*Cancelled*



MOVE TABLE ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 160.

Serial No.	UNIT	Dates			Remarks.
		22nd Sept.	23rd Sept.	24th Sept.	
1	14th Inf. Bde.	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA	In the line (Left Sector)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reconnaissance to be made and specialists moved up on 22nd Sept.</li> <li>2. Relieves as far as possible during daylight to make room for 15th Bde.</li> <li>3. Relief completed night 22/23rd Sept.</li> </ol>
2	15th Inf. Bde.	No change	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reconnaissance to be made and specialists moved up 23rd September.</li> <li>2. Moves to CHATEAU SEGARD on night 22/23rd September.</li> <li>3. Relief completed night 23/24th Sept. Relieves as far as possible by daylight to make room for 8th Brigade.</li> </ol>
3	8th Inf. Bde.	No change	No change	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Moves to CHATEAU SEGARD night 23/24th Sept.</li> </ol>
4	33rd Nucleus of units	Moved by "Q" to ) CAESTRE ) See Administrative instructions.			



SECRET.

Copy No...

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.161.

Reference Map:

Sheet 28 BELGIUM 1/40,000  
and Map "E" attached to  
Order No. 160.

Headquarters,  
21st September/17.

1. 5th Australian Division Order No. 160 is cancelled and No. 161 substituted therefor.
2. The Division will relieve the 1st Australian Division in the line in accordance with the Move Table attached.
3. The sector at present held by the 1st Australian Division with one Brigade will be held eventually by the Division on a two-brigade front. Each Brigade will be disposed on a one-battalion front, and each battalion on a two-company front. The principle of distribution in depth will be adhered to.
4. Subject to the terms of this order, details of the relief will be arranged mutually between the Brigade Commanders concerned.
5. The relief of the Divisional Sector will be completed by 8 a.m. on the 24th September. At 10 a.m. the command of the sector will pass to the G.O.C. 5th Australian Division. Until this hour, units of 5th Australian Division in the line will be under the command of G.O.C. 1st Australian Division.
6. Reinforcements and surplus personnel will remain in their present billets until moved to reinforcement camps under separate administrative orders.
7. Administrative instructions will be issued separately.
8. Divisional Headquarters will be at WALKER CAMP, H.27.b.7.7
9. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*[Signature]*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 10.30 p.m. to:

Copy No.

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Engineers  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
A.D.M.S.  
D.A.D.V.S.  
A.P.M.  
D.A.D.O.S.  
S.S.O.  
Camp Commandant

Copies to:

I ANZAC Corps  
1st Australian Division

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2nd Australian Division  
3rd Australian Division  
4th Australian Division  
9th Division  
23rd Division  
Divisional Artillery  
5th Pioneer Battalion  
"G"  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

Copy No.

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22-23  
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MOVE TABLE ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.161.

Serial No.	UNIT	Dates			Remarks.
		22nd Sept.	23rd Sept.	24th Sept.	
1.	14th Inf. Bde.	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA	In the line from J.9.d.2.0. to J.9.b.25.75.		1. Reconnaissance to be made and specialists moved up on 22nd Sept. 2. Relieves as far as possible during daylight to make room for 15th Bde. 3. Completes relief of whole of DIVISIONAL Sector and get touch with flank Divisions night 22/23rd September.
2	15th Inf. Bde.	No change	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA	In the line from Southern boundary at J.9.d.2.0. to J.9.d.25.75.	1. Reconnaissance to be made and specialists moved up 23rd September. 2. Moves to CHATEAU SEGARD on night 22/23rd September. 3. Take over from 14th Bde. right half of DIVISIONAL Sector night 23/24th September.
3	8th Inf. Bde.	No change	No change	CHATEAU SEGARD AREA	1. Moves to CHATEAU SEGARD night 23/24th September.
4	33rd Nucleus of units	Moved by "C" to CAESTRE	See Administrative instructions.		

NOTE:-

The new Southern boundary will be CLAPHAM JUNCTION thence along the road running South of GLENCORSE WOOD and BLACK WATCH CORNER to REUTEL Road inclusive to X Corps, all maps will be amended accordingly.

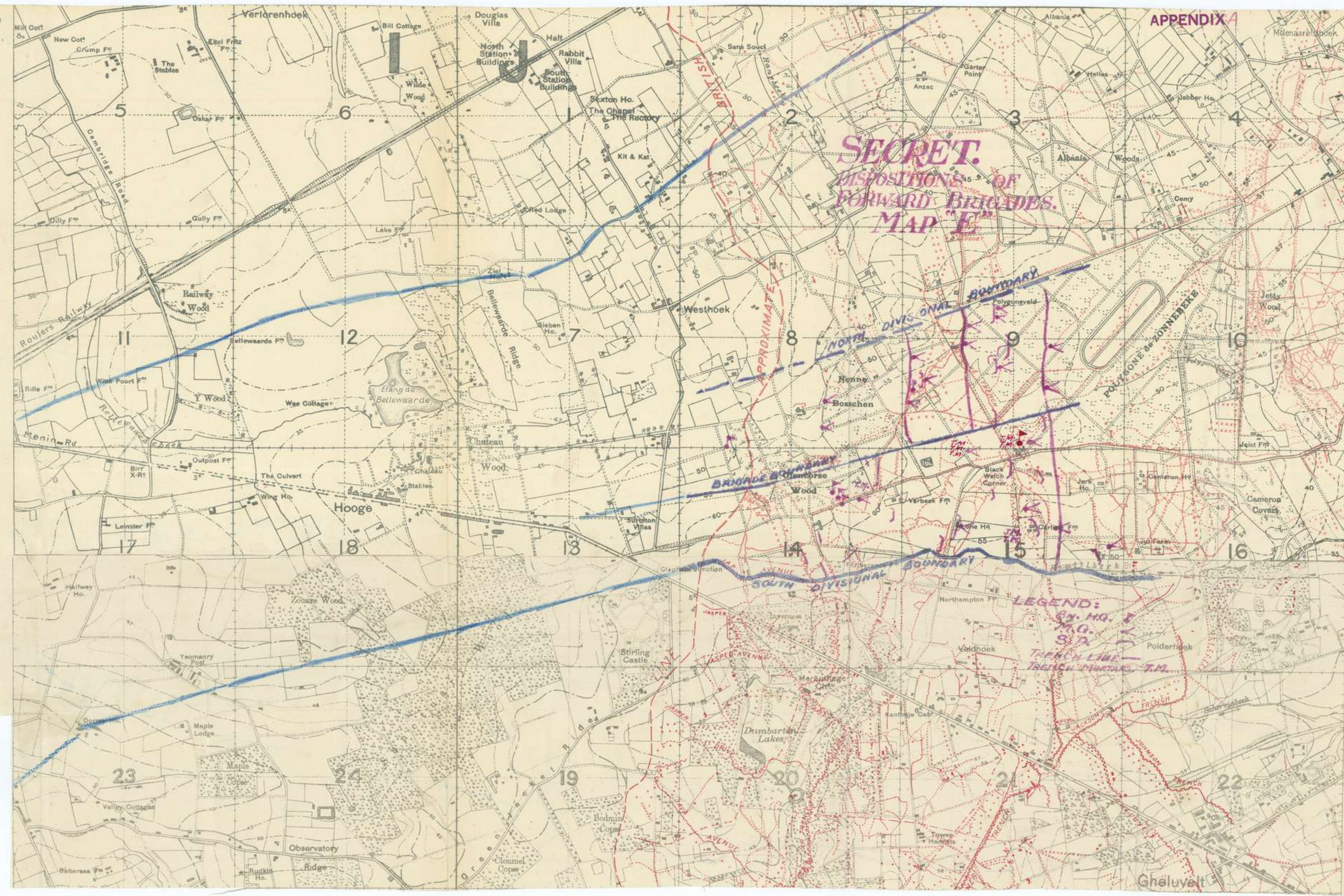
*M. Beck*

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

APPENDIX A

20







Once of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sent	Date
At m.	Service
To	From
By	By

(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { *Mr. Carey* }

Sender's Number. Day of Month In reply to Number

\* *0 12/204* *AAA*

Ref.	para	five	Divisional	Order
161	relief	will	be	completed
by	8 a.m.	23rd	and	30th
will	pass	at	10 a.m.	on
that	date	instead	of	24th.
inst	A.A.A.	addressed	all	recipients
Div.	Order	161		

From *5th Aust. Div.*

Place

Time *9.45. a.m.*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.

98) Wt. W1442-M44. 300000 Pads. 12/15. S.F.J. C. & S.

233

Sent	Date
At m.	Service
To	From
By	By

(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { }

Sender's Number. Day of Month In reply to Number

\* *G12/294* *22nd* *AAA*

Reference	D.O. 161 para 8	aaa	Divisional
H.Q. opens	at location given at 10	a.m.	23rd
inst.			

From *5th Aust. Div.*

Place

Time *7.25 p.m.*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.

(3198.) Wt. W12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

APPENDIX A

22



S E C R E TCopy No. *22-*

AMENDMENT No. 1 to 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 161.

1. Reference Serial No. 3 of MOVE TABLE issued with 5th Australian Division Order No. 161, the move of 8th Infantry Brigade to CHATEAU SEGARD will not take place until night 24th/25th September.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE.

22nd September, 1917.

*L. A. Goodland Lewis*  
for Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at *8* p.m. to all recipients  
of 5th Australian Division Order No. 161.



SECRET.

Copy No. 33

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 162.

Ref: Sheets WESTHOEK and  
SHREWSBURY FOREST,  
1/10,000.

Headquarters,  
24th September/1'

1. I ANZAC Corps in conjunction with the Corps North and South will attack the enemy on K day. On the I ANZAC Corps front the attack will be carried out by the 5th Australian Division on the right and 4th Australian Division on the left. The 98th Brigade (33rd Division) will be on the right and the 4th Australian Infantry Brigade (4th Australian Division) will be on the left of the 5th Australian Division.

- OBJECTIVES. 2. (a) There will be two stages in the operation - each stage forming one objective. These stages are shown on the attached Map "J". The first stage or objective in RED, the second stage or objective in BLUE. The objectives of flank Divisions are also shown.
- (i) The RED objective includes the capture of the "Butte" and adjoining strong points to the flank at J.10.b.79.79 and in rear of it at J.10.b.45.84 in the RED area.
  - (ii) The BLUE objective includes the capture of JOIST FME - JETTY WOOD - JETTY TRENCH - JUBILEE TRENCH and strong points in the BLUE area.
  - (b) Troops will consolidate on the BLUE line under cover of the barrage. Subsequently the barrage will be moved forward when outposts will be established.
  - (c) <sup>When</sup> The final protective barrage ceases at 0 plus 132 minutes, patrols properly supported will be pushed forward some 300 yards all along the Divisional front. The location of these posts will be communicated immediately to Divisional Headquarters in order that S.O.S. lines may be adjusted accordingly.

METHOD OF  
ATTACK.

3. The Division will attack on a two-brigade frontage - the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade on the right, the 14th Australian Infantry Brigade on the left. The 8th Australian Infantry Brigade will be in Divisional Reserve. The number, and formation, of battalions to be used has been indicated in the plan of attack which has been issued separately.

FLANK.

4. In addition to any other special arrangements made by Brigades for keeping touch with adjoining Brigades, the 15th and 14th Australian Infantry Brigades will detail parties to establish connection at the following points:-

Between 15th Australian Infantry Brigade and 98th Infantry Brigade:

RED LINE J.10.c.2.0  
BLUE LINE J.16.b.30.95.

Between 15th and 14th Australian Infantry Brigades:

RED LINE J.10.a.15.66  
BLUE LINE J.10.b.25.30.

Between 14th and 4th Australian Infantry Brigades:

RED LINE J.4.c.65.35  
BLUE LINE J.4.d.40.65.



-2-

ASSEMBLY  
POSITION.

5. (a) The assembly position will be reconnoitred in advance and a tape line will be laid out on the night preceding the attack - both laterally on which the troops will form up and forward - to give the right direction at the start. Line on which the leading wave will form will be as shewn on the attached Map.
- (b) The routes which will be used for bringing up the assaulting battalions to the assembly position will be selected and marked under Brigade arrangements. In places where the routes are under the enemy's observation the markings of the routes will not be carried out until the night previous to the attack.
- (c) All assaulting troops will be in their assembly position 45 minutes before ZERO.

## ARTILLERY.

6. The attack will be supported by the following Field Artillery under the C.R.A. 5th Australian Division:-
  - "A" Group on the right,  
 Commander, Lieut-Colonel H.E. COHEN DSO  
 Headquarters at HALF WAY HOUSE.  
 3rd Australian (Army) F.A. Brigade  
 6th Australian (Army) F.A. Brigade  
 12th Australian (Army) F.A. Brigade
  - "B" Group on the left,  
 Commander, Lieut-Col. W.G. ALLSOP  
 Headquarters LILLE GATE  
 7th Aust. F.A. Bde of 3rd Aust. Div. Art.  
 8th Aust. F.A. Bde of 3rd Aust. Div. Art.
- (b) The 18-pr Artillery barrage will be put down 150 yards in front of the infantry line of departure at ZERO hour and will commence to move forward at ZERO plus 3 minutes. Subsequent lifts and halts on objectives are described and shewn in the artillery instructions and on the barrage maps which have been issued to all concerned.
- (c) As each gun in the 18-pr barrage reaches the protective barrage line for each successive objective, it will fire three smoke shells in quick succession to indicate to the infantry that they have reached their objective.
- (d) *two* The 3rd Australian Field Artillery Brigade and ~~one~~ battery of 6-in. Howitzers are at the disposal of the Divisional Commander for engaging special targets. The G.O's.C. 14th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades will report immediately they require any special targets to be engaged indicating their need at the same time to the artillery liaison officers at their Brigade Headquarters who will take immediate action direct with the artillery.
- (e) The D.T.M.O. with one battery Medium Trench Mortars will be at disposal of Infantry Brigadiers and will be with the 14th Infantry Brigade. Further details will be issued later.



2331

7. Machine gun instructions and barrage time table have been issued separately to all concerned.

8. (a) The 8th Australian Infantry Brigade (less Machine Gun Company) in Divisional Reserve will, by ZERO hour be distributed as follows:-

HALF DAY HOUSE

# HALF WAY HOUSE

CHATEAU SEGARD AREA.

(b) They will be held ready to move at any time after ZERO hour.

9. Strong points will be constructed by the 15th and 14th Australian Infantry Brigades as under:-

15th Infantry Brigade:

K - J.10.a.6.4.

I - J.10.a.2.1.

14th Infantry Brigade:

M - J.10.a.5.5

N - J. 10. a. 6. 9.

10. Orders for Engineers and Pioneers with regard to strong points, bridges, and communications, etc. have been issued separately.

11. (a) Contact aeroplanes will be in the air approximately at the following times:

ZERO plus 55 minutes ( RED line)

ZERO plus 152 minutes (BLUE line)

(b) Leading infantry will be ready to light red flares and wave WATSON FANS at the above hours as soon as aeroplanes call for the flares by means of a KLAXON horn or WHITE VERY lights.

(c) Contact planes will be distinguished by a black streamer on the rear edge of the left wing.

(d) Dropping ground for messages will be Divisional Headquarters, H.27.b.7.7.

12. Details of signal communications showing methods available have been issued separately.

13. (a) Headquarters will be established as under:-

Advanced Divisional Headquarters

WALKER'S CAMP  
(H.27.b.7.7)

" 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.

HOOGE

" 14th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.

HOOGE

" 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.

HALF WAY HOUSE.

(b) Instructions with regard to reports have been issued separately.

14. Watches will be synchronised in accordance with special instructions which have been issued separately.

ZERO HOUR. 15. ZERO hour will be notified later.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

ter.  
W. A. Black  
Lie

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



## Issued at 8.0 p.m. to:-

8th Infantry Brigade  
 14th Infantry Brigade  
 15th Infantry Brigade  
 5th Pioneer Battalion  
 Divisional Artillery  
 Divisional Engineers  
 Divisional Signal Co.  
 Divisional Train  
 A.D.M.S.  
 Divisional Machine Gun Officer  
 Divisional Bomb Officer

## Copy No.

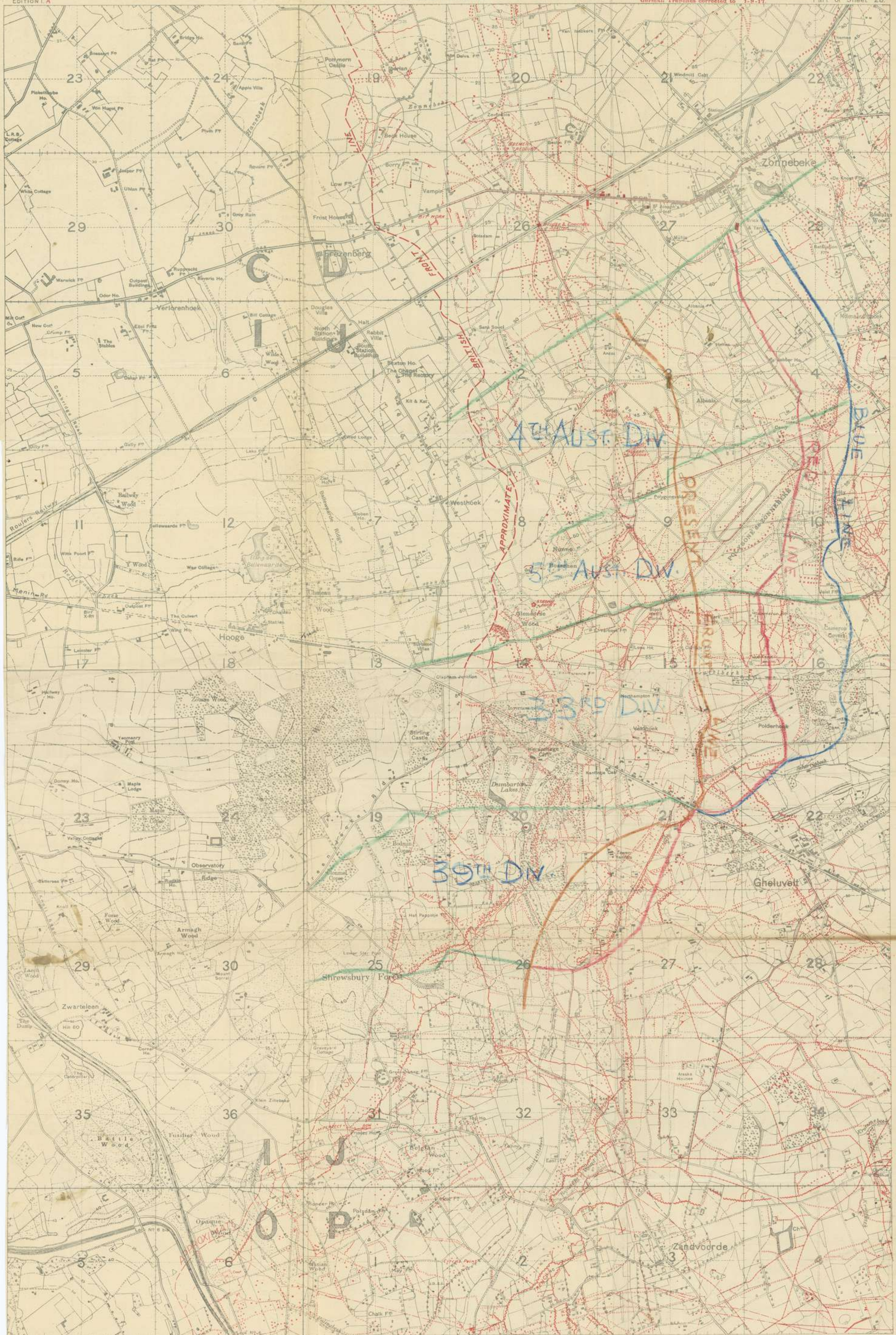
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## Copies to:-

I ANZAC Corps  
 "G"  
 "Q"  
 A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
 4th Australian Division  
 33rd Division  
 3rd Australian Division  
 4th Squadron R.F.C.  
 War Diary

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APPENDIX *a*  
**SECRET**

Copy No. *33*

AMENDMENT TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 162

1. Para. 2, sub-para.(c), line 1.  
For: 0 plus 132 minutes,  
Read: 0 plus 327 minutes.
2. Para. 6, sub-para.(d), line 2.  
For: one battery of 6-in. Howitzers,  
Read: two batteries of 6-in. Howitzers.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*J. H. Leck*

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

Issued at 10 a.m. to all recipients  
of Order No. 162.

233

29



**SECRET**SECRET.

Copy No. 23....

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 163.

Reference: Sheets  
 HOOGE 1/10,000  
 BECELAERE 1/10,000  
 Sheet 28 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
 27th September 1917

1. (a) The 8th Infantry Brigade will relieve the 15th Infantry Brigade in the right brigade sector on the night of 27th/28th September 1917.  
 The relief will be carried out under the orders of the G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade. The readjustment of Divisional Boundaries will take place later. Meanwhile posts held by 15th Infantry Brigade will be taken over.
- (b) The 14th Infantry Brigade will remain in the line until the Division is relieved on the night 1st/2nd October.
- (c) The 33rd Division is being relieved by the 23rd Division on the night 27th/28th September.
- (d) The left Bde. of 4th Aust. Div. is being relieved on night 27th/28th.
2. (a) A percentage of specialists will take over at once, and the relief as far as possible will be completed during daylight provided the tactical situation permits.
- (b) The relief will be completed by 12 midnight, 27th/28th September.
3. (a) The Brigade Sector will be held on a two-battalion front with remaining units distributed in depth.
- (b) Until the situation is quite clear, all fighting troops of the 8th Infantry Brigade after relief will be disposed east of a line running N. and S. through J.7.d.5.O.
4. The units of the 8th Infantry Brigade at present attached to 15th Infantry Brigade will rejoin the 8th Infantry Brigade on completion of relief.
5. (a) Subject to the terms of this order, the details of the relief will be arranged between Brigade Commanders concerned.
- (b) Command of the Brigade Sector will pass on completion of relief, which will be reported to Divisional Headquarters.
6. On relief the 15th Infantry Brigade will proceed to the CHATEAU SEGARD Area.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.



Lieut-Colonel,  
 General Staff,  
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

P.T.C.



APPENDIX *A*

-2-

Issued at 12.30 p.m. to:

	Copy No.
8th Infantry Brig de	1
14th Infantry Brigade	2
15th Infantry Brigade,	3
5th Pioneer Battalion	4
Divisional Artillery	5 - 6
Divisional Engineers	7
Divisional Signal Co	8
Divisional Train	9
A.D.M.S.	10
Divisional Machine Gun Officer	11

Copies to:

I ANZAC Corps	12 - 13
33rd Division	14
23rd Division	15
4th Australian Division	16
D.A.D.O.S.	17
Area Commandant	
CHATEAU SEGARD Area	18
"G"	19 - 20
"Q"	21
A.D.C. to G.O.C.	22
war Diary.	23.



S E C R E TCopy No. *21*

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 164

Reference:-  
Sheet 28.Headquarters  
28th September 1917.

1. The 15th Infantry Brigade will move to the DICKEBUSCH AREA on 29th September 1917.
2. The move will be completed by 1 p.m. There are no restrictions as to route.
3. (a) Distances as laid down in Divisional Order No. 159 will be maintained.  
(b) The usual precautions will be taken in regard to enemy aircraft.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*W. H. Peck*Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th Australian Division.

Issued at 11.30 p.m. to:-  
 15th Infantry Brigade  
 Divisional Signal Co.  
 Divisional Train  
 A.D.M.S.

Copy No.

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Copies to:-

8th Infantry Brigade  
 14th Infantry Brigade  
 5th Pioneer Battalion  
 Divisional Engineers  
 Divisional Artillery  
 Divisional Machine Gun Officer  
 D.A.D.O.S.  
 I ANZAC Corps  
 23rd Division  
 1st Australian Division  
 4th Australian Division  
 Area Commandant  
 DICKEBUSCH AREA  
 "G"  
 "Q"  
 A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
 War Diary

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SECRET

Copy No. *14*.

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 165.

Reference:-

Sheet 28 1/40,000

Headquarters

29th September 1917.

1. The 8th Infantry Brigade will withdraw one battalion from the line on the night 29th/30th September.
2. (a) On withdrawal this battalion will move to SEAN AREA and form the Brigade Reserve.  
(b) Arrangements for accomodation will be made by "Q" Branch.
3. (a) Orders already issued in regard to formations and distances will be observed.  
(b) The usual precautions will be taken in regard to hostile aircraft.  
(c) There are no restrictions as to route.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.



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

Issued at 1.30 p.m. to  
8th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
A.D.M.S.

Copy No.

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Copies to:-

14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Artillery  
Divisional Engineers  
Area Commandant  
CHATEAU SEGARD AREA  
"G"  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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SECRET.Copy No. *29*

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No.166.

Reference:  
Sheet 28, 1/40,000.

Headquarters,  
29th Sept.1917.

1. (a) The 5th Australian Division (less artillery) will be relieved in the line by the 21st Division and the 7th Division on the night 30th September/1st October 1917.
- (b) The 110th Infantry Brigade (21st Division) will relieve the 8th Infantry Brigade in the right sector. The 22nd Infantry Brigade (7th Division) will relieve the 14th Infantry Brigade in the left sector.
2. (a) Moves will take place in accordance with attached table.
- (b) Previous orders with regard to formations and distances on the march and precautions against enemy aircraft will be observed. All aeroplane photos and maps referring to the sector, except Sheet 28, 1/40,000 will be handed over to incoming units.
3. (a) Machine Gun Companies will be relieved under arrangements to be made direct between Divisional Machine Gun Officers concerned.
- (b) On relief, the 8th, 14th, and 15th Machine Gun Companies will rejoin their respective Brigades.
- (c) The 25th Machine Gun Company will be attached to the 8th Infantry Brigade.
4. Instructions in regard to the relief of Divisional Engineers and the 5th Pioneer Battalion will be issued later.
5. While the relief is in progress, all troops of the relieving Divisions which are EAST of the YPRES - COMINES CANAL will be at the disposal of the G.O.C. Division in the line, should the tactical situation require their use.
6. The detachment of the 13th Light Horse Regiment at present attached to the Division will be transferred to the 1st Australian Division.
7. The three R.F.C. wireless receiving sets at present attached to the Division will be transferred to the 1st Australian Division at 10 a.m. 1st October, and their location will be altered accordingly.
8. Subject to the terms of this order, all arrangements for the relief will be made between Brigade Commanders concerned, and command will pass on completion of the relief.
9. The G.O's.C. relieving Divisions will assume command of the Divisional fronts at 10 a.m. 1st October.
10. Administrative details will be communicated separately.



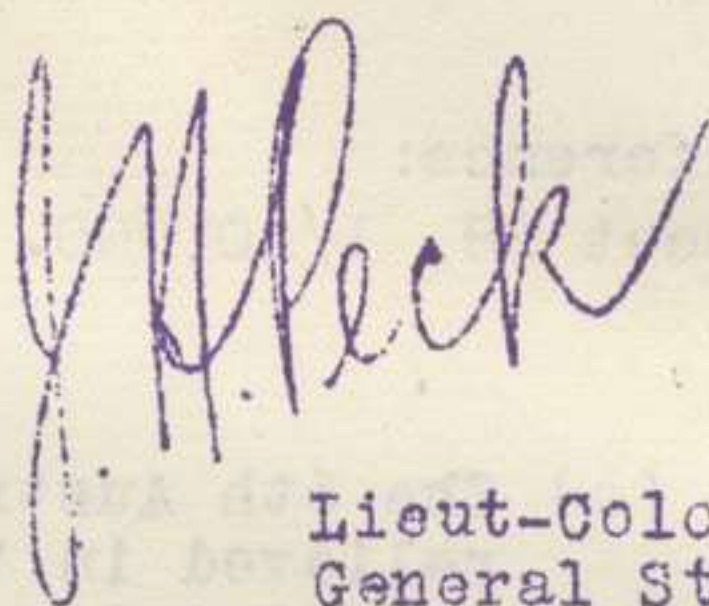
APPENDIX *a*

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-2-

11. Divisional Headquarters will close at WALKER CAMP at 8 a.m. 1st October and re-open at RENINGHELST (sheet 28, G.34.b.2.0) at same hour.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.



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

Issued at 6.0 p.m. to:-

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
5th Pioneer Battalion  
Divisional Artillery  
Divisional Engineers  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
A.D.M.S.  
Divisional Machine Gun Officer

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Copies to:-

I ANZAC Corps  
7th Division  
21st Division  
23rd Division  
4th Australian Division  
D.A.D.O.S.  
C.O. Left Double Bombardment Group  
O.C. "A" Squadron 13th Light Horse  
Area Commandant, DUCKEBUSCH AREA  
Area Commandant, PIONEER AREA  
Area Commandant, RENINGHELST AREA  
Area Commandant, WIPPENHOEK AREA  
Area Commandant, DOMINION AREA  
"G"  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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MOVE TABLE ISSUED WITH 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 166.

Serial No.	Date	Unit	From	To	Remarks
1	30th	15th Infantry Brigade	DICKEBUSCH	DOMINION AREA	Not to move till 1 p.m.
2	Night 30th Sept/ 1st Oct.	8th Infantry Brigade	LINE	DICKEBUSCH AREA	
3	do.	14th Infantry Brigade	LINE	PIONEER AREA	
4	1st Oct.	8th Infantry Brigade	DICKEBUSCH AREA	WIPPENHOEK AREA	Move by bus.
5	2nd Oct.	14th Infantry Brigade	PIONEER AREA	RENINGHELST STAGING AREA No. 8	To be clear of PIONEER AREA by 1 p.m.

Orders for move of Field Ambulances will be given by A.D.M.S.

*M. Beck*

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

APPENDIX A



*W. B. King*  
S E C R E TCopy No. *128*

## AMENDMENT TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 166.

Reference :  
Sheet 28, 1/40,000.Headquarters,  
30th Sept., 1917.

1. During the move of the Division from the forward areas to the Reserve Divisional Area, all units will move by routes North of the DICKEBUSCH - OUDERDOM - RENINGHELST Road.
2. Reference March Table issued with Order No. 166, substitute and add as follows:-

Serial No. 4 -	Route - via RENINGHELST. By march route. Move to be completed by 1 p.m.
Serial No. 5 -	Route - via B.A.B. track. By march route. Move to be completed by 12 noon.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

*K. A. Goodland* *Lieut.*  
*for* Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 2 p.m. to :-

All recipients of Division Order No. 166.



233

RCDIG1011299



233

APPENDIX *a*

26

**SECRET**

SECOND AMENDMENT TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 166.

Headquarters  
1st October 1917.

With reference to paragraph 11 of 5th Australian Division Order No. 166, Divisional Headquarters will open at SCOTTISH LINES G.23.a.8.6 and remain there until further notice.



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

Issued at 6.0 p.m. to all recipients of 5th Australian Division Order No. 166.



SG16/16

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

## - MAJOR OPERATIONS -

## PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No.1.

Ref:- Sheets HOOGE and  
BECELAERE, 1/10,000.Headquarters,  
7th September 1917.

1. The role of the Second Army in the forthcoming operations is the capture of the southern portion of the PASSCHENDAELE RIDGE from BROODSENDE southwards to HOLLEBEKE including the POLDHOEK and TOWER HAMLETS RIDGES, to facilitate the further advance and at the same time protect the right flank of the Fifth Army.  
The Fifth Army is to advance simultaneously with the Second Army.
2. The task of advancing N.E. up the Ridge towards the line BECELAERE-BROODSENDE has been assigned by the Second Army to I ANZAC Corps.
3. (a) The I ANZAC Corps took over the front from JAP AVENUE (J.14.e) to J.1.d.6.2 on the 5th instant.  
(b) This front is at present held by the 25th Division with the 47th Division in reserve. Both these Divisions are under the command of I ANZAC Corps.
4. (a) For the initial operation it is intended to employ the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions. Each of these Divisions will operate on a one-brigade front.  
(b) The 5th Australian Division will be held in reserve on the right flank, and the 4th Australian Division in reserve on the left flank.
5. (a) Forward boundaries have been fixed provisionally as follows:-  
Corps Southern Boundary, JAP AVENUE to CARLISLE FARM inclusive.  
Corps Northern Boundary, Road junction at J.1.d.6.2 to ANZAC HOUSE, inclusive.  
(b) Inter-Divisional Boundary, J.8.e.5.5 - J.8.d.3.9 - the road

*Withdrawn*



bounding POLYGONVELD and beginning at J.9.a.4.3.

6. (a) A map shewing the Corps frontage, and the objectives is attached hereto.
- (b) An administrative map showing details of back areas will be issued later.
7. The Divisional Commander's intention is to issue in the form of "Preliminary Instructions" all the orders and instructions regarding the plan and the preparatory measures necessary for the operation. These will subsequently be compiled into a complete scheme.
8. It has been proposed to locate the Headquarters of the two forward Divisions at H.27.b (near DICKEBUSCH). For the right Division two Brigade Headquarters are being prepared at HOOGE, a third Brigade Headquarters is available at HALF WAY HO. For the left Division, Brigade Headquarters are available at I.11.d.5.5 and I.12.c.3.5 and BIRR CROSS ROADS. Two more advanced Brigade Headquarters are being constructed at BELLEVARDE. It is possible that the Divisional and Brigade Headquarters of the right forward Division will be shared by 5th Australian Division but the policy in this respect has not yet been decided.
9. Some notes by the Divisional Commander on the proposed operations are attached hereto, marked Appendix "A".

#### 10. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

Issued at 12 noon to:-

8th Infantry Brigade  
14th Infantry Brigade  
15th Infantry Brigade  
Divisional Engineers  
Divisional Signal Co.  
Divisional Train  
A.D.M.S.

Copies to:

Divisional Artillery  
I ANZAC Corps  
File  
"Q"  
A.D.C. to G.O.C.  
War Diary

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12 without map  
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*M. Peck*

Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



SECRET.

ISSUED WITH PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

NOTES UPON PROPOSED OPERATIONS.

1. There are two outstanding considerations in the problem:-
  - (a) The fact that on the southern flank it is not intended to advance further than the high ground - in other words that the right flank will continually have to be refused.
  - (b) The existence of a diagonal ridge (running N.E. and S.W.) between STIRLING CASTLE and the objective which forces all movement to be by the right. In other words the advance must be made up the ridge in a N.E. direction and movement on the north must be regulated accordingly.
2. As regards (a) the flank must be protected from the outset. Concurrently therefore with any move in a N.E. direction a flank movement must be made aiming at the occupation of the spur, which is a separate tactical feature upon which TOWER HAMLETS lies on the southern extremity, and the high ground at VELDHOEK on the northern extremity. Until this flank is established the north easterly movement up the ridge will be limited.
3. As regards (b) it is fairly obvious that movement on the north must be regulated by the advance up the spur. Movement along the spur must therefore be in advance (from the point of view of distance and not of time) of movement on the low ground to the north.
4. Our ultimate objective is the BECELARE - BROODSENDE RIDGE. At the outset we are confronted with the difficulty that the right and centre are thrown back instead of forward as is tactically necessary. This error is the first thing to be remedied and the remedy must not be an operation on a narrow front.



-2-

5. The first correct objective which is tactically sound is the N.E. ridge and its square between CAMERON COVERT and ANZAC HOUSE. For two main reasons however this cannot be selected as a first objective:-

- (a) Because the distance is too great.
- (b) Because it requires a greater extent of action on the south flank than is possible.

What is required therefore is a suitable preliminary objective - from which the correct objective can be attained subsequently. The most suitable from this point of view would appear to be the line LONE HOUSE - gun pits on the north eastern face of WOPNE BOSCHEN to J.8.b.4.9 to J.2.c.9.9. Concurrently it would be necessary for the Corps on the south to aim at the line VELDHOEK - TOWER HAMLETS. The attainment of such a line would put us in a favourable position for attacking as the next step the line CAMERON COVERT - ANZAC HOUSE.

The obvious drawback to such an operation is that the front is limited, that is to say it leaves nothing for the Army on the north to do. The alternatives are to advance further forward on the north to ANZAC and as a consequence slightly further on the south, say to CARLISLE FARM. This has the disadvantage of making the advance on the south flank too far (some 1,500 yards) for the capabilities of the troops and not far enough to be quite sound tactically. The capacity of the troops to cover the distance will be largely dependent on weather conditions. Against this drawback are to be set the two considerations:-

- (a) The necessity for attack on a big front.
- (b) The fact that in a big operation the first advance can generally be a greater one than is possible afterwards.

A third set off is that a line further forward would give us observation over the enemy's most probable lines of counter attack.



-3-

6. After consideration of all the facts, the decision is arrived at that the first step in the proposed operations should be a line from CARLISLE FARM on the right - through J.9.central - JACOBUS TRENCH - ANZAC HOUSE. Concurrently with this will be required an advance by the Corps on the right to the line TOWER HAMLETS - J.15.central, and an advance by the Corps on the left to the line ZONNEBEKE REDOUBT.
7. Subsequent steps in the advance will in all probability be:-
  - (a) The line REUTEL - JUBILEE CROFT - the TOKIO SPUR.
  - (b) The occupation of the high ground between JUDGE CROSS roads and BROODSEINDE.
8. These two advances are closely related and the second could possibly be done quickly after the first, i.e. the two reserve Divisions "leap-frogging" through the forward Divisions when they reach their objective.
9. It will be seen that in all probability the 5th Australian Division will be entrusted with the most important task of capturing POLYGONE WOOD.

*J. D. Hobbs.*

Major General,

7th September 1917.

Commanding 5th Australian Division.



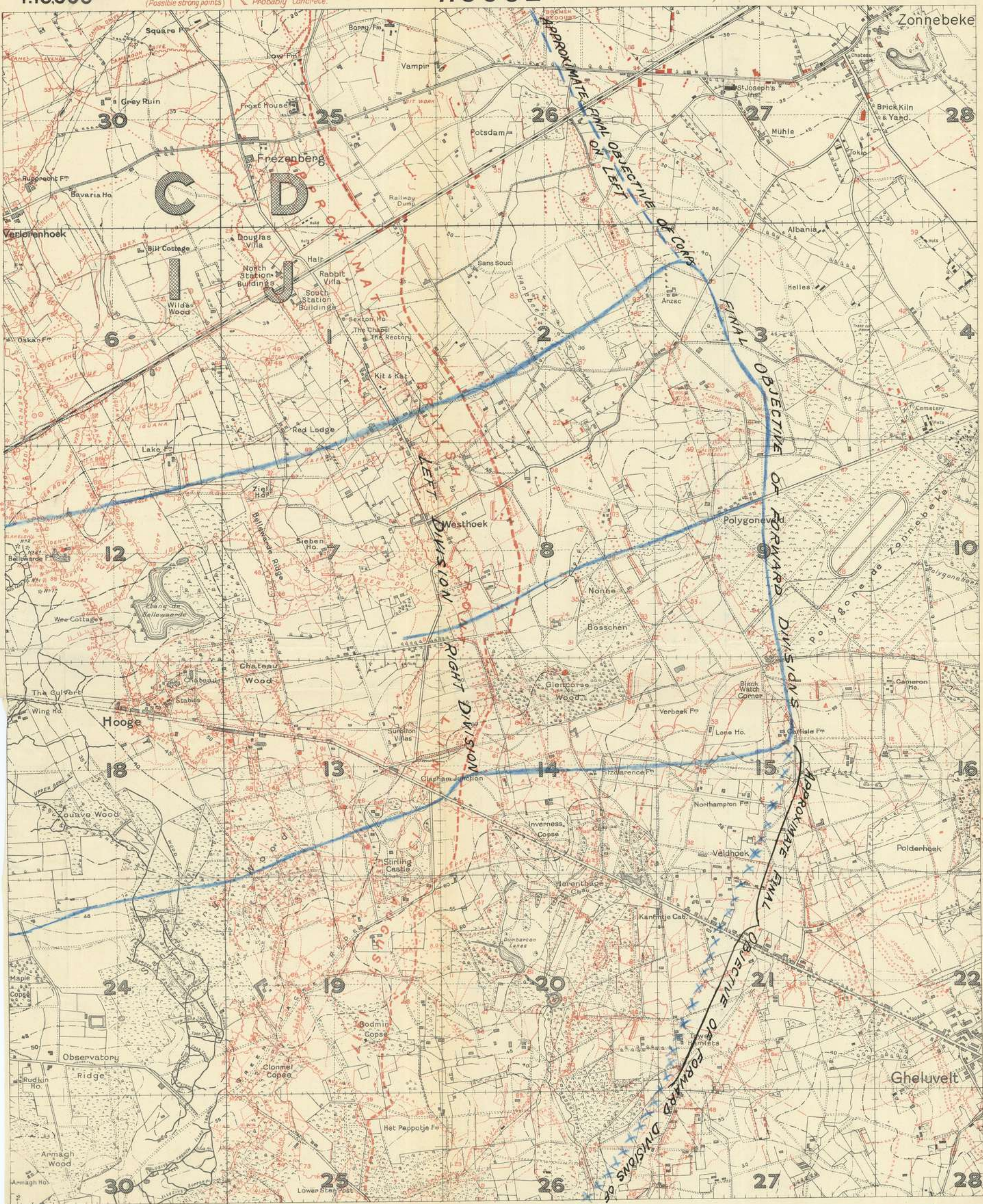
1:10,000

Battery Positions  
(Possible strong points)

Probably Timber or Camouflage  
Probably Concrete

HOOGE

ISSUED WITH PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No 1  
EDITION 3



Scale: 1:10,000.

GERMAN TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 13-8-17.

NOTES: (i) Dispositions of DIVISIONS NOT TO SCALE  
(ii) Boundaries Approximate  
(iii) The word "Forward" means leading two Divs.

Machine Gun  
Trench Mortar  
Ammunition Dump  
Supply Dump

Listening Post  
Observation Post  
Buried Cable