

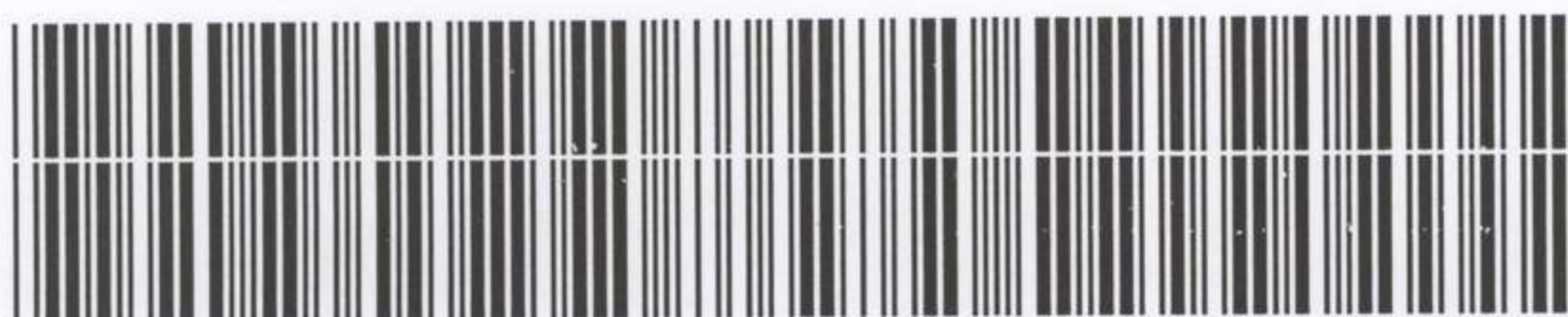
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/7/30 Part 1

Title: Brigadier General, 1st ANZAC Corps
Heavy Artillery and Headquarters,
Australian Corps Heavy Artillery

September 1918



AWM4-13/7/30PART1

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
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September ¹⁹¹⁸ — ~~April~~ ¹⁹¹⁹

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY
OF



HEAD QUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

FOR

SEPTEMBER, 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

J. Kennedy

Captain, R.A.

Brigade Major, Aust. Corps H.A.

Signature of Officer Commanding

L. Fraser

Brig. General,

Commanding Aust. Corps Heavy Artillery.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
R.17 d.4.0. Near CHIGNES.	Septr: 1918		<p><u>Map Reference:</u> The current map references are shown in attached Location Lists from day to day.</p> <p>1 - Showers. At 6 a.m. the Corps attacked and captured a line running I.3 - 10 - 17 - 23 - 29 - 35 - 0.5., the objective including the town of PERONNE. Five Brigades R.G.A. were employed to engage targets in accordance with a series of prearranged lifts. Counter-battery work was also carried out. Heavy harassing fire was maintained and a large number of fleeting targets dealt with, engagement of many of the latter being facilitated by means of a system of close liaison with the Infantry. Moves were carried out as follows :- 51st Bde. - to East of CLERY. 9th Bde. - Two 6" How: batteries across the SOMME to East of CLERY.</p> <p>2 - Fine but cold. The infantry attack North of PERONNE at 5.30 a.m. was supported by 4 Brigades R.G.A. Many moving targets were engaged and intense harassing fire without observation was maintained.</p> <p>3 - Cold and sunny. The line remained unchanged to-day. Harassing fire was continued and bombardment and wire-cutting in the enemy's defences on the East bank of the SOMME was also undertaken.</p> <p>4 - Sultry. The line remained unchanged, but all villages in the enemy's lines were reported to be burning and his balloons had been withdrawn some distance. The usual harassing fire and sniping were continued. 2,000 yards of our front was handed over to the III Corps on our left. Two 60-pdr: batteries of 9th Bde. moved to H.35 - 36.</p>	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				

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
	Septr 1918			
	5	-	Hot with thunderstorms. It was found this morning that the enemy had retired in the night, and by 9 a.m. our patrols were pushing out across the SOMME. Open warfare conditions were proclaimed by the Corps at 11 a.m., and Brigades were temporarily attached to Divisions as under :- 21st Bde. to 32nd Division. 9th Bde. to 5th Aust. Division. 51st Bde. to 3rd Aust. Division. These Brigades consisted of two 6" How: batteries and one 60-pdr: battery (all 4-gun) the remaining sections and batteries being attached to "linked" Bdes. under Heavy Artillery command. At 4 p.m., the line having been advanced roughly 3,000 yards East of the SOMME, all 8", 9.2" and 12" Hows: were ordered to positions on the line ST: CHRIST - PERONNE - HALLE in order to cover the subsequent advance of 6" Hows: and 60-pdrs:. Heavy harassing fire was continued, and was adjusted as the line advanced. Concentrations were placed on various localities which were holding up the infantry advance.	
P.16.a. Near BARLEUX.	6	-	Warm and sunny. Headquarters moved to P.16.a., near BARLEUX. The line continued to recede and the infantry was out of touch with the enemy. At 2 p.m. our troops dug in on the line MARQUAIX - HANCOURT - TERTRY - MONCHY for the night. At 6 p.m. all 6" Hows: and 60-pdrs: were ordered with full echelons to the line J.9 - P.15 - V.21. to park for the night. Two 6" Gun batteries were sent round by BRAY as the bridges across the SOMME at PERONNE, BRIE and ST: CHRIST were not yet strengthened sufficiently for their passage.	
	7	-	Fine and sunny. A quiet day. The infantry were to continue to rest on the line HESBECOURT - VENDELLES - VILLEVEQUE. All 6" Hows: and 60-pdrs: had crossed the river to the line ordered yesterday. Heavy Hows: were ordered to limber up and remain in the SOMME valley until the bridges should be completed. Our guns being out of action, all efforts were devoted to pushing up ammunition.	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
P.15.b.2.4. Near BOUVINCOURT	Septr: 1918 8	-	Heavy showers. Headquarters moved to P.15.b.2.4., near BOUVINCOURT. A quiet day. All Brigades were still out of action with the exception of Divisional Brigades which engaged a few targets on their respective fronts.	
	9 &) 10)	-	The situation being unchanged and our troops not being in close touch with the enemy, our Brigades continued to rest	
	11	-	Showery. At 12 noon 14th, 21st and 69th Bdes. were handed over to the IX Corps on right, with the front as far North as VERMANDOVILLERS. Our left Division was counter-attacked locally and the three 6" How: batteries of 68th Bde. were moved into position and used chiefly for counter-battery work. Heavy hows: and the remaining 6" Guns of 73rd Bde. crossed the SOMME at BRIE and were parked in their Bde. areas.	
	12	-	Squally and cold. In the evening all 6" Hows:, 60-pdrs: and 6" Guns were moved into positions 3,000 - 4,000 yards from the outpost line. Vigorous counter-battery work and harassing commenced.	
	13	-	Squally and cold. A quiet day. Light harassing and intense counter-battery work as carried out. At 8.25 p.m. two Brigades were opened for 25 minutes on S.O.S. lines on the front of the left battalion of the 4th Aust: Division. Our posts were slightly withdrawn. The Brigades attached to Divisions were returned to Heavy Artillery command to-day.	
	14	-	Fine. 69th Brigade rejoined command from IX Corps and was left in situ at POEUILLY. 41st Brigade joined command and was ordered into forward silent positions. The usual harassing, sniping and counter-battery work continued. LE VERGUIER was heavily bombarded at the request of the infantry. A reconnaissance was carried out of advanced positions on line L.7 - R.20. for all Bdes. Our outpost line ran W. of TEMPLEUX - E. of JEANCOURT - R.15.central.	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				W

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Septr: 1918 15	-	Fine and warm. A quiet day. Brigades were organised in Counter-battery and Bombardment Brigades and a bombardment, preliminary to attack, was commenced.	
	16	-	Fine and warm. A quiet day. The preparatory bombardment was continued in addition to C.B. work and harassing. 50% of our batteries were ordered to advanced silent positions 500 - 1,000 yards from outpost line and moves were commenced. Low flying aeroplanes were employed to drown the noise of caterpillars and tractors. A thunderstorm created ideal conditions for our purpose during a portion of the night.	
	17	-	Fine and warm. A quiet day. The preliminary bombardment was completed. Harassing and counter-battery as usual. All moves to forward positions and dumping of ammunition were completed. The outpost line was advanced some 500 yards along the whole front to-day, and the situation was consequently eased for our advanced batteries.	
	18	-	Rain and low clouds. Our attack was launched at 5.20 a.m. and succeeded. Heavy Artillery action comprised a rolling belt of concentrations on trenches, villages etc., fire being finally lifted on to the observation posts and assembly areas of the HINDENBURG LINE. A very large proportion of the prisoners captured in this action had been wounded by shell fire. By 10.50 a.m. the situation was sufficiently clear to admit of the advance of the following batteries which had been previously detailed :- One 9.2: How: Battery. Two 8" How: Batteries. Six 6" How: Batteries. One 60-pdr: Battery.	(continued)

4

or

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Septr: <u>1918</u> 18 (c'td.)	-	The batteries which had been advanced prior to the operation were able to cover the new line adequately without changing position. At 11.30 p.m. a minor attack of exploitation by the 4th Aust: Division was supported by the fire of two Brigades. A large number of targets of opportunity were engaged during the day. A heavy harassing programme was carried out at night.	
	19	-	Fine and showery. Counter-preparation, in the form of a deep belt of fire 1,000 yards clear ^{of} our outposts, was carried out from 4.55 a.m. to 5.5 a.m. and again from 5.20 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Heavy harassing fire was maintained and much movement engaged with observation. Numerous parties of the enemy were reported in the neighbourhood of BELLICOURT and, in anticipation of a possible counter-attack, the fire of 5 Brigades was concentrated four times on this area for a period of ten minutes on each occasion. No attack developed on our front, although the III Corps on our left was attacked at 7.30 p.m.	
	20	-	Fine with occasional squalls. At 1 a.m. a minor operation by the 4th Aust: Division was supported by our guns. Counter-preparation Phase 1B was carried out between 5.15 a.m. and 5.45 a.m. in the form of two ten-minute bursts of fire. Heavy harassing fire was maintained and numerous concentrations of the enemy broken up.	
	21	-	Fine with occasional squalls. A minor operation by the 1st Aust: Division was supported by the engagement of targets in and around BELLICOURT. The usual harassing and sniping.	
			A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.	

WAR DIARY

305
Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Sept: 1918 22	-	Drizzle. Counter-preparation Phase 1B was carried out for 10 minutes at 5.30 a.m. and again at 5.50 a.m. on the front of the 1st Aust. Division. The usual harassing and counter-battery work. The front as far North as G.21.c. was handed over to IX Corps together with 69th and 5th Brigades R.G.A. and 50 Siege Bty. (6" Guns).	
J.12.d.7.9. North of TINCOURT.	23	-	Fine. Headquarters moved to J.12.d.7.9. (North of TINCOURT). A quiet day. Reconnaissance for forward positions was carried out. The usual harassing and counter-battery programme.	
	24	-	Fine and sunny. A quiet day. 18th Brigade moved into the line in the neighbourhood of RONSSOY. The usual harassing and counter-battery fire.	
	25	-	Fine and sunny. The front as far North as F.5.c.00. was taken over from III Corps, the 71st, 23rd, 89th and 85th Bdes passing to our command. The front was now held by the 30th American Division on the Right and the 27th American Division on the Left. The S.O.S. Signal was observed and answered on the Right Divisional front at 5.20 a.m. and again at 6.16 a.m. It was subsequently found that no infantry action had taken place, the signal having been displayed in consequence of the groundless alarm of untried troops. The S.O.S. was again sent up and answered at 8.10 p.m. and fire was stopped after 15 minutes when the front was reported quiet. The usual harassing and counter-battery work. Moves to advanced battle positions commenced, all batteries with a few exceptions having been ordered forward.	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C.2118/14.				9

WAR DIARY

Army Form 63218.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Sept: 1918			
	26	-	<p>Fine and sunny. A quiet day. A Gas and H.E. bombardment of targets along the whole front was carried out in conjunction with the Field Artillery and lasted 7 hours (9.30 p.m. to 5 a.m.). The usual harassing and counter-battery work. Moves to forward positions were continued.</p>	
	27	-	<p>Drizzle. A preliminary minor operation at 5.30 a.m., to gain the forming-up line of the 27th American Division, was supported by C.B. work and a rolling bombardment of tactical points. A second minor attack at 1 p.m. was similarly supported. The preliminary bombardment of the HINDENBURG system was commenced at 5.30 a.m. Moves were continued.</p>	
	28	-	<p>Fair with occasional rain. The preliminary bombardment was continued and intense harassing fire on rear communications carried out. The character of the Heavy Artillery preparation is described in Daily Tactical Reports Nos: 130 and 131, q.v. Moves were completed and ammunition supplied to forward batteries. In accordance with our usual practice, as many positions as possible were kept silent, their line of fire being laid out by the Field Survey Battalion R.E. Our Headquarters was shelled twice to-day, 2 grooms and 2 horses being killed.</p>	
	29	-	<p>Fine with high wind and rain later. The attack on the HINDENBURG LINE was launched at 5.50 a.m. and was supported by H.A. in the usual manner, 44,000 rounds being fired in 24 hours. Our preliminary bombardment and harassing fire had been continued until Zero hour. Later in the day, owing to the tactical situation when the first waves of the 27th American Division had been cut off and practically the whole HINDENBURG system remained to be mopped up, H.A. fire was considerably restricted and was chiefly confined to long range harassing. One Bde. R.G.A. was attached to each of the Divisions at 2.30 p.m., but was returned to H.A. command at 8 p.m. when an advance was seen to be impossible.</p>	
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				4

OR

Army Form C3218.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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WAR DIARY

OF

HEAD QUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

FOR

SEPTEMBER, 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Heavy Artillery Orders.
2.	Wires issued in connection with operations.
3.	H.A. Scheme for Mobile Warfare.
4.	H.A. Defence Scheme.
5.	Daily Tactical Reports.
6.	Daily Counter Battery Reports.
7.	H.A. Routine Orders.
8.	H.A. Location Lists.
9.	Notes on Counter Battery work.

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Copy No. 20SECRET.Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 9/495.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'A'.

1. OPERATION.

The Fourth Army, in conjunction with the First French Army on the right and the Third Army on the left, is to attack the enemy's defensive position in front of the HINDENBURG Line at Zero hour on a date to be notified.

The Australian Corps is attacking in the centre of the Fourth Army front, in conjunction with the IX Corps on the right and the III Corps on the left.

The objectives are shown on the attached tracing, as are also the new boundaries, which will come into force at midnight, 14th/15th September.

The attacking Divisions of the Australian Corps will be the 4th Australian Division on the right, and the 1st Australian Division on the left.

The Infantry are to attack under cover of a rolling Field Artillery Barrage, and they will be supported by a limited number of tanks.

2. HEAVY
ARTILLERY
ORGAN-
ISATION.

The Heavy Artillery will be organised, for purposes of this operation, in four Counter-battery Brigades, viz., 93rd, 9th, 51st, 41st Brigades, R.G.A., three Bombardment Brigades, viz., 69th, 5th, 68th Brigades, R.G.A., and one Long-Range Brigade of 6-inch guns and 12-inch howitzers, viz., 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A.

These arrangements will take effect from midnight, 14th/15th September.

The fact of a Brigade being designated a Counter-battery or Bombardment Brigade does not preclude its use, on occasion, for either Counter-battery or Bombardment duties. All Brigades, whether Counter-battery or Bombardment, will be used for S.O.S., for Counter-Preparation Phase I A, Phase I B, and Phase II, and for the engagement of enemy movement. If any case arises of a Brigade being unable to deal with all its tasks at any particular time, the matter will be referred to H.A.

3. HEAVY
ARTILLERY
ACTION.

The action of the Heavy Artillery prior to the operation, will consist of Counter-battery work and of the destructive bombardment of strong points, for which detailed orders will be issued.

Instructions regarding the rôle of Heavy Artillery during and after the operation will be promulgated later.

/2.

- 2 -

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4. PRELIMINARY DISPOSITIONS.

On the night 16th/17th September, certain batteries, which are detailed below, will move to silent positions on the approximate line R.20 - L.7, those positions to be as far advanced as possible. Brigade Commanders will carry out a reconnaissance with a view to these moves, and will submit positions, which are to be selected, as far as possible, in their own lanes. Immediately the positions are approved by this office, the work of preparation and dumping of ammunition will be pushed forward with all speed.

The batteries detailed are as follows :-

69th Brigado.	2	- 6" howitzer batteries.
93rd Brigade.	1	- 60-pdr. battery.
	1	- 6" how: battery.
	1	- 8" how: battery.
9th Brigade.	1	- 60-pdr. battery.
	1	- 6" how: battery.
5th Brigado.	2	- 6" how: batteries.
51st Brigado.	1	- 60-pdr. battery.
	1	- 6" how: battery.
	1	- 8" how: battery.
68th Brigado.	2	- 6" how: batteries.
73rd Army Bdo.	3	sections of 6" guns (one section from each battery).

Unless permission to pull out sooner is obtained from this office, the batteries moving forward will remain in action in their present positions until 6 p.m. 16th September.

41st Brigade, R.G.A. will take up silent positions, on arrival, on the line JEANCOURT - HESBECOURT - GEORGE'S COPSE. O.C. 41st Brigade will submit proposed positions as soon as possible.

5.

Brigades to acknowledge.

J.M. Kennedy

Issued at 4.30 p.m.
14/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

Distribution.

Copies Nos. 1 - 5. R.A. Aust: Corps.	21. 4th Aust: Div.G.
6.* 5th Brigade, R.G.A.	22. 4th Aust: D.A.
7.* 9th Brigade, R.G.A.	23. 2nd Aust: Div.G.
8.* 41st Brigade, R.G.A.	24. 2nd Aust: D.A.
9.* 51st Brigade, R.G.A.	25. 3rd Aust: Div.G.
10.* 68th Brigade, R.G.A.	26. 3rd Aust: D.A.
11.* 69th Brigade, R.G.A.	27. 5th Aust: Div.G.
12.* 93rd Brigade, R.G.A.	28. 5th Aust: D.A.
13.* 73rd Army Bde, R.G.A.	29. III Corps H.A.
14. C.B.S.O.	30. IX Corps H.A.
15.* Staff Captain.	31.* 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
16. R.O.	32.* 13th Balloon Coy.
17. O.C. Signals.	33.* 15th Balloon Coy.
18.* Siege Park.	34.* 5th Balloon Wing.
19. 1st Aust: Div.G.	35.* Filo.
20. 1st Aust: D.A.	36-38. War Diary.

* with Tracing.

305
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SECRET.

APPENDIX 1

12
Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/495/1.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'B'.

Reference map :-
1/20,000.
62.C. NE & SE.

1. BOMBARDMENT
PROGRAMME.

With reference to para. 3 of H.A. Order No. 161,
Serial Letter 'A', the Bombardment Programme for
15th September will be as follows :-

<u>Brigade.</u>	<u>Targets.</u>	<u>Ammn. Allotment.</u>
69th.	(1) Hd.Qrs in PARKER)	Total of 300 rds 6" How:
"	(2) COLLINS QUARRY &) COPSE (R.5.d.)) COPSE (L.35.b.))	
5th.	(3) Strong points in) L.34.a & b. with) special attention) to dugouts at) L.34.a.9030, L.34.) b.1025, L.34.a.9965.)	Total of 250 rds 6" How: and 100 rds 8" How:
68th.	(4) Quarries in L.10.a,) L.3.d., & L.4.c.)	Total of 400 rds 6" How:
"	(5) COLOGNE FARM (L.6.c)	
"	(6) Strong Points and) trench systems,) L.16.c.34 - 16.c.92) - 16.c.70 - 16.c.46) & dugout L.16.a.7525)	

2. OBSERVATION. Ground observation will be used as far as possible.
In case of aeroplane observation being desired upon
targets which cannot be seen from the ground, ap-
plication will be made to B.M.H.A. who will make
the necessary arrangements with 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
should weather conditions be favourable.

Brigades will keep in close touch with the out-
post situation whilst shoots are in progress.

3. 69th, 5th, and 68th Brigades to acknowledge.

J. J. Kennedy

Issued at 10.45 p.m.
14/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----
Distribution:-

As for H.A. Order No.161, Serial Letter 'A'.
(5th, 68th, and 69th Brigades by Special D.R.)

Copy No. 36S E C R E T.
=====Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/495/3.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'C'.

1. BOMBARDMENT PROGRAMME. The Bombardment Programme for 16th September will be as follows :-

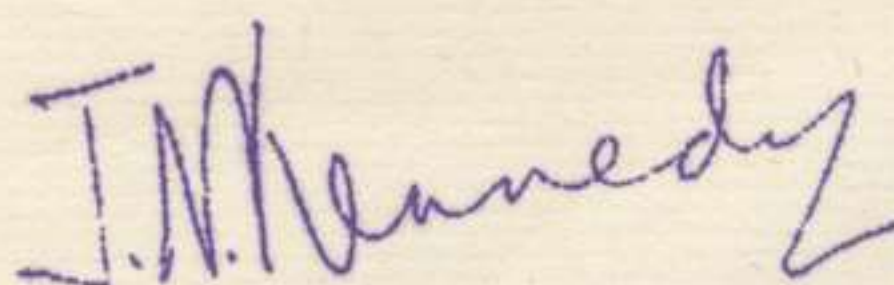
Bdo.	Bty & Position.	Targets.	Rg. Pt. for aeroplane obs.	Amman Allotmt.
69.	-	(1) Strong points in trench system R.11.b.0595.	-	250 rds 6" H:
	331 ^S (6" H:) Q.29.c.98.	(2)* COLLINS QUARRY & COPSE in L.35.b.	Cross rds L.35.b.17.	150 rds 6" H:
5.	-	(3) BOBTAIL POST & WOOD in L.34.d.	-	250 rds 6" H:
	47 SB(8" H) Q.3.b.85.	(4)* DUGOUTS along Sunkon Road L.17.d.86.	Rd & Tr junction L.17.d.7545.	150 rds 8" H:
68.	-	(5) FERVAQUE FARM in L.16.	-	300 rds 6" H:
	25 ^S (8" H) K.15.a.40.	(6)* RUBY WOOD in G.2.a.	South corner of wood.	150 rds 8" H:
73.	494 ^S (12" H) K.33.a.00	(7)* COLOGNE FARM in L.6.c.	COLOGNE FARM,	30 rds 12" H:

2. OBSERVATION. 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. has been requested to furnish aeroplane observation for the Targets marked with an asterisk. Batteries must be prepared to be called up at any time on the 16th instant.

The remaining Targets will be engaged with Balloon and ground observation.

Brigades will keep in close touch with the outpost situation whilst shoots are in progress.

3. 69th, 5th, 68th, and 73rd Brigades, R.G.A., and 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. please acknowledge.



Captain, R.A.

15/9/1918.

a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps Heavy Arty.

----- * -----
Distribution.

As for H.A. Order No. 161, Serial Letter 'A'.
(To 69th, 5th, 68th, and 73rd Brigades, and
3rd Squadron, A.F.C. by Special D.R.)

Copy No. 39SECRET.Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/495/4.AUSTRALIAN CORPS
HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'D'.

BOMBARDMENT. The Bombardment Programme Programme for September 17th will be as under :-

Bty & Bde. Position.	Target.	Plano Call & Rg.Pt. for acroplane obs.	Ammn. Allotmt.
69. -	(1) Trench system L.34.b & d. R.4.b. (From BOB POST to junction of TAG and HUN trenches)	-	300 rds 6" H:
93 S.B. (Q.18.a.19)	(2)* JIM, JED, & GEORGE posts. L.36.a & c.	N.4 L.36.a.42.	150 rds 9.2"H:
5. -	(3) Chateau & grounds in L.23.a. including trenches in L.23.c. & L.22.d.96.	-	250 rds 6" H:
47 S.B. (Q.3.b.85)	(4)* FORT LEES (L.33.b.)	N.2. L.33.b.8528.	150 rds 8" H:
68. 114 S.B. (K.16.b.2590)	(5)* VILLA POST & VIOLET POST. (L.12.c.)	N.1. L.12.c.1580. (SW.L.12.c.5018)	250 rds 6" H:
-	(6) "THE EGG" and Farm L.11.b.	-	150 rds 8" H:
73. 494 S.B. (K.33.a.00)	(7)* Trench system in ravine G.33.b.	N.3. G.33.b.1538.	30 rds 12" H:

2. OBSERVATION. 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. has been requested to furnish acroplane observation for the Targets marked with an asterisk. Batteries must be prepared to be called up at any time on the 17th instant.

The remaining Targets will be engaged with Balloon and ground observation.

Brigades will keep in close touch with the outpost situation whilst shoots are in progress.

3. 69th, 5th, 68th, and 73rd Brigades, R.G.A. and 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. please acknowledge.

J. M. Kennedy

Captain, R.A.

a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

16/9/1918.

----- * -----
Distribution as for H.A. Order No.161, Serial Letter 'A'.

305
Copy No. 38S E C R E T.
=====Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/495/5.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'E'.1. METHOD OF
ATTACK.

Each Division is to attack on a two Brigade frontage, and the boundary between Divisions will run as follows :-

L.27.c.0.6 - L.23.c.0.7 - G.20.b.0.7
and thence due East.

The Infantry forming up line will be a direct line from R.9.d.8.5 to L.1.d.7.0.

The times of arrival of the F.A. Barrage on the objectives are shewn on the F.A. Barrage Map, a copy of which is attached.

The Infantry will remain on the HALT line until Zero plus 3 hours 10 mins.

After Zero plus 269 mins. infantry patrols are being pushed out to the EXPLOITATION line whilst the 2nd objective is being consolidated.

The 1st objective is known as the GREEN LINE, the Halt Line as the BROWN LINE, the 2nd objective as the RED LINE, and the Exploitation Line as the BLUE LINE.

Except on the front of the 1st Australian Division, the action of tanks is to be restricted to the area West of the GREEN LINE. A number of dummy tanks are being employed.

2. COUNTER-
BATTERY.

Special instructions will be issued by the C.B.S.O.

3. HEAVY
ARTILLERY
ACTION.

The action of the Heavy Artillery not employed on Counter-battery work will be to engage centres of resistance, strong points, headquarters, and commanding ground as shewn on the H.A. Bombardment Map, (attached), fire being finally lifted on to the observation posts and assembly areas within the HINDENBURG defences.

A number of bombardment targets will incidentally be subjected to fire under the Counter-battery programme owing to hostile batteries being sited in or near them. Allowance has been made for this in the preparation of the map.

The targets are arranged in Zones running parallel to the line of advancing Infantry. Three contiguous Zones of targets will be engaged simultaneously throughout the operation until fire is finally lifted to the easternmost zone, and lifts will be arranged so that the two more distant Zones are kept under fire while fire is lifted from the nearest Zone.

The times shewn against each Lift line on the map are the times at which fire must be lifted from the Zone to the west of that particular line.

- 2 -

In cases where all the more distant targets cannot be engaged simultaneously, howitzers will switch from one target to another at short intervals.

The sector of the attack has been divided into three lanes which are allotted to 69th, 5th, and 68th Brigades respectively.

The targets lettered 'A' to 'G' are out of range of these Bombardment Brigades, and arrangements will be made to engage them by 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A.

69th, 5th, and 68th Brigades will forward to this office by 6 p.m. 17th September, schemes shewing the proposed distribution of howitzers on Bombardment tasks for various stages of the operation.

4. SPECIAL TASKS.

Special tasks, in addition to targets 'A' to 'G', will be detailed later for 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A.

5. AMMUNITION.

50% H.E. and 50% shrapnel will be used by 6" guns so far as the supply of fuzes will admit.

H.E. will be used by howitzers with 75% No. 106 fuze, delay fuzes being employed within the limit of 25% upon concrete structures and dugouts.

Where it is necessary to fire upon roads along which we shall advance, No. 106 fuze will be used exclusively with H.E.

No gas will be employed.

6. RATES OF FIRE.

		Zero	-	Zero plus 20 mins.			RAPID.
		Zero plus 20 mins.	-	Zero plus 40 mins.			NORMAL.
"	"	40 "	-	" " 52 "			RAPID.
"	"	52 "	-	" " 75 "			NORMAL.
"	"	75 "	-	" " 190 "			SLOW.
"	"	190 "	-	" " 202 "			RAPID.
"	"	202 "	-	" " 230 "			NORMAL.
"	"	230 "	-	" " 260 "			RAPID.
"	"	260 "	-	" " 290 "			NORMAL.
"	"	290 "	-	" " 310 "			RAPID.
"	"	310 "	-	" " 320 "			NORMAL.

All fire will cease at Zero plus 320 minutes.

7. FLEETING OPPORTUNITIES.

F.O.Os. of 69th, 5th, 68th, and 73rd Brigades will engage fleeting targets whenever possible. The guns to be used between Zero and Zero plus 320 minutes will be allotted at the discretion of Brigade Commanders from those employed on Bombardment Tasks so as not to interfere unduly with the volume of fire on important localities.

Not more than two sections per Brigade will be taken off their tasks at any one time for this purpose.

'GF' and 'LL' calls will be engaged by 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A. at the discretion of the Brigade Commander, and by 69th, 5th, and 68th Brigades, R.G.A. in accordance with the instructions contained in H.A. Defence Scheme, para. 13.

'NF' Calls will not be answered by the Bombardment Brigades prior to Zero plus 320 minutes.

Air Calls within range will be answered by all Brigades in the usual manner after Zero plus 320 mins.

8. SILENT POSITIONS.

All positions to which moves are carried out on or after 16th September will remain silent until Zero hour, and no registration will be carried out.

At Zero Hour all guns become active.

/3.

9. S.O.S.

Between Zero minus 1 hour and Zero minus 15 minutes, the H.A. 'S.O.S.' line will be 600 yards East of the Infantry forming up line.

Between Zero minus 15 minutes and Zero, the 'S.O.S.' Signal will be inoperative on the Corps front.

In case of an 'S.O.S.' Signal being sent up during the operation, H.A. will increase the rate of fire on targets which are already being engaged.

10. LANES.

From Zero Hour onwards, the allotment of H.A. Lanes will be modified in accordance with an amendment to H.A. Defence Scheme which will be issued.

The system of defence of the final objective will be on the same principles as are laid down in the present H.A. Defence Scheme, the H.A. 'START' line being 600 yards clear of the new outpost line.

Lanes will be prolonged and numbered as at present, and will remain allotted as at Zero Hour.

11. HARASSING.

The normal harassing fire will be maintained until Zero Hour. Orders as to harassing tasks after Zero plus 320 minutes will be issued from this office.

12. SYNCHRONIZATION.

An Officer from each Brigade H.Q. will attend at Headquarters, Aust: Corps H.A. twice on the day preceding the attack at times to be notified later, and will synchronize with O.C. Signals, H.A.

13. INTELLIGENCE.

The Brigades affiliated to Divisions will keep in close touch with the progress of the attack, and will transmit all information of value, without delay, to H.A.

14. F.O.Os.

Each Brigade will arrange to send forward two F.O.Os. who will keep in close touch with the situation, and use every means in their power to get back information. Full use must be made of visual signalling.

15. LIAISON.

(I) WITH INFANTRY.

69th, 5th, and 68th Brigades will maintain a close liaison with the Infantry Brigades holding the sector which they are covering and will keep H.A. Headquarters informed of the position of the front line after the operation.

Liaison Officers are not necessarily to be continuously attached to each Infantry Brigade.

(II) WITH CORPS ON FLANKS.

69th Brigade, R.G.A. will be responsible for keeping in touch with the flank Brigade, R.G.A. of IX Corps, and 68th Brigade, R.G.A. with the flank Brigade, R.G.A. of III Corps.

16. MOVEMENT OF BATTERIES.

Separate instructions are being issued as to the movement of batteries during and after the operation.

15th Wing, R.A.F. is being requested to arrange for machines to fly over the Corps forward area between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. on the night of the 16th/17th September in order to drown the noise of H.A. tractors and caterpillars during the move to advanced positions.

On the night of the 17th/18th September, low-flying aeroplanes have already been arranged for, to cover the advance of tanks, between 9 p.m. and 12 midnight, and from Zero minus one hour till Zero.

17. H.A. ORGANIZATION.

The organization of Brigades, R.G.A. in Bombardment and Counter-battery Brigades will lapse at Zero plus 320 minutes, after which time all Brigades will hold themselves in readiness to engage Counter-battery and all other tasks as may be ordered.

18. SILENT REHEARSAL.

All batteries will carry out a silent rehearsal of the procedure to be followed during the course of the attack.

19. SIGNALS.

- (a). The 'S.O.S.' Signal on the Army front remains a No.32 grenade throwing coloured lights RED over RED over RED.
- (b). RED ground flares are being used by the Infantry to communicate their position to contact aeroplanes.
- (c). The success Signal for the Corps will be a No. 32 Rifle Grenade throwing lights WHITE over WHITE over WHITE.

20. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS.

Two H.A. Signal routes will be carried forward on the lines BOUCLY - ROISEL and HANCOURT - BERNES, and a forward exchange will be established in the vicinity of the latter village in each case.

In view of the fact that the enemy has doubtless installed listening sets in the HINDENBURG Line, every precaution will be taken to ensure that all telephone lines have metallic circuits.

Unauthorised telephone conversations in the forward area must be strictly prohibited.

21.

ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

J. Kennedy

Issued at 9.30 p.m.
16/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution.

Copy No. 1-5. R.A. Aust: Corps.

- 6.* 5th Brigade, R.G.A.
- 7.* 9th Brigade, R.G.A.
- 8.* 41st Brigade, R.G.A.
- 9.* 51st Brigade, R.G.A.
- 10.* 68th Brigade, R.G.A.
- 11.* 69th Brigade, R.G.A.
- 12.* 93rd Brigade, R.G.A.
- 13.* 73rd Army Bde, R.G.A.
- 14.* C.B.S.O.
- 15.* S.C.
- 16.* R.O.
- 17.* O.C. Signals.
- 18.* Siege Park.
- 19. 1st Aust: Div. G.
- 20. 1st Aust: D.A.

- 21. 4th Aust: Div. G.
- 22. 4th Aust: D.A.
- 23. 2nd Aust: Div. G.
- 24. 2nd Aust: D.A.
- 25. 3rd Aust: Div. G.
- 26. 3rd Aust: D.A.
- 27. 5th Aust: Div. G.
- 28. 5th Aust: D.A.
- 29.* III Corps H.A.
- 30.* IX Corps H.A.
- 31.* 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
- 32.* 15th Balloon Coy.
- 33.* 5th Balloon Wing.
- 34.* File.
- 35-38.* War Diary.

* With H.A. Map.

F.A. Map issued to R.G.A. Bdes only.

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.

HEAVY ARTILLERY BARRAGE MAP

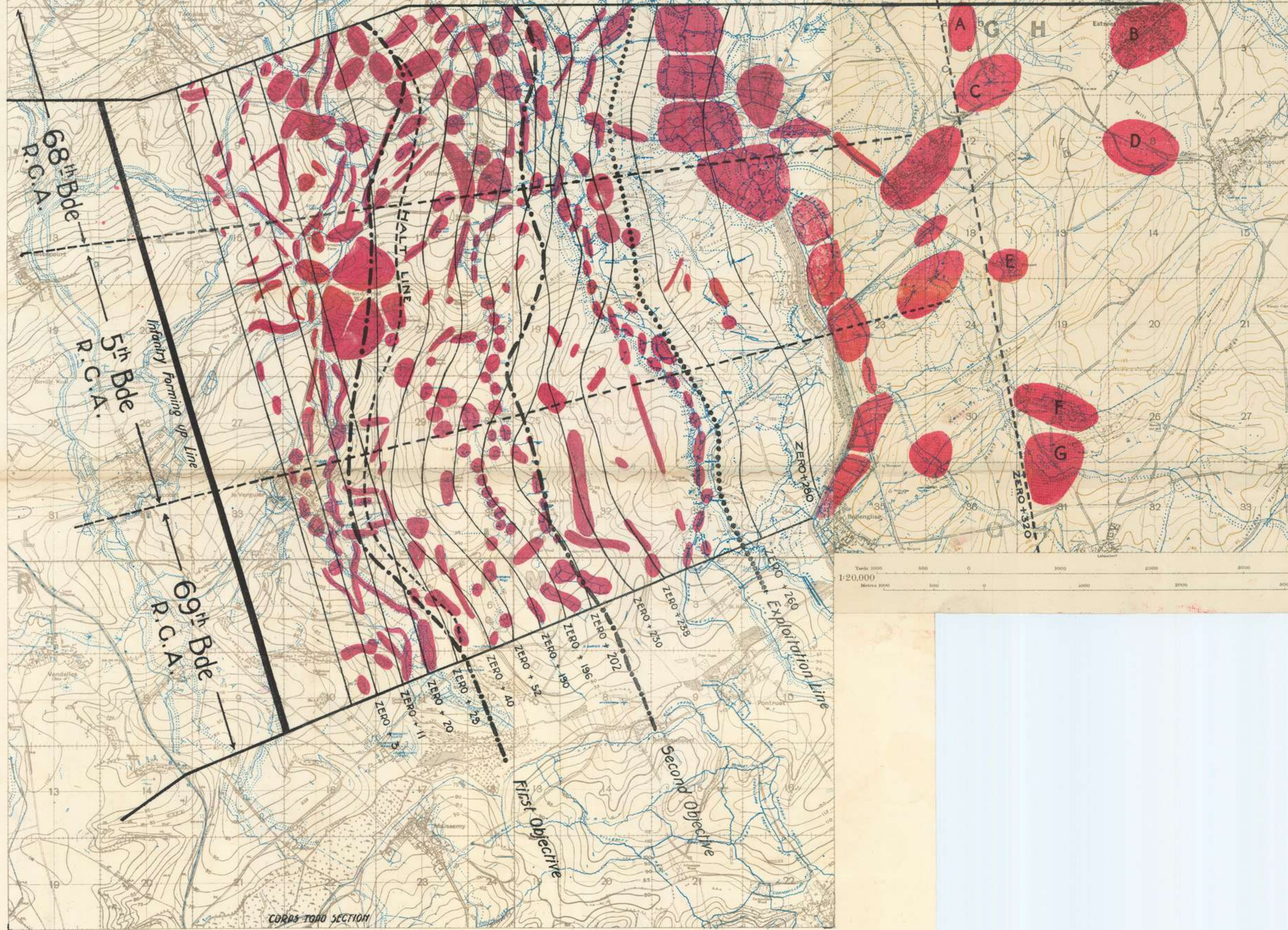
to accompany

H.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS

ORDER NO. 161

SECRET!

COPY NO. 1





AUSTRALIAN CORPS
HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.
----- * -----SERIAL LETTER 'F'.1. MOVEMENT
OF
BATTERIES.(I). PRIOR TO THE OPERATION.

Batteries changing position prior to the operation have already been ordered to advance half their guns on the night 16th/17th September, and the remainder on the night 17th/18th September, except in the case of 6" guns, which will complete their moves on the night 16th/17th September.

All guns will be in action by midnight, 17th/18th September.

(II). DURING AND AFTER THE OPERATION.

The batteries detailed below will advance in their Brigade Lanes and take up positions approximately on the BROWN (HALT) LINE, pulling out at the times laid down, provided the attack progresses according to programme.

69 Bde. 331 S.B. At Zero plus 280 mins.

93 S.B. As soon as 331 S.B. is reported to Bde to be in action forward.

93 Bde. 232 S.B. At Zero plus 280 mins.

9 Bde. 153 S.B. At Zero plus 280 mins.

130 H.B. As soon as 153 S.B. is reported to Bde to be in action forward.

5 Bde. 160 S.B. At Zero plus 280 mins.

47 S.B. As soon as 160 S.B. is reported to Bde to be in action forward.

51 Bde. 283 S.B. At Zero plus 270 mins.

68 Bde. 114 S.B. At Zero plus 280 mins.

25 S.B. As soon as 114 S.B. is reported to Bde to be in action forward.

These moves will not commence before receipt of a wire from H.A. "Proceed with moves reference Order 161 Letter F".

This wire will be sent only if the tactical situation admits.

No other batteries will be advanced until orders are issued by H.A.

2.

Brigades to ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

Issued at 9.30 p.m.
16/9/1918.

J. Kennedy
Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----
Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 161, Serial Letter 'E'.

Copy No. 305 38

SECRET.

APPENDIX 1

Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 9/495/7.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 161.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'G'.

1. BOMBARDMENT. The plan for bombardment of the Left Divisional sector will be modified with respect to the fire to be brought to bear on the trench systems in L.4 and L.10, and the village of HARGICOURT. O.C. 68th Brigade will detail his 8-inch howitzer battery to engage these localities from Zero onwards, and the fire of this battery will roll ahead, in specially arranged lifts, so as to be at all times 400 yards eastwards of the F.A. Barrage. After lifting from the village of HARGICOURT, this battery will revert to the engagement of targets in accordance with the H.A. Barrage Map.
2. SPECIAL TASKS. 6" guns and 12" howitzers of 73rd Army Brigade will engage the following villages, in addition to the lettered targets already detailed :-

JONCOURT, (with special attention to railway station.)

RAMICOURT.
WIANCOURT.
PRESELLES.
LEVERGIES.
SEQUEHART.
3. SMOKE SCREENING. Arrangements have been made for smoke-bombing from the air, with the object of denying observation to the enemy. Screens will be put down in this manner on the approximate line G.31. - VILLERET - A.20. between Zero and Zero plus 190 minutes, and on the approximate line G.33. - G.7. - A.20. between Zero plus 190 minutes and Zero plus 300 minutes.
4. ZERO HOUR. Zero Hour will be 5.20 a.m. on 18th September 1918.
5. Brigades to ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

J. Munnedy

Issued at 4.30 p.m.
17/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 161, Serial Letter 'E'.

305
Copy No. 43

S E C R E T.
=====

22
APPENDIX. 1
Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 9/497.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS
HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'A'.

1. INFORMATION.

The Australian Corps is relieving the III Corps in the line as far North as F.5.c.00 at 10 a.m. on the 25th instant, at which hour command of the new front will pass to Australian Corps.

The line will then be held by the 30th American Division on the right and by the 27th American Division on the left.

The North and South Corps boundaries, Eastwards of the front line, will run along the grid lines through F.5.c.00 and G.21.a.00 respectively, the inter-Divisional boundary being along the East and West grid line through A.26.d.00.

2. PRELIMINARY
RECON-
NAISSANCE.

Brigade Commanders will arrange forthwith for reconnaissance of the forward area, and advanced battery positions (between 1000 yards and 2000 yards from the front line) should be selected and earmarked within Brigade lanes as far as possible. Reports giving details of the positions so selected will be submitted to this office as soon as possible.

The following provisional allotment of lanes, which will probably take effect at an early date, will serve as a guide in reconnoitring :-

93rd Brigade	Lanes	25 - 26 inclusive.
41st	"	27.
9th	"	28 - 29 "
68th	"	30.
51st	"	31 - 32 "
71st	"	33 - 34 "
18th	"	35.
23rd	"	36.
89th	"	37.
85th	"	38 - 39 "

Lanes are numbered from South to North, are 500 yards in width, and run East and West with grid lines as boundaries.

Lane 25 is bounded by the E. & W. grid lines through G.15.d.00 and G.21.b.00, and Lane 39 by the E. & W. grid lines through F.6.c.00 and F.12.a.00.

3.

Brigades to acknowledge.

J.M. Kennedy

Issued at 7.30 p.m.
22/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

/2,

- 2 -

Distribution.

- Copies Nos. 1 - 5. R.A. Aust: Corps.
6. 9th Brigade, R.G.A.
7. 18th Brigade, R.G.A.
8. 23rd Brigade, R.G.A.
9. 41st Brigade, R.G.A.
10. 51st Brigade, R.G.A.
11. 68th Brigade, R.G.A.
12. 71st Brigade, R.G.A.
13. 85th Brigade, R.G.A.
14. 89th Brigade, R.G.A.
15. 93rd Brigade, R.G.A.
16. 73rd Army Bde, R.G.A.
17. C.B.S.O.
18. S.C.
19. R.O.
20. I.O.
21. O.C. Signals.
22. Siege Park.
23. 1st Aust: Div. G.
24. 1st Aust: D.A.
25. 2nd Aust: Div. G.
26. 2nd Aust: D.A.
27. 3rd Aust: Div. G.
28. 3rd Aust: D.A.
29. 4th Aust: Div. G.
30. 4th Aust: D.A.
31. 5th Aust: Div. G.
32. 5th Aust: D.A.
33. 27th American Division.
34. 30th American Division.
35. III Corps H.A.
36. IX Corps H.A.
37. 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
38. 15th Balloon Coy.
39. 5th Balloon Wing.
40. File.
41 - 44. War Diary.

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305

Copy No. 44

SECRET.

Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 9/497/1.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'B'.

1. AFFILIATION
OF BRIGADES
TO DIVISIONS.

Brigades will be affiliated to Divisions as follows, from 10 a.m. 25th September 1918 :-

"A" (30th American) Division - 9th Bde, R.G.A.
"B" (27th American) Division - 51st Bde, R.G.A.

68th Brigade will cease to be affiliated to "A" Division at the same hour.

2. PRELIMINARY
DISPOSITIONS.

The battle positions reconnoitred under H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'A' will be occupied, in the case of 6-gun batteries, by one section on the night of the 25th/26th September, by a second section on the night of the 26th/27th September, and by a third section on the night of the 28th/29th September; and, in the case of 4-gun batteries, by one section on the night of the 25th/26th September, and by the remaining section on the night of the 28th/29th September.

6" gun batteries will move half of their guns on the night of the 25th/26th September and half on the night of the 28th/29th Sept.

Guns advanced under this order will remain silent until ordered to open fire from this office.

All positions will be submitted by Brigades, and approved by H.A., before occupation.

3. HARASSING.

With reference to H.A. Defence Scheme, para. 12, the following amounts will be expended per 24 hours on the 25th and 26th inst. in harassing fire. These amounts are exclusive of expenditure on Counter-battery work, bombardment, S.O.S., the engagement of movement, etc. :-

93rd Brigade.	300 rds.
41st "	300 "
9th "	300 "
68th "	250 "
51st "	300 "
71st "	250 "
18th "	250 "
23rd "	250 "
89th "	250 "
85th "	300 "
73rd Army Bde.	100 "

4.

Brigades to acknowledge.

J. M. Kennedy

Issued at 7.30 p.m.
24/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----
Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'A'.

305
Copy No. 44

S E C R E T.
=====

Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/497/2.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'C'.

Reference Maps:-
1/20,000. 57C.SE.
57B.SW.
62C.NE.
62B.NW.

1. AFFILIATION. It has been found necessary to modify the arrangements for affiliation of Brigades to Divisions in view of the probable lines of advance of the Brigades concerned.
Brigades will therefore be affiliated to Divisions as follows from 10 a.m. 28th September :-
"A" (30th American) Division - 93rd Brigade.
"B" (27th American) Division - 85th Brigade.
Para.1 of H.A. Order 162, Serial Letter 'B', will cease to have effect at the same hour.
2. PRELIMINARY DISPOSITIONS. With reference to para.2 of H.A. Order 162, Serial Letter 'B', the last sections of batteries moving on 28th September will pull out of their rear positions in time to allow of their being in action forward by midnight 28th/29th September.
3. MAIN OPERATION. The enemy's position in the HINDENBURG LINE is to be attacked by the Australian Corps with the object of effecting a "break through".
The forming up line and objectives are shewn on the attached tracing.
(a) FIRST PHASE.
The 30th American Division on the right and the 27th American Division on the left are to attack the enemy along the whole Corps front. The infantry will advance under cover of a creeping field artillery barrage and will be supported by tanks. Their objective is the GREEN LINE. As soon as this objective has been reached and the barrage programme completed, these divisions will exploit their success on the flanks.
At this stage armoured cars are to be passed through if the road situation admits.
(b) SECOND PHASE.
The 5th Australian Division on the right, and the 3rd Australian Division on the left, supported by artillery & tanks, are to pass through the 30th and 27th American Divisions respectively, and will advance in open warfare formations in order to seize the RED LINE.
The 30th and 27th American Divisions are securing the flanks of this operation by advancing south and north respectively, and also establishing themselves on the RED LINE on their own fronts.

4. PRELIMINARY OPERATION. The 27th American Division is to attack and capture the front line of the HINDENBURG system in order to gain its forming up line. Details of this operation will be communicated later.
5. H.A.ACTION. Instructions regarding the rôle of Heavy Artillery in the MAIN and PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS will be issued separately.
The artillery preparation for the MAIN OPERATION will consist of a forty-eight hours' bombardment of the enemy's positions, and will include a proportion of gas shelling. Detailed instructions regarding this will be issued shortly.
6. ORGANISATION OF H.A. For purposes of these operations, Heavy Artillery will be organised in five Counter-battery Brigades, viz, 93rd, 9th, 51st, 18th, and 85th Brigades, R.G.A., five Bombardment Brigades, viz, 41st, 68th, 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades, R.G.A., and one Long-Range Brigade of 6-inch guns and 12-inch howitzers, viz, 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A., which latter Brigade will be used for both Counter-battery and Bombardment work.
These arrangements will take effect from 5 a.m. 27th September 1918.
The fact of a Brigade being designated a Counter-battery or Bombardment Brigade does not preclude its use, on occasion, for either Counter-battery or Bombardment duties. All Brigades, whether Counter-battery or Bombardment, will be used for S.O.S. and Counter Preparation Phase II, and for the engagement of movement. Counter-battery Brigades alone will be normally employed for Counter Preparation Phase I A, and Bombardment Brigades alone for Counter Preparation Phase I B. If any case arises of a Brigade being unable to deal with all its tasks at any particular time, the matter will be referred to H.A.
An amended Table 'A' to H.A. Defence Scheme will be issued showing the Lanes allotted to the Bombardment Brigades for bombardment and Phase I B, as distinguished from S.O.S. and Phase II.
7. ATTACHMENT OF BRIGADES TO Divisions. At a stage of the operations which will be notified later Brigades will be attached to Divisions as under for purposes of exploitation :-
- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 30th American Division | - | 93rd Brigade, R.G.A. |
| 5th Australian Division | - | 41st " " |
| 2nd Australian Division | - | 9th " " |
| 3rd Australian Division | - | 51st " " |
| 27th American Division | - | 85th " " |

Instructions as to the number of batteries to be taken forward, the forming of depots for guns, personnel, and transport, and duties in general will follow in due course.

8. Brigades to acknowledge.

Issued at 7.30 p.m.
25/9/1918.

J. Kennedy
Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

Distribution :- As for H.A. Order No.162, Serial Letter 'A';
also to 58th D.A., and G.O.C., Aust: Mission, 2nd American Corps.

Tracings issued to all Brigades, C.B.S.O., S.C., C.C.Signals,
Siege Park, 15th Balloon Coy., 5th Balloon Wing.

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APPENDIX / 27

Copy No. 44SECRET.Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 9/497/3.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- *

SERIAL LETTER 'D'.1. GAS
BOMBARDMENT.

A Gas and H.E. bombardment will be carried out on the night of the 26th/27th September commencing at 10 p.m. 26th September. The Field Artillery are co-operating.

2. TARGETS AND
ALLOTMENT TO
BRIGADES.

The Targets to be bombarded by Heavy Artillery are as shewn on the attached tracing, and are lettered 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'G', 'V', 'W', 'X', 'Y'. They are allotted to Brigades and will be engaged as follows :-

Target letter.	Brigade.	B.B. 6" how:	Ammn.	H.E.
			any	Nature.
B.	23	500	-	-
	85	-	-	150
C.	18	400	-	-
	85	-	-	125
D.	18	400	-	-
	18	-	-	125
E.	23	200	-	-
	23	-	-	50
G.	18	400	-	-
	71	-	-	125
V.	71	400	-	-
	88	-	-	125
W.	71	300	-	-
	71	-	-	100
X.	93	400	-	-
	93	-	-	125
Y.	9	500	-	-
	51	-	-	150
<u>Total.</u>		3500		1075

3. DURATION.

The Bombardment will extend over a period of 7 hours. Rests will be arranged to take place at the following times :-

Between 10.30 p.m. and 12.15 a.m.
 " 1.0 a.m. " 2.0 a.m.
 " 3.0 a.m. " 4.0 a.m.

/2.

- 2 -

4. RATE OF FIRE. The rate of fire for howitzers firing B.B. shell will be RAPID. The rates of fire for howitzers firing H.E. will be adjusted so as to ensure that Gas is at no time fired upon any target without H.E.
5. AMMUNITION. No nature of gas shell other than B.B. will be employed for this bombardment. 106 Fuze will be used with H.E.
6. INTENTION. It is the intention that the enemy should be led to believe that he is being subjected to a H.E. bombardment only, and, therefore, in cases where one Brigade is gassing a target which another Brigade is engaging with H.E., periods of rest will be carefully synchronised by means of close co-operation between the Brigades concerned.
7. SILENT POSITIONS. Howitzers moved to advanced positions on or after the night of the 25th/26th September will not be employed in this operation unless absolutely necessary.
8. WEATHER CONDITIONS. This bombardment will take place whatever the weather conditions may be at 10 p.m. 26th September. Our troops are considered to be safe from a cloud of B.B. gas if they are one mile distant even when the wind is blowing directly towards them.
9. SYNCHRONISATION. Brigades will synchronise watches by telephone with O.C. Signals H.A. at 6.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. on the 26th instant.
10. Brigades to acknowledge.

J.M. Kennedy

Issued at 6 a.m.
26/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C'.

<u>Tracings</u>	to	9th Brigade, R.G.A.
		18th Brigade, R.G.A.
		23rd Brigade, R.G.A.
		51st Brigade, R.G.A.
		68th Brigade, R.G.A.
		71st Brigade, R.G.A.
		85th Brigade, R.G.A.
		93rd Brigade, R.G.A.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'E'.Reference Maps:-
1/20,000. 57C.SE.
57B.SW.
62C.NE.
62B.NW.

1. PRELIMINARY OPERATION. The preliminary operation referred to in Aust: Corps H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C' will be carried out on 27th September at a Zero Hour which will be notified.
The objective runs roughly as follows :-

G.14.b.60 - G.2.a.8500 - A.26.d.34 - A.20.c.7500 -
A.14.c.0095 - A.14.a.3585 - A.1.d.3540.
2. METHOD OF ATTACK. The 27th American Division will carry out the attack, and the 30th American Division will simultaneously co-operate with the object of pushing out to the portions of the Infantry forming up line which are not already in our hands. The Infantry are to attack under cover of a Field Artillery Barrage which will advance as shewn on the map issued herewith.*
Tanks are to be employed.
The III Corps is to form a defensive flank on the left.
3. H.A.ACTION. In addition to Counter-battery work, for which separate instructions are being issued by the C.B.S.O., H.A. action will consist of the bombardment of selected points on the front of the attack.
The targets to be engaged, and the H.A. Lift lines have been inserted in RED on the copy of the F.A. Barrage Map which is attached. Three contiguous zones of targets will be engaged simultaneously throughout the operation until fire is finally lifted to the easternmost zone within the HINDENBURG Line. Lifts will be arranged so that the two more distant zones are kept under fire while fire is lifted from the nearest zone.
The times shewn in RED against each Lift line on the map are the times at which fire must be lifted from the zone to the west of that particular line.
The sector of the attack has been divided into three lanes which are allotted to 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades respectively. These Brigades will forward to this office by 6 p.m. 26th instant schemes shewing the proposed distribution of howitzers on tasks for various stages of the operation.
Six howitzers of each of the 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades will remain silent during the attack. All others will be active.
From Zero onwards until Zero plus 75 minutes, in addition to the targets shewn on the map, O.C. 23rd, 89th and 71st Brigades will arrange to engage the high ground in their bombardment lanes along the BELLICOURT-GOUY railway.

* Issued to 89th, 23rd, and 71st Bdes only.

/2.

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- 2 -

4. AMMUNITION. 75 % 106 Fuze will be used by howitzers with H.E.

5. RATES OF FIRE.

			Zero	to	Zero plus 30 mins.		
	Zero plus 30 mins.	"	"	"	"	40	"
"	" 40	"	"	"	"	50	"
"	" 50	"	"	"	"	75	"
							RAPID.
							NORMAL.
							RAPID.
							NORMAL.

All fire will cease at Zero plus 75 minutes

6. INTELLIGENCE. 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades will each arrange to send forward one F.O.O. who will use every effort to pass back information as to the progress of the attack. This information is to be transmitted without delay to H.A. Headquarters.

O.C. 85th Brigade will be responsible for keeping in close touch with the 27th American Division, and keeping H.A. Headquarters informed of the situation.

7. SYNCHRONISATION. Watches will be synchronised through the Signal Service at 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. on 26th Sept.

8. SIGNALS. The infantry are to indicate their position to contact aeroplanes by means of red ground flares and bright tin discs.

9. Brigades to acknowledge.

J. M. Kennedy

Issued at 10 a.m.
26/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C'.

305
Copy No. 44

S E C R E T.
=====

Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/497/5.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'F'.

Reference Maps:-
1/20,000. 57C.SE.
57B.SW.
62C.NE.
62B.NW.

1. GAS
BOMBARDMENT.

The Gas and H.E. bombardment to be carried out under H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'D', will commence at 9.30 p.m. 26th September instead of 10 p.m. as previously ordered. All times mentioned in that order will therefore be altered to read 30 minutes earlier.

2. ZERO HOUR
FOR
PRELIMINARY
OPERATION.

The Zero Hour for Preliminary Operation described in H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'E', will be 5.30a.m. 27th September.

3. KITE
BALLOONS.

Kite Balloon Signal Exchanges are at present located as follows :-

No.14 Kite Balloon Section at E.18.c.84
No. 6 " " " " K. 5.d.16
No.22 " " " " K.36.a.02

All batteries within reasonable distance of these exchanges should be connected up to them by telephone as soon as possible.

The intended lines of advance of Kite Balloons are as follows :-

For First Objective.

No.14 K.B.S. to vicinity of BASSE BOULOGNE.
No. 6 " to E. of TEMPLEUX-LE-GUERARD.
No.22 " to L.15.

For Second Objective.

No.14 K.B.S. to A.20.
No. 6 " to G.3.
No.22 " to G.14.

4. BOMBARDMENT
LIAISON
OFFICERS.

Lt-Col. C.W.SWINTON, DSO, 68th Brigade, R.G.A. is appointed Bombardment Liaison Officer with the 30th American Division, and Major D.A. SANDFORD, DSO, 23rd Brigade, R.G.A. with the 27th American Division.

The duties of these officers will be to ascertain and transmit to H.A. information regarding the wishes of the Divisional Commanders regarding Heavy Artillery Bombardment; wire-cutting, etc. This arrangement will in no way affect the affiliation of Brigades to Divisions as laid down in H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C', para. 1.

5. SEGRECY.

All possible steps will be taken to prevent the date and the scope of the operations becoming known except to those to whom the information is essential.

Movement will be reduced to a minimum by day, and no guns will be moved by daylight in the forward area unless absolutely necessary, in which case permission will be obtained from the Staff Captain, H.A.

/2.

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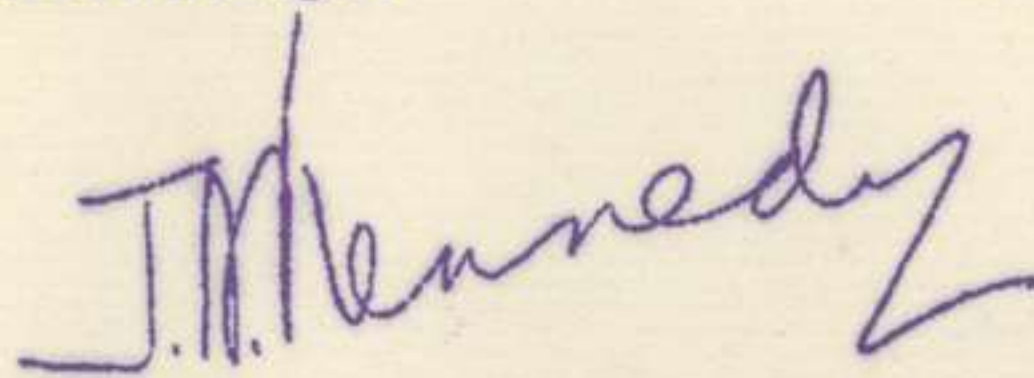
- 2 -

Para. 5. (continued).

In view of the fact that elaborate listening sets are known to have been established in the enemy's lines, care must be taken to ensure that all telephone lines in the battery area have metallic circuits, and that no unauthorised conversations are permitted.

It is of the highest importance that officers should not expose themselves unnecessarily whilst reconnoitring forward as it has been proved that the enemy frequently gains knowledge of the imminence of an attack through our neglect of this precaution.

6. Brigades to acknowledge.



Issued at 7.30 p.m.
26/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C'.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'G'.

1. H.A. PREPARATION. The Heavy Artillery preparation on the 27th September will take the form of :-

GENERAL CHARACTER.

- (a) Counter-battery work for which special instructions are being issued by the E.B.S.O.
- (b) A rolling barrage in depth along the whole Corps front.
- (c) Concentrations on the HINDENBURG trench system along the whole Corps front.
- (d) Brigade Concentrations on specially selected targets.
- (e) Bombardment by individual batteries of strong points, etc.
- (f) Heavy harassing fire.
- (g) Wire cutting.

The object of this preparation is chiefly to complete the demoralisation of the enemy, and secondly, to destroy his defences to the utmost extent possible with the ammunition and in the limited time at our disposal.

The programme outlined above will commence at 5.30 a.m. 27th September, but, in the case of the Brigades concerned, will naturally not take precedence over the tasks laid down for the preliminary operation under H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letters 'D' and 'E'.

2. ROLLING BARRAGE.
(para.1 (b).)

All Counter-battery and Bombardment Brigades will participate in this barrage, 35 % of the total guns and howitzers in action remaining silent.

The barrage is to be 500 yards in depth, and will open on the belt enclosed by H.20.a.00 - H.20.b.00 - A.5.a.00 - A.5.b.00.

After resting on this line for 5 minutes there will be a silent pause of 5 minutes, and the barrage will then re-open on the belt G.24.b.00 - G.24.a.00 - A.4.a.00 - A.4.b.00 for 5 minutes. This will be followed by a silent period of 10 minutes, after which a barrage will be put down along the entire length of the HINDENBURG front and support lines from G.23 to A.3. Fire will be continued for 7 minutes, after which it will cease.

Each Brigade is allotted the sector of the barrage within its S.O.S. lanes, 85th Brigade arranging, in addition, the necessary extension northwards.

Para.2.(contd.)

Special attention will be paid to roads, villages, and trench systems, so far as the requirements of a rolling barrage admit.

Ammunition to be employed will be H.E. in the case of howitzers, and 50 % shrapnel and 50 % H.E. with 60-pdrs and 6-inch guns. 106 Fuze will be used up to a limit of 50 %.

Rates of fire will be RAPID.

Zero Hour for this barrage will be 11 p.m. 27th Sept.

3. CORPS
CONCEN-
TRATIONS.
(para.1.(c).)

Two three-minute concentrations will be placed on the main HINDENBURG trench system from G.23 to A.3 along the whole length of the Corps front. Each Brigade is allotted that portion of the system within its S.O.S. lanes. 35 % of guns and howitzers in action will be silent.

H.E. with 106 fuze will be employed by howitzers, and shrapnel by 60-pdrs.

6-inch guns and 12-inch hows: will not be used in these concentrations.

The times allotted for these concentrations are 7.45 p.m. and 8.15 p.m. on the 27th September.

4. BRIGADE
CONCEN-
TRATIONS.
(para.1(d).)

Bombardment Brigades will subject the targets detailed below to heavy concentrations with all available guns and hows: at intervals throughout the day. These concentrations are to be carefully synchronised within Brigades :-

41st Bde. RIQUEVAL G.18.

Area G.22.b.83-G.23.a.03-G.22.c.99-G.23.c.18.

M.G.Posts. G.23.b.2520-2080-5590-7090-7575

G.18.c.2005-2510-4005-3535.

ETRICOURT.

68th Bde. BELLICOURT Station (G.4.c.89 - G.4.c.95)

" (Building at G.10.a.45)

Trench G.9.b.09 to G.9.b.26

Trench G.9.b.2535 - G.9.d.69

NAUROY, S.W. corner of.

71st Bde. FOLEMPRISE FARM.

CABARET WOOD FARM.

Trench A.28.b.91 to A.29.c.70.

Trench system G.4.b.

Trench A.27.d.38 to 34.

ESTREES, N.W. corner of.

23rd Bde. Posts A.23.c.59 to A.23.c.32.

BONY, N.W. outskirts of.

GRANDCOURT. (A.18.)

Trenches & Posts A.17.c.

Ravine A.24.a.

89th Bde. GOUY in A.11.b. A.12.a.

Trenches & embankment A.10.a. A.11.c.

Trench system A.17.a.

LORMISSER (B.13.b.)

Trench A.9.c.54 to 71.

5. INDIVIDUAL

Specially selected strong points, dugouts, etc., will be bombarded with observation by individual batteries.

(para.1(e).)

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Para.5.(contd.)

A list of points which require special attention is being issued separately to Bombardment Brigades. This list is not intended to represent the entire scope of the bombardment to be undertaken, Brigade Commanders being responsible for supplementing it by other suitable targets chosen in their bombardment lanes.

A large proportion of delay fuzes will be used in these bombardments.

Bombardment Brigades will forward to H.A. Hdqrs a copy of their bombardment programme for the day as soon as it has been prepared.

6. HARASSING.
(para.1(f).)

An intensive harassing programme on communications, roads, and trench systems generally will be carried out by all Bombardment Brigades in their Bombardment lanes. The key-note of our harassing fire must be variety and surprise, and plans must be so framed that throughout the hours of day and night the enemy should be permitted no immunity or security from shell fire.

Delay fuzes must not be used on roads over which we shall advance.

Bombardment Brigades will forward to H.A.H.Q. a copy of their harassing programme for the day as soon as it has been prepared.

7. WIRE
CUTTING.
(para.1(g).)

Instructions regarding the wire to be cut by Heavy Artillery will be issued as soon as possible.

The total frontage of wire to be dealt with by H.A. during the 27th and 28th inst. on each Divisional front will not exceed 80 yards.

8. AMMUNITION
ALLOTMENT.

The ammunition to be expended by Counter-battery and Bombardment Brigades on all tasks between 12 m.n. 26/27th Sept. and 12 m.n. 27/28th Sept. will conform as nearly as possible to the following allotment, which is calculated on the basis of guns and howitzers in the establishment of Brigades. In case of Brigades not having their full establishment of guns the expenditure per gun in action will be correspondingly increased. :-

60-pdr.	100	rds	per	gun.
6" gun.	70	"	"	"
6" how:	150	"	"	"
8" Mk.VI.	70	"	"	"
8" Mk.VII.	80	"	"	"
9.2" Mk. I.	60	"	"	"
9.2" Mk.II.	40	"	"	"
12" How.	40	"	"	"

9. SILENT
POSITIONS.

Up to a limit of 35 % of the total guns and hows: in action in each Brigade, as many of those in forward positions as possible will be kept silent, compatibly with carrying out the programme detailed in the preceding para.

The selection of batteries which should remain silent is left to the discretion of Brigade Commanders. If necessary, in any particular case, all guns may be called upon to open fire.

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10. B.B. GAS SHELL. Subsequent to 6 a.m. 27th September, no B.B. Gas Shell will be fired without the authority of this office.

11. OBSERVATION. Ground observation will be employed to the fullest extent possible. The 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. have agreed to give general observations on the effect of our heavy artillery bombardment.

If the weather is suitable for flying, rates of fire on bombardment targets will be increased for 5 minutes at each of the following hours with a view to facilitating the task of aeroplane observation :-

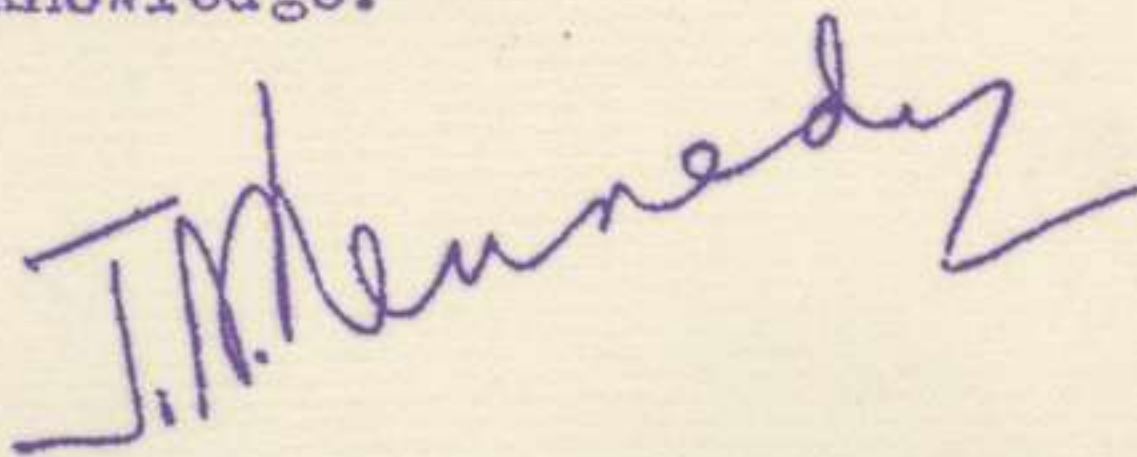
11 a.m.

3 p.m.

6 p.m.

12. SYNCHRONISATION. Watches will be synchronised with H.A. through the Signal Service at 9 a.m., 12 noon, 5 p.m., and 9 p.m.

13. Brigades to acknowledge.



Issued at 11.15 p.m.
26/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C'.

Headquarters, H.A.
AUSTRALIAN Corps,
No: 9/497/6.

LIST OF TARGETS ISSUED UNDER PARA. 4 OF
H.A. ORDER No. 162 Serial Letter "G"
=====

The items are compiled from aeroplane photographs, maps and intelligence.

41st. Brigade R.G.A. (Lanes 25, 26, 27.)

1. Trench G.15.a.29.- G.15.a.36. shows signs of much recent work. Probable dugouts and M.G. emplacements. Much wire.
2. Strong Point. G.15.a.45. Shows recent work.
3. do. do. G.15.a.57.- 66. Much recent work
4. Machine Gun Posts G.16.a.2075.- 2560.
5. RIQUEVAL Area centred round G.16.b.28. shows new work and constant movement.
6. East end of Bridge G.22.b. Much activity centred round this point.
7. Machine Guns G.23.b. G.18.c. Fresh work on these posts
8. HINDENBURG LINE G.16.b. - G.23.a. strongly held, much recent work on dugouts.
Special Points G.16.a.19 to 2585. G.16.a.66. G.16.a.7045.
G.16.a.91. to 16.d.99. G.16.d.9085. to 9575.
G.17.d.0035. G.17.d.11. G.23.a.2560. G.23.a.44.
9. Machine Guns nest G.16.d.73. and Quarry.
10. Trench S of RIQUEVAL FARM G.22.b.
11. G.22.central Strong point.

68th. Brigade R.G.A. (Lanes 28, 29, 30.)

1. Trench system G.9.b.19 to 2055.) Numerous dugouts
2. do. do. G.9.b.2035. to G.9.d.7585.) showing much recent work
3. Road G.12.a.05. G.11.b.80. Line of M.G. Posts
4. Trench G.9.a.6525 to G.9.a.41 Dugouts
5. Trenches G.9.b.78 G.10.a.00. Much new work.
6. Machine Gun nest G.10.c.2580 Much recent work.
7. Trench junctions in G.3.d.
8. Trench junction G.10.c.8545.
9. M.G.s, G.10.c.2535.
10. Railway embankment G.4.c.89.- G.4.c.95. Signs of much recent work.

71st. Brigade R.G.A. (Lanes 31, 32, 33.)

1. Trench junctions G.3.b.44. G.3.d.46.
2. Sunken road in G.4. -A.28. With special attention to G.4.b.4595.- A.28.d.5520. Dugouts, possible M.G. Posts.
3. Trench A.27.d.39.- 33. Numerous dugouts.
4. Trench A.28.b.91.- A.29.c.16. Much recent work.
5. Line of Light Railway A.28.a.- A.29.c. Numerous Posts.
6. Trench junctions A.27.b.2525. and vicinity Strong point.
7. Strong Point A.28.a.51. recent work here.
8. Post A.28.d.4505. recent work here.
9. Trench along tunnel A.28.a.31.
10. Posts A.27.a.89. to 87.)
11. do. A.27.a.85. to 93.) Much recent excavation
12. do. A.27.c.9. to 8.)

- 2 -

23rd. Brigade R.G.A. (Lanes 34, 35, 36.)

1. Strong Point at trench junction A.15.d.7025.
2. do. do. A.21.a.6085.
3. Posts on LE CATELET - NAUROY LINE.
 Trench junction A.15.d.6025.)
 A.23.a.1565.)
 A.22.b.94.)
 A.22.b.41.)
 A.22.d.57.)
 A.22.d.35.) All show recent work.
4. Posts in defence of above line
 A.17.d.43.)
 A.17.d.30.- A.23.b.18.)
 A.23.a.73)
 A.23.a.6510)
 A.23.c.5595.- 4060)
 A.23.c.3545.)
 A.23.c.33.)
 A.29.a.49.) All show
) much recent
) work.
) Dugouts and
) H.G. Posts
5. Trench System A.21.a.18. and area
6. Trench junction and H.G. posts in BONY (see WIANCOURT Map)

38th. Brigade R.G.A. (Lanes 37, 38, 39.)

1. Trench A.3.d.03.- A.9.a.46. recent work, dugouts and probable
 H.G. posts
2. Strong Point A.9.c.10.- A.15.a.06. ditto.
3. Quarry and Posts A.10.d.99.
4. Posts in LE CATELET LINE.
 A.11.c.85)
 A.17.a.79)
 A.17.a.39)
 A.17.a.6025) All show signs
) of recent work
5. Post A.17.d.43. recent work
6. Bank and trenches A.10.a. A.11.c.
7. Trench A.9.d.48 to 62 strong defences.
8. Trench A.9.d.52 - A.15.b.33. ditto.
9. Trenches crossing tunnel A.9.d.79. A.9.d.83.

In addition to targets detailed above all exits to BELLICOURT TUNNEL (See WIANCOURT Map) will be subjected to sudden irregular bursts of fire by each bombardment brigade in its own lane.

==== ** =====

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

APPENDIX 1

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'H'.

1. WIRECUTTING. With reference to H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'G', para. 7, the Heavy Artillery wire-cutting programme on the 27th and 28th September will be as follows :-

RIGHT DIVL.FRONT.

<u>Tgt No.</u> <u>& Call.</u>	<u>Bde to</u> <u>engage.</u>	
R 1	93	G.15.b.4275 - G.15.b.8278 - G.16.a.3092 (10 yds wide)
R 2	93	G.9.d.2522 - G.9.d.8267 (10 yards wide)
* R 3	41	G.9.c.3285 - 8090 - G.9.b.2215 (10 yards wide)
* R 4	41	G.9.a.3585 - G.9.a.9590 - G.9.b.4095 (10 yards wide)
* R 5	68	G.3.c.2530 - G.3.c.5530 - G.3.c.8230 - G.3.d.3730 (10 yards wide)
R 6	68	A.27.c.00 - A.27.c.30 - A.27.d.20 (10 yards wide)
R 7	71	A.27.a.00 - A.27.a.10 - A.27.a.20 - A.27.b.10 (10 yards wide).

LEFT DIVL.FRONT.

<u>Tgt.No.</u> <u>& Call.</u>	<u>Bde to</u> <u>engage.</u>	
L 1	23	A.21.a.57 to A.21.a.8575 (25 yards wide)
L 2	89	A.14.d.8060 to A.15.c.4075 (25 yards wide)
L 3	85	A.8.b.8025 to A.9.a.5045 (25 yards wide)

If aeroplane observation is desired on any of the above targets, Brigades will arrange direct with 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.

The targets marked (*) can be engaged with ground observation from G.14.a.30.

During daylight hours no fire will be directed by any battery of the Heavy Artillery not employed on wire cutting, within 500 yards of these targets, so as not to interfere with ranging.

Any nature of howitzer may be employed for wire-cutting.

2. HARASSING
OF EXITS TO
BELLICOURT
TUNNEL.

The exits of the BELLICOURT Tunnel will not be harassed before midnight, 28th/29th September.

The footnote on list of targets issued under para. 4 of H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'G' is therefore cancelled.

3.

Brigades to acknowledge.

Issued at 11.45 a.m.
27/9/1918.

J. M. Kennedy

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

Distribution as for H.A. Order No.162, Serial Letter 'C'.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

APPENDIX /

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'I'.

1. H.A. PREPARATION. The Heavy Artillery Preparation for 28th Sept. will take the same form as that carried out on 27th Sept.

(i) The barrage described in para. 2, H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'G', will be repeated, but will be placed on the westernmost zone first for a period of 5 minutes, followed by a pause of 8 minutes, on the easternmost zone next for a period of 10 minutes, followed by a pause of 5 minutes, and finally on the intermediate zone for a period of 10 minutes.

Zero Hour will be 5 a.m. All Brigades will participate as before.

(ii) Two three-minute concentrations will be placed on the HINDENBURG SYSTEM, as described in para. 3 of the above-mentioned order, at 8 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. All Brigades will participate as before.

(iii) Bombardment Brigade Concentrations will be continued on the targets already detailed.

(iv) Individual bombardment of the targets issued in the special list will be completed by Bombardment Brigades.

(v) Intense Harassing will be carried out in accordance with instructions.

(vi) Wire cutting of the lanes allotted to H.A. under H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'H' will be thoroughly completed.

2. AMMUNITION ALLOTMENT.

The ammunition to be expended by Counter-battery and Bombardment Brigades on all tasks between 12 m.n. 27th/28th Sept. and 5 a.m. 29th Sept. will conform as nearly as possible to the following allotment :-

60-pdr.	120	rds	per	gun.
6" gun.	70	"	"	"
6" how:	150	"	"	"
8" Mk.VI.	80	"	"	"
8" Mk.VII.	80	"	"	"
9.2" Mk. I.	70	"	"	"
9.2" Mk.II.	50	"	"	"
12" how:	50	"	"	"

Attention is directed to the remarks contained in paras. 8, 9, and 11 of H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'G', which still apply.

3. SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised with H.A. through the Signal Service at 4 a.m. and 7 p.m.

4.

Brigades to acknowledge.

Issued at 7.30 p.m.
27/9/1918.

J. M. Kennedy
Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'C'.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS
HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

APPENDIX. /

----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'J'.1. H.A. ACTION
IN THE
MAIN
OPERATION.

(i). COUNTER-BATTERY. Special instructions will be issued by the C.B.S.O. to the Counter-battery Brigades.

(ii). BOMBARDMENT. The action of the Heavy Artillery not employed on Counter-battery work will be to engage centres of resistance, trench systems, strong points, headquarters, commanding ground, and other localities of tactical importance, in accordance with the H.A. Bombardment Map, (attached).

Allowance has been made, in the preparation of this map, for the fact that a number of Bombardment targets will incidentally be subjected to fire under the Counter-battery programme owing to hostile batteries being sited in or near them.

The targets are arranged in zones running parallel to the line of advancing infantry. Three contiguous zones of targets will be engaged simultaneously throughout the operation, until the fire of each individual Brigade is finally lifted on to the zone where its limit of range is reached. Lifts will be arranged so that the two more distant zones are kept under fire while fire is lifted from the nearest zone.

The times shown against each lift line on the map are the times at which fire must be lifted from the zone to the west of that particular line.

In cases where all the more distant targets cannot be engaged simultaneously, guns and howitzers will switch from one target to another at short intervals.

The sector of the attack has been divided into five lanes, which are allotted to 41st, 68th, 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades respectively.

The lettered targets will be engaged by these Brigades so far as range permits.

41st, 68th, 71st, 23rd, and 89th Brigades will forward to this office, by 10 p.m. 28th instant, schemes shewing the proposed distribution of guns and howitzers on Bombardment tasks for the various stages of the operation.

(iii). SPECIAL TASKS. Special tasks, in addition to the lettered targets on the Bombardment Map, will be engaged by 6" guns and 12" howitzers under a scheme to be arranged with O.C. 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A.

These guns and howitzers will not be used within an area 5000 yards East of the Infantry forming-up line, and will increase their range, as the attack progresses, in a series of specially arranged lifts.

Tasks for long-range guns on railway mountings are being detailed by R.A., Fourth Army.

2. AMMUNITION
FOR
BOMBARDMENT
BRIGADES.

50 % H.E. and 50 % shrapnel will be used by 6" guns so far as the supply of fuzes will admit. H.E. will be used with howitzers with 75 % 106 fuze, delay fuzes being employed within the limit of 25 % upon concrete structures and dugouts. 106 fuze will be used exclusively with H.E. fired upon roads along which we shall advance. No gas will be employed.

3. RATES OF
FIRE.
FOR BOMBARDMENT.

(a)		Zero	-	Zero plus 25 mins.	RAPID.
(b)	Zero plus 25 mins	-	"	" 49 "	NORMAL.
(c)	" " 49	"	-	" " 61 "	RAPID.
(d)	" " 61	"	-	" " 73 "	NORMAL.
(e)	" " 73	"	-	" " 108 "	RAPID.
(f)	" " 108	"	-	" " 132 "	NORMAL.
(g)	" " 132	"	-	" " 156 "	RAPID.
(h)	" " 156	"	-	" " 170 "	SLOW.
(j)	" " 170	"	-	11 a.m.	VERY SLOW.
(k)	11 a.m.	-		11.30 a.m.	RAPID.
(l)	11.30 a.m.	-		12 noon,	NORMAL.
(m)	12 noon.	-		12.30 p.m.	RAPID.
(n)	1 p.m.	-		1.15 p.m.	NORMAL.
(o)	1.15 p.m.	-		1.30 p.m.	RAPID.
(p)	1.30 p.m.	-		2 p.m.	NORMAL.

All fire will cease at 2 p.m.

4. FLEETING
OPPORTUNITIES.

Bombardment Brigades will engage fleeting targets whenever possible at the discretion of Brigade Commanders. Not more than two sections per Brigade will be taken off their Bombardment tasks for this purpose, and these should be selected so as not to interfere unduly with the volume of fire on important localities.

'GF' and 'LL' Calls will be engaged by 73rd Army Brigade at the discretion of the Brigade Commander, and by Bombardment Brigades within their own sectors. Not more than three sections per Brigade will be taken off their tasks at any one time for this purpose.

'NF' Calls will not be answered by Bombardment Brigades, nor by 73rd Army Brigade.

5. SILENT
POSITIONS.

All guns become active at Zero Hour.

6. S.O.S.

Between Zero minus 1 hour and Zero minus 15 minutes, the Heavy Artillery S.O.S. Line will be 600 yards due East of the Infantry forming-up line.

Between Zero minus 15 minutes and 2 p.m. on Zero day, the S.O.S. Signal will be inoperative on the Corps front, unless orders are received to the contrary from this office.

7. HARASSING.

The normal harassing fire will be maintained until Zero Hour, and care will be taken that it is neither increased nor decreased between Zero minus 2 hours and Zero.

It will be necessary, in order to effect this, and at the same time to avoid diminution of the volume of initial fire at Zero, that a certain number of guns and howitzers should be employed before Zero on harassing the targets which they are to engage at an accelerated rate of fire for the commencement of the attack.

8. SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised twice on the day preceding the attack, on the first occasion by telephone through the Signal Service, and on the second occasion by an Officer from each Brigade H.Q. who will attend at Headquarters, H.A. and synchronise with O.C. Signals, H.A. Times of synchronisation will be notified to Brigades by O.C. Signals, H.A.

9. INTELLIGENCE.

The Brigades affiliated to Divisions will keep in close touch with the progress of the attack on the GREEN LINE, and will keep H.A. informed of the situation from time to time.

10. F.O.Os.

Each Brigade, Bombardment or Counter-battery, will arrange to send forward one F.O.O., who will use every means in his power to get back information during the attack on the GREEN LINE.

After the GREEN LINE has been passed, the Brigades attached to Divisions will make their own arrangements.

The F.O.Os. of Brigades which are not detailed to advance on Zero day will return, after reporting on progress as far as the RED LINE.

Full use must be made of visual signalling.

11. LIAISON.

(i). WITH INFANTRY.

The Bombardment Brigades will maintain a close liaison with the Infantry Brigades advancing in the sectors which they are covering for bombardment, and will keep H.A. Headquarters informed of the situation.

(ii). WITH CORPS ON FLANKS.

93rd Brigade, R.G.A. will be responsible for keeping in touch with the flank Brigade, R.G.A. of IX Corps, and 85th Brigade, R.G.A. with the flank Brigade, R.G.A. of III Corps.

12. ATTACHMENT OF BRIGADES TO DIVISIONS & DISPOSAL OF REMAINING BRIGADES.

Separate instructions are being issued as to the attachment of Brigades to Divisions, and the disposal of other Brigades.

13. SILENT REHEARSAL.

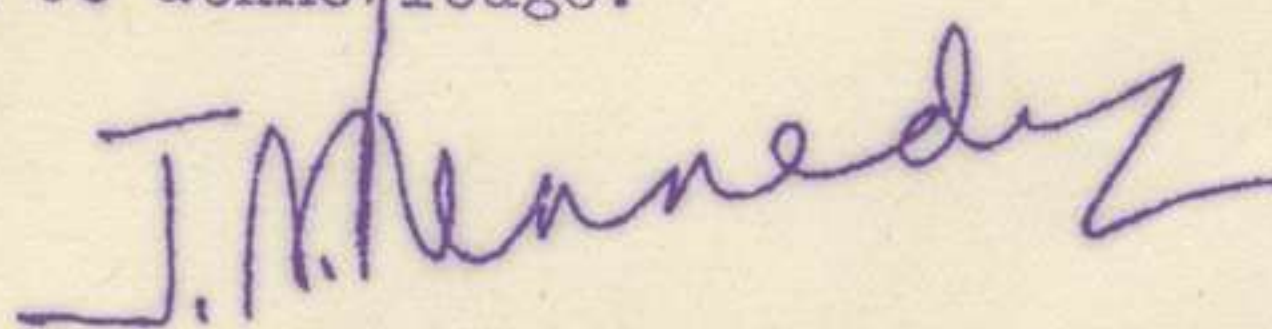
All batteries will carry out at least one silent rehearsal of the procedure to be followed during the course of the attack.

14. ORGANISATION.

The organisation of H.A. in Counter-battery and Bombardment Brigades lapses at 2 p.m. on Zero day, or, in the case of Brigades to be attached to Divisions, whenever they pull out to advance.

15.

Brigades to acknowledge.



Issued at 9.30 a.m.
28/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

- 4 -

Distribution.

- Copies Nos. 1 - 5. R.A. Aust: Corps.
* 6. 9th Brigade, R.G.A.
* 7. 18th Brigade, R.G.A.
* 8. 23rd Brigade, R.G.A.
* 9. 41st Brigade, R.G.A.
*10. 51st Brigade, R.G.A.
*11. 68th Brigade, R.G.A.
*12. 71st Brigade, R.G.A.
*13. 85th Brigade, R.G.A.
*14. 89th Brigade, R.G.A.
*15. 93rd Brigade, R.G.A.
*16. 73rd Army Bde, R.G.A.
*17. C.B.S.O.
*18. S.C.
19. R.O.
20. I.O.
21. O.C. Signals.
*22. Siege Park.
23. 1st Aust: Div. G.
24. 1st Aust: D.A.
25. 2nd Aust: Div. G.
26. 2nd Aust: D.A.
27. 3rd Aust: Div. G.
28. 3rd Aust: D.A.
29. 4th Aust: Div. G.
30. 4th Aust: D.A.
31. 5th Aust: Div. G.
32. 5th Aust: D.A.
33. 27th American Division.
34. 30th American Division.
*35. III Corps H.A.
*36. IX Corps H.A.
*37. 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
*38. 5th Balloon Wing.
*39. 15th Balloon Coy.
40. G.O.C. Aust: Mission,
II American Corps.
*41. File.
*42 - 45. War Diary.

--- * ---

* Issued with H.A. Barrage Map.

F.A. Barrage Map issued to H.A. Brigados.

305

20,000

NOTE CHANGE OF COLOUR.
Enemy Trenches in Blue.

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION
RECEIVED UP TO 19.9.18.

WIANCOURT

EDITION 1. A

Parts of 57°S.E. 57°S.W.
62°N.E. 62°N.W.

HEAVY ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT MAP

SHOWING BOMBARDED AREAS & TIMES OF LIFTS.
TO ACCOMPANY
AUST. CORPS H.A.
ORDER NO 162
26.9.18.

89th BDE
RGA

25th BDE
RGA

71st BDE
RGA

68th BDE
RGA

41st BDE
RGA

GREEN LINE

RED LINE

Information from Captured
German Maps printed in Red.
(EXCEPT DETAIL NAMES)
REFERENCE

- Trenches proposed
- Way Extinguished or other Obstacle
- Normal Gauge, Double
- Proposed
- Dumps, Stores or Depots
- Engineer Park
- Dug-outs
- Gun Emplacements
- Machine Gun and direction of fire
- Trench Mortar
- A.A.
- Observation Posts
- Headquarters
- Corps
- Division
- Other Units
- Railroad
- Telephone and Telegraph Centres
- Dam
- Causeway
- Signal Station
- Divisional Boundary
- Tunnels

SECRET COPY NO 49

Scale: 1:20,000

APPENDIX /

Copy No. _____

S E C R E T.
=====Aust: Corps H.A.
No.9/497/10.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.

----- * -----

SERIAL LETTER 'K'.1. MODIFICATION
OF
BOMBARDMENT
DURING
MAIN
OPERATION.

The bombardment plan of 41st Brigade, R.G.A. will be slightly modified in order that the high ground in G.23.b., G.24.b., and G.18.d. may be engaged.

O.C. 41st Brigade, R.G.A. will detail two 60-pdrs. and two 3" hows. to deal with this locality.

Fire will lift so as to be at all times 300 yards ahead of the Field Artillery Barrage lines produced. The rate of fire will be "INTENSE" and "RAPID" in alternate bursts until the task is completed, when these guns and howitzers will revert to the engagement of targets in accordance with the H.A. Bombardment Map.

Eight guns and howitzers are also engaging targets in the above mentioned squares under the Counter-battery programme.

IX Corps H.A. are also co-operating.

2. INFANTRY
SIGNALS.

- (a). The only Light Signals to be employed are :-
- (i) The S.O.S. Signal, which will be a No.32 Rifle Grenade throwing three RED lights.
 - (ii) The Success Signal, which will be a No. 32 Rifle Grenade throwing three WHITE lights.

- (b). The infantry are to indicate their most advanced position to contact aeroplanes by means of metal discs and RED flares.

3. CAVALRY
SIGNALS.

A WHITE Star bursting to RED on a parachute is to signify "Advanced troops of Cavalry are here".

4. MARKINGS OF
ARMoured
CARS AND
TANKS.

Armoured Cars and Tanks are distinguished by three broad painted bands WHITE - RED - WHITE. Tanks of the IX Corps will carry a distinguishing flag.

5. MARKINGS OF
AEROPLANES.

- (a) 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
Rectangular black panels 2 feet by 1 foot on both lower planes about three feet from Fuselage.
- (b) 8th Squadron, R.A.F.
Black bands on under side of tail.
- (c) Single-Seater Army Squadrons are not to carry any distinctive markings.

/2.

- 2 -

6. RÔLE OF THE
CAVALRY.

The rôle of the Cavalry is to pass through the infantry after the latter have reached the RED Line, and to seize and hold the line of high ground, 57B.SW. and 62B.NW.: HAMAGE FARM - U.25.a & c. - C.8.central - I.3.central - I.9.central - I.14.central - I.19.central until the arrival of the infantry.

In case of the enemy retreating beyond this line, the Cavalry is to maintain contact.

7. FLANK ACTION.

West of the Canal the action of the infantry of this Corps will extend South to ^{the line} G.20.central - G.21.central - G.22.central - G.23.central - G.24.central - the sunken road at H.19.b.50, thence N.E. along sunken road (inclusive to Aust: Corps) to H.15.a.46, thence due East, and the Field Artillery Barrage is being extended accordingly.

8. FLANK CORPS.

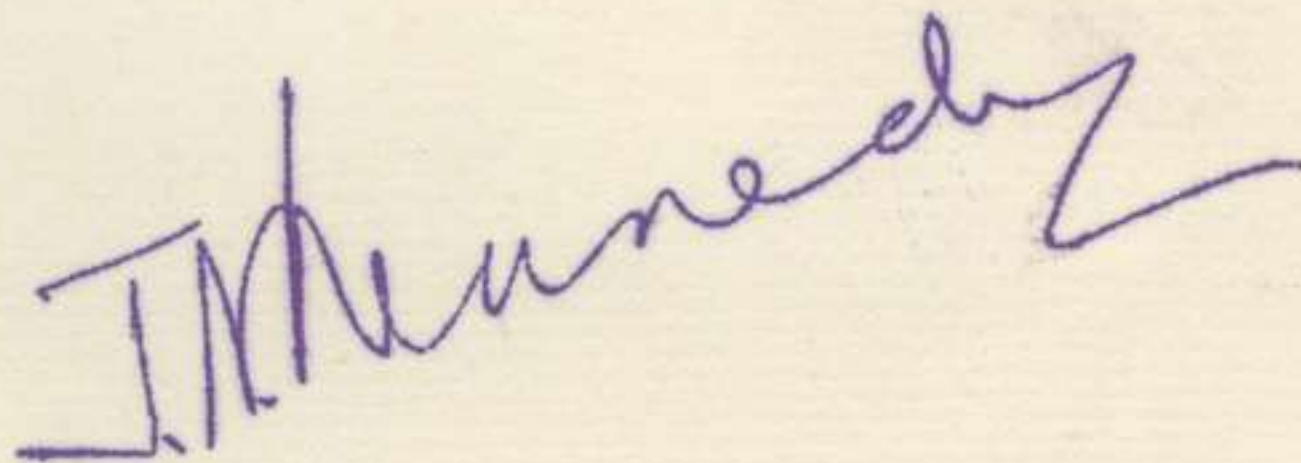
The III Corps is to advance and form a defensive flank on our left, and the IX Corps is to endeavour to force the passage of the Canal on the right. In the event of the latter operation being successful, exploitation to the DOTTED RED LINE will not be necessary.

9. SMOKE
SCREENS.

Smoke screens are to be extensively formed by means of smoke shell and aeroplane smoke bombs, especially on the flanks of the attack.

10.

Brigades to acknowledge.



Issued at 3 p.m.
28/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution as for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'J'.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS
HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER No. 162.----- * -----
SERIAL LETTER 'L'.1. RESTRICTIONS
ON H.A. FIRE
ON ACCOUNT OF
ARMoured
CARS.

(i). During the attack on Zero day, armoured cars will proceed along the main road from ESTREES to SONIA via cross-roads in H.2.a.95 - cross-roads in B.23.a.3570 - GENEVE - road junction at C.1.d.6230.

(ii). It is important that no fire should be brought to bear along or near this road during the passage of the cars.

(iii). The following targets, marked in green on the H.A. Bombardment Map issued with Corps H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'J', will on no account be engaged after 11 a.m. on Zero day by Brigades as under :-68th Bde. ESTREES village in B.23.d., H.2.b.
All targets in B.27.b & c.
" " " B.27.a. (except the one
shewn in B.27.a
- B.21.c.)71st Bde. Target along main road from
B.27.b.76 to B.22.c.53.73rd Bde. All target P (B.22.d.05 to B.23.a.69)
Portion of Target O south of the
hedge with trees running from
B.17.b.5555 to B.12.c.40.

(iv). C.B.S.O is issuing instructions to prevent the engaging of any 'NF' Call along the road mentioned in para.1, or within 500 yards on either side of it after 11 a.m. on Zero day.

2. MODIFICATION
OF F.A.
BARRAGE.

On account of the uncertainty of the situation on the left Divisional front, it has been decided that the F.A. Barrage will not advance so rapidly as previously ordered. The time of arrival on the GREEN LINE will therefore be some seven minutes later than that shown on the F.A. Barrage Map already issued.

Heavy Artillery lifts are unaffected by this modification.

3. SPECIAL
TARGETS.

With reference to H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'J', para. 1 (iii), the programme for 6" guns and 12" hows: during the operation will be as follows :-

/2.

Para.3 (contd).

Battery.	TARGET. (Letters refer to lettered targets on map.)	Time to be engaged.
494 S.B. 12" how: (2 guns)	Siding in GOUY at A.5.d. VILLERS Farm. Sunken road just S.E. of LA MOTTE Farm. Green patch at crossroads just N. of LA MOTTE Farm (U). Green patch over LA MOTTE Farm. Each gun to lift on to 'P' target as it finishes on above targets and to cease firing at 1 p.m.	9 a.m. to Zero plus 120. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
312 S.B. 6" Mk.XIX. (1 gun)	Targets 'A', 'B' and 'C'. Portion of target 'S' in B. and H. squares.	Zero to Zero plus 156. Zero plus 156 to 2 p.m.
449 S.B. 6" Mk.XIX. (3 guns)	Targets 'D') 'H') 'M' 'E' 'F' 'G' 'R'	Zero to Zero plus 156. Zero to 12.30 p.m. " " 12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m.
504 S.B. 6" Mk.XIX. (2 guns)	Targets 'I' 'K' 'N' Portion of target 'S' in square C. In addition GF & LL calls.	Zero to Zero plus 156. Zero to 11 a.m. Zero to 1 p.m. 1 p.m. to 2p.m.
222 S.B. 6" Mk.VII.	Targets 'L' 'O' 'P' 'Q' 'R' Portion of 'S' in squares I.1 and 2. In addition GF & LL calls.	Zero to 2 p.m. " " 1 p.m. " " 12noon. " " 1 p.m. " " 2 p.m. " " 2 p.m.

- 3 -

4. AMENDMENT
TO H.A.
BOMBARDMENT
MAP.

The Target in T.30 and B.6. should be lettered
'L.1.' instead of 'L'.

5. ZERO HOUR.

Zero Hour for the MAIN ATTACK will be 5.50 a.m.
on 29th September 1918.

J. M. Kennedy

Issued at 7.30 p.m.
28/9/1918.

Captain, R.A.
a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

----- * -----

Distribution :-

As for H.A. Order No. 162, Serial Letter 'J'.

305

Wires issued in connection with operations
September 1918.

Date.	Time.	To.	Message or Order.
8/9/18.		68 Bde.	The Australian Corps is attacking in conjunction with III Corps to reach approximate objective Grid line between J.7. and J.1. aaa Zero hour 5.30 a.m. 8/9/18. aaa You will engage HAUT ALLAINE from Zero to Zero plus 10 aaa AIZECOURT from Zero plus 10 to Zero plus 30 aaa Trench system J.7. from Zero plus 20 to zero plus 40 aaa Trench system J.8. from Zero plus 20 to Zero plus 50 aaa After Zero plus 50 lift to heavy harassing programme well clear of final objective aaa (B.M.467)
		73, 21, 69, 93, Bdes.	The Australian Corps is attacking at 5.30 a.m. to-day to reach the approximate objective - grid line between J.1. and J.7. aaa Harassing fire accordingly.aaa(B.M.469)
		5 Bde.	The Australian Corps is attacking to reach an approximate objective Grid line between J.1. and J.7. aaa Zero hour 5.30 a.m. 8/9/18.aaa You will engage trench system in I.17.d. and I.18.c. from Zero to Zero plus 10 aaa Area I.21.d.9035 along canal to I.22.c.65 to I.22.a.98 to I.22.a.08. from Zero to Zero plus 60 aaa Area I.22.c.65 - I.22.d.27.- I.22.d.50 to I.22.a.98 From Zero to Zero plus 1000 aaa Brickworks in I.22.b. from Zero plus 30 to Zero plus 50aaa Area around I.23.central Zero plus 50 to Zero plus 80 aaa The 8th Division attack at Zero plus 30 aaa (B.M.470)
18/9/18.		All Bdes except 73,	From 4.55 a.m. till 5.5 a.m. and 5.30 a.m. till 5.30 a.m. on 18th inst all Bdes will put down in their lanes a belt of fire at rapid rate aaa This belt to be at no point closer than 1000 yards from our line and to be 1500 yards deep so far as range permits aaa Batteries moved to-day not to fire aaa(B.M.581)
19/9/18.	Pty.	68, 51, 41, 59, Bde.	Enemy reported massing on left Divisional front aaa Concentrate all active guns for 10 mins. at RAPID rate on trenches up to 3.500 yards from front line in your lanes at following times aaa 6.45.p.m. 7.5.p.m.7.30.p.m. 8.0.p.m. aaa(B.M.587)

Wires issued in connection with operations
29th/30th Sept. 1918.

Date.	Time.	To.	Message or Order.
29/9/18.	12.22p.m.	All Bdes.	11.30 a.m. contact patrol report line runs A.6.c. A.12.cent. A.18.cent. A.24.c. G.6.a. H.7.c. H.13.cent. (B.M.654)
	^{1.22} 12.28 p.m.	All Bdes.	Ref B.M.654 enemy now reported holding GATALET - NAUROY Line on left Divl front. (B.M.655).
	2.0 p.m.	41,51,85, 93,68,71 Bdes.	GREEN LINE captured aaa Attached aaa You are not to advance without orders from Division aaa Addsd 41,51,85,93. Rptd 68 and 71. (B.M.656)
	2.12 p.m.	All Bdes.	We are now reported on Green Line along whole front and in touch with 9th Corps on right. Attack is continuing. (B.M.656)
	6.35 p.m.	All Bdes. Pty.	No firing inside GREEN LINE or GREEN DOTTED LINE until orders are issued aaa We have troops all along GREEN LINE but north of G.6 they have been cut off. (B.M.657)
	7.45 p.m.	23,89,71, 18,73,68 Pty.	No firing on the front until further orders except East of N/S grid line through S.26 central and north of E/W grid line through the same point aaa Heavy harassing by all guns that can bear on approaches and trenches NE of PUTNEY in this area is to commence at once. (B.M.658)
	8.15 p.m.	All Bdes. Pty.	No fire tonight inside S.O.S. line which runs S.20.central - S.26.d.00 - T.25.d.00 - B.25.central - B.26.c.00 - H.2.c.00 - H.9.c.00 aaa Bdes will harass in sectors shewn on Bombardment Map as follows aaa 93 Bde and 41 Bde in 41 Bde sector aaa 9th Bde and 68th Bde in 68 Bde sector aaa 51 and 71 Bdes in 71 Bde sector aaa 18th and 23rd Bdes in 23rd Bde sector aaa 89 and 85 Bdes in 89 Bde sector and north- wards as far as E/W grid line through S.20 central aaa 150 rounds 6" how: and 60-pdr. and 100 rounds of heavier natures per gun should be kept in hand at least for tomorrows operations. Acknowledge. (B.M.659)
	8.20 p.m.	41,51,93, 85,68,71.	41,51,93 & 85 Bdes cease to be under command of Divisions from receipt of this wire aaa acknowledge. (B.M.660)
	11.20 p.m.	23,89,71, 18,73,68.	B.M. 659 cancels B.M.658. (B.M.661.)
	10.5 p.m.	All Bdes.	B.M.659 is cancelled. No heavy arty fire tonight inside line S.20.cent.-S.26.d.00 - T.28.c.00 - B.12.c.00 thence due south along grid line. 73rd Bde will harass be- yond this line. Other Bdes will harass on left flank near PUTNEY & E & NE of that village. Our troops identified all along RED LINE & we are now endeavouring to get into touch. Acknowledge. (B.M.662).

Date.	Time.	To.	Message or Order.
29/9/18.	10.45 p.m.	All Bdes except 73.	Reference B.M.662 harassing will only be carried out by batteries that can bear without altering gun pits. (B.M.663)
30/9/18.	9.30 a.m.	All Bdes.	3rd and 5th Aust: Divns. attacked GATALET and THE KNOLL from south this morning aaa Attack going well aaa IX Corps is to help our right flank on RED LINE aaa Mopping up will probably be continued all day. (B.M.665)
	10.15 a.m.	All Bdes.	B.M.662 still holds good. (B.M.666)
	2.15 p.m.	All Bdes. Pty.	Our troops now on canal at VENDHUILE and advancing into S.20. Adjust harassing accordingly. (B.M.668)
	2.45 p.m.	All Bdes.	No firing west of line S.21.central - S.27.d.00 - thence safety line runs as in B.M.662. (B.M.669)
	3.0 p.m.	All Bdes. Pty.	H.A. Safety line now runs S.21.central - S.27.d.00 - due east to T.25.d.00 - due South to B.13.d.00 - due east to B.18.c.00 - due south along grid line. Harass accordingly. (B.M.670)
	3.30 p.m.	All Bdes.	Ref B.M.670 if infantry ask for engagement of targets inside new safety line these targets will be submitted to H.A. for approval without delay. Air calls may be engaged anywhere on Corps front except within 1000 yards of GOUY and 1000 yards of JONCOURT. Line now runs H.21.cent. - H.15.cent. - A.29.cent. - A.22.d.cent - BONY inclusive - thence N.W. (B.M.671)
	3.35 p.m.	68,23 Bdes.	Resume bombardment liaison with 68th Bde with 5 Aust: Div. at HERVILLY and 23rd Bde with 3 Aust: Div. at F.26.c.88. (B.M.672)
	4.0 p.m.	All Bdes.	Attack takes place at 4.15 p.m. to gain line A.30 - G.6 - JONCOURT. (B.M.673)
	5.0 p.m.	All Bdes.	Lanes for harassing, etc, are re-allotted to Brigades as follows aaa 93rd Bde. H.8- H.9 and eastward. 41st Bde. H.1.d. H.2.c. and eastward. 9th Bde. B.25.c & d; H.1.a & b, & eastward. 68th Bde. B.26.a & b and eastward. 51st Bde. B.20, B.21 and eastward. 71st Bde. B.14, B.15 and eastward. 18th Bde. B.8 B.9 and eastward. 23rd Bde. B.1 B.2 and eastward. 89th Bde. T.25.c & d and eastward. 85th Bde. T.25.a & b and eastward. (B.M.675)
	5.0 p.m.	All Bdes except 93.	Commence a slow bombardment of the BEAUREVOIR line in your brigade lane as given in my B.M.676 and continue until further orders. Ammunition is not to be allowed to fall below 150 rds per gun six inch and sixty pds or 100 rds per gun heavier natures. (B.M.676)

/3.

Date.	Time.	To.	Message or Order.
30/9/18.	5.0 p.m.	93 Bde.	Commence a slow bombardment of the BEAU-REVOIR LINE in squares T.27.c. H.3.b. to continue till further orders aaa Ammunition is not to be allowed to fall below 150 rounds per gun six inch and 60-pdr and 100 rounds per gun heavier natures. (B.M.677)
	6.20 p.m.	23,68 Bdes.	B.M. 672 cancelled. (B.M.678)
	6.45 p.m.	All Bdes.	All restrictions on H.A. fire removed. H.A. will keep 1000 yards clear of outpost line for S.O.S. aaa JONCOURT probably in our hands aaa GOUY may be harassed. (BM 679)
	8. 0 p.m.	All Bdes.	In addition to the bombardment of the BEAUREVOIR LINE previously ordered vigorous harassing fire will be carried out to-night by each Brigade in its own lane aaa Guns which are unable to reach beyond start line in the lane of their own brigades but which can reach in lanes of flank brigades may be employed in these lanes aaa Reserve of ammunition to be maintained as given in my B.M.676 unchanged. (B.M.680)
	10.30p.m.	All Bdes, 3 C.H.A. 9 C.H.A.	outpost line now runs S.26.d.00 - A.3.c.00 A.15.cent. - A.17.c.53 - A.23.a16 - A.29.cent. - G.6.c.55 - H.7.a.00. (R.O.36)

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Copy No. 32SECRET.APPENDIX. 3Aust: Corps H.A.
No. 2/130.

Reference Maps:-

1/20,000. 620. NW. SW.
NE. SE.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

S C H E M E F O R M O B I L E W A R F A R E .

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1. INSTRUCTIONS.
2. TABLE A. - Allotment of Lanes to Brigades.
3. TABLE B. - Assistance to & from Corps on flanks.
4. TABLE C. - Brigades affiliated to Divisions.

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The above Scheme supersedes that issued under H.A.
No. 2/129 dated 30-8-18, which please destroy.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. M. Kennedy

Captain, R.A.

a/Brigade Major, Aust: Corps H.A.

2-9-1918.

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Distribution.

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| Copy No. 1. R.A. Fourth Army. | No. 19. 3rd Aust: Division. |
| 2. R.A. Aust: Corps. | 20. 3rd Aust: D.A. |
| 3. Aust: Corps 'G'. | 21. 4th Aust: Division. |
| 4. 5th Brigado, R.G.A. | 22. 4th Aust: D.A. |
| 5. 9th Brigado, R.G.A. | 23. 5th Aust: Division. |
| 6. 14th Brigade, R.G.A. | 24. 5th Aust: D.A. |
| 7. 21st Brigado, R.G.A. | 25. 32nd Division. |
| 8. 51st Brigade, R.G.A. | 26. 32nd D.A. |
| 9. 68th Brigade, R.G.A. | 27. III Corps H.A. |
| 10. 69th Brigade, R.G.A. | 28. IX Corps H.A. |
| 11. 93rd Brigado, R.G.A. | 29. Art: 36th French |
| 12. 73rd Army Bdo, R.G.A. | Corps. |
| 13. C.B.S.O. | 30. 13th Balloon Coy. |
| 14. Staff Captain. | 31. File. |
| 15. 1st Aust: Division. | 32 |
| 16. 1st Aust: D.A. | - War Diary. |
| 17. 2nd Aust: Division. | 35. |
| 18. 2nd Aust: D.A. | |

S E C R E T.

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I N S T R U C T I O N S.

1. Previous Scheme for Mobile Warfare is cancelled as from 10 p.m. 2nd September 1918.
2. The previous "Lano" system will remain in force. Positions will be allotted to Brigades with a view to enabling them to bring fire to bear on their lanes.
In case of the Corps Boundaries not being E. and W. grid lines, special arrangements will be made by the flank Brigades to cover any space intervening between the North and South lanes and the boundaries.
3. The Brigades affiliated to Divisions are responsible for the latest situation as regards the outpost or front line of their own Division, and will at once notify all Brigades covering their Divisional front and Corps H.A. of any changes.
The Brigades affiliated to Divisions are as shown in Table 'C'.
In case of open warfare, the affiliated Brigades will be ordered by H.A. to advance with their respective Divisions. These Brigades will then push forward as many of their batteries as possible, and do everything in their power to support the operations, in consultation with Divisions. Any batteries which cannot be advanced will be transferred by Corps H.A. to a non-affiliated Brigade, which will move forward when ordered. In case of an affiliated Brigade not being in possession of 60-pdr. batteries, arrangements will be made by Corps H.A. to effect an exchange of heavy and siege batteries with a non-affiliated Brigade, so that, in every case, the Brigade affiliated to a Division for open warfare conditions will have 60-pdr batteries under its command.
Affiliated Brigades which may advance in accordance with these instructions will keep Corps H.A. informed of their movements.
4. All Brigades, R.G.A., including the affiliated Brigades, will maintain a close liaison with the Infantry Brigades holding the line in their particular lanes. An Officer and 2 telephonists will be detached for this duty, and will keep in touch with the H.Q. of the Infantry Brigade, ascertain their wishes, and transmit them without delay to the H.Q. of the Brigade, R.G.A. where they will receive immediate attention. If the fire of flank Brigades, R.G.A. is required on any particular locality, application should be made to H.Q., Aust: Corps H.A.
The liaison Officer must not be dependant upon the Infantry Brigade for accommodation, rations, etc, but will make his own arrangements in all cases.
5. Counter Preparation Phase I B and Phase II are in abeyance.
6. S.O.S.
All batteries open fire in their own lanes, engaging villages, valleys, approaches, woods, and other suitable targets on the front of the attack, in no case within 1000 yards of the outpost line, except as provided for in para. 13 below.
On receipt of the S.O.S. Signal, fire will be opened as follows :-

First 8 minutes	RAPID.
Second 7 minutes	NORMAL.

/2.

Para. 6 (contd).

All fire will cease at the end of fifteen minutes unless the S.O.S. Signal is repeated after the opening of fire, or the Infantry Commander on the spot desires it, when the maximum rate of fire will be reverted to, and the procedure laid down above carried out.

After an S.O.S., batteries will invariably "stand by" until ordered by their Brigade Commanders to "break off".

Batteries will be laid by night upon their own S.O.S. points unless engaged upon tasks.

All batteries are to be provided with boards and pointers to indicate the zone from which the S.O.S. Rocket Signal has been sent up. During hours of darkness a look-out must be continuously on duty in each battery.

If a Battery or O.P. observes an S.O.S. Signal sent up on the Corps front, it will at once report to its Brigade :-

- (a). Time first signal was observed.
- (b). Approximate position or positions of signals.

If the Signal affects the Battery's own sector, fire will be opened at once.

The order to open fire will then be passed by the Brigade Commander to the other batteries of the Brigade, and a report made 'PRIORITY' to the B.M., H.A.

In the case of a signal being observed by a battery of a Brigade affiliated to a Division, the Brigade will also report to the Division.

If a request to open fire on S.O.S. lines is made direct by a Division to the affiliated Brigade, the Brigade will give the order to open fire, and will report 'PRIORITY' to this office the sector of the front threatened, in order that the necessary instructions may be issued to other Brigades affected.

The affiliated Brigades will keep closely in touch with the situation through their Divisions, reporting from time to time.

Each Brigade will be prepared, if ordered by this office, to reinforce the lanes of the Brigades upon its right and left.

For S.O.S., 60-pdrs will fire shrapnel, and 106 fuzes will be used for other natures unless otherwise ordered. Gas shell will not be fired unless specially ordered.

7. 6" Guns will be employed for S.O.S. and HARASSING, in accordance with schemes arranged with 73rd Army Brigade, R.G.A.
8. Rates of Fire are as laid down in G.H.Q. Artillery Circular No. 10.
9. Brigade Commanders will arrange, if guns or batteries are out of action, to engage only the most important targets with their remaining guns and hows:, and ask for reinforcement on any particular lane as and when required
10. "GF" and "LL" calls will be answered as follows :-
 - GF. One section from each battery that can bear will fire three salvos as quickly as possible, and repeat if the call is repeated.
 - LL. Every battery that can bear will fire three salvos as quickly as possible, and repeat if call is repeated.

Para.10 (contd).

If, however, batteries are engaged upon S.O.S., the following procedure will be carried out :-

The Battery Commander will not engage the call, but will at once report to his Brigade, at the same time working out his calculations for switch, etc. The call in the meantime will have been received upon the Brigade Wireless, and the Brigade Commander will decide what battery or sections he can spare without unduly weakening fire on any important point, and immediately issue the necessary instructions to engage.

11. In the event of communications being cut, Brigade Commanders and Battery Commanders, if they consider the situation demands, will open fire automatically upon S.O.S. on their own Lanes, and continue their fire until information is obtained as to the actual tactical situation.

12. "HARASSING" fire will be carried out in their own Brigade Lanes under the orders of Brigade Commanders. Harassing fire on lanes of flank Brigades will be carried out when ordered from this office. In misty weather, and by night, fire should be increased. All roads, road-crossings, villages, etc., are to be subjected to sudden and irregular bursts of fire. It must be our object to interfere as much as possible with the whole of the enemy's communications. Orders as to the amounts of ammunition to be normally expended on harassing fire will be issued periodically from this office.

Long Range Guns will be used at the discretion of the Brigade Commander on distant road junctions, dumps, camps, villages, railways, etc

In no case will fire be directed within 1000 yards of the outpost line except as provided for in para. 13 below.

13. During the course of operations, certain areas are 'prohibited' from time to time by H.A. headquarters at the request of the Infantry. No fire will be directed upon such prohibited areas, except in the following cases :-

- (1) When a battery commander sees the enemy advancing and engages them with direct observation on his own responsibility.
- (2) When the Infantry Brigade or Battalion Commander on the spot makes an urgent request for fire upon special targets, such as hostile artillery, machine guns or the enemy's infantry. In this case, a signed and written statement from the Infantry Commander must be produced by the Brigade or Battery Commander in support of his action.

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T A B L E 'A'.

ALLOTMENT OF LANES TO BRIGADES.

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14th Brigade	-	20 - 23 inclusive.	
93rd Brigade	-	24 - 27	"
21st Brigade	-	28 - 31	"
69th Brigade	-	32 - 35	"
5th Brigade	-	36 - 39	"
9th Brigade	-	40 - 43	"
68th Brigade	-	44 - 47	"
51st Brigade	-	48 - 51	"

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Lanes are numbered from South to North. They run due East and West and are 500 yards wide. Lane 20 is bounded by the E. and W. grid lines running through U.15.d.00 and U.21.b.00, and Lane 51 by the E. and W. grid lines running through C.30.b.00 and C.30.d.00.

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TABLE 'B'.

ASSISTANCE TO AND FROM CORPS ON FLANKS.

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During Mobile Warfare, assistance to and from Corps on flanks will be requested & given by H.A. Headquarters as required.

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TABLE 'C'.

BRIGADES AFFILIATED TO DIVISIONS.

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"A" Division (at present
32nd Divn.) - 21st Brigade, R.G.A.

"B" Division (at present
5th Aust: Div.) - 9th Brigade, R.G.A.

"C" Division (at present
2nd Aust: Div.) - 51st Brigade, R.G.A.

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