

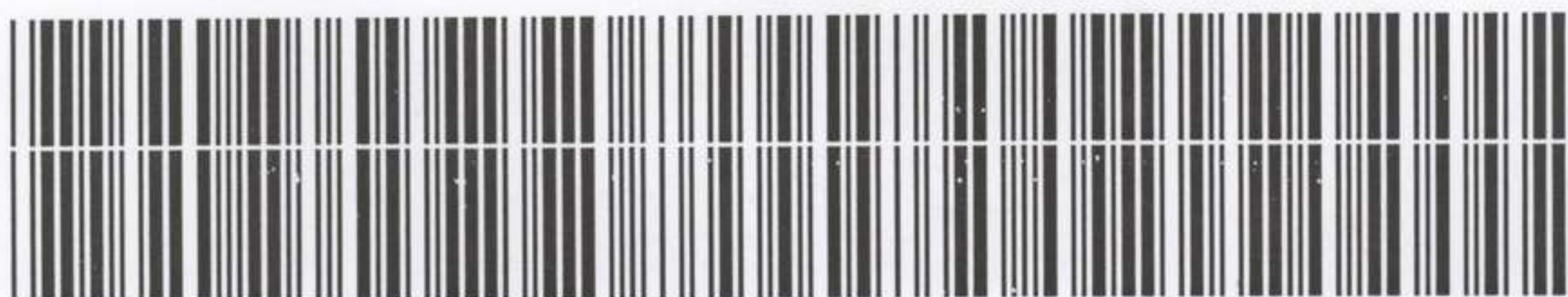
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/14/32 Part 2

Title: Headquarters, 5th Australian
Divisional Artillery

September 1918



AWM4-13/14/32PART2

S e c r e t.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS: SERIES "E", No. 5

1. BRIGADE GROUPS.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade Group

Brigade Headquarters

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

2 troops 13th A.L.H. Regiment

13th Aust. F.A. Brigade

1 1/2 companies 5th A.M.G. Battalion

1 company Australian Engineers

1 bearer division.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group

Brigade Headquarters

15th Australian Infantry Brigade

2 troops 13th A.L.H. Regiment

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade

1 company, 5th A.M.G. Battalion

1 company Australian Engineers

1 bearer division

14th Australian Infantry Brigade Group

Brigade Headquarters

14th Australian Infantry Brigade

6th (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.

H.Q. and 1 1/2 companies, 5th A.M.G. Battalion

1 company Australian Engineers

1 bearer division.

2. After the completion of the Protective Barrage on the GREEN line, the 41st Brigade, R.G.A., under the command of Lieut-Col. E.T. BOND, D.S.O., will operate for exploitation under the immediate orders of the C.R.A. 5th Australian Division.

3. TANKS.

The 8th Tank Battalion (Lieut-Col. HASLAM, D.S.O.) and 1 company (8 tanks) whippets are co-operating with the 5th Australian Division, and have been distributed as follows:-

- 2 sections {8 tanks} and 4 whippets ... 8th A.I. Bde
 2 sections {8 tanks} and 4 whippets ... 15th A.I. Bde
 2 sections {8 tanks} ... In reserve with 14th A.I. Bde.

4. MOVES.

(i)

Brigade Groups will move to bivouac areas on the night 27th/28th under instructions already issued.

Routes: 15th A.I. Brigade Group: Road junction O.6.b.3.2 - CARTIGNY - BRUSLE - BOUCLY - ROISEL - TEMPLEUX-le-GRERARD.

8th A.I. Brigade Group, followed by 14th A.I. Brigade Group: LE MESNIL - CATELET - Cross roads P.4.c - Q.2.a - HERVILLY - HESBECOURT.

(ii)

Troops will be rested as much as possible during the time they are in the bivouac area. No movement of any description will be permitted during the hours of daylight.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX

20

249

- 2 -

5. LIAISON.

- (i) The following divisional liaison officers have been detailed:-
 With 30th American Division - Capt. CHALLMERS MC 30th Bn.
 With 3rd Australian Division - Capt. SMITH, MC. 53rd Bn.
- (ii) Brigades will establish liaison as follows:-
 8th A.I. Brigade - with 15th A.I. Brigade, 120th and 117th American Infantry Regiments.
 15th A.I. Brigade - with 11th A.I. Brigade and 119th American Infantry Regiments.

Commander

6. Each Artillery Brigade will provide one subaltern officer as a liaison officer with each infantry battalion in his brigade group. These officers will provide themselves with telephone wire and telephonists and, in case of 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades, will report to the infantry battalion headquarters on Y/Z night

communication
 Every endeavour will be made to maintain either with the Artillery Brigade, one of the batteries or a battery O.P.

Artillery Brigade Commanders will live with the Infantry Group Commanders.

Artillery Brigade Commanders and all Artillery Officers will make a careful study from all maps, air photographs, and where possible from the visual observation of the country and routes they are likely to move over during the advance.

7. LIGHT SIGNALS.

In addition to the light signals which have already been notified the following signal will be employed by the Cavalry:-

"Advanced Troops of Cavalry are here" - WHITE Star bursting to a RED on a parachute fired from 14" Very pistol.

8. HEADQUARTERS.

5th Australian Division - HERVILLY from 2 p.m. 27th.
 5th Aust. D.A.H.Q. - K.21.c.3.5
 15th Brigade Group - L.5.d.9.4
 14th Brigade Group - near HERVILLY

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. M. C.
 Captain,

Brigade Major,

5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.21.c.3.5 at 5 p.m. 27/9/18 to all recipients of Instructions, Series "E", No.1.

Secret.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 6

ORGANISATION OF ROADS, TRAFFIC AND TROOP MOVEMENTS.

1. Four main roads will be developed for traffic under arrangements to be made by C.E. Australian Corps. Two of these roads will be in the 30th American and 5th Australian Divisional areas.
From the West as far East as our Start Line - Before ZERO day.

Eastwards from the Start Line - After ZERO hour on ZERO day. These roads are coloured respectively BLACK, RED, YELLOW and BLUE on the map attached to Instructions, Series "E", No. 3. They will be respectively marked on the ground by sign boards, painted in the same sequence of colours. Of these roads, the RED and YELLOW roads will probably be developed into M.T. roads. The BLACK road is not likely to be suitable for any but pedestrian and horse transport traffic.

2. C.E. Australian Corps will arrange for parties of Engineers and Pioneers to commence work on these roads, EAST of the Start Line, as soon after ZERO as practicable in order to -
 - (a) Mark the routes with coloured sign-boards
 - (b) Clear obstructions
 - (c) Clear land mines
 - (d) Fill in shell holes and craters
 - (e) Fill in trenches
 - (f) Render the road practicable for horse drawn artillery.
 All necessary material will be prepared in advance. It is anticipated that all four roads will be suitable for the use of horse drawn artillery, as far EAST as the LE CATELLET trench line (inclusive) by 9 a.m. on ZERO day.

3. No traffic of any description - other than urgent signal traffic - will be permitted on any of these roads EAST of the Start Line until after 9 a.m.

4. The roads WEST of the Start Line will be kept clear of all traffic after ZERO hour, except for the battle troops, in accordance with the time table in paragraph 9.

5. The Armoured Car Battalion (and Whippet Tanks accompanying it) will use the YELLOW road. The accompanying whippets will, whenever practicable, march close beside, and not actually on these roads.

6. No transverse crossing of any of these roads, from North to South or vice versa, will be permitted on ZERO day, except for single vehicles or single tanks or small bodies of troops. All North and South traffic must give way to, and avoid blocking, all East bound traffic.

7. All tanks accompanying Australian troops, or moving East to assembly positions, or moving West to rallying points, must keep clear of these roads, and must not cross them unless absolutely unavoidable. Whenever practicable, tanks will move in columns, close beside these roads, so as to consolidate an alternative marching track for infantry.

P.T.O.

- 2 -

8. The following is the allocation of roads to Battle Troops, and the order of movement in each case:-

<u>BLACK ROAD.</u>	"A" Regiment of 60th American Brigade.	As far as Start Line only.
	"A" Brigade Group (8th A.I. Bde of 5th Aust. Div. with accompanying Artillery (13th Aust. F. A. Bde).	throughout.
	Reserve Brigade Group (14th A.I. Bde) of 5th Aust. Div. with Artillery (6th Army Bde, A.F.A.)	throughout.
	"D" Regiment of 59th American Brigade.	throughout.
<u>RED ROAD.</u>	"B" Regiment of 60th American Brigade.	As far as Start Line only.
	"B" Brigade (15th A.I. Bde) of 5th Aust. Div. with Artillery (14th Aust. F. A. B.)	throughout.

YELLOW ROAD and BLUE ROAD will be used by troops of the 3rd Australian Division.

5th Cavalry Brigade will be prepared to move via either the BLACK or the RED ROAD.

9. The following time table will control the use of these four roads by the several formations to which they have been allotted:-

(a) American troops have right of way and preferential use of all four roads, as far East as the Start Line, up to ZERO hour on ZERO day. After that hour, no troops of the American Corps (other than the "D" Regiments of each American Division) are to use any of these roads.

(b) From ZERO hour on ZERO day, four of the roads East of the Start Line will be under the exclusive control of the engineers and pioneers until 9 a.m.

NO TRAFFIC of any description, other than for the service of these engineers and pioneers and urgent signal traffic, may use these roads East of the Start Line going East before 9 a.m.

(c) During the remainder of ZERO day, troops will have right of precedence going East on these four roads, for the whole length, in the following order:-

Between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Artillery (2nd Aust. Div 1 Arty) detailed to support "C" American Regiments East of the control line shown in GREEN.
3rd and 5th Australian Divisions Battle Brigades and Artillery (13th & 14th Aust. F. A. Bdes).
3rd and 5th Australian Divisions Reserve Brigades and Artillery (6th Army Bde, A.F.A.), followed by "D" Regiments of American Divisions.

Between 11 a.m. and 12 noon

5th Cavalry Brigade on BLACK and RED Roads only.

After 2 p.m.

(i) If the Artillery detailed to support "C" American Regiments require to move East of the Canal to carry out their task they will have precedence at 9 a.m. on the BLACK and BLUE Roads.

(d) No Mechanical Transport or tractor drawn Artillery may use any of these roads until after 5 p.m. on ZERO day. After that hour one or more of these roads will be allocated for the use of heavy Artillery, according to the situation.

Contd on page 3.

- 3 -

10. The 5th Cavalry Brigade will not cross the Start Line of the Main Operation before 2 p.m. by which hour our situation on the RED line should be definitely known.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

I. R. Mella.

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.21.o.3.5 at 6 p.m. 27/9/18 to all recipients of
Instructions, Series "E", No.1.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SECRET

Copy No.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 13.

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Headquarters,
27th. September 1918.

Reference Map - Sheet 62.C.

Reference 5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery Order No. 89.

1. SUPPLIES.

Pea Soup and solidified alcohol will be issued by S.S.O.
Chloride of Lime has been issued to Supply Officer, 5th.
Aust. Div. Art.

2. D.A.D.O.S.

Advanced D.A.D.O.S. has been established at K.23.a.3.4.

3. WATER SUPPLY.

The following water points will be available :-

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Location.</u>	<u>S.P.</u>	<u>D & B</u>	<u>S.T.</u>
TINCOURT.	J.24.a.3.7.	2	1	18 feet
MARQUAIX.	K.15.c.1.6.	2	1	10 feet
ROISEL.	K.16.d.5.5.	2	1	50 feet
LIERAMONT.	E.14.a.4.4.	3	2	100 feet
VILLERS FAUCON	E.22.d.7.6.	2	1	50 feet.

If possible to complete in time water will also be given
at - K.11.c. - Brickfields.

but this must not be relied upon until further advice is given.

Wells with windlasses and buckets are available at :-

L.26.c.7.3.	L.26.c.6.6.
L.4.d.9.4.	L.11.d.6.8.
L.12.c.0.2.	L.11.a.6.9.
L.3.d.2.2.	L.26.c.8.2.
K.23.a.1.2.	L.29.d.4.7.
L.16.c.7.8.	L.23.a.5.4.

Lieut. LEE will act as Divisional Water Supply Officer and will be located at S.A.A. Section. Two water lorries will be sent to S.A.A. Section, and units urgently requiring water should send application direct to Lieut. LEE. Water tins may be filled at S.A.A. Section. Water bottles will be filled and kept filled.

4. RATIONS.

All ranks taking part in the operations will carry the unexpended portion of the days ration, emergency ration, and one hard ration.

5. ANIMALS.

No water from captured wells is to be used until it has been tested and marked safe.

Every effort will be made to conserve the water supply.

All horse watering should be by bucket, pending the erection of troughs.

/Horse

5th Aust. Div. Art. Ad. Instr. No. 13.

27th. September 1918.

- 2 -

5. ANIMALS (Cont'd).

Horse Troughs are available at :-

K.22.a.8.9.

J.24.d.5.5. (160')

J.29.a.5.9. (128')

J.34.a.7.7. (10')

J.24.d.5.9. (20')

J.24.d.1.1. (90')

J.29.d.5.8. (20')

E.2.b.3.0.

6. REMOUNTS.

Units will wire 5th Aust. Div. Art. Headquarters their requirements of animals to replace casualties as necessary.

7. VETERINARY.

Mobile Veterinary Section, 5th Aust. Division, will be located at K.23.a.2.8., with an Advanced Post at L.14.Central. This Advanced Post will be moved further forward as required.

The Aust. Corp's Veterinary Evacuation Station will be located at J.29.c.5.5.

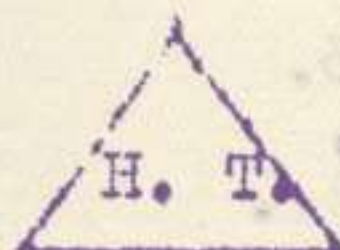
The 30th. American Division M.V.S. will be located at K.22.a.0.5.

8. TRAFFIC CONTROL.

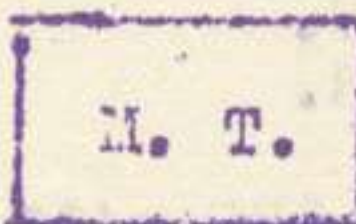
Traffic instructions relating to direction of traffic on circuits, double banking, and avoidance of H.T. Circuit by H.T. will be strictly observed. West of the Control Line - Road JEANCOURT to L.4.b.8.0. - F.28.a.5.3. - F.22.c.4.7. thence line to F.15.b.8.4. thence road to F.4.c.9.0. horse transport will use the Black, Red, Yellow and Blue tactical roads, but will give way in every case to the troops and Artillery having priority over these roads. No wheeled transport other than Artillery will go forward of the control line before 8.p.m. on "Z" day.

Marking of Roads. Roads will be marked by the following notice Boards :-

H.T. Roads.



M.T. Roads.



Traffic control posts are at L.2.b.4.6., L.2.c.Central, L.8.a.8.9., L.13.c.8.2., L.12.d.2.3., K.23.d.5.2., K.16.d.7.2., K.16.d.3.8., K.16.Central. These posts will be moved forward as occasion arises.

Battle Stragglers Posts will be established at L.4.b.7.0. L.5.c.1.4., L.11.d.9.5., L.17.b.9.9., L.23.Central. As soon as possible the Battle Stragglers Posts will be advanced to a line running North and South through A.22, A.28, G.4, G.10, G.16, and G.22.

The Divisional P.O.W. Collecting Station will be at L.2.b.9.3, and as occasion arises will be moved forward along Road TEMPLEUX - HARGICOURT - BELLICOURT.

Telephonic communication with a/D.A.P.M. will be through Divisional Collecting Station.

9. CAMOUFLAGE.

Corps Camouflage Park is at K.16.a.5.2. (ROISEL).

/Trench Bridges.

5th. Aust. Div. Art. Ad. Instr. No. 13.

27th. September 1918.

- 3 -

10. TRENCH BRIDGES.

Trench Bridges have been issued, one per Battery to 13th. and 14th. Aust. F.A. Brigades and 6th. (Army) Brigade Aust. F.A.

11. SANDBAGS.

Sandbags are available to the extent of 1000 per Brigade and will be drawn at the 5th. Aust. Div. R.E. Dump at L.13.c.5.0. (HESBECOURT). Chits to collect will be drawn from 5th. Aust. D.A.H.Q. forthwith.

12. COMFORTS FUND.

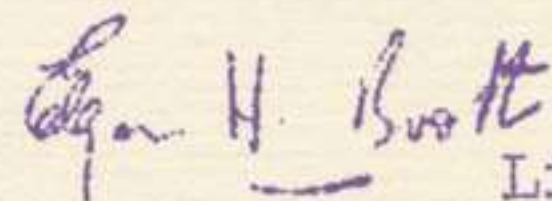
The Comforts Fund Representative will remain at LE MESNIL.

13. CLOTHING STORE.

The 5th. Aust. Divisional Clothing Store will remain at BELLOY-en-SANTERRE.

SANITATION.

Special steps will be taken to ensure that adequate sanitary arrangements are immediately made by every unit occupying a forward position and that steps are taken to provide the necessary appliances before any fouling of the ground occurs. The importance of this will be impressed on all Commanding Officers and Medical Officers. Demands for sanitary material will be sent direct by Units to the nearest R.E. Dump.



Lieut.

Staff Captain,

5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery.

Distribution.

Copy No.

6th. (Army) Brigade Aust. F.A.	1 - 5
13th. Aust. F.A. Brigade.	6 - 10
14th. Aust. F.A. Brigade	11 - 15
5th. Aust. D.A. Column.	16 - 19
6th. (Army) Bde. Amm. Col.	20
D.T.M.O. 5th. Aust. Divn.	21
1st. Aust. Div. Artillery.	22
2nd. Aust. Div. Artillery.	23
3rd. Aust. Div. Artillery.	24
4th. Aust. Div. Artillery.	25
R.A. Australian Corps.	26
"Q" 5th. Aust. Division.	27
S.S.O. 5th. Aust. Division.	28
10th. A.A.S.C.	29
Brigade Major.	30
Reconnaissance Officer.	31
War Diary	32 - 34
File.	35

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYSECRET.

Copy No.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 12.

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Headquarters,
27th September 1918.AMMUNITION.

Reference Map. - Sheet 62.C.

Reference 5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery Order No. 89.

(a)

1. Echelons will be kept full, in the proportion 60% 'A' to 40% 'AX' for 18.pdr., and all 'BX' for 4.5" Hows.

The proportion for 18.pdrs. will be maintained during the operations as far as is practicable.

Smoke shell will be made available if possible. Proportion will be notified later.

(b). A.R.P. of the 5th. 1st. Aust. Divisional Artillery is located at K.17.a.1.1. and has been instructed to complete echelons, or to change ammunition already carried in echelons to the correct proportion, on demand.

2. An additional 50 rounds per gun and howitzer is being dumped at 1st. Aust. Divisional Artillery A.R.P. K.17.a.1.1.

Forward A.R.P. will be opened as soon after zero as possible.

3. The estimated expenditure for zero day for 13th. and 14th. Aust. F. A. Brigades, and also for 6th. (Army) Brigade Aust. F. A. after completion of flank barrage, is 50 rounds per gun and howitzer.

4. Ammunition is to be kept boxed as long as possible.

5. Ammunition packs will be maintained in readiness to be used should necessity arise for pack supply.

A reconnaissance will be made by each battery for tracks suitable for Artillery wheels that will obviate using main roads, which will be congested.

6. For the purpose of Ammunition Supply, Sections D.A.C. are allotted to Brigades as follows :-

No. 1. Section. 5th. Aust. D.A.C. to 13th. Aust. F. A. Brigade.

No. 2. do. do. to 14th. do.

6th. (Army) Bde. Ammn. Column. to 6th. (Army) Bde. Aust. F. A.

Section Commanders D.A.C. and Commander B.A.C. will be responsible for maintaining touch with F. A. Brigades.

7. Tactical control of the S.A.A. Section, 5th. Aust. D.A. Column has passed to the 5th. Australian Division.

S.A.A. Section is at K.17.a.3.3.; As soon as the situation permits the S.A.A. Section will be pushed up to a position on the TEMPIEUX-le-GUERARD - HARGICOURT Road. The exact position will be notified later.

H. Brock

Lieut.
Staff Captain,
5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery.

Distribution - P.T.O.

158

APPENDIX

20

243

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.

6th.(Army) Brigade Aust.F.A.	1 - 5
13th.Aust.F.A.Brigade.	6 - 10
14th.Aust.F.A.Brigade.	11 - 15
5th. Aust. D.A.Column.	16 - 19
6th.(Army) Bde. Ammn.Column.	20 -
D.T.M.O. 5th.Aust.Divn.	21
1st.Aust.Div.Artilery.	22
2nd.Aust.Div.Artilery.	23
3rd.Aust.Div.Artilery.	24
4th.Aust.Div.Artilery.	25
R.A. Australian Corps.	26
"Q" 5th.Aust.Division.	27
Brigade Major.	28
Reconnaissance Officer.	29
War Diary.	30 - 32
File.	33

Original

APPENDIX

Secret.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 7

1. DISPOSITIONS AND OBJECTIVES.

(i) The dispositions for the attack on the RED line by the 5th Australian Division will be as follows:-

8th Brigade Group on the right.

15th Brigade Group on the left.

14th Brigade Group in reserve.

(ii) Objectives are as follows:-

8th Brigade Group - JONCOURT RIDGE (with exploitation to LIEHAUCOURT RIDGE) - JONCOURT HILL (inclusive).

15th Brigade Group - SWISS HILL - WIANCOURT - junction with 3rd Aust. Division at B.23.0.0.4 (all inclusive).

Boundary between brigades is shown on map 1/20,000 issued to Brigades. The reserve brigade group will be disposed in the area between NAUROY and ESTREES, E. of the GREEN LINE.

2. FLANK UNITS.

Right flank. For special exploitation the 117th American Infantry Regiment. The 46th Division of IX Corps will attack in conjunction with the 30th American Division and should it be successful in crossing the Canal it will move forward on our right flank.

Left flank. The 11th Brigade, 3rd Aust. Division will attack on our left.

3. STARTING POINT.

The junction of the BROWN dotted start line with the BLACK and RED roads for the 8th and 15th Brigade Groups respectively. The march of Brigade Groups will be timed so that the head will cross the start line at 9 a.m. on Z day.

The 14th Brigade Group will follow the 8th Brigade Group making use of the BLACK road.

4. ACTION UP TO GREEN LINE.

Brigade Groups will move forward to GREEN line in suitable formations as circumstances dictate.

No movement EAST of the GREEN line will commence before 11 a.m. except that should opportunity offer the whippets attached to Brigade Groups may be pushed forward towards their primary objective, the BEAUREVOIR - FONSOMME line, having due regard to the heavy artillery programme of area sheets.

The C.O. 41st Brigade, R.G.A., will reconnoitre suitable positions to cover the advance from the GREEN line to the final objective and get into touch with the 8th and 15th Infantry Brigade Groups. The positions to be selected will be in advance of the HINDENBURG system.

5. POINTS IN CONNECTION WITH ACTION E. OF GREEN LINE.

(i) The mapping-up of STREES and WIANCOURT by 15th Brigade Group and JONCOURT by 8th Brigade Group.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX 2

- 2 -

- (ii) A special unit will be detailed by the 8th Brigade Group to maintain liaison between the 117th American Regiment and the 8th Brigade Group. A 1/2 company 5th Machine Gun Battalion, has been allotted to the 8th Brigade Group to assist in this action.

6. HEAVY ARTILLERY.

A map will be issued to Artillery Brigades showing the heavy artillery programme E of the GREEN LINE.

7. ROLE OF 5TH CAVALRY BRIGADE.

- (i) The 5th Cavalry Brigade will be prepared to pass through the infantry after the latter have reached the RED LINE.
- (ii) The role of the Cavalry will be to seize and hold the line of the high ground, maps sheets No. 57B S.W., and 62B N.W. - 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. Should the enemy retreat the 5th Cavalry Brigade will maintain contact.

8. ARMoured CARS.

The 17th Armoured Car Battalion with 1 company of Whippets attached will move via main roads against enemy centres of importance.

Armoured Cars are distinguished by the same markings as tanks, viz: three broad painted bands, WHITE - RED - WHITE.

9. COMMUNICATIONS.

- (i) The divisional signal route will be constructed along the general line HARGICOURT - BELLICOURT - ESTREES and brigade groups in the establishment of forward headquarters will endeavour to select sites as close to this route as possible to facilitate communications. The Divl Artillery route will follow the Divisional route as far as practicable.
- (ii) Location of popham panel and message dropping grounds will be sent to Divisional Headquarters as soon as site has been fixed. Divisional station will be located immediately W of HERVILLY, co-ordinates will be issued later.

10. SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised twice daily with D.A.H.Q. commencing today, 28th September, 1918.

11. HEADQUARTERS.

Further to para. 8 of Instructions, Series "E", No. 5 - For 15th Infantry Brigade Group L.3.d.9.4 read L.3.a.8.4.

Headquarters, 5th Aust. Division	K.21.0.3.7
5th Aust. D.A.H.Q.	K.21.0.6.6
5th Cavalry Brigade	near HERVILLY
41st Brigade, R.G.A.	K.7.0.4.0

12. The following names for various localities will be taken into use:-

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| (1) Spur running N.E. in H.2.b and H.3.a | - ESTREES SPUR |
| (2) Ridge running S.W. from JONCOURT in H.15.a, H.14.d, H.20.a and b | - JONCOURT RIDGE |
| (3) Hill in H.10.b | - SWISS HILL |
| (4) Hill in H.16.b | - JONCOURT HILL |

Contd on page 3.

13.

- 3 -
Further to para.4 of Instructions, Series "E", No.5, the 13th and 14th Aust.F.A.Brigades will move to Brigade Group bivouac area-under orders to be issued later.

T. Russell

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.21.c.6.6 at 1 p.m. 28/9/18 to all recipients
of Instructions, Series "E", No.1

S e c r e t.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 8.

1. The following arrangements have been made for the co-ordination of action between IX Corps and Australian Corps on the right flank of the Australian Corps.
2. The boundary line between IX Corps and Australian Corps will be the grid line G.20.central - G.21.central - G.22.central - G.23.central - G.24.central - the sunken road at H.19.b.5.0 - thence N.E. along sunken road (inclusive to Australian Corps) to H.15.a.4.6 thence due EAST as per final Corps boundary on barrage map.
3. The above boundary will be the dividing line for both infantry and artillery action, except where IX Corps barrage overlaps the Australian Corps front West of the Canal.
4. Should the G.O.C. left division of the IX Corps find it necessary, he will arrange direct with 30th American Division for the latter division to operate South of this line and will at the same time make the necessary arrangements for lifting IX Corps artillery fire as may be arranged between Divisional Commanders.
5. G.O.C., R.A. Australian Corps will arrange to keep under fire the high ground about G.23.b, G.24.a, and G.18.d, from ZERO as long as infantry advance allows.
6. The Southern limit of the Australian Corps barrage West of the Canal will be the line G.20.b.3.4 - G.21.b.9.6 - thence along the road to the Canal.
The Australian Corps-smoke screen along this line will lift in accordance with the timed lifts of the Australian Corps Field Artillery barrage.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. Mellon.
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at 4.30 p.m. 28/9/18 at K.23.d.6.6 to all recipients of Instructions, Series "E", No. 1.

S e c r e t.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS. SERIES "E". No. 9AIRCRAFT.

1. Aircraft units will be working on the Corps front on "Z" day as under:-
 - (a) 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.
 - (i) Markings. Rectangular black panels 2 feet by 1 foot on both lower planes about 3 feet from fuselage.
 - (ii) Role. Contact patrols.
Counter-attack patrols.
Dropping smoke bombs.
 - (b) 8th Squadron, R.A.F.
 - (i) Markings. Black bands on under side of tail.
 - (ii) Role. Co-operation with tanks.
Reporting of location and progress of tanks.
Engaging of anti-tank guns with M.G. fire and bombs.
 - (c) Eight Single Seater Army Squadrons, will be employed on low altitude attacks on enemy organization and troops. These machines will not carry any distinctive markings.
2. CONTACT PATROLS IN SECOND PHASE.

The 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. will watch and report on progress of troops of the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions during their advance from the GREEN line to the RED line.
All the normal means of indicating the positions of our troops will be used by both the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions during the advance when our contact machines sound on the Klaxon or fire a WHITE Very light.
Contact Patrol Machines will fly over the RED line along the whole Corps front at ZERO plus 10 hours.
3. COUNTER ATTACK PATROLS.
 - (a) From ZERO onwards counter-attack machines will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentrations or abnormal movement.
 - (b) In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter-attack the counter-attack aeroplane will signal this information to the artillery by wireless. In the case of a counter-attack actually developing a WHITE parachute light will be fired by the aeroplane in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter-attack, for the information of the infantry.
4. SMOKE BOMBING.

In order to cover the advance of the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions up to the GREEN line and from the GREEN line towards the RED line, arrangements have been made with 15th Wing R.A.F. for smoke bombs to be dropped to deny the enemy observation from the high ground still in his possession at various stages of the battle.

P.T.O.

Zones, together with the hours which bombs are to be dropped within these zones, are shown on the attached map. No smoke bombs will be dropped in any area West of the zones as laid down after the period of time allotted to each zone.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. Mullen
Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divisional Arty.

Issued at 5 p.m. 28/9/18 at K.23.d.6.6 to all recipients of Instructions, Series "E", No.1.

Distribution of Maps.

- 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade
- 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade
- 6th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A.
- 41st Brigade, R.G.A.

CONTACT PATROLS IN RECORD PHASE

The 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions will work and report on progress at troops of the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions during their advance from the GREEN line to the RED line. All the normal means of indicating the positions of our troops will be used by both the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions during the advance when our contact machines sound on the KIXAN or LIXA a WHITE Very light. Contact Patrol machines will fly over the RED line along the whole Corps front at ZERO plus 10 hours.

COUNTER ATTACK PATROLS

- (a) From ZERO onwards counter-attack machines will be constantly in the air with the object of observing hostile concentrations or abnormal movement.
- (b) In the event of an enemy concentration indicating a counter-attack the counter-attack aeroplanes will signal this information to the artillery by wireless. In the case of a counter-attack actually developing a WHITE parachute light will be fired by the aeroplanes in the direction of the troops moving for the impending counter-attack, for the information of the Infantry.

GENERAL REMARKS

In order to cover the advance of the 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions up to the GREEN line and from the GREEN line towards the RED line, arrangements have been made with 15th Wing R.A.F. for smoke bombs to be dropped to deny the enemy observation from the high ground still in his possession at various stages of the battle.

243

MAP TO ACCOMPANY
5th Aust. Div. Arty. Instructions
SERIES "E" N^o 9.

RED AREAS--Smoke bombs to be dropped in
red areas between Z+3 1/2 hours and Z+4 hours
and between Z+5 1/4 hours & Z+5 3/4 hours.

GREEN AREAS
Smoke bombs to be dropped in
green areas between Z+6 plus 3
hours and ZERO plus 3 1/2 hours.

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Secret.

Copy No. 34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 10

ROLE OF CAVALRY.

1. Paragraph 7 of Instructions, Series "E", No. 7 is cancelled and the following substituted:
2. The 5th Cavalry Brigade with "B" Battery 84th Army Brigade R.F.A. is allotted to the Australian Corps for the forthcoming operation.
3. The 5th Cavalry Brigade will maintain close liaison with the 5th Australian Division through whose lines it will pass as soon as possible after the infantry have captured the BEAUREVOIR line.
4. The role of the 5th Cavalry Brigade will be to seize and hold the line of high ground - HAMAGE FARM - U.25.a and c - C.8.central - I.3.central - I.9.central - I.14.central - I.19.central - (Map sheets 57B-S.W. and 62B N.W.) until the arrival of the infantry.
5. Should the enemy retreat the 5th Cavalry Brigade will maintain contact.
6. As soon as the objective has been gained two squadrons will be pushed forward to reconnoitre the withdrawal of the enemy -
 - (a) One squadron towards PREMONT - BUSIGNY.
 - (b) One squadron towards BOHAIN.

Should the enemy's resistance be entirely broken and should the opportunity offer, these squadrons will be prepared to destroy the enemy's railway communications with the object of closing in any rolling stock on the lines running South and East. They will be prepared to act vigorously against enemy Headquarters, etc.

The Squadrons detailed will be warned that the 17th Armoured Car Battalion, supported by one company of whippet Tanks, is operating in the same direction with the same object - vide Instructions, Series "E", No. 7, para. 8.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. M. M.
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,
 5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.23.d.6.6 at 5.30 p.m. 28/9/18 to all recipients of
 Instructions, Series "E", No. 1.

Original APP 86 21

117

34

S e c r e t.

Copy No.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

INSTRUCTIONS. SERIES "E". No. 111. MAPS.

The map for use in the forthcoming operation will be the 1/20,000 special operation sheet issued with Instructions, Series "E" No. 2.

2. PIONEERS.

On completion of the track to the GREEN line on "Z" day, the 5th Australian Pioneers will rejoin the 5th Australian Division and will be employed under orders of the C.R.E.

3. "B.B" GAS SHELL.

All troops should be warned against entering dugouts, cellars, etc., owing to the BB gas shell bombardments to which the trenches and vicinity of the HINDENBURG line were subjected to on the 26th instant.
This gas remains active in cellars for two or three weeks but is harmless above ground after 48 hours.

4. CORPS RESERVE.

The 2nd Australian Division will move into assembly positions tonight in the area TINCOURT - ROISEL - VILLERS FAUCON - LIERAMONT - TEMPLEUX-le-FOSSE.
After midday on "Z" day, the 2nd Australian Division will be held in readiness to move at 2 hours' notice.

5. ACTION OF IX CORPS.

The 46th Division will capture the first objective which includes the villages of BELLENGLISE, LEHAUCOURT and MAGNY LA FOSSE.
The 32nd Division will pass through the 46th Division and capture the line LEHAUCOURT - JONCOURT RIDGE at H.20.central.
If opposition is weak the 32nd Division intends to capture the ridge running from LE TRONQUCY to SEQUEHART and the trench system running thence to the point of junction with the Australians at H.16.b.9.7.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. M. M. M.

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.23.d.6.6 at 11 p.m. 28/9/18 to all recipients of Instructions, -Series "E", -No. 1.

Original

App 21

S e c r e t.

Copy No.

34

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Amendment No. 1

to

INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 6

ORGANISATION OF ROADS, TRAFFIC AND TROOP MOVEMENTS.

1. Reference Instructions, Series "E", No. 6, para. 9 sub-para.
(e).

After the words "13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Bdes" add "41st
Brigade, R.G.A."

J. Russell

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Aust. Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.23.d.6.6 at 3.30 p.m. 28/9/18 to all recipients of
Instructions, Series "E" No. 6.

APPENDIX 118

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App 95 21

34

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Copy No.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Amendment No. 1
to
INSTRUCTIONS, SERIES "E", No. 7

1. Reference Instructions, Series "E", No. 7, para. 11.
Amend the location of 5th D.A.H.Q. to read K.23.d.6.6.

J. R. Mullen.
Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at 4 p.m. 28/9/18 at K.23.d.6.6 to all recipients of
Instructions, Series "E", No. 7.

S e c r e t.

Copy No. 24

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY ORDER No. 90

1. The 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, less Headquarters, will march from present wagon line areas to their respective Brigade Group bivouac areas under orders of C.O. Artillery Brigades but so as to be in bivouac areas by 6 a.m. 29th September, 1918.
Route: 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade - BOUCLY - HAMEL - MARQUAUX - ROISEL.
13th Aust. F.A. Brigade - HERVILLY.
2. Sections of the 5th Aust. Divl Ammunition Column will march under orders of Artillery Brigade Commanders to whom they are affiliated.
3. Headquarters, 13th and 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigades will be established at K.3.a.8.4 with 8th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades, respectively, by 5 a.m. 29th September, 1918.
4. Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, will remain at present location K.23.d.6.6.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Russell
 Captain,
 Brigade Major,

5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.23.d.6.6 at 7 p.m. 28/9/18 to:-

Copy No.		Copy No.	
1st Aust. Divl Artillery	1	D.T.O. 5th Aust. Divn	14
2nd Aust. Divl Artillery	2	10th Coy. A.A.S.C.	15
3rd Aust. Divl Artillery	3	S.S.O. 5th Aust. Divn	16
4th Aust. Divl Artillery	4	Signals, 5th D.A.H.Q.	17
5th Aust. Division	5	46th Divl Artillery	18
30th American Division	6	41st Brigade, R.G.A.	19
H.A. Aust. Corps	7	Staff Captain	20
R.A. Aust. Corps	8	C.R.A.	21
C.B.S.O. Aust. Corps	9	Brigade Major	22
13th Aust. F.A. Brigade	10	Reconnaissance Officer	23
14th Aust. F.A. Brigade	11	War Diary	24 - 26
6th (Army) Bde, A.F.A.	12	File	27
5th Aust. D.A.C.	13		

Original

App 2821

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

S E C R E T .

Amendment No.1.

Copy No.....34

- to -

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.13.

Headquarters,
28th. September 1918.

WATER SUPPLY.

Reference para.3.

Lieut. Deshom will act as Water Supply Officer in place of
Lieut. Leo.

VETERINARY.

Reference para.7.

The 5th. Aust. Mobile Veterinary Section will be located at
K.23.a.2.4.

Eq- H. Borth Lieut.
Staff Cap tain,
5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery.

Issued to all recipients of 5th. Aust. Div. Art. Admin. Instr. No.13.

243

APPENDIX 2 / 191

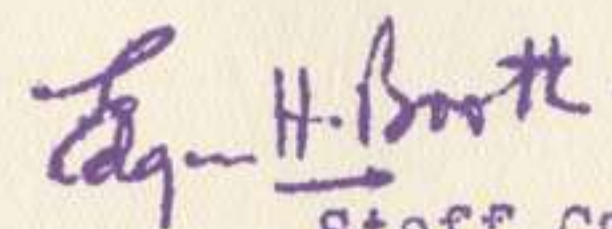
FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYSECRET.Amendment No.2.

Copy No. 30

- to -

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.12.Original
App21
BReference para.7.

The S.A.A. Section is now established at K.23.d.4.4. on the
 ROISEL - HERVILLY Road close to HERVILLY. As soon as the situation
 permits the S.A.A. Section will be moved forward to a
 location which will be notified.



Lieut.
 Staff Cap tain,
 5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery.

Issued to all recipients of 5th.Aust.Div.Art. Admin. Instr. No.12.

APPENDIX

21 122

App 28
21

Original

S e c r e t.

As at 9 a.m. 28/9/18

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Brigadier General A. J. BESSELL-BROWNE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

DISPOSITION RETURN No. 95

Reference Sheets 62D and 62C 1-40,000

5th Aust. D. A. H. Q., HENIVILLY

(K.23.a.6.6)

UNIT.	LOCATION.
13th Aust. F.A. Bde, H.Q.	J.36.c.6.2
49th Battery	J.36.o
50th "	J.36.o
51st "	J.36.o
113th "	J.36.a
14th Aust. F.A. Bde, H.Q.	J.35.a.75.95
53rd Battery	J.35.central
54th "	J.29.d
55th "	J.35.d
114th "	J.35.d
6th (Army) Bde, A.F.A., H.Q.	J.30.a.3.8
16th Battery	J.29
17th "	
18th "	
106th "	
5th Aust. D.A.C., H.Q. } No. 1 Section No. 2 Section	Q.1.a.9.9
6th (Army) B.A.C., A.F.A.	J.29
41st Brigade, R.G.A.	L.7.c.4.0
D.T.M.O. 5th Aust. Divn } 9th M.T.M. Battery 10th M.T.M. Battery	HESBECOURT K.18.b.90.10
D.A.D.O.S. 5th Aust. Divn	O.17.a.9.2
Supply Dump Advanced	P.8.a.5.4
" " Rear	O.3.a.3.8
Nos. 17 and 22 O.M.W. (Light)	CATELET
5th Aust. Mob. Vet. Section	K.19.c.2.8
Div. Canteen	LE MESNIL
Comforts Fund	LE MESNIL
5th Aust. Mob. Vet. Sec. (Advanced)	K.23.a.1.2

Wm. Larty 2/Lieut
Reconnaissance Officer,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYS E C R E T .

Copy No. 30.....

Amendment No. 1.

- to -

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.12.

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Headquarters,
28th. September 1918.

Ammunition in Echelons will be held by Batteries in the following proportion :-

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----|
| (a) <u>18.pounder.</u> | 'A' | 50% |
| | 'AX' | 40% |
| | 'AS' | 10% |
| (b) <u>4.5" Howitzer.</u> | All 'BX' | |

'AS' to adjust proportion will be drawn forthwith from 1st. Aust.Divisional Artillery A.R.P.

W. H. Buck.
Lieut.
Staff Captain,
5th.Aust.Divisional Artillery.

Issued to all recipients of 5th.Aust.Div.Artillery Admin.Inst.No.12.

Aust: Corps H.A.

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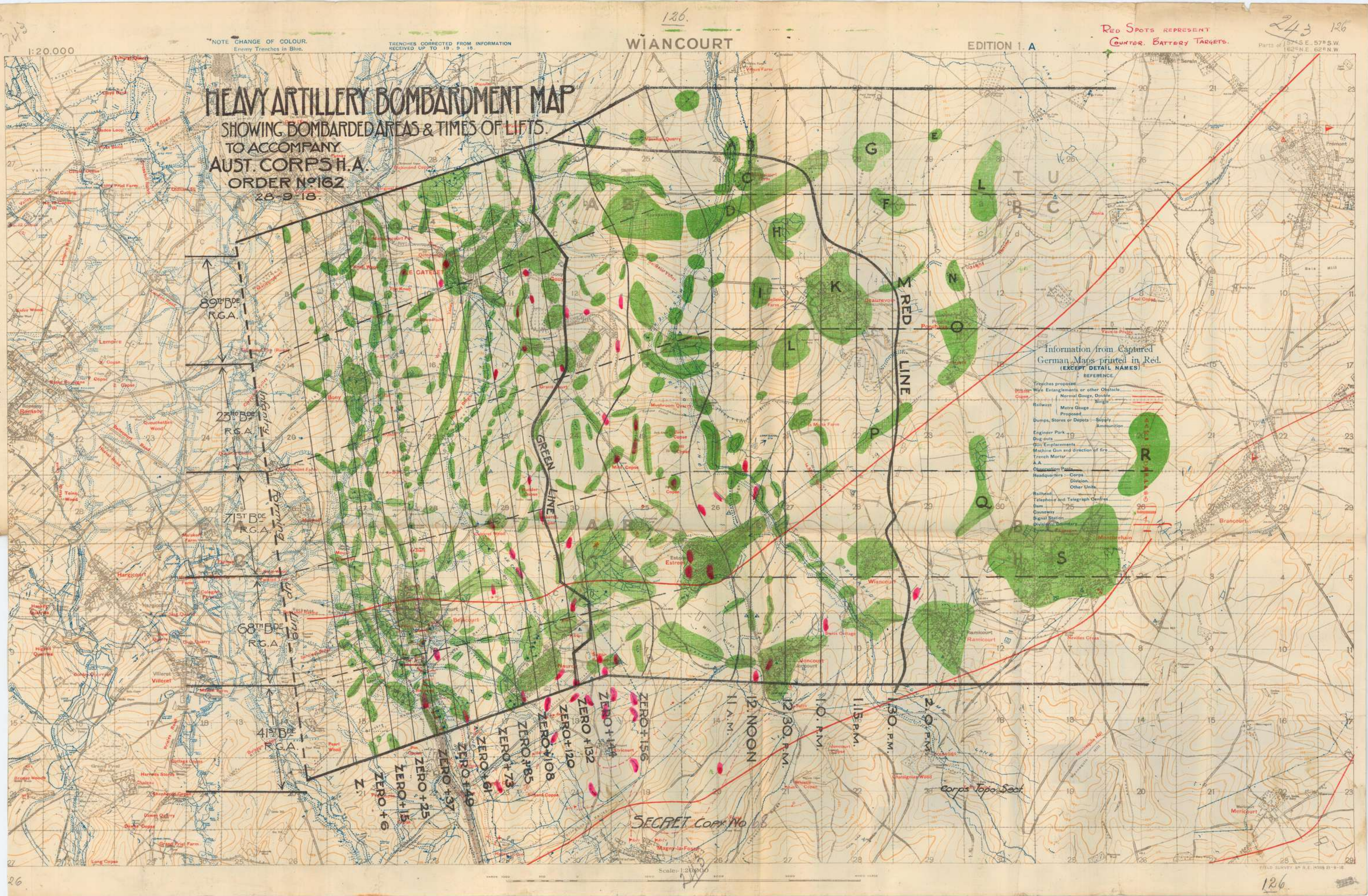
3rd Aust: D.A.
5th Aust: D.A. ✓

Herewith 1 copy of H.A. Bombardment Map.
Counter-battery targets have also been inserted
in RED.

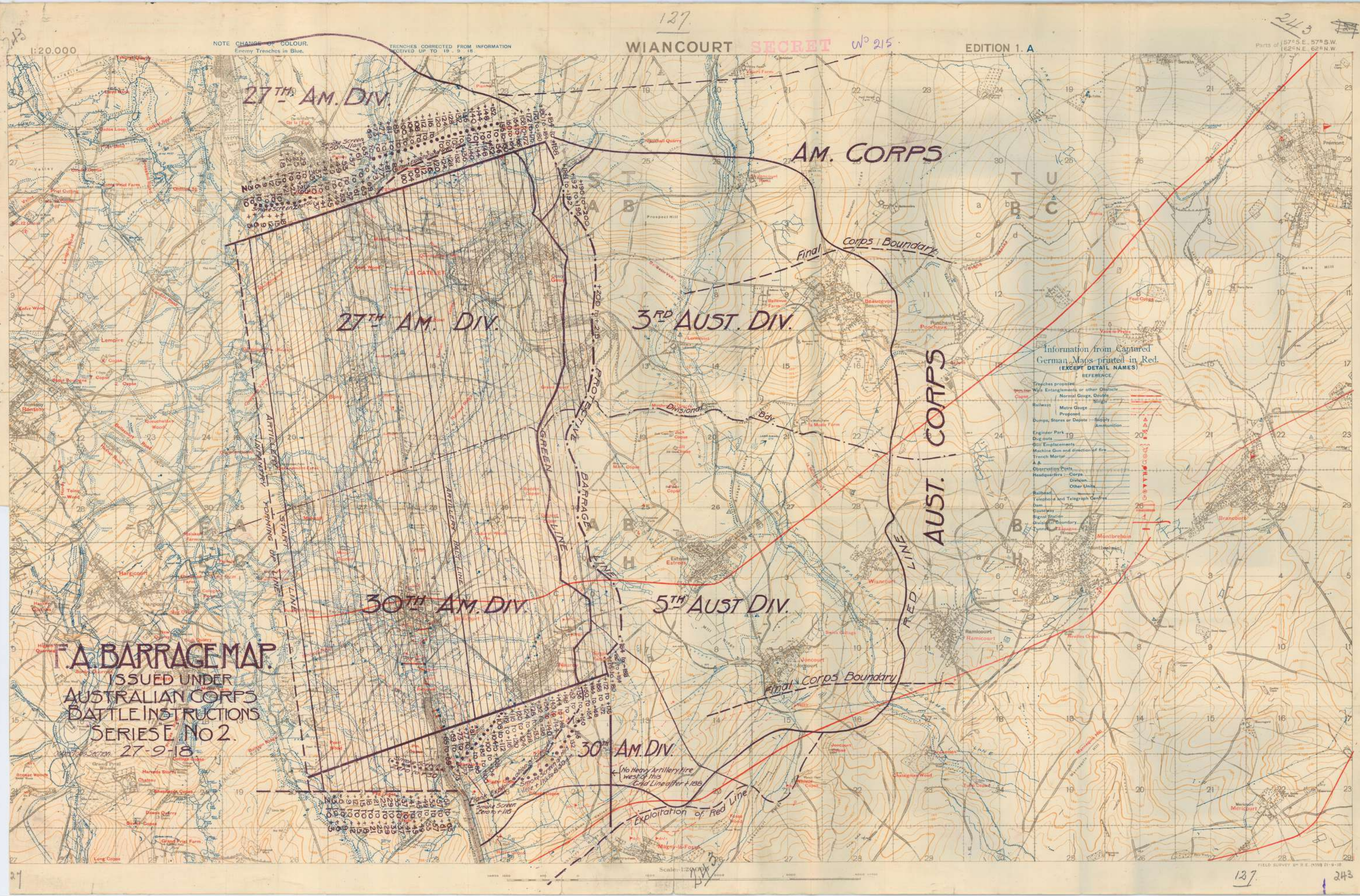
J. Kennedy

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

28/9/1918.



Apr 22



5th Australian Div Cardy

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 29/9/1918.

Original
App 29

No.	From	To	Time.	SUBJECT.
1				Zero 5.50 a.m. Barrage opened.
2	13th FAB	B.M.	7.45 am	Asking for information.
3	G 5th Div	B.M.		All companies ready at zero and on BROWN line. Enemy barrage opened plus 5' Tanks passed through and all going well.
4	41st Bde RGA	B.M.	8.40 am	Repeated to 13th FAB. 14th FAB out off for present.
5	8th A.I.Bde	B.M.	8.42 am	Asking for information. Advised as above. Asked where Infantry Bdes would move forward.
6	15th A.I.Bde	B.M.	8.45 am	Still at L.3 and expect to move about 1 p.m.
7	B.M.	41 Bde RGA	8.50 am	Still at L.3. Artillery with us. We expect to move forward after 10 a.m. Our Btms now approaching BROWN line with Artillery.
8	1st D.A.	B.M.	9.4 am	Advised accordingly.
9	3rd D.A.	B.M.	9.5 am	Everything going well. Do not know how far forward our Infantry are.
10	14th A.I.Bde	B.M.		Tanks reported in BONY. No other information to hand.
				15th A.I.Bde Liaison with 119th American Regt reports attack progressing well. Tank and troops across HINDENBURG support line A.27.b & d, G.3.b & d at 7.5 a.m. Support Btn mopping up HINDENBURG line. 300 prisoners. Normal identifications.
				P.S. LE CATELET - NAUROY line not held.
11	Sigs 14 FAB	B.M.	9.25 am	14th F.A.B. moving to time with Infantry over BROWN line.
				Advised D.A. Signal Wagon would be with 13th FAB and would move with them when they moved forward. 14th FAB to join up to the centre to be established.
12	B.M.	41 Bde RGA	9.30 am	Advised of report from 14th FA B. C.O. would be at Infantry at 10 a.m. to confer.
13			9.35 am	Signal Officer, D.A.H.Q., left for 13th FAB.
14	RA Aust Corps	B.M.	9.45 am	30th American Divn reported nearly up to GREEN. Little opposition except at NAUROY but being dealt with. 46th Divn effected one or more crossings of Canal. Position of 27th Divn obscure but appear to be going ahead. Advised we had CIB message "Huns BONY".
15	Sigs 5 D.A.	B.M.	9.50 am	Infantry report that 13th FAB have gone forward and are out of communication.
16	B.M.	14 FAB	10 am	Advised of Corps report. They state that 8th A.I.Bde reported passing through BELLICOURT at 9.40 a.m.

243

APPENDIX

128

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 29/9/1918.

Original 27
App 29

No.	From	To	Time.	SUBJECT.
17	G3.5th Div	B.M.	10.20 am	46th Divn report having crossed Canal at 8.15 a.m. at G.16 & 22. 117th American Regt cleared BELLICOURT. Advised G3 of CIB message "HUNS BONY".
18	14 FAB	B.M.	10.20 am	G.3.c.8.4. Bde now moving.
19	13 FAB	B.M.	10.20 am	Nothing to report.
20	6 Bde AFA	B.M.	10.35 am	Desire to know if 14th A.I.Bde have moved yet.
21	BM 8th A.I.B	B.M.	10.40 am	14th A.I.Bde report that 6th Army Bde AFA have guides and the orders and to carry on accordingly.
22			10.30 am	D.T.M.O.went forward to reconnoitre.
23	1st D.A.	B.M.	10.45 am	Right Btn of Left Regt on GREEN line, but they thing we hold whole of GREEN line. Many prisoners. 46th Divn captured BELLEN-GLISE.
24	B.M.	G3.5th Divn	10.55 am	The above passed to Divn.
25			11 am	D.R. from 6th (Army) Bde AFA reported for duty.
26	Sigs 5th DA	B.M.	11.5 am	1st D.A. have lost touch with 6th (Army) Bde AFA.
27	6 Bde AFA	B.M.	11.15 am	Col COHEN has just received orders from 14th A.I.Bde. He will rendezvous at VILLENET. I advised that McDONALD was aware last night of situation and was apparently dealing with ammunition wagons at present.
28	B.M.	G3.5th Divn	11.20 am	Advised of 3 NF calls within 3000 yards of GREEN line.
29			12 noon	O.C.Signals, 5th D.A.H.Q. returned from forward and reported on situation.
30	G3.5th Div	B.M.	12.20 pm	Nothing further to report since 7 a.m. Report enemy holding out at LE CATELET line.
31	"	"	12.45 pm	Americans held up at G.5 and G.11.central. Tanks and Infantry advancing in G.11.c and 17.a & c - timed 10.15 a.m. 27th Divn failed to mop up BONY.
32				D.T.M.O. reported that Lieut KERR had been wounded.
33	CRA 1st D.A.	B.M.	1.50 pm	Conferring re situation. Understand unable to get Artillery forward. He would like to discuss situation with C.R.A.
34	Adjut 13 FAB	B.M.	2 pm	Batteries were to occupy positions West of BELLICOURT at 11.30 a.m. They were further forward but had to pull back. Line ran G.24.c.0.5 - G.18.d.0.0 - G.18.a.0.0 - G.18.a.2.8.

243

APPENDIX 129

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 1918.

Original App 74

No.	From	To	Time.	SUBJECT.
35	C.R.A.	GOC 5th Divn	2.10 pm	Conferred re 1st D.A. assisting. Arranged that they would only help provided they knew the latest situation which would hardly be possible if our Infantry were involved.
36	B.M.	CIB Corps	2.10 pm	Passed CIB message that most shelling was in vicinity of BELLICOURT was from PROSPECT HILL B.1 at 12 noon.
37	C.R.A.	CRA 1st D.A.	2.15 pm	Conferred re situation. 1st D.A. would not fire unless requested.
38	RA Corps	B.M.	2.15 pm	Contact patrols report that we hold GREEN line. C.R.A. explained that we would push out to RED line and asked for H.A. support. Told that both our Bdes, as far as known, were West of BELLICOURT.
39	B.M.	HA Aust Corps	2.20 pm	Informed of situation and asked for H.A. support beyond the RED line. Information required as to whether Cavalry have gone through.
40	C.R.A.	GOC 5th Divn	2.25 pm	Asked whether Cavalry had gone through. Arranged for H.A. support for 1 1/2 hours.
41	C.R.A.	13th FAB	2.25 pm	Situation. I found BELLICOURT and NAUROY mopped up and we were moving on to RED line. that he was
42	B.M.	6 Bde AFA	2.25 pm	Reported Col. COHEN at L.3 and Adjt with batteries off road at VILLENET.
43	C.R.A.	HA Aust Corps	2.35 pm	Advised of situation. G.O.C. referred matter to higher authority and ordered to carry out shoot. Shoot on RED line and beyond for 1 1/2 hours.
44	41 Bde RGA	B.M.	2.35 pm	Message timed 11.50 am from B.M. at 15th A.I. Bde "57th and 58th Btns to move to attack with Americans on LE CATELET and barrage required". Not received at D.A.H.Q. At 1.45 pm it was ascertained that it was only a pocket holding out. Conferred re moving and C.R.A. ordered them to move at once to position reconnoitred G.1 & 2.
45	15th A.I. Bde	C.R.A.	2.40 pm	15th A.I. Bde asked for barrage from A.30.e.5.0 to A.24.e.0.3 on GREEN line at 3 pm and lifting 500 yards every 20 minutes for 1500 yards.
46	C.R.A.	GOC 5th Divn	2.45 pm	G.O.C. advised accordingly. This would not affect heavy shooting beyond RED line.
47	B.M.	41 Bde RGA	2.45 pm	Shoot barrage as required. It is necessary to delay your move for present to carry out barrage.
48	C.R.A.	8th A.I. Bde	2.50 pm	Asking them to inform 15th A.I. Bde that barrage would be carried out by 41st Bde RGA and would not interfere with Heavy Artillery shoot beyond RED line.
49	41 Bde RGA	B.M.	3.10 pm	A battery commander is living with 15th A.I. Bde. He will be relieved

243

APPENDIX 1 2/30

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 29.../.9/1918.

Original App 29
✓

No.	From	To	Time.	SUBJECT.
49 contd				and another officer will take his place. Col. Bond will now proceed to Infantry and, after barrage, move 6 inch Hows, and if situation clears up to move 60 pdrs later.
50	B.M.	3rd D.A.	3.30 pm	Conferring re situation. Advised of our situation. Situation very obscure on 27th Divl front. Believed enemy still holds HINDENBURG line. Air report states Americans in GOUY.
51	1st D.A.	B.M.	3.35 pm	27th Divn counter-attacked from North and lost Knoll. Another attack developing on BONY. G3 advised accordingly.
52	41 Bde RGA	B.M.	3.40 pm	41st Bde RGA advised by Corps that GREEN line captured and are now passed to C.R.A. 5th Divn.
53	B.M.	G1, 5th Div	3.45 pm	Conferring re barrage put down by Heavy Artillery. Advising him of steps taken and co-ordinates of barrage.
54	15th A.I. Bde	C.R.A.	4.10 pm	Infantry advised that barrage was as required and everything satisfactory. Are now on way to LE CATELET line and should be there by now.
55	GOC/5th Div C.R.A.	GOC 5th Divn	4.12 pm	Advising you accordingly.
56	15th FAB	B.M.	4.45 pm	Advance Brigade H.Qrs at G.10.b.8.2. 50th and 113th Bts at G.9. 51st Bty RIQUEVAL Ravine. 49th Bty G.14. 8th A.I. Bde states that they will remain on GREEN line till 15th A.I. Bde come up.
57	B.M.	G3, 5th Divn	5.15 pm	FA N 200 H 7 "Going East open" received and passed to you.
58	41 Bde RGA	B.M.	5.18 pm	Conferring re the above. Think they must be our troops.
59	1st D.A.	B.M.	5.25 pm	F.O.O. reports 4.15 pm C.W. Wireless. We hold general line H.2 - H.20. central. Left obscure. Repeated to G3.
60			5.30 pm	Conferred with O.C. D.A. Signals at L.3. Reported xxxxx that I could xxx speak to C.O.'s both 13th and 14th F.A. Bdes and messages would be accepted. Our line would be through tonight.
61	C.R.A.	CRA 3rd D.A.	6 pm	Conferred re Left flank. They report 4th D.A. still operating and situation obscure.
62	41 Bde RGA	B.M.	6.5 pm	15th A.I. Bde report not on GREEN line. Conferring. Advising you situation obscure. C.O. is at present with batteries and 6 inch Hows should be moving now. Expect to get line to 15th A.I. Bde tonight.

243

APPENDIX 2/131

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 29/9/1918.

Original
44872

No.	From	To	Time.	SUBJECT.
63	C.R.A.	Sigs 5th D.A.	6.15 pm	Arrange to put C.W.Wireless with 14th F.A.B. tomorrow morning.
64	C.R.A.	6 Bde AFA	6.18 pm	Conferring. Necessary you place your guns where they can operate for S.O.S. if required. VILLERET should give you sufficient range. Take Northern front. From HINDENBURG line to where it joins LE CATELET line.
65	G.O.C.	C.R.A.	6.30 pm	G.O.C. authorises C.R.A. to take over command of Artillery covering the front.
66	C.R.A. 4th DA	C.R.A.	6.40 pm	Situation obscure - just coming through. Will advise you as soon as S.O.S. line fixed.
67	B.M.	6 Bde AFA	6.45 pm	Advised of above. S.O.S. lines will be advised later.
68	B.M.	14th A.I.Bde	6.45 pm	Advised accordingly. C.R.A. will give any assistance required.
69	C.R.A.	CRA 1st D.A.	6.50 pm	Conferring re situation. They will give any assistance if required. Taking report from Lieut MURRAY. G3 advised of report.
70	C.R.A.	G1, 5th Div	7.5 pm	Conferring re situation and arranging for 1st D.A. to cover whole front if required. Our Artillery to remain under orders of Infantry Brigades. S.O.S. A.22.d.central - A.29.central - G. 6.c.central and roads G.12.b.4.8 - along sunken road.
71	C.R.A.	CRA 1st D.A.	7.20 pm	Arranged with C.R.A. 1st D.A. to cover front as above.
72	B.M. 1st D.A.	B.M.	-	Further report from Americans. Repeated to G3.
73	C.R.A.	6th Bde AFA	7.25 pm	Explaining that 6th Army Bde AFA would remain under 14th A.I.Bde orders and that 1st D.A. would cover front as required.
74	B.M.	41st Bde RGA	7.30 pm	S.O.S. line passed to you. Same as for 1st D.A.
75	CRA 1st D.A.	C.R.A.	7.40 pm	Information shows that Americans are outside of S.O.S. line and require to put it A.22.d.5.9 - 29.b.8.2 - G.6.a.4.6 - G.12.d.8.6. C.R.A. approved. G1, 5th Divn advised accordingly.
76	14th FAB	C.R.A.	7.45 pm	Advising S.O.S. lines arranged with Infantry. Arrangement must be made to junction with 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade.
77	Liaison 8th A.I.Bde	B.M.	8.40 pm	S.O.S. across valley in G. 12, H.13. Co-ordinates will be fixed and will be advised.
78	BM 1st D.A.	B.M.	8.50 pm	H.A. affiliated to shoot 400 yards beyond 13 pdrs S.O.S. lines.
79	HA Aust Corps	B.M.	9 pm	Corps S.O.S. lines laid down by Corps B.13.central - B.25.central - 26.c.0.0 - H.2.c.0.0 - H.9.c.0.0. Passed to Liaison 8th A.I.Bde.
80	8th A.I.Bde	B.M.	9.25 pm	Latest information of front G.20.c.2.0 - G.18.d.5.0 - G.18.b.9.1 - G.11.b.4.0 - up trench to road G.5.a.8.5.
81	C.R.A.	B.M.	9.35 pm	14th A.I.Bde will attack tomorrow. 3 Bdes will fire creeping barrage

APPENDIX 2 132

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. .../.../1918.

Original
App 21
22

No.	From	To	Time.	S U B J E C T .
81	continued			120 minutes A.27 - 28. central North to CATELET. One battery to fire smoke barrage on Eastern edge of barrage.
82	B.M.	6th Bde AFA	9.45 pm	Advising you accordingly. Battery positions 18 bty L.17.a.7.8, 16 bty L.17.a.30.15, 17th bty L.23.c.7.6, 106th bty L.23.c.3.3. Col. COHEN has no communication to batteries from L.3.a.
83	B.M.	Capt PRIOR	10 pm	To inform 13th Aust.F.A. Brigade of attack in morning, most Easterly battery to fire smoke. Capt PRIOR to advise co-ordinates of batteries.
84	B.M.	14th FAB	10.30 pm	Advising them of scheme of attack by 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade. They will advise co-ordinates of batteries.
85	C.R.A.	B.M.	10.45 pm	Have you been in touch with brigades? Yes. Ammunition will be a difficulty Staff Captain is dealing with the matter. 6th Army Bde AFA cannot reach objective from present positions. The C.R.A. orders them to move to such positions as will enable them to do so.
86	B.M.	6 Bde AFA	10.55 pm	Conferring re attack. The C.R.A. orders guns to be put in such a position that they can support attack. C.O. would like to confer with C.R.A. regarding move of guns.
87				Zero 6 a.m. 240 rounds per gun. 6th Army Bde AFA will not operate but will cover 8th A.I. Bde front. Only 13th and 14th Aust.F.A. Brigades will participate. 41st Brigade RGA will probably participate. H.A. support required on PROSPECT HILL only.
88	B.M.	6 Bde AFA	11.45 pm	Advising you accordingly.
89	B.M.	13th FAB	11.50 pm	Advising you accordingly.

243

APPENDIX 2/33

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE. 30...../9.../1918

Original
Sept 30 23

No.	From	To	Time	SUBJECT
90			2.36 am	Synchronising - 15 minutes fast.
91	C.R.A.	G.O.C.	7.45 am	G.O.C. reported that our Infantry was being shelled from CABARET FARM by 77 mm over open sights. Passed to Lieut-Col. COHEN and he had no communication. Passed to Heavy Artillery and they would engage.
92	B.M.	Capt Prier	8 am	Asking for any information on movement at SUGAR FACTORY and to confer with Infantry as to their latest situation as they captured NAUROY last night. Liaison reported all Btn Liaison lines out of order. G3 had no information of movement. 8th A.I. Bde reported all quiet.
93	RA Aust Corps	B.M.	8.5 am	Asking for information. Nothing in. Conferred re taking over 6 additional Artillery Brigades. R.A. Corps agreed with idea of allowing them to remain under 1st D.A. as they would pass from our command as soon as we moved.
94	6 Bde AFA	B.M.	8 am	Lieut-Col. Cohen was reconnoitring with the idea of moving forward.
95	G3, 5th Div	B.M.	8.30 am	Right Company report (timed 7.20 am) progress well at A.28.b.6.6. Many M.Gs and 2 Field Guns captured.
96	C.R.A.	14th FAB	8.45 am	Barrage was ragged. Reported all guns in action.
97	14th A.I. Bde	R.O.	9 am	Left flank 58th Btn in a trench A.22.d.5.5. The attack by the 14th A.I. Bde going well. Several M.Gs and 2 Field Guns captured.
98	B.M.	4th D.A.	9.30 am	Conferring as to situation. 4th D.A. on left of 3rd D.A.
99	6 Bde AFA	B.M.	10 am	Reported by Infantry that line East of NAUROY unchanged. 14th A.I. Bde mopping up LE CATELET trench meeting opposition and M.G. from West. Instruct your Brigade to reconnoitre and move forward. Still to cover 8th A.I. Bde till further orders. Headquarters, 6th (Army) Bde, A.F.A., will move to vicinity 13th F.A.B.
100	C.R.A.	RA Corps	10.20 am	Conferring re taking over additional Brigades. It is not settled how long you will remain so organised.
101			11.30 am	Brigade Major 1st D.A. called and conferred re handing over.
102			11.45 am	C.R.A. and Brigade Major of 2nd D.A. called and conferred.
103	C.R.A.	CRA 1st DA	11.55 am	Advising line for S.O.S. Left and Right Groups. You are to repeat to them
104				We hold posts in CABARET Woods.
105			12.15 pm	Lt-Col. DERHAM reported on return from leave and was sent on to 14th F.A.B.

APPENDIX 3 134

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE.30/...9/1918

No.	From	To	Time	SUBJECT
106	Left Grp	B.M.	1.45 pm	Reported at 9.10 am that Australians are holding LE CATELET-NAUROY line from A.22.d.5.5 to A.28.b.8.1. Everything on right O.K. On left gap between them and 27th American Div. Prisoners taken at CABARET Wood Farm state that Australians have gone forward. 1.5 pm Liaison 119th American Regt. Passed to G3 at 2.15 pm.
107	6 Bde AFA	B.M.	2.50 pm	Propose to move to G.8.c.7.3 and batteries G.14.b to be established by 4.30 p.m. Will have 100 rounds per gun tonight. Will join up with 13th F.A.B. and 14th A.I.Bde.
108	14 FAB	B.M.	3 pm	At 3.30 pm the 15th A.I.Bde proposed to push forward the Right Btn to the GREEN line to take CABARET Wood and Signal Station. 8th A.I.Bde to meet them and require Heavy Artillery on ESTREES.
109	B.M.	H.A.	3.10 pm	Heavy Artillery cannot fire inside A.27central - A.27.d.0.0 - E to T.25.d.0.0 - South to B.13.d.0.0 - E to B.18.c.0.0 South.
110	C.R.A.	12 Bde AFA	3.20 pm	2 Brigades to bombard trench system G.6 and H.1 till 4.15 p.m.. 1 round per gun per minute and then lift on to FOLENPRISE Farm and N.W. part ESTREES for 20 minutes.
111	G1,5th Div	B.M.	3.20 pm	Corps have approved of Heavy Artillery to shoot as required for operation.
112	C.R.A.	Right Gp	3.40 pm	1 Brigade to fire for operation as for Left Group. 65th Army Bde RFA to move up and occupy positions of 150th Army Bde RFA tonight.
113	C.R.A.	HA Corps	3.45 pm	Explaining situation to them and they would fire Field Guns programme.
114	14 A.I.Bde	B.M.	3.50 pm	M.G. from A.22.b.2.1 - A.16.d.5.0 and GRANCOURT.
115	RA Corps	B.M.	3.55 pm	13th and 14th Batteries will not move with Cavalry but will remain in action under C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division.
116	B.M.	3rd D.A.	4 pm	Requesting them to engage M.G.A.16.d.5.0. They had no objection to Heavy Artillery bombarding GRANCOURT.
117	G1,5th Div	C.R.A.	4.5 pm	Reported that all calibres are engaging LE CATELET line opposite G.6 and H.1. C.B. informed and they state they cannot fire without orders from Corps. Reported to G.O.C. 5th Div who will ring Corps and ask for embargo to be removed.

APPENDIX 135

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE 30/ 9/1918

Original 23
App 30

243

APPENDIX 3136

No.	From	To	Time	Subject.
118	C.B.S.O.	C.R.A.	4.15 pm	C.R.A. reported that G.O.C. 5th Aust. Divn had asked Corps to allow Heavy Artillery to engage guns that were firing on LE CATELET. Aeroplane reports that Americans are on East of ESTREES.
119	13th FAB	B.M.	4.15 pm	Report on situation generally and latest front line.
120	14th A.I. Bde	B.M.	4.35 pm	60 pdrs short shooting in G.6.c. Further report asked for.
121	8th A.I. Bde	B.M.	4.35 pm	60 pdrs falling West of ETRICOURT G.18.d. Heavy Artillery advised accordingly. They think it is IX Corps.
122	12 Army Bde	B.M.	4.55 pm	Authority to recall Liaison with 119th American Regt. They are not in action.
123	G1, 5th Divn	C.R.A.	6 pm	15th A.I. Bde were not successful.
124	"	"	6.45 pm	1st Guards have manned LE CATELET Trench. Arrange to bombard for 1/2 hour, stop for 1 hour and then bombard for 1/2 hour. From H.23.a.3.7 up to A.11.central. Arranged with 68th Brigade RGA.
125	RA Corps	B.M.	6.45 pm	Restrictions on Heavy Artillery have been lifted. It is necessary to advise Corps H.A. of our front line.
126	C.R.A.	B.M.	7 pm	Shoot on the LE CATELET system to be short bursts during the night and not as arranged. Arranged with 68th Bde, RGA, accordingly. 3rd D.A. Advised accordingly.
127	G.O.C.	C.R.A.	7.15 pm	Arrange to put down burst of fire with both Field Artillery and Heavy Artillery during the night on SUGAR FACTORY H.7.c.3.7, LAMP SIGNAL STN G.6.d, Trench system A, B, C & H. S.O.S. will be A.17.central - 23.central - 29.central - East edge of CABARET WOOD FARM G.6.a.7.0 along GREEN LINE to H.13.b.5.5.
128	B.M.	68 Bde RGA	7.25 pm	Arrange with Heavy Artillery to fire bursts on above targets during the night intermittently. Advised them of S.O.S. line.
129	B.M.	Left Gp	7.45 pm	Arrange shoots as above. Informed them of S.O.S. line.
130	B.M.		7.50 pm	Passing S.O.S. as above.
131	Right Gp	B.M.	8.30 pm	Advising you of night firing and S.O.S. line. 65th Army Bde, RFA, have reconnoitred positions East of QUARRY WOOD and intend to occupy them on the morning of the 1st Oct.
132	G2, 5th Divn	B.M.	9 pm	Conferring re S.O.S. line. Put it out to GREEN line temporarily while Infantry consider but brought in as previously fixed.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY
 SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS ON THE TELEPHONE ³⁰ / ⁹ / 1918

Original 23
App 20
 243

No.	From	To	Time	Subject.
133			11 pm	C.R.A. returned from conference held at Headquarters, 14th A.I. Bde.

APPENDIX 2 3/37

Original

App

Copy No.

Secret.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY ORDER No. 91

1. The 3rd and 5th Australian Divisions will advance northwards on the 30th September, 1918, and secure the KNOB and RAILWAY RIDGE respectively, with the object of clearing all enemy in the area west and south of LE CATELLET. The boundary line between Divisions will be: - A.27.central-A.21.d.7.0 - VAUBAN Valley.
2. The 14th Australian Infantry Brigade will advance on a one-battalion front, under a Field Artillery barrage. The forming up line will be: A.29.o.0.4 to A.28.o.0.9.
Objective: RAILWAY RIDGE to A.17.central.
ZERO: 6 a.m.
3. 18 pdr Artillery Start Line: 300 yards in front of Infantry forming up line.
4.5" Hows will bombard LE CATELET - NAURCY line and will be 200 yards in-front of 18 pdr barrage.
Rate of barrage: 100 yards in 5 minutes.

On reaching trench junction in A.11.o, 4.5" Hows will form a Protective Barrage from A.10.o.4.5 to A.11.d.0.7.

18 pdrs will cease fire at plus 2 hours.
4.5" Hows will cease fire at plus 3 hours.

Rates of fire: 18 pdrs 2 rounds per gun per minute.
4.5" Hows 1 round per How per minute.
4. The Artillery programme will be carried out by the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades. Dividing line between Brigades A.28.d.00.65. Western portion is allotted to 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade and Eastern portion to 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade.
5. 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade will detail one battery to form a smoke screen on the Eastern flank of Artillery Barrage. This smoke screen will move forward with the Artillery Barrages and in advance of it.
Forecast: Wind Northerly.
6. From Zero till Zero plus 3 hours the 6th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A. will be responsible for the defence of the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade front
7. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will move forward its left flank in conformity with the attack of the 14th Australian Infantry Brigade and occupy the line of LE CATELLET Trench to the junction of the latter with the inter-divisional boundary.
8. (i) The 11th A.I. Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division will attack on the left, having for its objective the KNOB.
(ii) The IX Corps on the right will attack and occupy JONCOURT.
The 8th Australian Infantry Brigade will conform to this attack and occupy ETRICOURT. The hour for the

P.T.O.

- 2 -

IX Corps attack has not yet been fixed. This will be notified later.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 3 am 30/9/18

J. R. Mullen
Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

	Copy No.		Copy No.
1st Aust. Divl Arty	1	D.T.M.O. 5th Aust. Division	27
2nd Aust. Divl Arty	2	Signals, 5th D.A.H.Q.	28
3rd Aust. Divl Arty	3	46th Divl Artillery	29
4th Aust. Divl Arty	4	14th A.I. Bde	30
5th Aust. Division	5	15th A.I. Bde	31
30th American Division	6	8th A.I. Bde	32
H.A. Aust. Corps	7	R.A. IX Corps	33
R.A. Aust. Corps	8	41st Brigade, R.G.A.	34
C.B.S.O. Aust. Corps	9	Staff Captain	35
13th Aust. F.A. Bde	10 - 15	C.R.A.	36
14th Aust. F.A. Bde	16 - 20	Brigade Major	37
6th (Army) Bde AFA	21 - 25	Reconnaissance Officer	38
5th Aust. D.A.C.	26	War Diary	39
		File	41
			42

243

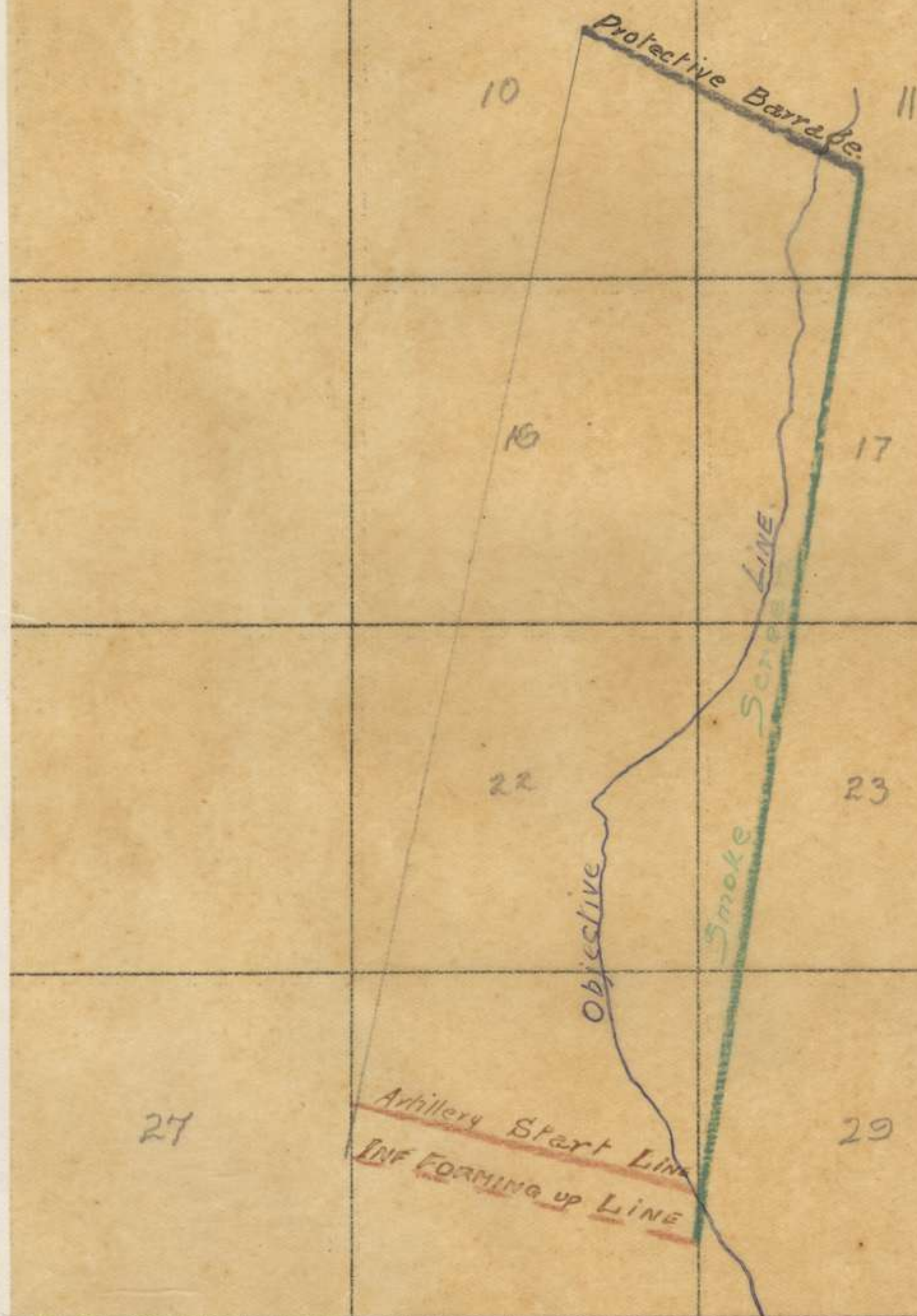
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Sketch

To Accompany 5th AUST. DIV. ARTY. Order No 91.Reference Sheet 62^B

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Original

app 23 23
141

Secret.

As at 4 p.m. 30/9/18

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Brigadier-General A.J. BESSELL-BROWNE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,

DISPOSITION RETURN No. 96.

Reference Sheets 62B and 62C 1-40,000

5th Aust. D.A.H.Q., HERVILLY,

(K.23.d.6.6)

UNIT.	LOCATION.
Right Group under command of Lieut-Col. H. CORNES, D.S.O., Headquarters L.20.d.8.4 84th Army Bde, R.F.A., H.Q.	L.20.d.8.4
"A" Battery	L.17.a.88.15
"B" "	L.17.o.27.98
"C" "	L.17.o.75.85
"D" "	L.24.a.73.86
65th Army Bde, R.F.A., H.Q.	L.13.d.95.45
465th Battery	L.11a.167.31
466th "	L.11.o.15.93
504th "	L.11.a.05.73
505th "	L.10.a.89.76
Left Group under command of Lieut-Col. H.W. LLOYD, D.S.O. Headquarters L.10.a.2.5 12th (Army) Bde, A.F.A., H.Q.	L.10.a.2.5
45th Battery	L.11.b.72.60
46th "	L.11.a.91.15
47th "	L.11.a.90.25
112th "	L.5.d.60.15
4th Aust. F.A. Bde, H.Q.	L.9.o.5.9
10th Battery	L.5.a.36.40
11th "	L.5.a.63.64
12th "	L.5.a.37.54
104th "	L.5.b.40.30
5th Aust. F.A. Bde, H.Q.	L.10.a.2.5
13th Battery	L.5.d.60.75
14th "	L.5.a.48.98
15th "	L.5.a.55.80
105th "	L.5.b.32.50
13th Aust. F.A. Bde under command Lieut-Col. H.O. GADDY, D.S.O. Headquarters G.7.d.4.2 (Supporting 8th A.I. Bde).	G.13.b.20.95
49th Battery	G.8.d.80.20
50th "	G.8.o.80.80
51st "	G.9.o.9.1
113th "	
14th Aust. F.A. Bde under command Lieut-Col. F.P. DERNHAM, D.S.O. Headquarters G.3.o.5.2 (Supporting 15th A.I. Bde).	G.9.a.3.9
53rd Battery	G.9.a.2.4
54th "	G.2.d.8.1
55th "	L.6.a.5.3
114th "	

P.T.O.

UNIT.	LOCATION.
6th (Army) Bde, A.F.A. under command Lieut-Col H.E. COHEN, C.M.G., DSO Headquarters G8.c.7.3 (Supporting 14th A.I. Bde)	
16th Battery	G.14.b.9.7
17th "	G.14.b.2.8
18th "	G.14.b.6.5
106th "	G.14.a.9.7
5th Aust. D.A.C., H.Q.	F.26.c.0.2
No.1 Section	L.15.d
No.2 Section	L.11.d.9.4
6th (Army) B.A.C., A.F.A.	K.23.d.6.3
84th Army B.A.C., R.F.A.	K.22.c.8.5
12th (Army) B.A.C., A.F.A.	K.20.b.4.5
65th Army B.A.C., R.F.A.	K.23.d.6.6
D.T.M.O. 5th Aust. Divn	HESBECOURT
9th M.T.M. Battery	K.18.b.90.10
10th "	O.17.a.9.2
D.A.D.O.S. 5th Aust. Divn	K.31.b.4.4
Supply Dump	CATELLET
No.22 O.M.W. (Light)	K.23.a.1.2
5th Aust. Mob. Vet. Sec. (Advanced)	K.19.c.2.8
5th Aust. Mc b. Vet. Sec.	HAMEL
Divl Canteen	LE MESNIL
Comforts Fund	

H.M. Laity 2/Lieut.,
Reconnaissance Officer,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

S e c r e t.

Copy No. 29

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY ORDER No.92

1. During the night 29th/30th September, 1918, the following artillery passed to the command of the C.R.A. 5th Australian Division:-
 - 2nd Aust. Divl Artillery
 - 12th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A.
 - 84th Army Brigade, R.F.A.
 - 65th Army Brigade, R.F.A.
2. Consequent upon the above the artillery covering the 5th Australian Division will be re-grouped as follows:-
 - (a) Right Group under command of Lieut-Col. H. CORNES, D.S.O., (Headquarters at L.20.d.5.4) consisting of -
 - 84th Army Brigade, R.F.A.
 - 65th Army Brigade, R.F.A.
 - Left Group under command of Lieut-Col. H.W. LLOYD, C.M.G., DSO. (Headquarters at L.10.a.2.5) consisting of -
 - 12th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A.
 - 4th Aust. F.A. Brigade.
 - 5th Aust. F.A. Brigade
 - (b) 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade under command of Lieut-Col. H.O. CADDY, D.S.O. (Headquarters at G.7.d.4.2) in support of 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
 - 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade under command of Lieut-Col. F.P. DERHAM, D.S.O. (Headquarters at G.3.o.5.2) in support of 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
 - 6th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A., under command of Lieut-Col. H.E. COHEN, C.M.G., D.S.O. (Headquarters at L.3.a.8.4) in support of 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
3. Left Group and Right Group will be responsible for the defense of the front and S.O.S. lines are allotted as follows:-
 - Left Group: Original GREEN line from Divisional Northern boundary to H.7.o.6.8.
 - Right Group: Original GREEN line from H.7.o.6.8 to H.13.b.central.
4. Barrage from H.13.b.central to Southern Divl boundary will be arranged by C.O. 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade in conference with G.O.C. 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
5. The 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades and the 6th (Army) Brigade, A.F.A., will be superimposed on S.O.S. lines as decided by G.O's C. Infantry Brigades which they are covering.
6. Headquarters, 5th Australian Divl Artillery, will remain at K.23.d.6.6.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. R. M. Allen

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

Issued at K.23.d.6.6 at 2 p.m. 30/9/18.
For distribution P.T.O.

- 2 -

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H.A. Aust. Corps	5	32nd Divl Artillery	19
R.A. Aust. Corps	6	14th A.I. Brigade	20
G.B.S.O. Aust. Corps	7	15th A.I. Brigade	21
13th Aust. F.A. Bde	8	8th A.I. Brigade	22
14th Aust. F.A. Bde	9	Staff Captain	23
6th (Army) Bde, A.F.A.	10	C.R.A.	24
5th Aust. D.A.C.	11	Brigade Major	25
12th (Army) Bde, A.F.A.	12	Reconnaissance Officer	26
4th Aust. F.A. Bde	13	War Diary	27 - 29
5th Aust. F.A. Bde	14	File	30

NOTE:

original *app 24*

The attached reports deal with the participation of the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery in the operations which took place from 8/8/18 to 10/9/18.

The reports are intended as a record of the work of the Divisional Artillery and also as a narrative of events.

H. W. Lart 2/Lieut,
Reconnaissance Officer,
5th Australian Divl Artillery.

APPENDIX

24
145

Report on operations 8th August, 1918.

1. Dispositions prior to the attack.

On the night of the 6th/7th August, 1918, the 13th and 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigades moved into positions in the area O.18, O.24, O.29 and O.30, and came under the tactical control of the 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery. The 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade formed part of the Right Group and the 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade part of the Left Group.

The 5th Aust. Divl Ammunition Column, H.Q.s were at BLANCY TRONVILLE.

For the attack Forward Divl Artillery Headquarters were established at VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.

Normal harassing fire was carried out for the 48 hours before zero.

600 rounds per gun were dumped at battery positions before zero (4.20 a.m. 8/8/18).

Prior to zero batteries were subjected to fairly heavy shell-fire and the following casualties occurred:-

13th Aust. F.A. Brigade:

- 1 Officer (Lieut. W. BRUNTON) accidentally wounded, 1 O.R. killed, 7 O.R.'s wounded, 7 horses killed and 12 wounded.

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade:

- 1 Officer killed (Major H.L. BREYER, D.S.O., 11th Howitzer Battery), 1 O.R. wounded and about 20 horses killed or wounded.

During the night 7th/8th August wagon lines were assembled in O.14 and O.16.

2. The Barrage.

All batteries participated in the barrage which commenced at 4.20 a.m. and rolled back to a depth of just over 4,000 yards. This barrage was reported by the Infantry as excellent.

During the barrage the hostile shell fire was practically nil - so effective was the counter battery work.

3. The Advance.

For the advance onwards from the Green line the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade was allotted to the 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade - the Right Brigade - and the 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade was allotted to the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade - the Left Brigade.

(a) Forward Sections.

Lieut J.J.B. PUNCH with a Section of the 53rd Battery and Lieut K.B. JONES with a Section of the 51st Battery moved forward in close support of the Infantry detailed for the 2nd and 3rd objectives.

4. Section on the Right.

Prior to the Section under Lieut PUNCH moving off at 6.45 a.m. an aeroplane dropped three bombs amongst the teams, killing a Corporal and three men, wounding the other Corporal and five men, and killed or wounded 16 horses. These casualties were replaced at once from the battery. The Section moved forward without delay and followed on about 500 yards in rear of the Infantry. As the Tanks and Cavalry got ahead it was found necessary to bring the Sections to within 100 yards of the Infantry.

Except for H.C. fire from GUILLAUCOURT, which was soon silenced by a Tank, the Tanks and Cavalry met with no resistance until they reached the South of HARBONNIERES when the enemy opened point blank H.C. fire from the road running North from the railway bridge at V.23.b.80.00. This checked the Cavalry. The machine gun fire was silenced by time shrapnel fired over open sights at 1000 yards range, and the Cavalry were able to withdraw. While in the same position the Sections engaged enemy horse and motor transport moving along the road and also Infantry advancing in extended order towards the road.

When the H.C. fire became heavy, the Sections withdrew to a covered position South of HARBONNIERES and from there engaged enemy movement and machine guns until 5 p.m. by which time the Infantry had consolidated. At this time the Section was subjected to heavy shell-

fire and in getting clear one gun was hit, 4 drivers and a gunner wounded, and 16 horses killed or wounded. It was only by using stray horses that the guns and firing battery wagons could be got away. The first line wagons were withdrawn after dark by fresh teams.

5. Section on the Left.

The Section under Lieut JONES moved off at 6 a.m. and took up a position at P.29.c.20.60 at 6.30 a.m. From there it fired on and dispersed a considerable body of the enemy in Q.26.a. This Section then moved forward to P.29.b.central and fired upon parties of the enemy in Q.26.central. Having moved forward to P.30.b.80.60 transport in Q.27.d was engaged. When the Infantry passed the Green line the Section followed close behind and from a position in Q.32.a.central fired into HARBONNIERES at the request of the Infantry. Whilst in this position a party of 30 Germans with 3 machine guns came out of some dug-outs near by and surrendered to the Section. From Q.30.a. an enemy strong post was engaged. When the next position at Q.35.central was occupied the Infantry were out of sight, but movement in FRAMERVILLE, reported by the Infantry, was engaged.

The Section was the first to move across the enemy's front line which it did without difficulty, and although it frequently came under rifle and M.G. fire, there were no casualties. Having fired 155 rounds Lieut JONES rejoined his Battery at 5.30 p.m.

6. (b) Remainder of the batteries.

As soon as the 1st objective was reached, batteries moved forward. No difficulty was experienced in crossing the front line system of trenches. This was due to the work done by the Divl Ammunition Column and Pioneers in clearing tracks across the trenches and wire, as well as to the reconnaissance made by battery officers beforehand. Only one battery used a trench bridge.

5. 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade.

At 8.4 a.m. the 49th Battery came into action at P.35.a.9.0 and from there fired 350 rounds on enemy in Q.26.a & d, Q.28.c and Q.32.a and D. At 8.52 a.m. hostile batteries in Q.35.b & d and W.5.b were fired on and also valley in Q.35 was searched at the request of the Infantry. For about 20 minutes the battery was lightly shelled by 10.5 cm Hows, but no casualties were sustained. At 10.25 a.m. the battery moved to Q.33.a.80.60, but as the situation was obscure a further advance was made to Q.28.a.35.95 so as to cover the Blue line. Wagon lines at Q.25.d were shelled by a H.V. gun killing two horses and wounding three others.

The 50th Battery at 8.20 a.m. took up a position in P.22.d and with observation fired upon the retiring enemy in Q.26 and Q.27.

At 9.30 a.m. from a position at P.3.d.90.40 enemy in R.35.c and d were engaged. At 12.30 p.m. a position to cover the Blue line was occupied at Q.35.d.40.90 - 1400 yards from the front line. This valley was shelled during the afternoon and 4 O.R's and 2 mules were wounded.

The 51st Battery (less forward section) came into action at 8.18 a.m. at P.23.d.40.00, but communication forward could not be established owing to Tanks cutting the cable. Having advanced to Q.25.a.central enemy movement in Q.28.b was successfully engaged with observation. The Battery then took up a position at Q.27.b.40.90 to cover the Blue line. The only casualty throughout the day was one horse wounded.

The 113th Howitzer Battery at 8.30 a.m. occupied a position at P.35.b.10.50 and engaged movement reported by the Infantry in the valley Q.35.central to Q.29.central. The Battery moved to Q.33.a and then to Q.35.a.25.35. The advance was too fast for the F.O.O. to maintain communication with the Battery and at the same time keep with the Infantry, but at the request of the Infantry (after the capture of the Blue line) enemy parties moving towards R.34.central and at X.10.central were effectively engaged.

6. 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade.

All batteries moved forward to V.4.c, but the Infantry advance was so rapid that it was found necessary to push forward and batteries came into action in W.8.d. Enemy M.G's in X.13.a & b were effectively engaged and a number of other targets reported by the Infantry.

L4 148

7. Difficulties.

Visibility. In the early part of the morning the mist and smoke made observation impossible. Later it cleared somewhat but observation was never good.

Communications. Owing to the rapidity and depth of the advance, communication was difficult to maintain, especially between Batteries and D.A.H.Q.

The 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade found that visual signalling, when over the ground rendered it possible, worked well.

The 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade found that the only practicable method of communication was by mounted orderlies.

Communications between Headquarters, 5th Australian Divl Artillery and Brigades was more difficult still. Brigades were often out of touch; in some cases for times exceeding two hours.

At 8.30 a.m. 6 Brigades of Artillery were under the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery and only 4 despatch riders were available. Proper communication could not therefore be maintained. At the end of the day Despatch Riders were exhausted and their bicycles were out of repair.

8. Watering of horses.

This was difficult. Only a few pools in villages and wells were available.

9. Ammunition supply.

No difficulty was experienced with the ammunition supply. Batteries moved forward with full echelons, AND WERE REPLENISHED BY DAC AND BATTERY WAGONS FROM FORWARD ARPS.

10. General.

Batteries found many articles which were held for the Australian War Museum. These included 5 M.G.'s, an Anti-Tank Rifle, a German Amplifier and a trench periscope. Documents, range tables and code books were found and forwarded to "G" Division.

11. Action during the night.

The enemy Artillery was very quiet. Although it was cloudy a considerable amount of bombing took place.

12. Recommendations.

(a) Forward Sections. The forward sections were able to carry out the tasks assigned to them although in future it would be more satisfactory to have one forward section to each assaulting battalion. The difficulty of keeping touch with two battalions would therefore be surmounted. To move a larger body of Artillery with the Infantry would cause too many casualties in horses and men and would possibly render Brigades immobile in the early stages of the advance.

(b) Mobile Training. The necessity for more training in the occupation and movement from positions was demonstrated.

(c) Communications. D.A.H.Q. should have at least one more despatch rider per Brigade. With less it is impossible to maintain efficient communication.

When Divisional Artillery are inflated by the addition of further brigades the allotment of Signals is insufficient to effectively cope with communications. They would be increased proportionately to the inflation.

When telephone or visual communication was impossible mounted Orderlies were found to be too slow.

F.O.O. parties were too heavily laden. The use of pigeons could have been dispensed with as by the time messages reached brigades they were valueless.

To ensure a rapid means of communication from F.O.O.'s to the rear it is considered that the idea of using a Tank flying Artillery colours and carrying armoured or ordinary cable could be developed. An exchange to which F.O.O.'s could run short lengths of wire could be established near the Tank and it could also be a report centre for the Infantry requiring Artillery fire.

(d) Horse teams. Four horses in first line teams were insufficient as they soon knocked up and galled before the six horse teams.

(e) Movement of H.Q. The C.O. 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade experienced great difficulty in keeping in touch with the C.O.C. 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade owing to the migratory methods of the latter. The Infantry Brigade Headquarters should be a main report-centre and should move

forward in a series of bounds.

D.A.H.Q. should leave its Divisional Headquarters and adopt the principle of advancing in bounds to places about 8000 yards in rear of the front line.

27.9.18

Efficiency
Brig General
CRA 5th Aust. Division

1. The advance on the 9th August, 1918.(a) Action to cover attack on the Right.

At 9 a.m. the 2nd Canadian Division attacked on the Right. The 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade sent out patrols to cover the Left Flank. A section of the 53rd Battery was pushed forward to assist this operation, but on account of the short notice, by the time communication was established the patrols had reached their objective. The section moved on in close support of the attack by the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade at 11 a.m.

(b) First objective.

At 11 a.m. the 7th Aust. Infantry Brigade advanced to the line running from X.1.a.2.0 to X.8.e.2.0 (approximately), an advance of about 2000 yards.

The 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades, grouped under Lieut Col. H. O. CADDY, D.S.O., were to have covered this attack, but owing to the 1st Aust. Division (which was to have attacked on the Right) being late, the 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, who were holding the line, attacked. At the request of the G.O.C. 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade, the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade covered this attack.

The forward section of the 53rd Battery moved in the direction of the railway at ROSIERES owing to the opposition there and engaged enemy M.G.s and Infantry.

Batteries of the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade moved forward to W.11 and 18 and X.7 after finishing the barrage from which positions hostile batteries in R.23 and CREEPY Wood were engaged with observation and silenced. E

Lieut JONES, the P.O.C. with the Infantry, was wounded by a M.G. bullet in the head.

(c) Second objective.

The Second objective was the line from X.3.central to X.17.central. At 4.30 p.m. the attack was carried out by the 1st Aust. Division on the Right and the 2nd Aust. Division on the Left - the Infantry of which passed through the 8th and 15th Aust. Infantry Brigades. This objective was reached except for the high ground in X.16. The advance here was held up by enemy M.G. fire.

(d) Artillery action.

The attack by the 2nd Australian Division Infantry was covered by Artillery under the 2nd Aust. Divl Artillery. The 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade came under the orders of the 2nd Aust. Divl Artillery while the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade remained a defensive brigade covering the 5th Australian Division Infantry.

(1) 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade.

The 50th Battery engaged many targets including an enemy battery which limbered up and retired under a heavy fire, and an anti-tank gun, the personnel of which surrendered to the Infantry.

The 51st Battery engaged a party of the enemy moving south of FRANKVILLE, forcing them to retire and apparently inflicting casualties. A M.G. which had been doing considerable damage and holding up the Infantry advance was silenced.

The 113th Battery engaged enemy Infantry advancing on the roads to the West of RAINECOURT.

An airman, who had been brought down, reported that a battery was retiring from FRANKVILLE. This was engaged by the 51st and 113th Batteries, but the effect could not be seen.

At 12.30 p.m., the 49th Battery moved to W.6.a.0.2 - 1200 yards from the front line. During this operation Lieut W. J. BRADY was wounded, 1 O.R. killed and 8 O.R's wounded.

In the 51st Battery B. S. M. MORRIS was killed, 2 O.R's wounded and 5 horses were killed or wounded.

The 113th Battery had 3 O.R's wounded.

Lieut J. V. ROEBUCK, the Liaison Officer with the Infantry, died on the 11th from wounds received during

(2)

the attack. One O.R. was killed and 2 O.R's were wounded at the same time. All from the 50th Battery.

(11) 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade.

The forward section of the 53rd Battery, under Lieut J.C. DOYLE, did good work in silencing enemy M.Gs and engaging enemy Infantry.

2. Operations on the 10th August, 1918.

In conjunction with the attack by the Infantry of the 2nd Aust. Division, the 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade carried out snouts on areas reported to contain enemy M.Gs. Parties of enemy in the area X.11.a, X.12.a and c, were engaged and casualties observed to have been inflicted. Machine guns in X.11 .a were silenced and the enemy were seen to run away from the guns. Parties of the enemy in X.17.b were also engaged. At 7.15 p.m. the 51st and 113th Batteries engaged and silenced a section of 77 mm firing from R.28.d.9.3.

After this operation the batteries of the 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade moved into the squares W.6 and W.12.

The 54th Battery engaged and silenced the enemy Machine guns on the high ground in X.13, firing over 200 rounds.

3. Relief by 2nd Aust. Divl Artillery.

About 5 p.m. the 49th Battery and the batteries of the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade were relieved by batteries of the 4th and 5th Aust. F.A. Brigades.

They were on the road to the VILLERS BRETONNEUX area when orders were received to return and to have 200 rounds per gun in position by 8.30 p.m. These batteries came into action alongside of the positions just vacated, which

The operation, was to have taken place at 9.30 p.m. was postponed until 4.30 a.m. on the following morning.

During the 10th September the 51st Battery had 1 Sergt and 1 O.R. killed and 2 O.R's wounded.

August

4. Advance on the 11th September, 1918.

The objective was the line X.11.c.0.0 to R.35.c.0.0 to cross roads at R.28.c.50.45. At 4.30 a.m. the 2nd Aust. Division Infantry attacked in conjunction with the 3rd Aust. Division on the Left.

(a) Artillery action.

This attack was supported by a creeping barrage carried out by the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades.

By 5.15 a.m. the objective had been gained, the M.G. fire having been considerably neutralised by Artillery fire.

5. Withdrawal to Mobile Reserves.

Between 8 a.m. and midday all batteries withdrew to the area between VILLERS BRETONNEUX and RAMBL.

While in this area on the 12th August batteries were re-organised and the men were rested as much as possible. Discussions took place on lessons to be learned from the operation.

Some of the casualties in personnel and animals were replaced.

6. Headquarters, 5th Australian Divl Artillery.

During these operations Headquarters, 5th Australian Divl Artillery, remained just West of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.

27-9-18

Afternoon
Brig General
CRA 5th Aust Div

Cpt

1. The move to the South.

On the 13th August, 1918, orders were received for an attack on the 14th August, 1918, (with the object of capturing CHAULNES) by the 5th Australian Division in conjunction with an attack by the Canadians and French on the Right.

The Divisional Artillery during the morning marched South - the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades and the 5th Aust. D.A.C. to the areas V.28, V.29 and V.26 respectively. Battery commanders meanwhile, in company with Group commanders, selected battery positions in the vicinity of NEHATICOURT, and that night a full echelon of ammunition was dumped at the gun positions.

All preparations were made to occupy the positions, lines of fire laid out and 500 rounds of ammunition per gun dumped. The 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade moved their guns into action on the night 13th/14th August, and on the 14th August, they and the 53rd Battery moved their wagon lines forward. On the evening of the 14th August the operations were cancelled and those batteries which had moved forward returned to wagon lines.

On the 15th and 16th August, the batteries, most of whom were in the valley of the LUCE River, took advantage of the bathing facilities and had as much rest as possible.

2. Relief of the 17th Divl Artillery.

On the 17th August the Division marched North and relieved the 17th Divisional Artillery in the area East of MORGOURT. The 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade went into the area ~~Q.16~~, Q.17 and Q.18, the 14th Aust. F.A. Brigade to the area Q. 18, ~~Q.19~~ and Q.23, and the 5th Aust. D.A.C. to P.6. Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, went to Q.13.a (S.V. of CHIEF).

In this area the enemy's heavy Artillery was found to be fairly active.

3. Organisation of Artillery.

At 10 a.m. on the 18th August the command of the Artillery covering the Infantry of the 5th Australian Division passed to the C.R.A. and was grouped as follows:-

(a) Right Group - Lt-Col. H.W. LLOYD, C.M.G., D.S.O.

12th (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.

23rd Army Brigade, R.F.A.

(b) Left Group - Lt-Col. H.O. CANNY, D.S.O.

13th Aust. F.A. Brigade

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade

The 16th Army Brigade, R.H.A., was superimposed on the Divisional front.

4. Increase of Artillery.

On the night 20th/21st August, the following Artillery reinforced that already covering the 5th Australian Divl front and at 10 a.m. the command of all the Artillery in the Divisional Sector passed to the C.R.A. 1st Aust. Division:-

1st Aust. Divl Artillery.

298th Army Brigade, R.F.A.

5th Army Brigade, R.H.A.

The batteries went into positions about 2000 to 2500 yards from the front line. Several batteries of the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades also moved forward.

5. The attack on the 23rd August.

(a) Arrangements prior to the attack.

500 rounds per gun were dumped at battery positions.

Six 6" Newton Mortars from each of the 1st and 5th Aust. M.T.B. Brigades were emplaced immediately behind the front line.

One platoon of the 1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion prepared tracks for the Artillery over the old French trenches and wire.

Tanks to support the attack assembled in the MORGOURT valley before dawn on the 23rd August.

(b) Objective.

The objective ran from H.25, 4.0.0 to E.13.a, 0.0 and then to the original front line at R.5.4.3.1. If the enemy resistance was not too great a further advance was to be made.

(2)

(c) The Barrage.

Zero hour was 4.45 a.m. The barrage rolled back to a depth of 2000 yards (approximately) reaching the protective barrage at 6.15 a.m. Fire ceased at 6.30 a.m.

(d) Forward Sections.

Lieut C.B. THORNE moved forward at 6.25 a.m. with a section of the 55th Battery. He occupied a position at R. 15.c.67.35. A section of 77 mm firing from R.5.b.5.5 was immediately engaged and silenced. Other batteries firing from M.1.b.5.5 and M.3.b.25.90, machine guns and snipers from LAPIN Wood (M.14.a) were successfully engaged.

(e) Remainder of the Batteries.

The batteries of each brigade moved so that only one battery was out of action at any one time. Positions were occupied in the valley East and North East of PROYART.

(f) Second objective.

It was decided to continue the advance and at about 2 p.m. orders were received to put down a further barrage at 2.30 p.m. The "Start Line" ran approximately North West and South East through R.11.central and the final line North and South through M.2.c.0.0.

Although hurried the Infantry reported the barrage as very satisfactory.

The Infantry consolidated on the line M.19.b.5.0, M.7.b.5.0, L.36.a.4.2 to L.28.central.

The batteries, which had not moved when this second attack took place, then occupied positions in the PROYART Valley.

All batteries remained actively in action until dusk. During the day an average of 2000 rounds per battery were expended.

6. Action on the 24th August.

Harassing fire was carried out during the early morning and a few enemy targets engaged during the day.

7. Move to HANDEL area.

At 8 p.m. batteries of the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades moved out to the wagon lines and then on to positions in reserve between HANDEL and the SONNE.

It was a bright moonlight night and enemy bombing planes were active. The 53rd Battery had 2 O.R.'s killed, 9 O.R.'s wounded (2 of whom died later) and 15 horses killed or wounded.

8. In Mobile Reserve.

Batteries spent one day in this area. A little re-organisation took place and all ranks took advantage of the bathing facilities.

That night (25th August) batteries received orders to move back into action on the following day to cover an attack on the morning of the 27th August.

9. Relief of the 1st Aust. Divl Artillery.

On the night 26th/27th August, the 5th Australian Division relieved the 1st Australian Division and the Artillery was organised as follows:-

Right Group - Lt-Col. H.W. LLOYD, C.M.G., D.S.O.

12th (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.

1st Aust. F.A. Brigade

2nd Aust. F.A. Brigade

Left Group - Lt-Col. H.O. CANNY, D.S.O.

13th Aust. F.A. Brigade

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade

23rd Army Brigade, R.F.A.

Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, was established at Q.30.c.5.9.

During the afternoon of the 26th August positions were selected and that night batteries moved into action in the area Q.16, Q.17 and Q.23 at an average distance of 2000 to 3000 yards from the front line.

Meanwhile the projected attack on the following day was cancelled.

10. Policy.

The Infantry policy was one of active defense - every opportunity being taken to push forward, if possible without an undue number of casualties.

The anti-tank guns used when on the defensive were

24 1574

Policy - contd.

(3)

immediately absorbed to replace casualties.

11. Action on the 27th August.

During the day the enemy was very active with 21 cm and 15 cm howitzers. It was noticed that most of the shelling came from a long range.

12. Enemy Retreat to the SOMME.

(a) The 28th August.

On the morning of the 28th August the enemy had disappeared, but the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade soon caught up with his rearguards and hustled them on. These rear parties attempted to delay the advance by M.G. fire. By dusk the Infantry had reached the line running North and South through H.19, a.o.o (approximately), an advance of 5000 yards.

(b) Artillery action.

One brigade from each Group, the 1st Aust. P.A. Brigade and the 23rd Army Brigade, R.P.A., advanced in closer support of the Infantry.

The 13th and 14th Aust. P.A. Brigades followed on and occupied positions in the area H.16 and H.22 to cover the outpost line.

(c) The 29th and 30th August.

During the 29th August our Infantry reached the SOMME. The 13th and 14th Aust. P.A. Brigades remained in positions of readiness. At 2 a.m. on the 30th August the batteries moved forward and at dawn occupied positions in H.11 and H.17 - West of BARLEUX.

(d) Enemy action 29th & 30th August.

The enemy held the line of SOMME with strong machine gun posts. From the high ground to the East he was able to overlook our forward area and battery positions. He took advantage of this and heavily shelled movement and battery positions.

(e) Heavy Artillery.

During the advance a 4 gun battery of 60 pdrs was placed under the immediate command of the C.R.A. for a short period. This battery proved very useful in engaging long range opportunity targets reported by the Infantry and battery observers.

(f) Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, were established at FAY (H.23, central).

12. Ammunition Supply.

This worked smoothly. Battery and D.A.C. wagons filled up at the A.R.P.'s and delivered direct to gun positions.

When batteries moved forward the D.A.C. dumped their echelons at the new A.R.P. and refilled from the vacated positions and so on until all the ammunition left behind had been salvaged.

13. Enemy bombing.

Throughout the whole period the enemy bombing planes were very active at night. More casualties in horses were caused through bombing than through shell fire.

DEDUCTIONS.

14. (a) Communications.

During the operations described above, the necessity for Brigades informing D.A.H.Q. where they are going to before they move ahead was again demonstrated. ~~It~~ The difficulty is that sometimes Brigades have to move at short notice without having sufficient time to reconnoitre and return before the Signal Office is advanced.

(b) Whenever Brigades moved ahead a forward D.A. exchange was established in the vicinity of the place to which D.A.H.Q. would move.

(b) Night marching.

When secrecy is not essential moves should be carried out by day owing to the great increase in night bombing - especially on roads.

(c) Marching.

Owing to the continued movement from place to place Brigades had very little rest. On the 23rd August batteries marched back about 10 miles, stayed there a day, and then marched in again. Instead of being fresh the men and horses were more tired on going back into the line than when they left.

27-9-10

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 a P.A. 5th Aust. Div.

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

PERONNE Attack 1st to 3rd Sept. 1918.

APPENDIX

1. Intention.

The intention was for the Corps to advance in a North East direction.

2. Re-allocation of front.

On the 30th August the 5th Australian Division took over the front from O.15.a.7.7 to I.32.b.0.8, taking over part of the 2nd Aust. Division front on the North and handing over to the 32nd Division the Southern part of the old front.

3. Re-grouping of Artillery.

The following re-grouping took place:-

Right Group - Lt-Col. H. O. CADDY, D.S.O.

15th Aust. F.A. Brigade

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade

Left Group - Lt-Col. H. W. LLOYD, C.M.C., D.S.O.

12th (army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.

23rd Army Brigade, H.F.A.

The 15th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades were able to cover the new front without moving.

D.A.H.Q. Advanced Report Centre was established at H.15.b.6.2.

4. Attack on the 1st September.

(a) Objective. The object was to capture PERONNE and to establish a line as follows:- TORTELE Tr, ITAIBACK Tr to I.17.a.7.5 - DARNSTADT Tr South to I.23.c.8.4 to I.29.b.5.0 - I.35.a.6.0 - I.35.d.0.0 along road to O.5.a and c to Divisional boundary on the South.

The attack was carried out by the 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, the 2nd Aust. Division co-operating on the Left.

(b) Artillery action.

After the conference which took place when the attack was decided on, only four hours were available before zero to make all Artillery preparations, but Artillery support was carried out to plan.

The attack commenced at 6 a.m. and concentrations were put down on the following areas:- The area from I.26.a to I.21.c inclusive, BARBOURIE in I.26.d, ramparts in I.27.b, the buildings and cross roads in I.22.a & b, FAUDOURG DE BRETAGNE and ramparts in I.22.a & d, CHAIR Wood in I.29.a, the roads, trenches and woods in I.23.central, the area from the high ground in I.35 (inclusive) through DOINGT, I.30.c & a and I.24.c & a, and the area O.5.b and O.6.

Artillery fire ceased at 8.30 a.m. except for a smoke barrage on the high ground in I.35 and O.5.

(c) Infantry action.

Stiff opposition was encountered. Although the final objective was not reached the following line was gained and held:- I.15.d.4.0 - I.21.d.2.5 - I.27.b.7.7 - I.27.d.7.7. The greater part of PERONNE was captured.

(d) Hostile Artillery fire.

During the operation the battery positions in the valley to the West of BARLEUX were heavily shelled by all calibres - apparently by balloons observation. However our aeroplanes destroyed several balloons and for the remainder of the day balloons only went up at odd intervals when none of our aeroplanes were about.

5. Attack on the 2nd Sept.

(a) Objective.

The objective was I.18.c.0.0 to I.29.central to high ground in I.35.central. This attack was carried out by the 55th and 56th Battalions supported by the 2nd Aust. Division on the Left.

(b) Artillery action.

The following targets were engaged:- The ramparts in I.22.a & d, the ST. DENIS cross roads, the area about I.23.d.0.0, the SUGAR FACTORY and BRICKWORKS in H.22.a and b, the area round CANOE Wood at H.23.central, CARDINAL Wood.

Fire commenced at 5.30 a.m. and ceased at 8.30 a.m.

(c)

(2)

(c) Infantry action.

After severe fighting the following line was captured and consolidated:- I.22.a.9.6 - I.22.b.5.2 - I.22.d.0.0 and a line along the edge of PERONNE facing FLANICOURT. Very heavy machine gun fire stopped a further advance.

(d) General.

Throughout the day fire was brought to bear on enemy's strong points, concentrations of troops and movement.

The Heavy Artillery maintained a heavy fire on ST. DENIS Wood (I.23.c) the West end of DOINGT, and FLANICOURT, at the request of the Infantry. These areas as well as I.34, I.35, I.28.d and I.29 were swept by concentrated fire from the field guns throughout the day.

6. Action on the 3rd September.

At 5 a.m. heavy bursts of fire were put down on FLANICOURT and CHAIR Wood. This was repeated several times during the morning. The railway line from FLANICOURT to DOINGT was also searched.

At noon fire was lifted from FLANICOURT and CHAIR Wood as it was reported patrols had crossed the river to FLANICOURT. Later the Infantry again asked for fire on FLANICOURT. During the night concentrated bursts were put down on the village every hour from 9 p.m. until 4 a.m.

27-9-18

CRA 5th Aust Division

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Enemy retirement from the line of the APPEN

App 24

1. During the night 3rd/4th September information was received that the enemy was retiring on the 1st Corps front and it was believed the same was happening on the 3rd Corps front.

The enemy's M.Gs were active, but the Artillery was quiet. Organised shoots were carried out by our Artillery on FLAMICOURT.

2. Extension of front.

During the afternoon of the 4th September, the North boundary of the 5th Australian Division was extended North to a line running East and West through I.9. central. The 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade relieved portion of the 2nd Aust. Division and the 34th Division extended South to the same line, taking over the remainder of the front held by the 2nd Aust. Division.

The Artillery allotted to Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, was grouped as follows:-

Right Group under Lt-Col. H. O. CADDY, D.S.O. (C.O. 13th Aust. F.A. Bde) covering 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

5th Army Brigade, R.H.A.

13th Aust. F.A. Brigade

14th Aust. F.A. Brigade

Left Group under Lt-Col. STEVENSON, D.S.O. (C.O. 3rd (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.), covering 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

3rd (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A.

14th Army Brigade, R.F.A.

298th Army Brigade, R.F.A.

The 16th Army Brigade, R.H.A., remained in reserve under orders of Left Group and was to be used to follow the Infantry in close pursuit of the enemy in case he retired.

This re-adjustment was completed by 7 p.m.

3. Infantry action on the 4th September.

At 6.25 p.m. the Infantry asked for fire to be lifted from FLAMICOURT and CHAIR Wood in I.29.a.

During the night the Infantry occupied DARMSTADT Trench and a line slightly East of FLAMICOURT.

4. Artillery action on the 5th September.

At 10.55 a.m. all Brigades were advised of the situation and instructed to carry out a reconnaissance forward - especial attention to be paid to crossings over the SOMME. They were also advised of the proposed re-grouping of the front.

No batteries moved forward during the day as they were able to cover the front from the positions occupied in the area O.7 and O.8.

5. Infantry action on the 5th September.

During the day the Infantry advanced, meeting with little opposition, and by nightfall occupied the line of the road running through O.6, 12, 18, 24 and 30.

6. Side-slipping of Divisional front.

On the evening of the 5th September the 5th Australian Division side-slipped to the South taking over the area with the North and South boundaries running roughly East and West through O.4.c. central and O.34.a. central, respectively. The 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade took over the front, handing over to the 3rd Aust. Division on the old front and taking over from the 34th Division on the Southern part of the new front.

The Artillery was re-grouped. The 3rd (Army) Brigade, Aust. F.A., 14th Army Brigade, R.F.A., and the 16th Army Brigade, R.H.A., going to the 3rd Aust. Division. Four brigades remained under the C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division. The 5th Army Brigade, R.H.A., and the 298th Army Brigade, R.F.A., formed a group under Lieut-Col. A. H. D. WEST, D.S.O. (C.O. 5th Army Brigade, R.H.A.), and the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades formed a group under Lieut-Col. H. O. CADDY, D.S.O. (C.O. 13th Aust. F.A. Brigade).

7. Crossings of the SOMME.

The main difficulty ahead was the crossing of the SOMME. It ran South across the front and owing to the Canal and the Somme except at the bridges. A bridge for carrying the 14th Army Brigade, R.F.A., when they crossed on the

WENT.

Enemy retirement from the line of the SOMME - contd.

(2)

the afternoon of the 4th September.

By 7 p.m. on the 5th September, bridges capable of carrying Field Artillery had been constructed at FRAMICOURT (I.28.a) and at O.26.d (near BRIE). It was considered advisable to avoid the BRIE bridge as much as possible owing to the certainty of heavy traffic.

8. Organisation of R.F.A. Brigades for the advance.

The 298th Army Brigade, R.F.A., and the 5th Army Brigade, R.H.A., formed the Advanced Artillery - the former being already North of the bend in the SOMME and the latter near the crossing.

During the early part of the night the 298th Army Brigade, R.F.A., moved via the FRAMICOURT bridge to positions East of the SOMME in O.16 and O.22. The 5th Army Brigade, R.H.A., moved to the same area as the 298th Army Brigade, R.F.A., and in doing so used the BRIE BRIDGE.

The 13th and 14th Aust. P.A. Brigades formed the Support Artillery. Without moving they were still able to cover the front for the night 5th/6th September.

9. Infantry Policy.

As the Infantry were already tired it was decided to advance in easy stages.

10. Infantry action on the 6th September.

During the day the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade advanced, without opposition except for a little M.G. fire which was easily dealt with by the forward sections of Artillery, to a line MONS to CARTIGNY with patrols ahead in VRAICHES and BOUVINCOURT.

11. Artillery action on the 6th September.

A section from the Advance Artillery was detailed to each of the two battalions commanders in the front line. The remainder of the Advance Artillery moved into action in the area O.16, O.22, while the Support Artillery moved across the BRIE bridge during the afternoon and occupied positions in O.16 and O.22.

Early in the afternoon Headquarters, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery, moved to BIERPICHY.

12. Infantry action on the 7th September.

The advanced guard moved off at 6 a.m. to occupy the BLUE line running roughly North and South through Q.23 central. The enemy rear guards put up some opposition with M.Gs. These were effectively engaged by the forward sections of the Advanced Artillery.

By the evening the BLUE line was captured and consolidated. An outpost line was established 400 yards ahead and Light Horse patrols were as far as the railway in R.8 and R.15.

13. Artillery action on the 7th September.

The Advanced Artillery moved into action in Q.14, Q.15 and Q.26.

The Support Artillery occupied positions in Q.2, Q.8, Q.20 and Q.26.

During the morning an enemy plane while attempting to machine gun the 5th Army Brigade, R.H.A., was brought down by one of our scouts.

The forward sections shelled the railway in R.8, 15 and 20 throughout the day. Small parties along the road in R.21 and R.26 were scattered. An enemy battery reported by the Infantry to be limbering up was engaged and two teams and six limbers knocked out.

14. Enemy action on the 8th September.

This was confined to long range shelling of the forward villages - BERNES, FLECHIN and SOYECOURT by 77 and 10.5 cm. The front line remained practically the same - roughly from Q.26 central to R.31 central. Patrols went out as far as the railway line.

15. Artillery action on the 8th September.

Owing to the scarcity of targets, the Artillery activity was practically nil.

16. Weather.

During the afternoon heavy showers of rain fell and a very cold wind came up.

Enemy retirement from the line of the SOMME.

(3)

17. Operations 9th and 10th September.

No advance took place during this period. A little registration was carried out and few parties of the enemy in R.2 and R.3 were engaged.

Beyond scattered shelling of villages in the forward area the hostile Artillery was quiet.

18. Relief by the 4th Aust. Division.(a) Infantry.

On the night 10th/11th September the 13th Aust. Infantry Brigade relieved the 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade in the front line.

(b) Artillery.

On the afternoon of the 11th September, the 11th and 10th Aust. F.A. Brigades relieved the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades. Command of the Artillery covering the Divisional front passed from the C.R.A. 5th Aust. Division to the C.R.A. 4th Aust. Division at 10 p.m. 11th September.

(c) Move to Reserve area.

On relief the 13th and 14th Aust. F.A. Brigades and the 5th Aust. D.A.C. moved to the PEUILLERES area.

27-9-18

afternoon
Brig General
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