

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/13/17

Title: Headquarters, 4th Australian
Divisional Artillery

October 1917



AWM4-13/13/17

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	From or to whom	VOL. XXI	Summary of Events and Information	Page 81.	Remarks and references to Appendices																							
<u>YPRES</u>	Oct. 12th	mid-night.			Information received from Groups discloses the following facts :- The guns supporting the Division on the 12th will be as follows :-																									
					<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>18-prs.</u></th> <th><u>4.5" Hows.</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2nd Aus. D.A.</td> <td>34</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th " "</td> <td>27</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st " "</td> <td>26</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>---</td> <td>--</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>87</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Possible</td> <td>108</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>===</td> <td>==</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The balance are either out of action or stuck in the mud in moving. "C" Group from reports seems to be somewhat disorganised. They are trying to get guns up to ZONNEBEKE with ill success. The enemy are shelling the road in D 26 b heavily. 1st Aus. Div. Artillery came under command of C.R.A. 4th Aus. D.A. 1 hour before Zero (5.25 a.m.) "C" Group F.O.O. states enemy shell fire very light. ZONNEBEKE Batteries say "No shell fire".</p> <p>5.40 a.m.. Everything going well. Infantry seen on the Ridge; both ours and 3rd Division. From "D" Group Liaison To "D" Group From Zero plus 300 to Zero plus 340, "D" Group will fire on S.O.S. Line from E 13 a 8 4 to E 7 d 0 0; any smoke shell on hand to be put in.</p> <p>7.45 a.m.....</p>		<u>18-prs.</u>	<u>4.5" Hows.</u>	2nd Aus. D.A.	34	11	4th " "	27	7	1st " "	26	9		---	--		87	27	Possible	108	36		===	==	
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Place	Date	Hour	From or to whom	VOL XXI.	Summary of Events and Information	Page 82	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Oct. 12th	7.45 a.m.	To "C" Group.		If any smoke shell available fire on line E 13 b 0 0 to E 13 b 5 5 from Zero plus 300 to Zero plus 340.		
		7.55 a.m.	To "C 1" Group		Any smoke shells available to be fired at E 13 Central from Zero plus 300 to Zero plus 340.		
		8 a.m.	"D" Group	F.O.O.. <u>6 a.m.</u>	O.K. RED LINE reached.		
				<u>7.18</u>	O.K. Consolidating RED LINE.		
		8.15	"D" Group		Pigeon message from Left Company Commander timed 6.45 a.m. On RED LINE 9th A. I. B. not up.		
		8.20	3rd A.D.A.		G.O.C. states most critical period is up to Zero plus 398. Please spin smoke shell out. Groups advised and confirmed by wire at 8.30 a.m..		
		9 a.m.			S.O.S. line extended to E 7 d 5545 where we join up with 3rd Aus. D.A..		
		9.40 a.m.	"C" Group		From Major DE LOW. "Right Platoon reports enemy seen to be forming up in vicinity of D 23 b 5 3". "C" Group say they are combing out BUSY WOOD.		
		12 noon	To "C" Group		There are two posts reported as follows :- D 24 a 4 9 D 18 c 6510.		
		2.15 p.m.	To All Groups, 5th Aus. D.A. Heavies		Great concentration of transport at MOORSLEDE and DADIZEELE. Troops moving West from these places by all routes.		
						2.13 p.m.....	

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	From or to whom	<u>VOL. XXI</u>	Summary of Events and Information	Page 83.	Remarks and references to Appendices
	12th Oct.	2.13 p.m.	To "G" Group.		Give MOORSLEDE - DROOGENBROODHOEK Road from E 14 d 4 4 to E 19 a 9 7 bursts of fire.		
		4.15	"D" Group		Enemy massing in D 18 c. Were taking steps to meet this.		
		4.30	To "C" Group		Ordered to fire a few bursts on their S.O.S. line in 24 a and D 18 d.		
		5.5 p.m.	From Div. "G"		12th Aus. Inf. Bde. at 4.6 p.m. reporting heavy shelling of front and support line and enemy massing in 19 a and 13 c.		
		5.10 p.m.	From "C" Group.		Front line in D 23 b and d being heavily shelled. Passed to Counter-Batteries. "C" Group state that they have 2 Batteries firing bursts of fire on 19 a & 13 c.		
		5.15 p.m.	To "C1" Group		Please comb out 19.a inside your own zone.		
		5.14 p.m.	"D" Group		Liaison Officer reports S.O.S. on 3rd Div. Front.		
		6.30 p.m.			It was ascertained that the Left Division of THE ANZAC Corps did not advance the 3rd Aus. Division on our Left were forced to retire, and consequently the 4th Aus. Division to their original 'Jumping off' line.		
		6.30 - 7 pm			S.O.S. lines as for night 11th/12th given to Groups on orders from G.O.C. Div.. <i>withdraw</i>		
						7.30 p.m.....	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	From or to whom	VOL. XXI.	Summary of Events and Information	Page 84.	Remarks and references to Appendices																																
	12th Oct.	7.30 p.m.			Conversation with Liaison Officer 13th Aus. Inf. Brigade; their S.O.S. wants bringing in. "C" Group told that this could be done from D 18 c 6 0 to the South provided junction point with 5th D.A. not altered.																																		
		7.40			Ammunition with "C" Group :-																																		
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	13th Oct.	3 p.m.			Major F.E. FORREST, M.C. (39th Battery) wounded and remaining on duty. "C1" Group (1st Australian Divisional Artillery) returns to command of C.R.A. 5th Aus. D.A..																																		

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Place	Date	Hour	VOL. XXI	Summary of Events and Information	Page 85.	Remarks and references to Appendices
YPRES (Ramparts)	Oct. 14th			<p>The wet weather has apparently set in. Great difficulties are being experienced in moving Batteries forward and in keeping up the ammunition supply.</p> <p>C.R.A. inspected forward Batteries in ZONNEBEKE.</p> <p>Consolidation of the Artillery :-</p> <p>2nd Aus. Div. Artillery to be grouped in and about J 2 and D 26) Sheet 4th Aus. Div. Artillery to be grouped in and about D 21, D 27 and D 28) 28.</p>	<p>Location report.</p> <p>4th Aus. D.A. <u>Ins. 22.</u></p>	
	17th			<p>Lieut. F.F. FLORANCE, 39th Battery, evacuated gassed. Capt. B.S. GAYNOR, 39th Battery, evacuated gassed. Lieut. H. NAGEL, 111th How. Battery, killed in action.</p>		
	19th			<p>Major H.C. DE LOW, 38th Battery, wounded (remaining on duty).</p>		
	22nd			<p>Practice barrages (previous to attack on "C" Day (26th)) commenced.</p>		<u>Ins. 24</u>
	24th			<p>Major H.J. COPLEY, wounded (remaining on duty). Capt. C. WEBBER wounded (rem. on duty).</p> <p>Orders for relief of 4th Australian Divisional Artillery by the 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery were received.</p>		4th Aus. D.A. <u>ORDER 99.</u>
	25th			<p>Relief of 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery Brigades and D.A.C. by 2nd Aus. D.A. Brigades and D.A.C. completed by 6 p.m..</p>		
				<p>26th.....</p>		

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Place	Date	Hour	<u>VOL.</u> <u>XXI</u>	Summary of Events and Information	<u>Page 86.</u>	Remarks and references to Appendices	
<u>YPRES</u> (Ramparts)	Oct. 26th			At the commencement of the 6th operation against PASSCHENDAELE Ridge there were in action in Left Group ANZAC. Artillery :- 68 18-prs. 23 4.5" Hows.			
		5.40 a.m.		The 1st Australian Division covered by the 1st and 2nd Aus. Divisional Artilleries attacked in combination with the Canadian Corps on the Left and 10th Corps on the Right. A diary of the operation follows :- <u>From or</u> <u>to whom</u>			
		26th Oct.	7.20 a.m.	"D" Group	Buried cable communication cut. No communication with Batteries. Can just speak to F.O.O..		
				Liaison Officer	A good deal of shelling around Brigade Headquarters but no information from front. No communication with "C" Group.		
			7.25 a.m.	"D" Group	F.O.O. reports barrage reached protective line to time. Visibility very bad.		
	9.35 a.m.	"C" Group.	F.O.O. has gone on to reconnoitre. Very little shelling on our front.				
	9.15 a.m.	"D" Group	At commencement enemy shelled J 3 a and c, J 2 a and WESTHOEK Ridge but not heavily.				
					10.5 a.m.....		

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Place	Date	Hour	<u>VOL.</u> <u>XXI.</u>	Summary of Events and Information	<u>Page</u> <u>87</u>	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>YPRES</u> (Ramparts)	26th 26th Oct.		<u>From or to whom</u>			
		10.5 a.m.	Div. "G"	Enemy is still in S.E. tip of DECLINE COPSE. Please prevent him being reinforced.		
		10.10	To "C" Group	Give occasional bursts of fire on your protective barrage but do not come North of the Railway.		
		10.15 a.m.	To 4th Can. Div. Arty.	Asking them to enfilade railway line periodically. They will do so with 60-prs..		
		10.21 a.m.	To "C" Group	F.O.O. states enemy shelling very light. No aerial activity. Much of ours.		
		10.4 a.m.	4th Can. Div. Arty.	2 Heavies will enfilade Railway.		
10.48 a.m.	"D" Group	Report from Infantry :- "Our position being consolidated, Engineers on the work 70 prisoners taken and 4 machine guns. Our casualties about 30". "D" Group just received N.F. call, E W 10; instructed to engage with short bursts of fire.				
					11.6 a.m.....	

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Place	Date	Hour	<u>VOL. XXI.</u>	Summary of Events and Information	Page 88.	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>YPRES</u> Ramparts.	Oct. 26th	11.6 a.m.	From "D" Group	F.O.O. reports everything normal on "D" Group front.		
		11.15 a.m.	From "C" Group	Heavy barrage on the Ridge and in rear.		
		11.18 a.m.	To Counter Batteries.	Asked to respond to above.		
		11.25 a.m.	From To "C" Group.	Engage with Howitzers E.Y. 27 (E 21 a 1 8) E.Y. 24 (E 27 a 9 4).		
		11.50 a.m.	From "D" Group.	Batteries of 1st D.A. normal and quiet.		
		12.45 p.m.	From "C" Group.	F.O.O. reports "Shelling of valley in front of PASSCHENDAELE eased off; remainder of front quiet.		
		1.10 p.m.	1st Aus. Division.	Conversation with G.S.O. 1. Fire asked for in G/371 may cease.		
		1.11 p.m.	To "C" Group.	bursts of "Cease/fire on your zone". Confirmed by wire and to Liaison Officer also.		
				1 p.m.....		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
YPRES (Ramparts)	26th Oct.	1 p.m.	<p><u>From or To whom.</u></p> <p>4th Can. D.A. Informing them that we were stopping fire opposite our left and that the Canadian Heavy Artillery could do same. Right point of 4th Canadian D.A. S.O.S. is D 18 a 9 8.</p>	
		1.20 p.m.	<p>"D" Group F.O.O. reports all quiet at 1 p.m.. "Heavy shelling Left". "C" Group rung up and stated F.O.O. report at 12.27 showed situation quiet except for Valley W. of PASSCHENDAELE.</p>	
		1.35 p.m.	<p>"C" Group F.O.O. line down but tactical O.P. reports all quiet on the front.</p>	
		4.20 p.m.	<p>4th Can. Div. Arty. S.O.S. at 4.31 p.m. on our Right front.</p>	
		4.55 p.m.	<p>Liaison Officer 2nd Bde. Liaison Officer was being spoken to when he reported S.O.S. on our front sent up twice. Passed to "C" and "D" Groups.</p>	
		4.50 p.m.	<p>"C" Group. (Took 10 minutes to get into touch). Turn on Batteries of "C" Group on S.O.S. line at slow rate.</p>	
		4.55 p.m.	<p>From "D" Group. S.O.S. was sent up at DEFY CROSSING. "D" Group not firing. Acquiesced. Ordered them to turn on Hows. on to S.O.S. points.</p>	
			<p>5.2 p.m.....</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	VOL. XXI.	Summary of Events and Information	Page 90.	Remarks and references to Appendices
YPRES (Ramparts)	26th Oct.		<u>From or to whom.</u>			
		5.2 p.m.	To "G" Staff	Reported above to "G" Staff. They doubt our men sending up S.O.S..		
		5.5 p.m.	From "C" Group	State Batteries had seen S.O.S. and were already firing when rung up by Group.		
		5.25 p.m.	From "C" Group.	S.O.S. did not go up on our front. It was sent up North of the Railway twice. Is allowing fire to die down and cease completely.		
		5.45 p.m.		S.O.S. had petered out; no attack on our front. (Liaison Officer). "C" Group ordered to give an occasional burst of fire on their S.O.S. line.		
		5.55 p.m.	To "C" Group	In view of conversation with Brigade-Major, 4th Canadian Divisional Artillery who reported last report gave situation critical; Lieut.-Col. LLOYD agreed to keep Batteries going in bursts of fire at different times on S.O.S. Zone.		
		6.5 p.m.	"G" Staff	Was rung up by "G" Staff; gave them gist of above. They will confer with 4th Canadian Division "G" to see if we can stop.		
6.10 p.m.	"G" Staff	Canadians are slacking down their Artillery. We can do same and stop.				

6.11 p.m.....

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Place	Date	Hour	VOL. <u>XXI.</u>	Summary of Events and Information	Page <u>91.</u> Remarks and references to Appendices
<p><u>YPRES</u> (Ramparts)</p>	<p>26th Oct.</p>	<p>6.11 p.m.</p>	<p><u>From or</u> <u>To whom.</u></p> <p>"C" Group</p>	<p>Let your fire die down and cease.</p>	
		<p>6.13</p>	<p>Counter Battery Group.</p>	<p>There is heavy shelling on our left Battalion front. Please take measures. (Report received to that effect from Liaison Officer).</p>	
		<p>6.50</p>	<p>"G" Staff</p>	<p>The 4th Canadian Division are going to withdraw to their line of posts held before the attack, except that they will continue to hold DECLINE COPSE.</p> <p>The situation was explained to both Groups and they were told that if we evacuated DECLINE COPSE the S.O.S. line would be as before the attack.</p>	
	<p>27th Oct.</p>		<p>4th Aus. D.A.H.Q. withdraw to RENINGHELST; relieved by 1st Aus. DA.H.Q. at 10 a.m., 27th instant.</p> <p>4th Aus. Divisional Artillery withdraw to wagon lines in vicinity of RENINGHELST, but continue to salve guns from forward areas.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----</p> <p>A Resumé of the operations from September 9th to October 24th is attached, also a complete file of all orders issued to the Left Divisional Artillery Group 1st ANZAC. Corps (latter original Diary only).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	<p>4th Aus. D.A. <u>ORDER 99.</u></p>	

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

COPY No. ¹⁶.....

SECRET.

Headquarters,
1st October 1917.

ORDER NO. 95

-
1. At 10 a.m., 2nd October, this Office will close at H 21 d 62 and move to STEENVOORDE, reopening there on completion of the Move.
 2. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

CMJates

Major R.A.,
Brigade Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

Issued to :-
Copy No.

- 1 10th Aus. F.A. Brigade.
- 2 11th Aus. F.A. Brigade.
- 3 4th Aus. D.A.C.
- 4 4th Aus. D.T.M.O.

Copies to (for inf.)

- 5 4th Aus. Div. "G".
 - 6 4th Aus. Div. "Q".
 - 7 D.A.D.O.S.
 - 8 4th Aus. Div. Train.
 - 9 4th Aus. Infantry Bde.
 - 10 12th " " "
 - 11 13th " " "
 - 12 1st Aus. D. Art.
 - 13 2nd " " "
 - 14 5th " " "
 - 15 R.A., 1st ANZAC.
-

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY COPY NO. 45

SECRET

ORDER NO. 96

HEADQUARTERS,
11th October 1917.

1. The 4th Australian Division will resume the attack on the PASSCHENDAELE Ridge on "A" day. Zero hour will be notified separately.
2. Barrage maps, Diagrams and Instructions for the same were issued under 2nd Aus. Divisional Artillery Order No. 65.
3. The task of the 4th Australian Division will be to move forward S. of the YPRES - ROULERS Railway and form a flank to the II ANZAC. Corps which is attacking further North. The barrage map shows the 2 objectives, viz., the RED and BLUE lines.
4. The attack will be carried out by the 13th Aus. Inf. Bde. on the Right and the 12th Aus. Inf. Brigade on the Left.
5. Lieut.-Colonel F. O'MAHONY will be Liaison Officer with the 12th Aus. Inf. Brigade. Lieut.-Colonel T.I.C. WILLIAMS, D.S.O. will perform the same duties for the 13th Aus. Inf. Brigade.
6. SMOKE SHELL . -
Each 18-pr. as it reaches its RED and BLUE Protector will fire 4 rounds of smoke shell in quick succession to mark its arrival on its line.
7. F.O.Os. -
F.O.Os. and parties will be worked under the same arrangements as in Attack No. 4 on the 9th October for "C" and "D" Groups. Names of F.O.Os. detailed to be telephoned to this Office.
8. The 9th Aus. Inf. Brigade is attacking on our Left. The 4th Aus. Inf. Brigade will be in Divisional Reserve.
9. After Zero plus 300 the 4th Australian Division are placing a post out at E 7 c 5 3, and the 3rd Australian Division (9th Aus. Inf. Brigade) are advancing further till their Right is on the Railway at E 7 d 1 8.
10. After Zero plus 300 the S.O.S. line on the Divisional front will be as follows :-

Along the BLUE Line Protector barrage from
D 29 b 4 6 to E 13 a 7 8 and thence parallel to
the Railway to E 7 d 0 0 .

There must be no fire north of a line joining E 13 a 7 8 to E 8 c 2595.

With the above proviso the above line may be varied at the request of C.Os.C. Infantry Brigades, as circumstances may arise.

/11.....

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ORDER NO. 96 (Continued).

-
11. The boundaries between Groups will be as follows along the above line :-
- Between "C" and "C 1" Groups - D 24 a 5 0
 Between "C" and "D" Groups - D 18 d 9578.
12. At 10 a.m. on "B" day, "C" and "D" Group will exchange zones, in order to ensure that the shortest range guns are on the Left of the Divisional front. The "A" Day Liaison Officers will be relieved at the same hour. of "C" and "D" Groups Group Commanders/will arrange mutually the shift over of S.O.S. Lines.
13. Signal communication between Right Infantry Brigade Headquarters and "C 1" Group Headquarters will be arranged for Liaison purposes.
14. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.
 =====

C.M. Jates
 Major, R.A.,
 Brigade-Major,
 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

COPY NO...

SECRET

ORDER NO. 97

HEADQUARTERS,
20th October 1917.

1. Consequent on the change of Divisional Front ordered in 4th Australian Division ORDER No. 87, the following re-distribution of Artillery boundaries will take place at 10 a.m., 21st October 1917 :-

2. S.O.S. LINE -

The S.O.S. Line on the Divisional Front will be as follows :-

D 24 a 20 - D 18 c 60 - D 18 a 05.

3. ZONES FOR S.O.S. -

Both Groups for S.O.S. purposes will cover the whole Divisional front.

"C" GROUP will, however, not fire for an S.O.S. unless asked to by G.O.C. Infantry Brigade holding the line, or ordered to do so by this Office.

4. ZONES FOR OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS -

For Bombardment Barrage purposes and Attack Days the Group Zones will be as follows :-

"C" GROUP Northern Boundary :-

ROULERS - YPRES Railway inclusive.

Inter-Group Boundary :-

A line through D 18 d 06 - D 23 a 4032 and its continuation East.

"D" GROUP Southern Boundary :-

A line through E 19 a 08 - D 23 c 9053 and its continuation East, and overlap this line 50 yards.

5. BRIGADES SUPERIMPOSED -

For Offensive operations, one Brigade in each Group will be superimposed on its Group Zone.

6. HARASSING FIRE -

"C" GROUP only will carry out harassing fire, firing 720 rounds A and AX and 240 rounds BX daily. Two thirds by night and one third by day.

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7. COMMAND OF "C" GROUP -

Orders have been issued to 10th and 11th Aus. F.A. Brigades for the C.O. 10th Aus. F.A. Brigade to relieve the C.O. 11th Aus. F.A. Brigade in Command of "C" Group by 8 a.m., 21st instant.

8. LIAISON -

"D" GROUP will find the Liaison Officer with the Infantry Brigade holding the Line.

9. LIAISON BARRAGE -

"C" GROUP will be prepared to assist the Right Division on the Code call -- "HELP FLINTE", and will barrage from

D 30 a 0011 - D 29 b 6080 - D 24 a 2 0.

with one Brigade, the Howitzers being placed on selected spots not less than 200 yards East of the above line.

10. REPLY TO S.O.S. -

Replies to S.O.S. will be as follows :-

<u>18-prs.</u>	<u>5 minutes</u>	--	4 rounds per gun per min.,
	<u>5 minutes</u>	--	2 rounds per gun per min.,
	<u>5 minutes</u>	--	1 round per gun per minute,

when fire will cease unless the signal is sent again - in which case the procedure will be repeated.

4.5" Howz. Half the above rates.

After the first five minutes alternate guns or, if a Brigade be superimposed, the guns of the Superimposed Brigade will search back for 500 yards in lifts of 100 yards every 2 minutes.

11. WIRELESS MAST DISTRIBUTION -

There will be - 1 wireless mast at each Group H.Q.,
1 wireless mast with direct communication to a selected Battery in each Group.

4th Aus. D.A.H.Q. set will be in Reserve.

12. N.F., G.F. and L.L. CALLS -

"C" GROUP will answer all N.F. calls in Square E.Y., and will turn on one Brigade to all G.F. Calls. The reply to a G.F. Call will be 10 rounds per gun and Howitzer to be repeated if the signal is repeated. L.L. Calls will be answered by every gun and Howitzer which can reach, with 5 minutes' rapid fire when N.F., G.F., or L.L. Calls are received. If engaged in other important tasks, the equivalent of 1 Section per Battery must be used.

13. For Bombardment Barrages and Attack Days the 18-prs. in the "B" Barrage (4.5" Howz.) will be those of 1 Battery per Group.

14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT on forms attached (Groups by wire).

Issued to Signals at 1.15 p.m.
 Major, R.A., Brigade-Major, 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

C.M. Bates

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. COPY NO. 27.....

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS,
21st October 1917.

CORRIGENDUM TO ORDER 97

Reference 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery ORDER No. 97 of
20th October 1917.

For para. 12 N.F., G.F. and L.L. CALLS, substitute
the following :-

" "C" GROUP will answer all N.F. Calls in square
E.Y., and will turn on one Brigade to all G.F. Calls.
The reply to a G.F. call will be 10 rounds per gun
and Howitzer to be repeated if the Signal is repeated.
L.L. Calls will be answered by every gun and
Howitzer which can reach, with five minutes' rapid
fire.
When N.F., G.F. or L.L. Calls are received, if
engaged in other important tasks, the equivalent
of 1 Section per Battery must be used. "

ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

Crowder

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

As for Order No. 97.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. COPY NO. 36

ORDER NO. 98

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS,
23rd October 1917.

1. The 1st Australian Divisional Artillery (1st and 2nd Brigades) will be attached to the Left Divisional Artillery Group for Attack Day (No. 6) as from Zero minus 1 hour.
2. The Zone for barrage purposes for the 1st Australian Divisional Artillery will be the whole Left Divisional Front, superimposed over the 2nd and 4th Aus. Div. Artillery Brigades.
3. The 1st Australian Divisional Artillery Brigades will be known as "C (1)" GROUP.
4. Signal communication will be arranged by the Officer-in-Charge R.A. Signals -
 - A - between ^{"D"} Group Headquarters and "C (1)" GROUP Headquarters.
 - B. - between "C (1)" Group Headquarters and 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Headquarters.
5. "C (1)" GROUP will return to the Right Divisional Artillery Group at an hour to be notified later, and after the attack.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

(M) Mate,

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Div. Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

Normal &
39) ...
40) -- 1st Aus. D.A..
41)

186 ✓

APPENDIX.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

COPY NO. *Al*

SECRET

ORDER NO. 99

HEADQUARTERS,
24th October 1917.

1. The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery will be relieved by the 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery as follows :-

10th Battery	relieves	37th Battery	- (4 guns)
12th "	"	39th "	(5 ")
13th "	"	41st "	(5 ")
14th "	"	43rd "	(5 ")
15th "	"	42nd & 38th Btys.	(3 guns each).
104th How. "	"	110th How. Bty	(4 guns)
195th How. "	"	111th " "	(4 guns).

2. The guns of the 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery in HANNEBEEK will be disposed of as follows :-

10th Battery retains one Section in action, hands over one gun to each of 11th and 12th Batteries and the remaining 2 guns (1 damaged) to the 37th Battery.

11th Battery Remains in action. One in action damaged to 37th Battery.

12th Battery 3 in action damaged to 39th Battery. 1 good gun to 2nd Battery. 1 good Section to 4th Battery. All in position.

13th Battery 4 good guns (to 41st Battery. 1 damaged

14th Battery 5 guns in position to 2nd Battery.

15th Battery 4 guns (2 damaged) to 38th Battery 1 gun to 42nd Battery.

105th How. Battery 5 good guns to 102nd How. in position. 1 bogged to 111th How. Bty..

104th How. Battery Retains 1 Section. 1 Section to 105th How. Battery. 1 good gun and 1 damaged gun to 110th How. Battery.

3. Guns as per attached Schedule will be withdrawn from Battery positions by 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Batteries, with the exception of some of those of the 2nd Aus. Divisional Artillery and 1st Aus. Divisional Artillery, all are bogged or damaged. Good guns must on no account be withdrawn from forward positions.

4. All Batteries will retain their own stores. Guns will be handed over stripped except for sights and sight clinometers..

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APPENDIX.

ORDER NO. 99 (Continued).

5. The relief will be carried out as follows :-

The 2nd, 4th and 102nd How. Batter^{ies} will take over from the 12th, 14th and 105th How. Batteries on bloc, commencing at 3 a.m. *25th instant*

On relief the 12th, 14th and 105th How. Batteries will relieve the 39th, 43rd and 111th How. Batteries.

The remaining reliefs will be carried out by Sections and will be completed by 6 p.m. on 25th instant. On relief, 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Batteries will withdraw guns as per attached Schedule, to wagon lines.

6. As from 6 a.m., 25th, both the present "C" and "D" GROUPS will cover with S.O.S. lines the whole Divisional front. The guns of the 1st Australian Divisional Artillery in action at 6 a.m. will be prepared to put a barrage on receipt of an S.O.S. Signal, from D 24 b 0 4 to D 18 b 0085.

7. On completion of the relief the Artillery will be grouped as follows :-

"C" GROUP -- 2nd Aus. D.A..
"D" GROUP -- 1st Aus. D.A..

Zones will be as at present held by the present "C" and "D" Groups.

8. Group Headquarters will be as follows :-

"C" GROUP -- I 6 b 9505
"D" GROUP -- D 26 c 4045 in dugouts on the South side of the Railway.

The new "D" GROUP will temporarily remain at HALF WAY HOUSE until after Attack Day No. 3.

9. Command of Batteries will devolve on 2nd and 1st Aus. Divisional Artillery B.Cs. on completion of each Battery relief. "C" and "D" GROUPS as re-constituted in para. 7 will come into effect on the completion of the relief of the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Batteries, and after its notification to this Office, when the Command of "D" GROUP will pass to the C.O. 1st Aus. Divisional Artillery Group, and the Command of "C" GROUP will pass to the C.O. 2nd Aus. Divisional Artillery Group.

10. The new "C" and "D" GROUPS will both cover the Divisional front with S.O.S. lines until 1 hour before ZERO on Attack Day No. 3. After this hour S.O.S. zones for Groups will be the Offensive Zones.

11. 11.....

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ORDER NO. 99 (Continued)

11. Group Commanders will ensure that both they and their Battery Commanders hand over all instructions and orders for offensive operations to Units relieving them.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached. (Groups by wire).
=====

C. M. G.

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

- 1 - 9 "C" GROUP.
- 10 - 18 "D" GROUP.
- 19 11th Aus. F.A. Bde..
- 20 4th Aus. F.A. Bde..

For inf. :-

- 21 2nd Aus. D.A..
- 22 5th Aus. D.A..
- 23 1st Aus. D.A..
- 24 R.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 25 1st Aus. Div..
- 26 1st Aus. Inf. Bde.
- 27 2nd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 28 3rd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 29 4th Canadian Division.
- 30 57th H.A.C..
- 31 H.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 32 1st Aus. F.A. Bde.. } c/o 5th Aus. D.A..
- 33 2nd Aus. F.A. Bde.. }
- 34 Sig. Officer.
- 35 C.R.A..
- 36 S.C..
- 37 R.O..
- 38 File.
- 39 - 41 Diary.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

SECRET.

SCHEDULE
=====

(To accompany ORDER 99)

GUNS TO BE OBTAINED BY 4TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY AND WITHDRAWN WHERE NECESSARY.

From 2nd Aus. Div. Artillery and own positions :-

- 37th Battery - (2 from 10th Battery,
(2 own position,
(1 from 11th Battery.
- 38th Battery - (2 from own position
(4 from 15 th Battery.
- 39th Battery - 3 from 12th Battery.
- 110th How. " - 2 from 104th How. Battery.
- 41st Battery - (5 from 13th Battery,
(1 from own position.
- 42nd Battery - 1 from own position,
1 from 15th Battery.
- 43rd Battery - 1 from own position.
- 111th How. " - (1 from own position,
(1 from 105th How. Battery.

From 1st Australian Div. Artillery :-

- 43rd Battery - From 2nd Battery.
2 at J 3 a 1520 (good guns)
1 at J 7 b 2530 (bogged)
1 at " (Smashed)
1 at Wagon line E 21 d.
- 42nd Battery - 1 at I.O.M..
- 39th Battery - 2 from 4th Battery at J 7 d 3480.
- 110th How. " - 3 from 102nd Battery at
J 7 b 0300
- 111th How. " - 2 from 102nd Battery at
J 7 b 0000.

Dial Sights or I.O.M. receipts for same must be obtained for all the above guns.

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COPY

B.M. 103

25th

AAA

Order 99 para. 2 15th Battery AAA Erase 1 gun to
 42nd AAA 38th Battery will take over 1 damaged gun
 AAA A Battery 5th Aus. D.A. will take over 3 good guns
 and one temporarily out of action all in position with
 ammunition AAA 42nd Battery will take over one 15th
 Battery gun at wagon line AAA
 Addressed C and D Groups repeated 5th Aus. D.A. and
 repeated all recipients Order 99 by D.R.

From 4th Aus. D.A..

C. M. M. M.

Major, R.A.,
 Brigade-Major,
 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sent	Service.	Date
At m.		From
To		By
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO { "C" Group.
"D" Group. CRASH.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* B.M. 99	24		

ORDER 99 AAA Para. 2 EGG AAA PSALL
 takes one damaged EAGLE takes four good pieces
 AAA EGG can be erased for S.O.S. from 8 a.m.
 at which hour EAGLE will take over AAA
 Addressed C and D groups repeated CRASH and
 all recipients of ORDER 99 by D.R. AAA

From
 Place 4th Aus. D.A..
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
 (Z) [Signature] Major, R.A..
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
 * This line should be erased if not required.
 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sent	Service.	Date
At m.		From
To		By
By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO { "C" Group. 5th Aus. D.A..

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* B.M. 100	24		

ORDER 99. Schedule AAA Cancel 110th and 111th
 from 1st Div. Arty. AAA 111th takes one
 damaged from 102nd 110th takes four damaged
 from 113th at J 8 b 4555 AAA Addressed C
 Group repeated 5th Aus. D.A. copy to all other
 recipients Order 99 by D.R.

From 4th Aus. D.A..
 Place
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
 (Z) [Signature] Major, R.A..
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery.

APPENDIX.

SECRETORDER NO. 100HEADQUARTERS,
25th October 1917.

1. (a) The 2nd and 5th Armies are to attack on "O" Day, the operations forming part of a series of operations for the capture of PASSCHENDALE.

(b) The 10th Canadian Brigade of the 4th Canadian Division is attacking on the left of the 1st Australian Division.

2. (a) The 2nd Aus. Inf. Brigade will attack on "O" Day for the purpose of protecting the right flank of the 4th Canadian Division, and will establish a strong point on the spur in D 18 a extending well out towards ASSYRIA.

Zero hour will be communicated later.

(b) The operation will be carried out in one stage.

3. (a) DECLINE COPSE south of the railway and the YPRES " ROULERS Railway are inclusive to this Division.

(b) The 4th Canadian Division has been instructed to afford the necessary facilities for supports of this Division to move north of the Railway.

4. (a) A creeping barrage will be put down along the whole Div. front as shown in the Barrage maps issued with 4th Australian Divisional Artillery INSTRUCTION NO. 25.

(b) (i) The creeping barrage will be put down at Zero 150 yards in front of the post at D 17 B 7540.

(ii) At Zero plus 8 minutes the barrage will move forward at the rate of 100 yards in 8 minutes. The 18-pr. barrage will advance in lifts of 50 yards every four minutes.

(iii) On the arrival of the barrage at a line 200 yards beyond the objective a protective barrage will be formed there and a special searching programme will be carried out by the Heavy Artillery up to a line well down the reverse slopes of the KEIBERG Ridge.

5. (a) The 1st and 2nd Australian Divisional Artilleries under the command of Brigadier-General W.L.H. BURGESS, D.S.O. have been allotted to the Division for the attack.

(b) Two 6" How. Batteries from the Bombardment Group affiliated to the Division will be at the call of the Divisional Commander on "O" Day.

Requests for their assistance will be made through Divisional Headquarters.

6. (a) A contact Aeroplane will fly at about Zero plus 60 minutes, at which time flares will be called for by dropping a white Very light and sounding a succession of "A"s on the FLAXON Horn.

(b) WHITE FLARES ONLY WILL BE LIT.

These will be supplemented by the use of WATSON fans, and the waving of helmets, handkerchiefs, etc.,

(c).....

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ORDER NO. 100 (Continued)

6 (Continued).

(c) The following success signal will be fired on gaining the objective :-

3 White Very Lights fired in rapid succession and repeated once or twice with a definite interval in each case.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

C. J. J. J.

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

- No. 1 "C" Group.
- 2 "D" Group.
- 3 "Cl" Group.
- 4 11th Aus. F.A. Bde..
- 5 4th Aus. F.A. Bde..
- 6 Liaison Officer.

For inf. --

- 7 2nd Aus. D.A..
- 8 5th Aus. D.A..
- 9 1st Aus. D.A..
- 10 R.A. 1st ANZAC.
- 11 1st Aus. Div..
- 12 1st Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 13 2nd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 14 3rd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 15 4th Canadian Division.
- 16 57th H.A.C..
- 17 H.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 18 C.R.A..
- 19 Sig. Off..
- 20 S.C..
- 21 R.O..
- 22 file
- 23)
- 24) diary.
- 25)

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

COPY NO. 23

SECRET

ORDER NO. 101.

HEADQUARTERS,
26th October 1917.

1. COMMAND.

The C.R.A. 4th Australian Division will hand over command of the Field Artillery covering the Left Division 1st A.ZAC. to the C.R.A. 1st Australian Division, at 10 a.m. 27th October 1917.

2. MOVE OF HEADQUARTERS :-

Headquarters 4th Australian Divisional Artillery will move to REMINGHELIST at 10 a.m., 27th October.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

Contract

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

- No. 1 to 4th Aus. F.A. Ede..
- 2 5th " " "
- 3 1st " " "
- 4 2nd " " "
- 5 10th " " "
- 6 11th " " "
- 7 2nd Aus. D.A.C..
- 8 4th Aus. D.A.C..
- 9 4th Aus. D.T.R.O..
- For inf -
- 10, 1st Aus. D.A..
- 11 2nd Aus. D.A..
- 12 5th Aus. D.A..
- 13 1st Aus. Div..
- 14 4th Aus. Div. 'Q'.
- 15 4th Aus. Div. 'G'.
- 16 57th H.A.C..
- 17 R.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 18 H.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 19 C.R.A..
- 20 B.C..
- 21 R.O..
- 22 File
- 23)
- 24) Diary.
- 25)

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

COPY NO. 37

SECRETHEADQUARTERS,
1st October 1917.

1. AMENDMENT to 4th Australian Divisional Artillery
INSTRUCTION No. 17, paras. 11 and 14 and INSTRUCTION
No. 20, para. 6 :-

For "10 a.m., October 2nd" read "6 a.m. October 2nd"
whenever the words occur.

2. AMENDMENT to 4th Australian Divisional Artillery
INSTRUCTION No. 21 :-

Time of commencement of R.1 Barrage will be 7.15
a.m. and NOT 3.30 a.m..

3. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

CM Jones

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

1	-	9	"C" Group	
10	-	18	"D" Group.	
19			4th Aus. F.A. Bde..	
20			5th " " "	
21			10th " " "	
22			11th " " "	
23			2nd Aus. D.A..	}
24			5th " " "	
25			3rd " " "	
26			R.A. 1st ANZ.C.	
27			H.A. " " "	
28			3rd Aus. Inf. Bde..	
29	-	32	2nd Aus. Div.		} for inf.
		33	57th H.A.G..	
		34	Major W.L. POSTON, D.S.O., R.A..	
			35 File	
			36 C.R.A..	
			(37 War Diary	
			(38	
			(39	
			40 S.C..	
			41 R.O..	

186 ✓

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. COPY NO...

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS,
11th October 1917.

INSTRUCTION NO. 21.

The following will be the NORMAL DISTRIBUTION of
4th Australian Divisional Artillery ORDERS and INSTRUCTIONS :-

COPIES

- | | | | |
|--------|---|-----|----------------------|
| Mos. 1 | - | 9 | "C" Group. |
| 10 | - | 17 | "C 1" Group. |
| 18 | - | 23 | "D" Group. |
| | | 27 | 10th Aus. F.A. Bde.. |
| | | 28 | 5th Aus. F.A. Bde.. |
| | (| 29 | 2nd Aus. D.A.. |
| | (| 30 | 5th Aus. D.A.. |
| | (| 31 | R.A. 1st ANZAC. |
| for | (| 32 | 4th Aus. Div.. |
| inf. | (| 33 | 4th Aus. Inf. Bde.. |
| | (| 34 | 12th " " " |
| | (| 35 | 13th " " " |
| | (| 36 | 3rd Aus. D.A.. |
| | (| 37 | 57th H.A.G.. |
| | | 38 | Sig. Officer. |
| | | 39 | C.R.A.. |
| | | 40 | S.C.. |
| | | 41 | R.O.. |
| | | 42 | File. |
| | | (43 | |
| | | (44 | Diary. |
| | | (45 | |

M. J. A. L.

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

186 ✓

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY COPY NO. 36...

SECRET

INSTRUCTION NO. 22

HEADQUARTERS,
13th October 1917.

1. Dumps at guns will be maintained at the following strengths per gun :-

18-pr.	--	400
4.5" How.	--	300

In addition to the above the daily allotment will be dumped as required.

This amount is expected to be about 40 rounds per gun per diem. Exact instructions on this point will be issued later.

2. Opportunity will now be taken to complete the consolidation of the Artillery. The intention as regards Grouping and locations of Brigades is as follows :-

2nd Aus. D.A. (4th and 5th Brigades)

Grouped in and about J 2 and D 26.

4th Aus. D.A. (10th and 11th Brigades)

Grouped in and about D 21, 27 and 28.

3. The first step in the above will be the above will be the completion of the 38th, 39th, 43rd and 110th(How) Batteries in their forward positions as early as possible, and the move of the 105th and 111th How. Batteries to their selected positions.

As soon as the 38th, 39th, 43rd and 110th How. Batteries are complete, the 37th Battery will be moved forward to a position to be selected, and this will be followed by the 42nd Battery.

Group Commanders will report the map locations of the positions selected.

4. Instructions will be issued shortly on what use may be made of the trench tramway running up to ZONNEBEKE from WESTHOEK.

It is hoped that guns may be moved by this.

5. Artillery policy will be as follows :-

A -- Harassing fire on enemy's approaches and communications -
20 rounds per gun per night.
10 " " " " day.

B. -- Prompt engaging of living targets.

A HARASSING FIRE.....

186✓

INSTRUCTION NO. 22 (Continued)

5 Continued.

A HARASSING FIRE :-

Each Group will operate in its own zone, and an amended track and occupation map will shortly be issued.

B. ENGAGING LIVING TARGETS :-

Every advantage must be taken of our observation from the Ridge.

Two O.Ps. per Brigade will be established and direct visual communication to Battery positions maintained from the Ridge.

Lists showing map locations of these O.Ps. and Group tactical O.Ps. will be forwarded to this Office by the evening of the 14th instant.

6. WIRELESS SETS. :-

Wireless masts will be established by each Group as follows :-

At Group Headquarters	--	1 mast
With a selected Battery	--	1 mast.

Locations of the latter will be sent in as soon as possible.

7. Group Commanders are again reminded of the necessity of the maintenance of a system of reliefs. Every opportunity must now be taken to rest personnel as much as possible.

At their discretion, Group Commanders may send the personnel of one Section per consolidated Battery back to wagon lines. Battery Commanders will, if possible, be sent back to wagon lines and Battery Captains put in command of the gun positions.

8. SALVAGE OF AMMUNITION :-

Rear dumps of Batteries must be cleared before fresh ammunition is drawn, and Group Commanders will ensure that their rear positions are so cleared.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

CM Jates

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

Normal
Distribution.

186 ✓

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

SECRET

INSTRUCTION NO. 23

HEADQUARTERS,
13th October 1917.

1. INSTRUCTION NO. 21 is cancelled.
2. The following will be the NORMAL DISTRIBUTION of 4th Australian Divisional Artillery ORDERS and INSTRUCTIONS :-

COPIES.

Nos.	1	-	9	"C" Group.
	10	-	18	"D" Group.
			19	10th Aus. F.A. Bde..
			20	5th Aus. F.A. Bde..
		(	21	2nd Aus. D.A.
		(	22	5th Aus. D.A..
		(	23	R.A. 1st ANZAC..
<u>for</u>		(	24	4th Aus. Div..
<u>inf.</u>		(	25	4th Aus. Inf. Bde..
		(	26	12th " " "
		(	27	13th " " "
		(	28	3rd Aus. D.A..
		(	29	57th H.A G.,
		(	30	H.A. 1st ANZAC..
			31	Sig. Officer
			32	C.R.A..
			33	S.C..
			34	R.O..
			35	File
		(	36	
		(	37	Diary
		(38	

CM Sales

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

COPY NO. 11.

SECRET

INSTRUCTION NO. 24

HEADQUARTERS,
20th October 1917.

1. There will be two Bombardment Barrages on each of "K", "L", "M" and "N" days, "K" Day being the 22nd instant.

2. Times of commencement

"K"	(A)	To be notified later.
"K"	(B)	5.45 p.m..
"L"	(A)	6 a.m..
"L"	(B)	4 p.m..
"M"	(A)	9.15 a.m..
"M"	(B)	5.30 p.m..
"N"	(A)	7 a.m..
"N"	(B)	1.30 p.m..

"K" (A) and "M" (A) are Army Barrages; the remainder are Corps Barrages.

3. Maps are issued herewith showing the Starting lines for the Army Barrages and the Corps Barrages.

4. The position of these barrages with reference to these lines is shown on the Barrage diagrams also issued herewith, the Starting line being taken as that marked start

5. Rates of fire during the Barrages will be as follows :-

- 18-prs. -- 2 rounds per gun per min.
- 4.5" Hows. - 1 round per How. per min.

6. From Zero to Zero plus 6, all available guns will be used. After Zero plus 6, not more than 4 guns per Battery will be used.

7. Mistakes in barrages will be looked for and corrected during "L" (B) "M" (A) and "N" (B) Barrages.

8. Special observations will be taken on the enemy reply to all barrages and reports of observers will be sent in to this Headquarters by earliest possible D.R.. These reports will show :-

- (A) Time of enemy reply.
- (B) Nature of reply and location.
- (C) Time of cessation.

9. STANDING BARRAGES "L" and "M" Days -

On "L" and "M" days, Standing Barrages will be put down with the "A" Barrage on the "Army Barrage Starting Line" and the "B" Barrage 200 yards East of it at the following times :-

- 8.15 to 8.21 p.m..
- 8.45 to 8.51 p.m..

Rates of fire, as in para. 5.

10.....

SECRETINSTRUCTION NO. 24 (Continued)10. Silent periods "L" DAY -

On "L" Day there will be two Silent Periods during which no firing will take place, except in response to S.O.S. Signals:-

8 to 8.15 p.m. and 8.30 to 8.45 p.m.

11. Synchronisation of watches will be carried out as previously, a watch being sent to each Group from D.A.H.Q..

12. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

Chapman
Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

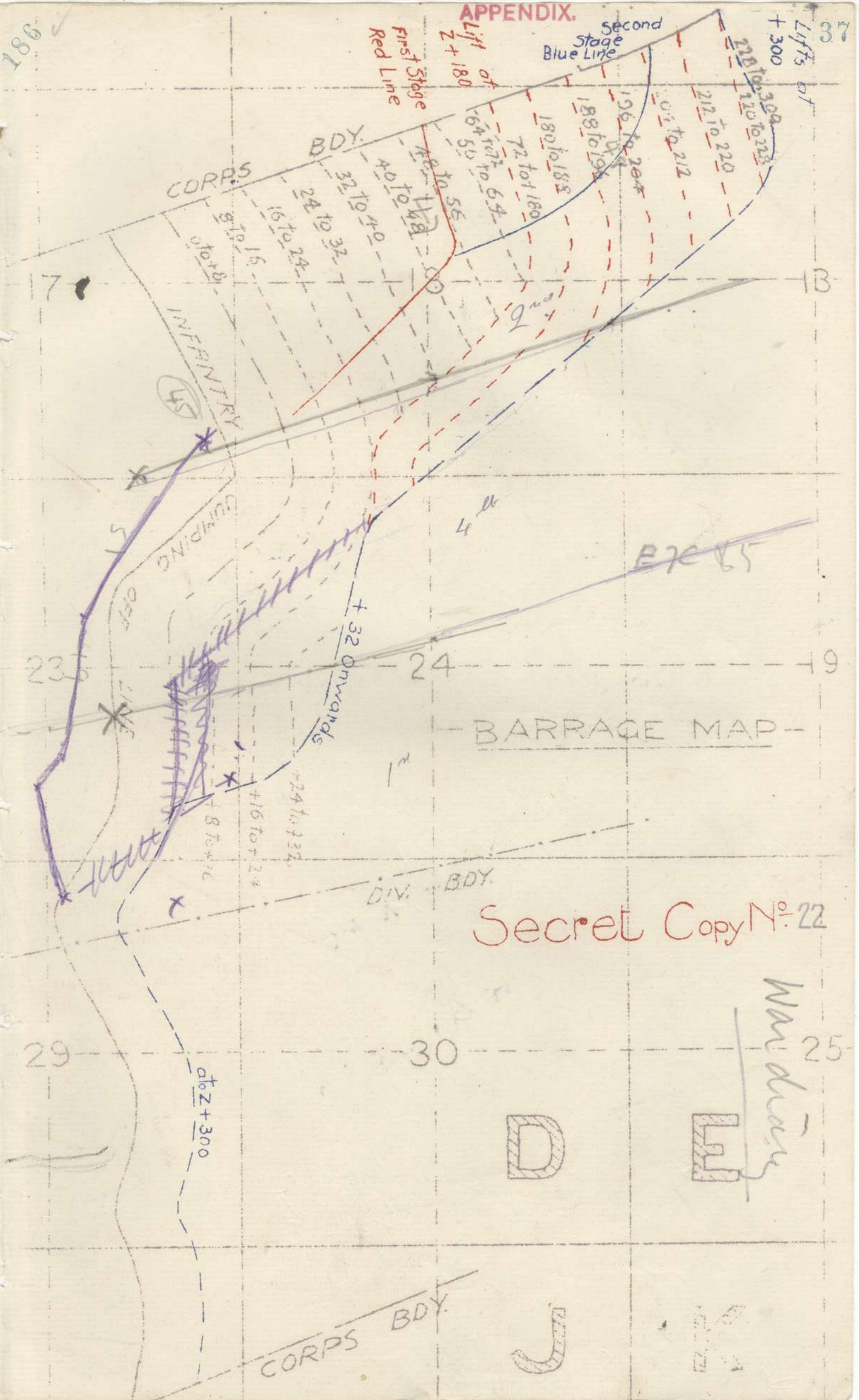
Normal
Distribution.

Issued to Signals at 2.15 p.m.

186
981

APPENDIX.

Lifts of +300



19

8

(26)

9

35
26

2800

25) 1350 (4
110

230

4th

25

1st

26

186 ✓

COPY NO. 49

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

SECRET

INSTRUCTION NO. 25

HEADQUARTERS,
24th October 1917.

1. A Barrage Map (on the scale of one per Battery and Group Headquarters) for Attack Day No. 6 is issued herewith. The Group Boundary between "C" and "D" Groups is shown on the map; also the Dividing line between the Left Division and the Right Division, and the Left Division and the 4th Canadian Division on our Left. The former differs slightly from that given in 4th Australian Divisional Artillery ORDER NO. 97. Owing to the relief, the Barrage Maps for "C" GROUP have been divided into Battery Sectors. (viz. 50 yards every 4 minutes) Barrage Diagrams showing Lifts and timings/are also issued on the Scale of 1 per Group.

2. The Barrage covers the operations of the 1st Australian Division whose object is the securing of the Right flank of the 4th Canadian Division by joining from our present front line about NIEWHOLEN Spur to and including DECLINE COPSE South of the Railway Line.

3. There will be no definite "Jumping-off" line as heretofore.

4. Every 18-pr. of the "A" Barrage will fire 4 rounds Smoke shell in rapid succession to mark its arrival on the Protective Barrage.

5. Rates of fire will be as follows :-

	<u>18-pr.</u>	<u>4.5" How.</u>
ZERO to Z plus 4	:2	1
Z plus 4 to Z plus 8	4	1
Zero plus 8 until arrival at Protective Barrage	2	1
After arrival on Protective Barrage	1	$\frac{1}{2}$

Ammunition will be used as follows :-

A = 75%, AX = 25%
provided Dumps will consist of not less than 50% A (for S.O.S. purposes) on conclusion of operation.

6. Groups will cease fire at Zero plus 150 unless further required.

7. The Barrage Map shows the over-lap of 50 yards on the Northern Boundary. There will be no over-lap on the inter-Divisional Boundary.

8.....

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INSTRUCTION NO. 25 (Continued)

8. The C.O. 2nd Aus. F.A. Brigade will be Liaison Officer with the attacking Infantry Brigade at D 23 c 4045 and will take up his duties on the 25th instant.

9. Battery Commanders of 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Batteries will work out the Barrages for their guns before handing over to 2nd Aus. Divisional Artillery Batteries, and give every assistance possible to Battery Commanders, 2nd Aus. Divisional Artillery Batteries.

10 ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached. (Groups by wire).

Comater

Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION.

- 1 - 9 "C" Group.
- 10 - 18 "D" Group.
- 19 - 28 "Cl" Group. (c/o 5th Aus. D.A.).
- 29 11th Aus. F.A. Bde..
- 30 4th Aus. F.A. Bde..

For inf.

- 31 2nd Aus. D.A..
- 32 5th Aus. D.A..
- 33 1st Aus. D.A..
- 34 R.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 35 1st Aus. Div..
- 36 1st Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 37 2nd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 38 3rd Aus. Inf. Bde..
- 39 4th Canadian Division.
- 40 57th H.A.C..
- 41 H.A. 1st ANZAC..
- 42 Sig. Officer.
- 43 C.R.A..
- 44 S.C.
- 45 R.O..
- 46 File
- 47)
- 48) Diary.
- 49)

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. COPY NO. 33

SECRET

INSTRUCTION NO. 26.

HEADQUARTERS,
25th October 1917.

1. S.O.S. LINE.

The S.O.S. Line on the Divisional Front after the attack will be as follows, unless otherwise ordered :-

D 24 a 20 - D 18 c 60 - D 18 b 1085

2. Days after "O", will be known as "P (a)", "Q (a)", "R (a)", "S (a)", etc..

3. ACTION "P (a)" Day :-

Artillery action for "P (a)" Day will be as follows :-

5.20 a.m., an ARMY Barrage on front of Xth, 1st ANZAC. and Canadian Corps.

Starting line as for ARMY Barrage issued with INSTRUCTION NO. 24, viz, on Corps front -

E 25 c 5 2 - E 13 c 5 0 - D 12 d 4500.

Lifts and timings of Barrage are shown on attached diagram. (Groups only).

"P (a)" A Barrage :-

Rates of fire as for previous bombardment barrages i.e. 18-prs., 2 and 4.5" Hows. 1 roundx per gun per minute.

4. There will be bursts of fire at Bombardment Barrage rates at 8.45 p.m. to 8.51 p.m. and at 9.10 p.m. to 9.16 p.m.

This fire will take the form of a Standing Barrage in depth "A" and "B" Barrage. -

"A" Barrage on the line E 19 a 6 9 to D 18 b 1085

"B" Barrage 200 yards East of above.

There will be silent periods at -

8.51 p.m. to 9.10 p.m.,
10. p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

unless firing is required in response to S.O.S. Signals.

5. ACTION ON "Q (a)" Day :-

On "Q (a)" Day the following will be the programme :-

ARMY Barrage at 5.30 a.m., Starting Line as on "P (a)" Day. Lifts and timing are shown on "Q (a)" A Barrage Diagram attached (Groups only).

Rates of fire as on "P (a)" Day.

INSTRUCTION NO. 26 (Continued).

6. There will be bursts of fire as on "P (a)" Day at
 8.15 p.m. to 8.21 p.m..
 9.33 p.m. to 9.41 p.m..
7. There will be Silent periods -
 8.21 p.m. to 8.40 p.m.
 11 p.m. to 11.30 p.m..
8. Should Attack No. 7 take place on "S (a)" Day the following action will take place on "R (a)" Day :-
 ARMY Barrage at 5.15 a.m., Starting Line as on "P (a)" Day.
 Lifts and timing as on attached Diagram for "R (a) A Barrage (Groups only).
9. There will be silent periods -
 8 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.
 10 p.m. to 10.30 p.m..
10. COUNTER BATTERY WORK :-
 Vigorous Counter-Battery work is being maintained.
 "C" GROUP will answer N.F. Calls in Square E.Y..
11. HARASSING FIRE :-
 Harassing fire will be maintained on communications by "C" GROUP, 720 rounds A and AX and 240 rounds BX being fired each day (two thirds by night and one third by day).
12. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

Criddle

DISTRIBUTION :-

1 - 9 "C" Group.
 10 - 18 "D" Group.
 For inf -

4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

Major, R.A.,
 Brigade-Major,

19 1st Aus. D.A..	29 C.R.A..
20 2nd Aus. D.A..	30 S.C..
21 5th Aus. D.A..	31 R.O..
22 R.A. 1st ANZAC..	32 File.
23 1st Aus. Div..	(33
24 1st Aus. Inf. Bde..	(34 Diary.
25 2nd Aus. Inf. Bde..	(35
26 3rd Aus. Inf. Bde..	
27 H.A., 1st ANZAC..	
28 57th H.A.G..	

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

6 a.m. 30th - 6 a.m. 1st October 1917.

OBSERVATION

Fair.

OUR ARTILLERY.

Roads and approaches have been kept under fire. 2050 rounds being used. 400 rounds used on registration. In response to an S.O.S. from the Right Division, 300 rounds were fired by our two right flank batteries.

ENEMY ARTILLERY.

Very active. Sniping with 4.2s at WESTHOEK Ridge throughout the day. J 2 d and J 3 c was continuously shelled by 77's. The area between WESTHOEK and BELLEWARDE Ridges was heavily shelled by 5.9s and 8" howitzers. Most of the fire came from the BECELAIRE Group. A 5.9 battery on a T.B. of 68° from I 12 b 30 20 shelled I 12 b and d, continuously from 6 a.m. till noon.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 7 a.m. two enemy 'planes made a low reconnaissance of our F.L.T and BELLEWARDE Ridge. At 10.30 a.m., 3 enemy 'planes flew over our lines but were driven away by machine-gun fire. At 2.30 p.m., 5 enemy 'planes flew over I 11 and I 12. Balloons were up on T.B. of 53°, 59°, 106°, 117° and 164° from J 7 c 30 50.

MOVEMENT

None observed.

W. B. ...
Lieut.
Staff Lieut.
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYCONFIDENTIAL.DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

6 a.m. 10th - 6 a.m., 11th October 1917.

OBSERVATION

Good throughout the day.

OUR ARTILLERY

Barrage was fired in accordance with Corps Orders. Harassing and isolating fire was carried out throughout the night. Registration of guns in new positions was carried out.

ENEMY ARTILLERY

Active. Bursts of fire were directed against our supports, for periods of 5 to 10 minutes at frequent intervals. The enemy shelled J 7 a, with 8 inch and 5.9s, from 3 pm to 6 pm. BELLEWARDE Ridge and J 2 a and b, were shelled by 5.9s & 4.2s.

Area shelled	Nature	Time	Direction	Observed from
J 7 a 0517 NOLNEBEKE	8" 8" 5.9s.	3 to 6 p.m. "	80° Sd. MOORSLEDE	J 7 a 0517 "
J 2 a & c BELLEWARDE Ridge	4.2s. 4.2s.	5.45 - 6.15 a.m.. 2.30 - 3 p.m.	" 68° Sd.	J 2 a 5050 I 12 & 3020

The BECELAERE Group is not as active as usual.

AERIAL ACTIVITY

Enemy planes were over our lines at 8.15 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.. From 1.30 to 3 p.m. they were very active over F.L.T..

C. M. ...
for
Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL. DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 11th to 6 a.m., 12th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Fair.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Harassing and isolating fire was kept on roads and approaches throughout the night. Barrages were fired as ordered. Registration of guns in forward positions was carried out.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Normal.
The road crossing the railway in D 26 b was shelled by 5.9" Hows; four craters 15 feet deep and 30 feet across were blown in the road in D 27 a.
The road is impassable for 200 yards.
J 7 c, J 2 d and BELLEVARDE Ridge were shelled as usual by 5.9s. and 4.2s..
Enfilade Batteries in K 1 were silenced by Heavies and 5th Aus. F. Artillery soon after our attack was launched.
KIT KAT was heavily shelled by 4.2 Hows. from 5.30 p.m. to 6 p.m..

Area shelled	Time	Direction	Nature	Observed From
BELLEVARDE Ridge	9.30 - 11 a.m.	68° Sd.	5.9	I 12 b 3020
J 7 c	9 a.m. - 13.30 am.	100° "	8"	J 7 c 7520
J 6 & 7	Intermittently.	80°	5.9	J 7 a 0520

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- Below normal.

M.A. Hargreaves

Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 12th to 6 a.m., 13th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Fair during the morning. Very low visibility during the afternoon.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Starting at 5.25 a.m., "A" day barrages were fired as ordered. Roads and approaches were swept from time to time in answer to reports of enemy movement, and areas where the enemy were reported to be massing were swept with bursts of fire. During the night harassing fire was kept on roads and approaches, particular attention being paid to DROOGEN BROODHOEK and MOORSLEDE Roads.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- There was no heavy retaliation in response to our attack, but 8" Hows. were very active all day. The tramway line passing over WESTHOEK Ridge was shelled all day. WESTHOEK Ridge was shelled all night by 10.5 C.M. H.V. gun and a 5.9 How.. During the night activity was normal.

Time	Area shelled	Direction	Calibre	Observed From
8.45 to 10.30 am	I 12 b	68° Sd.	8"	I 12 b 3020
9.30 a.m. - 12 noon	J 7 a & c	MOORSLEDE	5.9	"
3.15 p.m.	J 7 a	105° Sd.	8"	J 7 a 2510

GENERAL

MOVEMENT :-

A lot of movement was observed but mostly in small parties. 30 men were seen in what is apparently a redoubt at D 18 b 7 2. Movement was observed at Cross Roads at E 13 a 1 0, E 19 a 9 7, and along the road in E 19 b. At 10.35 a.m., small parties of the enemy were seen grouped along the road in D 30 c and d and the road from D 29 b 7000 to D 30 a 0010; these were engaged with good results. Parties of two or three men were moving about BLINTE FARM, D 29 b 7030, all day. Enemy Battery was located at K 1 d 9085. They were silenced by 101st How. Battery; an explosion occurred.

AERIAL ACTIVITY

:- Enemy 'planes were very active, operating in Groups of 4 or 5. One of our 'planes was brought down in D 21 d.

M. Hargrave

Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 14th - 6 a.m., 15th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Fair.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Harassing fire has been kept on roads and approaches and some registration has been carried out. Hostile Batteries at E 20 d 5247, E 27 a 4550 and E 28 c 2 1 were engaged. At 3 p.m. the enemy put a barrage on our F.L.T. area J 5, J 11. Enemy Batteries were engaged at E 25 b 6080, E 20 d 5045, E 21 c 4220, E 21 c 5550 with good neutralising results.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Activity was below normal during the day. An 8" How. shelled J 2 a and b from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; no damage to Batteries Grouped in this Area. During the night the enemy Artillery was abnormally active. Area shoots were put down on areas throughout the night; a great quantity of gas was used.

Time	Area Shelled	Calibre	Direction	Observed from
6 - 7 a.m.	D 27 b	4.2	110°	D 27 b 9550
11 a.m. -		5.9	45°	"
3 p.m. -	J 2 c	"	69° 30'	"
9 a.m. -				
10.30 pm.	J 2 a & b	8"	90° Sd.	J 2 a 7080

A .77 mm Battery is reported active at E 22 a 4050 and a 10.5 c.m. Battery at E 20 a 1020.

AIRIAL ACTIVITY :- Enemy 'planes were very active. At 12.40 p.m. 10 Gotha 'planes flew over our lines towards YPRES dropping a few bombs on route. At 2.45 p.m., 5 Gotha 'planes flew over our lines. At 3.30 p.m. an enemy 'plane was driven down behind the enemy's lines. One of our 'planes was forced to land in D 24 b, the enemy were seen to assist the pilot out of the plane.

MOVEMENT :- A train was seen travelling S.W. from MOORSLEDE.

W. H. ...

Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,

1st Australian Divisional Artillery.

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APPENDIX.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. CODE NO...

CONFIDENTIAL DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

3 a.m., 15th to 6 a.m., 16th October 1917.

EARLY'S ARTILLERY :-

Gas shells were again fired from 12 mid-night to 5 a.m. into D 27; J 1 and J 2. This gas has a strong smell of onions and effects the eyes. Generally the enemy's Artillery was more active than it has been for the past week. The following Areas were shelled :-

- 6 to 7 a.m. D 27 and 78, by 5.9 How. from E.
7 to 8 a.m. KIT KAT, by 5.9 How. from N.
10 to noon Road in D 25 & D 26 by 5.9s and 4.2s. from ...
12 - 3 p.m. ZORREBELE. by all natures from E.A.I. to E.S.E..

An 8" How. intermittently shelled D 28 a and b and ZORREBELE on a T.S.L. of 600 from D 27 a 9045 and 71° 30' from D 29 a 9535.

3 to 6 a.m. SAMS SOUCI by 5.9s. and 8" How. from E.A.I.. D 26 c was also shelled intermittently by 5.9, 4.2, and 8", at least 400 rounds being fired.

During the night shell fire on the road forward from I 17 caused casualties to 35 horses and two C.R..

CUR ARTILLERY :-

Neutralising fire on Batteries in E Y was carried out frequently. The vicinity of ASSERIA was harassed by 18-prs. and 4.5" Hows. throughout the day. Harassing fire was carried out throughout the day and night on areas E. of dividing line between squares E and D.

MOVEMENT :-

Kil.

AEROPLANES & BALLOONS :-

Enemy aircraft were very active. Bombs were dropped in J 2 a causing casualties, at 11.30 a.m.. Offensive patrols operated frequently between the H.A.F. and WESTHOLK. Bombs were again dropped (about 50) in J 2 at 6.15 p.m..

Six balloons were up during the day on the following bearings from D 27 c 2515 :-

- 42°, 67°30', 72°30', 104°30',
116°, 170°30'.

Handwritten signature and title: Licut., Staff-Licut., 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL.

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 16th to 6 a.m., 17th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Good.

OUR ARTILLERY. :- Harassing fire has been kept on roads and approaches at rear of DROOGENBROODHOEK Ridge. ASSYRIA was registered on and shelled. An area shoot with 4.5" Hows. and 18-prs. was put down on E 19 a 9560.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- During the morning D 26 c and J 2 a and b were shelled with gas. During the afternoon enemy Artillery was abnormally active. The constant movement across WESTHOEK Ridge draws a lot of fire. WESTHOEK Ridge, KIT KAT, J 7 c and d, J 8 c and J 13 were heavily shelled by 4.2s. and 77s. during the afternoon. J 2 c and d were shelled by 4.2s. and 5.9s.. Most of the shelling came from BEGELAERE, OOSTHOEK and MOORSLEDE.

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- During the afternoon four enemy 'planes made a low reconnaissance of ZONNEBEKE.

MOVEMENT :- Patrols have been out as far as Cross Roads at D 24 d 2 8 without coming into contact with the enemy. Movement was observed around KIEBERG.

M. J. ...

?, Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,

4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.CONFIDENTIAL. DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 17th to 3 a.m., 18th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Good.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Harassing fire has been kept on roads and approaches. The DROOGENBROODHOEK - MOORSLEDE Road received special attention. A hostile Battery at E 15 b 5010 was engaged by our Howitzers.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Activity normal. J 2 a and b received 400 rounds 15 c.m. between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m.. Eastern edge of HALNEBEKE WOOD was intermittently shelled from the direction of KIEBERG by a 15 a.m. gun.

Time	Area shelled	Calibre	direction	Observed from
5 - 5.10 p.m..	-	-	47° Fl.	J 1 d 3060
5 p.m.	(Duckboards in J 2 a.		65° "	"
9.30 - 10.30am	D 27 a & b, D 21 d.	4.2	45° "	D 27 b 9535
12.15 - 1.30 pm.	D 27 b	5.9	110° "	"
2 - 2.45 p.m.	D 27 b & D 28 a.	5.9	110° "	"
4 p.m. - 4.45 pm.	D 21 d	4.2	68° "	D 28 a 0090

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- Above normal. From 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. strong squadrons patrolled front line and supports. At 11.45 a.m., 31 planes, including Gothas, were over support and reserve areas. 3 p.m. planes were over Battery positions in J 2 a.

MOVEMENT :- Two of enemy seen to get out of trench at E 25 b 9070.

GENERAL :- M.Gs. are reported in DECLINE COPSE and VIENNA COTTAGE.

Flashes from Howitzer Batteries were observed at E 15 b 5010, K 4 c 9090.

M. A. Ferguson
Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL. DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 18th to 6 a.m., 19th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Good.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Harassing fire was kept on roads and approaches. The trenches in E 13 a were shelled and ASSYRIA was shelled during the afternoon.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Activity was below normal. ZONNEBEKE and vicinity was shelled heavily during the day and a Howitzer Battery in action there had three guns put out of action. D 26 c and J 1 and 2 were shelled throughout the day and night.

Time	Area shelled	Nature	Direction	Observed from
9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	D 28 a D 22 c	5.9	87° Sd.	D 28 a 0090
1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.	D 27 b & d.	"	45° "	D 27 b 9535
1.45 p.m. to 3 p.m..	D 21 d, D 27 a	"	110°	"

GENERAL :- Flashes were observed on the following bearings from D 29 a 1 9 :-

10.10 a.m.. 81°, 11.20 a.m., 102°, 12 noon 95°
2.15 p.m. 109°30" (2 guns), 3.30 p.m. 28°

3.15 p.m. a large dump blew up on T.B. of 33° from D 29 a 1 9.

3.30 p.m. A small explosion was observed on a T.B. of 46° 30" from D 29 a 1 9.

ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY :- Bombing 'planes were active both day and night. Four 'planes made a low reconnaissance of forward areas from 4 to 5 p.m.. Balloons were up on T.B. of 62°30', 78°30', 87°30' and 92°30' from D 29 a 1 9.

MOVEMENT :- 11.45 a.m.. A train (trench tramway) was observed going Southwards through E 26 a to E 25 b.. A Red Cross flag was observed on top of a building in MOORSLEDE. At 3.30 p.m. a small party of the enemy was seen in the trenches to the North of CHINA WOOD.

M. A. [Signature]
Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 20th to 6 a.m., 21st October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Fair.

OUR ARTILLERY :- The trenches in E 13 a were shelled at intervals during day and night. Neutralising fire was put on enemy Batteries at E 20 b 1025, E 21 a 6515, E 21 c 5000, E 21 a 9070 and E 26 b 7090. Harassing fire has been kept on roads and approaches.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Active during the night, abnormally active during the day. During the night SANS SOUCI was shelled with gas, J 1 b and d, J 2, D 26 and D 27 received most attention during the day. The shelling again appeared to be directed more on to communications rather than on to Batteries or areas.

Time	Area Shelled	Nature	Direction	Observed From
9 a.m. - 4.5 p.m.	D 27	5.9	45° Sd.	D 27 b 9535
9 a.m.	D 27 a and c	"	72° "	D 27 a 7030

GENERAL :- Flashes from enemy Batteries were observed on bearings of 108° 30', and 111° 30' from D 29 a 1090.

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- At 7.35 a.m. enemy 'planes were over our lines and dropped bombs in the vicinity of some of our Batteries. At 8 a.m., 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. enemy 'planes made a low reconnaissance of our front areas.

M. J. ...

Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.CONFIDENTIALDAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 21st to 6 a.m., 22nd October 1917.OUR ARTILLERY

- :- Our Artillery carried out harassing fire during the night.
At 5.35 a.m., we took part in a Bombardment barrage.
Field Batteries opened neutralising fire on 3 hostile Batteries while the Counter-Battery Group were engaged in a task of keeping down enemy fire during an infantry relief.
During the morning 4 hostile Batteries were engaged at the request of the C.B. S.O..

ENEMY'S ARTILLERY

- :- Enemy's artillery was again very active.
The following areas were shelled :-

<u>6 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.</u>	:- J 2, by 15 and 21 c.m.. (500 rounds).
<u>9.30 a.m. to noon</u>	:- ZONNEBEKE Area, by 15 and 10.5 c.m.. (200 rounds).
<u>9 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.</u>	:- D 26 c, by 10.5 c.m.. (150 rounds).
<u>Intermittently</u>	:- D 27 and 28, by 15 c.m.. (300 rounds).
<u>1 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.</u>	:- D 21 d and 27 b, by 15 and 10.5 c.m.. (250 rounds)
<u>4 p.m. to 7 p.m.</u>	:- J 2, by 15 and 10.5 c.m.. (250 rounds).
<u>4.30 p.m. - 6 a.m.</u>	:- D 26 c, by 15 c.m.. (200 rounds).

Casualties were caused by shellfire in I 16.

GENERAL

- :- On our bombardment opening nothing was seen until 5.42 a.m. when a rocket bursting into 2 RED STARS was seen.
At 5.45 a.m. the enemy commenced to shell WESTHOEK Ridge and from J 1 d to J 7 b also occasionally in J 12.

His shelling on the whole was feeble.

Comdant, Major R. J. B. B.
for
Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.CONFIDENTIALDAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

8 a.m., 23rd to 8 a.m., 24th October 1917.
-----OBSERVATION :- Fair.

OUR ARTILLERY :- Harassing and isolating fire has been kept on roads and approached, day and night. Bursts of fire have been put on to areas where signs of habitation have been noticed. Barrages were fired as ordered. At 9.10 a.m. hostile Batteries at E 21 a 6080, E 21 a 9050 were engaged. At 3.20 p.m. hostile Batteries at E 21 a 7000 E 21 a 3020, E 23 b 7590 and E 21 a 0560 were engaged with good neutralising effects.

GENERAL :- Flashes of Batteries were observed on T.Bs. of 76°, 98° and 125° from D 27 a 2297.

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- Twenty minutes after L (B) barrage commenced, 15 enemy planes flew over our lines at a low altitude, dropping signals which did not bring down fire.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Retaliation to our barrages was not heavy. It commenced about 15 minutes after our barrage started and fell mostly on BROODSLINDE Ridge, D 27 a and c, and J 2 a.

D 27 was shelled intermittently by 5.9s.
D 26 and J 2 a and n were shelled by 4.2s. at frequent intervals:

W. H. Ferguson

Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

CONFIDENTIAL.

DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT.

for period

6 a.m., 24th to 6 a.m., 25th October 1917.

OBSERVATION :- Fair

OUR ARTILLERY :- Barrages were fired as ordered. Harassing and isolating fire has been kept on roads and approaches day and night. The trenches in E 13 c were shelled by a Howitzer Battery, 100 rounds being used.

ENEMY ARTILLERY :- Activity was below normal. Retaliation to our barrages was light - lasting about 15 minutes; BROODSEINDE Ridge, D 27 and D 26. received the heaviest shelling. J 2 a and c were shelled from 8 to 9 p.m. by 5.9s. from direction of BECCLAERE. D 26, ZOMBEKE, and D 27 were shelled all day, occasional rounds of 5.9s. and short bursts of fire by 4.2s.. An 18-pr. Battery at J 3 c 2575 was shelled with gas from 7 to 9 p.m. and from 2 to 5 a.m.. The Road, Demauville, and tracks in J 3 c were shelled by 4.2s. and gas at frequent intervals.

Time	Area shelled	Nature	Direction	Observed From
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	ZOMBEKE	5.9s.	78° Sd.	D 27 a 7 3
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	D 27 b	"	45° "	D 27 b 9537
1 p.m.	TOKIO	77s.	90° "	TOKIO
4 - 4 p.m.	D 27 b	4.2s.	42° "	D 27 b 9537

Gun flashes were observed at E 13 a 5070.

GENERAL :- A Dump blew up at in E 29 b; our Heavies were shelling in this area at the time.

AERIAL ACTIVITY :- Bombs were dropped on wagon lines during the morning causing casualties to personnel and horses. Bombs were dropped in J 3 c. Planes made a low reconnaissance of J 7 and J 4.

Enemy balloons were up on a T.E. of 1730, 1280, 1620, 1340 and 1100 from J 3 c 5 5.

[Handwritten signature]
Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,
4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.CONFIDENTIAL.DAILY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

for period

6 a.m., 25th to 6 a.m., 26th October 1917.
-----OBSERVATION :- Good.OUR ARTILLERY:- Harassing and isolating fire was kept on roads and approaches
Concentrated shoots were put into areas showing signs of occupation.
Barrages were fired as ordered.ENEMY ARTILLERY:- Active.
J 3 c was heavily shelled by 5.9s. during the afternoon lasting until 11 p.m..
2 guns of the Batteries concentrated in this area were put out of action.
From 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. an area shoot was put down in J 3 c and d by 4.2s. and 77s. firing from direction of WATERDAMHOEK.
J 2 a, D 27 b and D 26 c were shelled by 5.9s..
The retaliation to our Attack barrage was very light.
The Valley in front of PASSCHENDAELE received the heaviest shelling - mostly by 5.9s..AERIAL ACTIVITY:- Enemy's 'planes were very active between 8 and 11 p.m. dropping bombs in WESTHOEK and vicinity.
During the night enemy 'planes dropped many bombs in YPRES and vicinity.*Mitchell*Lieut.,
Staff-Lieut.,4th Australian Divisional Artillery.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.CONFIDENTIAL.HEADQUARTERS,
30th October 1917.

The following is a resumé of the work done by the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Brigades from September 9th when the operations leading to the capture of the BROODESEINDE Ridge on October 4th commenced, until the withdrawal of the Brigades on October 26th :-

COMMAND AND GROUPING -

Throughout the operations the 4th and 2nd Australian Divisional Artilleries were grouped together and were Commanded by either C.R.A. whenever the Infantry of his Division was in the Line.

At the commencement, the 2nd Australian Division were in the Line and the C.R.A. that Division was in Command, the C.R.A. 4th Australian Division meanwhile keeping close touch with affairs.

SEPTEMBER 9th - 20th -

On September 9th, the 10th and 11th Aus. F.A. Brigades were placed in action on either side of the MENIN Road in the vicinity of BIRR CROSS ROADS and our old front line prior to July 31st.

Weather throughout was good and as most of the ammunition was sent up by light railways, little difficulty was experienced.

The Batteries, however, were under constant heavy shell fire.

Operations culminated on September 20th when our attack was launched on POLYGON WOOD and ANZAC. RIDGE.

The attack was completely successful.

The weather, however, broke and the trials of the Batteries began.

SEPTEMBER 20th - 26th -

Batteries were all ordered to be moved East of the Sheet line between I 11 and I 12. This necessitated every Battery except the 42nd moving.

The ground already destroyed by shell-fire, rapidly became a quagmire. The main source of supply was a corduroy road running North from BIRR CROSS ROADS and thence round the North side of BELLEWARDE WOOD.

This Road naturally received especial attention from the enemy. In spite of this, the guns were got forward to J 7 a and c, and kept supplied.

Pack transport was almost invariably used except in the case of a few Batteries near the above road.

On September 26th the 4th Australian Division attacked and gained all their objectives - including TOKIO RIDGE and ZONNEBEKE.

SEPTEMBER 26th - OCTOBER 2nd

2.SEPTEMBER 26th - OCTOBER 2nd -

This necessitated more Batteries being pushed up. The 42nd, 37th and 11th How. Batteries were all sent up into positions in the HANNEBEKE in J 2, while the 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery Brigades were concentrated in rear of the WESTHOEK RIDGE in J 7 a and b. For the 42nd, 37th and 11th How. Batteries the only source of supply was the WESTHOEK - ZONNEBEKE Road, and at this time East of WESTHOEK this road was a mere mud track.

The weather became worse.

The forward Batteries had a continual fight to get their guns and ammunition forward.

It was however done, and by October 2nd all were ready for the final attack on the Ridge.

OCTOBER 2nd - OCTOBER 11th -

On October 2nd the 4th Australian Division Infantry were relieved by those of the 2nd Australian Division and the C.R.A. 2nd Division took over Command.

On October 4th the 2nd Division attacked, gained all their objectives, and the struggle of the Batteries to get forward re-commenced.

The 2nd Australian Divisional Artillery were ordered up into the HANNEBEKE Valley.

The 38th, 39th and 110th How. Batteries were ordered up into the vicinity of ZONNEBEKE; the 41st and 43rd to the area D 27 c and d.

In the case of the 38th, 39th and 110th How. Batteries the WESTHOEK - ZONNEBEKE Road was first tried and found impassable.

Recourse was then had to the YPRES - FREZENBERG - ZONNEBEKE Road which was already packed with transport for the Division on the Left.

Finally the effort to get the 41st and 43rd Batteries up had to be temporarily abandoned and all energies were concentrated on the 38th, 39th and 110th How. Batteries. In the end, at least four guns from each of these Batteries were got up into the neighbourhood of ZONNEBEKE by the evening of the 11th/12th October.

OCTOBER 11th - OCTOBER 25th -

On October 11th the 4th Australian Division relieved the 2nd and the C.R.A. 4th Australian Division again took Command.

The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Brigades had then 27 18-prs. and 7 4.5" Hows. in action, while the 2nd had 34 18-prs. and 11 Hows. in action in HANNEBEKE.

On the 12th October the 4th Australian Division attacked covering the Right flank of the 2nd ANZAC.. The attack was a success so far as their operations were concerned, but the positions taken were abandoned later owing to ill success on the part of the 2nd ANZAC. Corps.

Preparations were made for a further attack and time was given to consolidate the Artillery.

By the 25th

3.

By the 25th October the position of the guns was as follows :-

4th Aus. D.A. Brigades -- 30 18-prs. and 8 Howitzers,

with an ample supply of ammunition, were all in positions within 3000 to 2500 yards of our front line.

This was done under appalling conditions.

Every round had to be taken up by pack transport.

Horses and men were short in numbers; the Drivers had often to make three or four trips a day.

The enemy's shell-fire increased in volume.

The weather became worse, the shell-torn country became a morass through which men and horses had to struggle before reaching their Battery positions.

At the positions themselves there was no cover as material could not be got up.

The enemy was using large numbers of gas shell which seriously affected all ranks; men in consequence could hardly speak above a whisper. Gassed, wet through, under shell-fire night and day and rapidly diminishing in numbers these Batteries had carried out their task. Their guns were forward, well supplied with ammunition, but in doing so their strength had been absorbed and it was realised that this state of affairs could not continue if the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery Brigades were to remain organised Units.

On the 24th October the Brigades were ordered to be withdrawn.

They were relieved by the 4th and 5th Aus. F.A. Brigades who - though equally long in the line - had not had to expend the same energy in moving forward and who - owing to the large numbers of concrete emplacements in the HANNEBEKE - had had fewer casualties.

At this time the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery was between 500 and 600 men and horses short.

Since April 5th the Brigades had taken part in the following attacks :-

BULLECOURT	--	April 11th and May 7th.
MESSINES	--	June 7th
ST ELOI	--	July 31st.
ANZAC. RIDGE	--	Sept. 20th.
ZONNEBEKE	--	Sept. 26th.
BROODSEINDE	--	October 4th and October 12th.

They had been in this period 12 days in Reserve from July 18th and about a week out of the line at the beginning of September immediately prior to the operations here described.

C.M. ... R.A.
 to
 Brigadier-General,
 C.R.A., 4th Australian Division.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	<u>VOL XXI</u>	Summary of Events and Information	Page 92.	Remarks and references to Appendices
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HONOURS AND REWARDS.

The following Honours and Rewards have been received during October by the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery :-

No.	Rank	Name	Unit	Decoration	Authority
	Lieut.	L. BRUNTON	38th Battery	MILITARY CROSS	4th Aus. D.R.O. 406.
	2/Lieut.	A.J. BUSSELL	38th Battery	MILITARY CROSS	4th Aus. D.R.O. 406.
	Lieut.	W.R.C. McNAUGHT,	41st Battery	MILITARY CROSS	4th Aus. D.R.O. 409.
747	Sergt.	C.L. CAMPBELL	41st Battery	MILITARY MEDAL	4th Aus. D.R.O. 406
3755	Cpl.	A.T. WINDERS	41st Battery	MILITARY MEDAL	4th Aus. D.R.O. 406
312	Driver	E.H. LUCAS	4th D.A.C.	MILITARY MEDAL	4th Aus. D.R.O. 410
1711	Driver	C.S. HOUGH	4th D.A.C.	MILITARY MEDAL	4th Aus. D.R.O. 410
5719	Driver	W.B. KNOX	4th D.A.C.	MILITARY MEDAL	4th Aus. D.R.O. 410.

Casualties.....

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place _____ Date _____ Hour _____ VOL XXI. Summary of Events and Information Page 93. Remarks and references to Appendices

CASUALTIES DURING OCTOBER 1917.

Unit	Officers			TOTAL	Other ranks			TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
	Killed	Wounded	Missing		Killed	Wounded	Missing		
<u>10th Brigade</u>									
H.Q.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
37th Battery	-	1	-	1	2	14	-	16	17
38th Battery	-	2	-	2	3	15	-	18	20
39th Battery	-	-	-	-	4	33	-	37	37
110th How. Bty.	-	-	-	-	5	15	-	20	20
<u>11th Brigade</u>									
H.Q.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
41st Battery	1	-	-	1	2	10	-	12	13
42nd Battery	1	2	-	3	5	31	-	36	39
43rd Battery	-	1	-	1	7	38	-	45	46
111th How. Bty.	1	-	-	1	6	28	-	34	35
4th D.A.C.	-	1	-	1	3	13	1	17	18
4th T.M. Btys.	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	5	5
	3	7	-	10	39	203	1	243	253

4th Aus. D.A.H.Q.,
1st November 1917.

Comdant
Brigadier-General,
C.R.A., 4th Australian Division.

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293-750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

APPENDIX