

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/50/26 Part 15

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

April 1918



AWM4-1/50/26PART15

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786

APPENDIX

29

464

33

SEC W.D. 2

Disposition Map

14th A.I. Bde.

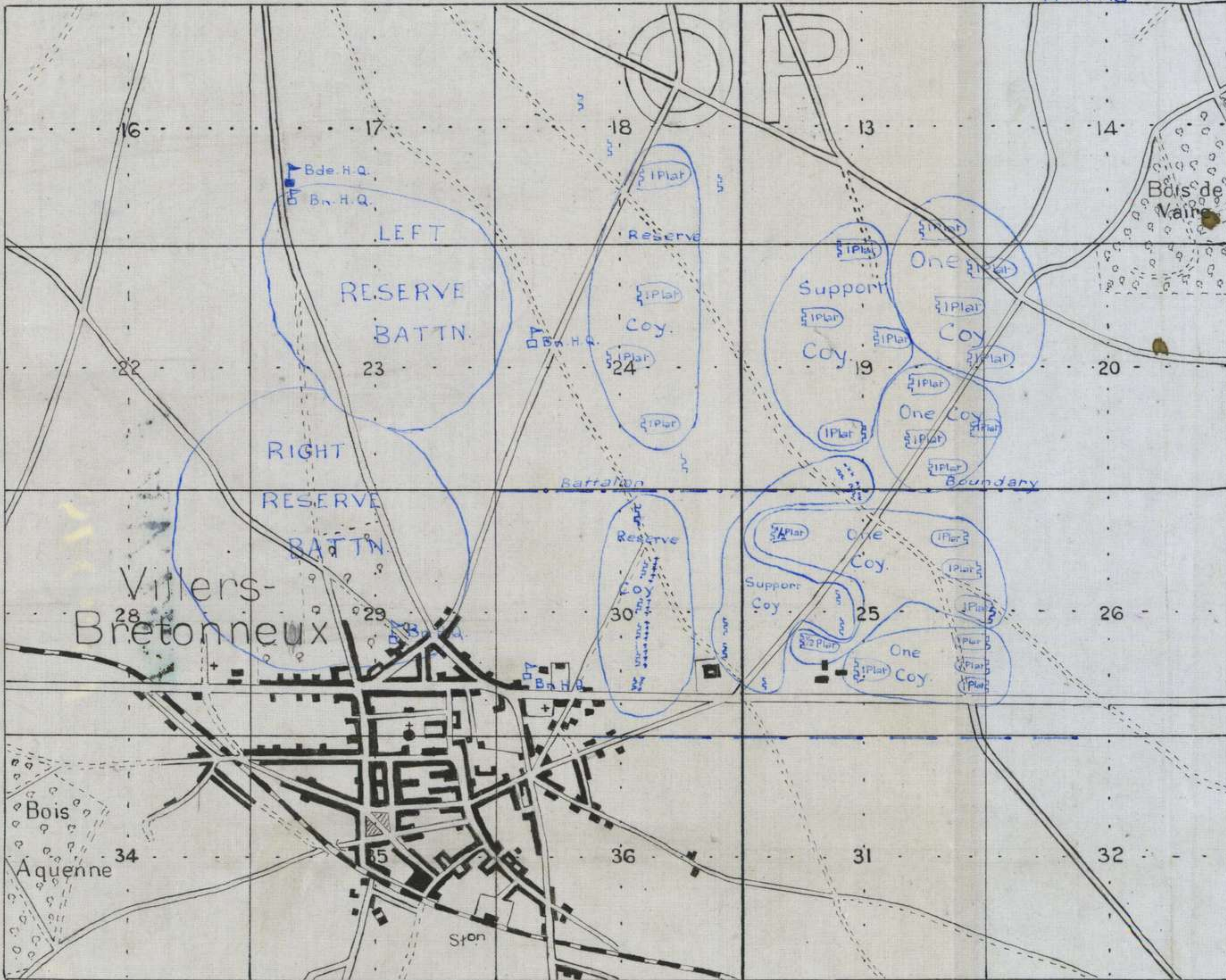
14/4/18

Traced from Sheets 62^D SE & SW.

[Handwritten scribbles in blue ink]

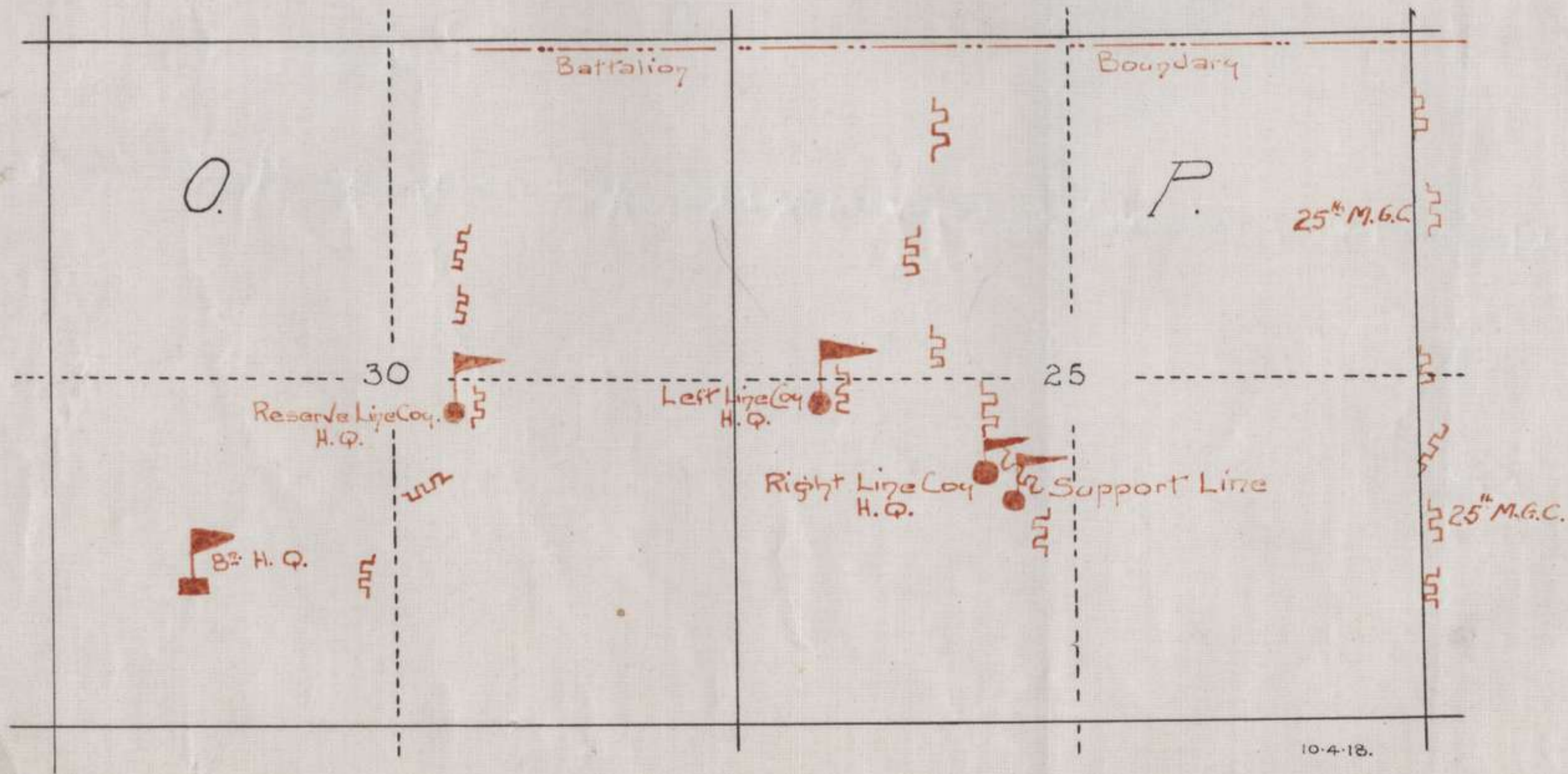
Scale 1:20000

14.4.18



Amended Sketch shewing Disposition
of Right Sub-sector.

Traced from Sheet 62⁰, P. and O. Squares, of the 1:40,000
map of France, enlarged to 1:10,000.



APPENDIX

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Fourth Army No. G.S.11/3

Report on Gas Shell Bombardment on III Corps
Front, April 17th and 18th, 1918.

1. VILLERS BRETONNEUX and the area immediately to the west, south west and north east of the town, including the BOIS D'AQUENNE and the BOIS L'ABBE, were heavily shelled with gas shell (mainly yellow cross) on the 17th and 18th April.

The shelling commenced at about 4.30 a.m. on the 17th and continued till about 9.0 a.m., during which time it is estimated that fully 8,000 rounds fell on VILLERS BRETONNEUX and 3,000 in the BOIS D'AQUENNE and BOIS L'ABBE.

VILLERS BRETONNEUX was again heavily shelled with yellow cross at 5 p.m. on the 17th. On the morning of the 18th further intense shelling of the same area took place, and also of the battery area to the north-west of the town (0.21, 0.22 and 0.27).

2. All calibres of gas shell up to 5.9" were used and the yellow cross was accompanied by considerable quantities of blue cross and green cross shell. In some parts of the area affected the bombardment is stated to have opened with blue cross shell.

The gas shell were accompanied by H.E. Several "blinds" have been obtained and will be forwarded to Central Laboratory for examination.

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Wind northerly, very light. Sky overcast. Some rain during early part of bombardment. Light showers subsequently with fair intervals.

4. CAUSES OF CASUALTIES.

The main cause of casualties seems to have been the premature removal of respirators, although the smell of gas was still considerable.

Respirators were worn for periods varying from half-an-hour to 5 hours or even longer, but in the greater number of cases appear to have been removed shortly after the shelling had ceased, the smell of gas being described as "faint" or "not strong enough to do any harm".

Many men appear to have kept on putting on and taking off their Respirators according as the smell of gas seemed to be strong or weak.

5. It is not yet sufficiently realised by Officers and N.C.O's that in an area heavily shelled with "mustard oil" the liquid remains on the ground for 24 to 48 hours afterwards, and is continually giving off sufficient gas during this period to cause men who are not wearing respirators to become casualties.

The gas has only a slight smell, and does not cause any immediate irritation of the eyes or nose, the effects only becoming apparent some hours afterwards. There is therefore a great temptation to troops to remove their respirators under the impression that the gas has cleared away.



-2-

6. There appears to be no doubt that the only means of avoiding serious casualties in a heavy "mustard oil" bombardment are as follows :-

- (a) Careful arrangements made beforehand to ensure the gas alarm being given promptly to all troops in the neighbourhood.
- (b) Strict discipline with regard to the wearing of respirators during the whole time that the troops are in the area affected.
- (c) Removal of troops as soon as possible to a flank or to localities which have not been subjected to gas shelling, preferably on to higher ground, as far as the tactical situation permits. In this connection it should be noted that the enemy has never yet delivered a direct attack upon a locality which he has previously bombarded heavily with mustard oil, and it is extremely improbable that his troops could either cross or occupy the area until it is free from gas, without suffering heavy casualties.

7. The provision of gas proof dug-outs and cellars will undoubtedly assist greatly in reducing casualties among those troops who have to remain in an infected area, but the following points should be borne in mind in connection with their use :-

- i. Traffic in and out both during and after a mustard oil bombardment must be reduced to a minimum, or gas will gain access to the dug-out each time a man enters it.
- ii. Fires lit in dug-outs and cellars for the purpose of clearing them from gas are only effective if the outside air is free from gas, otherwise the draught set up by the fire will only cause more gas to be drawn in from outside.

21/4/18.



233
GSO I
810
Narrative of escaped Australian prisoner of war of D Coy 50th Battalion, 13th Aust. Inf. Bde., captured at VILLERS BRETONNEUX 25/4/18.

1. PERSONAL.

The private is Robert SAUNDERS of D. Coy. 50th Battalion, 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. He is barely 20 years of age, was discharged once in Australia as medically unfit, re-enlisted and only joined his battalion as reinforcement 3 days before the action.

On the 24th he marched with his Battalion from QUERRIEU to BLANGY, and thence went forward immediately for our counter attack at 10 p.m. the same evening. He was suffering from a disabled knee at the time.

The following details are repeated almost verbatim as given in answer to questions.

We reached a position where there were a few bits of trench. We dug in here and I had a snooze. When I woke up our artillery was going strong. About 9 o'clock word was given to get into fighting order. We moved up and about 10 o'clock got in where the shells were lobbing. I was in the second relay. Some Germans had already surrendered.

They were sent back by some corporal or other who had picked us up. We got orders to dig in, a big building was blazing and we could see a bit ahead.

I wanted a fellow I called "Goody" (don't know his other name) to push on into the gully before us, and have a look round for some more prisoners. You could see some Germans moving about but "Goody" was too busy digging in to come.

There were four of us went down, another 50th bloke and two blokes of the 51st I think. We went straight on into the gully then turned right and went along it. We got two prisoners but then we couldn't get back as the machine guns opened on us and cut us off. One of us was hit, wounded in the arm I think, so we thought we had better chuck it in. They took our discs off at once and took us along to a house on the outskirts of the village. We were put in a little room here. There was a guard on each side of it, and some Fritzie's were in the next room.

While we were going along to the house our artillery was playing on the Germans a bit. They were bringing up horses from out of the village to some guns they had been firing near the wood. Afterwards they must have got them away as we could hear them galloping on the road near the house. There were plenty of German dead on the outskirts of the village.

We were in the house for about an hour. One of the window panes was cracked and we noticed one of the Fritzie's leave his rifle leaning up against it. The wounded bloke told us to go and leave him so long as we could get away so one bloke called Jack broke the pane of glass and shot the guard. Then we all jumped for the window, the other guard ran round and shot the other bloke who jumped out with me. He laid straight out - don't know whether he was killed. I don't know what because of the 3rd one. I bolted.

I only went two or three chain and then laid in a shell hole till about 3.30 then I crawled along and had a bit of a lay down now and then as I seen some of them moving about.

26 April 18

Questioned as to whether he knew his direction the private continued: I didn't know whether I was going into Germany or whether I was coming home. I kept going till I met a Corporal moving about in the scrub (I mean by scrub it was sparsely woody country). He was wounded in the arm and knew where he was going. He told me he'd take me out alright. We kept going and about 5 o'clock we got to the major who give me the note.

The private was questioned here in regard to a prisoner he had brought in and handed over to the Major (as ~~was~~^{was} reported in writing by the latter). He continued: We seen this bloke up in a tree and called out to him to come down. He took no notice so I took the Corp's rifle and fired a shot. I don't know whether he was wounded or not before, but he had a hole in his leg when he come down (in the thigh, the fleshy part). We bound it up with my field dressing, give him a stick, put his hand on my shoulder and come along.

The German prisoner was taken by the "Major" who gave the private a note. The latter then walked a considerable distance looking for "4th Divvy H.Q." and ultimately arrived at one of our ambulances, reporting thence to 5th Div. H.Q. He had been marching, fighting, walking (or rather "running the best part of the way") for two days and a night having a sprained thumb and a crook ankle and was completely exhausted.

26 April 1918

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APPENDIX

31A

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(In pads of 100.)
No. of Message

m. Words. Charge. or origin and Service Instructions.			This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at m. Date From By
Sent			Service.	31A
At m.				
To				
By			(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO *All units* *ap/mon*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
*	26th		

Following from Army Commander begins AAA
 Please convey to the 15th and 13th Austn Bdes
 my congratulations and warmest thanks for their
 brilliantly executed counter attack against
 VILLERS BRETONNEUX last night AAA It was
 a difficult operation and was carried out
 with a dash and determination which does them
 the greatest credit. AAA General RAWLINSON.

From	5th AUST. DIV.	
Place		
Time		

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

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

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads, 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)



5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

94/1221

WORKS REPORT for week ending 20th April 1918.

Work carried out in the 5th Australian Divisional area for the week ending 20th April inclusive is as follows :-

1. The digging and improvement of strong points and trenches of the three systems of the Front Zone, and Firing Line and Support systems of the Second Zone was carried out, also erection of wire entanglements in connection with these systems.
Details of this work completed from 13th April to 20th April 1918 is shown in RED on the attached map.

2. DEEP DUGOUTS.

- (a) Battalion Headquarters P.7.a.1.0. (previously reported O.12.b.8.4)
- (i) Battalion R.A.P. Entrance drive 6' x 3' driven and timbered; chamber 7' x 6' driven and timbered 9 feet.
 - (ii) Offices Accommodation. Entrance drive 6' x 3' driven and timbered 6', chamber 7' x 6' driven and timbered 4'.
 - (iii) Signals. Entrance drive 6' x 3' driven and timbered 6', chamber 7' x 6' driven and timbered 3'.
 - (iv) Personnel. Entrance drive 6' x 3' driven and timbered 5'.
- (b) Left Battalion Headquarters O.24.a.4.8.
- No. 1 Shaft sunk 5' 9"
 - No. 2 " " 12'
- (c) Brigade Headquarters I.35.c.2.3.
- One entrance driven 42'
 - " " " 38'
 - " " " 41'
- (d) Brigade Headquarters O.17.c.3.7. Two entrances each driven and timbered 10 feet.
- (e) Alternative Divisional Headquarters H.34.d.3.3. Two entrances each driven and timbered 16'.
- (f) Artillery dugouts.
- (i) O.10.b.0.4. Two inclines each driven and timbered 14'.
 - (ii) O.10.b.0.0. Two inclines each driven and timbered 15'.
 - (iii) O.10.d.1.4. Two inclines each driven and timbered 7'.
 - (iv) O.22.d.2.7. Two inclines each driven and timbered 7'.
 - (v) O.10.c.9.8. Two inclines each driven and timbered 15'.
 - (vi) O.21.b.2.8. Two inclines each driven and timbered 8'.
 - (vii) O.16.c.4.2. Two inclines each driven and timbered 14'.
 - (viii) O.16.c.9.6. Two inclines each driven and timbered 15'.
- (g) Observation Posts.
- (i) P.19.a.1.0. Incline driven and timbered 13'.
 - (ii) P.13.a.6.3. " " " " 8'.

3. ACCOMMODATION.

- (a) Two battalions have dug bivouac accommodation for themselves in O.13.a; this work is 90% completed.



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- (b) Six splinter proof shelters have been built at O.24.a.3.2. and three at O.22.d.7.1. Four corrugated iron shelters have been erected at O.17.c.
- (c) Company Headquarters were made at O.19.a.75.20. and O.19.d.40.70.
- (d) Battalion Headquarters O.22.d.7.1. - Three 10' x 7' shelters: completed.
O.24.a.3.2 - two five men splinter proof dugouts completed.

4. ROAD MINE. Road at O.10.d.5.8. has been prepared for demolition and is ready for firing.
5. BRIDGES. A bridge to take Field Guns has been erected at N.5.b.4.1. Two foot bridges have been constructed at O.5.c.9.2. and O.5.c.9.1. Pontoon equipment removed from three small bridges in southern approach to No. 17 Bridge, and permanent structures to take Field Guns erected instead. Dummy bridges were placed in position at J.32.a.9.7, I.36.b.7.1., and O.5.d.9.9.
6. GENERAL.
- (a) Copse at O.14.d.95.55 was partly demolished.
- (b) Battalion O.P. constructed at O.9.a.85.65.
- (c) 65 Notice boards were made and erected.
- (d) Baths at O.5.c.3.9. repaired.
- (e) Machine Gun emplacements have been improved and new Section Headquarters has been dug at O.18.b.90.21.

7. List of the quantities and weights of materials used in connection with the above work is as follows :-

<u>Material.</u>	<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Weight (in lbs.).</u>
Axes (hand).	12	18
" (felling).	32	128
Barrows.	17	952
Cupola sheets ("B" type).	890	46280
Canvas, hession (rolls).	3	150
Forest stakes (small).	6790	33950
" pickets (medium).	2390	23900
" poles (large).	3081	46215
Hammers (7 lb.).	1	7
Iron, corrugated (sheets).	943	15088
" " (curved).	119	1904
Malthoid (rolls).	135	10260
Mauls.	55	550
" heads.	8	64
Nails, 2" (lbs.)	34	34
" 3"	61	61
" 4"	152	152
Pickets, screw (short).	20	100
" " (medium).	4045	28315
" " (long).	320	2880
" angle (medium).	724	5792
" " (long).	1170	16380
Picks (complete).	522	4176



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<u>Material.</u>	<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Weight (in lbs.)</u>
Sandbags.	17960	6840
Shovels.	1181	4133
Tracing - tapes.	660	660
Timber, foot-run. (soft-wood).		
(4x1 T&G)	460	520
(6x1 ")	70	120
(1/2 x 2"	60	20
1"x4"	553	600
1"x5"	6	8
1"x6"	35	60
1"x7"	8	20
1"x8"	108	240
1"x9"	62	160
1 1/2"x4"	25	38
1 1/2"x6"	25	60
1 1/2"x7"	10	38
1 1/2"x2"	56	50
1 1/2"x3"	168	170
1 1/2"x6	35	85
1 1/2"x7	24	75
1 1/2"x8	264	880
1 1/2"x9	73	280
2x2	24	38
3x3	302	525
2x4	760	1680
2x6	47	160
2x7	126	480
2x9	25	125
2x12	15	100
3x4	75	250
3x6	214	1080
3x7	52	394
3x9	907	7200
3x12	20	200
3x18	7	120
6x8	150	2080
Assorted (average 3x2)	111	180
Wire, barbed, Coils.	3500	105000
" French, "	15	1440
" plain, "	47	4700
" cutters.	1	1 1/2

Total		376276 1/2 lbs. =
		168 tons.



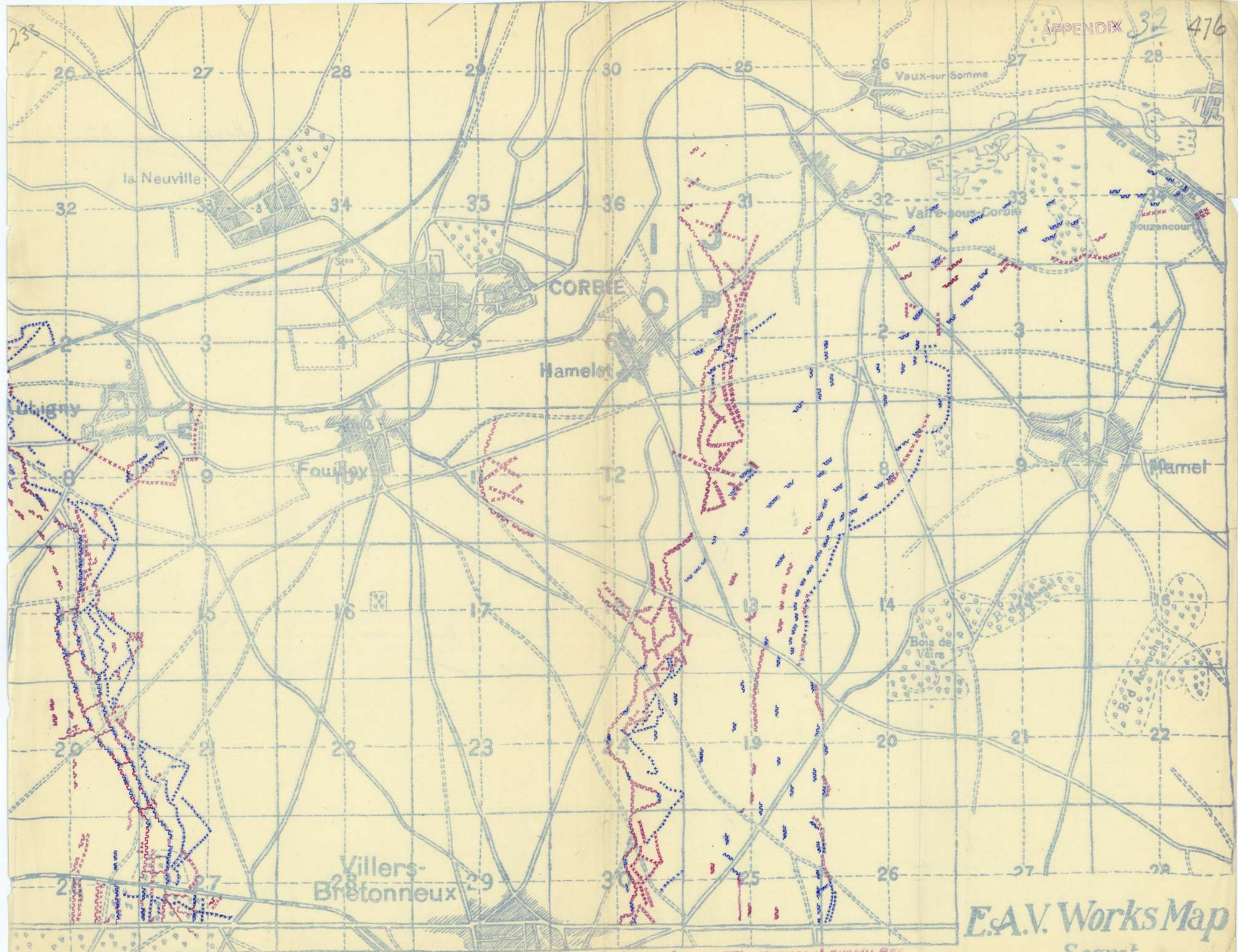
- 4 -

quantity.Explosives.

Gun cotton, slabs.	220
Primers.	40
Fuse - lighters.	12
Detonators No. 8.	25
" No. 13.	20
Fuse (safety)(fathoms).	7.

27/4/18.

Major-General,
Commanding 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



NEW WORK (FROM 13TH TO 20TH APRIL) SHOWN RED

E.A.V. Works Map
Secret

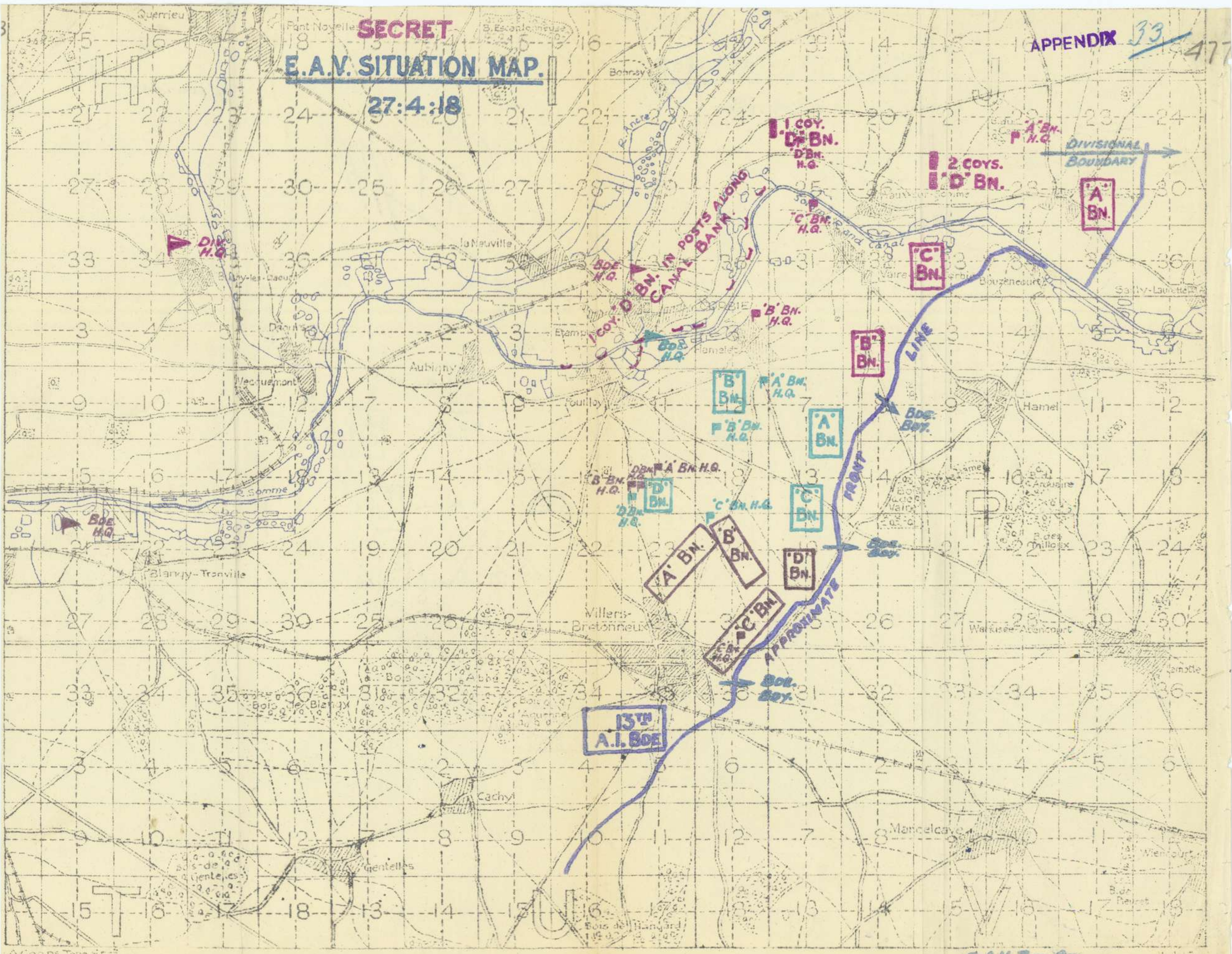
Appendix 32

27 April 1918.

SECRET
E.A.V. SITUATION MAP.

APPENDIX 33 477

27:4:18



Corps Topo Sheet

E.A.V. Topo Sheet

11.4.15

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REPORT ON OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY No. 4 TROOP
"C" SQUADRON, 13th AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

Strength taken forward 1 Officer, 23 other ranks.

I moved out of camp at about 9 a.m. on the 24th and reported to Lieut-Colonel SCANLAN, 59th Battalion, made arrangements re protection of his flank in a counter attack. This attack not taking place I was then attached to Lieut-Colonel LAYH and at about 10.40 a.m. sent out two patrols, one to 56th Battalion and one to BOIS LE ABBE to gain information re the enemy and our own dispositions. The 56th Battalion front patrol returned quickly with the necessary information. The Right patrol however had a much more difficult task as troops appeared generally to know very little which was absolutely accurate; an extra patrol being sent, however, gained reliable information from the right.

I was then attached to Lieut-Colonel MITSON, Advanced Brigade H.C. and proceeded to O.8.c.5.7. 7 men however were retained by Lieut-Col. LAYH.

Numerous patrols were despatched during the day to keep in touch with our own infantry and also with the 8th Division and report any changes of our own front line. Patrols operating on the right mostly had to make a personal inspection of the ground held to get reliable information.

No casualties incurred during the 24th, one patrol however having a lucky escape in O.28.d. after being covered by a machine gun sniper at short range they managed to make their escape and returned with good information. At 10 p.m.

At 10 p.m. I went forward with 6 men to Advanced H.C. new position at O.17.c.3.7 leaving the remainder of my men in the big shed at O.8.c.5.7.

At about 9.30 a.m. on the 25th two patrols were dispatched, one to find the exact position of 57th Battalion's right flank and unit on their right, the patrol detailed for this advanced East of Station at O.36.d. and were held up by enemy machine gun fire. The party crept along cautiously and came upon an enemy post containing 4 men who were immediately captured. Proceeding the E.C.C. captured another Boche ascertained where the 57th Battalion's right flank was, and withdrew back through VILLERS BRETONNOUX and brought prisoners home. Durham Light Infantry were digging in in rear of our Infantry on right flank at O.34.d.

The second patrol approached VILLERS BRETONNOUX from the west entering BOIS LE ABBE at O.26.d. close to 8th Div. H.C. whose line at this time ran through O.26.b.6.1. - O.32.a.7.3. - The 25th Brigade were holding the left front and the 23rd Brigade the right front. Patrol pushed on to O.32.b. to O.33.a. 33.b. to 34.a. central. At 34.b. two Battalions Middlesex Regt were digging in, Captain stated they had advanced according to instructions but could not get touch with troops on the left up till 12.30 p.m.

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(2)

O.O. had gone out to make a personal reconnaissance, present strength of his regiment 38 men, no machine guns left. Patrol pushed on to O.35.a. and .5.c. where they were fired on from direction of O.36.d. central, then returned through village to O.28.c. where a number of Boche and English dead were lying on the field, Patrol then returned to Base.

Another patrol was washed out to find the 57th Battalions right flank, to approach via O.29., O.30., and O.36. This patrol had to pass through very heavy fire, the N.C.O. had one man and horse killed, one man and horse wounded and the third man badly shaken from a fall, brought wounded and shaken man back, got three fresh men and pushed on through O.29.b. and d. to O.30.c. to O.36.a. where he came across the 57th Battalion just on the outskirts of the village, they (the Bn) had had to retire as some of our shells were falling short, Patrol secured exact position and returned immediately.

During the day I supplied several escorts for prisoners to D.H.Q. Patrol went out at 10.30 p.m. to guide troops from O.27.d.4.5 to line running from O.36.b.5.1 to Railway line at O.36.c.8.c. this being my last patrol.

At 8 a.m. on the 26th I received instructions to again come under direct Command of Division and to return to my BLANGY TRONVILLE H.Q. and rest my men and horses. I arrived here at 5 a.m.

(sgd) L... REID Lieut.
O.C. No.4 Troop "C" Squadron
13th A.L.H. Regiment

26/4/18.

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ALLEZ ALLEZ !!!!!

APPENDIX 35
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STAFF RIDE.

1. A Staff Ride will be carried out at 3 p.m. 29/4/18 to exercise Staff, Liaison, and Signal officers in the working of communications for moving warfare.
2. The undermentioned officers will parade mounted and will carry message books, etc.:-
Capt. ROBERTS representing "A" Brigade Staff
Capt. WHITE " " "B" " "
Capt. DERHAM " " "C" " "
3. In case O.C. Signals cannot supply signal personnel, the Camp Commandant will provide 6 mounted orderlies to report at the Chateau at 3 p.m. to act as mounted orderlies for the Brigade Staffs concerned (2 to each staff). The Camp Commandant will confer with O.C. Signals.
4. The O.C. Signals will arrange for the necessary signalling apparatus.
5. Any officer interested is invited to attend.
6. Scheme appended.

(Sgd) J.H. PECK
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

29th April 1918.

Ref. Map: COMMUNICATION SCHEME.
Sheet 62D, 1/40,000.

GENERAL IDEA.

1. The BROWN Army is pursuing the BLUE Army which is retiring in a westerly direction. The BLUE Army is making a stubborn resistance with strong rear guards.

2. SPECIAL IDEA - BROWN.
The 5th BROWN Division in conjunction with flank divisions is pursuing the enemy (BLUE) towards LES ALENCONS (G.29.):
approximate right flank - ALLONVILLE - BUSSY-les-DAOURS Road:
approximate left flank - AMIENS-VECQUEMONT Road.

3. Positions of Brigades Headquarters at 3.30 p.m.
"A" (Capt. ROBERTS) H.34.a.0.0.
"B" (Capt. WHITE) N.3.b.0.5.
"C" (Capt. DERHAM) Cross roads H.34.d.6.9.
Div. H.Q. Cross roads H.34.d.6.9.

4. Line of advance of brigades:
"A" H.34.a.0.0 - Pt. CAMON (G.30.a)
"B" The line of the three copses on sgs. H.32.c and d- H.31.c-
G.36.c.

A Staff skeleton scheme was carried out on 29/4/18 in which portion of the Divisional Signal Company took part. This exercise demonstrated to some extent the capabilities and limitations of a Cable Waggon during moving warfare. Mobile equipment was used. The following General and Special ideas were received at 2.15 on the afternoon of the exercise.

COMMUNICATION SCHEME.

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

GENERAL IDEA.

1. The BROWN Army is pursuing the BLUE Army which is retiring in a westerly direction. The BLUE Army is making a stubborn resistance with strong rear guards.

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The 5th BROWN Division in conjunction with flank divisions is pursuing the enemy (BLUE) towards LES ALENCONS (G.29): approximate right flank - ALLONVILLE - BUSSY-les-DAOURS Road; approximate left flank - AMIENS - VECQUEMONT Road.

3. Positions of Brigade Headquarters at 3.30 p.m.:

"A" (Capt. ROBERTS)	H.34.a.0.0.
"B" (Capt. WHITE)	N.3.b.0.5.
"C" (Capt. DERHAM)	Cross roads H.34.d.6.9.
Div. H.Q.	Cross roads H.34.d.6.9.

4. Line of advance of Brigades:

"A" H.34.a.0.0 - Pt. CAMON (G.30.a)

"B" The line of three copses in sqs. H.32.c and d - H.31.c-G.36.c

The cable waggon started by laying a line from 5th Aust. Divl. Headquarters (Chateau) which represented the Rear Scheme Divisional Headquarters, to the Advanced Scheme Divisional Headquarters (H.34.d.6.9) from which position orders were delivered to Brigades by mounted orderly.

Advanced Scheme Divisional Headquarters then moved on to (H.33.d.4.5) from which point telegrams were despatched to, and telephone conversations carried out with Rear Scheme Divisional Headquarters. Messages were received from, and orders again issued to Brigades by mounted orderly from this station. Advanced Headquarters again moved to H.32.c.5.5, where further telephone messages, orders and reports were dealt with.

It was then assumed that the force had to retire, and the cable was picked up and Headquarters re-established at H.33.d.4.6. After the issue of orders from this point operations ceased, when the remainder of the cable was picked up.

Throughout the exercise the members of the Signal Company took an interest in their task which they performed well, thoroughly and quickly.

Touch was maintained by telegraph and telephone at all times between the Staff representing the Advanced Divisional Headquarters and those of the Rear Divisional Headquarters, though to do this, cable had to be laid and picked up between staging points at a fairly fast trot.

At the conclusion of the exercise, the Divisional Staff expressed satisfaction with the work of the Signal Company.

(Sgd) R.A. STANLEY Major.
O.C. 5th Aust. Divisional Signal Company.

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) April 29th 1918.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDERS No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recvd or sent
1.	3.11 p.m.	5th Aust Div.	Forward Report	G1	An advance will be made along whole divisional front in accordance with order No.1. Zero hour will be 3.30 p.m.	Wire
2.	3.31 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW2	Forward report centre moving forward to H33d06 at 3.30 p.m. Addsd Brown Div reptd Flank Divs A B and C Bdes.	Wire
3.	3.33 p.m.	5th Aust Div.	Forward Report	G2	Air report 3.32 p.m. Many enemy machine guns in wood H32d.	Wire
4.	4 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW3	B Bde H.Q. established at N3b05. They report 2 Bns pushing on.	Wire
5.	4.4 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW4	B Bde held up by enemy in copse in H32c and d.	Wire
6.	4.6 p.m.	5th Aust Div.	Forward Report	G3	Report timed 4.5 p.m. Right Div held up in H27b. Enemy force strength about 2 regiments advancing on both sides of ALLONVILLE - BUSSY LES DAOURS road. Reinforce B Bde with three battalions.	Wire
7.	4.9 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW5	A Bde reports div on right held up by fire from copse H32a their right flank is in the air, Two companies A Bde are being sent to form a defensive flank. Addsd Brown Div. reptd flank Divs.	Wire
8.	4.16 p.m.	5th Aust. Div.	Forward Report	G4	Ref. G3. For B read A.	Wire
9.	4.23 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW8	G3 noted	Wire
10.	4.28 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW7	B Bde report timed 3.55 p.m. begins. Attack on copse H32c and d successful. Advanced resumed. H.Q. moving to H32c80 at 4.10 p.m.	Wire
11.	4.31 p.m.	Adv. Brown Div.	Brown Div.	GW9	Forward station moving to H32c65 edge of Copse. Expect establish there 4.45 p.m. Addsd Brown Div reptd Flank Bdes A B C Bdes.	Wire

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GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 29th April 1918.

Serial No.	Time	From	To.	Sender's No.	Text of message or telephone conversation.	How Received or sent.
12	4.38 pm	5th Div.	Forward Report.	G5	Capt. Goodland to take over from WOOTTEN-killed.	Wire.
13	4.41	Adv. Brown Div.	Added. Brown Div. repts. Flank Divs A, B & C Bdes.	GW 10	3, 5 and 4 Bns. C Bde. moving from reserve position via BUSSY to N. of Wood H.32.d. expected arrive there 5.10 pm.	Wire.
14	4.55	5th Div.	Forward Report.	G6.	XHNIR BNVCK HIYPA HNPPF TOLHU LEBBY EOTHA HUWYC KNGVE NEUWL YNONG ZEXNI ULBHO UHLYB ACTEB CPSQL.	Wire.
15	5 pm	5th Div.	Forward Report.	G7	Reference G6. Withdraw fighting to road running N.E. and S.W. through N.4. central.	Wire.
16	5.1	Adv. Brown Div.	Added. Brown Div. repts. Flank Divs., A & C Bdes.	GW 12	B. Bde report timed 4.20 pm. Enemy counter-attacked H.31.c. Report timed 4.30 pm says enemy attack beaten off and advance resumed. B. Bde. Headquarters moving to H.31.d.9.2. at 4.40 pm.	Wire.
17	5.22	Adv. Brown Div.	Added. Brown Div. repts. Flank Divs. A, B & C Bdes.	KG 13	A. Bde. report timed 4.35 pm begins. PT CAMON in our hands our line now is 500 yards across AMIENS QUERRIEU Road. Heavy M.G. fire from Wood G.24. Ends. B. Bde. report begins. Advance continuing rapidly and in touch with both flanks. Headquarters moves to H.31.c. central at 5 pm.	Wire.
18	5.25	5th Div.	Forward Report.	G 8	Report line on which C Bde. right flank is moving during withdrawal.	Wire.
19	5.32	Adv. Brown Div.	Added. A, B, C Bdes. repts. Flank Divs. Brown Div.	KG 14	Withdraw fighting to road running N.E. and S.W. through N.4 central. Div. forward station is going back to H.34.c.0.6. leaving here 5.25 pm.	Wire.
20	5.52	5th Div.	Forward Report.	G 9	Staff ride finished. Come in.	Wire.

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CRITICISMS OF PILL BOX PROPOSED BY SIR ERNEST MOIR.

1. Difficult to conceal in course of construction.
2. Too conspicuous when finished.
3. Too much skilled labor required in construction.
4. Quantity and weight of material great drawback, necessitating transport which is difficult to provide and great deal of manual labor in carrying.
5. Time in construction too much.
6. If line of defense has to be abandoned whole of work done is lost, whereas with steel casemate proposed by General HOBBS whole thing could be removed at an hours' notice and re-established in three hours after delivery at new point desired.
7. Weight of HOBBS steel casemate would not exceed 500 to 600 lbs, and comes to pieces which are very portable, whereas the estimated weight of the Moir Pill Box estimated at 12,000 lbs.
8. Cost of HOBBS cupola estimated at not more than £30 which is trifling compared with the cost of the Moir Pill Box.

*Appendix
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ORDER OF BATTLE - FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

COMMANDER - MAJOR GENERAL SIR J. TALBOT HOBBS K.C.B. V.D.

A.S.C. Capt. W.L. Hamilton A
A.B.C. 2/Lieut. N. Temperley.

G.S.O.1	Lieut-Col. J.H. Peck D.S.O. A.I.F.	C.R.A. Brig-Gen. A.J. BESSELL-BROWNE C.M.G. D.S.O. A.I.F.
G.S.O.2	Major G.F. Scott D.S.O. A.I.F.	C.M.G. Lieut-Col. L.F.S. Mather D.S.O. A.I.F.
G.S.O.3	Capt. K. A. Goodland A.I.F.	A.D.M.S. Col. M.H. Downey D.S.O. A.A.M.C.
A.A. & Q.M.G.	Col. J.H. Bruce C.M.G. A.I.F.	D.A.D.M.S. Major J.A. James A.A.M.C.
D.A.A.G.	Lieut-Col. E.M. Ralph D.S.O. A.I.F.	D.A.D.V.S. Major M. Henry D.S.O. A.A.V.C.
D.A.Q.M.G.	Major G.D. Smith M.C. A.I.F.	D.A.D.O.S. 2/Lieut. M.C. Welch A.A.C.G.
Div. I.O.	Capt. F.W. Robinson A.I.F.	A.P.M. Major S.J.F. Langley D.S.O. A.I.F.

INFANTRY BRIGADES

8th INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brig-Gen. E. TIVY C.B. D.S.O. V.D. A.I.F.
 Brigade Major - Capt. F.A. Wisdom M.C. A.I.F.
 Staff Captain - Capt. R.V. Cuming M.C. A.I.F.
 29th Bn. Lieut-Col. J. McArthur
 30th Bn. Lieut-Col. J.W. Clark D.S.O. V.D.
 31st Bn. Lieut-Col. E.M. Freeman D.S.O.
 32nd Bn. Lieut-Col. C.S. Davies D.S.O. (The Leicester Regt)
 8th L.T.M.B. Capt. H. Walker

14th INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brig-Gen. J.C. STEWART D.S.O. A.I.F.
 Brigade Major - Major R.G. Lorge M.C. A.I.F.
 Staff Captain - Capt. A.H.L. Godfrey M.C. A.I.F.
 53rd Bn. Lieut-Col. A.C.S. Holland
 54th Bn. Lieut-Col. H. Marshall D.S.O. M.C.
 55th Bn. Lieut-Col. P.R. Woods D.S.O. M.C.
 56th Bn. Lieut-Col. H.G.L. Cameron M.C.
 14th L.T.M.B. Capt. K.R. Brock.

15th INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Brig-Gen. H.B. ELLIOTT C.M.G. D.S.O. D.C.M. A.I.F.
 Brigade Major - Capt. H.R. Gollan
 Staff Captain - Capt. C.W. Lay
 57th Bn. Lieut-Col. C.A. Denehy D.S.O.
 58th Bn. Lieut-Col. C.V. Watson
 59th Bn. Lieut-Col. J.J. Scanlon
 60th Bn. Lieut-Col. H.T.C. Layh D.S.O.
 15th L.T.M.B. Capt. E.A. Keys.

DIVISIONAL TROOPS

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Brigade Major - Major H.H. Hulton D.S.O. R.A.
 Staff Captain - Capt. B.M. Morris A.F.A.
 Staff Lieut. for Reconnaissance - Lieut. E.H. Booth M.C. A.F.A.

13th F.A. BRIGADE.

Lieut-Col. H.C. Caddy D.S.O.
 49th Battery Major V.E. Gatliff D.S.O.
 50th Battery Capt. C.M. Orr
 51st Battery Major R.G. Lister
 113th How. Batt. Capt. A.J. Fullarton-Andrew

14th F.A. BRIGADE.

Lieut-Col. F.P. DERRAM D.S.O.
 53rd Battery Major L.E. Beavis
 54th Battery Major C.A. Kelly
 55th Battery Major P.J. McCormack D.S.O.
 114th How. Batt. Major M.L. Dreyer

DIVISIONAL TRENCH MORTAR OFFICER - Capt. W.D. Wallis M.C.
 9th M.T.M. Batt. - Capt. A.G. Macallister M.C. D.C.M. 10th M.T.M. Batt. Capt. R.J. Ferguson M.C.
 DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION COLUMN - Major F. Thorathwaite M.C.

DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS.

8th Field Co. A.S. Major W.G. Farguher D.S.O.
 14th Field Co. A.S. Capt. S.L. Evans M.C.
 15th Field Co. A.S. Major H. Greenway D.S.O.
 5th Div. Signal Co. Major R.A. Stanley.

5th PIONEER BATTALION - Lieut-Col. H.G. Carter D.S.O.

5th MACHINE GUN BATTALION - Major E.A. Saraden D.S.O. (Temp).
 8th Machine Gun Co. Lieut. J.W. Axtens
 14th Machine Gun Co. Capt. C.H. Holmes M.C.
 15th Machine Gun Co. Capt. G.F. Fitzgerald
 25th Machine Gun Co. Capt. H.A. Barker D.C.M.

DIVISIONAL TRAIN.

Lieut-Col. F.A. Francis D.S.O.
 S.S.C. Major C.A. Robinson
 10th A.A.S.C. (H.Q. Co.) Major J.A. Brasener
 15th A.A.S.C. Capt. L.E. Stevenson
 32nd A.A.S.C. Capt. C.R. Grievs M.C.
 29th A.A.S.C. Capt. A. Mather M.C.

MEDICAL UNITS.

8th Field Ambulance - Lieut-Col. H.V.P. Conrick D.S.O.
 14th Field Ambulance - Lieut-Col. C.W. Thompson M.C.
 15th Field Ambulance - Lieut-Col. K. Smith C.M.G.
 5th Sanitary Section - Major V.M. Coppleson

DIVISIONAL SALVAGE COMPANY.

Capt. C.E. Viner

VETERINARY.

5th Mobile Veterinary Section - Capt. R. Grant.

Divisional Bomb Officer - Capt. A.D. Ellis M.C.
 Divisional Gas Officer - Lieut. R.A. Hepburn.

30th April 1918.

APPENDIX 34
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