

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/30/26

**Title:** Headquarters, 2nd Australian Field  
Artillery Brigade

January 1917



AWM4-13/30/26



WAR DIARY

Army Form J. 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.)

2<sup>nd</sup> AUS FABDE AIF

VOL 101

SHEET 1

294

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME	1917 JAN 1 <sup>st</sup>	1500	<p>In reply to retaliation from enemy after the New Year Eve scheme, the 5<sup>th</sup> Battery fired 17 H&amp;B and Shrapnel at N.20.B at 0100, the first rounds for the New Year. After daylight, observation was poor all day, turning to fog after 1500. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battery fired 10 Rps H&amp;B and Shrapnel at wire BARLEY TR N 14B. At 1000 the enemy shelled S.12.B with shrapnel and Bulls R and NEEDLE TR with 77 and 4.2 at 1100, about 35 Rps of each. <i>J. B. H.</i></p>	MAP
"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1500	<p>During the day the enemy artillery has been active, shelling T.1.B; 12.A; N 32.C and D and N.31.D. Possum Reserve received about twenty 5.9 from the direction of Beaulincourt but no damage was caused. About 10 Rps of 8<sup>in</sup> fell about road S.12.B and again with 77 at 0945 and 1400. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battery fired 40 Rps at N.9.C sweeping cross roads, at 1430 and the 5<sup>th</sup> Battery fired 15 Rps at N.20.B. <i>J. B. H.</i></p>	
		2400	<p>Possum Reserve and Needle Trench shelled between 2300 and 2400 with 77 and 5.9. Shelling generally on duckboard tracks and roads of Grap area through the night. 1<sup>st</sup> Battery fired 40 Rps at 2005 and again at 2400 searching and sweeping N.9.C and N.9.A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Battery fired 52 Rps at Barley Trench, back to N.9.C. 4<sup>th</sup> Battery fired 30 Rps on working party N 9A at 1945 and 40 Rps N.20.B to N.21.A. and 40 Rps at 0600 at N 9 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Battery fired 25 Rps at 2115 and 20 Rps at 2215 at N.14.D. 102<sup>nd</sup> Battery fired 50 Rps at 1730 at roads N.9.C, N.15.A and N.4.A. 78 Remounts were received from Edgehill siding and were distributed as follows: 1 to Bde HQ. 1<sup>st</sup> Battery 14; 5<sup>th</sup> Battery 15; 6<sup>th</sup> Battery 14 and 10 2<sup>nd</sup> Battery 34. A very good stamp of horses. <i>J. B. H.</i></p>	

*Stevenson*  
Lt Col



WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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2<sup>nd</sup> AUS. FA BDE

VOL 101

SHEET 2

294

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme	1917 JANUARY 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1500	Enemy shelling below normal, occurring at N.32; duckboard tracks at T.8.A: Guedecourt and Les Boeuys. Patrols from Goodwins Post reported that examination of our side of Bacon Trench disclosed no trace of the enemy. The 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Batteries fired 105 rounds at working parties and supposed H.Q. S.O.P.s.	MAP. 65. horoy.
"	"	2400	The 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 102 <sup>nd</sup> Batteries fired 448 rounds during the night at working parties and roads. The fire of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Battery was reported to be very effective at N.21.A, killing many Germans.	Jls 5 <sup>th</sup>
"	4 <sup>th</sup>	1500	The infantry reports upon last night's firing at working party (undermining to retake Bacon Trench) were very satisfactory, the morning showing many dead. The enemy shelled N.21. and 32, also T.2 from 77 and 5.9 firing from direction of Le Transloy and Beauducourt. The vicinity of S.12.B. dump and light railway was searched with H.2. Guedecourt was heavily shelled through the day with 5.9 fire from May bearing 25° from N.32. 2.8.5.	
"	4 <sup>th</sup>	2400	The 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Batteries did not fire. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Battery fired 48 rounds at tracks. 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Batteries fired 78 rounds at trenches N.20.B.	
"	5 <sup>th</sup>	1500	Neuville Trench and Passum Reserve bombarded at intervals with 77 and 5.9. 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Batteries fired 129 rounds at N.9.A sweeping roads and trenches. 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Batteries fired 341 rounds at working parties and roads N.9.A and N.21.A. 102 <sup>nd</sup> Battery fired 240 rounds at dumps and dugouts N.14.B & N.15.A.	
"	"	"	The enemy fired 30 77 into T.2.A and thereabouts. Several 5.9 were fired into S.12.A. After the operation this afternoon the enemy retaliated at only a few usual targets. The German lines were subjected to a concentrated bombardment by all guns and howitzers as ordered in W.2 group Operation Order 21 (attached) except that the forward batteries (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) did not fire owing to clearness of day, but 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Batteries increased their rate of fire to 2 rounds per gun per minute to make up for it. 4 <sup>th</sup> Battery also fired on working party and 5 <sup>th</sup> Battery fired at N.14.D. Expenditure: 4 <sup>th</sup> Battery 492 rounds; 5 <sup>th</sup> Battery 431 rounds.	W. 2 Group Order No 21.

T/Comd 2<sup>nd</sup> FA Bde

*[Handwritten signature]*



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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VOL. 101

SHEET 3.

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2nd F.A.B.D.E. AIF.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME	JANUARY 5th Continues	1500 2400	10 2nd Battery fired 360 Rds at Luisenbof Farm and 120 Rds at suspected OP during bombardment. An unusual number of balloons were up in the German lines today. Observation was splendid. 3rd Battery fired 16 rounds on tracks N.15.A. and 5th Battery fired 160 rounds through the night at N.21.A. 2 aeroplanes were reported travelling towards Albert, above Grandcourt, at 6 PM. The return 8.30	J.B.D.
"	6th	1500	The 4th Battery fired 16 rounds on N.9.A. at 12.00 and again at 12.20. The enemy shelled cross roads and Hens, the latter place with 8 inch, 4.2 Universal shells were fired on Bulls Trench T.32.C and S.12.B was shelled with 4.2, also S.6.C. Honours. The Times - under dates 1st to 5th January 1917 notifies that the meritorious officers of the Bde were decorated as follows: Military Cross: Capt AM FORBES. Capt G.L. STRACHAN (Hospital, England) Capt AW DODD. WO WJ PHILLIPS BSM. Major FL BIDDLE DSO was also shown as mentioned in Despatches, also Lt Col AV BESSELL-BROWNE CMG. DSO.	J.B.D.
"	7th	2400 1500	Reports show the enemy as very quiet, the only hostile fire being a few 77 HE at T.2.A. During the night 236 rounds were fired by 4th & 5th Batteries at working parties and tracks. Reported enemy shelling of Messle Dump and Bulls Road (N.31.D), also S.12.B. without about 10 rds 5.9. The group fired 971 rounds during the day, of which 50 were Howitzer, at targets trenches and roads in the group area, also dugouts N.9.A. 236 rounds were fired during the night at targets in N.21.A, N.9.C, and N.8.D. working parties and roads. Very slight shelling from the enemy.	J.B.D.
"	8th	1500	4th and 5th Batteries fired 78 rounds at roads & tracks and trenches N.20.B, N.21.A + N.8.B. The day being very clear, much movement could be seen on the German side, particularly on the slope to West of the Beaudencourt - Bapaume Road. Hostile shelling reported at N.32.D S.12.B on direct 5.9 striking a dugout at S.12.B with but slight damage. The 1st 4th & 5th Batteries fired 376 rounds during the night at various tracks, trenches and working parties, one lot in retaliation for German shelling around 2nd Battery position. The 102nd Battery fired 84 rounds at trench junctions during the same period. More German shelling was reported at T.2.A and Messle Trench, also along duckboard tracks generally.	J.B.D.
"	9th	1500	During the day the enemy shelled T.1.D & T.2.A aimlessly and also Grandcourt. Gas bombs and the duckboard tracks received considerable shelling. The 3rd and 4th Batteries fired 86 rounds at front lines and tracks. The day was very bad for observation. The Group Commander reconnoitered the front during the day for OPs and anti-tank gun positions.	J.B.D.

MAJOR  
T/CMDR 2nd F.A.B.D.E.



WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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VOL 101 SHEET 4

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2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. BDE A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme	1917 JANUARY 9 <sup>th</sup>	2400	During the night the enemy shelled about Pozsum Reserve and Needle Trench with a large percentage of blinds. The 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> & 102 <sup>nd</sup> Batteries fired 282 rounds at hostile TM, roads and dumps. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	Continued 10 <sup>th</sup>	1500	Observation today was generally clear in morning but poor in afternoon. German shelling tonight. Our batteries fired 176 rounds at the usual targets. The 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Batteries were occupied making preparations for moving out at night. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	10 <sup>th</sup>	2400	The batteries fired 218 rounds during the period at the usual targets. During the night the 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Batteries each got a section of guns out of the forward positions. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	11 <sup>th</sup>	1500	There were no reports of hostile shelling from batteries today. Our batteries fired 144 rounds. Reports working in the German lines was attended to promptly, the misty weather concealing the enemy but our parties heard them talking as they worked. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	"	2400	During the night our batteries fired 154 rounds at various targets. The 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Batteries pulled the remaining sections of their guns out of the forward positions. The ground was covered with snow during the night. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	12 <sup>th</sup>	---	The 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Group H.Q. ceased to exist as before organized at 3.30 PM, the 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> & 102 <sup>nd</sup> Batteries being now under the new 1 <sup>st</sup> group (Lt Col Wait M.C.) The 6 <sup>th</sup> Batty also came under the same command. The 3 forward battery positions were handed over, with ammunition dumped therein, to an officer from 4 <sup>th</sup> Div Art. (A.S.) and receipts passed. The Bde H.Q. staff moved back to Wagon Line at 4 PM, leaving a telephonist & 2 linesmen to attend to the switchboard etc until taken over finally by 1 <sup>st</sup> group. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	13 <sup>th</sup>	---	Batteries in action under 1 <sup>st</sup> group (Lt Col DA) <i>Jobst</i>	
"	14 <sup>th</sup>	---	Batteries in action. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	15 <sup>th</sup>	---	Batteries in action. Capt A Forbes handed my command of 102 <sup>nd</sup> Battery to Lieut G.H. Parker. Capt Forbes to be employed on DA staff. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	16 <sup>th</sup>	---	4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> and 102 <sup>nd</sup> Batteries hand over in action of their guns in action to the 41 <sup>st</sup> 42 <sup>nd</sup> 43 <sup>rd</sup> and 111 <sup>th</sup> Batteries respectively. Half the personnel returns to Wagon Line. <i>Jobst</i>	
"	17 <sup>th</sup>	---	The batteries complete the handing over of their guns in action and retire to Wagon Line. The guns of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Aust Div Batteries are then taken over at our W.L. Stores are retained by Batteries. Lieut Roberts returns from Hospital. <i>Jobst</i>	

*W. H. H. H.*



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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2nd Aust FA Bde AIF.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Somme	18th	-	The Brigade makes preparations for marching. Snow fell during last night again. <i>JB</i>	
"	19th	-	The Brigade marches from WL at 9 am, under the cover of Lt Col Bag Watts DSO, 1st Bde AFA. Great delays owing to traffic, so that the Bde does not arrive at BUIRE-SOUS-CORBIE until 2 PM. Camp at Artigny, staying camp, 1st Divac men in hill tents. <i>JB</i>	
BUIRE	20th	-	Batteries working at cleaning guns, horses and harness. <i>JB</i>	
"	21st	-	As for yesterday. The men were bathed at the Town Baths, except about 200. <i>JB</i>	
"	22nd	-	The remainder of men were bathed. Still working on horses and harness. <i>JB</i>	
"	23rd	-	In accordance with DA RO 76 and 75, the re-organization commenced by the 2nd Bty sending one section (58 OR) to 4th Battery, the 2nd Bty sending 59 OR to 6th Battery and 1 officer and 65 OR to 5th Battery. <i>JB</i>	
"	24th	-	Lt Col G I Stevenson, CMC, assumes command of the 2nd FA Bde as from 23rd. Major F. Bissell, DSO, resumes command of 4th Battery, Major Piggall to command 5th Battery. Full details of the changes are set forth in 1st Div Art R.O. 124, and Secret Order 75. <i>JB</i>	
"	25th	-	Brigade H.Q. staff details from 2nd Bde join. Lt Col G I Stevenson assumes command of Brigade at noon. 2nd Bde. The 102nd Battery is to remain a gun battery for the present. 18 Pz Batteries are increased up to 6 gm strength. <i>JB</i>	
"	26th	-	Brigade proceeding with re-organization. <i>JB</i>	
"	26th	-	2nd FA Brigade marches to <del>BUIRE</del> FRECHENCOURT, except 102nd Battery, which occupies billets in BEHENCOURT. The 103rd How Battery is attached to the 2nd Bde by administration and command (tactical) from 26th onwards. 1st Aust DAO 77, and billets at BEHENCOURT. <i>JB</i>	
FRECHENCOURT	27th	-	One subaltern per battery or 2 line-men go to line to commence taking over from 3rd Corps Batteries. See Order <i>JB</i>	Bde Order No 14. 24/17
"	28th	-	One subaltern per battery or 2 line-men go to line to commence taking over from 3rd Corps Batteries. See Order <i>JB</i>	Bde Order 15 23/17
"	28th	-	The Bde bands and one section per battery (with Battery bands) move forward to line to take over left group. See Order noted in margin. The remaining sections of Batteries & Bde H.Q. in Frechencourt move to BAVINCOURT to make room for 12th Bde moving in. 2nd Battery (1st Bde) included in the left group. <i>JB</i>	
BAVINCOURT	29th	-	Guns parked at Behencourt to hand over: to A/250 Bty. 2 guns from 4th, 4 guns from 5th Battery: KC/250 3 guns from 6th Battery: 4-4-5 howitzers from 103rd Battery. 2/H Delaney (with gun) to hand over on 1st. <i>JB</i>	

*JB* leaves at day 2nd FA Bde



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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2<sup>nd</sup> FA Bde AIF

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME	30-1-17.		<p>Command of the Left Group, as shown in Brigade Order No 15, passed to Lieut-Col G. J. STEVENSON, CMC, as from 11.30 am on 30<sup>th</sup> inst.</p> <p>The remaining sections of Batteries moved into the line on the night of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> inst, taking over positions as shown in Bde Order No 15, and thus completing the relief.</p>	
SOMME	31-1-17.		<p>Wagon line of 4<sup>th</sup> Battery moved to S 20 A.</p> <p>" " 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Batteries will also move to the same location on 1-2-17, thus bringing the Wagon lines of all Batteries of 2<sup>nd</sup> FA Brigade together.</p> <p><u>Communications</u></p> <p>owing to extreme length of lines and distance between Batteries, communications are at present in an unsatisfactory state.</p> <p>Barrages and Night lines for Left Sub Group 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div Arty, showing distribution to Batteries, are set out in Group Order No 1 attached, also action of Batteries on receipt of SOS and gas signals, proportion of expenditure of ammunition and liaison duties</p>	<p>Left Sub Group Order No 1</p>

at

at

G. J. Stevenson  
Lieut Col



SECRET

GROUP ORDER: N° 19

COPY N° 4

N° 2 GROUP 1<sup>st</sup> ANZAC ARTY 3/1/17.

By MAJOR FL BIDDLE DSO CMDG.

1  
 Owing to an extra portion of time having been taken over, the SOS barrage time is extended from N 21 B 6.0 to N 21 B 11.0.  
 The barrage time is allotted to Batteries in N° 2 Group as under:

(a) Rear Batteries.

4<sup>th</sup> N 21 A 13.30 to N 20 B 68.32.5<sup>th</sup> N 20 B 68.32 to N 20 B 22.24.

(b) Forward Batteries.

1<sup>st</sup> N 21 B 9.0 to N 21 B 13.28.2<sup>nd</sup> N 21 B 13.28 to N 21 A 30.32.3<sup>rd</sup> N 21 A 30.32 to N 20 B 45.332

The above re distribution comes into force at 8 am 4/1/17. Necessary registrations to be carried out at once.

3

Acknowledge.

J B Brawley  
 Adjut N° 2 Group  
 1<sup>st</sup> ANZAC Artillery



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Decret  
N<sup>o</sup> 2GROUP ORDER N<sup>o</sup> 20  
By MAJOR FL BIDDLE DSO. CMDC.

Copy No 4

The following liason barrage  
will come into force at 8 am 11/17.

4<sup>th</sup> Battery

N. 22. A. 30, to N. 21. B. 9 1/2. 0.

5<sup>th</sup> Battery

N. 21. B. 9 1/2. 0, to N. 21. B. 6. 0.

2/

The above new lines are to be  
registered as quickly as possible.

3/ Acknowledge.

3/1/17.

J. Brown H  
Capt No 2 Group  
1st Coy Artillery















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Secret

copy No

2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. BRIGADE1<sup>st</sup> Australian Div.Warning Order No 1By Major F.L. BIDDLE: DSO: CMDG  
10<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

- 1 The 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div Art will be gradually withdrawn from the line between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> insts in order that guns may be thoroughly overhauled before going into the line again.
- 2 The 2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde will be relieved by the 11<sup>th</sup> F.A. Bde by the night of 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> inst. Detailed orders later.
- 3 It is expected that the 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div Art will move into the new line between 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 1917.
- 4 Acknowledge.

copy no 1 to 4<sup>th</sup> Battery  
 " 2 5<sup>th</sup> "  
 " 3 6<sup>th</sup> "  
 " 4 102<sup>nd</sup> "  
 " 5 2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde.

J. Brown  
 Capt 2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde



Brigade Order No 14

12

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Major General G. I. STEVENSON C.M.G.

Commanding 2nd FA Brigade

26-1-17

In the Field -

In accordance with D.A. Order No 79  
1st Div (L) will relieve the Right front  
III Corps Artillery in the line on 28/29  
January + 30/31

Complete orders for relief will  
be issued later.

2nd FA Brigade plus 2nd + 103rd Battery  
will constitute the Left group. Battery  
Commanders will detail an advance  
party of 1 subaltern and two  
sergeants per battery to proceed  
to the battery positions to be taken  
over on the 27th inst.

This party will ~~assemble~~ assemble  
at the junction of BEHENCOURT-FRANVILLE  
Road at 10 am on 27th inst where  
the senior officer will take charge  
of the party and march to FRICOURT  
Farm and report to 50th D.A.H.Q.  
whence they will be provided with  
guides.



Brigade Order No. 100

Location of Batteries to be Relieved  
are as follows.

III Corps Bty	I. Div. Bty	Bty Pos.	Wagon line
B/251	2 <sup>nd</sup>	S4D63	X 29 A.
46 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	S3C57	X 30 A.
A/250	5 <sup>th</sup>	S6D68	S 20 A.
C/250	6 <sup>th</sup>	S6B72	S 20 A.
D/251	102 <sup>nd</sup>	S11B15	X 29 A.
D/250	103 <sup>rd</sup>	S6D37	S 20 A.

The Advance officer of each Battery will check & take over all ammunition dumped at gun positions and give receipts. Amysac form to be used for this purpose and duplicates to be furnished to this office. This ammunition is to be taken over as from 12 noon 28<sup>th</sup> inst. and all ammunition expended afterwards will be accounted for by 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Division. Guns will be taken over on the line stripped but with all sights and aiming posts.

Commands of Batteries and groups will pass at 11.30 a.m. on January 30<sup>th</sup> 1917.

J. Blower  
Lieut  
Adj. Gen. 1<sup>st</sup> A. Div.



Brigade Order No 15

by  
Lieut - Col. G. I. Stevenson C. M. G.  
Commanding 2<sup>nd</sup> A. F. A. Bde.

In the Field

27.1.17

In accordance with D. A. Order No 79 the 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Art. will relieve the Right Group III Corps Artillery in the line on 28/29 Jan. & 30/31 January 1917.

On relief the 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Art. will be organized into two Groups.

Right Group (covering Right Inf. Bde) consisting of 1<sup>st</sup> A. Bde. less 2<sup>nd</sup> Bty under command of Major Kingsmill D. S. O.

Left Group (covering Left Inf. Bde) consisting of 2<sup>nd</sup> A. Bde plus 2<sup>nd</sup> & 103<sup>rd</sup> Batteries under command of Lieut - Col. G. I. Stevenson C. M. G.

Orders for advance parties proceeding forward on 27<sup>th</sup> inst. have already been issued. These include order re taking over ammunition.

Battery Commanders with one section (Wagons & limbers only) will move forward from present billets at 9 am on 28<sup>th</sup> inst. & guides will meet them <sup>at 1 PM 28<sup>th</sup> inst.</sup> at Link Road near MAMETZ and guide sections to Wagon Lines.

Battery Captains will move forward with remainder of Battery from their present billets at 8 am on 30<sup>th</sup> inst. & Battery Commanders will arrange for guides to meet this party at Link Road at 12 noon 30<sup>th</sup> inst. to guide them to Wagon Lines.

All Guns & Howitzers of Left Group will be parked at Behencourt & will be handed over stripped with exception of all sights & aiming posts to Batteries of III Corps Artillery on morning of 1<sup>st</sup> February.



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Lieut Delaney 102<sup>nd</sup> Bty. is detailed to command the guard of 3 N.C.O's + 9 men from the Left Group + is responsible for the custody of Guns + Howitzers until handed over to III Corps on morning of 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. at Behencourt.

The above-mentioned guard will be detailed as follows: -

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Battery	2 men
4 <sup>th</sup>	do	2 men
5 <sup>th</sup>	do	2 men
6 <sup>th</sup>	do	1 N.C.O 1 man
102 <sup>nd</sup>	do	1 N.C.O 1 man
103 <sup>rd</sup>	do	1 N.C.O 1 man

Arrangements will be made for these details to rejoin their units on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

All Guns + Howitzers will be taken over in the line stripped except sights and aiming posts.

All fighting maps, aeroplane photographs, Artillery Boards + documents in connection with the Sector are to be taken over.

Trench stores are to be taken over both at Guns and Wagon Lines + receipts given.

Duplicate copies of these receipts and also of receipts given for ammunition are to be furnished to this Office without delay.

Commands of Batteries and Groups will pass at 11.30 AM. on 30<sup>th</sup> inst.

Map Co-ordinates of Battery + Wagon Lines to be taken over are as follows: -

2 <sup>nd</sup> (B/251)	S4 D6.3	X29A
4 <sup>th</sup> (46)	S3 C5.7	X30A
5 <sup>th</sup> (A/250)	S6 D6.8	S20A
6 <sup>th</sup> (C/250)	S6 B7.2	S20A
102 <sup>nd</sup> (D/251)	S11 B1.5	X29A
103 <sup>rd</sup> (D/250)	S6 D3.7	S20A



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Brigade Order No 15 (continued) 16

Route for  
March  
28<sup>th</sup> inst

From Frechincourt & Behencourt  
via Framillers, Amiens - Albert Road, -  
Dernancourt - Meaulte, - Link Road.  
To be at Link Road at 1 P.M.

Column under command of C.O. 2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde.

30<sup>th</sup> inst

Route as above. Column under command of  
Senior Battery Captain to be at Link Road  
at 12 noon.

J. J. Lewis  
Adjutant 2<sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde. Lieut.



Brigade Order No. 16by  
Lieut-Col. G.I. STEVENSON. C.M.G.Commanding 2<sup>nd</sup> A.F.A. BrigadeIn the Field28-1-16.1/ DutiesBrigade Orderly Officer Lieut Gavan Duffy 28<sup>th</sup>" " " " de Leprevanche 29<sup>th</sup>Duty Battery 5<sup>th</sup> Battery 28<sup>th</sup>" 6<sup>th</sup> do 29<sup>th</sup>2/ Billets

Battery Commanders are notified that billets will be inspected after they are vacated when the Brigade is on the road, and if not found clean the march will be delayed until they are cleaned.

3/ Equipment

Battery Commanders will hold an inspection of men's equipment when the line is reached and will see that men pay for the loss through neglect of such articles as steel-helmets, small box respirators, bandoliers etc

4/ Guns

With reference to Brigade Order No 15 the guns for 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps will be delivered to Lieut Delaney at Behencourt before noon on 29<sup>th</sup> receipts to be passed

J. J. O'Leary  
Adjutant 2<sup>nd</sup> A.F.A. Bde. Lieut



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Left Sub-Group Order No 1

by Lieut-Colonel G I Stevenson C. M. G.  
Commanding Left Sub-Group.

In the Field

30-1-14.

The 1st Aust Div Art in the line is divided into two sub-groups - Right & Left.

(a) Right Sub-Group consisting of 100<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 101<sup>st</sup> Batteries covers the front held by Right Infantry Brigade which has one Battalion in the line.

This front extends from N19 B45.85 to M24 B55.85.

(b) Left Sub-Group consisting of 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 102<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 103<sup>rd</sup> Batteries covers the front held by Left Infantry Brigade which has two Battalions in the line. This front extends from M24 B55.85 to M17 D00.80. The Right Battalion holding from M24 B55.85 to M18 C10.30, and the Left Battalion from M18 C10.30 to M17 D00.80.

(c) The following are the boundaries of the Artillery Sub-Group zones.

(1) Right Sub-group: Right Boundary N19 B65.55 to N2 D00.00  
Left Boundary M24 B60.85 to N1 D20.00

(2) Left Sub-group: Right Boundary M24 B60.85 to N1 D20.00  
Left Boundary M17 C90.90 to M6 A00.00

SOS Barrage & Night Lines for the whole Divl Artillery is as follows: -

M17 A80.35 - M17 D50.95 - M18 C20.80 -  
M24 A90.80 - M18 D80.10 - N13 D85.20



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2  
 Left Sub-Group Order No 1 (continued).

S O S Barrage & Night Lines for Left Sub-Group is as follows: -

M17 A 80.35 - M17 D 50.95 - M18 C 20.80 -  
 M24 A 90.80 - M18 D 80.10

This line is allotted to Batteries as under: -

2<sup>nd</sup> Battery M17 A 80.35 - M17 D 50.95 - M17 D 64.90

6<sup>th</sup> Battery M17 D 64.90 - M18 C 20.80 - M18 C 40.52

5<sup>th</sup> Battery M18 C 40.52 - M24 A 92.82

4<sup>th</sup> Battery M24 A 92.82 - M18 D 80.10

102<sup>nd</sup> Battery M18 C 20.80 - M17 A 80.35

103<sup>rd</sup> Battery M18 D 80.10 - M24 A 90.80 - M18 C 20.80

Action  
 S O S  
 Signal } On receipt of S O S Signal 18-pdr Batteries will open fire on S O S lines and will fire at the rate of 3 rounds per gun per minute for 5 minutes or until advice is received that the situation is clear. After 5 minutes if situation is still uncertain fire will be continued at 1 round per gun per minute. The rate for 4.5" Howitzers will be 2 rounds per How. per minute, and 1 round per How. per minute respectively.

Action  
 Gas  
 Signal } 18-pdr Batteries will open fire at a slow rate (Battery Fire 15 seconds) on their Barrage lines until the situation is cleared up or other orders received.

4.5" Howitzers will open fire at the rate of 1 round per How. per minute on the enemy front & support lines corresponding to their respective Barrage Lines.

Ammunition. The proportion of A & AX to be fired is not to exceed 25% A & 75% AX unless specially ordered. In case of troops in the open the proportion of A will be increased to 50%.

Liason  
 Duties } The Left Sub-Group will provide permanent Liason Duties as detailed below. The tour of duty for Liason Officers will normally be for a period of 7 days commencing from 30<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

(a) Left Infantry Brigade Headquarters M35 A 7.5

(b) Left Infantry Battalion Headquarters M23 D 4.9

(c) Right Infantry Battalion Headquarters M30 A 8.6



3/ Left Sub-Group Order No 1 (continued)

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The following is the roster for the above duties up to and including 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

For period from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> February inclusive

- (a) 6<sup>th</sup> Battery
- (b) 102<sup>nd</sup> Battery
- (c) 5<sup>th</sup> Battery

For period from 5<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> February inclusive

- (a) 4<sup>th</sup> Battery
- (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Battery
- (c) 103<sup>rd</sup> Battery

For period from 11<sup>th</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. inclusive

- (a) 102<sup>nd</sup> Battery
- (b) 5<sup>th</sup> Battery
- (c) 6<sup>th</sup> Battery

For period from 17<sup>th</sup> February to 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. inclusive

- (a) 2<sup>nd</sup> Battery
- (b) 103<sup>rd</sup> Battery
- (c) 4<sup>th</sup> Battery

The relief of the Liaison Duties will be completed by 2.30 PM on the dates set out above, & Liaison Officers being relieved will report to group Headquarters as soon as the relief is completed.

Liaison Officers will provide themselves with 1 D3 Telephone which is to be supplied by their own Battery.

Returns. To reach Group H.Q. at times shown

Daily Strength 3 P.M.

Daily casualty (by wire 11.30 AM) numbers only

" " Full particulars 3 P.M.

Daily ammunition return (by wire 11.30 AM) showing receipts, expenditure, on hand, guns in and not in action. If telephone is not working, the return must be sent by runner.

Progress Report. Telephone at 8 AM any unusual activity, or shelling between 6 PM and 6 AM.

Full report at 3 PM (by hand) covering period 6 PM to 2 PM.

Telephone any extra reports of events between 2 PM and 6 PM at 6 PM.



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Left Sub-Group Order No 1 (concluded):

Weekly

Telephone and Cable Return. Tuesday 6 PM.

Strength of Horses. Wednesday 6 PM.

Horse Transport - surplus & deficient - Wed. 6 PM

A.F.B 213 Thursday 3 PM.

A.F.B. 2069 " "

Stragglers " "

Absentees " "

List of men doing F.P. in "Corps Compound Thursday 3 PM.

List of Officers in Battery, showing how employed. Every Friday 3 PM.

Monthly

A.F.B. 158 1<sup>st</sup> day of month.

Number of Officers and ORs on leave during month. ~~Last~~ <sup>Exact</sup> day of month.

J. G. Lewis Lieut Adjutant Left Sub-group

N.B.

The orders relating to Brigade administrative returns will not apply to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battery.

McKinnon  
M Col