

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/49/36

**Title:** 32nd Infantry Battalion

July 1918



AWM4-23/49/36



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*32nd Battalion*

FOR

*July* 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*[Signature]* Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*[Signature]*



# 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.)

Page No 67

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62 d NE	1918 July			
T13C	1		Battalions rested in immediate reserve area, as BRIDGEHEADS DEFENCE	
"	2		Working parties were supplied nightly to Engineers and Tunnelers	
"	3		Bathing was indulged in in the ANCRE. Specialist Training was carried out	
"	4		in all branches. Sports were also held, chiefly cricket matches. Two games	
"	5		were played against the 29 <sup>th</sup> Battalion resulting in one win for each side.	Strength 47 Officers 748 O.R.
"	6		Forward routes were recommended by Officers and N.C.O.s. to facilitate	
"	7		rapid movement in case of emergency.	
"	8		The following DECORATIONS were awarded during this period.	
"	9		M.C. Lieut TAYLOR C.M.	
"	10		D.C.M. No 100 Sergeant GORDON H. McK.	
"	11		M.M. No 4634 Corporal HALLGRH, No 6756 Corporal EAKINS G.C., No 1254 4 <sup>th</sup> B DICKSON J.	
"	12		No 4076 Pte LLOYD C.C.L., No 3647 Pte BROWNE H.F., No 659 Corporal FOWLER W.R.	Strength 45 Officers 748 O.R.
"	13		The following were also mentioned	
"	14			
"	15			
"	16			

Shanklin  
Comdg 32<sup>nd</sup>

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# WAR DIARY

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62 D. NE	July			
RIBEMONT	17		The Battalions moved into RESERVE in the RIBEMONT sector and relieved the 58 <sup>th</sup> Battalion B Coy at D 22 d 74, D Coy at D 29 a 14, C Coy at D 28 a 57, A Coy at D 27 a 35, HQ at D 27 a 24	Order No 29
	18		Working and carrying parties were supplied nightly	
	19		Reconnoitring was carried out by officers and NCOs to all forward positions and	
	20		tracks for movement selected.	Strength Officers 43 P.R. 753
	21			
	22			
J17647	23		Battalions relieved the 30 <sup>th</sup> Battalions in the Right Battalion sector of the Brigade front B Coy on the right, D Coy on the left, C Coy in support, A Coy in Reserve. Batt HQ J17647	Order No 30
	24		Enemy attitude quiet, trenches in good condition but wet owing to considerable rain falling. Patrolling was carried out and liaison maintained between all posts.	
	25		More rain fell and trenches becoming sloppy, usual patrolling, enemy attitude quiet.	
	26		Weather improved, patrolling as usual, rations good, men in excellent spirits.	Strength Officers 49 P.R. 756
	27		Battalions relieved 29 <sup>th</sup> Battalions and took over sector held by 56 <sup>th</sup> Battalion from K 19 d 20 to grid line K 13 d 80. A Coy occupied line K 19 d 20 to K 19 d 80, D Coy from K 19 d 80 to grid line at K 13 d 80, B Coy in Support at Bourkafine, C Coy in Reserve in Colar line.	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C.2118/14.

B Coy 30<sup>th</sup> Battn in CLERMONT LINE

Swank  
Command  
32



# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 62d NE Grid line between square K 19125 BRAY-CORBIE Road to K 19d 70	28 July		Preparations were in full swing for projected attack on enemy trenches, all arrangements were complete and all ranks in position by 11.30 pm.	
	29		At 12.30 am. the Battalion plus 1 Coy of 30 <sup>th</sup> Battalion took part in a Divisional operation on a front K 254 to K 2a and northwards by system of posts to Divl boundary. The Battalion objectives were 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> lines of enemy system and posts from K 20a 6500 to K 20c 2000. Attack was on a 3 Coy front. A Coy on right to form a defensive flank, B Coy centre, and D Coy left, C Coy in support. 2 platoons of B Coy 30 <sup>th</sup> attached to A Coy. Attack was carried out in 2 waves under an artillery barrage lasting 3 minutes; at 2 plus 3 barrage moved forward and troops moved to the assault. 1 <sup>st</sup> wave moved and took final objective carrying on consolidation while 2 <sup>nd</sup> wave mopped up 1 <sup>st</sup> objective. At 2+55 A Coy swung forward in conjunction with 14 <sup>th</sup> Brigade on right to complete the operation. The operation was singularly successful and all objectives had been gained and consolidation begun by 2+13 mins. The Battalion captured 2 officers and 71 OR. prisoners also 15 machine guns and 2 trench mortars besides killing a large number of the enemy and wounding many also. Battalion casualties were killed 8 wounded 40. Lieuts Treasures and Prockter being the only two officers wounded. Though the enemy dropped a heavy barrage and harassed the sector with minor weapons the position was secure by dawn.	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C.2118/14

Marking  
Coy 32<sup>nd</sup> Bn

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## 07

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(Erase heading not required.)

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Mark Magan  
Comdy 32nd



1. The 8th Aust. Inf. Bde will relieve the 15th Aust. Inf. Bde and one battalion of the 14th Aust. Inf. Bde on the night 17th/18th instant.
2. The 32nd Battalion will relieve the 58th Battalion in Reserve in the RIBEMONT Sector.
3. The dispositions after relief will be:-
 

Left Front Coy 'B' Coy.	Coy H.Q. at	D22 d 7 4.
Right do do 'D' Coy	do do	D29 a 1 4.
Support Coy 'C' Coy	do do	D28 a 5 7.
Reserve Coy 'A' Coy	do do	D27 a 3 5.
R. A. P.		D27 a 2 4.
Battalion H.Q.		D27 a 2 4.
4. The Battalion will move as follows:-
 

Starting Point -	Battalion H.Q.
Time of Start -	10 p.m.
Order of March -	H.Q., B., D., S., A., Raiding Team, A.M.C.,
Route -	Through MERICOURT to Cross Roads J 4 c 6 6 - across railway line, and through RIBEMONT to crossroads D 27 B 30 00, wher guides will meet Companies.
Distances. -	200 yards between Companies, 100 yards between platoons.
Dress. -	Fighting Order, steel helmets, S.B.R's at Alert, Blanket and W.P. Sheet rolled and fastened to Belt, Iron rations and 24 hours dry rations. All Lewis Guns and 24 magazines per gun will be taken. 170 Rounds S.A.A. on man
5. One Officer and 2 H.C.Os per Company will move into the line on the night 16th/17th instant.
6. Lewis Gun Limbers will report to companies at 9 p.m. Cookers and Lewis Gun Limbers will move behind companies.
7. The raiding team will move under the command of Captain KRINKS to new Battalion H.Qrs. They will be rationed separately, and Reserve Coy will cook for them.
8. All trench stores, maps, defence schemes, aeroplane photos, and all information relative to the sector will be taken over and receipts forwarded to Bn H.Qrs by 3 a.m. 18th instant.
9. Existing dispositions and all gas and A.A. Guards will be taken over as they stand and complete disposition sketches sent to Bn H.Qrs by 12 noon 18th instant.
10. Transport Lines and R.Q.M. will remain in present position (I 9 a 1 1).
11. All trench -

W. O. P. M. H.  
G. 12/242  
16/7/18



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11. All trench shelters and area stores in present area will remain.
12. All trenches, dug-outs and shelters in the present area will be sprayed with a 5 % solution of Creosol under the R.M.O's direction. Companies will forward a certificate to En H.Qrs by 9.30 p.m. 17th that this area is in a clean and sanitary condition.
13. 'A' Company will supply 1 M.C.O. and 3 men to take over baths BUIRE at 7 p.m. 17th instant.
14. Completion of relief will be wired in code to En H.Qrs.

*At Hardy*

Lieutenant.  
Adjutant 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| Copy No. 1 | C.O.            |
| 2          | 'A' Company     |
| 3          | 'B' "           |
| 4          | 'C' "           |
| 5          | 'D' "           |
| 6          | R.M.O. and I.O. |
| 7          | T.O. and R.Q.M. |
| 8          | War Diary.      |
| 9          |                 |
| 10         | File            |
| 11         |                 |



## ORDER No. 30.

## APPENDIX.

Map Sheet 62D. N.E.

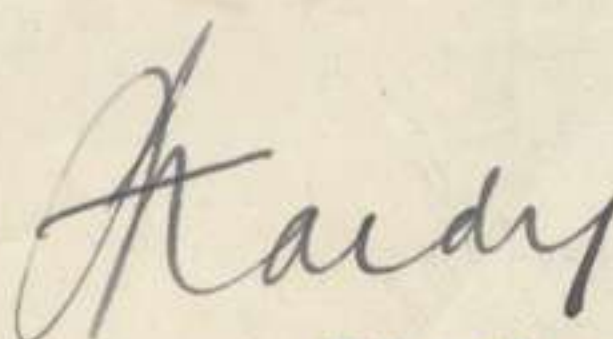
22nd. July 1918.

1. The 32nd. Battalion will relieve the 30th. Battalion in the Right Battalion Sector of the Brigade front on the night 23rd/24th. inst.
2. The dispositions after relief will be :-
 

Right Front Company	"B"
Left Front Company	"D"
Support Company	"C"
Reserve Company	"A"
3. The Battalion will move as follows :-
 

Starting Point	-	Cross Roads D 27 b 30 00.
Time of Start	-	10.30 p.m.
Order of March	-	Hqrs. "B" "D" "C" "A" A.M.C.
Route	-	Through RIBEMONT - across Railway line and along BALLARAT TRENCH to road corner at J 11 c 2 6 where guides for all Platoons will be met.
Dress	-	Same as at present.
Distances	-	100 Yards between Platoons, 200 Yards between Coys.
4. The dispositions of the 30th. Battalion as they stand will be taken over. The 30th. Battalion will supply Strong Covering Parties during the relief.
5. Limbers for carrying all Lewis Guns, a limber for Regimental Canteen and Sigs. and Mess Cart will report at 9.45 p.m. These will be unloaded at new Battalion Headquarters.
6. "A" & "C" Coy. Cookers will be taken to Battalion Headquarters for use of all Coys. "B" & "D" Coys. Cookers will return to the Transport Lines.  
Three (3) Cooks per Company will go forward, the remainder will report to R.Q.M. at Transport Lines.  
All rations for the 24th. will be taken to Battalion Headquarters and be picked up by Coys. as they move into the line.  
The R.Q.M.S. will live at Battalion Headquarters and supervise all rations during the tour of the Battalion.
7. All Trench Stores within area will be handed over and receipts forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 3 a.m. 24th. instant.  
Complete disposition Maps will be sent to Battalion Headquarters by noon 24th. instant. All Trench Stores, Reserve Rations, Defence Schemes etc. will be taken over and receipts also forwarded to Bn. Hqrs. by 3 a.m. 24th.
8. The present area must be left in a clean and sanitary condition and all shelters, dugouts, etc. sprayed with 5% solution of Cresol by 8 p.m. 23rd.
9. Battalion Headquarters will be at J 17 b 4 7.  
R.A.P. will be at J 17 b 4 7.
10. Completion of relief will be wired to Headquarters as under :-

"A"	PARIS.
"B"	LONDON.
"C"	DUBLIN.
"D"	SCOTLAND.



Lieutenant & Adjutant  
32nd. Battalion A.I.F.

- |                  |                      |  |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Copy No. 1. C.O. | 7. I.O. & R.M.O.     |  |
| 2. "A"           | 8.                   |  |
| 3. "B"           | 9. War Diary.        |  |
| 4. "C"           | 10.                  |  |
| 5. "D"           | 11. 30th. Battalion. |  |
| 6. R.Q.M. & T.O. | 12. File.            |  |



## APPENDIX.

SECRET

## 32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

Order No. 31

APPENDIX. 12

Map Sheet 62 D 1/40,000

26/7/18.

1. The 32nd Battalion will be relieved by the 29th Battalion on the night of 27th/28th inst., and on completion of relief will take over the sector at present held by the 56th Battalion from K 19 d 2 0 to grid line K 13 d 8 0.
2. (a) "C" Coy 29th Battalion will relieve that portion of the line at present held by "D" Coy 32nd Battalion from the left of the Battalion sector to the grid line at K 7 d 2 0., and will take over ALL the trench stores etc., in "D" Coy's sector.  
 (b) "A" Coy 29th Battalion will relieve that portion of the line at present partly held by "D" Coy 32nd Battalion and partly by "B" Coy 32nd Battalion from grid line at K 7 d 2 0. to K 13 b 5 0.  
 (c) "B" Coy 29th Battalion will relieve that portion of the line at present by "B" Coy 32nd Battalion from K 13 b 5 0. to the right of the Battalion sector and will take over ALL stores etc., in "B" Coy's sector.  
 (d) "D" Coy 29th Battalion will relieve "C" Coy 32nd Battalion in support and will take over ALL trench stores in "C" Coy's and "A" Coy's sectors.  
 (e) "A" Coy 32nd Battalion will not be relieved by any Coy of the 29th Battalion.
3. No guides ~~for~~ will be required by Coys for this relief.
4. Strong covering parties will be supplied by "B" and "D" Coys during the relief.
5. All trench stores, defence schemes, and all/relative to the sector will be handed over as advised in Para 3 and receipts will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. by 6 a.m. 28th inst. information
6. On completion of relief each Coy will move into the new sector, and relieve the 56th Battalion. "A" Coy will move at 10 p.m.
7. The disposition of Coys will be:-  
 Right front Coy - "A" Coy holding from K 19 d 2 0 to K 19 b 8 0.  
 Left front Coy - "D" Coy holding from K 19 b 8 0 to grid line at K 13 d 8 0.  
 Support Coy - "B" Coy in the BURKE Line.  
 Reserve Coy - "C" Coy in the COBAR Line.  
 "B" Coy 30th Battalion in the CLERMONT Line. This Coy will move independently from present position, but will be in position in the CLERMONT Line by 12 midnight.  
 Battalion H.Q. will remain in present position until further orders.



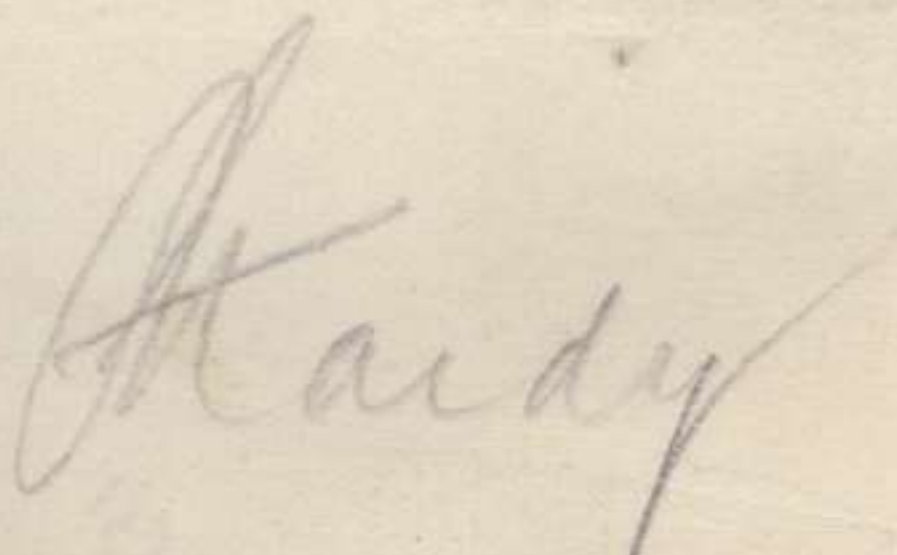
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Order No. 21 Page.2.

R.A.P. will be at J 24 c 2 5.

8. Coys will send 1 Officer 2 M.C.O's and 4 guides per Coy to the new sector during daylight 28th inst. The guides will return and conduct their respective Coys to new positions.
9. All trench stores etc., will be taken over and receipts forwarded together with Disposition Sketches to Battalion H.Q. by 6 a.m. 28th inst.
10. The 56th Battalion will supply covering parties during the relief.
11. A hot meal will be issued to Coys before relief in the present sector. A hot meal will also be issued after arrival in new sector. Dry rations and water will be sent to new sector. Coys will be advised about carrying parties.
12. Completion of relief in each instance will be wired to Battalion H.Q. by the following Code:-
  - "A" Peach.
  - "B" Pear.
  - "C" Apple.
  - "D" Orange.
  - "B" Coy 30th Bn. Cherries.

Copy to	1. C.O.	9. "D" Coy.
	2. Bde H.Q.	10. R.Q.M. & T.O.
	3. 29th Bn.	11. R.M.O.
	4. 56th Bn.	12)
	5. 30th Bn.	13) War Diary.
	6. "A" Coy.	14)
	7. "B" Coy.	15. File.
	8. "C" Coy.	



Lieut. & Adjt.  
32nd Battalion A.I.F.



SECRET

Copy No. 18

## 32ND. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Order No. 32

Reference Map 62 D NE Edition 3a local 1/20,000.

27/7/18.

1. The enemy is holding a trench system opposite the 5th Aust. Div. front on a line approximately K 25 b - K 20 c and A - K 14. c and d - K 8 c & d - K 2 c & a., and thence by a system of posts Northward to Divisional Boundary.
2. (a) On "Z" day and at an hour to be notified later, the 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade will attack and capture the enemy trenches between the points K 20 c 0 2 and K 8 a 3 5 and consolidate on the Green Line as per attached Sketch.  
 (b) The 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will be carrying out a supplementary attack on right against enemy positions in K 25 b & c.  
 (c) Inter-Brigade boundary will be the E & W grid line dividing the squares 19 & 25.
3. The object of operation is:-  
 (a) To inflict loss on enemy.  
 (b) To improve our position with a view to further offensive action.  
 (c) Disorganising the enemy's defensive organisation.
4. (a) The following troops will carry out the attack:-  
 Right - 32nd Battalion with 1 Coy of 30th Battalion attached.  
 Left - 29th Battalion " " " " " "  
 Inter-Battalion Boundary will be BRAY - CORBIE ROAD inclusive to left Battalion.
5. Objectives for 32nd Battalion will be 1st and 2nd lines of enemy system as per attached sketch also line of posts K 20 a 0 0 0 0 - K 20 a 0 4 0 0 - K 20 a 5 0 0 0 - K 20 c 2 0 5 0 - K 20 c 2 0 0 0.
6. Consolidation will be carried out on the above line of posts (GREEN LINE).
7. Distribution of troops:-  
 (a) The Battalion will attack on a 3 Coy front, 3 platoons in 1st wave, 1 platoon in 2nd wave.  
 (b) "A" Coy will be on right, "B" Coy centre, "D" Coy left, "C" Coy support.  
 (c) 2 platoons of "B" Coy 30th Battalion will be attached to "A" Coy, 32nd Battalion, and remain in front line until required.  
 (d) "A" Coy will form a defensive flank as per attached sketch; 2 platoons will be used.

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## APPENDIX.

Order No. <sup>37</sup> 30. Page 2.

Left of Coy Boundary will be a line through K 19 d 7 0 5 0 to K 20 c 2 0 4 0. Left of "B" Coy will be a line through K 19 b 8 0 2 0 to K 20 a 5 0 2 0. Left of "D" Coy will be BRAY-CORBIE ROAD exclusive.

(e) "D" Coy Support platoon will act as Liaison platoon between 29th and 32nd Battalions.

8. (a) Assaulting Coys will be in jumping-off trench at Z - 1 hour (front line).

(b) 2nd wave will assemble 25 yards in rear of front line.

(c) Support Coy will assemble 50 yards in rear of 2nd wave.

(d) "B" Coy 30th Battalion will be in Burke Line and at Zero will move forward to front line.

9. (a) The attack will be made under cover of an Artillery barrage. At ZERO Artillery will fall on line (as per attached sketch) for 3 minutes and will move forward at rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes.

(b) At ZERO plus 3 minutes troops will attack, moving close up to the barrage. 1st wave will take and consolidate final objective (2nd line).

(c) 2nd wave will mop up 1st objective (1st line).

(d) Support Coy will move to 1st objective.

10. Defensive Flank. At ZERO plus minutes "A" Coy will mop up enemy trenches between 53rd Battalion and K 20 c 6 0 2 0. Platoons of 30th Battalion will be used for this at discretion of O.C. A Coy.

11. (a) Lewis Guns and strong fighting patrols will be pushed forward on reaching final objective, to exploit success.

(b) "B" Coy will establish a bomb block at K 20 c 7 7.

12. Carrying parties will be detailed from 30th Bn to form Coy dumps in captured enemy positions.

13. (a) "C" Coy H.Qrs at objective will be at K 20 a 1 0 2 0.

(b) Small dumps will be established in front line at ZERO - 12 hrs consisting of S.A.A., No. 36 Grenades, Lewis Gun ammunition in panniers water, rations, Very Lights, S.O.S. Signals, concertina barbed wire, screw picquets.

(c) Each Coy will carry 6 S.O.S. Signals.

14. A rifle grenade Signal RED over GREEN over YELLOW will be fired to denote that final objective has been reached.



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Order No. ~~32~~ 27 Page 3.  
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15. Synchronisation of watches will be carried out from Brigade H.Q. twice during the 8 hours before Zero.
16. Action of L.T.M.B., 6" Newtons and Machine Guns will be as shown on attached sketch.
17. Contact patrols will be notified later.
18. Coy Commanders on reaching final objectives will detail Lewis Guns for Anti-craft defence.
19. Signal Communication order will be issued separately.
20. Administrative arrangements and Medical orders will be issued separately.
21. Prisoners will be immediately sent back to Battalion H.Q. under escorts from Coys to old front line and thence will be escorted by parties from 30th Battalion.
22. A sap will be pushed through K 25 b 20 9 5. to K 20 c 0 0 2 0 (for flank defence) by 5th Pioneer Battalion.
23. Flanking tapes will be laid for right and left boundaries.
24. Traffic routes will be COOTAMUNDRA Sap & COSY C.T.
25. Battle H.Q.s will be at J 24 c 8 5.
26. Reports and Maps to H.Q.s. with all possible speed.
27. Acknowledge.

Copy to

1. C.O.	11. 53rd Bn.
2. Bde H.Q.s.	12. 8th. L.T.M.B.
3. "A" Coy.	13. 6" Newtons.
4. "B" Coy	14. 5th M.G.Bn.
5. "C" Coy	15. R.Q.M. & T.O.
6. "D" Coy	16. R.M.O.
7. "B" Coy 30th Bn.	17. 14 Coy A.E.
8. 29th Bn.	18-20 War Diary.
9. 30th Bn.	21. File
10. 31st Bn.	22-24 Spare.

Lieut. & Adjt.  
32nd Battalion A.I.F.



259  
SECRET.32nd. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.Copy No. 18  
32.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED WITH OPERATION ORDER NO. 30.

-----000-----

1. DRESS. Battle Order, Entrenching Tool to be worn in front of the body and Waterproof Sheet to be carried folded. Box Respirator will be carried at the alert.
2. RATIONS. The following will be carried in Haversack - IRON RATIONS and 24 Hours Rations. 1 Tin Solidified Alcohol. Water Bottles MUST be filled.
3. STORES. The following munitions and stores will be carried by the attacking troops :-
  - S.A.A. 220 rds. per man.
  - Bombs. 2 No.36 Grenades, 1 No.5 Grenade per man.
  - These will be collected into dumps, under Company arrangements.
  - Aeroplane Flares.- 2 per man. These will be lighted in groups of 3 when called for by Contact Planes.
  - Wirecutters - 1 per section.
  - Picks and Shovels.- 50% of the attacking troops will carry either a pick or shovel, in the proportion of 1 pick to 3 shovels. Tools to be carried on the back under the haversack with the head of the tool resting on the top of the haversack.
  - S.O.S. Signals - 6 per Company.
  - Very Pistols 1".4 per Company.
  - Very Flares - 50 per Company.
  - Rockets - 4 RED over GREEN over YELLOW per Company to be carried by troops taking the final objective.
  - Message Maps - 1 Packet of 5 to be carried by each officer.
  - Sandbags - 2 per man to be carried under the braces across the back. These sandbags to be used for making bomb blocks.
  - No.36 Discharger Cups - 4 per Platoon to be carried.
  - Webley S.A.A.- 24 rounds to be carried by each officer and No.1 of Lewis Guns.
4. DUMPS. A dump containing the following stores will be established under Brigade arrangements in the vicinity of K 19 c 7 7.
 

20,000 rounds S.A.A.	30,000 rounds S.A.A.(M.G).
1,000 No.36 Grenades.	20 Boxes No.24 Grenades.
2 Boxes Very Flares 1".	1,000 Sandbags.
110 Petrol Tins Water.	500 rounds Webley S.A.A.

  - Notice Boards "IN" "OUT" to be placed in position in captured trenches.
  - Battalion Dumps will be established in present front line by 56th. Battalion.
  - An R.E. Dump will be established by 14th. Field Coy. Aust. Engrs. in vicinity of J 24 b 9 0. 1 0. containing the following stores -



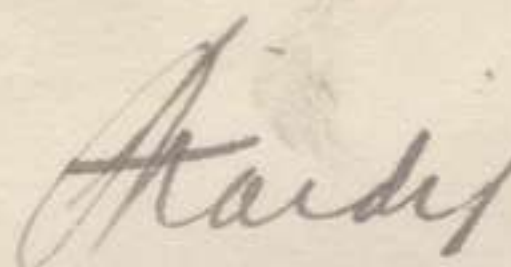
259

## ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS Page 2.

4. DUMPS. 150 shovels 300 long picks  
(contd) 150 picks 50 coils concertina barbed wire.  
2000 sandbags 36 reaping hooks  
12 shelters in sections. 2 rolls camouflage.  
600 medium picks.

Carrying parties will carry 3 long pickets to each coil of concertina barbed wire.

Copy to - Issued to all recipients  
of Battalion Order No. 30.



Lieut. & Adjt.  
32nd Battalion A.I.F.



SECRET.

Copy No. 14

32nd. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.L.T.M.B., NEWTONS AND MACHINE GUNS.

1. 6" Newtons (5) at Zero will open on enemy wire and lift at Zero plus 3 to selected Strong Points and Trenches.
2. (a) Stokes (6) at Zero open on Enemy Wire lifting to Enemy Trenches and Strong Points. *at Zero plus 3.*  
 (b) 1 Stokes Mortar will follow 2nd. Wave of ~~George~~<sup>left</sup> Company and take up a position at K 20 a 2 1.  
 (c) Positions of guns will be decided by O.C. Batteries.
3. Machine Guns. A Barrage will be placed down conforming with Artillery.

Issued to all recipients  
of Battalion Order No. 30.

*Hardy*

Lieutenant & Adjutant.  
32nd. Battalion A.I.F.



259  
SECRET

Copy No.

32ND. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALIONMEDICAL INSTRUCTIONS ISSUEDWITH OPERATION ORDER No. ~~30~~ 32, 27/7/18.  
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1. R.A.P. at J 23 d 8 9.
2. Casualties will be cleared from Area by Coy Stretcherbearers to R.A.P., thence by Field Ambulance to Relay Post - K 17 c 9 5.1 0. From Relay Post to cars at - K 17 b 20 5 0., thence to A.D.S.
3. Relay Post will be established at K 19 a 0 0 4 0.

Copy to - Issued to all recipients  
of Battalion Order No. 30.

*Kardy*  
Lieut. & Adjt.  
32nd Battalion A.I.F.



SECRET

Copy No.

32ND. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALIONSIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS

From Brigade Headquarters to Battalion Headquarters- Bury Cable.

From Battalion Headquarters to Battle Headquarters by telephone ( 5 metallic circuits).

From Battle Headquarters to present Left Coy. Headquarters X 19 d 1 0 9 0. by telephone (3 metallic circuits) also power buzzer and Amplifier Set.

From Left Coy. Headquarters X 19 d 1 0.9 0. to captured position by Telephone and visual signalling.

Visual transmitting station will be established at J 21 a 7 0.0 0.

Copy to - Issued to all recipients  
of Battalion Order No.30.

*Hardy*

Lieut. & Adjt.  
32nd Battalion A.I.F.



NARRATIVE OF OPERATION CARRIED OUT BY /32nd BATTALION  
28th/29th July 1918.

1. The 32nd Battalion, on the night 28th/29th July 1918, in conjunction with 53rd and 29th Battalions (on flanks), carried out an attack on enemy's 1st and 2nd line trenches from K 20 c 0 2 to K 20 a 7 8.

Zero hour was 12.30 a.m.

Two companies ('A' and 'B') of 30th Battalion were attached for tactical use.

The attack was made on a three company front, 3 platoons of each company in 1st wave, 1 platoon in 2nd wave, 1 company in 3rd wave. Two platoons of 'B' Company, 30th Battalion, were attached to 'A' Coy 32nd Battalion for use if required. Two platoons were used for carrying 'A' Company, 30th Battalion were in reserve in COBAR Line.

Troops were in position on 'jumping-off' tapes at 11.30 p.m. and had no casualties.

At 12.30 a.m. the barrage fell, and at Zero + 3 minutes, troops assaulted under cover of a creeping barrage. Artillery was perfect and 1st wave was able to move within 50 yards of barrage. At Zero + 6 the first objective was reached and 25 prisoners and 4 machine guns captured. About 20 enemy were killed.

On left, a strong post was encountered and machine gun and crew were quickly put out of action.

The 2nd Objective was reached at 12.38 a.m. on Right and 12.40 a.m. on Left. Opposition was not heavy but many prisoners were taken.

'A' Company, on Right, formed a defensive flank with two platoons and on 53rd Battalion attacking, two platoons of 'B' Company, 30th Bn came into the attack and extended our flank to link up with the Bn on Right. After passing the 2nd objective, troops rushed hostile posts in rear and consolidated on GREENLINE.

Opposition was met with on Right from a party of enemy about 30 strong. Lieut. TREASURE with 2 sections quickly accounted for these, killing 10 and capturing about 15.

Strong patrols were pushed forward to exploit success. A few prisoners were brought in as a result.

The attack of 53rd Battalion took place at 1.25 a.m. On completion of this operation, our Right flank rested at K 25 b 9 4.

Liaison was maintained on both flanks the whole time.

Consolidation was complete at dawn and two saps were commenced but not completed until following night.

Throughout the operation the spirit of troops was excellent and good work was done with bayonet and rifle.

Enemy retaliated heavily during operation. His artillery opened at Zero + 5 minutes and has been extremely heavy since (48 hours).

**Captures:-**

2 Officers 71 Other Ranks.  
15 Light Machine Guns.  
3 Light M.W.  
Quantity of War material.

Prisoners were from 232nd R.I.B. and 203rd R.I.B.

Our casualties during the assault were light - about 5 killed and 32 wounded. Total casualties for 30 hours ending 6.30 a.m.

30/7/18 were :-

Killed	8 other ranks.
Wounded	2 officers and 61 other ranks.



## Page 2.

Estimated enemy killed, 100.

Enemy trenches, good, about 5 feet deep, 2 feet wide and wired with single row of concertina barbed wire.

A number of dugouts had been commenced but only two completed.

Rations in bags for enemy had just arrived and consisted of brown bread, cold mutton and ham, tinned milk, butter etc.

After the action our troops brought all enemy machine guns and two miniswerfers into action and have been doing good work with them.

Stokes, 6" Newtons, and machine guns were splendid, and helped to a great extent to make the operation a great success.

To the members, of 30th Battalion, too much praise cannot be given as they did such excellent work.

Wank

31st July 1918

Major.  
Commanding 32nd Battalion A.I.F.



SECRET.

32nd. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Copy No. 9

ORDER No. 33.

Ref. Map Sheet. 62d.

30th. July 1918.

1. The 32nd. Battalion will be relieved by the 8th. Battalion East Surreys on the night 31st. July 1st/August 1918.
2. Advance Parties of the 8th. Battalion will move into the line tonight.
3. One Guide from each Platoon and one for Company H.Q. from all Coys. will report to the R.S.M. at Battalion H.Q. at 10 p.m. night 31st. July to guide relieving Coys. into position.
4. Strong Patrols and listening Posts will be supplied by all front line Coys. during the relief.
5. All Trench Stores, Maps, S.O.S. Signals and all information relative to the Sector will be handed over and receipts forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 2 p.m. 31/7/1918.
6. All Lewis Guns & Magazines will be dumped at Ration Dump J 24 b 8 4 after relief and three men per Company will remain with guns to load on limbers. ("B" Coy. will dump their guns and magazines at Road Corner J 18 d 7 0. and leave guard also).
7. Completion of relief will be wired to Battalion Headquarters by code word "GINGER"
8. On completion of relief Coys. will move by shortest routes to road Corner I 24 c 2 4 and will there embuss for ALLONVILLE. Busses will move off at 3 a.m.
9. Lieut. Francis will act as Battalion embussing officer.
10. Hot Tea will be available at embussing point for all ranks.
11. Guides will meet the Battalion at de-bussing point G 6 b 3 0. and guide Coys. to destination H 1 a 5 3. A hot meal will then be issued.
12. P.O. will arrange for Transport of R.Q.M. Store and rear H.Q. to new position.

Copy No. 1. C.O.

2. Bgde.

3. "A"

4. "B"

5. "C"

6. "D"

A.Q.M. &amp; T.O.

I.O. &amp; R.M.O.

Copy No. 9 )

10. )

War Diary.

11. )

12. )

File.

*Handwritten signature*  
 Lieut. & Adjutant.  
 32nd. Battalion A.I.F.