

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/52/11

Title: 6th Australian Division

April-September 1917



AWM4-1/52/11

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HINDMILL HILL ANDOVER	25 / 4 / 17 to 31 / 7 / 17		<p>The Battalion was formed on 25th April 1917 under the command of LT. COL. R. RANKINE D.S.O. Between April 25th 1917 and May 1st 1917 inclusive the following numbers marched in and were taken on strength: Officers 15 - of Ranks 948 - Companies were organised and company training carried out under C.O. and company officers appointed. On Brigade Headquarters being established 3/5/17 a training area was allotted to the Battalion, and training carried on under routine laid down by Brigade Headquarters. A Brigade Bull Ring was established on 15th May and all untrained and partially trained men commenced to undergo a course of instruction and training in B.F., P.T., Bombing, Musketry, Drill, Engineering, wiring etc. Bull Ring training was completed by 9/6/17. Training was continued under Brigade Syllabus. Live Bomb throwing practice was commenced on 4/6/17 and was completed by 14/6/17. Training had now advanced to such a stage that all ranks had been trained in use of Rifle, Bayonet, Bomb, Rifle Grenade & Lewis Gun.</p>	RBZ

R. Rankine
 Lt Col

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WINDMILL HILL	25/4		<p>The Syllabus in operation provided for a certain amount of further instruction in these weapons, in close order drill, wiring, P.T. and the training of specialists, also the training of platoons and companies for offensive action. On 25th June Battalion underwent Anti Gas training with Gas, under the supervision of the Gas Officer A.I.F. DEPOTS - U.K. Battalion commenced a General Musketry Course on 18th June - Course was completed and all Ranks had fired by 13/7/17. Lewis Gunners were trained in field firing work. Signallers were specially trained under Brigade supervision. During July several night operations were conducted. Outpost Schemes, Battle Outposts, and night attacks - trench warfare, were carried out. Brigade was inspected on 30/5/17 by G.O.C. in Chief, SOUTHERN COMMAND accompanied by the SECRETARY of STATE for COLONIES. On 31st July, allowing for sundry transfers and drafts total strength of Battalion was 30 Officers, 1000 Other ranks.</p>	
ANDOVER	17	10		
	31			
	7			
	17			

R. Rankine
d/fol

R.P.K.

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HINDMILL HILL	Aug 4		Battalion continued training under Brigade Syllabus. Specialist training, B.Z. Bombing, Lewis Gun practice, Rapid wiring, Battalion in Wood fighting, Battalion in attack in open warfare. Orders were drawn up for all schemes and narrative of events compiled at the completion hereof. Night Operations. Battalion carried out practice in night Outposts, & wiring. Strength of Battalion at 4/8/17 32 Officers 1007 Other Ranks.	
	Aug 6		Brigade in attack. Operations of this Battalion as shown on Operation Order No. 1 - Appendix A attached.	APPENDIX A
	Aug 7.		Defensive field firing BEACHES BARN WARREN - Practice represented the enemy advancing towards the position.	
	Aug 8		Battalion in defence LUDGERSHALL VILLAGE - Companies in Organised Trench clearing.	
P. Rankine defol.	Aug 9/11		Specialist training continued. B.Z. Bombing, Musketry companies in attack, Wood fighting and Battalion in attack. During week range practice was carried out by Lewis Gunners. Strength of Bn. 11/8/17 31 Officers 995 Other Ranks.	DBF

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WINDMILL HILL	Aug 13		Specialist training. Practice in advance guards & outposts.	
ANDOVER	14		Battalion Route march.	
	15		Daylight raid. BRIGADE TRENCHES. Organised trench clearing by companies.	
	16		Attack on LUDGERSHALL VILLAGE - Operation Order as per Appendix 'B' attached.	APPENDIX B
	17		Battalion took part in Brigade Attack, scheme as shown on Appendix 'C' attached.	APPENDIX C
	18		Strength of Battalion 35 Officers 970 of Ranks.	
	20		Brigade Review. Battalion was reviewed by H.R.H. the DUKE OF CONNAUGHT. Syllabus of training provided for further practice in Organised trench clearing by companies, and Wood fighting.	
R. Rankine Lt Col	21		Night operations were carried out in the form of a raid on BRIGADE TRENCHES by Battalion Raiding Parties	DPH A

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WINDMILL HILL	Aug 22		Battalion Route March.	
ANDOVER	21		15 of Ranks {late 24th Bn.} + 7 of Ranks {late 14th Bn.} were marched out to their respective training Battalions to join their original units.	
	23		Specialist training - training of Platoons in attack on RANGE - PERHAM DOWNS.	
	24		Specialist training. Battalion in defence practice. Ideas as shown on Appendix D attached.	APPENDIX D
	25		Battalion marched out 256 of Ranks of 3rd DIVISION and REINFORCEMENTS, Overseas to reinforce 3rd DIVISION	
	27		Strength of Battalion 2578/17 34 Officers 687 Ranks	DBZ
	28		Practised Battalion in attack - Semis open warfare combined with organised trench clearing.	
	29		Specialist training + Night operations. Brigade Route March.	

R. Rankine Lt Col

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HINDMILL HILL	30 / 8 / 17		Practised Battalion in attack	
R. Rankine Maj.	31 / 8 / 17		Battalion practised Platoons in Attack at A Range PERHAM DOWNS. also Specialist training. Mounted officers engaged in Field Sketching. Total strength of Bn. 31/8/17 32 Officers 642 ⁰ Ranks.	D.B.G.

SPECIAL

Appendix No. A

Copy No. 2

BATTALION ORDER NO. 1

Reference Map Tidworth 1/20000

1.

The 17th. Brigade will attack and secure WICKDOM RIDGE vide Brigade Order on Monday August 6th. 1917. The 66th. Battalion will rendezvous at LOCKWOOD BOTTOM B 29 A at 0900 and will form reserve Battalion, moving off eight hundred (800) yards in rear of 65th. Battalion. On capture and consolidation of the second Objective by the 65th. Battalion, the 66th. Battalion will pass through the 65th. Battalion, and attack the third Objective; the Strong Posts on edge of COLLINGBOURNE WOOD
No. 1 Post C 19 d 1. 9 No. 2 Post C 19 d 4.6
No. 3 Post C 19 d 8. 1

2.

STRONG POINTS

No. 1 (our left) will be assigned to "A" Coy who will capture and consolidate it.

No. 2 (centre) will be assigned to "B" Coy

No. 3 (right) will be assigned to "C" Coy.

Reserve "D" Coy.
Capt. Kennedy.

3.

STOKES MORTAR
BATTERY
(4 Guns.)

Will co-operate in the attack and prepare the position for the assault.

4.

VICKERS GUNS
Lieut. Shelly

Will assist the attack by Direct and Overhead Fire from position in rear of Second Objective.

5.

MEDICAL

The R.M.O. will establish a suitable Dressing Station and report its location to B.H.Q.

6.

COMMUNICATION

The Battalion Signalling Officer will establish Communication between Company H.Q. and B.H.Q.

7

B.H.Q.

Immediately prior to the attack on the Third Objective B.H.Q. will be established on the West Side of the RAILWAY BRIDGE.

Messages to B.H.Q.

8.

Acknowledge.

R. Rankine Lieut.-Colonel.
Commanding 66th. Battalion A.I.F.

No. 1 File. No. 2 W.D.
No. 7 Vickers. Guns (~~Capt. Hanton~~)

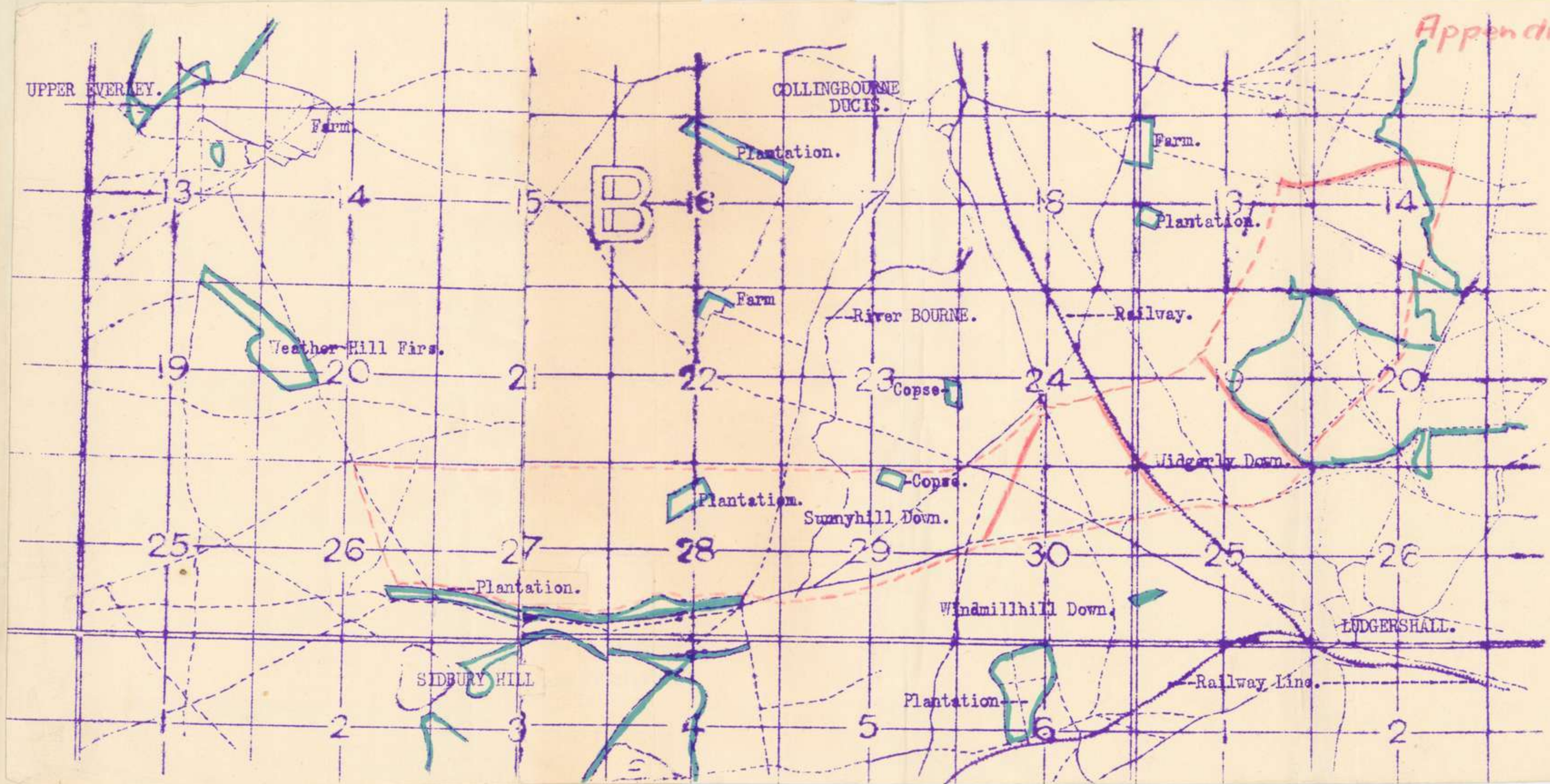
No. 3, 4 5, and 6. Companies.
No. 8 Trench Mortar Battery
(~~Lieut. Shelly~~)

No. 9 Signalling Officer.

No. 10 R.M.O. No. 11 Brigade H.Q.

ISSUED AT WINDMILL HILL
at 2100 (per Runner)
August 5th. 1917.

Appendix A



OPERATION ORDER No 2 66th BATTALION A.I.F. 16.8.17.

1. It is the intention of the C.O. 66th Battalion to attack, seize and hold the Village of LUDGERSHALL.
2. Reliable information estimates the Enemy Garrison in LUDGERSHALL at 1 Battalion assisted by $\frac{1}{2}$ Machine Gun Coy and 1 T.M.B.
3. B & C Coys will attack in a N direction in a normal formation assisted by 2 T.Ms. 1st OBJECTIVE. SYMONDS STREET. If this Objective is successful the T.Ms. will operate with a view to destroying any M.Gs. along Railway Siding, Embankment and Bridges. This force will engage the enemy and endeavour to keep him fully occupied.

FLANK ATTACK. A & B Coys and 2 Trench Mortars will endeavour to work round enemys left flank under cover of hidden approach and cross the RAILWAY LINE at level crossings approx 1.2.6.3.7. and 1.2.6.4.7. crossing the LUDGERSHALL ENDOVER ROAD under cover of bend in road debauching on far side proceeding in N.W. direction, and will endeavour to establish strong post at junction of DRUGES LANE, CASTLE STREET and HIGH STREET.
DUCIS

TIME at which Strong Post is to be established is 11.15 and at this hour C & D Coys will make a violent assault on the BRIDGE near RAILWAY STATION and fight through the Village to join up with Strong Post.

REPORTS prior to assault to 1.2.3.6. and immediately after assault is launched to the house at corner of SYMONDS STREET TIDWORTH LUDGERSHALL ROADS.

Watches will be synchronised at 09.45.

Acknowledge.

Copy. 1. War Dairy.
2. 2.3.4.5. Dictated to Coys.
" 6. T.M.B.
" 7. B.H.Q.

Issued at 09.30 by runner.

R Rankine
Lieut Col.
Commanding 66th Battalion. A.I.F.

OPERATION ORDER No. 1 60th BATTALION A.I.F. 10.8.17.

Reference by MEMORANDUM 1. 19000.

- The enemy is holding an entrenched line COLLENDORF-THOMSON, COLLING-DAINE-BOSSA, SANDS HILL-STEVENSON. The 17th Infantry Brigade will attack part of this position on 17.8.17 and drive the enemy out.
- The task allotted to the 60th Battalion is to let objective from H.I.D.S.46 on the right to B 254 3.3. For First and Second waves.
1st Objective from H on 7.57 on the right to B 253 7.5.
2nd Objective will commence from a line approx G408.7 on right to G on 7. 3.
Zero hour is 1900 on 17.8.17.
- Formation: The Battalion will attack in 3 waves of 6 lines per Coy with a frontage of 800 yards approx to each Coy. 2 Coys will remain in support. A & C Coys will be the attacking Coys and B & D Coys in support thus:-

	A. Coy.	B. Coy.	C. Coy.	D. Coy.
First wave.	No 1 Platoon	No 2 Platoon	No 1 Platoon	No 2 Platoon
Second wave.	No 3 Platoon	No 4 Platoon	No 3 Platoon	No 4 Platoon
Third wave.	No 1 Platoon	No 2 Platoon	No 1 Platoon	No 2 Platoon
	No 3 Platoon	No 4 Platoon	No 3 Platoon	No 4 Platoon

The 70th Battalion A.I.F. is on our right and the 60th Battalion of 19th Brigade is on our left.

4. (a) After capture and consolidation of the first objective the Battalions will pass through the cap tured position and attack the 2nd objective. On capture and consolidation of 2nd objective the reserve Battalion will pass through the attacking Battalions and cover the consolidation of the newly won position by establishing a line of mutually supporting posts about 700 yards East of it.
(b) 2 H.Co from 17th A.I.F. Coy will be attached to the Battalion and I will be attached to each attacking Coy A & C.
(c) Ground flares will only be burnt when called for by Contact Aero-plane.
(d) On gaining the 1st and 2nd objectives attacking Battalions will fire two flares.
5. On capture of 1st objective the 17th Field Ambulance will establish a Dressing Station south of Roadway about G 4 b 2.2.
6. H.A.C. will establish an advanced Dressing Post at A 50 c G. 0. after capture of 1st objective in vicinity of B 254 3. 3.
7. 1st Line Signaller (a) One S.A.A. Marker and the Grande Marker of each Battalion will report to G.C. D.A.C. Section at about G 4 a 7. 2.
Remaining S.A.A. Markers will report H.A.C. as also all Pack Rules at G 4 a 7. 2.
(b) Lewis Gun and Hoop. Markers for Lewis Gun and one Hoop Marker will accompany Battalion to rendezvous after which they will retire to the rear until the operation has been completed.
(c) The remaining one Hoop Marker per Battalion will report to the G.C. French Mortar Battery at 07.30 at WHITFIELD HILL.
8. Reports to centre of 3rd wave until HOURS 0 is reached, then at HOURS 0 until capture of 1st objective. After capture of 1st objective to B 253 3.3.

9. Acknowledged. 10.8.17.

per Runner

Major Gen.
Commanding 60th Battalion A.I.F.

- Copy No
1. War Diary.
 2. His M.O.
 3. A Coy.
 4. B Coy.
 5. C Coy.
 6. D Coy.
 7. 27th M.O. Officer.
 8. 70th B Battalion.
 9. 66th Battalion.
 10. Intention Group of Officers.
 11. R.M.O.

R. Ransome Lieut Col.

Commanding 66th Battalion. A.I.F.

66th Battalion Order No 4

23-8-17.

Ref. Map. 1:20000 TIDWORTH.GENERAL IDEA:

The force of which the 66th Battalion forms part is in retreat before superior forces advancing from EVERLEY. Orders have been received that the Railway Line TIDWORTH - LUDGERSHALL has to be defended.

SPECIAL IDEA:

The attack is expected on 24-8-17 after midday. The frontage to defend allotted to the 66th Battalion extends from H.11.b central to H.6 central.

(1) Reliable information places the 70th Battalion to attack our front.

The 65th Battalion is on our right and the 67th Battalion on our left.

(2) A determined resistance is to be offered and the attack must be beaten off. The position is to be held at all costs.

(3) "A" Company will occupy No.1. Sector and will extend from H.6 central to H.6 c 31.7. a frontage of 360 yards.

"B" Company No.2 Sector frontage 360 yards from H.6 c 31.7 to H.5 d 75.27.

"C" Company No.3 Sector frontage 450 yards from H.5 d 75.27 to H.11b centre

"D" Company will be in support at H.6 c 77.1.

The defence will consist of 2 lines and each section will provide 3 mutually supporting "Strong Posts" of 1 platoon each with one platoon in the 2nd Line as support so placed that it can from its position support by fire the first line.

The positions will be entrenched and occupied by 1430 on 24-8-17.

(5) 10 rounds of Blank Ammunition per man will be taken. Steel Helmets will be worn.

(6) Reports to H.6.c.77.1

(7) Acknowledge.

R. Rawlinson

Lieut-Col.
Commanding 66th Battalion.

Issued at 1600 23-8-17 on 23-8-17. *by Rawlinson*

Copy No.1.	War Diary.
2	A. Company.
3	B. "
4	C. "
5	D. "
6	Brigade Headquarters.
7	65th Battalion.
8	66th Battalion.

Reference Map 17th. Brigade Trenches Nos. 1 and 2 Scale 1" in 25'

General Idea.

The Battalion is in occupation of trench system shown in Map No. 1
 A Coy. occupying the frontage from A 7 c 7 e to A 9 c 10.0
 C. Coy from A 9 d 0.0 to A 11 b 10.0

B and D. Coys. are in supports.

Orders have been received that the enemy trench system shown on Map 2 is to be attacked, held and consolidated on 27/8/17 there are no troops operating on our flanks.

1. At zero minus 30 minutes B. and D. Coy. will move up into the trenches occupied by A. & C. Coy..
2. At zero our barrage fire will commence on line 25^x in front of whole of enemy's first line trench and A. and C. Coys. will move out to the assault.
3. Each Company will consist of one wave of two lines with two assaulting sections side by side. A. Coy. will start from 14 A 14 b 0.9 to A 9 a 10.0. C. Coy. from A 10 a 0.0 to A 16 b 10.9
 A. Coy's objective first line enemy trench from A 26 b e 10 to A 27 b 5.10. C. Coy's objective A 27 b 5.10 A 34 b 10.4.
 Immediately on reaching their objectives each Company will commence to clear the trench outwards to extend their gains and establish communication with each other.
4. At zero plus 5 minutes the barrage will move on to enemy's front line and remain there for 5 minutes. At zero plus 10 minutes barrage will again lift to enemy's second line.
5. At zero plus 7 minutes B. and D. Coys. will move out to the assault of enemy's second line in similar formation and from the same starting points at zero plus 12 minutes. B. and D. Coys. will pass over front line enemy trench occupied by A and C. Coys. and assault enemy's second line with objectives. B. Coy. from A 26 b 0.0 to A 33 b 5.10 and D. Coy from A 33 b 5.10 to B 4 b 10.8^x
 At zero plus 14 minutes our barrage will lift to a line 25^x in advance of our second objective. Both B. and D. Coys. will clear trenches outwards to extend their gains. A. and C. Coys. making good the communication trenches to second objective.
 The artillery barrage will remain on second objective plus 50^x for 15 minutes when it will lift 200 yards. The enemy's communication trenches will then be cleared for a distance of 100 yards. B. and D. Coys. will furnish trench parties for this. The artillery fire will continue till zero plus 60 minutes during which time the system of trenches should be in our possession. Each objective must be rapidly consolidated.
6. Company Commanders will notify position of their Headquarters and Dumps as seen as possible.
7. Zero hour will be communicated later.
8. Watches will be synchronised at 0900 and 0930.
9. The signal that objective of each Company has been gained will be one white flare.
10. Each section is responsible for communication with sections on its flanks.
11. Contact patrols for following up and keeping touch with the enemy will be furnished by B. and D. Coys.
12. Dress fighting order. Each man will carry two sand bags and four bombs. Bombers will carry ten bombs each. Rifle Grenadiers will carry six rifle grenades each in haversacks arranged for same. Picks and shovels will be carried at the rate of 1 pick to 4 shovels by 25 per cent of the men.
13. Each Company will detail 25 per cent of its strength 2 act as carrying party for its own Company.
14. A forward dump will be stationed at A 10 c 9.8 and at A 8 c e 3.
15. Company Commanders will make their own arrangements for evacuation of wounded.
16. Regimental Aid Post at A 4 C 3.3.
17. Reports to A 9 d 2.7 till 2nd. objective gained then to A 27 c 3.9
- 18 Acknowledge.

Issued at 2100 on 26/8/17 (per runner) (Signed) R. Rankine Lt-Col.
 Commanding 66th. Bn. A.I.F.

Copy 1 War Diary Copy 3 B. Coy Copy 5 D. Coy. Copy 7 R.M.O.
 Copy 2 A. Coy. Copy 4 C. Coy. Copy 6 Bg. H.Q.

Ref. Map TIDWORTH 1:20000.

General Idea:- The enemy are holding two lines from B25b25.55 in a Northerly direction and from B 20 c 7.9. in a N.N.W direction. We are part of an attacking force to drive him out of these lines.

Special Idea:- The task allotted to the 66th Battalion is to attack and enemy's first & second lines.

The first line extends from B.25 b 25.55 to B 19 d 2.7 .

The second line extends from B.20 c 7.9 to B 20 a 3.7.

1. The enemy consisting of the 70th Bn. is in occupation of the 1st & 2nd line positions mentioned. He is not supported by other troops on his left and has other troops on his right.

The 67th Bn. will support our attack on our left.

2. The 66th Battalion on 30-8-17 will attack and capture these two positions and will consolidate on a line about 100 yards in advance of the enemy's second position position. The attack will commence at 1030 from HAXTON.O. and deployment will be made from cover there.

3. B.&.D. Companies will form the firing line and supports and will attack in normal formation.

A.&.C. Companies will form the reserves and will follow the attacking lines at about 200 yards distance in Artillery formations.

O.C. "B" Company will make every endeavour to seize and utilize the Tunnels at B.25 c 3.2. and B.25 d 3.3 After the first position has been captured Coys. will immediately reorganized and A.&.C. Companies will assault the 2nd position in normal formations closely supported by B.&.D. Companies in formations most suitable to give the most rapid effect for reinforcing.

While the enemy is being engaged from the crest of WEATHER HILL O.O A. Company ~~will~~ should endeavour to work round under cover of ground within good striking distance of the enemy's left flank so as to be able to bring strong oblique and enfilade fire to bear on enemy's line.

O.C. "C" Company will endeavour to work up low ground and effect a lodgement in the wood from whence the assault should be made.

4. Reports to HAXTON.O? and after capture of first objective to B 25b2.9.

5. Regimental Aid Post HAXTON.O. afterwards at B.19 c 10.0.

6. Acknowledge.

R. Rankine Lieut-Col.
Commanding 66th Battalion. A.I.F.

Issued at 2100 29-8-17. BY RUNNER.

Copy No. 1 War Diary.

2 A. Coy.

3 B. Coy.

4 C. Coy.

5 D? Coy.

6. Bde. H.Q.

7 67th Bn.

8. R.M.O.

66th Battalion. No. 7.
 Defence of LUDGERSHALL Village.

Copy

2-9-17.

Reference Maps. TIDWORTH. 1:20000 LUDGERSHALL 24" to 1 mile.

1. From reliable information received it is expected that the enemy strength approx. 1 Battalion will attack LUDGERSHALL from the direction of PERHAM DOWN. on the morning of 3-9-17.
2. The 66th Battalion with 8 Vickers M.G. and 2 Trench Mortars will garrison and hold the village of LUDGERSHALL at all costs.
 There are no troops on our left flank but another Battalion of Infantry is operating on our left. *right*
3. The village will be divided into 3 sectors.
No. 1. Sector: Capt Reed 2 Companies C.&A. with 4 M.Gs. and 2 Trench Mortars. Area from Junction of Simmonds Street, LUDGERSHALL-TIDWORTH ROAD on right to BARN about 200 yards W. of RAILWAY STATION and S. of RAILWAY LINE, including WINCHESTER STREET and main ANDOVER ROAD.
 1. Advanced position entrenched from H.l.d.8.9. to H.2.c.5.8. garrison 1 platoon and 1 M.G.
 2. Simmonds Street garrison 2 platoons and 1 M.G. & 1 Trench Mortar.
 3. Entrenched position immediately S. of RAILWAY STATION with right resting on WATER TANK TOWER, garrison 1 platoon & 1 M.G.
 4. BARN on left flank garrison 1 platoon & 1 M.G.
 5. STRONG POST junction of HIGH STREET - WINCHESTER STREET - ANDOVER ROAD garrison 2 platoons and 1 M.G. & 1 Trench Mortar.

The bridge over RAILWAY will be prepared for demolition. In the event of SIMMONDS STREET having to be evacuated half the garrison should retire on (2) and half on the road S.W. of bridge over railway. Ground should be cleared for the improvement of field of fire as far as possible.

A patrol to watch road leading from SHODDESTON to LUDGERSHALL - ANDOVER ROAD will be sent out. All roads in Sector to be barricaded.

No. 2 Sector: Capt. Kennedy. D. Company and 2 M.Gs. Area RAILWAY SIDINGS - road BRIDGE over RAILWAY on LUDGERSHALL - COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS ROAD - CHURCH centre of village HIGH STREET CASTLE STREET & DUCIS LANE.
 1. Railway Siding Garrison 1 Platoon. Road bridge over Railway LUDGERSHALL - COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS Road to have a Garrison of 1 Section and one M.G.
 2. Church and School Strong Posts - 1 Platoon and 1 M.G.
 3. Centre Village Strong Post - 1 Platoon.
 4. Ducis Lane Post for protection of left flank - 1 Platoon.
 Roads in Sector to be barricaded.
 Railway Bridge ~~and~~ in Sector to be prepared for demolition but not destroyed except on express orders of Commander of Forces.
No. 3 Sector :- Castle Grounds ~~in~~ vicinity constitutes reserve. B. Coy. and 2 M.Gs. 1 M.G. will be so placed as to command the ground at ~~end~~ ~~of~~ E. end of Simmonds Street.
4. COMMUNICATION:- The Battalion Signalling Officer will be responsible that all Sectors are connected by telephone and one alternative route with H.Q. in Castle Grounds. The advanced position (1) in No. 1 Sector to be connected by two routes with Headquarters No. 1 Sector.
TRENCH MORTARS:- One T.M. will be posted in Simmonds Street to cover Hedge end Plantation. 1 T.M. in Strong Post to cover Railway Cutting
5. REGIMENTAL AID POST:- Castle Grounds with Reserve.
6. Zero hour 1015 on 3/9/17.
7. Reports Reserve Castle Grounds.
8. Acknowledge.

J. J. Smith Major
 G.O. 66th. Battalion A.I

Issued at 1800 on 2/9/17 (per Runner)

Copy 1	War Diary	Copy 4	C. Coy.	Copy 7	M.G. Officer
" 2	A. Coy.	" 5	D. Coy.	" 8	R.M.O.
" 3	B. Coy.	" 6	T.M. Bty.	" 9	Brigade H.Q.

NOTICE.

Defence of Ludgershall 3-9-17.

1. All Machine Guns and Lewis Guns to be marked by a flag, in the vicinity of Gun.
2. 10 rounds blank ammunition to each man.
3. Steel Helmets to be worn
4. Men are to be warned not to inconvenience the inhabitants by firing into open doors or close to horses, or in any other way.
- 5 Dress fighting order.
6. Each Platoon Commander will make out a rapid report accompanied by a Field Sketch of the first position he occupies showing his dispositions for defence and hand same to his Company Commander.

66th Battalion Special Order No..8..

Windmill Hill.
 11-9-17.

Operation Order No 8.

By Lieut-Col. R. Rankine. D.S.O. Commanding 66th Battalion. A.I.F.

Reference to 1/2 in. Map Salisbury.

(1) The enemy is holding the line SHREWTON. TILSHEAD. MARKET. LAVINGTON ~~XXX~~ URCHFON. Our main line is AMESBURY. DURRINGTON. NETHERAVON. UPAVON.

(2) The brigade will march to-morrow ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ to UPAVON via SIDBURY HILL. NETHERAVON. FITTLETON. and ENFORD.

Adv. Guard.

A. Coy. less 1 Pltn.

(3) DISTRIBUTION of troops as per margin.

Vanguard.

B. Coy. & 1 pltn. of A. Coy.

(4) The Advanced Guard will march at 0830. Starting point No. 1. Miniature Range, Windmill Hill.

(5) Head of Main Body will pass road No. 1. Miniature Range at 0900.

Remainder of Bn. will form Main Guard.

(6) Dress:- Fighting Order.

(7) Distance between Battalions will be 50 yards.

(8) Halts will be at 10 minutes to the clock hour irrespective of hour of starting.

(9) Signalling communication, will be maintained by Brigade Signalling Officer, between the Advanced Guard & Main Body.

(10) Reports to C.O. at head of Main Guard

(11) Acknowledge.

(Signed)

Lieut-Col
 Commanding ~~Advanced~~ Guard.

Issued at 2100 11-9-17 (per runner)

- Copy No. 1. War Diary.
- " " 2 C.O. Advanced Guard.
- " " 3 O.C. "A" Coy.
- " " 4 O.C. B. Coy.
- " " 5 O.C. C. Coy.
- " " 6 O.C. D. Coy.
- " " 7 Filed.