

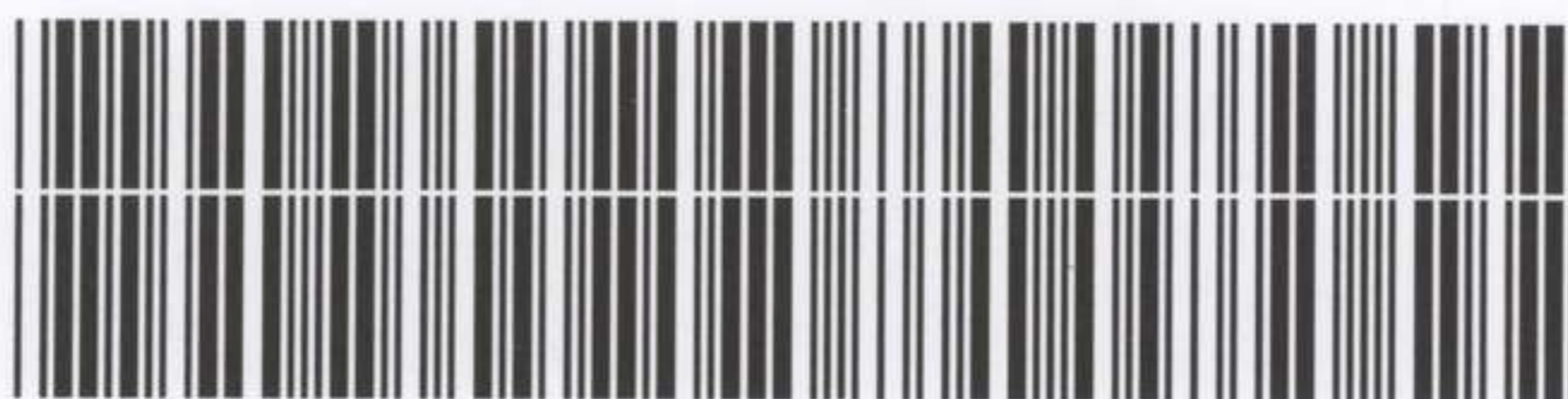
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/62/30

Title: 45th Infantry Battalion

August 1918



AWM4-23/62/30

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TRIPLICATE.

204

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

45th BATTALION

FOR

AUGUST 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

P. Pickup

Signature of Officer Commanding

45th B. J. M. Coult Lt. Col.

18. 204
 7TH Aug. (Contd)
 Army Form C.
 8th do

WAR DIARY
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
 (Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>(Continued) 2.30 pm C.O. explained fully all particulars of the offensive to all officers of the Bn. Message from 13th Bn. (appendix 5) received 2.30 pm, also wire from Bde advising sinking of the Hospital Ship "Warilda" (appendix 6) which was promulgated to all ranks.</p> <p>12.30 am telephone message called the Adjutant to go to Bde. H.Qrs. at once. Staff Captain explained that supply tanks had been knocked out by shell fire, and arrangements had to be made for transport of ammunition, R.E. material, water etc. by waggons. Guides were arranged working under supervision of Lt. Lözelle to take these to the RED line.</p> <p>4.20 am was ZERO hour and at that time our barrage opened. There was a very dense fog so that it was impossible to see more than a few yards ahead. At 5.30 am the Bn. moved off from the 1st assembly position through AEROCHE WOOD to the 2nd assembly position. A & B leading with platoons in single file, C & D following, then Bn. H.Qrs., pack mules and M.G. pack animals. It was very difficult to find the forming up line on account of the fog but we got there and into position East of HAMEX AEROCHE WOOD P.17 c. in good time. Here we were joined by Lieut Vincent MC DCM and his scouts with 6 Mark 5 tanks which Lt. Sinclair had guided into position. We then moved forward in artillery formation with the Bn. scouts and tanks forming a screen, and passed the Jumping Off line (a line from KATE WOOD to THIN WOOD) at 8 am and the GREEN line when we went through troops of 3rd Division at 8.20 am. Here and there M.Guns put up a fight but were quickly silenced and the crews captured. The Hun retreated quickly leaving in our hands over 400 prisoners, 29 guns of all calibres and many machine guns. (appendix 7) Our objective the RED line was captured by 10.19 am. The same night the Bn. relieved the 48th Bn. A.I.F. (who had passed through us and captured the BLUE line) of half their front. From main WARFUSSE-ABANCOURT road to German hospital at R.19.d.1.3. relief being complete by 1.45 am. The night was quiet with little artillery fire. Under cover of darkness tea and ammunition was brought up by mule train. One mule and his load was destroyed by shell fire.</p>	
			<p>9th do</p> <p>Clear sunny day. During the day S.A.A. was dropped attached to parachutes from aeroplanes - these fell fairly close to our front line and saved a great deal of carrying. There was continual aerial activity during the day - many enemy planes coming over our sector. A daylight patrol pxx under Lieut Potts penetrated over 1000 yards beyond blue line. During the night our line was advanced in co-operation with the 5th Bde. A.I.F. on our right and 48th Bn. A.I.F. on left. This was completed by 3 am A Coy. securing further identification and an escaped British prisoner of war from the West Yorks Regt. The advance also placed a very large enemy ammunition-dump within our line. Line now runs from cross roads LA FLAGUE to road in R.20.c.3.6. with A Coy on right, C on left, D Coy in support and B reserve. Bn. H.Qrs moved to trenches in R.19.c.5.3. and R.A.P. was established in German hospital in R.19.d.1.2.</p>	

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August 16th
Contd

and several shells fell into the quarry at H.Q., killing 1, and wounding 4 men, and also near the reserve Coy. A good water supply was found quite handy to Bn H.Q. about 300 yds.

August 17th

Fine warm day. Enemy displayed great activity during the day, often creeping along old C.T.'s and throwing stick bombs into our trenches especially "D" Coys sector. These are very good troops. We replied energetically with Mill's Grenades and inflicted casualties.

August 18th
see after 31st

2/Lieut F. Lozelle and 3 O.R.'s rushed the post from which the bombs were thrown but were all wounded. and Fritz reinforcements hurried to the sppt. Some American Officers visited Bn H.Qrs, to arrange relief, but later we were informed they would not relieve us.

August 19th

Dull, with sunny intervals. During the morning enemy artillery was very active shelling the woods on our left and the town of LIHONS. Bde Order received for relief of Bn by the 48th Bn who have been in support to us. C.O., Adjt and Coy Commanders of 48th Bn reconnoitred our positions. A message was received from Bde stating that the CANADIANS on our immediate left were to straighten the line at 4pm, under an Artillery barrage. Coys were informed and instructed to assist whenever opportunity, by flanking fire. This was done and a good number of casualties were inflicted on an enemy party which was moving along the Railway to reinforce his line. At 8.45 pm, S.O.S. was sent up on the CANADIANS front, and repeated back. A splendid barrage was laid down by our Artillery and replied to by the enemy. For about half an hour fire was very heavy, then gradually died down.

The 48th Bn waited until things quietened down a little before moving in to the relief which was completed by 11.45 pm. Our Bn then occupied the position vacated by the 48th Bn in squares A.5&6 HATTENCOURT map, with Bn H.Qrs at F.5.c.5.4. and R.A.P.F.5.c.6.3.

During this tour in the line rations were brought up by limber, hot meals being cooked near Bn.H.Qrs and the whole taken by the limbers to a dump near the Reserve Coy H.Qrs. From then they were carried to the Reserve Coy and to the Coys in the line.

August 20th

Baths in HARBONNIERES were allotted to the Bn and parties of 20 at a time went at frequent intervals. Complete change of clean clothes was available.

August 21st

Very hot day with a very clear moonlight night. Small parties were sent round the area salvaging, and much valuable material including 112 hides from a German Slaughter house was gathered and sent back by returning limbers and a G.S. Waggon. At dusk we commenced cleaning out and improving trenches and erecting wire on a line running N & S through F.5.b&d, which in case of enemy attack would be the reserve line.

August 22nd.

Hot day. A branch of the Bde Canteen was established near Bn H.Qrs. Digging and wiring parties again worked on Reserve Line. At 10.15pm, message from Bde stated we would relieve the 46th Bn in the front line on night 23/24th.

August 23rd

Hot and Sultry. By camouflaged telephone message from Bde, the C.O. was informed that we would not relieve the 46th Bn.--Working parties carried on as usual. The G.O.C. and Bde Major visited the C.O. 9.30pm, and informed him that the French would relieve us.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

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August 24th

Remarks and references to Appendices

Dull and misty, much cooler. At 9.15am. French Officers of the 83rd Regt called and discussed relief arrangements. Guides were sent to ROSIERES to conduct the relieving Bn in and also a Coy of the 59th French Regt which relieved "A" Coy.

One move order 3/27 (appended) was issued to Coys at 6.45pm. At 10pm, the relieving troops commenced to arrive and guides took them straight to the Coy sectors. During the relief the enemy laid down a heavy barrage of Gas Shells, more on our left Bn front than ours, though we had to wear masks for about an hour during relief. We had no casualties. Relief was complete by 1.35 am.

August 25th

Companies marched independently with H.Q. bringing up the rear to the Western end of HARBONNIERES where we embussed at 2.25am and travelled via GUILLICOURT, WARFUSIE ABANCOURT, VILLERS BREDONNEUX, to the Cross Road near VAUX EN AMENOIS where we debussed at 6 am. The Bn marched into VAUX and men accomodated in very comfortable billets with very good lights and sanitary arrangements. A party had arrived from Nucleus and arranged the billeting. Cookers had been sent ahead and breakfast was ready on arrival of the Battalion. During the day the men rested and cleaned up.

Showery early, but cool and fine later. 10 am, the Bn paraded for C.O.'s inspection and Lt-Col C.M. Johnston "DSO" thanked the men for the work they had done during the tour in the line. Lieuts W.J. Horne, H.T. Hines J. Lowick "MM" and A.M. Mills and 39 C.R.'S marched in ex England. 25 of those were new Reinforcements, the remainder including some old N.C.C.'S. Sgts B.J. Wallace and W.J. Noonan and Cpls H.J. Field and R. Crowl returning from wounded. Brig-Gen R.L. Leane "DSO" and the Brigade Major (Major R.N. Norman "MC") dined with the Officers

Cool and fine

The nucleus marched in having entrained from VECQUEMONT to POULAINVILLE on Light Railway. A Bn Officer was inaugerated. A branch of the Bde Canteenis established in the village with a good stock.

August 28th

Dull with occasional light showers. We commenced the new training syllabus (appended) and also fixed up and commenced using Baths quite close to Bn H.Qrs.

August 29th

Clear and sunny. Baths were used during the day, and training carried out as per syllabus.

August 30th

Fine but dull. Training was carried out as per syllabus Lt-Col C.M. Johnston, "DSO" left on 14 days U.K. leave and Major D.V. Hannay assumed command of the Bn. B.R.O. 371 issued.

August 31st

Fine but changeable. The Bn had a route march of 8 1/2 miles with 1st Line Transport leaving at 9am and returning at 12 noon. The Brig-General and Staff was on the route and was pleased with the turnout. R.S.M. H. Lindsay, "MC" left for 12th T.B. on Cadre Exchange and C.S.M. J. Heading, "DCM MM" took over his duty as a/R.S.M.

August 1st

Dull but no rain. Artillery quiet on both sides. Enemy aeroplanes flew overhead several times during the day, and our I.G.'s immediately engaged them.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

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Hour

Date

Place

WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>The following are the weekly strengths</u>	
			Week ending August 2nd	Off 46 O.R's 827
			" " August 9th	47 770
			" " August 16th	47 747
			" " August 23rd	43 730
			" " August 30th	46 757
			<u>Casualties are as follows.</u>	
			Killed	Off. - O.R's 12
			Wounded	3 110
			Died of Wounds	- 2
			Total -	3 124
			<u>Total number on Leave on 31.8.18</u>	
				7 45

M. Louch Lieut-Col
C.O. 45th Battalion A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

OF

45 Bn A.I.F.

FOR

August 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| ✓1. | Dispositions of Bn at St Nicholas area. (With original only) |
| ✓2. | Battalion Order 3/21 |
| ✓3. | Disposition of Bn in P.8.a. |
| ✓4 | Battalion Order 3/22 |
| ✓5. | Copy of wire received re the sinking of "Warilda"
(original wire with Original Copy of Diary) |
| ✓6. | Battalion Order 3/23 |
| ✓6a | Map used during operations (With original only) |
| ✓7. | Report on operations from 8.8.18 to 11.8.18 |
| ✓8. | Disposition at HARBONNIERES |
| ✓9. | Battalion Order 3/24 |
| ✓10 | Memo issued to Companies. |
| ✓11 | Intelligence & Patrol Reports 19.8.18 |
| ✓12 | Intelligence & Patrol Reports 20.8.18 |
| ✓13 | Battalion Order 3/25 |
| ✓14 | Battalion Order 3/27 |
| ✓15 | Syllabus of training. |
| ✓16 | Copy of letter received from Mrs M. Hughes |
| ✓17 | Wires received in connection with operation of 8.8.18 |
| 18 | Q.M's and Transport Section Report for month |

M. L. L. Col
C.O. 45th Bn

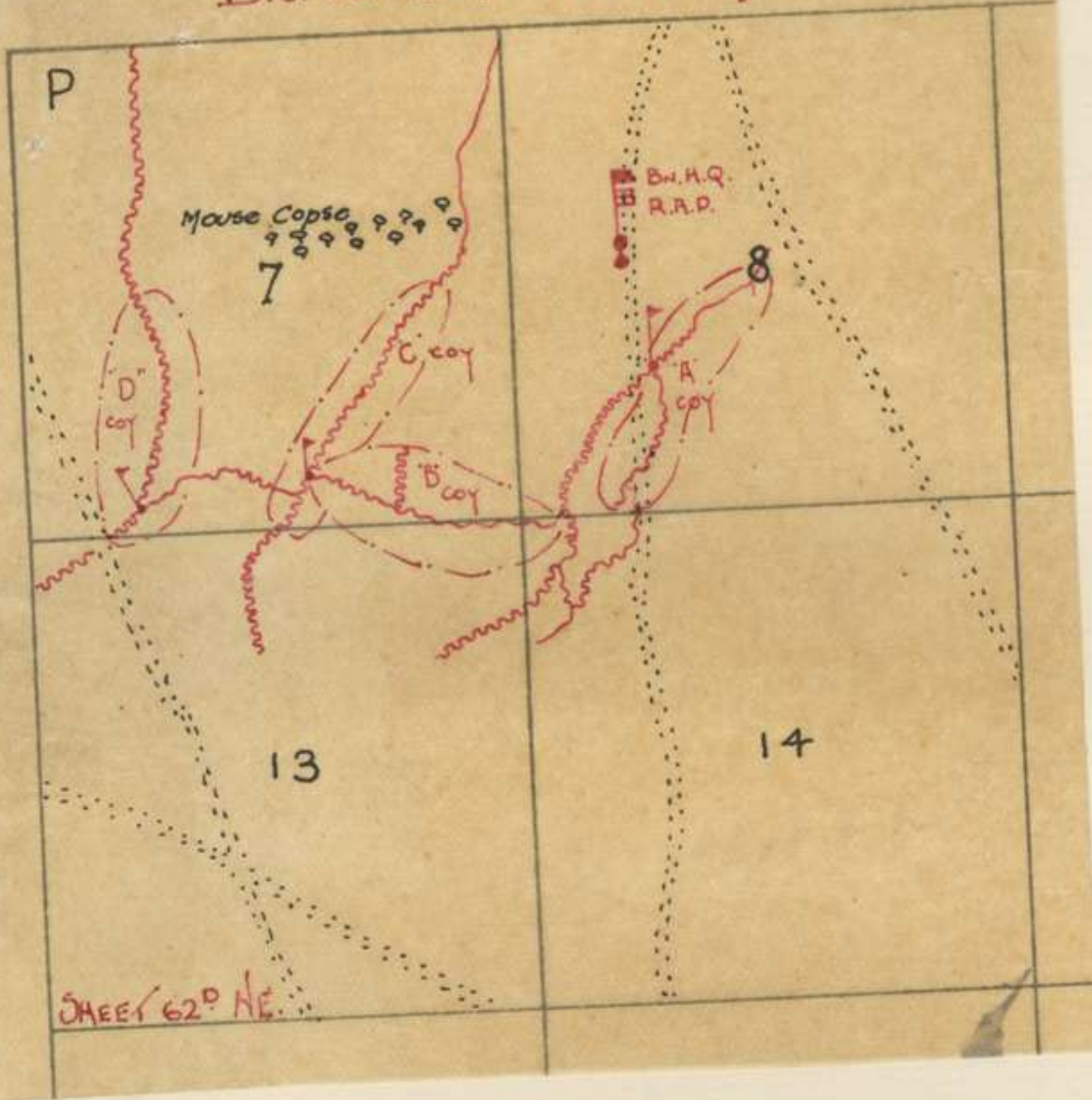
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APPENDIX

I 8

WAR DIARY

DISPOSITIONS 45th BN. INF. 4.8.18.



SECRET.45th BATTALION ORDER 3/21

Copy No.

7 (War diary)

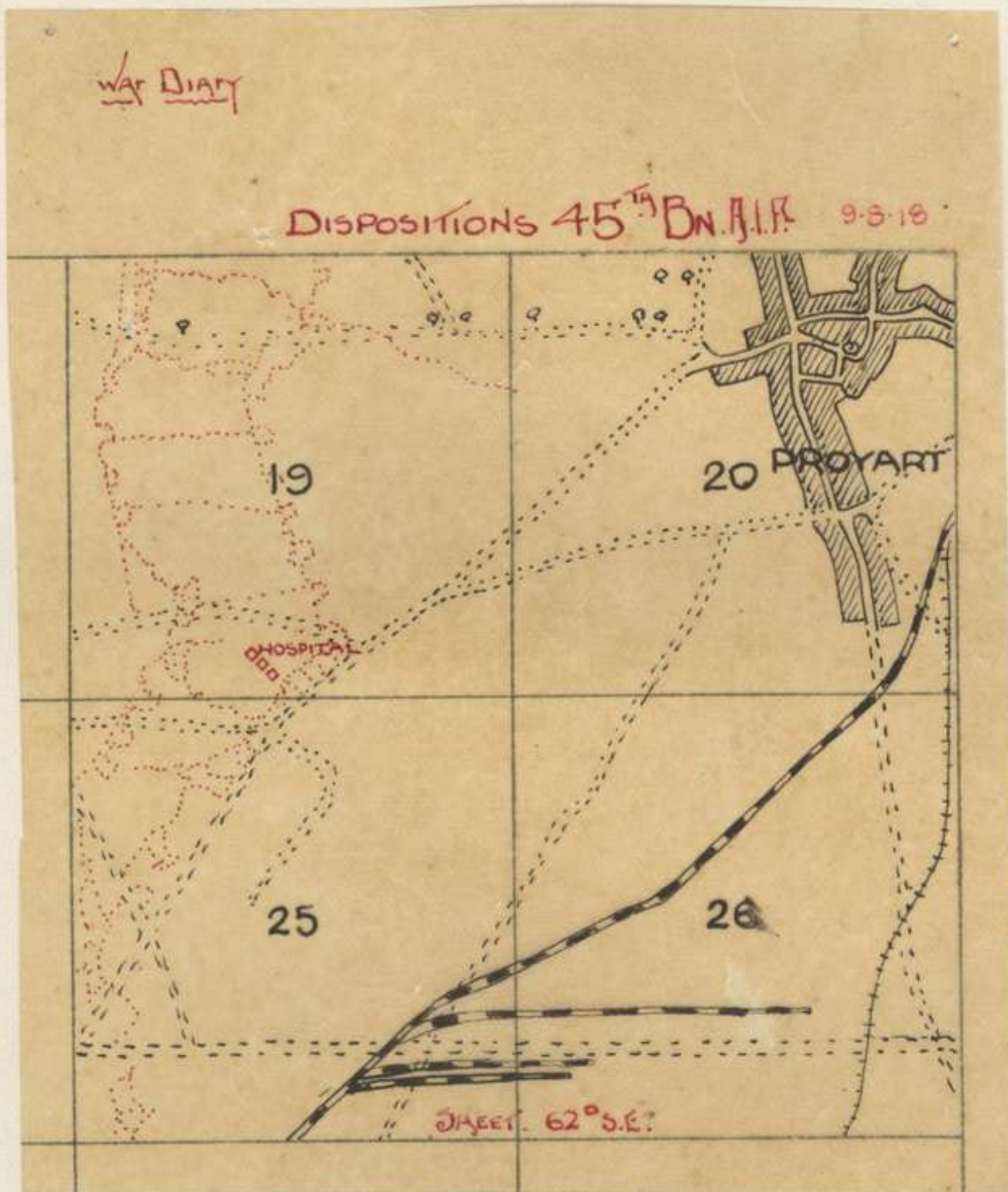
Ref. Sheet 62d.

1. MOVE. The 45th Bn. A.I.F. will move to trenches in squares P.7. & 8 (Sheet 62d) to-night 4/5th August.
2. LOCATIONS. Bn. H.Q. will be at P.8.a.6.1.
 "A" Coy from P.8.central to P.8.c.5.0.
 "B" " " P.8.c.5.6. to P.8.c.2.0, and P.8.c.2.0. to P.7.d.1.2.
 "C" Coy from P.7.b.8.0. to P.7.d.0.0.
 "D" " " P.7.a.6.0. to P.7.c.3.0.
3. STARTING POINT. Main AMIENS road in T.2.a.7.0.-
4. TIME. Pass starting point at 9.45 p.m.
5. ORDER OF MARCH. H.Q., A.B.C.D.
6. DISTANCES. 50 yards between platoons, and 100 yards between coys. with connecting files.
7. ROUTE. Cross roads at T.2.d.7.3.
 Railway crossing N.29.d.1.5.
 fork road N.29.d.65.45
 cross roads O.25.b.40.65 (left road)
 cross roads O.14.a.3.1.
 turn to right at junction of roads in O.15.a.95.95.
 to left across roads O.15.b.4.5.
 southern edge of FOUILLOY.
8. GUIDES. Will meet coys at fork road O.18.a.8.9.
9. TRENCH SHELTERS. will be handed over to 52nd Canadian Bn. and receipts in triplicate handed to Lt. Watson before Bn. moves off.
10. DUGOUTS & Vicinity will be left perfectly clean when moving out.
11. BOX RESPIRATORS. will be worn at the alert.

Issued by runner at 4 p.m.

1	to "A" Coy	5.	to C.O.
2	"B" "	6	Office
3	"C" "	7.	War diary
4	"D" "	8.	Bde.

Lieut.
Adj. 45th Bn. A.I.F



Reference Map.

1. On Z day at zero hour the Aus. Corps will advance the line in three stages as per attached map.
 1. 3rd Aus. Div will capture and consolidate the GREEN line.
 2. 4th Aus. Div. - 18th Bde right and 4th Bde left - will capture and consolidate RED & BLUE lines in two stages.
2. The 45th Bn will be readiness to move at zero minus $\frac{1}{2}$ hour and will be at assembly ~~haur~~ area P.17.c. by zero plus 3 hours, and on Jumping Off line (line of THIN WOOD - Kate wood) by zero plus 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.
3. The Bn. with 6 "mark 5" tanks and Bn scouts as screen will cross the GREEN line at zero plus 4 hours, and advancing in artillery formation "A" Coy on right, "B" Coy on left, "D" Coy right support, "C" Coy left support will capture and consolidate the RED line. The two supporting coys being about 200 yards in rear of leading coys.
4. The 46th Bn will attack on the right and 13th Bn on the left. The leading coys will detail an officers party to maintain touch with the above units and to keep direction.
5. One V.G. of No. 3 section, 13th M.G. Coy., will be allotted to each Coy. On arrival at RED line two guns of 12th A.L.T.M. Btty will come under control of Bn. H.Q.
6. At zero plus 6 hours the 46th Bn will cross the RED line and capture the BLUE line.
7. Dress. Fighting order without greatcoat or blanket - 200 rounds S.A.A. - 3 bombs - extra water bottle - 5 sandbags - 48 hours rations plus unconsumed portion days ration - pick or shovel - Tin disc on gas helmet flap - flares.
8. S.O.S. signal is rifle grenade, ~~granat~~ green over green over green Success signal white over white over white. On reaching objective this signal will be fired due south; i.e. parallel to RED line.
9. Lt. Sinclair. will meet tanks allotted to 45th Bn at square P.1. on Y/Z night and guide them to P.17.c. by zero plus 2 hours.
10. Prisoners will be disarmed and sent to Bn. H.Q.
11. Watches will be synchronized at Bn. H.Q. on Y/Z day at 2.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

(109) *L. J. Pickup* Lieut.
Adj. 45th Bn. A.I.F.

204

August 1918

APPENDIX

5 / 12

Prefix.....	Code.....	m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....	m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.							
J.R.L.S.			Sent		WAR DIARY	Date	4/5/18
			At.....		From.....		
			To.....		By.....		
			By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO { all Bus

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* B.M. 21	7		

Australian Hospital Ship Wanda
torpedoed in channel 120
lives lost see promulgation
to all ranks

O.C. A.B.C.D.

Our turn to morrow
what about it?

Pickup Lt
adst

From 12th Bus Inf Bde.
Place
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

Censor.

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name

* This line should be erased if not required.

(37%) Wt. W 492/M1647. 630,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

for B Major

OR

APP 5

A ~~Task~~

B

A

C Cmp

D

(Lt Swain)

A Coy will

B

be right

there

C Coy will also be very

much right there CMP

B Coy. Out for slaughter Lt B.

D Coy. No. 1 piece

Malcolm 1st Col.

45/2n Aug 18. p 12.

SECRET

45th Battalion Order No 3/33

Headquarters

10.8.18

Reference Sheet 62 D

- (1) The 45th Battalion A.I.F. will be relieved by the 33rd Bn A.I.F. to night 10th August, and move to somewhere in rear, position unknown. I.O. reconnoite ring.
- (2) GUIDES 1 per platoon from B and D Coys will report to Bn. H.Q. at 8.15 pm. 1 per platoon from A and C Coys will report to Bn H.Q. at 9.30 pm. An Officer to be with X each A and C Coy Guides
- (3) PASSWORD for to-night is HAVELOCK
- (4) Coy Commanders will ensure that men march out fully equipped
- (5) Meal at Cookers
- (6) RENDEZVOUS at Cookers.
- (7) PICKS AND SHOVELS will be brought out and dumped at Cookers.
- (8) LEWIS GUNS AND MAGAZINES will be dumped at Battalion Dump.
- (9) LOCATION OF COOKERS Just in rear of Cross Roads at Q 28.u.2.0.

Sgd R.S.Pickup, Lieut
Adj. 45th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX
6

14

REPORT ON OPERATIONS EAST OF HAMEL.

From 8-11th August 1918.

A final conference of all officers was held at Bn H.Q. at 8 pm on 7th., and all was in readiness for the advance by nightfall. Zero hour was at 4.30 am and the Bn was in readiness half an hour before that time. At 4.30 am the Intelligence Officer and Bn. scouts proceeded to the jumping off line to lay the tape. At 5 am I decided to move at 5.30 am hoping the heavy fog would lift. At 5.30 a.m. we commenced to move and the fog at this time was almost impenetrable, and it was with extreme difficulty that the second assembly position was reached. This Bn. was in position at this point at 7 am and moved off for the jumping off line at 7.30 am; the fog had considerably lifted by this time.

At 8 am the Bn was formed up in battle order on the jumping off line as follows:- Tanks (which had been guided into position by the (I.O.)-Bn scouts, and the four companies on a two coy. front, distributed as follows:-

Right "A" Coy	Capt. Hard MC
Left "B" "	Capt. Ferguson MC
Right support "D" Coy.	Davies MC
Left "C" "	Lieut Potts.

The companies passed the GREEN line at 8.30 am in artillery formation with a light screen in front. The advance from the GREEN line to the RED line went according to timetable. Here and there machine guns put up a fight but they were either dealt with by the tanks or speedily outflanked and rushed. Throughout the advance the leading coys. flanked the woods as much as possible and the two rear companies mopped them up. This later necessitated portions of both "C" and "D" Coy being thrown into the front to maintain touch. We were in direct touch with the 46th Bn on

Sheet B.

Report on operations EAST of HA MEL. 8-11th
August 1918 (Continued).

(on) right and 13th Bn on left throughout the operation. Our objective was captured by 10.15 a.m. and we had taken over 400 prisoners, excluding 30 wounded who passed through our RA.P. Twenty-nine guns were taken including 8" and 6", about 12 machine guns and 8 minenwerfer.

The same evening the Bn relieved the 48th Bn on the BLUE line from the main WARFUSSE - ARANCOURT road to the German hospital at R.12.d.1.3., relief being complete by 1.45 am. On the morning of the 9th a daylight patrol penetrated over 1000 yards beyond the BLUE line and that evening the Bn. was ordered to establish the line from Cross roads LAFLAQUE to road at R.20.c.3.6 in co-operation with the 6th Bde on right and 46th Bn. on left. This was completed by 3 am., the left company securing further identification and an escaped British prisoner of war - this advance also placed a huge enemy dump in our hands.

On the night 10/11th the Bn. was relieved by the 33rd Bn. A.I.F. and proceeded to bivouac near SAILLY-LAURETTE. From evening of 7th until evening of 11th my casualties were:-

<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>
Off O.R.	Off O.R.
4	2 79

Every officer, N.C.O. and man worked magnificent-ly for this fine success and the spirits of the Bn are at high water mark.

14/8/18

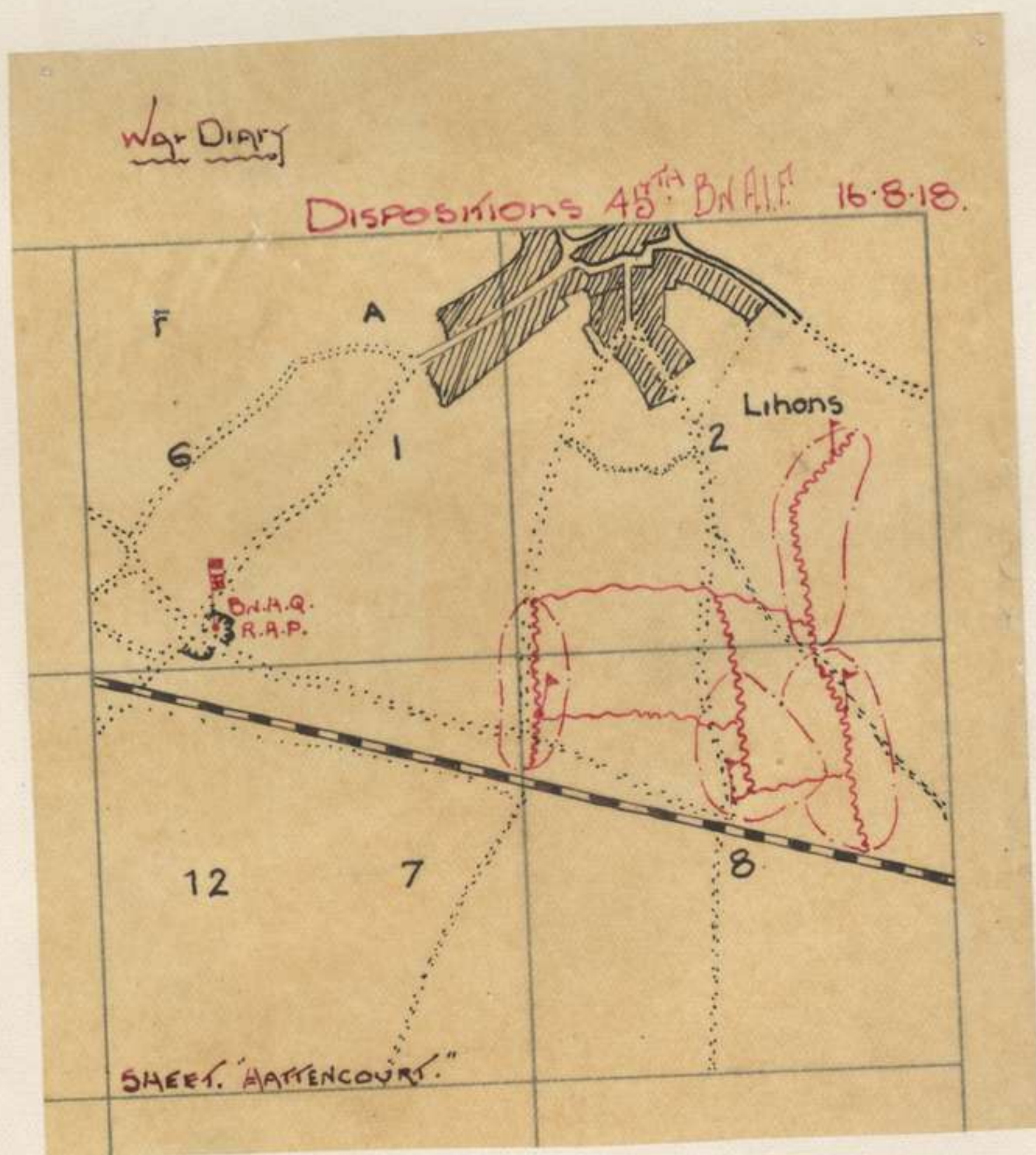
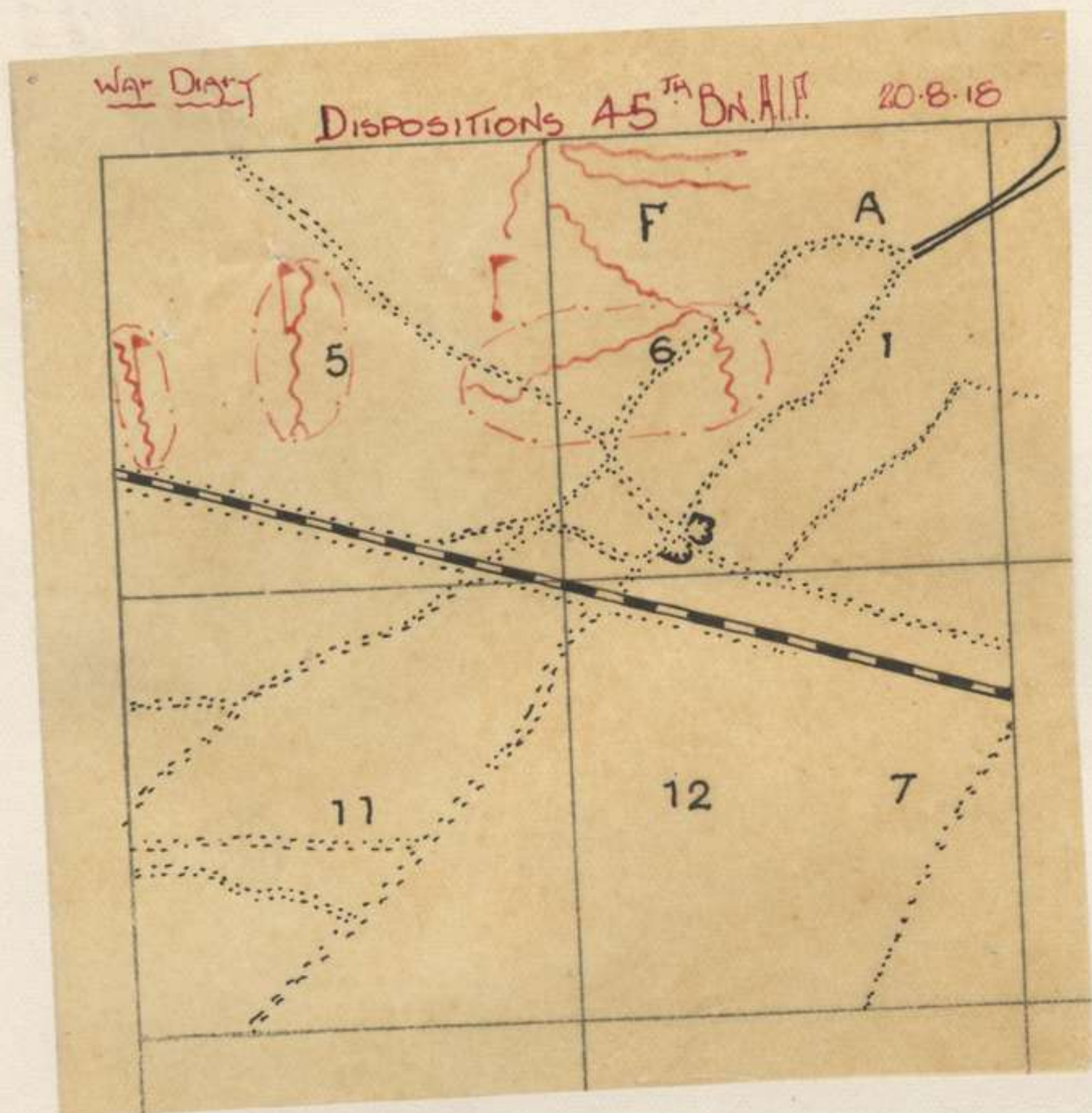
Sgt. C.M. Johnston Lt.Col.
C.O. 46th Bn. A.I.F.

204

APPENDIX

75

8 16



69/17

SECRET.BATTALION ORDER 3/24.

Copy. No. 7

Map Reference:- Rosieres 1/40000. Headquarters, 15/8/18.

1. The 45th Bn will relieve the 3rd Bn. A.I.F. tonight and take over the front line at A.8.b.4.0 to the grid line running through A.1-2-3 central. The CANADIANS will be on the right, the 45th Bn on left
2. Front will be held as follows:-
 "D" Coy. right "C" Coy *left*
 "B" Coy in support
 "A" " in reserve
 Inter-company boundary grid line at A.2.d.7.0.
3. Bn. will move as follows:-
 H.Qrs., C.D.B.A. commencing at 8 p.m. platoon in file - 200 yards interval.
4. Guides will be at Bn. H.Qrs. Lewis guns will also be dumped there.
5. Bn.H.Qrs and R.A.P. will be at F.6.e.0.4.
6. Completion of relief will be notified to Bn. H.Qrs. by letters O.K.

Issued by runner at 7 pm.

- 1 to "A" Coy
- 2 "B" "
- 3 "C" "
- 4 "D" "
- 5 C.O.
- 6 Office
7. War diary
- 8 Bde.

Wickup
 Lt. Col.
 Adl. 45th Bn.

45th Battalion A.I.F.

Memo to ALL COMPANIES

16.8.18

1. Our attitude must be aggressive, the Hun must be given no peace. Snipers must be organized and Rifle Grenadiers active.
2. Identification is urgently required. Patrols will be very active and every effort will be made to secure a prisoner.
3. Position to be consolidated. No undercutting of trenches. Front line to be improved.
4. The front will be wired, commencing to-morrow night.
5. There is reason to believe that the enemy will make extensive use of gas. Gongs will be established at intervals along the line and all men will be warned.
6. Salvage will be collected and dumped at suitable points.
7. Sanitary arrangements will be perfected.
8. Ammunition will be properly stored.

H. B. Rickard

Lieut
Adjut, 45th Battalion, A.I.F.

APPENDIX

10

18

Intelligence ReportArtilleryOur Activity.

Not very active on our sector during the day, but increased during the night. 18 Pounders fired a number of rounds at suspected M.C. positions in MEIGG WOOD and BROWNING WOOD, shooting was observed to be accurate. Our heavies were fairly active on enemy's back areas.

TRENCH MORTARS

Stokes Mortars engaged enemy position in C.T. during the day. Enemy retaliated but we had the best say.

MACHINE GUNS

Active at times during the day firing at enemy planes. During the night the guns were fairly quiet owing to patrols and working parties.

PATROLS

Inter Bn, Coy and Post patrols were carried out during the night. (No air fighting occurred.) Reconnaissance patrols went forward.

AIRCRAFT

Not very active, only visiting us 6 times during the day. No air fighting occurred.

SNIPING

Our snipers had a busy time on right flank during the day, and killed at least two of the enemy which were seen to fall. On the left flank no targets offered themselves.

BOMBING

A few hand grenades were thrown at enemy post in C.T. during the day Rifle Grenades were freely used and shooting was good.

GAS

Our Artillery fired Gas Shells during the night but was not felt in our sector.

HOSTILE ACTIVITYARTILLERY

Fairly active during the day increasing after night fall, mostly 77 mm and 5.9 shells Special attention was paid to LIHONS A.2.d.- front line - A.2.a.&g. and X.20.a.&g. Enemy appeared to be more attentive to our back areas. Artillery did not appear to range on any object in our sector.

TRENCH MORTARS

M. Werfers and G. Werfers were fired during the day, mostly in retaliation shooting was bad.

MACHINE GUNS

Were very active during the day. A little fire was trained on our planes. During the night they were a lot quieter than the last few days.

AIRCRAFT

Enemy planes patrolled our lines fairly frequently during the day some flying fairly low. They were at all times engaged by our guns. Planes were over at the following hours-1 at 5.55 am, 1 at 6.5 am, 3 at 6.20 am, 1 at 11.55 am, 1 at 2 pm, 5 at 3.25 pm, 6 at 3.45 pm, 3 at 5.15 pm, 1 at 5.55 pm, During the night from 12 till 1 am, bombing planes were active over our battery positions.

BALLOONS

Three balloons were visible during the day. One of our balloons were destroyed by enemy aircraft at 5.55 pm.

MOVEMENT

More movement than usual was noticed on our front line trench in A.8.b. Limbers were heard during the night at approx X Roads in A.9.b. 10.20.

ENEMY WORKS

A Post was located in A.2.d.9.8. with a M.C. and a T.M. It appears only to be manned by night. One Stokes Mortar effectively dealt with it, some of the shells fell right in the position.

MISCELLANEOUS

Flares were normal on our front during the night. A few coloured flares were fired on our right but no action followed. A fire was observed at 5 pm, in the direction of HATTENCOURT, enemy has been much quieter during the last 24 hours

Lieut H.P. Hopwood "DCH" and 6 C. Rs left our lines at A.S.b.C.3. and located Canadian Left Flank at A.S.d.1.8. They then worked along parallel with railway line to about A.S.d.3.8. crossing line at this point. Moon was very bright and patrol was seen by enemy who opened up with a machine gun from approx A.S.d.2.7. Patrol returned to our lines at A.S.b.7.0. Patrol left at 11 pm, and returned at 1 am.

Lieut P.A. Lisle and 4 C. Rs left at A.S.b.7.0. and worked down old C.T. for about 50 yds when a M.C. fired from about 30 yds in front. This gun has not been active before. Patrol then turned left and ~~turned along~~ worked along for about 100 yds and again located enemy bombing post that was seen last night. Flares were being fired from this position. Patrol listened for some time but enemy kept very silent and low. Patrol returned to our lines at A.S.b.6.4. at 12.45 pm.

Lieut E.B. Kerr and 5 C. Rs left our lines at A.S.b.7.0. and worked along C.T. for about 100 yds, into an enemy post. A barricade had been erected and one sentry was seen. Two Cuns were seen, one M.C. the other probably a Trench Mortar that had been firing from about the position. Patrol did not attempt to fight on account of our working party. They were not seen by enemy. Patrol returned to our lines at A.S.d.6.7.

Lieut R. Bowden and 6 C. Rs left our lines at A.S.b.5.3. and proceeded to Canadian Left Flank at A.S.d.1.8. They then pushed forward to about A.S.d.6.6. but did not locate the enemy. Patrol then moved to the left and crossed railway line about A.S.d.3.9. and returned to our lines at A.S.b.7.0. Enemy was fairly quiet. Patrol left at 1 am, and returned at 2.30 am.

Lieut F.A. Paterson and 4 C. Rs left our lines at A.S.b. & c. 8.5. and pushed out about 80 yds when a M.C. opened from about 20 yds in front, a sniper also fired from just in advance of the post. Patrol then moved to the left for about 150 yds crossing two old trenches that were lined with dug-outs but had not been used. Digging was heard and the noise of material being moved. Patrol returned to our lines at A.S.d.5.2. Patrol left at 1.15 am, and returned at 2.30 am.

Sgd C.M. Johnston, Lieut-Col
C.O. 45th Bn A.I.F

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

APPENDIX

12/21

Our Activity

20.8.18

Artillery From 4 till 5 am, our Artillery was very active on Left Sector. During the day 18 pdrs. were active on forward enemy positions, while heavies paid attention to his back areas. At 8.35 pm in response to S.O.S. signal from Canadian Left Flank, our barrage fell in front of Canadians, and on our left flank and front. Barrage was perfect falling from about 50 to 100 yds in front of our trench. Barrage slackened off about 9 pm.

STOKES MORTARS

3 " Stokes Mortars engaged approx enemy positions also co-operated in barrage at 8.35 pm.

MACHINE GUNS

Active at times during the day on enemy planes.

Patrols

During inter-Battalion relief protective patrols operated along our front.

AIRCRAFT

Active from dawn till 10 am, at times flying low along our lines.

They were at all times engaged by enemy A.A. and M.Cs.

SNIPING

During Canadian advance at 4 pm, our snipers did excellent work killing at least two and wounding others.

BOMBING

A large number of Rifle Grenades were expended against enemy posts.

Shooting was accurate.

IDENTIFICATIONS

During the day a N.C.O. crawled along C.T. in A.8.b.60.85. to an enemy post which had been occupied. He found an overcoat and obtained shoulder strap which was forwarded to Bde H.Qrs. No other articles of identification were on coat.

HOSTILE ACTIVITYARTILLERY

At 4.15 pm enemy retaliated to barrage covering Canadians attack. It was not very intense. The S.O.S. appears to run along a line drawn through A.2.a & c. central. Five shells fell in our front line. Enemy retaliated to our barrage at 8.35 am, but fire was mainly concentrated on reserve area.

TRENCH MORTARS

Light and medium M. Werfers were active in A.2.d. during barrage at 4.15 pm, and 8.35 pm. Shooting was accurate.

MACHINE GUNS

Active at times firing at our planes. During attack by Canadians fire was not heavy. They were also active during barrage at 8.35 pm.

AIRCRAFT

Active from dawn till 10.30 am. 38 Planes were over flying parallel with same.

BALLOONS

Five balloons were visible during the day.

MSC LANEWAYS

Canadians appear to have taken their objective in their attack at 4 pm. as bomb fighting was seen opposite and in line with our Right Flank S.O.S. signal from Canadians left flank was fired at 8.35 pm. Our right flank noticed parties of enemy of about 4 in line marching down Railway lines towards our lines. Our L.Cs opened fire with good effect causing a large number of casualties. No other enemy movement was seen. During the stunt enemy fired a large number of flares which burst into 2 Reds, Artillery action followed. At 6.25 pm our heavies fired a large enemy dump on a true bearing of 99 degrees from F.6.c.5.3. At 12 midnight a large dump was fired in the vicinity of CHAULINES.

Sgd. J. Vincent. Lieut
I.O. 45th Battalion.

SECRET45th Battalion Order No 3/25Reference HATTENCOURT 1/20000

Headquarters 19.8.18

1. The 45th Battalion A.I.F. will be relieved by the 48th Bn, A.I.F. on the night 19/20th August. 1918

"A" Coy, 45th Bn	will be relieved by	"D" Coy 48th Bn.
"B" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"C" Coy 48th Bn.
"C" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"B" Coy 48th Bn.
"D" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"A" Coy 48th Bn.

2. On being relieved the 45th Bn will move to the area at present occupied by the 48th Bn.

"A" Coy 45th Bn	take over area occupied by	"D" Coy 48th Bn
"B" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"A" Coy 48th Bn.
"C" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"C" Coy 48th Bn.
"D" Coy 45th Bn	" " " "	"B" Coy 48th Bn.

3. GUIDES will be mutually arranged between Coy. Commanders concerned.

4. HOT MEAL will be sent up at about 8.30 pm, Food Containers and Tins will be dumped at "A" Coy Headquarters.

5. RECEIPTS in duplicate for all Trench Stores handed over, will be handed to Lieut W.R. Watson by 9 am, to-morrow. Picks and shovels to be handed over.

6. RELIEF COMPLETE will be wired to Bn. Headquarters by word "BLUE"

7. PASSWORD "B R I S B A N E"

W. R. Watson
Lieut.
Adjutant, 45th Battalion, A.I.F.

SECRET

45th BATTALION ORDER NO 3/27Reference "HARBONNIERES"

Headquarters 24.8.18

1. The French will relieve the 45th Bn to-night as follows-

1 Coy	of the	83rd	Regt	will	relieve	"C" & "B"	Coys
1 Coy	"	"	"	"	"	"	"B" Coy
1 Coy	"	"	"	"	"	"	"A" Coy
2. On being relieved the Coys will march to the embussing point -W.II.a.2.1.- just West of HARBONNIERES- on the BAYONVILLERS Road, distances of 50 yds between platoons being maintained.
3. EMBUSSING Lieut J. Vincent, "MC, DCM" will report to Bde Embussing Officer at 9.30 pm, to act as Bn Embussing and debussing Officer.
4. Busses accomodate 25 men and parties of this strength will be told off, Company embussing Officer to report to Bn embussing Officer on arrival. Bn will embuss in the following order- Bn "Hqrs" "D" "C" "B" "A" Coys. Ann Officer to ride on each bus
5. Completion of relief to be wired to Bn H. Qrs by code word "MAFISCH"

W. R. Watson Lieut.
a/Adjt, 45th Battalion.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR PERIOD 28th August to 7th Sept. 1918

Date	9 am. - 9.50 am.	10 am. - 12.30 pm. - Smoke at 10 mins to clock hour.
28th Wed	Coy Route March	Lecturette on Saluting (Compliments to Cars etc) Saluting Drill-10 mins- Bayonet Fighting- Section Drill- Gas Drill, 10 mins- Platoon Drill- Bombing. "A" & "B" Coy on Range
29th Thursday	do	Lecturette, sanitation in billets & trench Bombing - Saluting drill 10 minutes - platoon drill - gas drill 10 minutes - guards & sentries - bayonet fighting - musketry C & D Coys on range
30th Friday	do	Lecturette, Esprit de Corps, Exploits of our Division - Saluting drill, 10 minutes - bayonet fighting - gas drill, 10 minutes - guards & sentries bombing - musketry A & B Coys on range.
31st Saturday	Bn. parade and Bn. route march with 1st line transport	-port
1st June Sunday	Church parades.	
2ND Monday	Coy Route March	Gas drill, 10 minutes - Extended Order Drill - rapid winding.
3rd Tuesday	Platoon schemes, including bayonet fighting - gas drill	10 minutes.
4th Wed.	Company as an advance guard, including bayonet fighting	gas drill, 10 minutes.
5th Thursday	Company in attack, including bayonet fighting, gas	drill 10 minutes.
6th Friday	Bn. in attack - open warfare.	
7th Saturday	Bn. parade & Bn. route march with 1st line transport	
<u>AFTERNOON.</u>		
3 pm to 4 pm.		
Cricket matches		
Baseball - Organised games.		

Schools will be held in mornings for Lewis Gunners (40 new men) Scouts, Signallers, & bombing.

Conference of all officers will be held at the Bn. Mess each evening when lectures will be given.

Lt Col.

CO. 45th A.I.F.

25
16
July 25th 1918

To The Commanding Officer,
45th Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
FRANCE

Dear Colonel Johnston

We Australian women are anxious to help our menfolk at the front in one little matter by providing our Battalions with the Flags which, we are told, mark the location of their Headquarters in the Villages and countryside behind the lines. We have heard that the Units in FRANCE sometimes order these Flags to be made for them in shops, and we think that while we are here to provide them, we can well do this little service for our men.

Lady Wade, wife of the Agent General for New South Wales, and a number of the women of that State resident in London are making two Flags for each Battalion from New South Wales. and two flags for the 45th are amongst them. These will shortly be sent to you by them.

We suggest that when the flags arrive, one of them should be kept by the Battalion to mark its location, (and perhaps eventually to help to represent it in the great memorial museum which will be raised to the A.I.F. in Australia) and that the other, after being flown at the Battalion's Headquarters for a week or two, should be sent to the district in Australia from which the 45th comes, with a suggestion that the women of that district should work similar flags for it to supplement or replace these when they are worn out. The women at home would be only too glad to do this; and it will help to bind the Battalion to its home and to encourage the people of its home district to support their own Battalions with recruits.

Trusting that this little service by the women of Australia trifling though it is, will help to show our menfolk that you are always in our minds.

I am,
On behalf of the Women of Australia,
Yours Sincerely,
Mary Hughes.

S E C R E T.

H.Q.	
12TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE	
No.	10
Date	7-8-18

Headquarters,
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

7th August 1918.

- Reference to Brigade Order No. 221, para. 8 -
Z E R O H O U R will be 4.30am on the 8th instant.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

ack R.P.

A.A. Norman
Major.
Brigade Major.
12th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Distribution : Normal.

Issued to Signals at..... *2.30 pm*

APPENDIX

14
26

204

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

TO All Bms

Sender's Number. * Bm 34	Day of Month. 8th	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------	----------------------	---------------------	-----

Corp report attack complete
 surprise on all three
 corps fronts aac
 attack being well pac
 HK Bde report having
 taken MORCOURT and
 about 100 prisoners aac
 3 reserve artillery Bde
 now in position to
 cover BLUE LINE aac
 Battery positions are in
 squares Q 15 a & c & Q 20 b.

From 12th AI Bde

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
 Censor. (Z) K. Henderson
 Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

B.V.
 15th
 Red line was reached
 at 10.15 am he had to delay
 at places to wait for Beavies to
 lift. Beavies were firing short
 accounted for a few of my
 men. No opposition was met
 with. Receipt for 32 prisoners
 here with many others, probably
 50 or 60 were sent to the rear.

APPENDIX 7 21

350y and front Q300 27 to
Q23d 92.

I Coy on my left.
46th Bn on my right.
we have consolidated.
we have 7 Lewis guns

in tact
of
the 1st capt.
of K. A Coy
8 1/8
11 550

looking across the gap
into the German int
Q. 4. 15 it looks as
if it left Coy or
not get its objective.
It is 1500 ft or more on
the forward slope of
the ridge is from but
they look awfully weak
what are we doing
about holding the line
here. Can you get the
1st Div to get but success.
12.8p Davis

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

TO { All Bns 12 TMB by
 TMB by 16 TMB

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * BMS 8 8

Special precautions will be taken at Stand to on morning of 9th which will continue until a distance of 200 yards is distinctly visible from front line. Patrols will be pushed well forward to ensure timely warning of an attempted attack by the enemy. In case of fog it is possible SOS signals will not be observed + artillery will put down barrage fire on the infantry from bursts of M.B. rifle fire.

From
 Place
 Time
 12 TMB

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) [Signature]
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3795.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.
 Sent Service. Date
 At m. To From
 To
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { All Bns. TMB by

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * BMS 10 10

Bde will be relieved night 11/11 by 9th Bde
 45 Bn relieved by 33 Bn
 48 " " " 35 Bn
 46 " " " 34 " " " " " 9 TMB by
 Guide under an officer
 1st platoon under an officer to be at 46 Bn
 10/11 at 10 p.m. to meet morning duties.
 Order later acknowledge

From
 Place Acknowledged 12 TMB
 Time
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) [Signature]

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3795.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

At.....m.	From.....		
To.....	By.....		
(Signature of "Franking Officer.")			
TO {	All Bn		
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 51166	9 th		
Six armoured cars			
Seventeen a.c. battalion will			
be operating along Villers			
Bretouneuse road Villers			
Carbonated road and roads			
north & south of this road			
+ in vicinity AUXILLE			
FRMERVILLE French Tricolour			
will be flown when running			
From	on approaching British troops		
Place	12 th A.I. Bde		
Time			
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)			
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.		

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3795.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187)

At.....m.	From.....		
To.....	By.....		
(Signature of "Franking Officer.")			
TO {	45 46 48 Bns.		
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 80655	9		
The situation North of			
the Somme is obscure.			
The Blue Line is to be			
held at all costs			
Evacuation work must			
be carried out on whole			
of Brigade front tonight			
This must be completed			
before day light.			
Battal holding the Red			
line must complete			
Reverse Fire Trench			
to connect with front			
Battal			
From	Belknap (le 15 th 1918)		
Place	12117 Bde		
Time			
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)			
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.		

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3795.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187)

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

TO { 45th Bn

Sender's Number. * Am 50	Day of Month. 8	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

On night 8/9 your Bn will take over portion of Blue Line from 48th Bn from Right Brigade Boundary to Road R 19 D 13 and Road inclusive to 45th Bn. Arrangements for the take over will be made direct between CO's concerned. On completion of relief 45 + 46 Bn fronts will be held on a two Company front 4 in depth. Relief to be completed as soon as possible to carry out morning programme 46 Bn to take over whole of Bde frontage in Red Line. Acknowledge advised 45 Bn.

From	12 th A 1 Bde	46 + 48 Bn
Place		
Time	12	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 . a.s. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd.

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

TO { All Bns.

Sender's Number. * Am 56	Day of Month. 8	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

1st A 1 Bde will provide outposts along South Bank of Somme from Mottcourt to Bouzincourt with 3 Bns in line & one in Reserve.

10th A 1 Bde will move up to Bin Reserve in Square 820.

Moves to be completed as soon as possible.

FM your information

From	12 th A 1 Bde
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 . a.s. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd.

APPENDIX

17 31

Recd 8.30
Wardian

APPENDIX
14

204

We have reached
 objectives, (Red Line), and met
 no resistance, except a few rifle
 shots.
 A ~~large~~ body of enemy, (with
 rifles) have retreated in the
 direction of MERICOURT.
 On our front, a few enemy can
 be seen, in trees & houses, these
 men are retreating.
 We are in touch with 13th Bn on
 left.
 J.P. [unclear] Red
 10. 45th Bn

To.....	From.....	
By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....	
TO { all Bns.		
Sender's Number. * BMB65	Day of Month. 9.	In reply to Number. AAA
Aust. Corps reports. Prisoners so far counted 154 officers 5,700 s.b. Material 105 guns & 1 Railway gun complete & several trucks ammunition large number M.Guns & trench mortars other material including Canteens 1 Train since burnt. One motor car with driver captured by armoured cars after officer occupants had been killed.		
C.M. Copies all Coy 3. 133		
From	17A 1 Bde	
Place		
Time		
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)		
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	
* This line should be erased if not required.		

ATTACHED

14 39

Code.....m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....h.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Sent			Date.....
At.....m.			Service.	From.....
To.....			(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....
By.....				By.....

TO { *H5 Battalion*

Sender's Number. *26* Day of Month. *9* In reply to Number. *AAA*

Following is copy of Bdr Message.

In all probability a further advance will be made on our immediate right.

Our right acting as a pivot every assistance ~~will~~ by covering fire will be given.

3rd Corps will also endeavour to advance on to hipelly spur.

Warm Machine Guns in your sector.

From *Gobe.*

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

from 48+12

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

To.....

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { *all Bns.*

Sender's Number. *Bm 63* Day of Month. *9* In reply to Number. *AAA*

In all probability ~~a~~ a further advance will be made on our immediate right.

Our right acting as a pivot every assistance by covering fire will be given.

3rd Corps will also endeavour to advance on Chipelly spur.

Warm Machine Guns in your sector.

From *12A 113de*

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

from 48+12

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

APPENDIX

19

33

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

TO { all Bus

Sender's Number. * Bm 79	Day of Month. 10	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----

Following from Camps are
 following were received from
 General Woodcock via
 First class everything evidently
 as completely satisfactory
 as I felt sure it would
 be with all the excellent
 arrangements made.
 Had you please convey
 my kindest & sincere
 congratulations to all
 concerned & only wish
 every man could reach
 my feelings for him & his
 ones

From D.M. Bde

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *[Signature]*

Censor. Signature of Adressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3790.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd.

Young Good
 of Prisoner
 up to Sugar Valley
 O.K.
 Casualty
 2 Slight
 other Rank
 \$350
 a
[Signature]
 Cart

APPENDIX

17

Service. At . . . m. From . . .

To . . . By . . . (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO: All Bns TM Bty
12 M & Coy

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* BM 94 12

Advance party of 1 Officer
on a horse to meet
Staff Capt at Cemetery W12C
10 AM 13th reconnoitre
new area.

Officer also reconnoitre
route Gully - roads
(7-13-19-25-32-33)
W14A - W5C(D) - X 12A -
X 18 Centre

12A 13de

From . . . Place . . . Time . . .

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)** A. W. [Signature]

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

(3795.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1182)

Huns advancing along horse
road on the other side of canal
& ~~parallel~~ parallel with it
in artillery formation. Must be
at least one Battalion within
view.

Off. [Signature]
8.8.18.
6.30 p.m.

APP-10BX
17
35

At m. From
 To By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")
 TO 45 46 48 Bns.
 Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * BM 140 22
 Your Bn will receive
 46 Bn in left Bn sector
 night 23/24
 arranged for necessary
 reconnaissance to
 be carried out early
 tomorrow
 Detailed orders later
 addressed 45th Bn
 rptd 46 + 48 Bns
 Chf. (PC 170)
 From Place Time
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) M. Brown
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
 * This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

204
 To: all Bns 83rd Div Genl Regt
 Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * BM 147 24
 The Corps + 3rd Div Bn attack
 tomorrow 25th N of SOMME
 at 2.30 am in objective S
 of FRI COURT to SUZANNE
 (including) via 32nd Bn + 1st Div
 Bn are cooperating S of SOMME
 with patrols + have orders to
 exploit any weakness of enemy
 discovered and attack probably
 accompanied by heavy barrage
 to then assemble fire which will
 probably strike enemy
 positions and take all
 precautions to own platoon
 Batteries of the 2 Divs
 acknowledge addressed
 all Bns 83rd Div Genl Regt
 From Place Time
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
 * This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX
 12
 36

Bm



P126

204

D 19 20
 At m. Service. Date
 To War Diary From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { 45 Bn

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * Bm 106 14

Information received from
 corps that the attack is
 postponed indefinitely. a a a
 probable the Bde will take
 over from 15th Div tomorrow
 night as far south as
 the Railway line a a a
 cancel arrangements to be
 advance and reconstituting
 parties until further orders

From 12th A I Bde
 Place
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

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

TO { 45 Bn

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * Bm 73 9

Confirming my telephone message
 2nd Bn have advanced
 their line. They left
 now rests at R 26 D 94
 - along road to x no
 R 33 E 90 - East of
 FRAME RVILLE.
 Arrange by sending
 forward Patrols to
 connect with 18th Bn
 at R 26 D 94.
 48th Bn have been ordered
 to send forward Patrols to
 PROYART to ascertain if
 village is held.
 If village is held they
 will take up a line

From
 Place
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

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APPENDIX

17

At.....m.		Service.	Date.....
To.....		From.....	
By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	
TO {			
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* Running approx. R 13 D actual - road S E R 19 B - hence to connect with your left about R 20 E 3 B. If PROY ART is not held we will endeavour to arrange with Swinson to occupy village + establish line east of village to connect with 18 Bn at. + Rds R 26 D. Acknowledge. [Signature] From MATBR Place 8.26 pm Time The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) [Signature] Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. * This line should be erased if not required. (3790J) Wt. W 49/11647. 650,000. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd.			

SUMMARY OF Q.M.'s DEPARTMENT AND TRANSPORT SECTION
from 1st to 31st AUGUST 1918

Battalion moved from CAGNY to BOVES on 2.8.18. Transport lines being some distance away. On 4th inst Bn. again moved from BOVES to trenches East of HAMEL P.7.b & d. Sheet 62D S.E. Transport & Store remaining near Railway Siding, LA NEUVILLE and cookers going to HAMELET where meals were prepared and carried to trenches 3 times per day. On 5th August battle issue of 480 Water bottles were drawn and filled. On 6th evening heavily shelled Transport Lines Lieut H.H. Neaves and 5 O, Rs being wounded besides 8 Horses and Mules killed and 4 Mules wounded. The behaviour of Transport Drivers and men is worthy of special praise as during the shelling they did all possible to remove the horses and mules to safer quarters and thereby saved many casualties. On the 7th "B" and "D" Coys Cookers at HAMELET were damaged by shell fire the wheels of each being destroyed. Comforts of Cigarettes, Coffee and Milk etc were drawn and cigarettes were greatly appreciated coming at a time when supplies were low. Battle stores of S.A.A. Sandbags, Picks and shovels, Flares Iron Rations etc were drawn and issued so that for the attack on the 8th the Bn advanced really carrying 72 Hours rations and 2 Water bottles per man, besides extra ammunition etc. The Bn advanced from Green Line 62D S.E., Q.14 & 15 to Red Line Q.23 & 29 and reached their objective with very slight casualties. The Cookers were brought forward to AUROCHE WOOD, P.17, and hot meal sent forward with dry rations reaching the Bn about 6.30 pm. Battalion "HQ" were established at Q.29.a near AMY WOOD and Cookers were sent forward to VALERIE WOOD Q.28.a. from where two hot meals daily were sent forward. Transport moved to BOUZENCOURT. Bn. Pack Train of 16 mules and Horses followed in rear of the Bn during the advance carrying Spare Lewis Guns, wire and ammunition and did the work well, but unfortunately 1 horse was killed and 3 mules wounded during the advance on the 10th August. Another mule was wounded while carrying rations forward on 11.8.18. Bn moved back from front line in rear of PROYART and were given a hot meal at Cookers after moving on to SAILLY-LAURETTE for a brief rest. Cookers were brought back through BOUZENCOURT AND ON TO Bn lines near SAILLY-LAURETTE where the normal 3 hot meals per day were given. On 12.8.18 Bn dump of blankets, puttees etc was moved to LA NEUVILLE. On 13.8.18 Bn moved from SAILLY-LAURETTE to trenches on the outskirts of HARBONNIERES, Cookers being installed in woods in rear of trenches. Transport and Store going to GUILLECOURT. On 15.8.18 Bn moved to front line trenches by LIHONS Cooks prepared meals in sheds in rear of Bn "HQ" and hot meals went forward twice nightly by Transport to Support Lines and then forward by carrying parties. The position occupied by cooks was continuously shelled but no damage was done and preparation of meals was not interfered with. 640 Kilos of potatoes were purchased from Regt. Funds as supply of vegetables was rather light. A considerable amount of salvage work was done whilst in this area. On 19.8.18 Bn moved back to Reserve Trenches and carried out much salvage work in old German positions. Arrangements were made for Coy Cooks to work close to their Coys, and the Barbers, Tailors and Bootmakers were sent forward and did good work. On 20.8.18, 112 Hides were sent from old German Slaughter House. Battle stores were handed over to Brigade and Supply on 24.8.18. Bn was relieved by the French back to VAUX. Transport with Cookers left by road and a hot meal was moved to VAUX also ALLONVILLE DUMP of packs valises etc. On 27.8.18 Bn, was well fitted out with new clothing. On 29.8.18 were received from A.C.F. 2 cases of wallets, Set of Quoits Cards, Boxing Gloves and 6 cricket balls. Improvised ovens were at each Coy Cookhouse to permit of roast meals etc and fly paper were supplied each Coy and a large fly proof meat house erected. During the month the supply of bread ration was good.

2 or 3 occasions when it was received very broken up. meat supply was up to the average but owing to excessive heat it did not keep too fresh and had to be partially cooked as soon as received. Vegetables have been fairly good especially the cabbages issued, and in addition to the issue of potatoes during the month 1340 Kilos of potatoes have been bought from Regimental Funds

A.M. Loutch *Lieut-Col*
Major
 Commanding 45th Battalion A.I.F.

62° 56

SECRET

C.O. 45

WAR DIARY

C.M. JOHNSTON
Lt. Col

FRANCE

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