

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/34/30

**Title:** Headquarters, 6th Australian Field  
Artillery Brigade

February 1918



AWM4-13/34/30



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*6<sup>th</sup> Army Brigade Aust. Field Artillery*

FOR

*February* 191*8*

Signature of Officer compiling

*Hughes*

Lieut Colonel

Cmdg 6<sup>th</sup> (Army) Aust. F. A. B. A.I.F

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Hughes*

Lieut Colonel

Cmdg 6<sup>th</sup> (Army) Aust. F. A. B. A.I.F



6<sup>TH</sup> (ARMY)  
AUST. F. A. - BRIGADE

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 28 T 21 D 31.	1/2/18 to 6/2/18.		<u>General Interest:</u> Brigade still in Reserve, and usual camp routine maintained.	
	7/2/18.		The 6 <sup>th</sup> Army Brigade Aust. F. A. placed under the orders of the G.O.C. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust. Division from midnight 6/7 <sup>th</sup> February, and the Batteries took up gun positions as per O.O. KY 1. Batteries are placed under Left Group Artillery, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Australian Divisional Artillery.	O.O. KY 1. attached.
	8/9/2/18		Batteries completing positions & carting ammunition	
	10/2/18.		Operations carried out as per O.O. to 2. Left Group Artillery.	O.O. to 2 attached.
	11/2/18.		Batteries withdrew from their gun pits to their weapon lines, and the Brigade again became Corps Reserve Artillery.	
	12/2/18		Usual camp routine and painting of weapons.	
	19/2/18 20/2/18		Brigade became responsible for reinforcing the northern section of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Division front in case of necessity. As per O.O. KY 1. Gun positions prepared by each Battery and 1500 rounds ammunition put into each position stacked ready for use.	O.O. KY 1. attached.
	24/2/18.		Order issued that Brigade will shortly come under orders of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust. Division and will take part in an offensive operation to be carried out by it, as per O.O. KY 2.	O.O. KY 2 attached.

*He*



WAR DIARY

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or  
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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 28 T 21. D 31.	25/2/18 - 27/2/18 28/2/18.		Batteries preparing their positions as in O.O. Ky 2. and ammunition taken to pits as per addenda to O.O. Ky 2. Batteries took their guns into position after dark.	Addenda to O.O. Ky 2 attached.
			<p><u>General Interest:</u> During the month the personnel of the Brigade were specially instructed in gas drill, special classes were instituted for open laying on moving targets and the signallers were given special instruction in flag and lamp signalling.</p> <p>In the Corps Sports competitions the 6<sup>th</sup> Army Brigade A. F. A. football and rugby teams were unbeatable and in the boxing competitions our representatives qualified for the finals next month.</p> <p>Concerts were given by the Brigade weekly and proved a great success.</p>	
			<p><u>Fighting Strength</u> 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 1918. 36 Officers 1007 O.Rs. " 28<sup>th</sup> " " 41 " 1021 "</p>	

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6<sup>TH</sup> (ARMY)  
AUST. F. A. BRIGADE

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 24 T21 D21.	24/2/18.		<p><u>Officers marched in:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2/Lieut Currie A.B. 6/2/18. from O.T.C.</li> <li>Capt Lenehan B.H. 9/2/18 " Hospital</li> <li>2/Lieut Cowan R.B. " " R.B.A.A.</li> <li>Capt Bowland J.H. 19/2/18 " 20<sup>th</sup> Hesters at Hostenester.</li> <li>" Leaper G.D.M.C. 16/2/18 from Hospital.</li> <li>Lieut Baker G.S. 24/2/18 " "</li> </ul> <p><u>Officers marched out:</u> Capt J.D. Leaper M.C. 26/2/18 to Base.</p> <p><u>Casualties:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 O.R. Killed in action 10/2/18</li> <li>1 " died of wounds 12/2/18</li> <li>1 " wounded. 22/2/18.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reinforcements marched in from Base:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21 O.Rs. 15/2/18.</li> </ul> <p><u>Honors &amp; Awards:</u> Belgian Croix de Guerre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major C.B. Linton M.C. A.A.M.C. attached.</li> <li>1845 W.O. A.H. Duke. 14<sup>th</sup> Battery.</li> <li>8740 Sgt X.J.J. Ballantyne 6<sup>th</sup> B.A.C.</li> <li>13378 Pdr R.J. Kilby 14<sup>th</sup> Battery.</li> </ul>	

HC



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Honors &amp; Awards cont:</u>	
			<p>Capt. C. C. Linson M. C. who has consistently since the SOMME Battle in July 1916 been conspicuous for gallantry in action &amp; undeterred devotion to duty. During the operations near HOOGE in Sept. Oct 1917 when batteries were being heavily casualties in a continually barraged area attached himself to a battery &amp; established an aid post on the MENIN ROAD in the centre of the barrage zone. His services were utilized night &amp; day by all troops in the locality, &amp; during the whole period his fearless devotion to duty in attending wounded on this road under heavy fire &amp; his bravery throughout the operations in moving quickly to tend the wounded in each battery as it was being shelled, had an effect of the highest value to all the troops in the area.</p>	
			<p>1875 W. O. A. H. Duke was B. S. M. of 17<sup>th</sup> Battery throughout Sept. Oct. low operations in the PASCHEN DAELE sector. During the Sept. Oct. operations the ammunition had to be brought up by pack horses thro constant &amp; very heavy shelling. W. O. Duke had charge of the arrangements throughout, bringing the teams thro extraordinary shelling on a great number of occasions. During two engagements when the battery was very short of ammunition he obtained &amp; brought it thro heavy barrages, whilst surrounding 18 Pdr Batteries did not get their supplies hours afterwards. Throughout he displayed greatest courage &amp; resource, inspiring drivers with his own spirit, &amp; enabling the battery to continue operations when at times the shortage of ammunition was most acute.</p>	

HC



WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Honors & awards cont.	8/4/40		<p>Section Lt. J. J. Ballantine; During operations in Sept, Oct-Nov. in PASCHEN DAELE extremely heavy during those operations, he had charge of ammunition carrying parties. He displayed splendid courage in the face of heavy shelling, directing his men in such a manner as to save the personnel, at the same time keeping the batteries supplied with ammunition. Subsequently he was one of a party salvaging guns in SANCTUARY WOOD under heavy shell fire. He worked unceasingly for some hours, rallied the remainder of the party, &amp; set a splendid example of coolness &amp; courage. On four men being wounded &amp; one killed by a shell, he remained &amp; assisted the wounded out of the shelled area at the risk of his own life.</p>	
	13/3/40	8	<p>Bdr R. J. Kilby, during the operations in the PASCHEN DAELE section of Sept-Oct, Nov. showed throughout a fine example of courage &amp; endurance. During an action in Oct. whilst the battery was under very heavy bombardment, this N.C.O. without relief due to heavy casualties amongst the battery staff, stuck to his post with grim endurance for 24 hours, thereby enabling communications to Group H.Q. (and O.P. to be maintained. In late Oct &amp; early Nov. the battery staff was reduced to three in number &amp; for 10 days Bdr Kilby took charge of it, instructing at the same time drivers in telephone duties in action. During this period the battery was subjected to constant H.E. &amp; gas shelling (over 60 casualties in 12 days) &amp; tho' only fit for hospital, this N.C.O. stuck most gallantly to his post.</p>	

*Harry Cole*  
Lient Colonel  
Cmdg 6<sup>th</sup> (Army) Aust. F. A. B. A.I.F.



## WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

OF

6<sup>th</sup> Army Brigade Aust. F.A.

FOR

February 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	✓ O.O. Ky 1.
2.	✓ O.O. To 2.
3.	✓ O.O. Ky 1.A.
4.	✓ O.O. Ky 2.
5.	✓ Addenda to O.O. Ky 2.
6.	Standing orders for operations.



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COPY NO 9  
APPENDIX 1

SIXTH ARMY BRIGADE AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY.

SECRET.

Ref. Map Sheet 28 S.W.  
1/20,000.

OPERATION ORDER KY 1.

1. The Brigade will take up positions for an offensive operation to be carried out shortly as follows:-

16th Battery. One of the following positions to be chosen by the O.C. of the Battery:

- U.14.a.7.6.
- U. 2.c.4.3.
- U. 7.a.2.3. ✓
- U.7.c.51.67
- U.8.c.70.00
- U.14.a.40.60

- 17th Battery.
- 18th Battery.
- 106th Battery.

2. The Brigad will move into action on the night of 7/8th February 1918. The move is to take place during the hours of darkness. On arrival in action Batteries will come under the orders of the O.C. Left Group, 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery, whose Headquarters are at B.21.d.2.1.

3. O.C. Signals will render such co-operation and assistance to the Signal Officer, Left Group 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery, as the latter may require.

4. Arrival into action is to be reported to Left Group, 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery, and to this office.

5. One sub-section B.A.C. (18 Pdr) is placed at disposal of O.C. 16th Battery and Howitzer sub-section B.A.C. is placed at the disposal of O.C. 106th Battery. They will arrange direct with the O.C. 6th B.A.C. as to employment.

6. Acknowledge.

Issued at / p.m.  
February 7th 1918

*A. Roberts*  
Adjutant, 6th Army Brigade A.F.A.

DISTRIBUTION.

- |         |   |                                     |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Copy No | 1 | 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery |
|         | 2 | 16th Battery                        |
|         | 3 | 17th Battery                        |
|         | 4 | 18th Battery                        |
|         | 5 | 106th Battery                       |
|         | 6 | 6th B. A. C.                        |
|         | 7 | Left Group, 3rd A.D.A.              |
|         | 8 | File                                |
|         | 9 | War Diary.                          |



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SECRET.

Copy No. 2

LEFT GROUP ARTILLERY

OPERATION ORDER No. 2.

Issued by Major S. G. ROWE, D.S.O., a/c.o.

Reference Map : Sheet WARNETON, 1/10,000 9th. February, 1918.

- INTENTION. 1. 3rd. Aust. D.A.H.Q. Operation Order No. 43 and the Raid referred to in Left Group Artillery Operation Order No. 1, will be carried out on "Z" Day, the 10/2/1918, at an hour to be notified later.
- COMMAND. 2. Command of the Artillery during the Raid will devolve upon the C.R.A., 3rd. Aust. Division -- Headquarters RAVELSBERG.
- TASKS. 3. Detailed tasks for Batteries are contained in Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 hereto; Schedule 2, 10-pdrs Schedule 3 -- 4.5" Howitzers. Tracing showing Battery Tasks is attached for all Batteries.
- DURATION OF RAID. 4. Raid will last until Zero plus 45 mins. when all guns, except those in Counter-battery work, cease fire unless orders regarding their continuance are received.
- INSTANTANEOUS FUZES. 5. NO instantaneous fuzes will be used during the Raid.
- S.O.S. Signal. 6. S.O.S. Signal will be incorporative on the front to be raided from Zero minus 30 mins. to Zero plus sixty minutes.
- LIAISON OFFICER with O.C. Raid. 7. Lieut. C.L.G. PARLINSON is detailed as Liaison Officer to accompany the O.C. Raid (Captain F. D. FAIRWEATHER, M.C.) and will report by 4 p.m. 9-2-1918, to this Headquarters for instructions. A direct line to 3rd. Aust. D.A.H.Q. is being arranged for this Liaison Officer.
- ALTERNATIVE GAS PROGRAMME. 8. Direction and velocity of the wind will be phoned from this office every hour from 7 p.m. on "Z" DAY. If gas shells are not to be used the code "Ref. Appendix "B" NAPOO" will be sent through by phone.
- SYNCHRONISATION OF WATCHES. 9. An Officer from each Battery will be detailed to synchronise watches at 108th. Battery Position (U.14.c.50.10) at 6.30 p.m. on "Z" DAY, 10/2/1918.
- REPORTS. 10. Until Zero hour "Z" Day, reports to Left Group Artillery Headquarters (T.21.d.20.10) From Zero hour to completion of Operation, reports to 3rd. Aust. D.A.H.Q., RAVELSBERG.

Acknowledge by wire.

Major,  
a/c.o., Left Group Artillery.

Issued at 2 p.m. 9-2-1918.

Distribution/



APPENDIX 2

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No. 1:	3rd. D.A.H.W.	by D.R.L.S. (for informati
2:	C.O., 6th. Aust. A.F.A. Bds.	by Runner do.
3:	Right Group Artillery	by D.R.L.S. do.
4:	Northern (Messinas) Gp. Art.	by D.R.L.S. do.
5:	10th. Aust. Inf. Bde.	do. without map.
6:	Lt-Col. W. Churchus, D.S.O.	do. for informati
7:	16th. Battery	by Runner do.
8:	17th. do.	do.
9:	18th. do.	do.
10:	100th. do.	do.
11:	15th. do.	do.
12:	26th. do.	do.
13:	27th. do.	do.
14:	107th. do.	do.
15:	29th. do.	do.
16:	30th. do.	do.
17:	31st. do.	do.
18:	100th. do.	do.
19:	Forward Liaison Officer	do. for informati
20:	C.O.	
21:	War diary (without map)	
22:	do.	do.
23:	do.	do.
24:	File.	do.
25:	Spare.	do.
26:	Spare.	do.



30 JUL 2.

TABLE OF BATTERY TASKS @ 18-pdr.

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Ref; Maps: Sheet WARELTON 1/20,000

"2" DAY RAID

Battery	Task	Objective	Time	Amun. & rate of fire.	Total	Remarks
16th. Bty.	Bombard	Front Line Trench from - U.11.d.86.42 to U.11.b.31.06. - (60yds. a gun)	Zero to Zero plus 4 mins.	4 rds. p.g.p.m.	47 A 47 AX 2 AS	2 rds. smoke shell per Bty. in first salvo only on F.L.
25th. Bty.	do.	ditto	Zero to Zero plus 4 mins.	do.	47 A 47 AX 2 AS	ditto
27th. Bty.	do.	Front Line Trench from -U.18.a.30.30 to U.18.a.30.47	ditto	do.	46 A 48 AX 2 AS	ditto
26th. Bty.	do.	F. L. T. from U.18.a.30.47 to U.18.a.27.66	ditto	do.	do.	ditto
29th. Bty.	do.	F. L. T. from U.18.a.27.66 to U.18.a.28.17.82	ditto	do.	do.	ditto
18th. Bty.	4 guns do.	F. L. T. from U.18.a.17.82 to U.18.a.12.99	ditto	do.	do.	} ditto
	2 guns do.	Strong Point at - U.12.c.31.06	ditto	do.	do.	
30th. Bty.	Bombard	F. L. T. from U.18.a.12.99 to U.12.c.07.16	ditto	do.	do.	ditto
31st. Bty.	do.	F. L. T. from U.12.c.07.16 to U.11.d.97.28	ditto	do.	do.	ditto
17th. Bty.	do.	F. L. T. from U.11.d.97.28 to U.11.d.86.42	ditto	do.	do.	ditto

APPENDIX

OVER:-



Battery	Task	Objective	Time	Armn. & rate of fire	Total	Remarks
16th. Bty.	Bombard	F.L.T. from U.11.d.86.42 to U.11.b.81.06	Zero plus 4 min to Zero plus 8	4 rds. p.g.p.m.	48 A 48 AX	
25th. Bty.	Enfilade	Railway Embankment from U.11.d.89.42 to U.12.c.50.92 (70 yds. a gun)	ditto	ditto	do.	
27th. Bty.	Bombard	Support Trench U.18.a.80.62 - U.18.a.67.77	ditto	ditto	do.	
26th. Bty.	do.	" " U.18.a.67.77 - U.18.a.57.92	ditto	ditto	do.	
29th. Bty.	do.	" " U.18.a.57.92 - U.12.c.47.06	ditto	ditto	do.	
18th. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.47.06 - U.12.c.40.22	ditto	ditto	do.	
30th. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.40.22 - U.12.c.35.38	ditto	ditto	do.	
31st. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.35.38 - U.12.c.32.57	ditto	ditto	do.	
17th. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.32.57 - U.12.c.22.70	ditto	ditto	do.	
16th. Bty.	Bombard	F.L.T. from U.11.d.86.42 - U.11.b.81.06	Zero plus 3 min to zero plus 45	2 rds. p.g.p.m.	222 A 222 AX	
25th. Bty.	Enfilade	Railway Embankment from U.11.d.89.42 to U.12.c.50.92	ditto	1 round p.g.p.m.	111 A 111 AX	
27th. Bty.	Bombard	Line from U.18.b.10.80 - U.18.b.00.96	ditto	2 rounds p.g.p.m.	222 A 222 AX	
26th. Bty.	do.	" " U.18.b.00.96 - U.12.c.92.12	ditto	do.	do.	
29th. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.92.12 - U.12.c.85.27	ditto	do.	do.	
18th. Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.85.27 - U.12.c.76.44	ditto	do.	do.	

APPENDIX 2

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## SCHEDULE 2 (cont'd)

Battery	Task	Objective	Time	Amun. & rate of fire	Total	Remarks
30th.Bty.	Bombard	Line from U.12.c.76.44 - U.12.c.67.60	Zero plus 3min to Zero plus 45	2 rounds p.g.p.m.	222 A 222 AI	
31st.Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.67.60 - U.12.c.59.76	ditto	do.	do.	
17th.Bty.	do.	" " U.12.c.59.76 - U.12.c.50.92	ditto	do.	do.	



SCHEDULE 3.  
TASKS - 4.5" Hows.

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Battery	Task	Objective	Time	Ammn.	Total	Remarks
106th.	Bombard	CHURCH Dugouts (4 hows) and search dug-outs (2 hows) from U.12.b.44.50-U.12.b.35.42 called target "C" in alternative Gas programme Appendix "B" above mentioned	Zero plus 0 to zero plus 45 mins.	1 rd. p.g.p.e.	222 BX or as per expenditure in Gas programme	
108th.	do.	SPECIAL GROUP - T.Hs. M.Gs. and dugouts called Target "D" in alternative Gas programme Appendix "B" above mentioned.	ditto	do.	ditto.	
107th. less 1 section.	do.	DUG-OUTS along railway from U.12.c.17.66 to U.12.c.50.90	ditto	do.	148 BX.	
107th. (1 Sect)	Form Smoke screen	U.18 central to U.18.c.65.47	Zero to Zero plus 45 mins.	3 rnds. per gun till zero plus 8 min 1 rd. p.g. per min. thereafter	61 BX 61 BS	50 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> BS 50 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> BX

NOTE :-

Alternative Gas Programme for 4.5" Howitzers is shown in Appendix "B" to 3rd. Aust. D.A.H.C. Operation Order No.43.

APPENDIX 2  
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SCHEDULE 3.

"Z" DAY RAID

TASKS - 4.5" Howg.

Battery	Task	Objective	Time	Ammn.	Total	Remarks
106th.	Bombard	Line - U.12.c.46.21 - U.13.a.72.88	Zero to Zero plus 4 mins.	2 rnds. p.g.p.m.	48 BX	No 106 or other instantaneous fuzes to be used throughout raid.
108th.	do.	Support Line from U.13.a.78.66 to U.13.a.52.99	ditto	ditto	48 BX	<u>TOWER GROUP</u> Co-ordinates as per Appendix III, 3rd. D.A.H.C. O.O. 43.- Remarks Column
107th. less 1 Section	do.	" " from U.13.a.52.99 to U.12.c.39.22	ditto	ditto	32 BX	<u>BRIDGE</u> T.Ms. etc. ditt
106th.	do.	<u>TOWER GROUP</u> , T.Ms. M.Gs. and Dug-outs	Zero plus 4 mins to zero plus 6 mins.	2 rnds. p.g.p.m.	48 BX	<u>CHURCH</u> dug-outs ditto <u>SPECIAL GROUP</u> - ditto
108th.	do.	<u>BRIDGE GROUP</u> : T.Ms. M.Gs. and Dug-outs called <u>TARGET "A"</u> in alternative gas programme Appendix "B" of 3rd. D.A.H.C. O.O. No. 43	do.	do.	48 BX or as per ex- pendi- ture in Gas pro- gramme.	
107th. less 1 section.	do.	<u>DUG-outs</u> along Railway Front from U.12.c.17.66 to U.12.c.50.90	do.	do.	48 BX	

OVER:-

APPENDIX 2

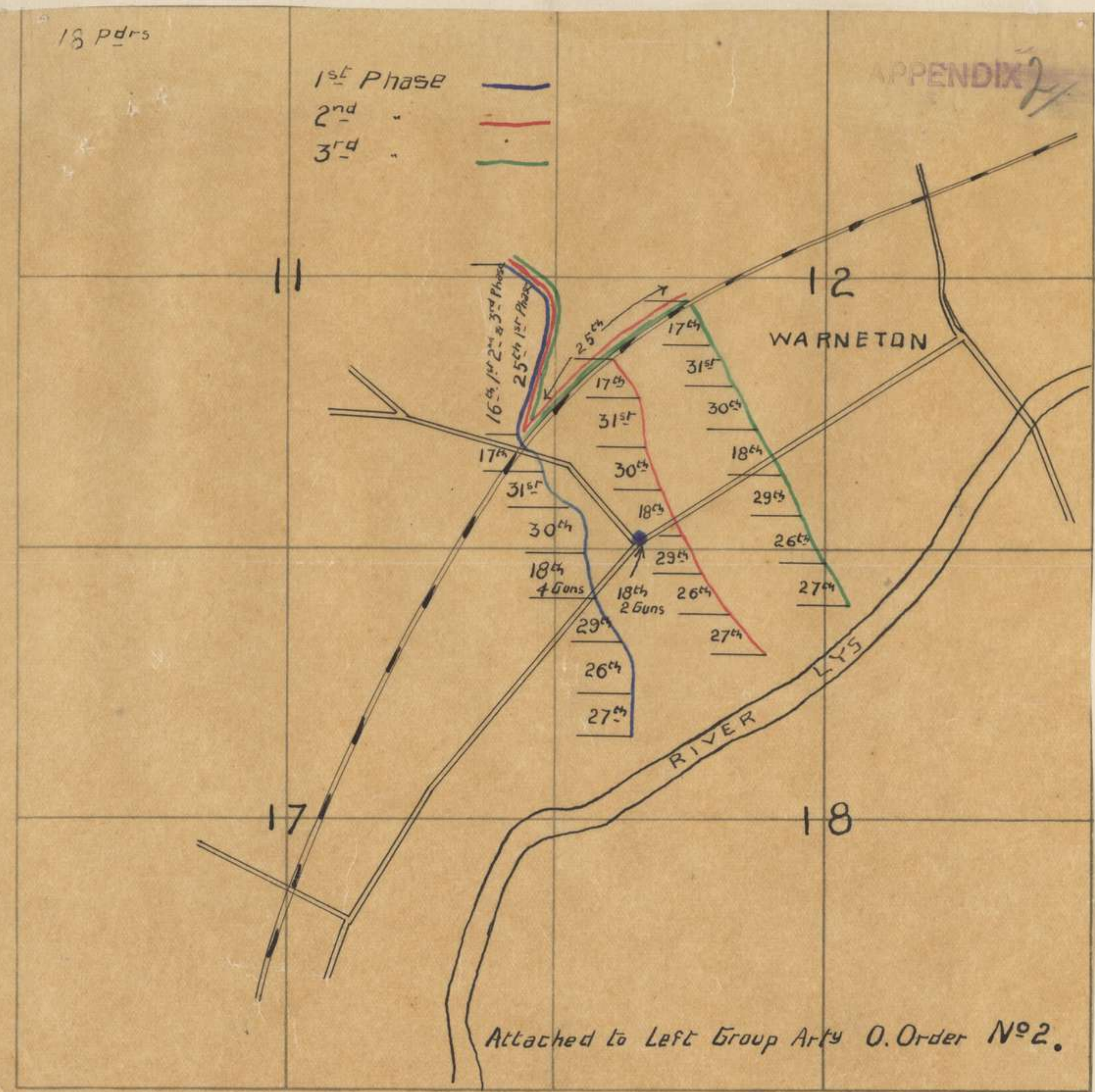
378



18 pdrs

1<sup>st</sup> Phase ——— (blue line)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> " ——— (red line)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> " ——— (green line)

APPENDIX 2



Attached to Left Group Arty O. Order No 2.

APPENDIX 2

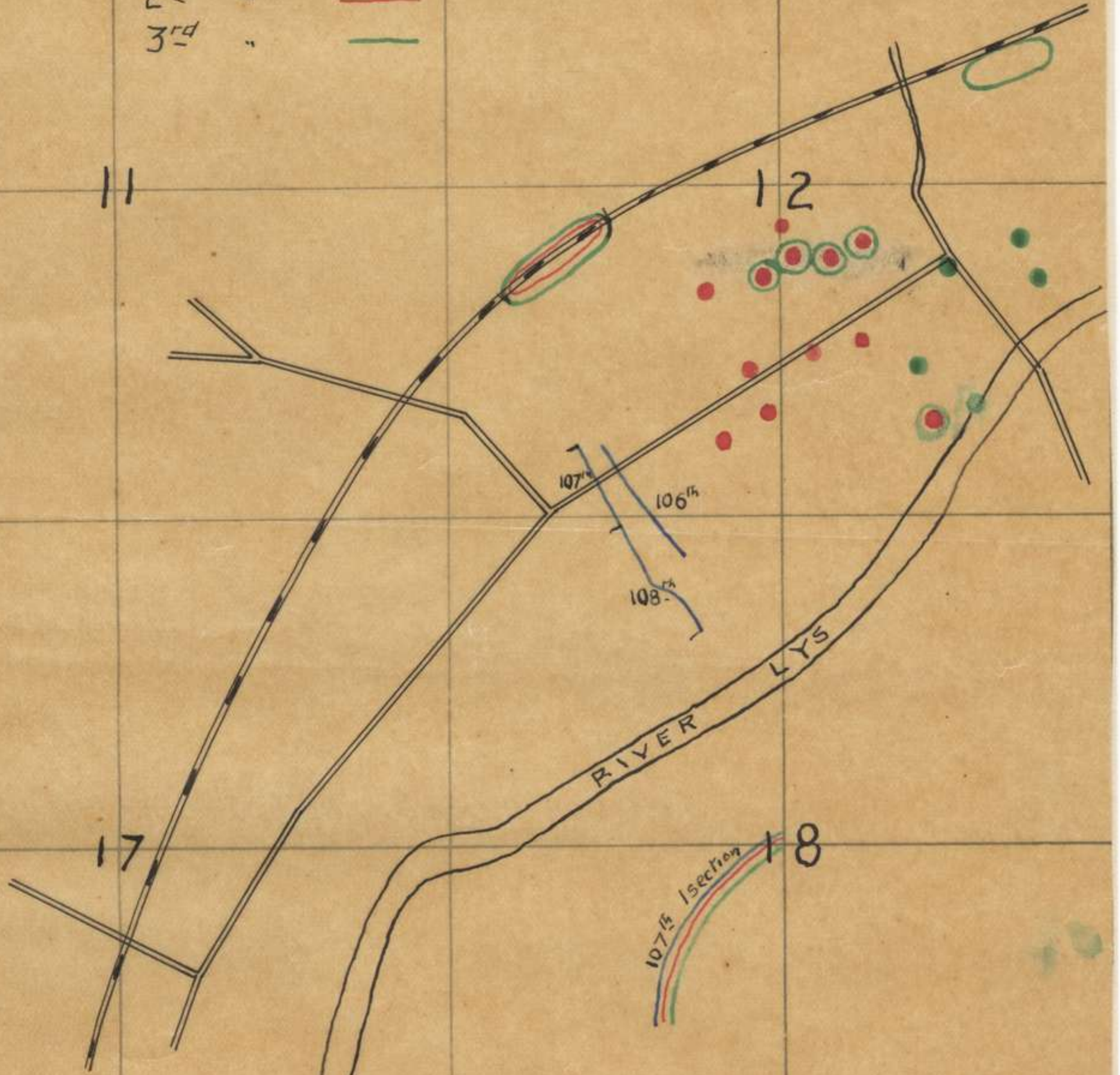


app. 2

4.5 Hows

1<sup>st</sup> Phase ———  
 2<sup>nd</sup> " ———  
 3<sup>rd</sup> " ———

APPENDIX 2



Attached to Left Group. Artillery Order No 2



SIXTH ARMY BRIGADE AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY.S E C R E T.

APPENDIX 3

OPERATION ORDER. KY. 1. A.

1. The Brigade is responsible for reinforcing the Northern Sector of the 5th Australian Division front in case of necessity and arrangements in this respect as set out below are forthwith to be carried out.
2. Battery Commanders accompanied by one Subaltern and necessary horse-holders will parade mounted at this Headquarters at 9:30 a.m. on 20th inst. Midday meal to be carried. They will subsequently report to the C.O. Hollebeke Group who will allot them their positions in the Forward Zone to be prepared by each Battery. Battery Commanders will inspect and report on these positions. They will reconnoitre the route to the same from their present Waggon Lines and they will select and report on Waggon Lines to be occupied in the event of these positions being taken up by their Batteries.
3. When the allotted positions have been reported on and upon notification from this office Battery Commanders will forthwith proceed to carry out the following operations in the order named:
  - (a) Re-section of positions.
  - (b) Preparation of Gun platforms.
  - (c) Preparation of Control Posts
  - (d) Planting of Aiming Posts.
  - (e) Dumping at positions of 200 rounds per Gun with weather proof protection.
4. Upon completion of this work similar work will be under-taken upon allotted positions in the Corps Zone with the exception of 3 (e)
5. From 20th inst. Batteries will be prepared to move Guns with necessary crews and Officers to man O.P. and the Battery Positions into the reinforcement position at 2 hours notice. Occupation of the new Waggon lines and completion of the move will not be expected within this period but within the usual six hours notice. For this purpose guns will be kept, as far as training and work permit, ready packed with stores, harness assembled and sufficient drivers for this duty in hand.
6. Progress reports upon the work done will be submitted daily by telephone to this office at 6 p.m.
7. O.C. Signal Sub-section will reconnoitre telephone communication of the allotted positions both to Group Headquarters and to O.P. and report upon any work necessary to be done.
8. Acknowledge.

Issued at 6 p.m.  
February 19th, 1918.

*J. Roberts Lieut*  
Adjutant, 6th Army Brigade A.F.A.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1	16th Battery
	2	17th do
	3	18th do
	4	106th do
	5	File
	6	War Diary
<u>For information to</u>		
Copy No	7	6th Army B.A.C.
	8	5th Aust. Divisional Artillery
	9	S.O.R.A. Aust. Corps.



319

SECRET.

COPY NO 6

18

SIXTH ARMY BRIGADE AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY.

APPENDIX 4

Ref. Map. Sheet 28 S.W.  
1/30,000.

OPERATION ORDER. KV. 2

1. The Brigade will shortly come under the orders of the 3rd Australian Division and will take part in an offensive operation to be carried out by it.
2. On a date to be subsequently notified, called "W" day all Batteries of the Brigade will occupy positions as follows:
 

16th Battery	U.7.a.51.23
17th do	U.7.c.51.67
18th do	U.8.c.70.00
106th do	U.14.a.40.60
3. Batteries will move into action on the night "W/X" The move to take place during the hours of darkness. Arrival to be reported to this office and to Left Group, 3rd Australian Division Artillery.
4. On arrival into action Batteries will come under the orders of C.O. Left Group, 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery whose Head Quarters are at T.21.d.30.10.
5. O.C. Signal Sub-section will render such co-operation and assistance to Signal Officer of Left Group, 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery, as the latter may require.
6. If any Battery Commander requires assistance in the transport of Ammunition he will requisition on this office for a sub-section of the 6th Army B.A.C. stating the nature of ammunition which he requires to be transported.
7. Acknowledge.

Issued at 8 p.m.  
February 24th, 1918.

*A. Roberts - Lieut*  
Adjutant, 6th Army Brigade A.F.A.

- No 1 To 16th Battery
- 2 17th Battery
- 3 18th Battery
- 4 106th Battery
- 5 File
- 6 War Diary

- Copy for information to:
- No 7 to S.O.R.A. Aust. Corps
  - 8 3rd Aust. Div. Artillery
  - 9 Left Group
  - 10 6th Army B.A.C.
  - 11 5th Aust. Div. Artillery



SECRET.

ADDENDA TO OPERATION ORDER KY 2.

APPENDIX 5

1. "W" day will be 28th February 1918.
2. Ammunition for registration and for the operation has been allotted as follows:

<u>Battery</u>	<u>A.</u>	<u>AX.</u>	<u>AB.</u>	<u>BX.</u>	<u>BX.106</u>
16th	1900	800	20		
17th	1090	710			
18th	1090	710			
106th				1200	900

16th Battery. Ammunition will arrive at PEACE SIDING at 6 p.m. today. An off-loading party will report there at that time and the ammunition will be packed to the Battery position.

17th Battery. O.C. will detail a responsible N.C.O. to act as guide to report to First Section 3rd D.A.C. at S.30.a.O.O. at 3 p.m. today to guide ammunition waggons to Battery position. An unloading party is to be at the Battery position when the ammunition arrives.

18th Battery. O.C. will detail a responsible N.C.O. as guide to report to 2nd Section 3rd D.A.C. at A.12.b.7.6. SPALDING CAMP at 3 p.m. today to guide ammunition waggons to Battery position. An unloading party is to be at the Battery position when the ammunition arrives.

106th Battery. O.C. will detail 2 responsible N.C.Os. as guides to report to 1st and 2nd Sections 3rd D.A.C. at the above map references at 3 p.m. to guide ammunition waggons containing BX.684 to Battery position. Unloading party to be at the Battery position when the ammunition arrives. Remaining ammunition for 106th Battery to be drawn at ROMARIN DUMP on the night of 28/2/18/1/3/18 O.C. 106th Battery will call upon one Section of 6th B.A.C. to help cart this ammunition, if necessary.

3. Artillery Boards will be available on application to this office.
4. Acknowledge.

ADJUTANT 6TH BRIGADE  
FIELD ARTILLERY A.I.F.

5. 5



STANDING ORDERS FOR OPERATIONS.

1. The object of these orders is to lay down certain definite rules of conduct for the occupation and fighting of positions by the Batteries of the Brigade so as to avoid the constant repetition of matters of principle in orders dealing with particular operations. These orders will be adhered to in all cases when they are not specifically ruled out by a particular order for any operation.
2. The personnel at the Gun Pits will always have in their possession 24 Rifles each of which will be definitely allotted to an individual, who, so far as the numbers employed will permit, will be at liberty to use it in the event of close hostile attack. All fighting personnel at the Gun Pits will ~~be~~ at all times carry 50 rounds of rifle ammunition in the bandolier.
3. When they are obtainable a stock of Mills Bombs will be kept at Battery positions available for employment in the event of a close attack.
4. The Battery position will be wired to resist hostile attacks by mounted troops. Concertina wire, if procurable, is to be used reinforced by barbed entanglements at a height of not more than one foot pegged. In constructing these defences the flanks and where necessary the rear will be completed before the front protected by the guns.
5. The Lewis Gun allotted to the Battery will be similarly placed under defensive protection of the Pits and should be situate so as to give flanking protection. Closeness to the Battery position is not necessary and the nature of the country must in each instance be regarded. In any event this gun should be 200 to 300 yards from the Battery position.
6. It is to be accepted as a general principle that a Battery will not retire from any position occupied without orders. It will defend its position against any close attack by means of its own fire, its rifles and its Lewis gun. To cover our own infantry the guns must be ready to take any risk and loss of material is then fully justified. With a view to covering Battery Commanders it is definitely laid down that unless the defence scheme for any particular locality or the subsequent orders vary, the Battery will in every instance fight to a finish.
7. On the occupation of any new position the following report will be required from each Battery with the greatest rapidity compatible with the operations in hand and in any event within 24 hours:
  - (a) The arc covered by the Guns.
  - (b) The view obtainable from each O.P. and Command Post.
  - (c) The work and time required to obtain direct laying on a hostile close attack.
  - (d) The dead ground, if any, consequent on the concealment of the guns. This includes what ground can be covered within our own lines.
  - (e) Work and time required to change positions to alternate or retired defensive position.

Headquarters,  
February 24th, 1918.

*H. Roberts*  
Adjutant 6th Brigade  
Field Artillery A. I. F.