

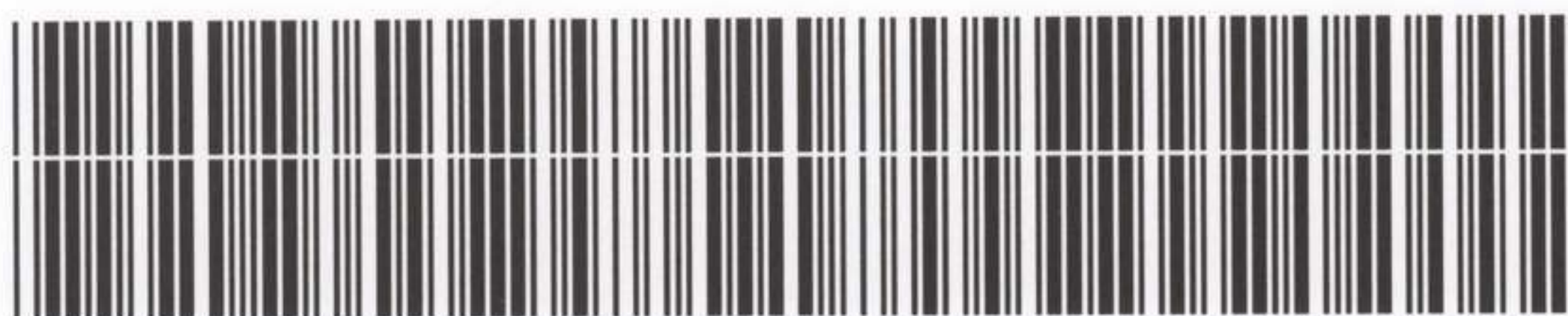
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/46/17 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 3rd
Australian Division

March 1918



AWM4-1/46/17PART2

Divisional Headquarters,
3rd. March, 1918.

REPORT ON MOVE OF 10th. BRIGADE GROUP

TRANSPORT (Marching portion). 3/3/18.

1.- STARTING POINT. -

The Starting Point given (700 yards S.E. of METEREN) in 10th. Brigade Administrative Instructions issued in conjunction with Brigade Order No.93. was, in my opinion, too far away - it was 10,000 yards from the nearest unit camp site. Unless someone organised the column EAST of BAILLEUL, there was a possibility of hopeless congestion in the town; also, the column could not have been organised on the narrow roads near the starting point. As a matter of fact, although not provided for in the Brigade Order, someone had organised the column EAST of BAILLEUL and therefore the march through the town was satisfactory.

2. - TIMING.

The Column reached the Starting Point 45 minutes late. ~~Some~~ Some slight delay was said to have been caused through the loading section of the column (the A.S.C. Company) taking a wrong turning in BAILLEUL.

3. - DRIVING.

The driving, except in one section of the column, was good. In the case of the exception quoted, proper distances were not kept and the wagon escorts were forced to march alongside the wagons, - to the detriment of other traffic.

4. - LOADING and TURN-OUT.

Satisfactory.

5. - ESCORTS.

In each Infantry section of the column, some men of the wagon escorts were riding on the wagons. Escorts did not carry rifles, and 75% carried no equipment other than a box respirator. The 40th. Battalion section was the best.

6. - GENERAL.

Taken as a whole, the "March" was of fair average quality.

Geo. F. ...

Major.
General Staff.

Appendix 5
THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters
10th. March, 1918.



87

GENERAL STAFF CIRCULAR No. 73A.

Training.

1. - During the period that the Division is in the Reserve Area, the following points as regards Training and Recreation should be attended to.

Recreation (i.e., organised games) should comprise a large portion of the time available, but though it is desired to give troops as much rest as possible, attention must be devoted to ensuring that, during the hours laid down for training, every possible endeavour is made to improve the efficiency of the units.

2. - Syllabi will be arranged by Brigades and copies forwarded to Divisional Headquarters weekly.

3. - Engineers and Pioneers.

Training will be carried out on lines already laid down.

A proportion of the Engineers will be employed on the construction of gas trenches at HENNEVEUX (when so detailed).

Infantry.

The Divisional Commander desires that the majority of the time be devoted to the training of the Platoon in the Defensive Battle. - Particularly -

- (a) distribution in depth
- (b) Prompt delivery of counter-attacks.
- (c) Co-operation of all weapons in developing fire power.
- (d) In the various phases of battle.
- (e) Acting alone and in conjunction with other platoons.
- (f) Perfecting all ranks in the use of the various weapons with which the Infantry is armed, particularly the Lewis Gun, the Rifle, the Bayonet and the Bomb.

The co-operation of the Light Trench Mortars should be practised, as they will certainly be greatly used for assisting our counter-attacks.

(i) Lewis Guns. It is considered likely that in the near future a considerable increase will be made in the issue of this weapon, and it is therefore necessary that the trained personnel should be ready when issue is made.

(ii). Rifle. As much use as possible is to be made of open and miniature ranges and the courses laid down should be fired by as many men as possible.

But the Divisional Commander directs that, in addition to the range practices, at least half an hour each day is to be devoted to muscle exercises, rapid loading and firing.

(iii). Bayonet Fighting. Wherever courses are available, these should be utilised, particularly in the combined training of "Bullet and Bayonet".

P.T.O.

4. - Training of Officers and N.C.Os.

Classes should be formed for the purpose of training Platoon Officers and N.C.Os. in the principles of moving warfare, i.e., -

- (i). Principles of flank protection.
- (ii). Communication with units on right and left.
- (iii). Constantly and promptly reporting information of our own and enemy situation.
- (iv). Co-operation, by fire or movement, with flank units.
- (v). The effect of personal control and example.
- (vi). The necessity for rapidly realising the needs of a situation and the prompt action required.

5. - Company Commanders & Senior Officers.

The training of Company Commanders and Senior Officers will be best carried out by Brigade Classes - which should include :-

- (i). Lectures.
- (ii). Simple tactical schemes without troops.
- (iii). Discussion, (particularly on S.S.135, 143, 152 & extracts selected from the various pamphlets and translations issued).

~~ixix~~

The action of Battalion and Company Commanders and their positions during the battle (which will be a series of local penetrations by the enemy and counter-attacks by us - very little information from units and prompt action necessary - where the personal factor becomes of the greatest importance) - should be discussed and defined.

- (iv). Skeleton exercises in open and semi-open warfare.

6. - Communication.

Extra to the training of the Signal personnel, as much time as possible should be devoted to -

- (a) Practice in writing messages.
- (b) Framing and delivery of verbal messages.
- (c) The employment of as many alternative forms of communication as possible.
- (d) Training of Runners, etc.,

7. - Machine Guns.

The necessary preliminary arrangements for the organisation of the Machine Gun Battalion will be proceeded with, (pending approval), but the present organisation will not be broken up until further orders.

S.S.192 should be carefully studied and practised.

Infantry Officers should also be encouraged to read and study this book.

8. - Map Reading.

The country in which the Division is resting is particularly suited for the teaching of map reading, topography and scouting, and endeavour should be made by units to improve N.C.Os. and Scouts as much as possible.

9. - Transport.

A trial should be made as to what stores can be dispensed with and what can be carried in wagons if mobile warfare becomes necessary. At least one test should be made by each unit as to what amount of pack transport can be organised, and what stores so transported.

P.T.O.

10. - Gas.

The training of all ranks in Anti-gas measures is of essential importance. A thorough inspection of all Anti-gas equipment and Small Box Respirators will be made.

The Gas Ground at HARLETTES will be utilised forthwith by the Divisional Gas Officer for the purpose of demonstration of Cloud Gas, projectors, flammenwerfer, etc., to the 10th. and 11th Brigades.

As soon as a Gas Ground is completed ^{at HENNEVEUX}, similar Gas and Smoke demonstrations, involving the wearing of the Small Box Respirator will be held.

FURTHER. Training of all arms (both drill and in the field) should include some phase during which the Small Box Respirator is worn for at least half an hour. During parades, the Small Box Respirator will always be carried.

11. - Anti-Aircraft.

The training of all Lewis Gunners, and particularly those detailed for Anti-aircraft work, should receive considerable attention, and the greatest use should be made of the services of those Officers and N.C.Os. who have attended A.A. Schools.

12. - Competitions

The carrying out and completion of the Platoon Competitions should be completed as early as possible.

Separate instructions on this subject are being issued.

Ch Jones

Lieut.-Colonel.
General Staff.

PWP.

Distribution.

C.R.A.
C.R.E.
3rd. Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
10th. -do-
11th. -do-
3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn.
D.M.G.O.
Div. Machine Gun Bn.
D.B.O.
D.G.O.
3rd. Aust. Div. Train.
3rd. Aust. Div. Supply Column.

A.D.H.S.
D.A.D.V.S.
D.A.D.O.S.
3rd. Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.
A.P.M.
Camp Commandant.
3rd. Aust. Div. Mob. Vet. Sect.
"A.Q".
War Diary.

Appendix 6

APPENDIX

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COPY. 11-3-18.

Australian Corps,
9th. March, 1918.

S/4010/1.



2nd. Australian Division.

1. Reports show that an attack against the XXII Corps in the near future is probable. This attack may extend to the left of the Australian Corps. -

2. In order to be ready to strengthen the artillery defence of the XXII Corps without demanding assistance from the artillery of the Australian Corps now covering the front of that Corps, the 3rd. Australian Divisional Artillery will, on arrival in the support division area, hold itself in readiness to move at short notice to support the XXII Corps should the necessity arise.

3. The G.O.C., R.A., will arrange details direct with the G.O.C., R.A., XXII Corps regarding positions to be earmarked for occupation by the 3rd. Australian Divisional Artillery and will arrange also for the necessary reconnaissances and preparations to be made for occupying these positions at very short notice.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd). A.M. Ross,
Lieut-Colonel,
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, Australian Corps.

Copies to -
G.O.C., R.A.
3rd. Australian Division.
"A.Q."

37th Division. (2)
 49th Division (2).
 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery.

9th. March 1918.

1. The 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery is placed at disposal of the XXII Corps on arrival in the BAILLEUL Area and will be prepared to go into action at short notice in accordance with the following instructions.

2. One Brigade will be placed under the tactical command of the G.O.C. 37th Division, and one under the tactical command of the G.O.C. 49th Division.

3. Positions for the Brigade covering the Right (37th) Division will be reconnoitred and prepared and must be capable of covering the front from the Corps Southern Boundary to the SCHERRIABEEK with two 18-pdr batteries, one 18-pdr battery covering the front from the SCHERRIABEEK to the inter-divisional boundary.

The 4.5" Howitzer battery must be capable of covering the whole of the Right Division front.

For this purpose the 49th Division will hand over the positions of No.2 Reserve Brigade to the 37th Division for use if required. Planchette boards and copies of forms showing details about these positions should be handed over.

4. Positions for the brigade covering the Left (49th) Division will be reconnoitred and prepared and must be capable of covering the front from BERRY COTTS (J.27.a.3.4) to NOORDENHOEK (J.6.d.0.8) with all batteries at a range of about 4,000 yards.

5. Artillery bridges and small elephant shelters are available and will be supplied on demand by the C.R.Es. 49th and 37th Divisions, if required.

6. Two hundred rounds per gun of boxed ammunition will be placed near each position, arrangements being made for weather-proof cover. This ammunition will be placed in position forthwith.

7. Wagon lines for these Brigades, when they are ordered to move into the Corps area, will be as under :-

Brigade Reinforcing Right Division (H.Q.-H.23.c.5.4)

18-pdr Battery)	
18-pdr Battery)	
18-pdr Battery)	H.27.b.9.1.
4.5" How. Bty)	
1 Section D.A.C.	G.14.d.0.5.

Brigade Reinforcing Left Division. (H.Q.-H.23.c.5.4)

18-pdr Battery	LAUNDRY (I.13.a.5.5)
18-pdr Battery	H.23.c.5.4.
18-pdr Battery	H.33.b.5.5.)
4.5" How. Battery	H.33.b.5.5.) No horse standings.
1 Section D.A.C.	G.15.d.4.3.

These Brigades will not move into action without orders from Corps Headquarters.

8. The route from BAILLEUL to the wagon lines abovementioned will be via LOCRE and LA CLYTTE.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Signed) P. H. HANSEN
 Capt.
 for B.G.G.S. XXII Corps.

Appendix 7

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Programme of Smoke Demonstrations to be given to Battalions
by the Divisional Demonstration Platoon.

<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
43rd. Bn	Point 80. SELLES	13/3/18	10.30 a.m.	
44th. Bn	VELINGHEN	"	1.30 p.m.	
41st. Bn	QUESQUES	14/3/18	10.30 a.m.	
42nd. Bn	ARLETTE	"	1.30 p.m.	
36th. Bn	ESCOUILLES	15/3/18	10.00 a.m.	
35th. Bn	HENNEVEUX	"	2.30 p.m.	
33rd and 34th Bns.	L'HOUBLONNERIE	16/3/18	10.30 a.m.	

*Albert Wright Major
G.S. 3- Aust New.*

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

Divisional Headquarters,
12th. March, 1918.

DISPOSITION OF UNITS AS AT 6 a.m. 13-3-18.

Map Reference. - HAZEBROUCK 5A, & CALAIS 13 - 1/100,000.
28 S.W. 36 N.W. 27 S.E. 36A N.E. 1/20,000.

Divisional Headquarters.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
9th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.	.....	ALINCHUN (CHATEAU).
33rd. Bn. H.Q.	.....	BELLEBRUNE.
34th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	LE WAST.
35th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	HENNEVEUX.
36th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	ESCOUILLES.
9th. A.L.T.M. Bty.	.....	NABRINGHEM.
10th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.	.....	SAMETTE.
37th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	COULOMBY.
38th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	N.D. des ARDENIS.
39th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	BAYENGHEN.
40th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	SENINGHEM.
10th. A.L.T.M. Bty.	.....	LART.
11th. Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.	.....	VELINGHIN.
41st. Bn. H.Q.	.....	QUESQUES.
42nd. Bn. H.Q.	.....	FROMENTAL.
43rd. Bn. H.Q.	.....	SELLES.
44th. Bn. H.Q.	.....	LOTTINGHEM.
11th. A.L.T.M. Bty.	.....	WATTERDAL.
Div. M. G. Battalion H.Q.	.....	BOURNONVILLE.
Div. Artillery H.Q.	.....	RAVELSBERG. - Moving to
.....	.....	50 RUE DE LILLE, BAILLEUL.
7th. A.F.A. Bde. H.Q.	.....	E.8.d.6.8.
8th. A.F.A. Bde. H.Q.	.....	28 Rue De Lille, BAILLEUL.
D.T.M.O.	.....	E.12.d.2.9.
D.A.C. H.Q.	.....	F.12.a.7.3.
3rd. Aust. Div. Train H.Q.	.....	DESVRES.
867th. Coy.	.....	LA CRECHE.
868th. Coy.	.....	SAMETTE.
869th. Coy.	.....	DESVRES.
870th. Coy.	.....	DESVRES.
A.D.M.S.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
9th. Field Ambulance.	.....	BRUNEMBART.
10th. Field Ambulance.	.....	AFFRINGUES.
11th. Field Ambulance.	.....	VIEUL-MOUTIER.
C.R.E. H.Q.	.....	COLEMBERT.
9th. Field Coy.	.....	COLEMBERT.
10th. Field Coy.	.....	LONGUEVILLE.
11th. Field Coy.	.....	BAINGHEM LE COMTE.
3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn. H.Q.	.....	BELLE.
"A", "B" & "C" Companies.	.....	BELLE.
"D" Company.	.....	M.35.d.8.9. - LURGAN CAMP.
D.A.D.V.S.	.....	DESVRES.
3rd. Aust. Div. Mob. Vet. Sect.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
3rd. Aust. Div. Supply Column.	.....	DESVRES.
3rd. Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
3rd. Aust. Div. Sanitary Section.	.....	NIEPPE.
3rd. Aust. Div. Reinforcement Camp.	.....	DESVRES.
D.A.D.O.S.	.....	DESVRES.
A.P.M.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
Divisional Paymaster.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
Divisional Gas Officer.	.....	NIELLES LEZ BLEQUIN.
Divisional Bombing Officer.	.....	Hte CREUSE.

N.B. - Amendments to be immediately notified to Divisional Headquarters.

Divisional Headquarters,
21st March, 1918.

COPIES OF WIRES IN CONNECTION WITH MOVE.

To 3rd Aust. Div.

G.315.

21st.

Sent 5.58 pm. Received 6.20 pm

WARNING ORDER AAA THIRD AUST. DIV. LESS DIV. ARTILLERY WILL BE PREPARED TO MOVE TO STEENVORDE AREA AT ONCE IN SECOND ARMY RESERVE ADMINISTERED BY AUST. CORPS AAA TWO INFANTRY GROUPS BY BUS ONE INFANTRY GROUP BY TRAIN TRANSPORT BY ROAD AAA DETAILS WILL FOLLOW AAA ACKNOWLEDGE.

From AUST. CORPS.
e-----

To 9th-10-11 A.I.Bdes. C.R.E. 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.

G.31.

21st.

UNITS WILL BE PREPARED TO MOVE FORWARD INTO CORPS RESERVE AREA AT SHORT NOTICE aaa 10TH BDE. GROUP BY TACTICAL TRAIN FROM LUMBRES 9TH & 11TH BDES. GROUPS BY BUS AAA AT LEAST SIX HOURS NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN AAA DETAILS WILL FOLLOW AAA ACKNOWLEDGE AAA ADDRSD. 3 BDES. C.R.E. & PIONEERS.

From 3rd Aust. Div.

To Div. Sig. Coy. A.D.M.S. 9-10-11 Field Ambulances Div. M.G. Battn.
Div. Train. Supply Column. D.A.D.V.S.

G.32.

21st.

UNITS WILL BE PREPARED TO MOVE FORWARD INTO CORPS RESERVE AREA AT SHORT NOTICE AAA 10TH BDE. GROUP BY TACTICAL TRAIN FROM LUMBRES AAA 9TH & 11TH BDE. GROUPS BY BUSAAA M.G.COYS. & FIELD AMBULANCES WILL MOVE WITH AFFILIATED BDES. AAA TRANSPORT WILL MOVE BY ROAD AAA AT LEAST SIX HOURS NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN AAA DETAILS WILL FOLLOW AAA ACKNOWLEDGE AAA ADDRSD. ALL CONCERNED.

From 3rd Aust. Div.

To THIRD AUST. DIV.

G.39.

21st.

Sent at 8.20 pm. Received 8.50 pm

REFERENCE G.26 OF 21ST ADDSD. ALL CORPS AAA 3RD AUST. DIV. WILL MOVE TO STEENVORDE AREA COMMENCING TO-MORROW 22ND AAA TWO PERSONNEL TRAINS & ONE OMNIBUS TRAIN ARE PLACED AT DISPOSAL OF 1ST AUST. CORPS AS FOLLOWS AAA 22ND ONE SET FOR "A" BRIGADE GROUP ENTRAIN PERSONNEL LOTTINGHEM TRANSPORT AT DESVRES ONE DETRAIN CAESTRE AAA ONE SET FOR "B" BRIGADE GROUP ENTRAIN PERSONNEL AT LOTTINGHEM TRANSPORT AT DESVRES DETRAIN PERSONNEL ABEELE TRANSPORT CAESTRE AAA 23RD ONE SET FOR "C" BRIGADE GROUP ENTRAIN PERSONNEL LUMBRES TRANSPORT WIZERNES DETRAIN CAESTRE AAA ARRANGE DETAILS DIRECT WITH TRAFFIC HAZEBROUCK AAA MARCHING PORTION STAGE AS FOLLOWS FIRST NIGHT "A" BRIGADE GROUP ESQUERBES SUB-AREA "B" BRIGADE GROUP BOISDINGHEM SUB-AREA "C" BRIGADE GROUP ST. MARTIN AU LAERT SUB-AREA AAA SECOND NIGHT RENESCURE AREA AAA ADDRSD. AUST. CORPS & TRAFFIC HAZEBROUCK REPTD. THIRD AUST. DIV. & AREA COMMDTS. CONCERNED

From Second Army.

To 9-10-11 A.I.Bdes.

G.34.

21st.

BRIGADES WILL BE PREPARED TO MOVE AS UNDER AaALLTH BDE. GROUP ON 22ND INST. PERSONNEL ENTRAIN LOTTINGHEM TRANSPORT ENTRAIN DESVRES AAA 9TH BDE. GROUP ON 22ND AS ABOVE AAA 10TH BDE. GROUP ON 23RD INST. PERSONNEL ENTRAIN LUMBRES TRANSPORT ENTRAIN WIZERNES AAA

MARCHING PORTIONS BY ROAD AAA ACKNOWLEDGE AAA ADDRSD. 3 BDES.
----From 3rd Aust. Div.

To C.R.E. DIV. SIG. COY. 3rd AUST. PIONEER BN. A.D.M.S. 9-10-11
Field Ambulances. 3RD M.G.BATTN. DIV. TRAIN. SUPPLY COLUMN. D.A.D.V.S
G.35. 21st.

COPY OF ABOVE (G.34).
From 3rd Aust. Div.

To GENERAL MONASH
C/o Cdt. MICHELAM HOME,
CAP MARTIN.

G.36. 21st.

MOVING TO-MORROW ALONG YOUR ROUTE OF SEPTEMBER AAA WIRE DESIRE RE
CAR AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS AAA COLONEL JESS.

From 3rd Aust. Div.

COPY.

Appendix 10a

SECRET.

Copy No.1.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.
22nd March, 1918



AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER NO.25.

1.- The 3rd Australian Division (including Artillery) will cease to be in Corps Reserve and will come into Army Reserve as from to-day the 22nd instant.

2.- (i). The 3rd Aust. Div. (less Artillery) will move to the STEENVOORDE AREA on the 22nd and 23rd instant under orders already issued.

(ii). The 3rd Aust. Div. Artillery will remain in its present location.

3.- The 3rd Aust. Division will continue to be administered by the AUSTRALIAN Corps.

4.- ACKNOWLEDGE.

C.B.B.

(sgd) C.B.B. WHITE.
Brigadier-General.
General Staff.
AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

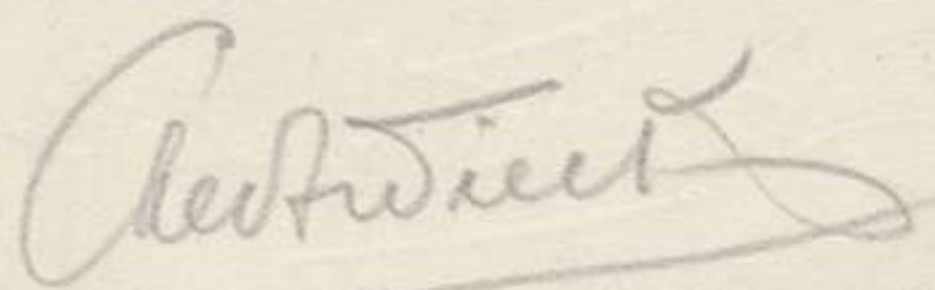
Appendix 17

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.30/81.

Divisional Headquarters,
19th March, 1918.Headquarters,
AUSTRALIAN Corps.Following is a list of Schools being held in
the Divisional Area, viz:-

BRIGADE.	NATURE.	LOCATION.	NO. ATTENDING.	DURATION.
9th	N.C.Os.	ALINCTHUN.	67	8-4-18.
"	Signallers.	"	67	"
10th	"	DEVERSOIR.	36	22-3-18.
"	"	SENINGHEM.	50	8-4-18.
"	"	BAYENGHEM	50	"
11th	"	WATTERDAL.	332	"
"	N.C.Os.	"	68	"
D.H.Q.	German Speakers.	NIELLES-LES- BLEQUIN.	15	23-3-18.


Major.-G.S.
for A/G.O.C. Third Aust. Division.

T.C.

Appendix 12

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

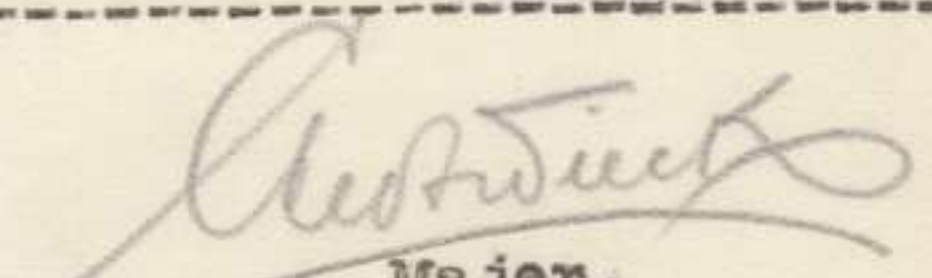
APPENDIX 12 98

23rd March, 1918.

ACTION TAKEN ON ORDER TO MOVE TO THE BLARINGHEM AREA.

FORMATION.	ACTUAL POSITION. at 3.0 p.m.		ORDERED TO	
	PLACE	MEANS.	PLACE	MEANS.
11th A.I.Bde. Group (less marching transport).	Reached EECKE Sub-Area.	Rail.	Remain	-
Marching Transports of 11th A.I.Bde. Group.	Moving to RENESECURE Sub-Area.	Road.	-	-
9th A.I.Bde. Group (less marching transport).	Reached WATOU Sub- Area.	Rail.	Remain.	-
Marching transport of 9th A.I.Bde. Group.	Moving to RENESECURE. Sub-Area.	Road.	-	-
10th A.I.Bde. Group (less transport).	WINNEZEELE Sub-Area.	Rail.	2 Battns. diverted from CAESTRE Railway Stn. to WARDREC- QUES. SERCUS	Road.
			2 Battns. diverted from EBBLINGHEM Railway Stn. to SERCUS. WARDRECQUES	
Transport from Omni- bus Train of 10th A.I.Bde. Group.	WINNEZEELE Sub-Area (entraining at LUMBRES).	Rail.	WARDRECQUES.	Road.
Marching Transport 10th A.I.Bde. Group.	ST.MARTIN-AU- LAERT.	Road.	-	-
Divisional H.Q.	STEENVOORDE.	Road.	-	-

T.C.


 Major.
General Staff.

Appendix 13

Australian Corps,
23rd March, 1918.



AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER NO. 28.

1.- (i) The 3rd Australian Division (less Artillery) will concentrate in the BLARINGHEM Area to-morrow the 24th instant.

(ii) The Third Australian Divisional Artillery will move by road from the MERRIS Area to the MORBECQUE Area to-day the 23rd instant under orders already issued.

2.- (i) The dismounted portion of the 3rd Australian Division will move by bus from the STEENVOORDE Area. Detailed instructions are being issued by Australian Corps "Q".

(ii) The 1st line transport of the 3rd Australian Division arriving in the RENESCURE Area to-day will not move to the STEENVOORDE Area as ordered, but will rejoin its Division to-morrow 24th instant in the BLARINGHEM Area under orders to be issued by the 3rd Australian Division.

That portion of the 1st line transport at present in the STEENVOORDE Area will move by road via WALLON-CAPPEL (not to enter HAZEBROUCK) to the BLARINGHEM Area on the 24th instant.

3.- The 3rd Australian Division (including Divisional Artillery and M.T.Coy) will be transferred from the BLARINGHEM and MORBECQUE Areas to X Corps, Third Army, as follows:-

(i) 3rd Australian Division (less Divisional Artillery and M.T.Coy) by train on 25th instant -
entraining:- ST. OMER.

ARQUES.

STEENBECQUE.

(NOTE: First train leaves 3 a.m. 26th instant).

detraining:- MONDICOURT PAS (One station).

DOULLENS (two stations).

(ii) 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery will move from the MORBECQUE Area by road on 24th, 25th and 26th instant, to LUCHEUX Area, staging:-

Night 24th/25th ISBERGUES Area, Billets from Area Cdt., LAMBRES.

Night 25th/26th VALHOUN Area, Billets from Area Cdt., VALHOUN.

4.- (i) 3rd Australian Divisional Reinforcement Depot will remain in its present location under the orders of Australian Corps.

(ii) Excess and nucleus personnel will move with the Division and will be disposed subsequently under Divisional Arrangements.

5.- Administrative instructions are being issued separately.

6.- ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

(Sgd) M.M. CUTHBERT. Capt.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff.
Australian Corps.

COPY.

S E C R E T.

AUSTRALIAN Corps. ✓
23rd March, 1918.

FIRST ADDENDUM TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER NO.28 dated
23rd March, 1918.

1. - With reference to paragraph 3 of the above order, the 3rd Australian Division will come into G.H.Q. Reserve on arrival in the Third Army Area.
2. With reference to sub-para 3 (i) of above order, details of entrainment will be arranged by the 3rd Australian Division direct with Traffic HAZEBROUCK.
3. With reference to sub-para 3 (ii) of above order, the 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery and the M.T. Coy. will move by road to the LUCHEUX Area.

The 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery will stage as detailed therein.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sgd) M.G.CUTHBERT. Capt.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff.
Australian Corps.

22 *War Diary* *Appendix B* APPENDIX *13a* 101

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,
23rd. Mch, 1918.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 81

Map Ref: HAZEBROUCK 5A - 1/100000.

1. The Third Aust. Division will concentrate in the BLARINGHEM-MORBECQUE Area to-morrow the 24th instant as under:-

2. Divisional Artillery are now in the MORBECQUE Area under instructions already issued by AUSTRALIAN Corps.

3. The portion of the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. now in WARDREQUES Area will remain. The portion resting in SERCUS Area on night of 23rd /24th inst., will be conveyed by bus to WARDREQUES Area on 24th instant, using buses which convey 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. to SERCUS Area.

Divisional Headquarters and attached Units and 9th and 11th Aust. Inf. Brigades will be conveyed by bus to BLARINGHEM Area on 24th instant and will be located as under:-

Divisional Headquarters -	BLARINGHEM.
9th Aust. Inf. Bde. -	SERCUS Sub-Area.
11th -do- -	LYNDE Sub-Area.

Instructions as to embussing points, time of starting, and debussing points have been issued by "Q" of Division. Div. H.Q. closes at STEENVOORDE and opens at BLARINGHEM at 11 a.m. on 24th instant.

First line transport of Units now in ST. MARTIN AU LALRT and RANLSCHUL Areas will join Units in Brigade Sub-Areas on 24th instant.

The portions of transport now with Units in STEENVOORDE Area will move by road to new Area, via WALLON CAPPEL (not to enter HAZEBROUCK) on 24th instant.

The Third Aust. Division (including Artillery ...) will be transferred to 10th Corps., Third Army as follows:-

(a) Divisional Artillery - by road on 24th 25th, 26th inst.

Staging

Night 24th/25th - ISBERGUES Area - Billets from Area Cdt. LAMBRES.

Night 25th/26th - VALHOUN Area - Billets from Area Edt. VALHOUN.

Night 26th LUCHEUX Area.

(b) The 10th Aust. Inf. Brigade Group - by train from ST. OMER on night 25th/26th.

11th Aust. Inf. Brigade Group - by train from ARQUES night 25th/26th.

9th Aust. Inf. Brigade Group - by train from STEENBLOQUE night 25th/26th.

(Brigade Group includes attached Machine Gun Company).

Move of Headquarters and Reserve Company of 3rd Aust. M.G. Battalion and Pioneer Battalion will be issued later.

P.T.O.

(c) Brigade Groups will detrain at DOULLENS and MONDICOURT PAS.


9. Divisional Reinforcement Depot will remain at present location under the orders of AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Excess and nucleus personnel will move with Division and be disposed of subsequently.

The Divisional Demonstration Platoon will be disbanded on 24th instant.

10. Administrative Instructions are being issued separately.

T.C.


Lieut-Colonel.
General Staffs

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.	1	A.D.C. for G.O.C.	
	2.	"G" Staff.	
	3.	"H.Q." Staff.	
	4.	G.R.A.	
	5.	G.R.E.	
	6.	3rd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.	
	7.	9th Aust. Inf. Bde.	
	8.	10th	-do-
	9.	11th	-do-
	10.	3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.	
	11.	3rd Aust. M.G. Bttn.	
	12.	A.D.M.S.	
	13.	A.P.M.	
	14.	3rd Aust. Div. Train.	
	15.		
	16.	Div. Salvage Coy.	
	17.	D.A.D.O.S.	
	18-19.	Aust. Corps.	
	20.	10th Corps.	
	21.	File.	
	22-24.	War Diary.	
	25-26.	Spare.	
	27.	D.A.D.V.	

} For information.

Appendix 14

APPENDIX

14

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,
24th. March, 1918.

Divisional Headquarters	...	BLARINGHEM.
9th. Aust. Inf. Bde. Group H.Q.	...	C.4.a.9.4. (Sheet 36A)
33rd. Bn.	...	C.9.d.1.7. "
34th. Bn.	...	C.21.d.9.5. "
35th. Bn.	...	C.28.b.5.8. "
869th. Coy.	...	C.9.d.1.7. "
9th. Field Coy.	...	B.8.b.4.8. "
36th. Bn.	...	U.22.d.9.0. (Sheet 27)
9th. Field Ambulance	...	U.29.c.5.1. "
9th. A.L.T.M. Bty	...	U.26.b.5.0. "
9th. A.M.G. Coy.	...	U.23.a.8.4. "
10th. Aust. Inf. Bde. Group H.Q.	..	Factory, WARDRECQUES
37th. Bn.	...	WARDRECQUES.
38th. Bn.	...	COUBRONNE.
39th. Bn.	...	HEURINGHEM.
40th. Bn.	...	CAMPAGNE.
10th. Field Coy.	...	BANDRINGHEM . HEURINGHEM.
10th. A.M.G. Coy.	...	BLAMART.
10th. Field Ambulance	...	BANDRINGHEM.
10th. A.L.T.M. Bty	...	WARDRECQUES.
868th. Coy.	...	CAMPAGNE.
Div. Salvage & Traffic Details		BANDRINGHEM.
11th. Aust. Inf. Bde Group H.Q.		PONT DASQUIN.
41st. Bn.	...	ERLINGHEM.
42nd. Bn.	...	LYND.
43rd. Bn.	...	
44th. Bn.	...	1 mile N.W. BLARINGHEM.
11th. Field Coy. Ambulance	...	2000 yds S.E. WARDRECQUES.
11th. Field Coy.	...	BELLE CROIX
11th. A.M.G. Coy.	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ mile S.E. in RENESCURE.
11th. A.L.T.M. Bty	...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. WARDRECQUES.
870th. Coy.	...	ERLINGHEM.
Div. M. G. Bn.	...	BLARINGHEM.
Divisional Artillery H.Q.		
7th A.F.A. Bde H.Q.	...	} <i>Sbergues Area</i>
8th do.	...	
D.T.M.O.	...	
D.A.C. H.Q.,	...	
A.D.M.S.	...	
C. R. E.	...	BLARINGHEM.
3rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn H.Q.	...	do.
D.A.D.V.S.	...	Rue Nationale, RACQUINGHEM
Div. Mob. Vet. Section.	...	BLARINGHEM.
Div. M. T. Coy.	...	
Div. Train	...	B.22.d.7.8. (Sheet 36A).
D.A.D.O.S.	...	
A.P.M.	...	BLARINGHEM.
Div. Paymaster	...	do.
Div. Gas Officer	...	do.

Admiral Dwyer

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,
27th. March, 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE MOVE OF THE DIVISION
TO THE FRANVILLERS SECTOR.

SITUATION: On the morning of the 26th March the line ran ALBERT-BRAY. Orders were to hold the line but to retire in the face of a serious attack.

At 4-0 p.m. 26th. orders were issued to hold the line at all costs. Orders could not be got to the troops in time, and the line was withdrawn to ALBERT and some point West of BRAY. The situation on this line is much confused and the position South of the SOMME is obscure.

ORDERS RECEIVED:

Orders have been received by the Division to hold a line of wire and trench roughly conforming to the MERICOURT-SAILLY-le-Sec Road with both flanks on the rivers (i.e., ANCRE and SOMME). Tonight, 26/27th, this line is being held by about 2,000 mixed Infantry.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

The Divisional Commander has decided that one Brigade will hold this line South of the CORBIE-BRAY Road, and one Brigade to the North of it.

The Brigade in reserve will be at HEILLY. D.H.Q., Pioneer Battalion and Div. Machine Gun Company at FRANVILLERS.

Divisional Artillery to move to BEHENCOURT.

HOW LINE TO BE OCCUPIED:

The Battalions of the 11th Brigade will debus at Cross-roads South of FRANVILLERS.

The first battalion will cross the river at HEILLY and move by the cart-track across the spur and occupy the line South of the CORBIE-BRAY Road.

The second battalion will move up the gully near MERICOURT and occupy the line North of the CORBIE-BRAY Road.

The River Valley will be actually held and not merely covered, and the position will be organised in depth.

The third battalion will be held in support of the Right Wing. Brig-General CANNAN will command all troops in the Sector and will not allow any to leave until D.H.Q., consents.

READJUSTMENT:

On the arrival of the 10th. Brigade it will at once take over the line North of the CORBIE-BRAY Road, and the 11th. Brigade Battalion will be moved to its own Brigade Area.

GENERAL:

All bridges over the SOMME East of BRAY have been destroyed; those further West have been prepared for demolition and will be blown up if the enemy advances.

South of the SOMME the position of the left flank of the FIFTH ARMY is obscure, but it is said to be South of BRAY.

NORTH OF THE ANCRE:

The 39th. Division hold the line. - H.Q. at LAIEVIELLE.

The 4th. Australian Division has two Brigades near BRESLE. H.Q. at BAIZIEUX.

ENEMY METHODS:

The Boche attacks up valley and hollows and is quick at finding a gap. He gets his M.Gs. forward and uses them in enfilade. His Infantry wait at 600 yards for the M.Gs. to get to work. The next 48 hours are regarded as critical.

ARTILLERY:

There is practically no Artillery directly covering our line, but we have many guns slightly further North, and they can give some help.

The enemy has not many guns.

Our Vickers Guns should be mainly on the RIGHT.

MAPS.

No 1/40,000 available.

S.A.A.

Sub-Park to carry as much S.A.A. as possible, and to move to the new area quickly.

TRANSPORT & PACKS.

Transport should be sent down as early as possible.

D.H.Q.,

Divisional Headquarters will close at COUTERELLE at 8-0 a.m. and will move to FRANVILLERS.

(Sgd) GEO. F. WIECK. *W.F.*

Major
for Lieut.-Colonel, G.S.

Divisional Headquarters,
28th March, 1918.

REPORT BY C.R.E. ON BRIDGES OVER THE SOMME AND STEPS *taken*

for their destruction-----

1. FOUR BRIDGES AT RIBEMONT.

These are charged and guarded by one Officer and one Section of 10th Field Company.

2. TWO BRIDGES AT HEILLY.

These are charged (one insufficiently) and guarded by one Officer and a party of the 10th Field Company.

3. ONE BRIDGE AT BONNAY.

This is charged and guarded by a party of the 11th Field Company.

4. THREE BRIDGES AT CORBIE.

These are charged and guarded by the 1st Field Squadron R.E.

CORRECTED TO

Geo. Smith
Major.
General Staff.

SECRET.

27th March, 1918.

VII CORPS ORDER NO. 249.



On arrival in VII Corps Area :-

1. 3rd Australian Division will occupy line of existing trenches between ANCRE and the SOMME with left on the ANCRE and right on the SOMME about MERICOURT L'ABBE and SAILLY LE SEC. One Brigade disposed in depth will be North of the CORBIE-BRAY ROAD, one Brigade South of the CORBIE-BRAY ROAD.
2. Troops now occupying the above line will come under the Command of the G.O.C. 3rd Australian Division at an hour to be named later.
They will be relieved at the discretion of G.O.C. 3rd Australian Division when they will rejoin their Units.
3. Third Brigade, 3rd Australian Division, will remain in Reserve at HEILLY either to reinforce the line mentioned above or to operate North of the ANCRE.
4. Headquarters 3rd Australian Division will be at FRAN-VILLERS.
5. 4th Australian Division will place ^{one} ~~the~~ Brigade on the low ground about D.23 and 24 with one Battalion occupying the ridge E.13 with the object of meeting any hostile attack from the East or South-East. One Brigade will be in support in the low ground between BRESLE and the ANCRE. H.Q. BRIZIEUX.

(Sgd) A.H. RUTHVEN.
Brigadier-General.
General Staff, VIIth Corps.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET

Map Ref. Sheet 62D. 1:40,000.

Divisional Headquarters,
28th. March, 1918.

DISPOSITION OF UNITS.

Unit	Location	Wagon or Transport Lines.
Divisional Headquarters	FRANVILLERS	
Div. Artillery H.Q.	FRANVILLERS	
7th. A.F.A. Bde H.Q.	FRANVILLERS	
8th. A.F.Bde H.Q.	I.10.d.5.0.	LAHOUSSOYE
D.A.C. H.Q.	C.21.a.2.2.	
D.T.H.Q. H.Q.	C.21.a.2.2.	
Div. Engineer H.Q.	FRANVILLERS.	
9th. Field Coy.	LAHOUSSOYE	LAHOUSSOYE
10th. do.	FRANVILLERS	FRANVILLERS
11th. do.	HEILLY	Wood midway between FRANVILLERS and BEHENCOURT.
Div. Sig. Coy.	FRANVILLERS.	
9th. A.I.Bde H.Q.	BONNAY	
33rd. Bn. H.Q.	LA HEUVILLE	
34th. Bn H.Q.	BONNAY	
35th. Bn H.Q.	BONNAY	
36th. Bn H.Q.	I.11.a.2.6.	LAHOUSSOYE
9th. A.M.G. Coy. H.Q.	BONNAY	
9th. A.L.T.M. Bty H.Q.	BONNAY	
10th. A.I.Bde H.Q.	HEILLY	
37th. Bn H.Q.	J.16.a.5.0	
38th Bn H.Q.	MERICOURT	
39th. Bn H.Q.	HEILLY	Midway between FRANVILLERS and HEILLY
40th. Bn H.Q.	HEILLY	
10th. A.M.G. Coy H.Q.	MERICOURT	
10th. A.L.T.M. Bty H.Q.	"	
11th. A.I.Bde H.Q. Adv.	J.19.b.7.2. (Quarry)	
do. Rear	HEILLY	
41st. Bn H.Q.	VAUX-sur-Somme	
42nd. Bn H.Q.	SAILLY-le-Sec	
43rd. Bn H.Q.	J.22.b.2.0	
44th. Bn H.Q.	VAUX-sur-Somme	
11th. A.M.G. Coy H.Q.	HEILLY	In Wood midway between FRANVILLERS and BEHENCOURT.
11th. A.L.T.M. Bty H.Q.	VAUX-sur-Somme	
rd. Aust. Div. M.G. Bn H.Q.	RIBEMONT	
23rd. A.M.G. Coy	RIBEMONT	Vicinity RIBEMONT
rd. Aust. Pioneer Bn H.Q.	FRANVILLERS	FRANVILLERS
D.M.S.	FRANVILLERS	
9th. Field Ambulance	BEHENCOURT	
10th do.	BONNAY	
11th do.	FRANVILLERS	
A.D.V.S.	FRANVILLERS	
Mobile Vet. Section	BEHENCOURT	
A.D.O.S.		VILLERS BOGAGE.
rd. Aust. Div. Train H.Q.	FRANVILLERS	
867th Coy.	BEHENCOURT	
868th Coy.		
869th Coy.		
870th Coy.		
rd. Aust. Div. M.T. Coy.		
Ammunition Section	BEAUCOURT	
Supply Section	TOULLECOURT	
rd. Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.	FRANVILLERS	
P. M.	do.	
G. O.	do	
B. O.	do.	
T. Paymaster	do.	

Amendments to be immediately notified to Divisional Headquarters.

Appendix 19

APPENDIX

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

S E C R E T.

Divisional Headquarters,
29th. March, 1918.

C. R. A.
C. R. E.
9th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
10th. -do-
11th. -do-
Div. M.G. Bn.
Cyclist Coy., CORBIE
-do- RIBIMONT.

S.G. 401/1/4.

The responsibility for the destruction (if necessary) of all bridges over the SOMME and ANCRE East of DAOURS has been placed in the hands of the Divisional Commander.

The Engineer parties in charge of demolitions will be informed that bridges are only to be destroyed :-

- (a) On an order in writing from a Brigade or Divisional Commander;
- (b) After all our troops (particularly Artillery) have withdrawn over them. (This applies particularly to those bridges at HILLY and BOMMAY);
- (c) When the enemy is seen making an actual attack on the bridge.

There must be no withdrawal from any positions unless absolutely forced to do so, and therefore the bridges are only to be destroyed when it is no longer possible to hold them.

F.M.P.

W. G. Campbell
for

Lieut.-Colonel.
General Staff.

Third Australian Division
Appendix 20. War Diary. March 1918.
Anti Gas Services.



Appendix 20

The Division was relieved by the 2nd Aust. Division on the 8th March. The Sector of trenches occupied being from the River Dove to the River Lys. The most noteworthy feature in this sector was the number of gas-proof dugouts taken over by us & added to during our occupancy, by the 11th Field Coy Engineers under our supervision. Although these shelters were not gas proof in the strictest sense (there being no vestibule with double doors, they were a great protection if properly used & their installation was a step in the right direction.

As each shelter only accommodated 2, 3, or 4 men, more time & material was not warranted that that employed in installing SINGLE drop blanket doorways. All the dugouts used in the Sector were made gas proof with double blanket doorways. Special attention was given to Dressing Stations. Artillery H.Q. dugouts & those at the Battery positions, in all 13 new gas-proof dugouts were installed at Artillery positions.

During the last few days of our occupancy of the sector, Infantry working parties assisted a Special P.E. Coy in the installation of upwards of 750 Gas Projectors in the right Brigade Sector. In account of the prevailing unfavourable winds these were not fired until 20/21 March 18, when the 5th Brigade held this portion of the Line. Targets selected were FRELINGHEN and DUREZ FARM, where enemy dugouts had been located. It was hoped that this shoot would have taken place during our occupation, so that the men might have a practical demonstration of a PROJECTOR attack & be forewarned of the signs in the event of a similar attack by the enemy.

The Army Chemical Adviser, accompanied by the Corps Chemical Adviser paid a visit of inspection & traversed the sector. Dugouts & Trench Stores were examined & found in good order & the Anti-Gas discipline of the Division was favorably commented

P.T.O.

Enemy
Gas-Shell
Bombardments

upon.

Frequent gas-shell bombardments were experienced by the Division during the period under review, the most important being as under:-

Date	Area affected.	Occupied by	Casualties
3. 3. 18.	C. I. CENTRAL AND FLOEG STREET. WOOR	26 th Artillery Battery	NIL
3. 3. 18.	U. 29. 8.	9 th Aust. Inf. Bde.	"
5. 3. 18.	NO MANS. LAND.	PATROL. OF 11 th INF Bde.	"
6. 3. 18.	U. 7. U. 8. U. 14. 6.	Searching. FIRE FOR.	"
	U. 20. A. U. 14. 6.	Batteries	"

Sheet. 36. N.W. and 28. S.W.
The gas used in these shellings was YELLOW. BLUE and GREEN. CROSS.
An experiment was carried out to determine the persistency of MUSTARD GAS (YELLOW CROSS) liquid upon clothing. Six pieces of Sunic cloth were treated on marked positions with 10 drops of the liquid & then exposed to Sun. Air for 24 hrs. At the end of this period the clothing in each case still smelt strongly of the gas, this was repeated at the end of 48 hrs with similar results. At the end of 72 hrs exposure the gas could not be detected on 1 piece - the other 5 still smelt slightly the former piece was worn close to the skin by the Divisional Gas Officer & one of the others by a Divisional Gas Sgt for a period of 10 hours. Both were then removed & a faint skin flush was noticeable, the following day large blisters developed in each instance. At the same time the Army Chemical Adviser carried out a similar test, but applied Chloride of Lime as a means of eradicating the gas. The result was similar to that of the exposure test.

These experiments emphasises the fact that all impregnated clothing must be forwarded to the Central Baths for treatment by the steam process both wet & dry. It also indicates that the liquid will remain on the ground for long periods. Therefore areas affected by this type of gas shell must be noted, & information handed to relieving units.

APPENDIX

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A further experiment was carried with a chemical fan with the object of purifying the foul air of a gas-proof dugout during the progress of a gas attack. The fan was installed at the CHATHAMCOCKES (a large tunnel dugout system located West of ROEASTREE Wood) the apparatus consisted of a box divided into two compartments by a wire gauze & the box attached to a rotary fan, hand driven. The upper compartment was filled with S. B. R. canisters chemicals, through which the foul air was drawn and thus purified. This action was continuous & found to work satisfactorily, it would be particularly useful in ALL POSTS & PRESSING STATIONS to remove gas brought in by casualties.

Disadvantages.

- A. Occupied too much space
- B. Noisy in operation.

Officers School of Instruction. Bulford Camp.

The training syllabus included Lectures on Anti-Gas Measures and Small Box Respirator Drills. Also a demonstration as to the correct method of testing Respirators in Lachrymatory Gas, which should be thoroughly understood by all. Officers of Personal Units who are held responsible that the men under their Command are properly equipped & trained in Anti-Gas Defense measures.

The introduction of competitive games was enthusiastically received by the Officers who considered that thereby the interest of the men in their Units would be maintained, and the quick adjustment of the mask under excitement also rapidity of movement whilst wearing the mask, would be ensured without the drill becoming tedious.

10/3/18.

The Division moved from TAVELBERG to the rest area at NIELLES LEZ. BERQUIN. The Period between 10/17th was employed Lecturing Officers & N.C.O.'s of Units. Inspections of Small Box Respirators & preparation for the Demonstrations at the Gas Training Ground at HARLETTE. One special feature of the Training was the introduction of Competitive games. Bayonet fighting - Bombing & Musketry practice were carried out with the S. B. R. adjusted.

18/3/18.

Gas Demonstrations to Units were commenced. The syllabus comprised a short explanatory series of Lectures prior to the following demonstrations:-

- A. Hammerwerfer Method of use & means of protection.

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B. PROJECTOR ATTACK. Six mortars were set and the projector bombs discharged simultaneously thus giving a practical idea of the actual attack. i.e.

1. Loud noise & flash at detonation
2. Visibility of bombs during the flight through the air.
3. Cloud effect upon bombs bursting.

The Battalion then manned the practice trenches. Bttn. Sq. N.C.O.'s being placed in charge of the. Alarms & Trench Stns. One. Coy in the Line,
Two. Coys in Support & engaged as working parties
One. Coy looking on.

C. CLOUD GAS ATTACK. Demonstrated by discharging bursts of chlorine gas in conjunction with smoke from Pains triple candles - giving a large cloud similar to an actual cloud gas attack. At the conclusion of the attack the. P. N.C.O.'s tested & reported trenches clear of gas & the order was given to remove masks.

D. GAS SHELL ATTACK. The men were then suddenly surprised by being shelled with P. Bombs giving large white smoke cloud burst & by Smoke Puffs composed of red phosphorus & a 4 sec Commercial detonator enclosed in small bags, featuring gas shell burst effects. Interspersed with these a number of Lachrymatory bombs were discharged. In order to illustrate the efficiency of the. S. B. R. the men were ordered to remove masks prior to vacating the shelled area, when they immediately felt the Lachrymatory effect & in this manner were convinced that the mask gave good protection.

The following units attended the demonstrations:-

37 th Infantry Bttn	40 th Infantry Bttn	10 th Bde L. T. M. B.
38 th " "	41 st " "	11 th " L. T. M. B.
39 th " "	44 th " "	3 rd Divisional Signal Schol.
	42 nd " "	3 rd " Salvage Coy.

28.3.18

The Divisions moved from NIELLES-LEZ-BERQUIN. en route for our present position at the junction of the ANCRE & the SOMME. During the progress of changing location a number of Respirators were damaged, mainly caused by the crowding of men into trucks & motor Lorries, their respirators were stowed away under rifles & equipment & in some cases under the men.

The reserve of 17 S. B. B. per Battalion would thus appear to be inadequate in a big move of this nature.

The total number of Small Box Respirators issued to units for the month of March were as follows.

SIZES				
1	2	3	4	Total.
1.	65.	839.	133.	1040.

J. Harrison Lt.
D. S. O
3rd Aust. Div.

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War Diary Appendix 27

APPENDIX

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

Divisional Headquarters,
25th March, 1918.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 82.

Reference Map: AMES Sheet 17, Scale 1/100,000.

1. In consequence of the reported movement of Boscho Cavalry along the Southern bank of the SOMME towards CORBIE, and local Cavalry fighting being reported in the neighbourhood of HAMMEL, the following changes in dispositions of Brigades will be made:-
2. The 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be responsible for its present front and will form a defensive flank along the River SOMME as far as VAUX (exclusive), by distributing Support and Reserve Battalions in such depth as necessary.
3. The 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will make the necessary extension of its Left Flank (by the insertion of portion of another Battalion if necessary) to take over lightly the defences now held by the 33rd Battalion East of RIBEMONT.
The 35th Division having reported their troops pushed forward in Wood in Square J.11.b., East of MERICOURT l'Abbe, the 10th Aust. Inf. Bde. will make necessary arrangements to get in touch and if practicable incorporate the ground held by these troops in their line.
4. The 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move from its present location leaving one Battalion in the vicinity of HELLY, and will be responsible for the River from VAUX inclusive to the Railway Crossing at AUBIGNY inclusive.
5. The necessary mutual arrangements as to changing over dispositions will be made as early as possible by G.O.C. Brigades. Commencement of moves and completion should be reported to Divisional Headquarters immediately.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

C.H. Jones

Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.

T.C.

DISTRIBUTION.

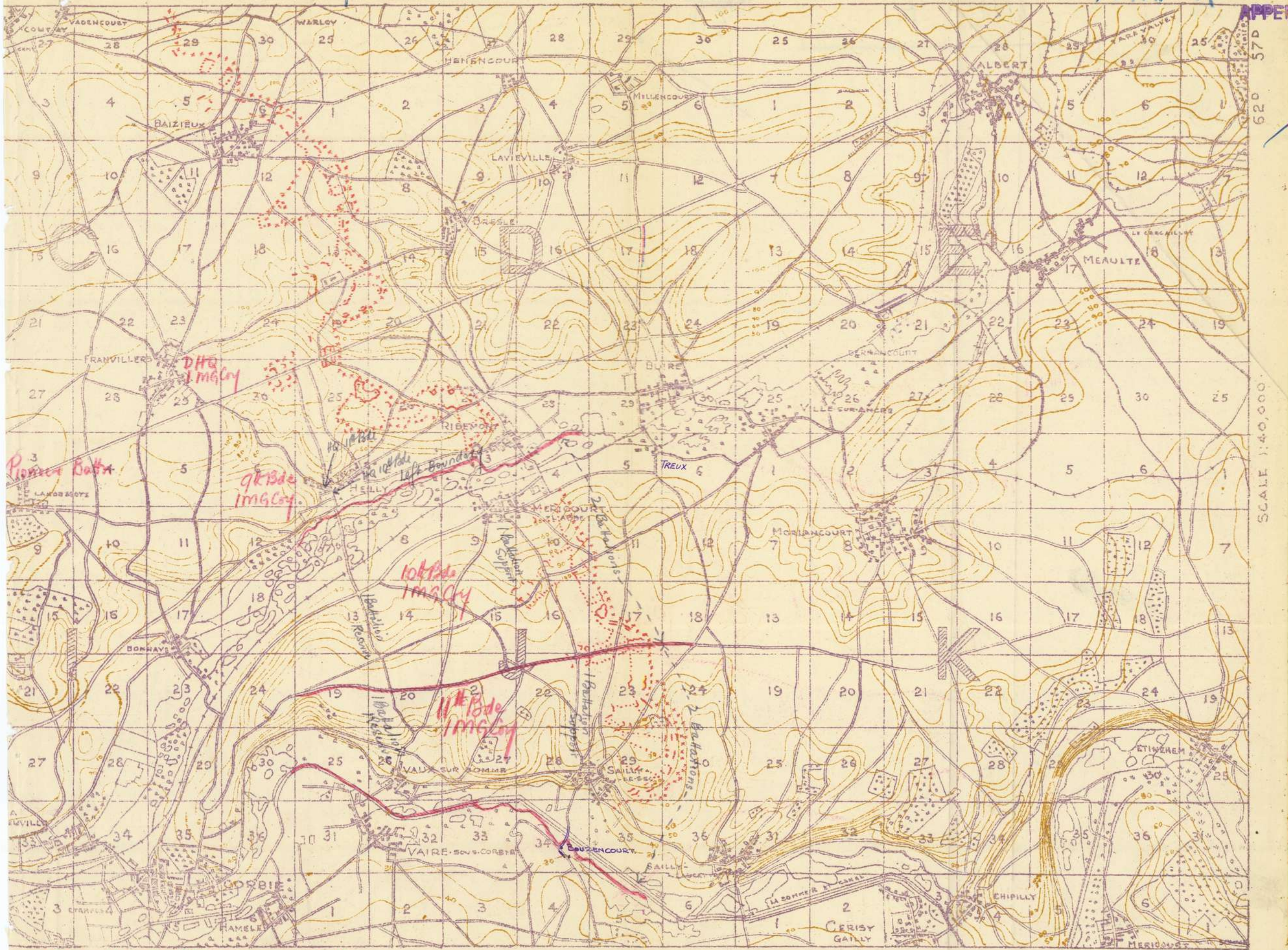
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| 2. | "G" Staff. |
| 3. | "A.Q" Staff. |
| 4. | C.R.A. |
| 5. | C.R.E. |
| 6. | Div. Signal Coy. |
| 7. | 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 8. | 10th -do- |
| 9. | 11th -do- |
| 10. | A.D.M.S. |
| 11. | 3rd Aust. Div. Train. |
| 12. | 7th CORPS. |
| 13. | 4th Aust. Division. |
| 14-16. | War Diary. |
| 17. | Pile. |
| 18-19. | Spare. |

Map A

BAIZIEUX — RISEMONT — SAILLY LE SEC — LINE

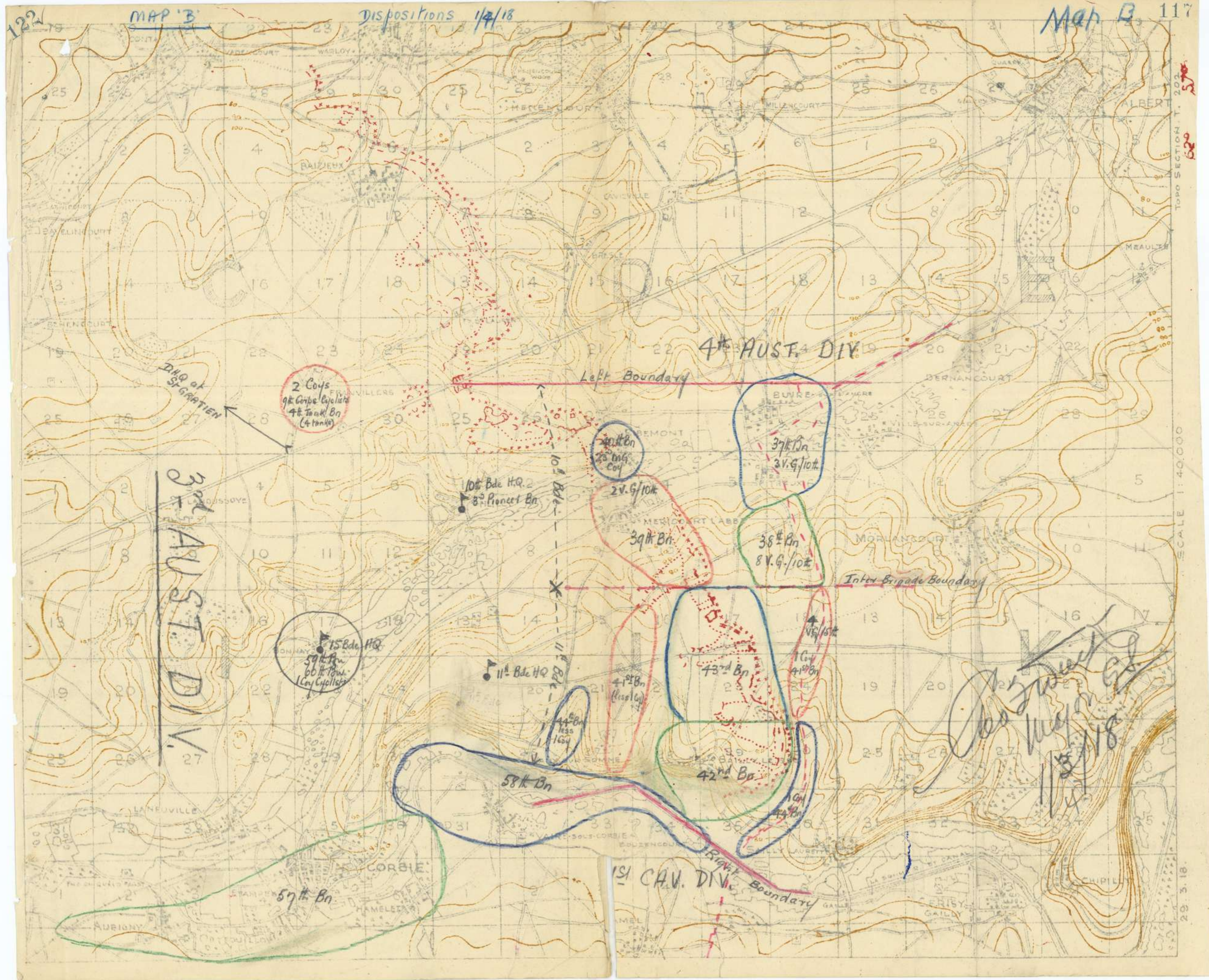
(FROM FRENCH MAP)

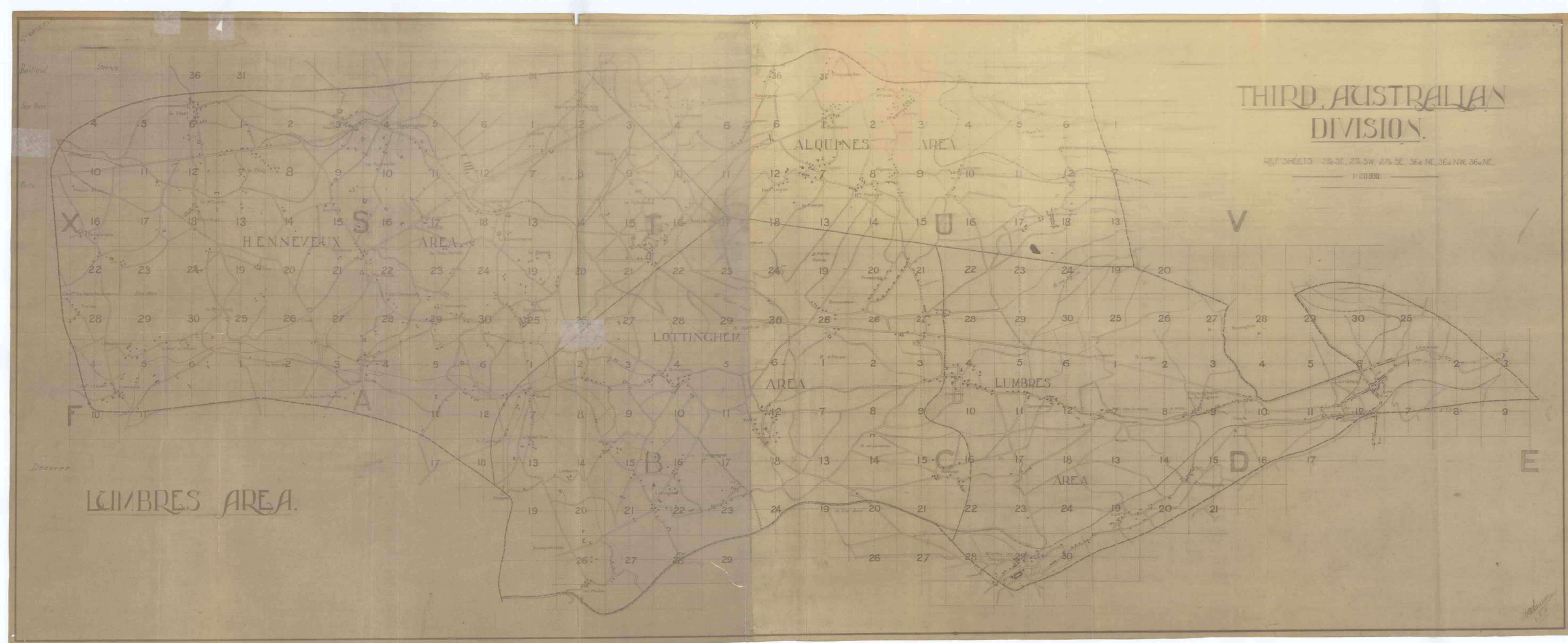
MAP A 116



SCALE 1:40,000

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