

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/4/17

**Title:** General Officer Commanding, Royal  
Artillery, 1st ANZAC Corps and  
Headquarters, Royal Artillery,  
Australian Corps

September - October 1918



AWM4-13/4/17



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HEADQUARTERS,  
AUSTRALIAN CORPS  
ROYAL ARTILLERY.  
No. U/223/1  
Date.....

304

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**  
OF



Headquarters R.A., Australian Corps.

FOR

SEPTEMBER and part of OCTOBER 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*H. Suell*  
Captain,  
R.O.R.A., Australian Corps,

Signature of Officer Commanding

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# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERICOURT-SUR-SOMME	1st.		<p>Although shelling has been less severe generally, many enemy guns have been active, the bulk of the fire being directed into the area of the infantry operations North of the SOMME. After the attack this morning hostile gas shelling is reported in I.10. High velocity guns have been normally active.</p> <p>The attack carried out this morning North of the SOMME was <sup>sup</sup> reported by Heavy and Field Artillery. Throughout the period heavy harassing fire has been brought to bear upon the enemy's centres of activity and lines of communication. In a large number of cases special targets have been engaged at the request of the Infantry, and close liaison has been maintained in the selection of areas and points upon which harassing and concentrated fire have been placed. Much movement has been engaged both with ground observation and in reply to calls from the air. Counter battery work has been greatly assisted by observation from aeroplanes and balloons. 50th Divisional Artillery last night withdrew from action to wagon lines preparatory to marching on transfer to First Army</p>	
	2nd.		<p>Heavy hostile shelling has been reported at several points on the Corps front during the period. Calibres employed have been chiefly 7.7 c.m. guns, 10.5 and 15 c.m. howitzers. A fair quantity however of harassing fire has been brought to bear upon most of our forward villages and roads by 10 c.m. and 15 c.m. guns, and several of our battery <del>xxxx</del> areas have been intermittently shelled. Early this morning a quantity of gas was mixed with the H.E. in the shelling of N.33. Counter battery, bombardments, harassing and barrage, were the natures of fire put down this morning in support of the Infantry attack North of PERONNE. Many hostile batteries have been engaged, the majority in conjunction with aeroplane or balloon.</p>	
	3rd.		<p>PERONNE has been heavily harassed by various calibres throughout the period, as have also our Infantry positions in the vicinity of HAUT ALLAINES, VILLERS CARBONNEL, MISERY, CLERY and MONT ST.QUENTIN have received the bulk of the harassing fire. Many effective counter battery shoots have been carried out with ground, balloon and aeroplane observation. In addition heavy harassing fire has been brought to bear by day and night upon active and suspected batteries, and known battery areas. Throughout the period heavy harassing fire has been placed upon roads, trenched, woods, valleys and villages. Wire cutting has been carried out, many targets engaged at request of Infantry with whom close liaison has been maintained, and much minor movement has been fired upon.</p>	
	4th.		<p>A pronounced decrease in hostile shelling during the past 24 hours is reported. Last night</p>	



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MERICOURT -SUR- SOMME	4th		a few heavy concentrations with gas shell and H.E. were fired, but today has been very quiet.	
	contd.		Continual heavy harassing fire has been brought to bear on the enemy's positions and communications. Numerous targets have been engaged at the request of the Infantry, wire cutting has been carried out, 6" guns have been active on back areas, and intense harassing fire has been brought to bear on suspected battery areas.	
	5th.		Very little shelling has occurred during the period, enemy guns having mostly been withdrawn. Yesterday afternoon and last night heavy harassing fire was brought to bear on hostile battery areas and communications generally. Today - the Infantry advancing - open warfare conditions have prevailed, fire consisting mostly of the harassing of back areas, and the bombardment of localities giving trouble to the Infantry. Last night the Corps front was re-organised. Three Divisions are in the line - 32nd Division, 5th Aust. Division and 3rd Aust. Division from right to left. The Corps Northern boundary is now the East and West grid line through J.7 central. The Southern boundary a line from U.22.d. central to V.30.b.central. The interdivisional boundary between 32nd and 5th Aust. Division is an East and West line through O.35.a.central, and between the 5th and 3rd Aust. Divisions, the East and West line through P.1.c.04. Field Artillery <del>from</del> the advance is allotted as follows:- 3rd Aust. Division:- 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty., 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A., 16th Army Brigade R.F.A., and 14th Army Brigade R.F.A.. 5th Aust. Division:- 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty., 5th Army Brigade R.H.A., and 298th Army Brigade R.F.A.. 32nd Division:- 32nd Divnl. Arty., 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. and 23rd Army Brigade R.F.A.. The remainder of the Field Artillery being in Corps Reserve. The 51st, 9th and 21st Brigades R.G.A. are allotted to the 3rd, 5th, and 32nd Divisions respectively.	
	6th		Scarcely any enemy shelling has been reported during the period. Early this morning VILLERS CARBONNEL was shelled with a few rounds by a 15 c.m. gun. Field Artillery and the detailed Heavy Artillery Brigades have moved up in close support of the Infantry who are rapidly pushing forward with only slight opposition, consequently our Artillery fire has been practically nil. 6" Guns have maintained harassing fire on the enemy's lines of retirement.	
	7th		Enemy Artillery has again been very inactive, but during the night aeroplanes were busy bombing forward areas. Our advance has continued. The Field Artillery moving forward with the vanguard have effectively silenced hostile machine guns.	



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MERICOURT -SUR- SOMME	8th		Enemy Artillery has shown increased activity, owing to the fact that our Infantry are coming within range of his long range guns and howitzers emplaced to cover his HINDENBURG line defences. Gas shelling was reported at 11 p.m. last night in the vicinity of ROISEL, HERVILLY and MONTIGNY. From today the boundary between the III Corps and the Australian Corps is amended as follows:- K.11.a.00 along the River COULOGNE to F.26.d.50 thence due East along grid line.	
	9th		Enemy Artillery has increased somewhat in activity, light scattered shelling being reported on the whole forward areas during the night with heavy fire on ROISEL and HERVILLY. Our Artillery has supported the Infantry advance to their objectives by fire when necessary. Heavy Artillery are being rapidly pushed up into forward positions.	
	10th		Light scattered shelling only during the night is reported, this has continued on the left during the day. Further advance has only been carried out on the right Divisional front; this was supported by the forward Artillery. Small parties of the enemy and points of resistance have been engaged throughout the period. 1st Division (English) has arrived in Australian Corps area under Australian Corps; the Artillery at present is being concentrated in the MERICOURT area.	
	11th		Occasional heavy shelling on the forward areas has been reported, especially on the left Divisional front where the enemy attempted a counter attack in the vicinity of HESBECOURT between 10.0 and 11.0 p.m. last night. S.O.S. targets were engaged by both Field and Heavy Artillery. The command of the Artillery covering the front from the OMIGNON River (inclusive) Southwards passed to the G.O.C.R.A. IX Corps at 12.0 noon to-day. The 499th Siege Battery 6" Gun was transferred last night to IX Corps Heavy Artillery. Australian Corps advanced H.Q. closed at MERICOURT-SUR-SOMME at 4.0 p.m. to-day and re-opened at N.16.a.50 (between ASSEVILLERS and BARLEUX.)	
BARLEUX	12th		Hostile shelling has been very slight, only light scattered shelling of forward areas being reported. Machine guns posts and enemy points of resistance have been bombarded, hostile batteries have been silenced, and strong general harassing fire has been carried out. Last night the 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty. relieved the 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty., and the 1st relieved the 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. Command passed to the respective C.R.A's at 10.0 a.m. The following reliefs and transfers of Artillery have taken or are now taking place in consequence of the handing over of the Southern Divisional front to IX Corps :-	



Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

304

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
BARLEUX	12th contd.		The 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty. relieved the 16th Army Brigade R.H.A. and the 14th Army Brigade R.F.A. who move to IX Corps. The 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. is relieved from the 32nd Divnl. Sector to-day by the 16th Army Brigade R.H.A. and passes to the 4th Aust. Division on relief. The 12th Army Brigade A.F.A. (from Corps Reserve) and the 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. relieved to-day the 298th Army Brigade R.F.A. and the 5th Army Brigade R.H.A. who pass on relief to IX Corps.																	
	13th		Enemy Artillery activity has consisted mainly of harassing fire on our forward areas with occasional heavier concentrations. 10 and 15 c.m. guns have been active as usual. Hostile batteries have been engaged, harassing fire with all calibres carried out and much minor movement fired on. Consequent upon the completion of the Artillery reliefs mentioned yesterday, the following Artillery has been transferred to IX Corps :- 32nd Divisional Artillery, 14th, 23rd, and 298th Army Brigades R.F.A., 5th and 16th Army Brigades R.H.A. and 14th, 21st, and 69th Brigades R.G.A. The Field Artillery of the Australian Corps front is now organised as under:- <table><tr><td><u>Right Sector.</u></td><td><u>C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division.</u></td></tr><tr><td>4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.</td><td>6th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>12th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><u>Left Sector.</u></td><td><u>C.R.A. 1st. Aust. Divnl. Arty.</u></td></tr><tr><td>1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.</td><td>2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td><u>Corps Reserve.</u></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.</td><td>5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.</td></tr></table> The Northern Corps Boundary is the East and West grid line running through F.28.d.00. The Southern Corps boundary is the line of the OMIGUON River (exclusive) to R.12.c.50, thence a line to G.35.d.00. The interdivisional boundary is a line from L.28.b.07 to G.25.a.67 to G.21.a.05 to G.23.b.05. The Heavy Artillery Brigades allotted to Divisions on the 5th instant for Mobile warfare conditions reverted to the command of the G.O.C.R.A. Aust. Corps at 9.0 a.m. to-day.	<u>Right Sector.</u>	<u>C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division.</u>	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.	6th Army Brigade A.F.A.	12th Army Brigade A.F.A.		<u>Left Sector.</u>	<u>C.R.A. 1st. Aust. Divnl. Arty.</u>	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.		3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.	<u>Corps Reserve.</u>		3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.	
	<u>Right Sector.</u>	<u>C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division.</u>																		
4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.	6th Army Brigade A.F.A.																			
12th Army Brigade A.F.A.																				
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1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.																			
	3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.																			
<u>Corps Reserve.</u>																				
3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.																			
14th		Hostile shelling on the Corps front has been normal throughout the period. ROISEL has received considerable attention and our battery areas, villages, and billets have been actively harassed by 10 and 15 cm. guns. Movement has been engaged, concentrating and harassing fire put down and hostile batteries fired on. At 7.0 p.m. last night a burst of fire was directed on 31 enemy batteries. Artillery Instructions No.263 issued.	1.																	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BARLEUX	15th		Increased activity on the part of hostile Artillery is very marked. ROISEL and its vicinity - especially the valleys to the North and South where a number of our batteries are - have been subjected to almost continuous harassing fire, interspersed by frequent brief concentrations of considerable density. Various calibres have been employed, including 21 cm. howitzers. The free use of 10 cm. guns has also been noticed. High velocity guns generally have exhibited a decided increase in activity, operations upon villages and roads both in back and forward areas. Gas shelling mixed with H.E. was reported in MARQUAIX and K.17.- 23 during the night. Heavy harassing fire has <sup>been</sup> brought to bear upon all known and suspected hostile battery areas throughout the period. In conjunction with the Corps on our left a heavy concentration was put down upon the quarries in F.27.c. and L.3.a. and b. this morning. Strong harassing fire has been carried out as usual, and movement and other targets engaged as opportunities were presented. 69th Brigade R.G.A. was transferred to-day from IX Corps to Australian Corps. 232nd Army Brigade R.F.A. and 5th Army Brigade R.F.A. marched into Australian Corps area to-day and are allotted to the 4th Aust. and 1st. Aust. Divisions respectively. Artillery Instructions Nos. 264 and 265 issued.	2 & 3.
	16th		Vigorous shelling on our front has again taken place throughout the period. Locations give a rearward tendency and ground observers confirm that during the past 2 days, enemy guns appear to be firing at longer ranges. ROISEL and vicinity has again received considerable attention while the active counter battery work carried out by the enemy has been very noticeable. Many NF calls have been answered and all known and suspected battery areas have been heavily harassed throughout the period. Harassing fire has also been strongly maintained on roads, valleys, woods, villages and communications generally. 41st Brigade R.G.A. marched into Australian Corps area last night and came under the orders of the B.G.H.A. Aust. Corps. Artillery Instructions No. 266 issued.	4.
	17th		Hostile shelling, if anything, shows a slight decrease. Battery areas, ROISEL and vicinity, HERVILLY and K.18 have all received considerable attention. Our fire was of the same nature as usual - strong harassing throughout the period with frequent concentrations.	
	18th		Throughout the night a considerable amount of harassing fire was placed upon our battery areas. From 4.0 a.m. to Zero hour (5.20 a.m.) our battery positions in K.22.b. were shelled by Gas and	

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BARLEUX	18th contd.		<p>and H.E. Slight gas shelling after Zero hour was reported in L.19. During the attack enemy Artillery re-action except for neutralising fire on two of our batteries in K.12, was extremely light. Since the advance LE VERGUIER and VILLERET have been harassed by Field guns. In support of the attack this morning a barrage was put down by Field Artillery in accordance with the Barrage map and Artillery Instructions already appended. Heavy Artillery support consisted of :- 1. Destructive bombardment of strong points <sup>prior</sup> to the assault. 2. A deep <del>xxxxxxxx</del> rolling belt of concentrated fire, covering centres of resistance, strong points, headquarters and commanding ground - fire being finally lifted on to the Observation Posts and assembly areas within the HINDENBURG defences. 3. Vigorous counter battery work. The areas for Counter battery fire were selected partly from information derived from current locations, partly from considerations of terrain, of evidence obtained from captured documents, and of probabilities based on experience gained from the examination of actual hostile positions since our advance from 8th August to the present time. The programme was arranged so that full advantage could be taken of calls from the air occurring during the period of bombardment. After the operation many targets were engaged at the request of the Infantry, harassing fire on forward areas carried out, machine gun posts were engaged, harassing fire by 6" guns was directed on enemy communications, especially railways. The Field Artillery for the operation was allotted as follows :- <u>Right Sector. C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division.</u> 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty., 5th Army Brigade A.F.A., 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty., 12th Army Brigade A.F.A. 232nd Army Brigade R.F.A. <u>Left Sector. C.R.A. 1st Aust. Division.</u> 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty., 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty., 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty., 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. 5th Army Brigade R.F.A. The Heavy Artillery under the B.G.H.A. Aust. Corps for the operation was:- 5th Brigade R.G.A. (8 inch), 9th Brigade R.G.A. (Mobile), 41st Brigade R.G.A. (Mobile), 51st Brigade R.G.A. (Mixed), 68th Brigade R.G.A. (8 inch), 69th Brigade R.G.A. (9.2 inch), 93th Brigade R.G.A. (Mixed), 73rd Army Brigade R.G.A. (Long Range).</p>	
	19th		<p>Late yesterday afternoon enemy Artillery shewed signs of renewed activity. Apparently his <del>ex</del> batteries were begining to come into action in fresh positions, hurriedly taken up in the rear. Throughout the period vigorous harassing fire has taken place upon our front line, but no cases</p>	



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BARLEUX	19th		of intense fire or concentrations have been reported.	
	contd.		Support was given to the main attack last night by our Right Division. Counter-battery work has been carried out as usual, movement in the vicinity of BELLICOURT has been frequently engaged during the day, and this morning from 4.55 a.m. to 5.5 a.m., and again from 5.20 a.m. to 5.30 a.m., Counter Preparation was carried out on the whole front.	
	20th		Apart from consistent harassing of HARGICOURT and VILLERET, enemy shelling has been light and scattered with a few light concentrations. Support was given this morning to a minor operation <sup>by</sup> our right Division. Much movement has been engaged, harassing and counter-battery fire has been carried out, and yesterday afternoon enemy reported massing in G.30. were heavily concentrated on. One section of 160th Siege Battery withdrew from action last night and marched to-day to FROYART, en route for the Fourth Army Artillery School, where they are to relieve a section of the 235th Battery R.G.A. which rejoins its Battery in Aust. Corps on the 25th instant.	
	21st		Although a number of instances of heavy fire have occurred, a general decrease in hostile fire has been reported. The reaction during the operation by the 1st Australian Division this morning consisted of a Field Gun barrage upon L.12 and L.18. Later in the morning G.7 and G.14 were vigorously shelled. <del>xxx</del> 10 cm guns have been active throughout the period. The minor operation this morning (in conjunction with operation of III Corps) was supported by Field and Heavy Artillery. Counter-Battery work has been vigorously carried out, heavy concentrations were fired on considerable numbers of the enemy observed in B.21.c, FOLEMPRISE Fm. and H.1; much minor movement has been engaged and harassing fire placed on enemy communications, occupied areas, batteries, trenches, and centres of activity through the period.	
	22nd		Hostile shelling has again shown a decrease - fire being mostly of a harassing nature on forward trenches and villages with a little high velocity gun activity on villages and roads further back. Counter Preparation was fired for ten minutes at 5.30 a.m. this morning and again at 5.50 a.m. As a result of much enemy movement, in the neighbourhood of FOLEMPRISE Fm. harassing fire was carried out and heavy concentrations put down on three occasions. Other movement was also engaged. 6" guns have actively harassed enemy rear communications and hostile batteries have been thoroughly harassed.	

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BARLEUX	22nd contd.		<p>Last night the 4th Aust. Div. Artillery and 5th Army Brigade R.F.A. were withdrawn to wagon lines in Corps Reserve.</p> <p>At 10 a.m. to-day the IX Corps took over the Southern portion of the Australian Corps front, the responsibility of the artillery covering that front passed to the G.O.C.R.A. IX Corps at the same time.</p> <p>The Field Artillery covering that front is in process of being relieved in accordance with the details published in this diary. C.R.A. 4th Aust. Div. continues to officiate until relieved to-morrow by the C.R.A. 46th Division.</p> <p>The 69th Brigade R.G.A. passes from Australian Corps to IX Corps.</p> <p>The Corps Southern Forward Boundary is now the East and West grid line through G.20 Central.</p>	
	23rd		<p>Very little shelling on the Corps front has been reported. Our fire has been carried out as usual on all enemy targets, including movement in vicinity of FOLEMPRISE Fm. and strong harassing fire by 6" guns.</p> <p>Last night the 5th Army Brigade R.F.A. relieved the 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. which passes to Corps reserve with 12th Army Brigade A.F.A. which was withdrawn from action.</p> <p>Artillery Instruction No. 267 issued.</p>	5
	24th		<p>Hostile artillery activity shows a slight decrease for the period. VILLERET has been irregularly harassed throughout by 15 and 10.5 cm. Howitzers firing a proportion of gas during the night. The vicinity of HARGICOURT has been subjected to harassing fire especially the Sunken road in L.4.a and c. North West of the village. The TINCOURT - ROISEL road has been harassed by 15 cm. guns. Harassing fire has been placed on all known and suspected hostile bty. areas. Several hostile batteries have also been successfully engaged with ground observation. Other fire has been distributed on the various enemy defences and zones of activity. A farm in A.29.c round which movement had been noticed, was engaged with good results, one of the first rounds obtained a direct hit on the farm, and men were seen to run from it. Five further hits were observed practically demolishing the farm, and it is believed, inflicting a number of casualties.</p> <p>65th and 84th Army Brigades R.F.A. moved in to Aust. Corps area yesterday and came under the orders of the C.R.A. 1st Aust. Division.</p> <p>Last night the 84th Army Brigade R.F.A. relieved one Brigade of 3rd Aust. Div. Artillery and the 12th Army Brigade A.F.A. relieved the 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. - the relieved Brigades</p>	



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BARLEUX	24th		passing to Corps reserve together with the remaining Brigade of the 3rd Aust. Div. Artillery which withdrew from action.	
	contd.		Last night the 30th American Division (less Artillery) relieved the 1st Australian Division (less Artillery) in the line on the Australian Corps front. The C.R.A. 1st Aust. Division continues to officiate with the 30th American Division. An Artillery Instruction in conjunction with Artillery Instructions No.267 was issued to-day. Artillery Instructions Nos. 268 and 269 were also issued.	6. 7 & 8.
	25th		Enemy fire has again been considerably below normal. Early this morning a lively barrage, supporting an attempted raid, on two of our posts, was put down on G.13, otherwise shelling has been mainly in the character of harassing fire on our more forward positions. At 5.20 a.m. S.O.S. lines were opened in response to a signal. Fire ceased at 5.45 a.m., the infantry having reported "all quiet". At 6.16 a.m. the S.O.S. was again reported, this time the enemy attacked two of our posts - the fire was opened and continued until 6.50 a.m. when all was reported quiet. Harassing fire has been carried out by all natures of guns and Howitzers on enemy positions, etc., throughout the period. Four enemy batteries have been successfully engaged in destructive shoots, three with aeroplane observation and one with balloon observation. At 10 a.m. this morning the front held by the 27th American Division passed from III Corps to Australian Corps, the Command of the Artillery covering that front passing to the G.O.C.R.A. Aust. Corps at the same time. The Corps Northern boundary is now the East and West grid line through F.4.d.0.0 and the inter-divisional boundary the East and West grid line through F.30.c.0.0. The 4th Aust. Div. Artillery moved into action last night on the 27th American Divisional front under III Corps orders. The C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division officiating as C.R.A. to the 27th American Division. Consequent upon the 27th American Divisional sector passing to the Australian Corps the following artillery passes to the command of the G.O.C.R.A.- <u>Field Artillery</u> 4th Aust.Div.Arty. 86th Army Bde R.F.A. 25th Divnl. Artillery 104th Army Bde R.F.A. 58th Divnl. Artillery 108th Army Bde R.F.A.	

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BARLEUX	25th		<u>Heavy Artillery</u> 23rd, 71st, 85th and 89th Brigades R.G.A. 312th and 449th Siege (6-inch gun) Batteries R.G.A. Artillery instructions No. 270 issued.	9
	26th		Enemy artillery activity has been but moderate, the volume of hostile shelling however, has been slightly greater than during the previous period. The increase is noticeable more on the battery areas - several of which have been fairly freely harassed. A few minor cases of gas shelling have also been reported. Fire was opened on S.O.S. lines at 8.10 p.m. last night on the Right Divisional Front. After 15 minutes the front being reported quiet, fire was stopped. Several destructive shoots with air and ground observation have been carried out on hostile batteries, otherwise fire has been of the usual strong harassing nature. Artillery Instructions No. 271 and 272 issued.	10 & 11
	27th		No abnormal enemy shelling in reply to our gas bombardment took place last night. This morning the reaction during the infantry attack was of but moderate intensity. The area that received chief attention was the triangle HARGICOURT - VILLERET - BOIS DU GRAND PRIEL. Throughout the period our forward areas have been subjected to harassing fire. Last night the gas bombardment as detailed in artillery Instructions No. 268 was carried out by Field and Heavy Artillery. This is the first time that 'BB' gas has been used by the British Army and also the first time that 18-pdrs have fired gas shell. This gas bombardment was the commencement of the two days preliminary bombardment for the attack on the Hindenburg line. This bombardment consists of :- (A) The special gas bombardment (as above). (B) Vigorous counter-battery fire. (C) Intensive harassing fire. (D) Cutting of lanes in hostile wire defences. (E) Bombardment of selected strong points and localities. The Left Division attacked this morning with the object of establishing themselves in a position so that they could form up on the required jumping off line for the main attack on zero day. A Field Artillery barrage was provided and Heavy Artillery gave support with intense counter-battery work and bombardment of selected points, arranged in a series of zones on the front of the attack. Three contiguous zones of targets were engaged simultaneously throughout, until  fire W	

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# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
BARLEUX	27th contd.		<p>Fire was finally lifted to the Easternmost zone within the HINDENBURG LINE. <sup>Lift</sup><del>lights</del> were so arranged that the two more distant zones were kept under fire while fire was lifted from the nearest zone. Support was also given to a second attack at 1 p.m.</p> <p>The Field Artillery on the Corps front is now distributed as follows.-</p> <p><u>Right Division - C.R.A. 1st Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>1st Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>65th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>84th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>12th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td>150th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr></table> <p><u>Left Division - C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>4th Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>86th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>25th Divisional Arty.</td><td>104th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>58th Divisional Arty.</td><td>108th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr></table> <p><u>Corps Reserve.</u></p> <p><u>Right Division - C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>5th Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td></td></tr></table> <p><u>Left Division - C.R.A. 3rd Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>3rd Aust. Div. Artillery.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>The following is the Heavy Artillery under the B.G.H.A., Australian Corps.-</p> <p>9th Brigade R.G.A. (Mobile), 18th Brigade R.G.A. (9.2" How), 23rd Brigade R.G.A. (9.2" How), 41st Brigade R.G.A. (Mobile), 51st Brigade R.G.A. (Mixed), 68th Brigade R.G.A. (8" How), 71st Brigade R.G.A. (8" How), 85th Brigade R.G.A. (Mobile), 89th Brigade R.G.A. (8" How), 93rd Brigade R.G.A. (Mixed) and 73rd Army Brigade R.G.A. (6" guns).</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No. 273 and 274 issued.</p>	1st Aust. Div. Artillery	65th Army Brigade R.F.A.	2nd Aust. Div. Artillery	84th Army Brigade R.F.A.	12th Army Brigade A.F.A.	150th Army Brigade R.F.A.	4th Aust. Div. Artillery	86th Army Brigade R.F.A.	25th Divisional Arty.	104th Army Brigade R.F.A.	58th Divisional Arty.	108th Army Brigade R.F.A.	5th Aust. Div. Artillery		6th Army Brigade A.F.A.		3rd Aust. Div. Artillery.		3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.		
1st Aust. Div. Artillery	65th Army Brigade R.F.A.																							
2nd Aust. Div. Artillery	84th Army Brigade R.F.A.																							
12th Army Brigade A.F.A.	150th Army Brigade R.F.A.																							
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6th Army Brigade A.F.A.																								
3rd Aust. Div. Artillery.																								
3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.																								
	28th		<p>Again but moderate shelling has taken place on the front. The enemy's chief activities were directed upon counter-battery work, otherwise intermittent harassing fire well distributed has constituted the only shelling reported.</p> <p>Bombardment fire as detailed yesterday has been continued, wire cutting by heavy artillery has been assisted by observation <del>by</del> from aeroplane and balloon.</p> <p>Owing to the uncertainty of the situation on the Left Divisional front it has been decided that, although no substantial alteration in the plan will be attempted, the barrage will come down as already arranged at zero but will remain there for four minutes and will then lift in accordance</p>	12 & 13.																				

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BARLEUX	28th contd.		with the barrage map, except that all lifts will be of four minutes per 100 yards. the halt being at the place and for the period already arranged. Tracings shewing the altered times of lifts were issued and copies are attached to the barrage map already appended.	
	29th		<p>Prior to our attack very few cases of shelling other than general harassing fire, were reported. A quantity of gas was, however, mixed with H.E. in the harassing fire. Since our attack a number of cases of harassing fire, scattered over the whole front, and carried out chiefly by 10 cm. and 15 cm. guns have been reported. The immediate reply during the assault was a ragged barrage of uneven density and was not heavy.</p> <p>Before the operation our intensive bombardment work was continued. At 5.50 a.m. the Field Artillery Barrage was put down according to plan. The Field Artillery allotment to Divisions was as detailed in this diary on the 27th instant, except that the 3rd and 6th Army Brigades A.F.A. formed the left and Right Flank Barrage Brigades respectively.</p> <p>Heavy Artillery support to the attack was given by .-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) Heavy Bombardment of centres of resistance, headquarters, commanding ground, and selected localities of tactical importance, trench systems and strong points.</li> <li>(B) Intensive counter-battery work.</li> <li>(C) Special bombardment tasks carried out by long range guns and 12" Howitzers.</li> </ul> <p>Targets under (A) were arranged in zones running parallel to the lines of the advancing infantry. Three contiguous zones of targets were engaged simultaneously throughout the operation, until the fire of each individual Brigade was finally lifted on to the zone where its limit of range was reached. Lifts were so arranged that the two more distant zones were kept under fire while fire was lifted from the nearest zone.</p> <p>The attack could not be called a success on the Corps front though the troops on the right penetrated to a considerable depth in touch with the Corps on our right who advanced well past the HINDENBURG DEFENCES.</p> <p>The Australian Corps evening report for to-day explaining the situation on this front is as follows.-</p> <p>"30th and 27th American Divisions attacked at 5.50 this morning on Right and Left sectors of Australian Corps front AAA 30th American Division took BELLICOURT AAA Elements of 27th American Division reached LE CATELET and GOUY AAAA Large numbers of enemy apparently not mopped up in the canal tunnel and dugout systems of the HINDENBURG LINE in the vicinity of BONY held up the Support regiment of 27th American Division, and were reinforced from direction of square A.3 AAA Subsequent advance of 3rd Australian Division in Left sector held up on line of KNOLL - GILLEMONT Farm AAA 5th Australian Division have gone through</p>	

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

304

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BARLEUX	29th contd.		30th American Division AAA Line now runs approx. as under AAA H.19.a to G.18.b. through NAUROY to trench lines through G.11.b and G.5 thence along trench through G.4.b and A. to G.4.a.5.4 thence up line of tunnel to A.28.a.3.2 through A.27.b and a to A.20.d. and c to F.24.a. to just west of GILLEMONT Farm and North through A.7.d and b".	
	30th		<p>Yesterday afternoon and evening, hostile artillery was quiet apart from vigorous harassing fire directed upon our communications where they crossed the line F.11 - 17 - 24 - 30 - G.1 - 7 - 13 and our more forward villages. NAUROY has received considerable attention. The tactical situation has prevented counter-battery work; in harassing fire on enemy's forward position - fire being confined to heavy harassing fire upon the area East and North East of PUTNEY and by long range guns on distant targets upon the front generally. The restrictions were removed at 3 p.m., since when heavy harassing fire and counter-battery work has been carried out upon the whole front, thousand yards clear of our outpost line. The BEAUREVOIR line from a thousand yards North of JONCOURT has been heavily bombarded. The 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions - reinforced by the elements of the 27th and 30th American Divisions respectively are now engaged in clearing up the situation - the 5th Aust. Division on the right working along railway ridge and the 3rd Aust. Division on the left are working Northwards and Eastwards along and towards the HINDENBURG LINE towards BONY.</p> <p>Hostile artillery has been active during the period. To-day, especially, our front line position has been subjected to heavy fire from all calibres up to 21 cm. Hows. The immediate artillery reply to the infantry operation this morning was moderate, but towards mid-day enemy guns began to reassert themselves, in several cases from new positions which were afterwards indicated by aeroplane zone calls. Support was given to the attack launched by the Right Division at 6 a.m. this morning. Heavy harassing fire has been brought to bear upon the enemy's position and communications generally with special reference to BRANCOURT and the BEAUREVOIR trench systems. The clearing up of the HINDENBURG LINE has been continued by the Left Division. The III Corps on our left was relieved at 12 noon to-day by the XIII Corps.</p>	
	October 1st			
	2nd		<p>Very little shelling has been reported, though yesterday afternoon and evening the Right Divisional front was heavily harassed. Harassing fire has been maintained on enemy positions and operations by the Corps on our Right was supported this morning.</p>	

13



# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
BARLEUX	2nd contd.		<p>The Corps front was readjusted last night. The 2nd Australian Division reinforced the front on the right. The Northern Corps boundary is.-</p> <p>A.3.d.3.6 to A.1.c.0.0 thence due West.</p> <p>The inter-divisional boundary between the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions is.-</p> <p>A.16.central to A.20.central thence due West; and between the 5th and 2nd Australian Divisions MUSHROOM QUARRY - MINT COPSE - CABARET COPSE - G.3.central thence due West. The Corps Southern boundary is JONCOURT (inclusive) - H.14.central - G.24.central thence due West. The Field Artillery covering the front is distributed as follows.-</p> <p><u>Right Sector - C.R.A. 2nd Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>2nd Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>65th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>1st Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>84th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>6th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td>108th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>12th Army Brigade A.F.A.</td><td>150th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr></table> <p><u>Centre Sector - C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>5th Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>86th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr><tr><td>4th Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>104th Army Brigade R.F.A.</td></tr></table> <p><u>Left Sector - C.R.A. 3rd Aust. Division.</u></p> <table><tr><td>3rd Aust. Div. Artillery</td><td>58th Divisional Artillery</td></tr><tr><td>25th Divisional Artillery</td><td>3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.</td></tr></table>	2nd Aust. Div. Artillery	65th Army Brigade R.F.A.	1st Aust. Div. Artillery	84th Army Brigade R.F.A.	6th Army Brigade A.F.A.	108th Army Brigade R.F.A.	12th Army Brigade A.F.A.	150th Army Brigade R.F.A.	5th Aust. Div. Artillery	86th Army Brigade R.F.A.	4th Aust. Div. Artillery	104th Army Brigade R.F.A.	3rd Aust. Div. Artillery	58th Divisional Artillery	25th Divisional Artillery	3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.	
	2nd Aust. Div. Artillery	65th Army Brigade R.F.A.																		
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3rd Aust. Div. Artillery	58th Divisional Artillery																			
25th Divisional Artillery	3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.																			
3rd		<p>Hostile artillery reaction during the attack this morning by the 2nd Australian Division was extremely feeble. Enemy fired throughout has been very light.</p> <p>The infantry attack this morning was supported by Field and Heavy Artillery. After the attack enemy massing North of BEAUREVOIR were engaged - other fire has been mostly of a harassing nature on all possible targets, including hostile batteries located from air calls. Last night the 32nd Division (IX Corps) took over the Southern portion of the Corps front, i.e. Southwards from the <del>XXI</del> line joining JONCOURT and PONCHAUX. On the left the 50th Division (XIII Corps) took over the Australian Corps front as far South as MONT ST MARTIN (inclusive to XIII Corps).</p> <p>The Australian Corps is now holding the front with one Division in the line - the 2nd. Consequent upon these reliefs the 25th Divisional Artillery is transferred to the XIII Corps, and the 3rd Aust. and 58th Divisional Artilleries and 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. are temporarily transferred.</p>																		

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BARLEUX	3rd contd.		<p>In addition the following Brigades withdrew to wagon lines in Corps reserve.-</p> <p>5th Aust. Div. Artillery                      86th Army Brigade R.F.A. 4th Aust. Div. Artillery                      6th Army Brigade A.F.A.</p> <p>all these brigades excepting the 86th Army Brigade R.F.A., which is transfered to the XIII Corps are now placed under the orders of the 2nd Australian Division.</p>	
	4th		<p>Again very little shelling has been reported - mainly light harassing fire widely distributed upon our forward areas. Our fire has been mainly harassing, strongly directed on enemy communications and occupied areas, points of resistance, and centres of activity, and on hostile batteries and hostile battery areas.</p> <p>The Australian Corps northern boundary was adjusted last night by the 25th Division (XIII Corps) relieving the 2nd Australian Division as far south as the TORRENS CANAL through B.15, 16 to 17 central thence to B.18.a.5.0 to C.7.central - this line forming the Corps Northern boundary.</p> <p>The 104th and 108th Army Brigades R.F.A. were transferred to XIII Corps this morning on completion of the operation. The 65th 84th and 150th Army Brigades R.F.A. were relieved to-day under 2nd Australian Divisional orders and transferred to XIII Corps, where they will relieve the 3rd Aust. Divisional Artillery and the 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. The 58th Divisional Artillery is now transferred to XIII Corps. Last night the 23rd 85th and 89th Brigades and the 312th Siege Battery R.G.A. were transfered to XIII Corps.</p>	
	5th		<p>Before the infantry attacked this morning enemy fire was extremely severe on our Field batteries and forward areas, but slackened considerably when our guns opened. To-day a steady harassing fire has been maintained on TEMPLEUX - LE - GUERARD, HARGICOURT and the main road passing through these villages. Support was given this morning to the 2nd Australian Divisional attack on MONTBREHAIN. Throughout the remainder of the period harassing fire was brought to bear on enemy roads, tracks, trenches, woods, valleys, batteries and possible assembly areas. Much movement has been engaged and at 3 p.m. enemy reported advancing in C.17. and massing in B.30 were dispersed. Last night the 2nd Australian Division extended their front Southwards taking over portion of the IX Corps front as far south as the line H.17.a.5.0 - I.3.central.</p> <p>1st Aust. Divisional Artillery complete, moved to-day, and the 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. were to move by road from the Australian Corps forward area to the LONGPRE R.A. sub-area where they came under the orders of the 1st Australian Division.</p>	



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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304

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
BARLEUX	6th		<p>Hostile artillery throughout the night has been fairly active, mainly in the form of harassing fire on our infantry and forward <del>XXXXXX</del> battery areas.</p> <p>Our artillery continued their strong harassing programmes. Last night the 30th American Division relieved the 2nd Australian Division in the line on the Australian Corps front. At 9 a.m. to-day the command of the front held by the Australian Corps passed to the 2nd American Corps; the command of the artillery covering the front passing from the G.O.C.R.A. Australian Corps to the G.O.C.R.A. VII (British) Corps who are acting as the R.A. Headquarters of the 2nd American Corps.</p> <p>The following Artillery was transferred to the 2nd American Corps.-</p> <table><tr><td colspan="2"><u>Field Artillery.</u></td></tr><tr><td>2nd Aust.Div.Artillery complete.</td><td>5th Aust.Div.Artillery complete</td></tr><tr><td>3rd Aust.Div.Artillery ,,</td><td>6th Army Brigade A.F.A. ,,</td></tr><tr><td>4th Aust.Div.Artillery ,,</td><td>12th Army Brigade A.F.A. ,,</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"><u>Heavy Artillery.</u></td></tr><tr><td>9th Brigade R.G.A.</td><td>68th Brigade R.G.A.</td></tr><tr><td>18th Brigade R.G.A.</td><td>71st Brigade R.G.A.</td></tr><tr><td>41st Brigade R.G.A.</td><td>93rd Brigade R.G.A.</td></tr><tr><td>51st Brigade R.G.A.</td><td>73rd Army Bde R.G.A.</td></tr></table> <p>Australian Corps advanced headquarters remains at BARLEUX for the present in Army Reserve. 2nd American Corps advanced headquarters opened in BUIRE Wood (J.16.b).</p>	<u>Field Artillery.</u>		2nd Aust.Div.Artillery complete.	5th Aust.Div.Artillery complete	3rd Aust.Div.Artillery ,,	6th Army Brigade A.F.A. ,,	4th Aust.Div.Artillery ,,	12th Army Brigade A.F.A. ,,	<u>Heavy Artillery.</u>		9th Brigade R.G.A.	68th Brigade R.G.A.	18th Brigade R.G.A.	71st Brigade R.G.A.	41st Brigade R.G.A.	93rd Brigade R.G.A.	51st Brigade R.G.A.	73rd Army Bde R.G.A.	
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51st Brigade R.G.A.	73rd Army Bde R.G.A.																					
*****																						
<p style="text-align: center;">G E N E R A L.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">=====</p> <p>Map references refer to Sheets 62 D, 62 C, 62 B, 57C, 57 B.</p> <p>Throughout the month the very successful advance of the Australian Corps has been continued. Each advance has been closely supported by Field Artillery and Mobile Brigades R.G.A. when mobile warfare conditions have prevailed, and both Field and Heavy Artillery generally when the advance has been under semi mobile warfare conditions.</p>																						
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16



# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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			<p><u>GENERAL CONTINUED.</u></p> <p>The huge supply of ammunition required by the guns at each successive stage of the <del>xxxxx</del> advance, has entailed a great amount of labour by men, horses and lorries, apart from this however very little difficulty has been experienced in maintaining an adequate supply.</p> <p>The extent of hostile Artillery activity throughout has depended entirely on the tactical situation. On definite lines where the enemy contemplated making a strong resistance, fire has been naturally heavy. In his intermediate and temporary positions, fire has not been so intense, due to the fact that guns were either being withdrawn or were emplaced in depth, or that they had been captured by us and were awaiting replacement.</p> <p>Gas Shelling has been spasmodic and very seldom heavy. A large percentage of gas has been used by our guns, in harassing and concentrated fire. Enemy Guns have been used to a great extent, especially for the purpose of firing gas shell.</p> <p>From prisoners' statements the results of our special gas bombardment on the night of 26/27 Sept were very satisfactory.</p> <p>Detailed examinations of the lanes cut in the wire defences of the HINDENBURG LINE by Field and Heavy Artillery for the operation on the 29th September have been made. Reports shew that these lanes with one exception, were well cut, and provided good passage for the Infantry.</p> <p>During the time that the 27th and 30th American Divisions were working under Australian Corps, liaison was maintained with the 2nd American Corps - to which these Divisions belong - by Brigadier General F.H. METCALFE, D.S.O. the B.G.H.A. VII Corps. The R.A. and H.A. Headquarters of the VII Corps were and are now attached for duty to the 2nd American Corps.</p> <p>A statement shewing the ammunition expended by the Australian Corps from noon 17th September to noon 18th September is appended.</p>	14.

*Samuel Allen*  
Brigadier General,

G.O.C., R.A., Australian Corps.



# WAR DIARY

OF

Headquarters R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

FOR

SEPTEMBER and part of OCTOBER 1918

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## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Artillery Instructions No. 263.
2.	Artillery Instructions No. 264.
3.	Artillery Instructions No. 265 with Barrage Map. (With Original War Diary only.)
4.	Artillery Instructions No. 266.
5.	Artillery Instructions No. 267.
6.	Ammunition Instructions issued in conjunction with A.I.267.
7.	Artillery Instructions No. 268.
8.	Artillery Instructions No. 269 with Barrage Map.
9.	Artillery Instructions No. 270.
10.	Artillery Instructions No. 271.
11.	Artillery Instructions No. 272 with Barrage Map and Tracing.
12.	Artillery Instructions No. 273.
13.	Artillery Instructions No. 274.
14.	Ammunition expenditure from noon 17th to noon 18th Sept. 1918.



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.263  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

APPENDIX

14th September 1918.

1. The Australian Corps intends to attack the enemy positions on the general line TEMPLEUX le MAISSEMY at a time and date to be notified later. ~~GUERARD~~ -  
The attack will be carried out on a two Divisional front, the 1st Australian Division attacking on the left, the 4th Australian Division on the right.  
The attack of the III Corps on our left and of the IX Corps on our right is timed simultaneously with our own.
2. The attack will take place under a Field Artillery barrage. Map shewing times and distances of lifts will be issued later. After the capture of the Final Objective the success will be exploited.  
The exploitation will be supported by Field Artillery specially allocated for the task.
3. A Halt Line has been arranged upon which the Artillery barrage will halt for a ~~minimum~~ <sup>SPECIFIED</sup> period of one hour (BROWN Line G.S.Map)  
During this halt, Field Artillery Brigades - the guns of which will be out of range on the Final Objective, will move forward to new positions from which to continue the support of the advance to the RED Line.  
A proportion of Heavy Artillery will also move forward during this halt into such positions as to be capable of engaging hostile batteries which have been emplaced East of the Canal for the defence of the HINDENBURG Line.
4. The B.G.H.A. will, in consultation with Divisional Commanders, arrange to bombard special localities, lifting from these places in conformity with the Barrage Table to be issued later. These lifts will be so arranged as to give no fire within 600 yards of our advancing Infantry.  
The usual attention will be paid to known or likely lines of approach or exit, likely assembly areas, O.P's and Headquarters.  
The B.G.H.A. will submit his plan accordingly.
5. The Infantry and Tanks have orders to press closely behind the 18-pdr barrage.
6. Four Tanks have been allotted to each Division. Dummy Tanks are being prepared with a view to deceiving the enemy and in order to draw his Artillery fire from our troops.
7. 'S.O.S.' will be inoperative from Zero - 15 minutes.
8. DISTRIBUTION OF ARTILLERY.

(a) Field Artillery.

Brigades of Field Artillery are allotted to Divisions as follows :-

Under orders of the C.R.A. 1st Australian Division - Northern Sector :-

1st Aust.Divnl.Artillery.	)	
2nd Aust.Divnl.Artillery.	)	
3rd Aust.Divnl.Artillery.	)	
3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	
5th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	8 Brigades.

Under



Under orders of the C.R.A. 4th Australian Division - Southern Sector :-

4th Aust.Divnl.Artilleary.	)	
5th Aust.Divnl.Artilleary.	)	
6th Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	7 Brigades.
12th Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	
232nd Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	

(b) Heavy Artillery.

The following Brigades of Heavy Artillery are at the disposal of the B.G.F.A. :-

5th Brigado R.G.A.	(8")
9th Brigade R.G.A.	(Mobile)
41st Brigade R.G.A.	(Mobile)
51st Brigade R.G.A.	(Mixed)
68th Brigade R.G.A.	(8")
69th Brigade R.G.A.	(9.2")
93rd Brigade R.G.A.	(Mixed)
73rd Brigado R.G.A.	(Long Range)

9. AMMUNITION.

(a) The following ammunition will be held by Field Artillery on Zero day :-

	At guns.	Echelon.	A.R.P.	Corps Reserve.	Total.
					rounds per gun.
18-pdr.	600	276	100	175	1151
4.5" How.	400	222	100	90	812 do.

(b) This will be held in the following proportion :-

18-pdr. At guns. 10% AS if available. (If unavailable to be replaced by A)

50% A  
40% AX

Echelon, )  
A.R.P. & ) 60% A  
Corps ) 40% AX  
Reserve.)

4.5" How. At guns. 10% BS  
90% H.E.

Echelon, )  
A.R.P. & ) H.E.  
Corps )  
Reserve.)

(c) Heavy Artillery will have at guns on Zero day the following :-

60-pdr.	300	rounds per gun.
6" gun.	250	do.
6" How.	300	do.
8" How.	300	do.
9.2" How.	300	do.
12" How.	100	do.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

for distribution see over.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.



21  
28/7  
304

Issued as under :-

- |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Nos.1 and 2. | Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.  |
| 3.           | 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.    |
| 4.           | 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.    |
| 5.           | 3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.    |
| 6.           | 4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.    |
| 7.           | 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.    |
| 8 and 9.     | R.A. Fourth Army.       |
| 10.          | R.A. III Corps.         |
| 11.          | R.A. IX Corps.          |
| 12.          | Corps Commander.        |
| 13.          | 15th Wing R.A.F.        |
| 14.          | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.     |
| 15.          | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F. |
| 16.          | 5th Tank Brigade.       |
| 17.          | 1st Aust.Division.      |
| 18.          | 2nd Aust.Division.      |
| 19.          | 3rd Aust.Division.      |
| 20.          | 4th Aust.Division.      |
| 21.          | 5th Aust.Division.      |
| 22.          | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.  |
| 23 to 27.    | Aust.Corps "G"          |
| 28.          | Aust.Corps "Q"          |
| 29.          | G.S.O. II R.A.          |
| 30.          | R.O.R.A.                |
| 31.          | S.O.R.A.                |
| 32 to 34.    | Diary.                  |
| 35 to 37.    | Spare.                  |



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 264  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

15th September 1918.

FURTHER TO OPERATION AS LAID DOWN IN ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS  
No. 263.

1. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

It is necessary that equal care should be exercised in regard to the concealment of our intentions as has been emphasised prior to other deliberate operations.

New units arriving in the Corps area are to be especially instructed in this regard.

Owing to the distance of the Final Objective from the Field Artillery Start Line, it will be necessary for C.R.A.'s to emplace Brigades very close to the Infantry Start Line, therefore the following points are again brought to notice :-

- (a) Movement by day in these positions is to be prohibited.
- (b) Careful camouflage of guns when emplaced, and ammunition when dumped, is to be arranged.
- (c) No firing is to take place prior to Zero day from these forward positions.
- (d) Resection of Battery positions is to be carried out.
- (e) Care is to be exercised in determining likely alterations in the angle of sight throughout the barrage.
- (f) Classification of ammunition will be arranged.
- (g) Expenditure of ammunition is not to exceed the allotment in force at the moment on the Corps front.
- (h) Sights are to be tested just prior to Zero day.
- (i) During the operation all sights are to be checked by clinometer.
- (j) Attention is to be paid to atmospheric conditions.

2. MOVEMENT BY DAY.

No abnormal movement is to take place on roads during daylight.

3. WAGON LINES.

Wagon lines are to be selected with a view to concealment from the air.

4. SELECTION OF A.R.P.'s, etc.

Forward sites for A.R.P.'s are to be thought out, and likely lines of advance considered so far as the information available permits.

5. REHEARSAL OF BARRAGE.

The Barrage procedure is to be rehearsed and checked by each unit at least once prior to the operation taking place, without firing.

6. CORRECTOR LENGTH.

Corrector lengths are to be used which will give 50% of time shell on graze.



7. EMPLACEMENT OF BRIGADES.

Guns will be emplaced by C.R.A.'s so as to be capable of placing a barrage from 200 yards East of the Infantry Forming Up Line to 400 yards East of the RED Line.

8. RECUPERATOR BATTERIES.

Batteries furnished with recuperators will be selected and emplaced by C.R.A.'s to cope with the most distant objectives.

9. ADVANCE DURING FIRST HALT.

In the event of Batteries being required to push forward during the first halt in order to efficiently cover the advance to the RED Line, positions will be selected and reselected beforehand, if possible.

10. ALLOTMENT OF FIELD AND HEAVY ARTILLERY FOR EXPLOITATION.

- (a) The Divisional Artillery of Divisions concerned will be allotted to assist exploitation beyond the RED Line.
- (b) 15 minutes after guns of the above Brigades arrive on the Protective Barrage to the RED Line, Brigades will cease fire and will advance in close support of the units they have previously been detailed to cover.
- (c) The C.R.A.'s will arrange for remaining Brigades of Field Artillery to be prepared to move forward in order to effectively cover the RED Line by at least 1000 yards.
- (d) The B.G.H.A. will instruct affiliated Brigade Commanders to be prepared to move forward the Mobile Artillery of their Brigades to better cope with any task they may be called upon to carry out by the Divisions during exploitation to the BLUE Line.

11. 'S.O.S.' AND COUNTER PREPARATION PLANS.

As soon as the definite line has been established on which the Infantry intend to consolidate, C.R.A.'s and B.G.H.A. will draw up details for 'S.O.S.' and Counter Preparation Schemes.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |              |                         |        |                        |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|
| Nos.1 and 2. | H.A. Aust.Corps.        | 17.    | 1st Aust.Division.     |
| 3.           | 1st Aust.D.A.           | 18.    | 2nd Aust.Division.     |
| 4.           | 2nd Aust.D.A.           | 19.    | 3rd Aust.Division.     |
| 5.           | 3rd Aust.D.A.           | 20.    | 4th Aust.Division.     |
| 6.           | 4th Aust.D.A.           | 21.    | 5th Aust.Division.     |
| 7.           | 5th Aust.D.A.           | 22.    | Aust.Corps M.T.Column. |
| 8 and 9.     | R.A.Fourth Army.        | 23-27. | Aust.Corps "G"         |
| 10.          | R.A. III Corps.         | 28.    | Aust.Corps "Q"         |
| 11.          | R.A. IX Corps.          | 29.    | G.S.O. II R.A.         |
| 12.          | Corps Commander.        | 30.    | R.O.R.A.               |
| 13.          | 15th Wing R.A.F.        | 31.    | S.O.R.A.               |
| 14.          | 3rd Sqdn.A.F.C.         | 32-34. | Diary.                 |
| 15.          | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F. | 35-37. | Spare.                 |
| 16.          | 5th Tank Brigade.       |        |                        |



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 265  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

15th September 1918.

FURTHER TO OPERATION AS LAID DOWN IN ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 263.

1. BARRAGE.(I) FIELD ARTILLERY.

Times, lifts and distances of the Field Artillery barrage will be carried out in accordance with the Barrage Map issued herewith.

(a) The 18-pdr barrage will open at Zero, 200 yards East of the "Infantry Forming Up Line". At Zero plus 3 minutes the barrage will commence to advance. The first lift will be 100 yards in two minutes interval. There will only be one lift at this rate.

The rate of lift will then decrease to 100 yards in three minutes; there will be 9 lifts at this rate.

On the 10th lift inclusive, until the Protector to the "Infantry Halt Line" is reached, the rate of lift will be 100 yards each at 4 minutes interval.

As the barrage arrives on the "Protective Barrage Line" to the "Infantry Halt Line" it will halt till Zero plus 190 minutes. This "Protective Barrage Line" is 300 yards East of the "Infantry Halt Line".

At Zero plus 190 minutes the barrage will advance at the rate of 100 yards each four minutes until it arrives at the "Protective Barrage Line" to the Second Objective where it will halt. This "Protective Barrage Line" is 400 yards East of the Second Objective.

Batteries will cease fire 15 minutes after arrival on this "Protective Barrage Line".

(b) The 4.5" Howitzer barrage will move 200 yards East of the 18-pdr barrage.

(c) RATES OF FIRE.

18-pdr. Throughout Creeping Barrage ... Rapid.  
On "Protective Barrage Lines" ... Slow.

4.5" How. Throughout Creeping Barrage ... Rapid.  
On "Protective Barrage Lines" ... Normal.

Whilst on the Protective Barrage to the Infantry Halt Line 50% of guns will search East.

For three minutes prior to lifting from the Protective Barrage Line to the Infantry Halt Line fire will be increased to 'Rapid'.

(d) AMMUNITION.

18-pdr. Throughout the barrage :- 10% Smoke if available.  
40% H.E.  
50% Shrapnel.

If 10% Smoke is not available, H.E. will be used in its place.

4.5" How. 10% Smoke if available.  
90% H.E. 106 Fuzes.

(II)



(II) HEAVY ARTILLERY.(a) BOMBARDMENT.

No uniform creeping barrage will be laid down for the Heavy Artillery. Guns available will be employed on various trench systems, strong points, and centres of likely activity.

Lifts from these points will be made in accordance with instructions already issued.

(b) Rates of fire will be as laid down in Heavy Artillery orders to be issued by B.G.H.A.

(c) COUNTER BATTERY WORK.

The number of batteries allocated for counter battery work cannot be laid down, but will depend on the number of hostile batteries located up to the day prior to Zero.

2. ZONE CALLS.

C.R.A.'s will detail at least one battery per Group (4.5" How. or 18-pdr.) to answer 'NF', 'GF' and 'LL' calls during the period Zero to Zero plus 273 minutes.

These calls will be answered with three minutes' "INTENSE" from each battery by all the guns that can bear.

Arrangements will be made to prevent gaps being caused in the barrage when these calls are answered.

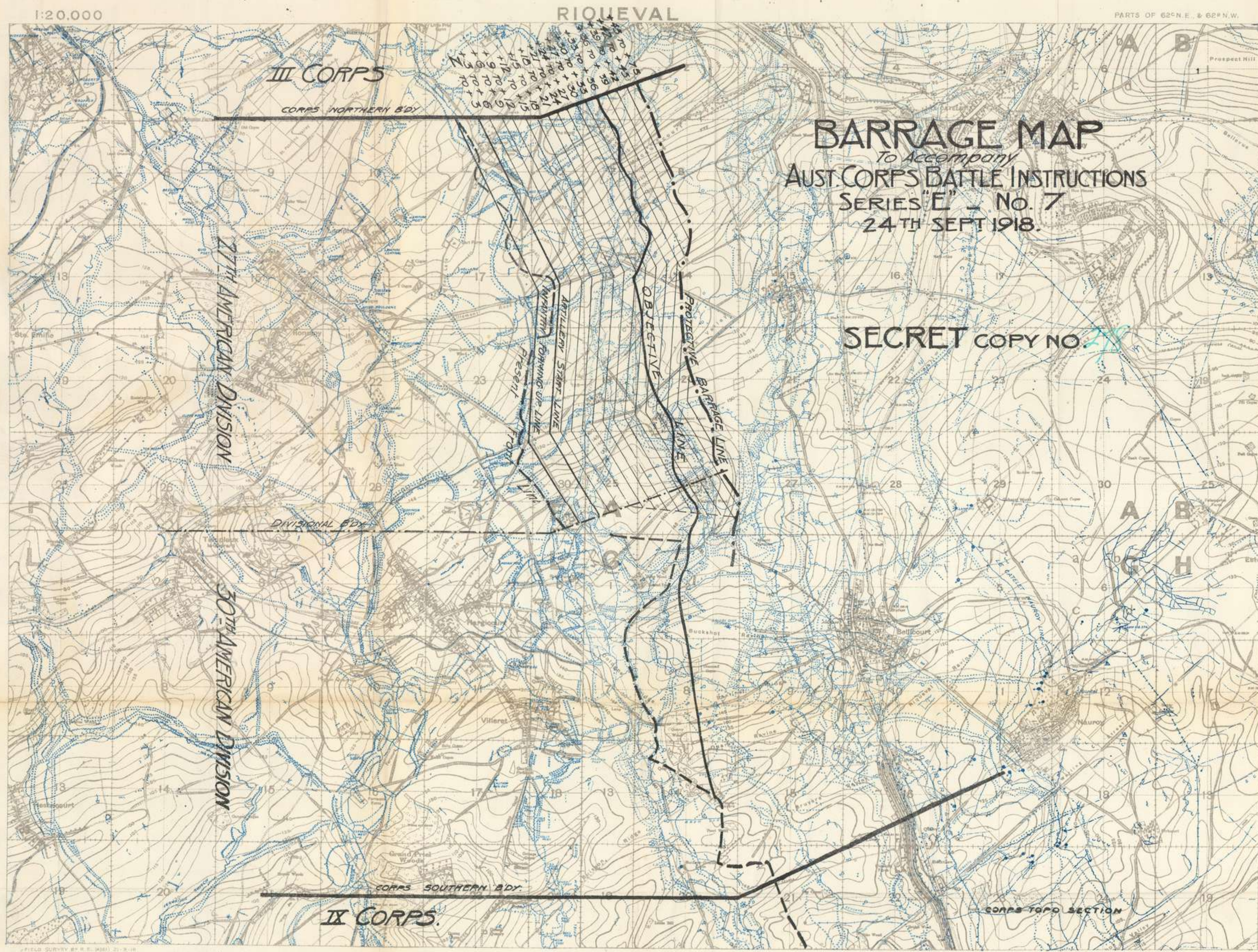
3. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H.K. Macarthur*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

Nos.1 and 2.	Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.	
3.	1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.	
4.	2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.	
5.	3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.	
6.	4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.	
7.	5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.	
8 and 9.	R.A. Fourth Army.	
10.	R.A. III Corps.	
11.	R.A. IX Corps.	
12.	Corps Commander.	
13.	15th Wing R.A.F.	
14.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.	
15.	5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.	
16.	5th Tank Brigade.	
17.	1st Aust.Division.	
18.	2nd Aust.Division.	
19.	3rd Aust.Division.	
20.	4th Aust.Division.	
21.	5th Aust.Division.	
22.	Aust.Corps M.T.Column.	(No Map)
23 to 27.	Aust.Corps "G"	
28.	Aust.Corps "Q"	(No Map)
29.	G.S.O. II R.A.	
30.	R.O.R.A.	
31.	S.O.R.A.	
32 to 34.	Diary.	
35 to 37.	Spare.	

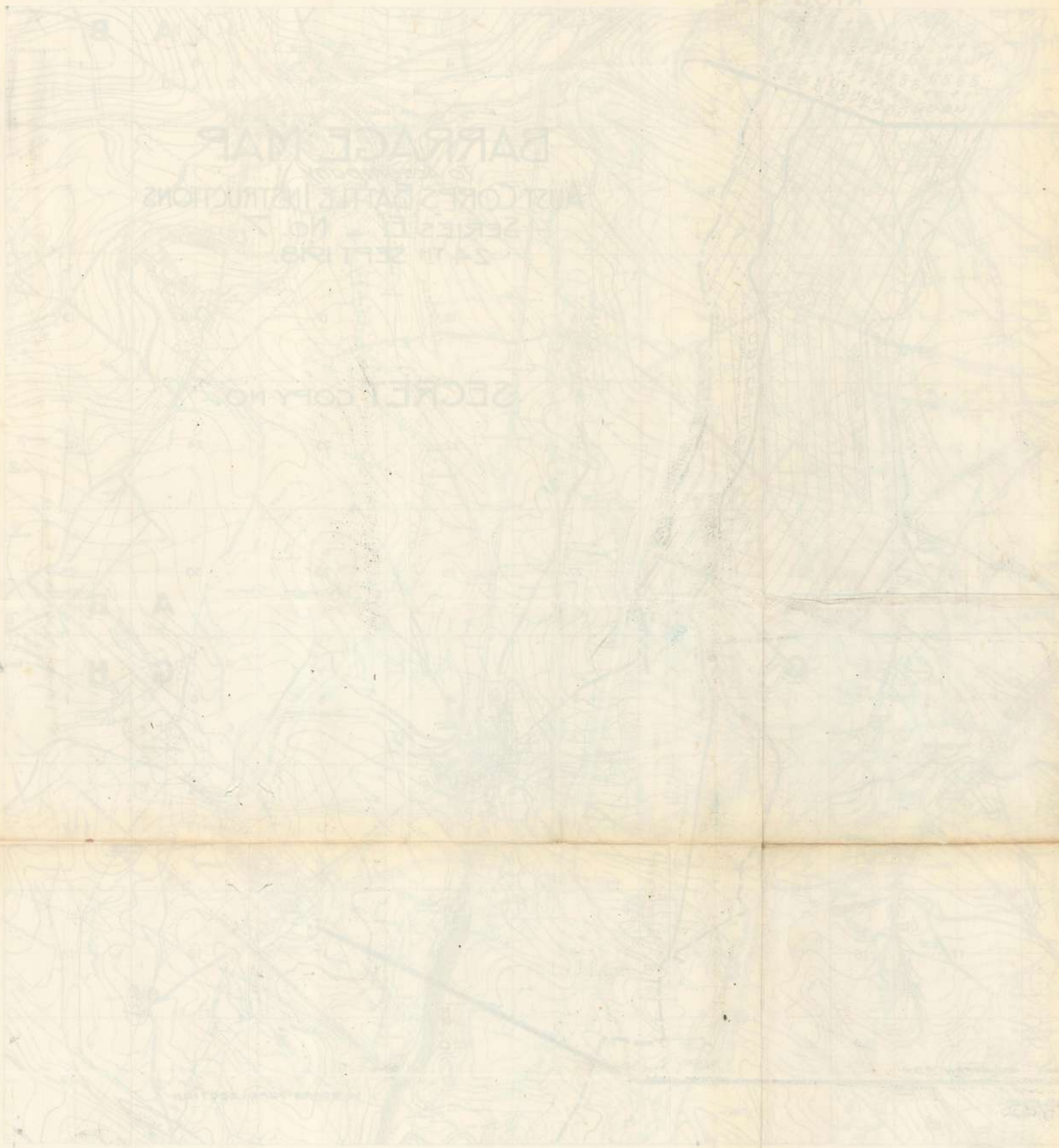






APPENDIX

2









APPENDIX  
3



1:20,000

NOTE CHANGE OF COLOUR.  
Enemy Trenches in Blue

VILLERET

PARTS OF 62° N.E. 62° S.E.  
62° N.W. 62° S.W.

304

SECRET  
Copy No. 41<sup>st</sup> AUST.  
DIV.4<sup>th</sup> AUST.  
DIV.

BARRAGE MAP

Issued under BATTLE INSTRUCTIONS  
Series "D" No. 11.

Corps Topo. Sect.

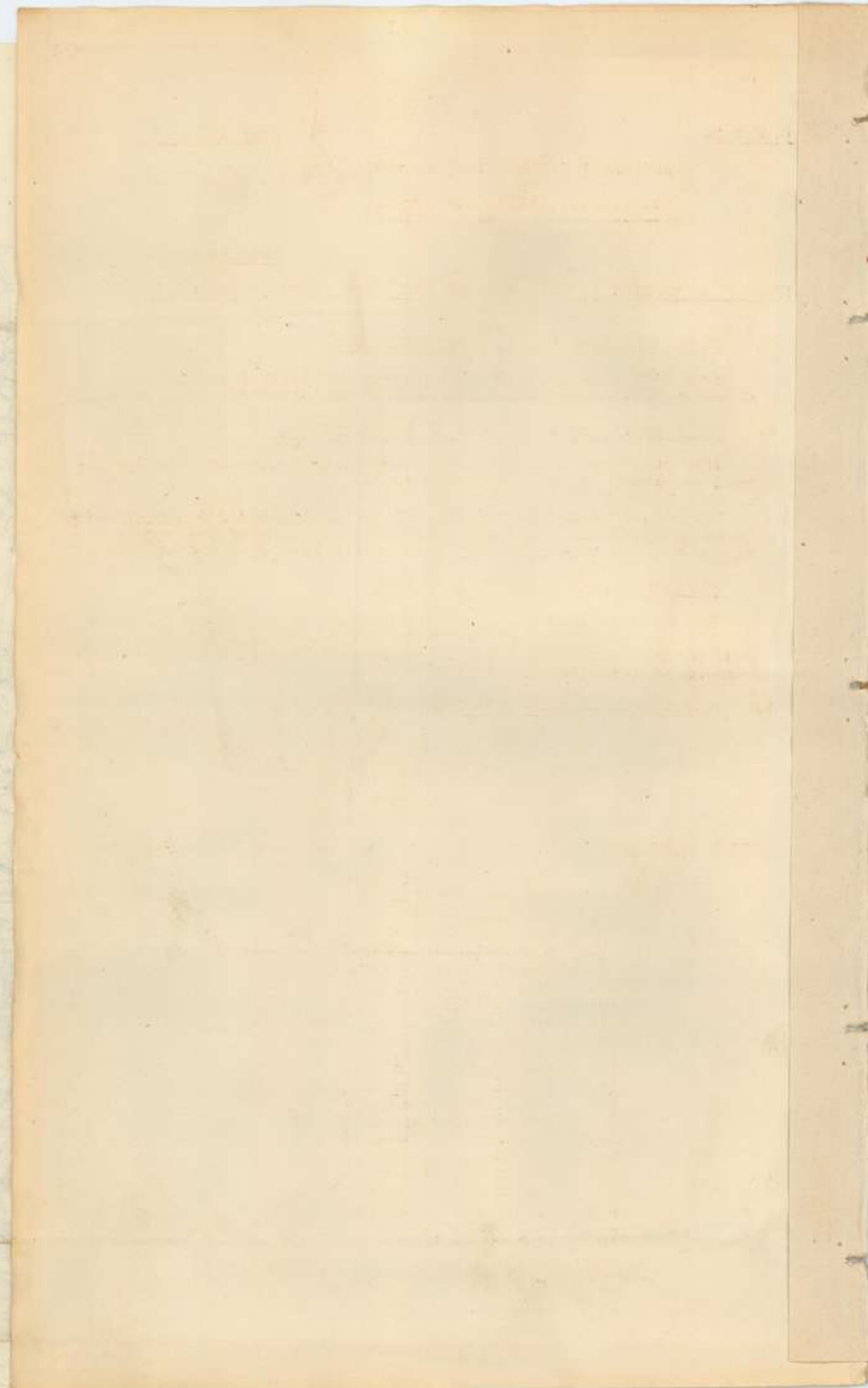
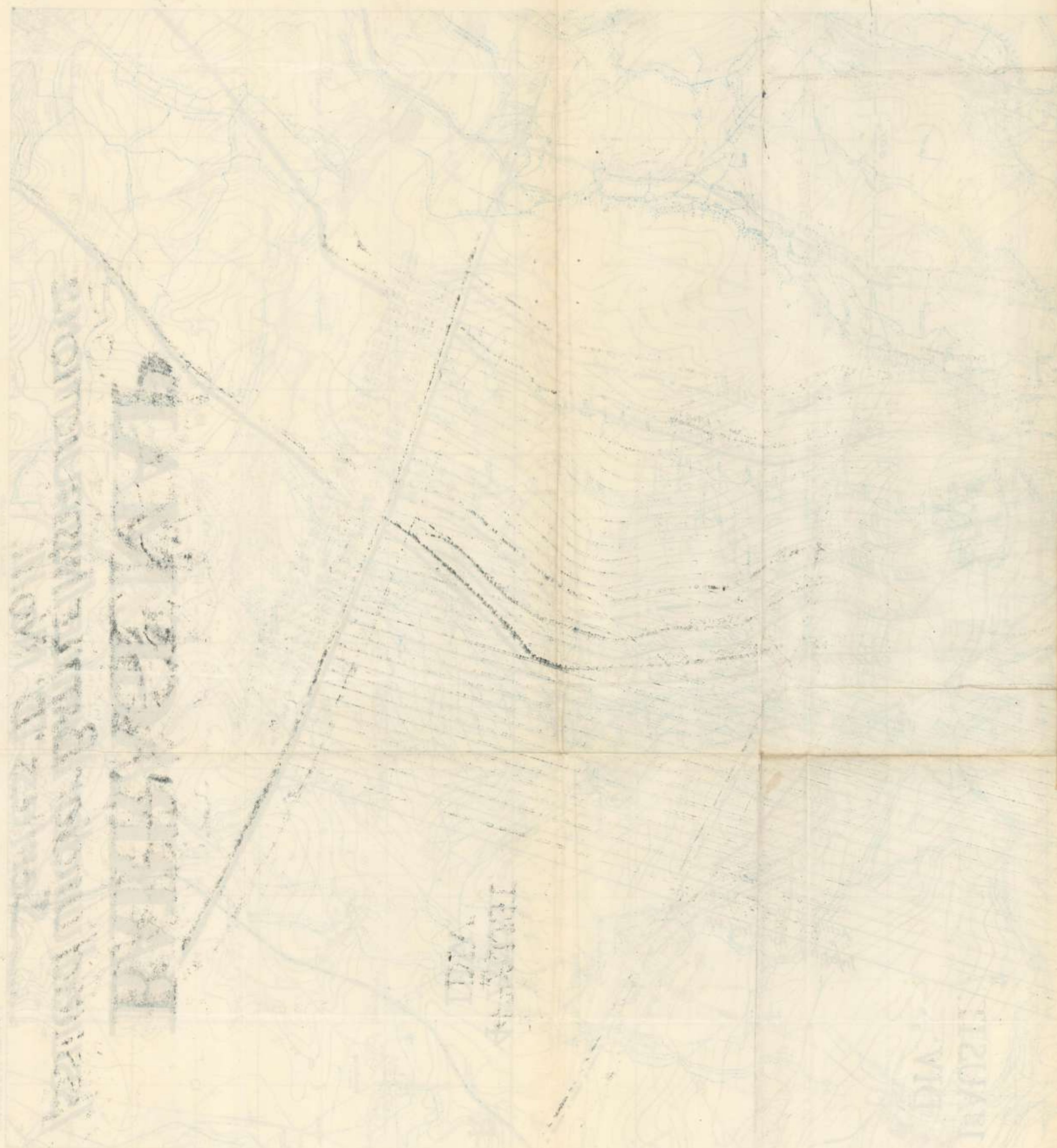
FIELD SURVEY 8" R.E. (454) 14-2-18

SCALE 1:20,000

VARDS 1000 500 0 500 1000



APPEAL 3



DIA  
1840213

DIA  
1840213

DIA  
1840213

SCALE 1:50,000

SCALE 1:50,000



304  
SECRET.

29  
APPENDIX  
4 32

Copy No.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 266  
by  
G.O.O.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

16th September 1918.

FURTHER TO OPERATION AS LAID DOWN IN ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 263.

1. HEAVY ARTILLERY LIMIT OF WESTERLY FIRE.

From Zero plus 300 minutes no Heavy Artillery fire will be directed West of the Objective line of exploitation. (BLUE Line).

2. FIELD ARTILLERY IN SUPPORT OF EXPLOITATION.

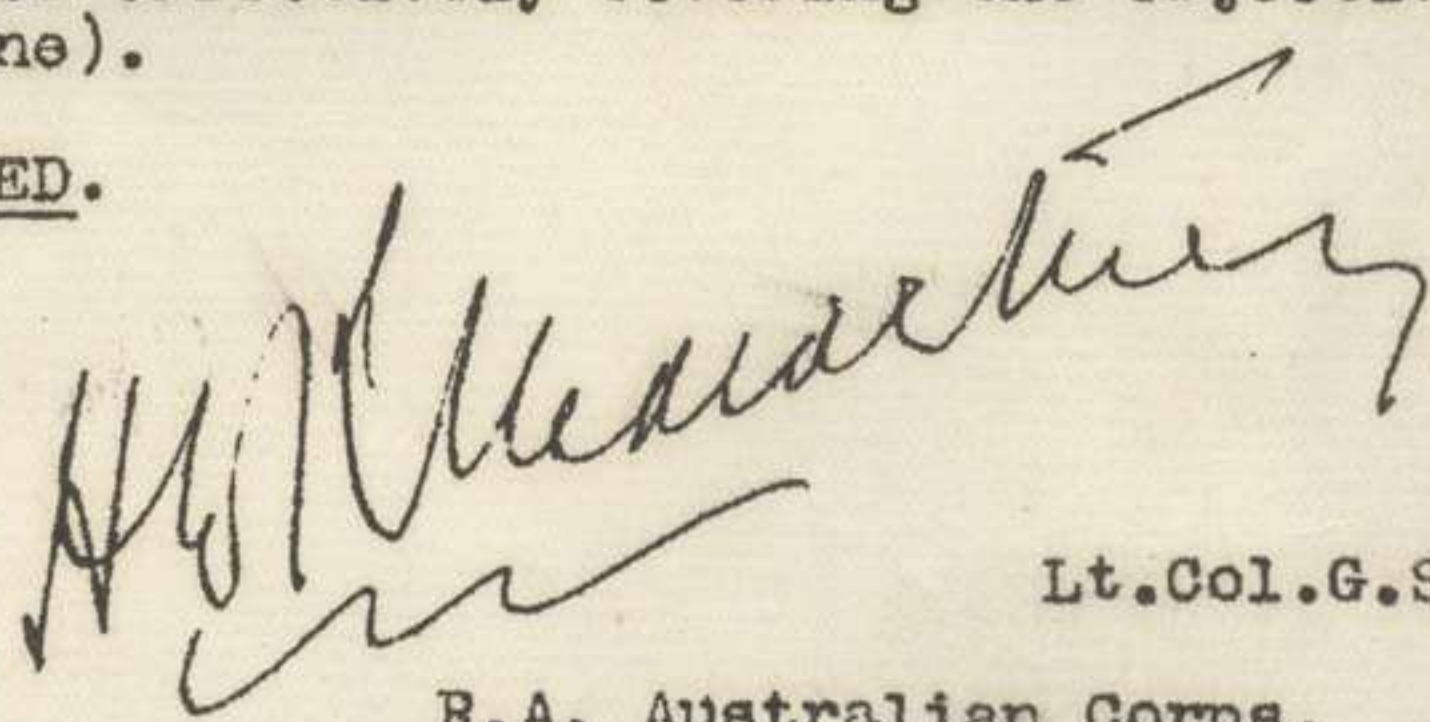
With reference to Artillery Instructions No. 264 of 15th September, paragraph 10, sub-paragraph (b) :-

Two Batteries drawn from the Artillery allotted for exploitation on each Divisional front may move out in support of the attack beyond the 2nd Objective (RED Line) after Zero plus 230 minutes.

3. FIELD ARTILLERY TO COVER BLUE LINE.  
after

C.R.A.'s will arrange, the capture of the 2nd Objective (RED Line), to advance if necessary and emplace all Brigades in such manner as to be capable of effectively covering the objective line of exploitation (BLUE Line).

4. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

  
Lt. Col. G. S.

R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Nos. 1 and 2. | Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps. |
| 3.            | 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 4.            | 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 5.            | 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 6.            | 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 7.            | 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 8 and 9.      | R.A. Fourth Army.        |
| 10.           | R.A. III Corps.          |
| 11.           | R.A. IX Corps.           |
| 12.           | Corps Commander.         |
| 13.           | 15th Wing R.A.F.         |
| 14.           | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.      |
| 15.           | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.  |
| 16.           | 5th Tank Brigade.        |
| 17.           | 1st Aust. Division.      |
| 18.           | 2nd Aust. Division.      |
| 19.           | 3rd Aust. Division.      |
| 20.           | 4th Aust. Division.      |
| 21.           | 5th Aust. Division.      |
| 22.           | Aust. Corps M.T. Column. |
| 23 to 27.     | Aust. Corps "G".         |
| 28.           | Aust. Corps "Q".         |
| 29.           | G.S.O. II R.A.           |
| 30.           | R.O.R.A.                 |
| 31.           | S.O.R.A.                 |
| 32 to 34.     | Diary.                   |
| 35 to 37.     | Spare.                   |



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 267  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

23rd September 1918.

At times and dates to be notified later the Australian Corps, with the 2nd American Corps affiliated, intends to attack the HINDENBURG Line in the Sector NAUROY - GOUY.

It will be necessary to make preparations for two definite operations. The first, or preliminary, attack being dependent on the position of the front line when the new area is taken over from the Northern Corps.

If the front line is in such a position as to make the objective to be gained possible in one operation then the preliminary attack will not be necessary. On the other hand, if the above is not secured it will be necessary to carry out two operations. The first being planned for the capture of positions far enough forward to enable the final objective of the main operation to be carried out under a creeping barrage.

\*\*\*\*\*

1. PRELIMINARY ATTACK.

The preliminary attack will take place under a creeping barrage on a front of about 3000 yards extending from the Northern boundary of the Corps towards the South, and will entail the use of about 9 Brigades of Field Artillery.

This operation will be carried out about 48 hours before the main attack, and will synchronize with the hour set out for the commencement of the bombardment mentioned later.

On the successful conclusion of this operation, Brigades of Field and Heavy Artillery will be pushed up into positions from which the barrage for the main attack can be carried out.

2. MAIN ATTACK.

This operation will differ somewhat from those previously carried out on this front, the chief difference being due to the fact that there are many more strong points and trenches prepared for defence, and considerably more wire than has been met with latterly.

This necessitates a definite plan for the bombarding of these trenches and the cutting of wire prior to the day of the main attack.

The main attack is divided into two phases and will be delivered on a front of two Divisions.

(a) 1st Phase.

The 30th American Division on the right and the 27th American Division on the left attack under a creeping barrage accompanied by tanks, and have as their objective the GREEN Line.

(b) 2nd Phase.

After the capture of the GREEN Line, the 5th Australian Division on the right and the 3rd Australian Division on the left pass through the 30th American Division and the 27th American Division respectively in order to exploit towards and capture the RED Line. At the same time troops specially allotted from the 30th and 27th American Divisions exploit Southwards and Northwards respectively East of the TUNNEL with a view to broadening the salient.

(c)



(c) The Field Artillery will be allotted as follows :-

<u>Northern Divisional Front.</u>	...	12 Brigades.
<u>Southern Divisional Front.</u>	...	11 Brigades.

Briefly the Field Artillery will be employed as follows :-

9 Brigades will be emplaced on the Northern Divisional Front, and 8 Brigades on the Southern Divisional Front, in such positions so that they can effectively carry out a creeping barrage up to the protector on the Final Objective. (GREEN Line)

6 Brigades, consisting of two Divisional Artilleries and two Army Brigades, i.e. 3 Brigades on each Divisional Front, will be withdrawn from the line to wagon lines and will constitute the Artillery supporting the two exploiting Divisions. The two Army Brigades, however, will select positions from which they can place an effective enfilade barrage on the flanks of the area attacked on their own Divisional front. They will occupy these positions on the night prior to Attack Day.

The Divisional Brigades will move off with their respective exploiting Divisions to which they have been attached, i.e. one Brigade of Artillery to each of the two Infantry Brigades of its Division.

and. On completion of the flank barrage, the 2 Army Brigades will draw out, stand by ready to accompany the supporting Infantry Brigade to which it has been allotted as it moves forward in support of the two Infantry Brigades previously mentioned.

4 Brigades of Divisional Artillery will be allotted from the barrage Artillery on completion of the barrage, and ordered to move forward. These Field Artillery Brigades will be attached to the Regiments forming the protective flanks. (2 Field Artillery Brigades on each flank to assist in exploitation to the flanks).

The remainder of the barrage Artillery will remain in their positions under Corps orders and await further instructions.

(d) DETAILED ALLOTMENT OF FIELD ARTILLERY.

The detailed allotment and designation of the Field Artillery will be as follows for the main attack :-

27th American Divisional Front. (Under C.R.A. 4th Aust. Divnl. Artillery.)

4th Aust. Divnl. Artillery.	)	
25th Divnl. Artillery.	)	
58th Divnl. Artillery.	)	"Left Division
36th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	Creeping Barrage
104th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	Brigades."
108th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	

3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.	"Left Flank
	Barrage Brigade."

For exploitation to RED Line by 3rd Aust. Division.

(Under C.R.A. 3rd Aust. Division)

3rd Aust. Divnl. Artillery.	)	"Left Division
3rd Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	Exploitation Bdes"

The Mobile Heavy Artillery to be allotted to this Division will be notified later.



For exploitation Northwards to RED Line.

(Under C.R.A. 25th Division)

25th Divnl. Artillery. "Northern Exploitation  
Brigades"

30th American Divisional Front. (Under C.R.A. 1st Aust. Div.)

1st Aust. Divnl. Artillery.	)	
2nd Aust. Divnl. Artillery.	)	
12th Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	"Right Division
65th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	Creeping Barrage
84th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	Brigades."
150th Army Brigade R.F.A.	)	
6th Army Brigade A.F.A.		"Right Flank Barrage Brigade."

For exploitation to RED Line by 5th Aust. Division.

(Under C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division)

5th Aust. Divnl. Artillery.	)	"Right Division
6th Army Brigade A.F.A.	)	Exploitation Brigades"

The Mobile Heavy Artillery to be allotted to this Division will be notified later.

For exploitation Southwards to RED Line.

(Under C.R.A. 2nd Aust. Division)

2nd Aust. Divnl. Artillery. "Southern Exploitation  
Brigades"

The S.A.A. Sections of 1st and 4th Aust. Divisional Artilleries will be allotted to the 30th and 27th American Divisions respectively.

- (e) The G.S. map shews objective lines. Further instructions in regard to the barrage of both attacks, and Artillery objectives, will be issued later together with a barrage map.

3. BOUNDARIES.

Boundaries between Corps as regards bombardment and counter-battery work coincide with those between Corps as shewn on the G.S. map already issued.

4. BOMBARDMENTS.

Bombardments prior to the main attack will commence 48 hours before Zero hour. The programme will include :-

- (a) Special Gas (B.B.) bombardment.
- (b) Vigorous counter-battery work.
- (c) Intense harassing fire.
- (d) Cutting lanes in hostile wire defences.
- (e) Bombardment of selected strong points and localities.

5. SPECIAL GAS (B.B.) BOMBARDMENT.

This bombardment will be carried out by 18-pdrs and 6" Howitzers firing "B.B." gas shell, combined with H.E. during intermittent periods between Zero minus 56 hours and Zero minus 48 hours.

The objectives will be the hostile defensive system and artillery positions along the Corps front so far as the range of guns permits.

Subsequent to Zero minus 48 hours no "B.B." gas shell will be fired without the authority of the Army.



# 6. VIGOROUS COUNTER-BATTERY WORK.

This will commence at Zero minus 48 hours. Surprise attacks on hostile battery positions will be carried out with H.E. with Instantaneous Fuzes, and "C.G." and "N.C." gas shell.

For the methodical bombardment of fortified emplacements and dug-outs, delay action fuzes should be employed.

# 7. INTENSE HARASSING FIRE.

This will commence at Zero minus 48 hours immediately after the cessation of the special gas "B.B." bombardment.

Definite plans will be drawn up by C.R.A.'s and B.G.F.A. for the direction of this fire. The keynote of its application should be variety and surprise, and plans must be so framed that throughout the 24 hours of the day and night the enemy should be permitted no immunity from shell fire.

Facilities of observation must be fully exploited in order to limit the area in which unobserved harassing fire will have to be maintained by day. Areas over which no observation is possible must receive special attention.

In order to gain the full advantage from harassing fire, zones in depth are allotted. Field Artillery taking a zone of 2500 yards East of our front line, and beyond a line 2000 yards East of our front line by Heavy Artillery, thus making an overlap of 500 yards.

Artillery positions are to be included in harassing fire tasks.

In shelling roads, H.E. with delay action are NOT to be employed.

Use is to be made of gas shell ("C.G." and "N.C.")

# 8. CUTTING LANES IN HOSTILE WIRE DEFENCES.

This will commence at Zero minus 48 hours and will be carried out principally with 4.5" Howitzers and 6" Howitzers, and when possible with 6" NEWTON Mortars.

Arrangements should be made with Divisions to keep lanes open by means of rifle and machine gun fire once they have been cut.

# 9. BOMBARDMENT OF SELECTED STRONG POINTS AND LOCALITIES.

This bombardment will commence at Zero minus 48 hours and will be continued until Zero hour, with a view not only to the destruction of defences but also to the demoralization of the defenders. Gas shell ("C.G." and "N.C.") are to be made use of.

It is not considered feasible to carry out a thorough destructive bombardment of concrete dug-outs and machine gun emplacements.

The tunnels themselves are impervious to artillery fire. Steps will be taken to concentrate a heavy and unexpected fire on their entrances and exits on the day of battle.

Telephone exchanges and specially defended localities such as LE CATELET, BELLICOURT, GOUY, NAUROY and BONY are to be heavily bombarded.

O.P.'s should be engaged towards the latter end of the bombardment.

Blocks in communication trenches will be created where possible.

# 10. LONG RANGE GUN FIRE.

Long range guns will deal with the following places :-

MONTBREHAIN, BEAUREVOIR, RAMIECOURT, ESTREES, ESTREES-MARETZ road, JONCOURT.

Instantaneous fuzes should be used by all guns firing at long ranges.

Railway



Railway guns are being retained under Army control and are to engage :-

BOCHAIN, BUSIGNY, BRANCOURT, FRESNOY-le-GRAND, PREMONT, MARETZ, BOIS D'ETAVES.

11. AMMUNITION.

Details regarding ammunition allotment will be issued in separate instructions.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H. H. Macartney*  
Lt. Col. G.S.

R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

Nos. 1 and 2.	Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.
3.	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.
4.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
5.	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
6.	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
7.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
8 and 9.	R.A. Fourth Army.
10.	R.A. III Corps.
11.	R.A. IX Corps.
12.	Corps Commander.
13.	2nd American Corps.
14.	27th American Divn.
15.	30th American Divn.
16.	Aust. Mission with 2nd American Corps.
17.	25th Divnl. Arty.
18.	58th Divnl. Arty.
19.	15th Wing R.A.F.
20.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.
21.	5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.
22.	5th Tank Brigade.
23.	2nd Aust. Divn.
24.	3rd Aust. Divn.
25.	5th Aust. Divn.
26.	Aust. Corps M.T. Column.
27 to 31.	Aust. Corps "G"
32.	Aust. Corps "Q"
33.	G.S.O. II R.A.
34.	R.O.R.A.
35.	S.O.R.A.
36 to 38.	Diary.
39 to 42.	Spare.



AMMUNITION INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 267 of 23/9/18  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

24th September, 1918.

1. FIELD ARTILLERY.

- (a) The following ammunition will be held by Field Artillery allotted to C.R.As. 1st and 4th Australian Divisional Artilleries at Zero Hour on the day of operation :-

	At Guns	Echelon	A.R.P.	Corps Res.	Total
18-pdr.	550	276	50	125	1001 rds. p. g.
4.5" How.	450	222	50	90	812 rds. p. g.

- (b) Similar amounts will also be held by the 3rd and 6th Army Brigades, Aust. F.A.

- (c) The 3rd and 5th Australian Divisional Artilleries will hold their Echelons full, and in addition 50 rounds per gun in A.R.P. 125 rounds per gun 18-pdr. and 90 rounds per gun 4.5" How. will be held in Corps Reserve.

- (d) Ammunition will be held in the following proportions :-

18-pdr.      At Gun Dumps.      20% A.S. if available. (If un-  
available to be replaced by A.)  
40% A.  
40% A.X.

Echelons      )  
A.R.P. and      ) 60% A.  
Corps Reserve ) 40% A.X.

4.5" How.      At Gun Dumps.      20% B.S. if available.  
80% B.X.

Echelons      )  
A.R.P. and      ) B.X.  
Corps Reserve )

2. HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Heavy Artillery will have at Guns on Zero Day the following:-

60-pdr.	...	...	...	300	rds. p. g.
6" Gun.	...	...	...	250	" " "
6" How.	...	...	...	300	" " "
8" How.	...	...	...	300	" " "
9.2" How.	...	...	...	250	" " "
12" How.	...	...	...	100	" " "

3. EXPENDITURE.

Attached is a statement showing the estimated expenditure per gun per day for both Field and Heavy Artillery. This is only to be taken as a guide in working out the daily expenditure.

4. AMMUNITION REFILLING POINTS.

Forward A.R.Ps. will be selected beforehand which are accessible by Motor Transport. These should be selected in consultation with the Liaison Officer attached from the M.T. Coy.

No ammunition is to be dumped into these sites prior to Zero Hour.

P.T.O.



36  
304 APPENDIX  
5

-2-

5. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*W. H. Chequer* Capt-  
for Lieut-Col. G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

Nos. 1 and 2.	Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.
3.	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.
4.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
5.	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
6.	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
7.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
8 and 9.	R.A. Fourth Army.
10.	R.A. III Corps.
11.	R.A. IX Corps.
12.	Corps Commander.
13.	2nd American Corps.
14.	27th American Divn.
15.	30th American Divn.
16.	Aust. Mission with 2nd American Corps.
17.	25th Divnl. Arty.
18.	58th Divnl. Arty.
19.	15th Wing R.A.F.
20.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.
21.	5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.
22.	4th Tank Brigade.
23.	5th Tank Brigade.
24.	2nd Aust. Divn.
25.	3rd Aust. Divn.
26.	5th Aust. Divn.
27.	Aust. Corps M.T. Column.
28 to 32.	Aust. Corps "G"
33.	Aust. Corps "Q"
34.	G.S.O. II R.A.
35.	R.O.R.A.
36.	S.O.R.A.
37 to 39.	Diary. 40 to 43 spare.



## STATEMENT SHOWING ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE PER GUN PER DAY.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

Day	No. of Bdes.		Nature of Gun.	No. of rds. per gun.	Remarks
	Rt. Div.	Lt. Div.			
ZERO minus 3 days.	8	9	18-pdr.	30	
	8	9	4.5" How.	30	
ZERO minus 2 days.	8	9	18-pdr.	100	
	8	9	4.5" How.	100	
ZERO minus 1 day.	8	9	18-pdr.	100	
	8	9	4.5" How.	100	
ZERO DAY	8	9	18-pdr.	550	Bdes. allotted to C.R.As. 1st & 4th Aust. Divns. in Barrage.
" "	8	9	4.5" How.	450	
" "	1	1	18-pdr.	550	3rd & 6th Army Bdes. AFA. for flank barrage.
" "	1	1	4.5" How.	450	
" "	3	3	18-pdr.	50	Bdes. allotted to American Divns. for exploitation.
" "	3	3	4.5" How.	50	
ZERO plus 1 day.	7	8	18-pdr.	100	
	7	8	4.5" How.	100	

Note :- This does not include expenditure of E.B. Gas Shell.

HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Day	Nature of Guns						
	60-pdr.	6" How.	8" How.	9.2" How.	12" How.	6" Gun	
ZERO minus 3 days.	30	30	25	25	15	20	rounds p. g.
ZERO minus 2 days.	120	150	90	90	60	60	" " "
ZERO minus 1 day.	120	150	90	90	60	60	" " "
ZERO DAY	100	90	90	90	60	60	
ZERO plus 1 day.	50	45	45	45	30	30	" " "

Note:- This does not include expenditure of B.B. Gas Shell.

*G. H. Cheever*  
for Lieut-Col. G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.268  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

24th September 1918.

B.B. GAS BOMBARDMENT.

1. A gas bombardment will be carried out prior to the main attack on the HINDENBURG Line, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Artillery Instructions No.267 of 23rd September. The date will be night of 26th September, Zero hour will be notified later.
2. The periods of bombardment and periods of rest will be as follows throughout the gas (B.B.) attack, except that Heavy Artillery will continue each bombardment thirty minutes in place of fifteen minutes as ordered for Field Artillery :-

Gas Bombardment - Field Artillery.

Zero to Zero plus 15 minutes.	Bombard.
Zero plus 15 minutes to Zero plus 2 hours 15 mins.	Rest.
Zero plus 2 hours 15 mins.to Zero plus 2 hours 30 mins.	Bombard.
Zero plus 2 hours 30 mins to Zero plus 4 hours 30 mins.	Rest.
Zero plus 4 hours 30 mins.to Zero plus 4 hours 45 mins.	Bombard.
Zero plus 4 hours 45 mins.to Zero plus 6 hours 45 mins.	Rest.
Zero plus 6 hours 45 mins.to Zero plus 7 hours.	Bombard.

3. Rates of fire - Rapid throughout.

4. OBJECTIVES FOR BOMBARDMENT.

The attached diagrams shows the areas for bombardment, and the following table the rounds to be expended by each unit concerned. The areas in circles to be concentrated upon.

1st AUST.DIVNL.ARTILLERY.

Area as per diagram.	18-pdr. B.B.	H.E. 18-pdr. or 4.5" How.
M.	1000	300
N.	750	250
O.	1000	300
P.	500	200
Q.	500	200
R.	1000	300
S.	1000	300
T.	750	250
U.	1000	300
	-----	-----
	7500	2400
	=====	=====

4th AUST.DIVNL.ARTILLERY.

A.1.	500	200
A.	1250	400
F.	1000	300
H.	500	200
I.	750	250
J.	1000	300
K.	500	200
K.1.	1000	300
L.	1000	300
	-----	-----
	7500	2450
	=====	=====



HEAVY ARTILLERY.

<u>Area as per diagram.</u>	<u>6" How.B.B.</u>	<u>H.E. Any nature.</u>
B.	500	150
C.	400	125
D.	400	125
E.	200	50
G.	400	125
V.	400	125
W.	300	100
X.	400	125
Y.	500	150
	-----	-----
	3500	1075
	=====	=====

5. B.B. Gas Shell only will be employed, and H.E. will be mixed in all cases in the proportion of approximately three gas shell to one H.E.
6. Gas Shell other than B.B. are not being mixed owing to the fact that B.B. affords the enemy very little indication of its presence. The mixture of other Gas Shell would at once apprise the enemy of the presence of gas in the area, and would cause him to adjust his mask more readily and thus lessen the effect of B.B.
7. H.E. is being mixed with B.B. in order to disguise as much as possible the smaller burst of the gas shell, and in order to lead the enemy to believe he is under a H.E. bombardment only.
8. 27 areas have been selected, and sufficient shell allowed to impregnate each one.
9. Our troops are safe from a cloud passed from this shell at about one mile if the wind is blowing directly towards them. The best effect is gained in a wind from 10 miles and under, but it can be used with effect in a wind up to 15 miles per hour.
10. The bombardment will take effect whatever the weather conditions may be at the time set out for it to commence.
11. Watches will be synchronized by Divisional Artilleries and Heavy Artillery four hours and one hour prior to Zero by telephone to Corps Headquarters.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.

Issued as under :-

R.A. Australian Corps.

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Nos. 1 and 2. H.A. Aust. Corps. | * 19. 15th Wing R.A.F.         |
| 3. 1st Aust. D.A.               | * 20. 3rd Squadron A.F.C.      |
| * 4. 2nd Aust. D.A.             | * 21. 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.  |
| * 5. 3rd Aust. D.A.             | * 22. 4th Tank Brigade.        |
| 6. 4th Aust. D.A.               | * 23. 5th Tank Brigade.        |
| * 7. 5th Aust. D.A.             | * 24. 2nd Aust. Division.      |
| 8. & 9. R.A. Fourth Army.       | * 25. 3rd Aust. Division.      |
| * 10. R.A. III Corps.           | * 26. 5th Aust. Division.      |
| * 11. R.A. IX Corps.            | * 27. Aust. Corps M.T. Column. |
| 12. Corps Commander.            | 28-32. Aust. Corps "G"         |
| 13. 2nd American Corps.         | * 33. Aust. Corps "Q"          |
| * 14. 27th American Divn.       | 34. G.S.O. II R.A.             |
| * 15. 30th American Divn.       | 35. R.O.R.A.                   |
| 16. Aust. Mission with          | 36. S.O.R.A.                   |
| 2nd American Corps.             | 37. Chemical Adviser.          |
| * 17. 25th Divnl. Arty.         | 38-40. Diary.                  |
| * 18. 58th Divnl. Arty.         | 41-43. Spare.                  |

\* No diagram.



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTION No. 269  
by  
G.O.C.R.A., Australian Corps.

24th September 1918.

1. (a) On the 27th September 1918 at a zero hour to be notified later, the preliminary attack referred to in Artillery Instructions No. 267 of 23rd September 1918, para 1, will be carried out by the Left (27th American) Division, with the object of gaining the Infantry forming up line for the main operation as laid down in para 2 of the above referred to Instruction.

Tanks will co-operate in this attack.

(b) The 30th American Division on the Right will co-operate with the object of gaining such portions of the Infantry forming up line on their front as they do not yet occupy.

(c) The III Corps are co-operating in the advance by forming a defensive flank to the North of the 27th American Division.

2. BARRAGE.

The attack of the 27th American Division will be carried out under a Field Artillery barrage. Lifts and distances will be in accordance with the accompanying barrage map.

(a) The 18-pr barrage will open at zero on the Artillery start line 200 yards East of the Infantry forming up line.

At zero plus 3 minutes the barrage will lift at the rate of a hundred yards in three minutes and will continue at this rate until it arrives at the protective barrage line which is 400 yards East of the objective line.

On arrival on the Protective Barrage Line the barrage halts and after firing on this Line for a period of 30 minutes all barrage fire ceases.

(b) The 4.5-inch Howitzer barrage will conform to the lifts of the 18-pr barrage but will move 200 yards East of it.

(c) RATES OF FIRE.

Throughout creeping Barrage and first 10 minutes		
on Protective Barrage	...	RAPID.

On Protective Barrage to final objective (20		
minutes)	...	SLOW.

(d) AMMUNITION.

18-pr	...	40% H.E. non delay.
		50% Shrapnel.
		10% Smoke.

4.5-inch Howitzer		H.E. 106 Fuzes.
-------------------	--	-----------------

3. HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Detailed instructions will be issued by E.G.H.A. as regards engaging points of importance within the area to be captured, conforming to the lifts as laid down in the Field Artillery barrage map.

Counter Battery work will commence at zero and as many guns as possible will be allotted for this purpose.

All routes of approach, assembly points, etc. beyond the Objective Line will be kept under fire from zero to zero plus 75 minutes after which time the bombardment programme for the day will be adhered to.



4. FIELD ARTILLERY AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE 27th AMERICAN DIVISION.  
(under the orders of the C.R.A., 4th Australian Division).

4th Australian Divisional Artillery.  
25th Divisional Artillery.  
58th Divisional Artillery.  
84th Army Brigade R.F.A.  
104th Army Brigade R.F.A.  
108th Army Brigade R.F.A.

5. ZONE CALLS.

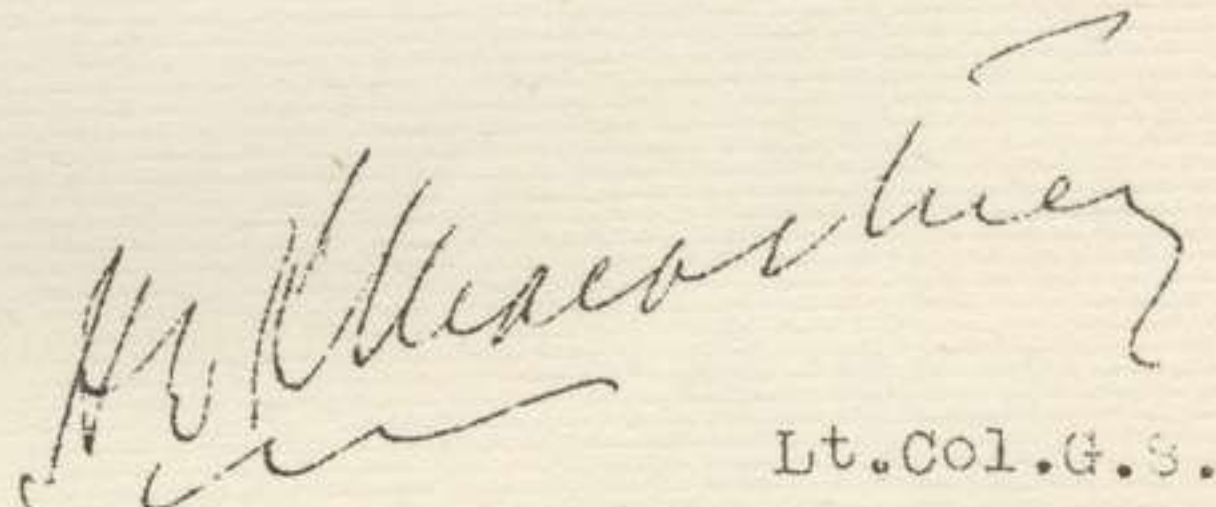
The usual arrangements will be made for answering zone calls.

6. S.O.S. and COUNTER PREPARATION.

Arrangements will be made by B.G.H.A. and C.R.A. for S.O.S. and Counter Preparation to be put into force when the final objective is captured.

7. ADVANCE TO FORWARD POSITION.

When the final objective is gained arrangements will immediately be made by C.R.A.'s and B.G.H.A. to reconnoitre and advance guns to positions from which the main attack can be carried out.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

Lt. Col. G. S.

R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under.-

Nos. 1 & 2.	H.A. Aust. Corps	19.	15th Wing R.A.F.
3.	1st Aust. D.A.	20.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.
4.	2nd Aust. D.A.	21.	5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.
5.	3rd Aust. D.A.	22.	4th Tank Brigade.
6.	4th Aust. D.A.	23.	5th Tank Brigade.
7.	5th Aust. D.A.	24.	2nd Aust. Division.
8 & 9.	R.A. Fourth Army	25.	3rd Aust. Division.
10.	R.A. III Corps.	26.	5th Aust. Division.
11.	R.A. IX Corps.	27.	Aust. Corps M.T. Col. ø
12.	Corps Commander.	28-32.	Aust. Corps "G".
13.	2nd American Corps.	33.	Aust. Corps "Q". ø
14.	27th American Divn.	34.	G.S.O. II R.A.
15.	30th American Divn.	35.	R.O.R.A.
16.	Aust. Mission with 2nd American Corps.	36.	S.O.R.A.
17.	25th Divnl. Arty.	37 to 39.	Diary.
18.	58th Divnl. Arty.	40 to 43.	Spare.

ø No Barrage Map issued.



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.270  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

APPENDIX  
925th September 1918.1. MAIN ATTACK.

The main attack referred to in Artillery Instructions No.269, paragraph 1, is designed with a view to giving our attacking Infantry the support of a creeping barrage for an average depth from the Artillery Start Line to approximately 4500 yards East.

This depth, although greater than has usually been demanded, is necessary in order to ensure the successful capture, with the maximum of Artillery support, of LE CATELET - GOUY on the North and NAUROY on the South - two strongly defended areas.

It is essential, therefore, that the utmost care should be exercised in the preparation for the barrage in order to ensure its accuracy.

2. PRELIMINARY PREPARATIONS.

In this operation, as in those lately undertaken, accurate registration from Battle positions is neither possible, owing to the limit of time, nor advisable owing to the likelihood of the enemy gaining information of our plans.

For the above reasons the instructions previously issued are reiterated, and are to be adhered to with the utmost care so far as circumstances permit.

- (a) Positions are to be selected by C.R.A's which will enable a creeping Field Artillery barrage to be placed from the Artillery Start Line to a Protective Barrage Line which will be 400 yards East of the GREEN Line.
- (b) The accurate fixation of the battery positions and accurate determination of the exact height of the site selected are to be arranged.
- (c) Attention is to be directed to likely alterations in the angle of sight during the progress of the barrage.
- (d) The barrage is to be rehearsed without firing, prior to the attack taking place.
- (e) Lines of fire are to be checked by direct means where possible.
- (f) The Field Clinometer is to be employed to check the accuracy of every gun on the Start Line. Throughout the creeping and protective barrages an Officer must be told off to check the guns of his Battery at stated periods by the same means.
- (g) Corrector lengths are to be arranged in order to give 50% of time shell on graze.
- (h) So far as time permits, ammunition is to be sorted by lots and carefully checked and grouped.
- (i) The most careful attention is to be paid to atmospheric conditions.
- (j) It is essential to ensure that sights are tested the day prior to Zero day.

The enemy must be afforded as little opportunity of learning our plans as is humanly possible. This can be ensured by allowing no unnecessary movement by day on roads or at Battery positions.

Reconnaissance Officers are not to be permitted to expose themselves or their maps in view of the enemy.

Strict



Strict attention is to be paid to the use of camouflage on all forward gun positions and dumps, and where work is being carried out the site is to be previously camouflaged.

TELEPHONES. As it is known that the enemy has very effective listening sets installed, vigilance must be exercised in telephone messages sent over lines within 3000 yards of the front line.

No information that would in any way give indication of impending attack, or times and dates of operations, should be sent in 'clear'.

3. ADVANCE AFTER CAPTURE OF GREEN LINE.

C.R.A.'s commanding Artillery detailed to cover the troops told off for exploitation beyond the GREEN Line will arrange for Brigade Commanders to carefully study from maps, air photographs, and, where possible, from visual observation, the country and routes they are likely to move over during the advance.

Every facility should at once be given for liaison between Infantry Brigadiers and the Artillery Brigade Commanders concerned.

4. FORWARD AMMUNITION DUMPS.

A.R.P.'s should be chosen, or forward sites selected, with a view to facilitating the supply of ammunition to the positions to be occupied for the main attack.

5. WIRE CUTTING. - BOMBARDMENT OF SELECTED STRONG POINTS AND LOCALITIES.

Plans for the wire cutting and bombardments referred to in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Artillery Instructions No. 267 of 23rd September will be drawn up by B.G.H.A. and C.R.A.'s concerned, in conjunction with the allotment of ammunition set forth in "Ammunition Instruction issued in conjunction with Artillery Instructions No. 267."

6. PREPARATION TO MEET POSSIBLE ENEMY GAS CONCENTRATION JUST PRIOR TO "Z" DAY.

The B.G.H.A. will arrange to place at the disposal of the C.B.S.O. such guns as are considered necessary in order to meet an enemy gas shell attack just prior to Zero on "Z" Day, and arrangements are to be made which will provide a maximum of counter-battery fire for this purpose.

7. USE OF MOBILE 6" MORTARS.

C.R.A.'s of Artillery covering exploitation troops will consider the employment of the 6" Newton Trench Mortars lately prepared for mobile warfare.

8. USE OF SMOKE WITH GAS BY DAY.

When gas shell are used by day they should be mixed with a proportion of smoke shell, thus educating the enemy to adjust his gas masks whenever smoke shell are employed.

9. CORRIGENDUM.

With reference to Artillery Instructions No. 269 of 24th September, paragraph 4, for "84th Army Brigade R.F.A." read "86th Army Brigade R.F.A.".

10. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. Col. G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.



# APPENDIX

9

Issued as under :-

- |              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nos.1 and 2. | Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.                |
| 3.           | 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 4.           | 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 5.           | 3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 6.           | 4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 7.           | 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 8 and 9.     | R.A. Fourth Army.                     |
| 10.          | R.A. III Corps.                       |
| 11.          | R.A. IX Corps.                        |
| 12.          | Corps Commander.                      |
| 13.          | 2nd American Corps.                   |
| 14.          | 27th American Divn.                   |
| 15.          | 30th American Divn.                   |
| 16.          | Aust.Mission with 2nd American Corps. |
| 17.          | 25th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 18.          | 58th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 19.          | 15th Wing R.A.F.                      |
| 20.          | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.                   |
| 21.          | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.               |
| 22.          | 4th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 23.          | 5th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 24.          | 2nd Aust.Divn.                        |
| 25.          | 3rd Aust.Divn.                        |
| 26.          | 5th Aust.Divn.                        |
| 27.          | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.                |
| 28 to 32.    | Aust.Corps "G"                        |
| 33.          | Aust.Corps "Q"                        |
| 34.          | G.S.O. II R.A.                        |
| 35.          | R.O.R.A.                              |
| 36.          | S.O.R.A.                              |
| 37 to 39.    | Diary.                                |
| 40 to 43.    | Spare.                                |



SECRET.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.271  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Copy No. 10

26th September 1918.

1. FIELD AND HEAVY ARTILLERY DISTRIBUTION.

With reference to paragraph 2 (d) of Artillery Instructions No.267 of 23rd September, the Artillery distribution for exploitation will be as follows. This distribution will come into force on the completion of the Protective Barrage to the GREEN Line.

ALLOTMENT IN DETAIL.

Formation.	Divnl. Arty.	Army Bdes.	Mobile or Mixed Bdes. R.G.A.	8-inch Bdes. R.G.A.	9.2" Bdes. R.G.A.	6-inch Gun Btys.	12-inch How. Btys.
2nd Aust. Division.	2nd Aust.D.A. (Brig.Genl. O.F.PHILLIPS D.S.O.)	12th Army Bde. A.F.A.	9th Bde. R.G.A. (Mobile)	---	---	---	---
3rd Aust. Division.	3rd Aust.D.A. (Brig.Genl. W.H.GRIMWADE C.B., C.M.G.)	3rd Army Bde. A.F.A.	51st Bde. R.G.A. (Mixed) less 8" & 9.2" Btys.	---	---	---	---
5th Aust. Division.	5th Aust.D.A. (Brig.Genl. A.J.BESSELL-BROWNE, C.B. C.M.G., D.S.O.)	6th Army Bde. A.F.A.	41st Bde. R.G.A. (Mobile)	---	---	---	---
27th American Division.	4th Aust.D.A. (Brig.Genl. W.L.H.BURGESS C.M.G., D.S.O.)	108th Army Bde. R.F.A.	85th Bde. R.G.A. (Mobile)	---	---	---	---
30th American Division.	1st Aust.D.A. (Brig.Genl. S.M.ANDERSON D.S.O.)	150th Army Bde. R.F.A.	93rd Bde. R.G.A. (Mixed) less 8" & 9.2" Btys.	---	---	---	---
Corps Reserve.	---	86th. 104th. 84th. 65th. Army Bdes. R.F.A.	2 Btys.8" 2 Btys.9.2" of 51st & 93rd Bdes. R.G.A.	68th. 71st. 89th. Bdes. R.G.A.	---	222nd. and 504th. Siege Btys.	---
Army Reserve.	25th and 58th Divnl. Artilleries.	---	---	---	18th. and 23rd. Bdes. R.G.A.	312th. and 449th. Siege Btys.	494th. Siege Bty.

2. HEAVY ARTILLERY PLAN. MAIN ATTACK.

No regular creeping barrage will be carried out by the Heavy Artillery, but strong points, likely assembly areas, machine gun positions, O.P's, lines of approach, etc. will be engaged. Lifts will conform with the movement of the Field Artillery barrage, but a distance of not less than 800 yards will be maintained East of the 18-pdr barrage.

The



The B.G.H.A. will prepare a plan and instructions accordingly.

Guns for counter-battery work will be allotted according to the reports of enemy guns opposite our front just prior to Zero Day, but approximately two thirds should be allotted for this latter purpose.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H. W. Macarthur*

Lt.Col.G.S.

Issued as under :-

R.A. Australian Corps.

- |              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nos.1 and 2. | Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.                |
| 3.           | 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 4.           | 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 5.           | 3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 6.           | 4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 7.           | 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 8 and 9.     | R.A. Fourth Army.                     |
| 10.          | R.A. III Corps.                       |
| 11.          | R.A. IX Corps.                        |
| 12.          | Corps Commander.                      |
| 13.          | 2nd American Corps.                   |
| 14.          | 27th American Divn.                   |
| 15.          | 30th American Divn.                   |
| 16.          | Aust.Mission with 2nd American Corps. |
| 17.          | 25th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 18.          | 58th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 19.          | 15th Wing R.A.F.                      |
| 20.          | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.                   |
| 21.          | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.               |
| 22.          | 4th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 23.          | 5th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 24.          | 2nd Aust.Divn.                        |
| 25.          | 3rd Aust.Divn.                        |
| 26.          | 5th Aust.Divn.                        |
| 27.          | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.                |
| 28 to 32.    | Aust.Corps "G"                        |
| 33.          | Aust.Corps "Q"                        |
| 34.          | Brig.Genl.F.H.METCALFE, D.S.O.        |
| 35.          | G.S.O. II R.A.                        |
| 36.          | R.O.R.A.                              |
| 37.          | S.O.R.A.                              |
| 38 to 40.    | Diary.                                |
| 41 to 44.    | Spare.                                |



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 272  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

26th September 1918.

1. MAIN OPERATION. BARRAGES.

I. F I E L D A R T I L L E R Y.

- (a) The 18-pdr barrage will open at Zero on a line 200 yards East of the "Infantry Start Line".

At Zero plus 3 minutes the barrage will lift and will move forward at the rate of 100 yards in 3 minutes. There will be 6 lifts at this rate.

The rate of lift will then decrease to 100 yards in 4 minutes until the "Artillery Halt Line" is reached. The barrage halts on this line for a period of 15 minutes, i.e. Zero plus 85 minutes to Zero plus 100 minutes.

At Zero plus 100 minutes the barrage will advance at the rate of 100 yards in 4 minutes until the "Protective Barrage Line to the 1st Objective" (GREEN Line) is reached, which is 400 yards East of the GREEN Line.

All fire ceases at Zero plus 215 minutes.

- (b) The 4.5" Howitzer barrage will conform to the lifts and times of the 18-pdr barrage, but will move 200 yards in advance of it.

(c) SMOKE BARRAGES.

Smoke barrages will be placed by Flank Barrage Brigades on positions and for periods as shewn on the barrage map.

(d) RATES OF FIRE.

Throughout creeping barrage :-

18-pdrs. 3 rounds per gun per minute.  
4.5" Hows. 2 rounds per gun per minute.

Whilst on protective barrage and "Artillery Halt Line" :-

18-pdrs. and } 1 round per gun per minute.  
4.5" Hows. }

Except on the "Artillery Halt Line" between A.22.b.13 to A.28.b.40 where it will remain 3 and 2 rounds per gun and howitzer per minute respectively.

Smoke barrages :- To be arranged by C.R.A's.

(e) AMMUNITION.

18-pdrs. ) 40% H.E. Non-delay.  
          ) 50% Shrapnel.  
          ) 10% Smoke.

4.5" Hows. H.E. 106 Fuzes.

Flank barrages. ) 20% Smoke.  
                  ) 30% H.E. 106 Fuzes.  
                  ) 50% Shrapnel.



II. HEAVY ARTILLERY.

The B.G.H.A. is preparing instructions and a plan shewing the objectives to be engaged during the barrage.

The C.B.S.O. is arranging for the engagement of hostile batteries in accordance with Artillery Instructions No.271 of 26th September.

2. DURATION OF FIRE ON CERTAIN AREAS.

\* Southern Exploitation Sector. All fire is to be lifted beyond:-

- (a) GREEN dotted line by 8.0 a.m.
- (b) RED line by 11.0 a.m.
- (c) RED dotted line by 11.30 a.m.

\* Northern Exploitation Sector.

Fire is to be lifted beyond the RED Line after 11.0 a.m.

\* Heavy Artillery.

- (a) No Heavy Artillery fire will be permitted West of the grid line between North and South lines B.19 and 20 after 11.0 a.m., B.20 and 21 after 12.0 noon, B.21 and 22 after 1.0 p.m.
- (b) All Heavy Artillery fire to be East of the RED Line by 2.0 p.m.

\* The above does not prevent fire being brought to bear on targets within these areas by order of the Divisions concerned.

3. COUNTER PREPARATION.

The B.G.H.A. will arrange to place at the disposal of the C.B.S.O. such guns as will enable an intense counter-battery programme to be put into force in case the enemy puts down counter preparation during assembly for the attack on 'Z' Day.

4. NORMAL FIRE UP TO ZERO.

Normal harassing fire will be continued by Heavy and Field Artillery up to Zero hour for the attack.

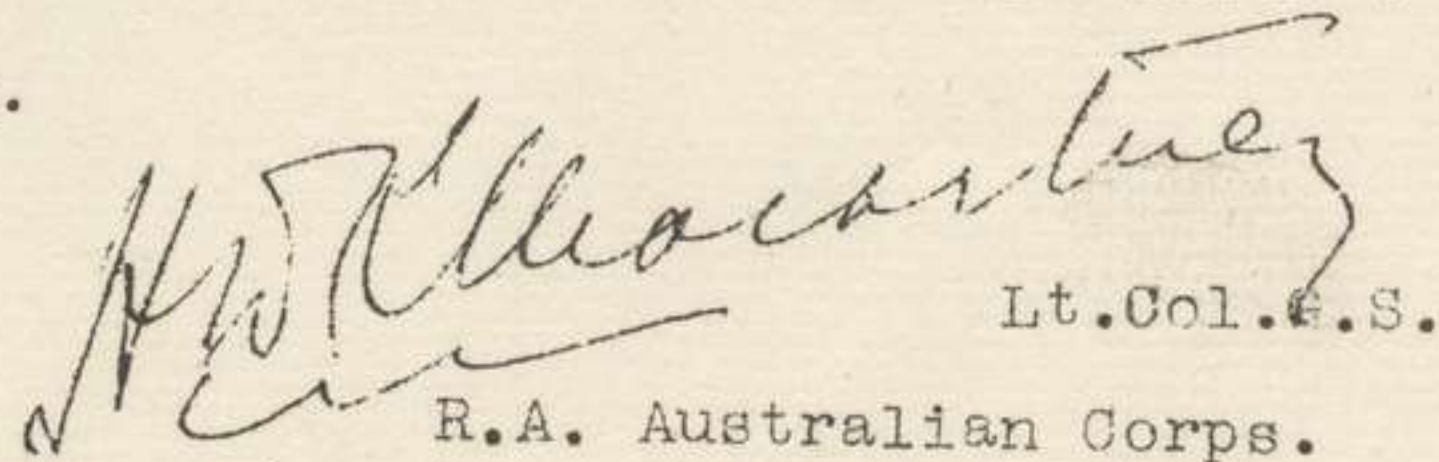
5. 'S.O.S.' INOPERATIVE.

15 minutes prior to Zero 'S.O.S.' will be inoperative.

6. ADDENDUM.

With reference to Artillery Instructions No.271 of 26th September, paragraph 1, 5th line, after "GREEN Line" add "except in the case of the 2nd Australian Division which will be notified later".

7. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

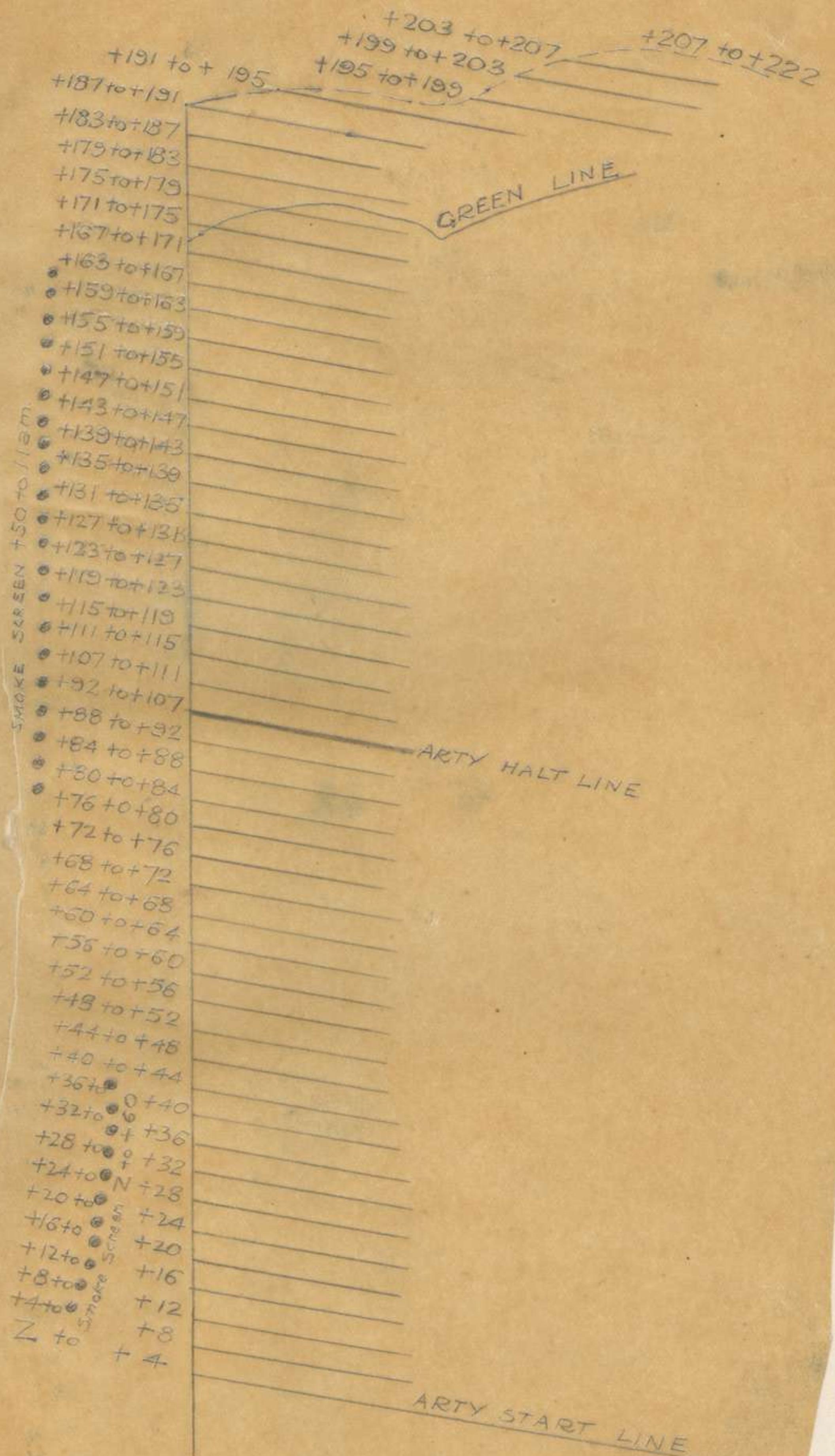
  
Lt. Col. G. S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

For distribution - see over.



Nos. 1 and 2.	Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.
3.	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.
4.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
5.	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
6.	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
7.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
8 and 9.	R.A. Fourth Army.
10.	R.A. III Corps.
11.	R.A. IX Corps.
12.	Corps Commander.
13.	2nd American Corps.
14.	27th American Divn.
15.	30th American Divn.
16.	Aust. Mission with 2nd American Corps.
17.	25th Divnl. Arty.
18.	58th Divnl. Arty.
19.	15th Wing R.A.F.
20.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.
21.	5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.
22.	4th Tank Brigade.
23.	5th Tank Brigade.
24.	2nd Aust. Divn.
25.	3rd Aust. Divn.
26.	5th Aust. Divn.
27.	Aust. Corps M.T. Column. (No barrage Map)
28 to 30.	Aust. Corps "G"
31.	Aust. Corps "Q" (No Barrage Map)
32.	Brig. Genl. F.H. METCALFE, D.S.O.
33.	G.S.O. II R.A.
34.	R.O.R.A.
35.	S.O.R.A.
36 to 38.	Diary.
39 to 42.	Spare.







ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.273  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

27th September 1918.

1. ALTERATIONS - AUSTRALIAN CORPS AND IX CORPS SOUTHERN BOUNDARY.

With reference to Artillery Instructions No.272 of 26th September 1918, paragraph 2, first sub-paragraph "Southern Exploitation Sector" delete this sub-paragraph and substitute :-

- (a) The Boundary Line between the IX Corps and Australian Corps will be grid line through G.20.Central, G.21.Central, G.22 Central, G.23.Central, G.24.Central to sunken road in H.19.b. 5,0, thence along sunken road (inclusive to Australian Corps) to H.15.a.4.6, thence due East as shewn on Barrage Map.
- (b) The above boundary will be the dividing line for troops and all Artillery fire, except where the IX Corps barrage overlaps West of the Canal.
- (c) Should the G.O.C. Left Division of the IX Corps find it necessary he will arrange direct with the 30th American Division for this latter Division to cover South of the line referred to in sub-paragraph (a) above, and will at the same time make the necessary arrangements for lifting the IX Corps barrage.

2. ALTERATION IN SOUTHERN LIMITS OF BARRAGE WEST OF CANAL.

The Southern limit of the Australian Corps barrage West of the Canal will be the line G.20.b.5.4 - G.21.b.9.6, thence along road to Canal.

The Australian Corps Smoke Screen along this line will conform to the lifts of the 4.5" Howitzers in the Field Artillery barrage.

3. ENGAGEMENT OF HIGH GROUND EAST OF CANAL.

The B.G.R.A. will arrange for the high ground in G.23.b., G.24.b. and G.18.d. to be kept under fire from Zero, lifting this fire in accordance with the Field Artillery barrage time table.

4. HEAVY ARTILLERY PLAN - MAIN ATTACK.

With reference to Artillery Instructions No.271 of 26th September, paragraph 2 on first page - last line, for "800 yards" read "400 yards".

5. ALLOTMENT OF 18-pdr. BATTERY TO 5th CAVALRY BRIGADE.

'B' Battery 84th Army Brigade R.F.A. (Major BROWN Commanding) will be placed under the command of the G.O.C. 5th Cavalry Brigade from 11.0 a.m. on 'Z' Day.

Detailed instructions will be issued later by G.O.C. 5th Cavalry Brigade to C.R.A. 1st Australian Division for the movements of this Battery.

Location of Battery - L.17.c.27.97.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

For distribution - see over.



Nos. 1 and 2. Heavy. Art'y. Aust. Corps.  
 3. 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
 4. 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
 5. 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
 6. 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
 7. 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
 8 and 9. R.A. Fourth Army.  
 10. R.A. III Corps.  
 11. R.A. IX Corps.  
 12. Corps Commander.  
 13. 2nd American Corps.  
 14. 27th American Division.  
 15. 30th American Division.  
 16. Aust. Mission with 2nd American Corps.  
 17. 25th Divnl. Artillery.  
 18. 58th Divnl. Artillery.  
 19. 15th Wing R.A.F.  
 20. 3rd Squadron A.F.C.  
 21. 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F.  
 22. 4th Tank Brigade.  
 23. 5th Tank Brigade.  
 24. 2nd Aust. Division.  
 25. 3rd Aust. Division.  
 26. 5th Aust. Division.  
 27. Aust. Corps M.T. Column.  
 28 to 30. Aust. Corps "G"  
 31. Aust. Corps "Q"  
 32. G.O.C. 5th Cavalry Bde.  
 33. Brig. Genl. F.H. METCALFE, D.S.O.  
 34. G.S.O. II R.A.  
 35. R.O.R.A.  
 36. S.O.R.A.  
 37 to 39. Diary.  
 40 to 43. Spare.



304  
SECRET.

53  
APPENDIX  
13  
Copy No. 37

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.274  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

27th September 1918.

1. With reference to Artillery Instructions No.271 of 26th September, paragraph 1, the "Left" and "Right Divisional Creeping Barrage Brigades" mentioned in Artillery Instructions No.267, paragraph 2 (d), will remain under the command of C.R.A's 1st and 4th Australian Divisions until the Infantry of the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions have passed Eastwards through troops holding the GREEN Line and until the Artillery covering this Infantry are in such positions as to be capable of supporting their advance.

C.R.A's 1st and 4th Australian Divisions will notify Corps R.A. as soon as this condition exists in order that these Field Artillery Brigades may pass, with the exception of those allotted to the Divisions for exploitation, into Corps Reserve.

When passed to Corps Reserve they will come under command of C.R.A. 2nd Australian Division.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H. H. Cunningham*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nos.1 and 2. | Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.                |
| 3.           | 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 4.           | 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 5.           | 3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 6.           | 4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 7.           | 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.                  |
| 8 and 9.     | R.A. Fourth Army.                     |
| 10.          | R.A. III Corps.                       |
| 11.          | R.A. IX Corps.                        |
| 12.          | Corps Commander.                      |
| 13.          | 2nd American Corps.                   |
| 14.          | 27th American Divn.                   |
| 15.          | 30th American Divn.                   |
| 16.          | Aust.Mission with 2nd American Corps. |
| 17.          | 25th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 18.          | 58th Divnl.Arty.                      |
| 19.          | 15th Wing R.A.F. —                    |
| 20.          | 3rd Squadron A.F.C. —                 |
| 21.          | 5th Balloon Wing R.A.F. —             |
| 22.          | 4th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 23.          | 5th Tank Brigade.                     |
| 24.          | 2nd Aust.Division.                    |
| 25.          | 3rd Aust.Division.                    |
| 26.          | 5th Aust.Division.                    |
| 27.          | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.                |
| 28 to 30.    | Aust.Corps "G"                        |
| 31.          | Aust.Corps "Q"                        |
| 32.          | G.O.C. 5th Cavalry Brigado.           |
| 33.          | Brig.Genl.F.H.METCALFE, D.S.O.        |
| 34.          | G.S.O. II R.A.                        |
| 35.          | R.O.R.A.                              |
| 36.          | S.O.R.A.                              |
| 37 to 39.    | Diary.                                |
| 40 to 43.    | Spare.                                |



Expenditure noon 17th to noon 18th September 1918.

Heavy Artillery.

Nature	D	DX	P	K	KX	KAP	S	H	M	G	W	Total
Rounds	3684	3262	15002	253	197	16	814	712	390	1255	45	25630
Tons	147	130	750	17	13	1	81	71	55	180	18	1453

Field Artillery.

Nature.	A	AX	AS	BX	BS	
1st Aust.Div.Arty.	24846	22419	2588	14652	927	
4th Aust.Div.Arty.	26204	19870	2943	12508	810	
Total	51050	42289	5531	27160	1737	= 127767
Tons	638	528	69	603	38	= 1876

Totals :-

	<u>Rounds</u>	<u>Tons.</u>
Heavy Artillery.	25630	1453
Field Artillery.	127767	1876
	153397	3329