

AWM4

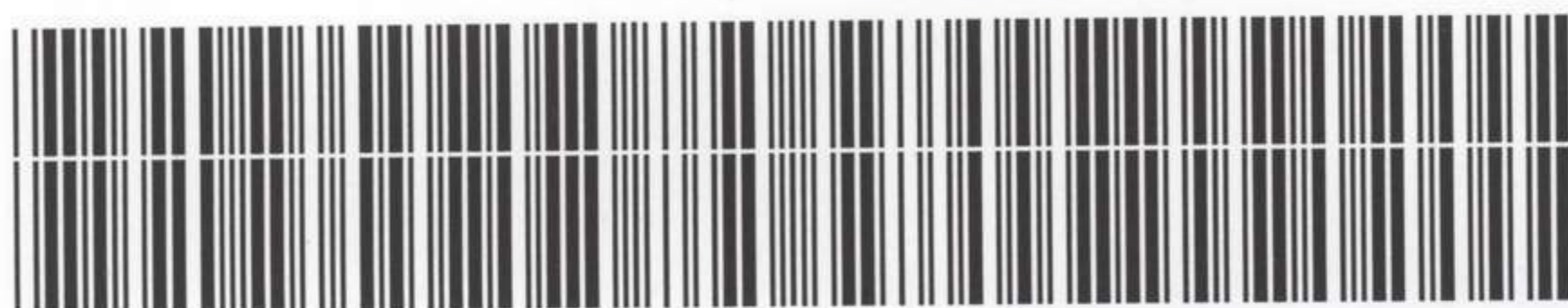
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Infantry

Item number: 23/37/27 PART 2

Title: 20th Infantry Battalion

October 1917 Duplicate appendices



AWM4-23/37/27PART2

26th May

5/10/17

Dear Bill

Memoranda are the
war diary entries to the date
you took over. All appendices
are as you will see, original
only, and will have to be
prepared in triplicate. It's rather
a job. You will be able to
get the duplicate of maps from
Linn. — I asked him to
keep two. The best
way to show happenings from
the fourth to the 11th is
as I showed them on last
month's diary sheets thus:

Pages 4 th	} Appendices 1 to 6
" 10	
" 11 th	

Entries to the fourth — plus
changes in officers from your
records — are:—

1st Gordon Area Working parties went
forward laying duck board
tracks. Lt. Remire marched
in with volunteer stretcher

2
bearing party. 2nd Lt. Clark
relieved 4th Lt. Banfield with
5th field bay Engineers. Several
casualties were caused by
cero. bombs.

2nd Working parties went forward
again. Officers went forward
to reconnoitre the forward area.
Lt. W. Millan and 70 O.Rs. went
forward as staff for pumping
duyouts. 6 pm. The Battery
moved to Esplanade Camp.
Parties again went forward
working. Orders for the
operation were received.



the mine
 by the
 on ^{XVI} the
 although the region
 that front
 the jumping off point on
 hour and a half after
 the attack had commenced.
 Just before dark
 our barrage came down
 on the forward slope of
 Passendale ridge
 effectually dispersing any
 counter attack that
 may have been
 developing. The battalion
 was relieved that
 evening in its front
 line by the forty sixth
 battalion. The action
 had cost us the following

- officers: - Capt. F. L. Hall. M.C. W.D.
 Lt. Mason "
 " M. Gill "
 - Lums: missing
 - Edwards "
 - W. Seal. wounded

Notes on "Summary of operations"

5th at 7.30 pm. the enemy barrage came down very heavily on the support line and continued till seven fifty when it slackened and died out.

at ten pm. our practice barrage was put down.

at 10.13 pm. an S.O.S. was sent up from the front line, and a few minutes later the enemy barrage was put down. at 10.21 enemy planes seemed to be getting closer, but by 10.25 it was found that every thing on the front was normal.

6th at eleven am. word was received that the battalion was moving to a new position. Shortly after Major Stobber, 17th Bn, advised that the 17th and 20th would probably have to do the attack instead of the 18th and 19th battalions as the former having had heavy losses from trench feet. at three

2

fourteen pm. a mine was
recovered for the b. I. to see
the G. O. C. at five pm.
Shortly after the b. I. left for
Bde. B. Q. at seven fifteen
he returned and called a
meeting of boy commanders
to give them orders
regarding the move.
Shortly after, the Bde. removal
orders came to hand.

The conditions during
this day were indescribably
miserable. The support
trenches in which the
battalion lay, were sandy
and soon began to collapse.

Due to the heavy
shelling the ground had
been subjected to, tracks
became threads of sticky
quicksand winding between
shell hole lakes - the
ground having been churned
and lifted into powder.

7th At six fifteen am a practice
barrage was put down
but brought little retaliation.
A similar barrage, however,

at eleven thirty pm. produced heavy retaliation.

at 9.30 am. company officer left to reconnoitre the new position and at the same time relieving battalion's officers arrived to look over the position.

Our relief was completed without a hitch, but the ^{heavy} barrage which came down about five o'clock caught "a" Coy in the heavy mud on the way to relieve the 25th Batten. "b" Coy

delayed their movement until after the barrage had died down, and had to move in the dark. As a consequence

both they and Batten. The position lost heavily in the treacherous mud between the two positions.

The distance was but eight hundred yards, and the time taken, an hour and a half.

8th Battalion mounted about midway of the line of the trench.

The new support position was found to be held heavily and casualties were numerous. From now on the question of stretcher bearers was acute. One had to be cleared to Jouncheke, a distance of nearly a thousand yards through a quagmire.

The stretcher bearers that remained again showed their qualities of magnificent endurance and courage. During the morning Major Colne, 17th Batts. advised that the 17th and 50th Batts. would probably have to do the attack instead of the 98th and 14th - the former having suffered heavily from trench feet.

This was confirmed at midday from Bde. Headquarters, and preparations were immediately made for its attack.

9th at four am. Lt. Linnis
 made a party which
 forward to establish a
 forward report centre,
 the lieutenant going with
 him to locate the
 position and supervise
 the wiring up on the
 jumping off tape. ~~the~~
~~man~~ at five twenty
 when our barrage opened
 it was noticed to be very
 ragged and thin - about
 100 yards to the rear of
 the barrage line. A
 couple of minutes later
 the enemy S.O.S. was seen
 all along the line, and
 at five forty the enemy
 barrage came down
 heavily behind the
 jumping off line and on
 the support line. By
 5.50 it began to weaken
 at six thirty the first
 prisoners came to
 hand. He stated that

his divisions had been brought from St. Quentin to attack that morning on a two-mile front, but that an attack had intervened. His own regiment, he said, had arrived on the front 800 strong two days before, but at the time of attack was only fifty strong as the result of our shell fire. At ten fifteen am. the first report was received from P. Trenchard "In position, few casualties." Shortly afterwards D.

Caldenwood's first report soon after came to hand.

The red line - the battle objective, was taken as per programme, the only serious opposition being on "A" boys' sector who struck a strong point which held them up. Casualties at this point accounted for nearly the whole of "A" boy - only about thirty five strong at the beginning of its attack. When the attack on the

where the action was begun by the 17th Battalion, some small parties of the 20th also went forward with them. It is believed that he got on to the Passchendaele ridge with some of the fifth machine gun boy, and remained when the forward group had to withdraw.

By ten am. the position was obscure, reports being conflicting. Shortly after this it was definitely found that the attack on the Blue line could not be sustained, and that the forward troops would have to fall back. A line was then fixed occupied and held just forward of Wray Wood. The position held was critical for some time owing to the weak state of the line, and the movement of the enemy observed on the ridge. Shortly after, however,

MESSAGES

Prefix.....	Code.....	m	Words.	Charge.	This
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.					
SECRET			Sent		
DRLS			At.....	m.	Sert
			To.....		From.....
			By.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....

TO { 17th 18th 19th 20th Pms

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* BM315	7		

Reference preliminary instruction
 not issued today AAA
 added Bde Hqs will move
 tomorrow afternoon to Hqs
 at D22 C9525 at present
 occupied by 18th Pm AAA
 17th + 20th Pm Hqs will
 remain at D22a 61 AAA
 18th + 19th Pm will get in
 touch with CO 20th Pm
 regarding dug outs + pill box
 in D17C and make
 necessary reconnoissances tomorrow
 morning AAA headquarters will
 be selected and location notified
 to Bde as soon as possible AAA
 18th + 19th Pm Hqs will be

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., Ld. (E. 1187.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

	(Z)	
--	-----	--

Sender's Number. * BM 315	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
-------------------------------------	---------------	---------------------	------------

established in new head-	by	6 pm	8 th
quarter	AAA	Time	
rint	Bde	1400	will
adud	at	D22C95-25	
oper	be	notified later.	
will	addressed	17 th 18 th 19 th	
addressed	+ 20 th pm	AAA please	acknowledge

From	5 th AT Bde
Place	
Time	8.50 pm

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z) *William Allen*

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., Ld. (E 1187.)

Bde Major

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Prefix.....	Code.....	m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			13			
			Sent		Date.....	
			At.....	Service.		From.....
			To.....			By.....
			By.....	(Signature of Franking Officer)		

TO {

Sender's Number.	Date	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------	------	---------------------	-----

Shells very light forward
ground a little drier

From	B.F.N.
Place	
Time	2.55 pm

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.
Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO { *[Handwritten scribbles and marks]*

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

[Handwritten message body, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through. Visible words include: "Sentry", "and", "of", "relieved", "that", "relieving", "us", "can", "will", "take", "every", "possible", "steps", "to", "ensure", "that", "their", "troops", "come", "back", "to", "the", "original", "position", "Support", "has", "been", "reorganised", "there", "is", "no", "doubt", "that", "the", "right", "kind", "of", "support", "will", "be", "with", "a", "very", "short", "delay."]

From	<i>[Handwritten]</i>
Place	<i>[Handwritten]</i>
Time	<i>[Handwritten]</i>

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

TELEGRAMS AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

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

* 1915 3/17

45
2
front
in
with
in
line
groups
in
20th
A.A.A.
to
Company
for
front
branch

and
coys
line
order
night
numbers
B de
Surgeon
Company
for
front
branch

would
be
and
original
pushed
towards
on
17th 18th 19th
to
be sent
immediately
in
may
be sent
to
and

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.
(1926.) Wb. W 693/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

DRILLS. (24)
20th Bn

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

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

* 1807 9

credibly estimated

Killed 6 and losses

remained 6 and 151

Officers

Lt Col S. H. ...

MAJ ...

PLA ...

ALEXANDER

From B.F. 11			
Place			
Time 11.10			

This 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.
Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....Code.....m.	Words	large.	This message is on a/c of	Reed. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.				
	At.....m.		Service.	From
	To.....			By.....
	By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer")	

TO {

.....
.....

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

Handwritten message text:

Heart Day 1 to 1 bay
 refer to what the English
 is doing on the left of
 the sea are steadily
 falling back. The
 German tank got up to
 the front (handwritten)
 the ~~the~~ ~~the~~
 COPSE where they
 fired on the ~~the~~ ~~the~~
 the ridge they go for
 the Bay but
 if he had been more
 to all arms to the left
 the ~~the~~ ~~the~~
 to the ~~the~~ ~~the~~

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.
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"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

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

* *that the 17th who are still in the railway*

troops of the 17th who are still in the railway

forwarded that the 17th who are still in the railway

have, excepting any

of the 17th who are still in the railway

will be in the railway

From	B.F.N.		
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.
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“A” Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

Sender's Number. * 19360	Day of Month. 10	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----

Estimated Casualties			
9	Killed		
27	Wounded		
9	Unaccounted for		

From B.F.V		
Place		
Time 12-30		

This 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.
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"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

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

TO { B F X

Sender's Number. * 1701	Day of Month. 10	In reply to Number.	AAA
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------

Officers' basins
& accounted for
Lieut. J. Lewis
Lt. Col. Edwards

From B.F.V.		
Place		
Time 12:32		

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.
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"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(in pads of 100).

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....	m.	Words	Ch.	<i>This message is on a/c of</i>	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent			Date.....
.....			At.....m.		..... Service.	From
.....			To.....			By.....
.....			By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer")	By.....

TO { B F X

Sender's Number. * V.P. 551	Day of Month. 9th	In reply to Number.	AAA
--	---	---------------------	------------

Counter Attack
of Railway line
17th Br.

From B.F.X.		
Place		
Time 9.30 am		

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.
Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO { *B.F.X.* *For information*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* <i>1539</i>	<i>4</i>		

RT Coulahan MG Coy reports that 17th with some of 20th very weak about 350 yds short of second objective. Roughly 150 yds in front of DECOY WOOD not enough men to go forward short of S.A. 17. More men immediately required.

19/10/17

From <i>B.F.W.</i>	
Place <i>8-40 am</i>	
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.

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9.15 AM 9/10/17

H
18 and
14th Bn

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO { *Handwritten: D. Brough A.F.X.*

Sender's Number. <i>42 336</i>	Day of Month. <i>9</i>	In reply to Number.	AAA
-----------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------	------------

*How's making along
road from D.B. 1st 38
to D.B. 77 and
strong collection of
Machete pens and
mines in DECHNE base.*

From <i>A.F.X.</i>		
Place		
Time <i>10-13.0</i>		

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.
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MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

.....
.....

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 87M 264	9		

It is absolutely essential that a disposition sketch as accurate as possible should reach this HQ at earliest time. The 45th Bde will return to the 5th Bde which is the point where the sketch is absolutely necessary. AAA ~~will be~~ 5th Bde will on relief go to original position on BROODSEINDE Ridge and be relieved tomorrow. Acknowledged.

From	5th Bde
Place	
Time	1 pm

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.

VP 320

20th 1917

9/10/17

Dear Sir,

Receipt is acknowledged
per of your P.O. No. P.M. 315

We are in touch
with you only by lamp,
but cannot again
pick up the lamp
thats to last night (7/8)
we believe it is at Tokia

May your advanced lamp
please be instructed to
watch for our boys at
each clock hour.

Our runners have
suffered heavily. A
number of men who
went out when boys
were proceeding last
night (7/8) and being
picked up one by one.

Those still being
runners about 30.

H. am

Robert H.
Mats.

V.P. 341

Joe R.

8/10/42

5th A.I. Coy

The ground on the
 left has become
 muddy and is
 becoming almost
 impossible to move
 the weather has
 cleared as a consequence
 of a heavy wind blowing
 the clouds but I do
 not think it will clear
 up sufficiently to enable
 the unit to keep up
 with the tempo.

A Mustang pilot
 of the 197th Sqn. recalled
 there and said that
 he had lost the whole
 of his crew that night
 without fuel and had
 ground. The one crew
 he had was also of
 action though would
 be there for some time

2
on any left bank to
some the railway
line, as he stated it
was anticipated there
would be a slight
break in the hills that
formation, one lower,
gun and the men have
now arrived.

H. H. H. H. H. H. H.
Monday 20th
A. D. F.

12357

20th Coy
11/10/17

5th Coy

The following is a list of names of soldiers who were killed in action.

Capt. F. Hall	M. C. Wounded	9/10/17
Lieut. H. J. Martin	"	9/10/17
S. M. Gill	"	9/10/17
C. J. Hunt	Missing	9/10/17
G. V. Dease	Wounded	9/10/17
H. J. Bancroft	"	9/10/17
Edwards	Missing	9/10/17

[Signature]
 [Signature]
 [Signature]
 [Signature]

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

B F X

Sender's Number. * V.P. 328	Day of Month. 9	In reply to Number.	AAA
--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

Send sketch
 however urgently
 possible
 and am sketch
 being furnished
 in haste
 respectfully

From B.F.M.		
Place		
Time 5.21 pm.		

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.
 Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

1009

33

1042

5-30

05-63

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO {

Sender's Number. * Y.P. 534	Day of Month. 8	In reply to Number.	AAA
--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

Heavy shelling supports
and near this sector

7-7 and 10-5 on
you

From A.P. 14		
Place		
Time 6-45 h		

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.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

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

TO { *B.F.N.*

Sender's Number. * <i>V 122</i>	Day of Month. <i>9</i>	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------	------------

*Objective reached
at 23:00 on night
to be observed*

From <i>B.F.N.</i>		
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.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....Code.....No.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.	Sent			
	At.....m.		Service.	Date.....
	To.....			From.....
	By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....

TO { *Majors to a/c*

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

*If you see any
~~stretchers~~ stretchers sent
 them back with
 stretchers if you
 have any. Am packing
 side for further
 stretchers. Do
 not know*

From	<i>B.F.N.</i>		
Place			
Time	<i>7-10 am</i>		

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.
 Wt. W492/M1647 100,000 pads. 4/17. W. & Co., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

V.P. 313

TO.

No. 9

7/10/17

Am. Maps
Sheet: - BECELFAERE 1.10.000

Reference to relief mentioned last night:-

1. The 7th Bde. last night took over that portion of the front, to the left of the 2nd Divn. sector, occupied by the 199th Bde.

2. The 2nd Divn. left boundary is now consequently adjusted to read: D. 22. a, 50. - along YPRES-ROULERS Railway towards ROULERS (Railway inclusive)

The boundary between the 7th and 5th Bde. has also been readjusted as follows:-
SANS SOUCI (Inclusive) - ST. JOSEPH'S CH. (Exclusive) - along ZONNEBEKE BROODSEINDE Road to road junction at D 22, d. 6.5. - thence to D. 23 a. 40. 65 - through N.W. corner of DAIRY WOOD to Road junction

at E 13. c. 15. 95

30

On the night 7/8th the
 20th Bn will be relieved by
 the 24th Bn. Relief to be
 complete by 3.30 pm. 7/8th
 When relieved, the
 20th Bn will proceed by
 the most direct route
 to the Seventh Bde. sector
 and will relieve the 25th
 Bn. Key companies
 will arrange relief
 direct with corresponding
 units of the 25th Bn.

4

The disposition of the
 5th Bde after relieving the
 7th Bde will be
 17th Bn Front line Left Bde
 18th Bn Rear support
 19th Bn Reserve
 20th Bn Support

5

Bn. H. G. will be at
 D. V. a. b. l.

W. Whinnery Lt

Appendix

T
T

Appendix
Messages
No. 1
Map

Appendix

Vol 5

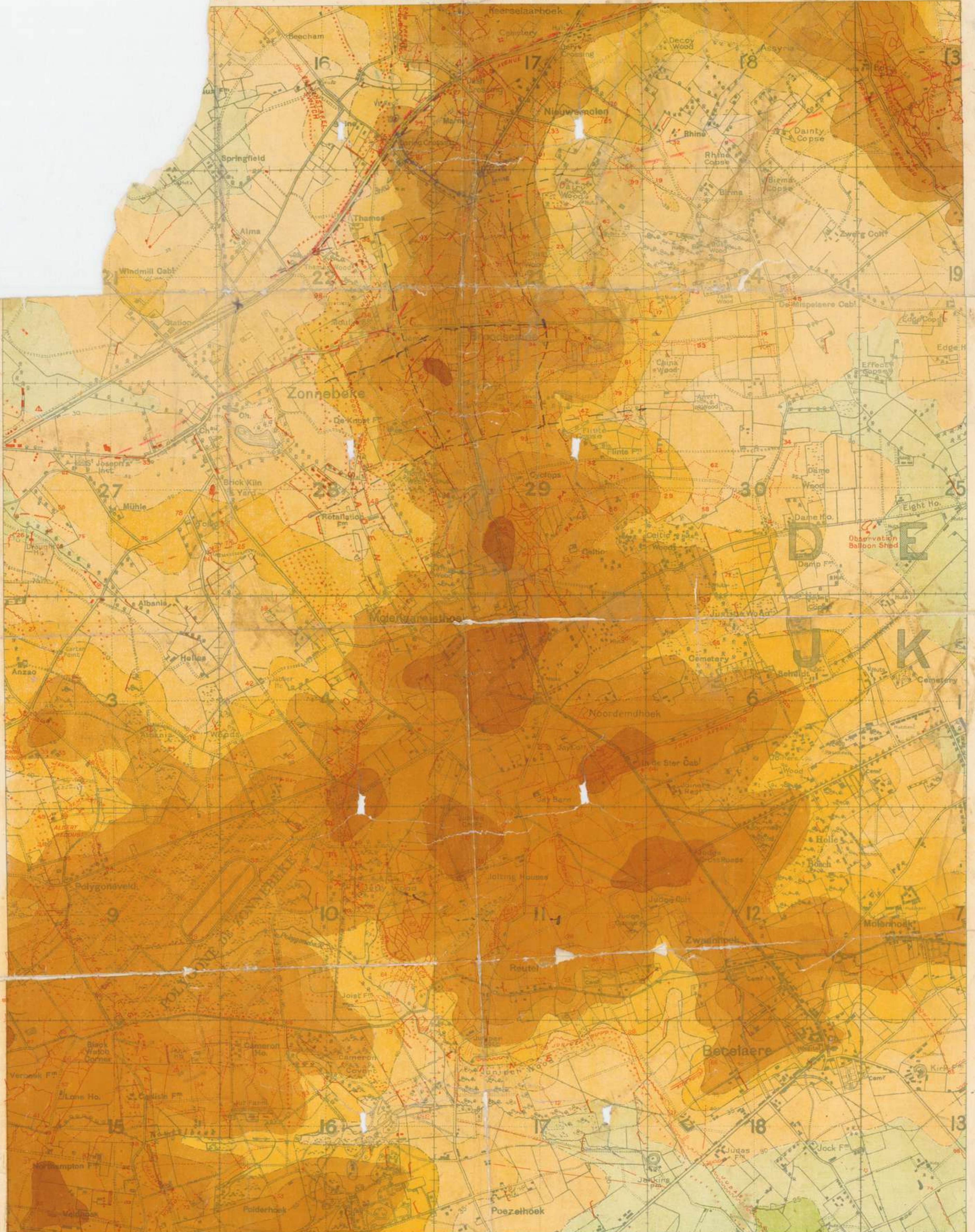
Brigade & Battalion
Orders.

Picks & Shovels

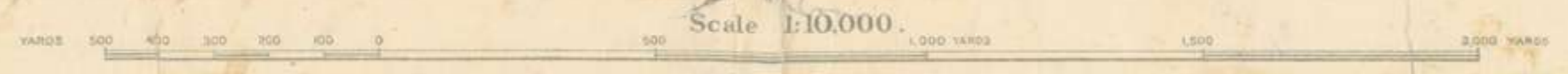
DEDUCED FROM INFORMATION
8-17.

BECELAERE

EDITION I.



5th Field Survey Co R.E. (1353) 9-8-17
 Battery Positions (possibly Army Parks) Probably Timber or Camouflage
 Probably Concrete.



Machine Gun
 Trench Mortar
 Artillery Gun
 Observation Post
 Signal
 Supply Dump
 Ammunition Dump
 Barbed Cable

1610 80 29

10-11-15
11-11-15
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DISPATCH

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1	2	3	4	5
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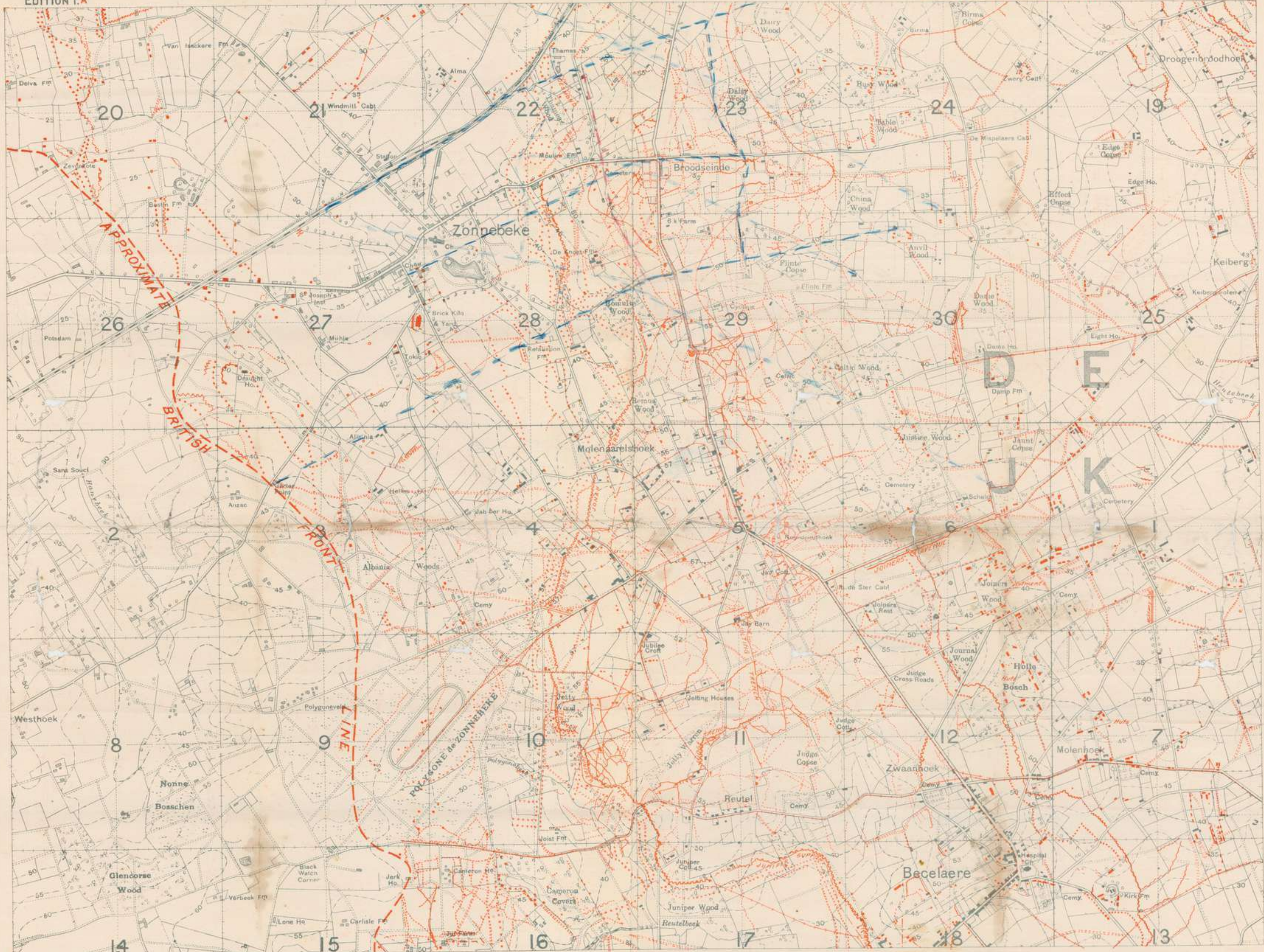


BECELAERE

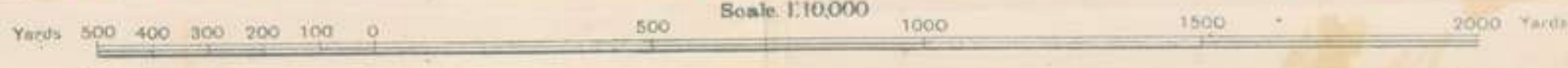
EDITION I.A

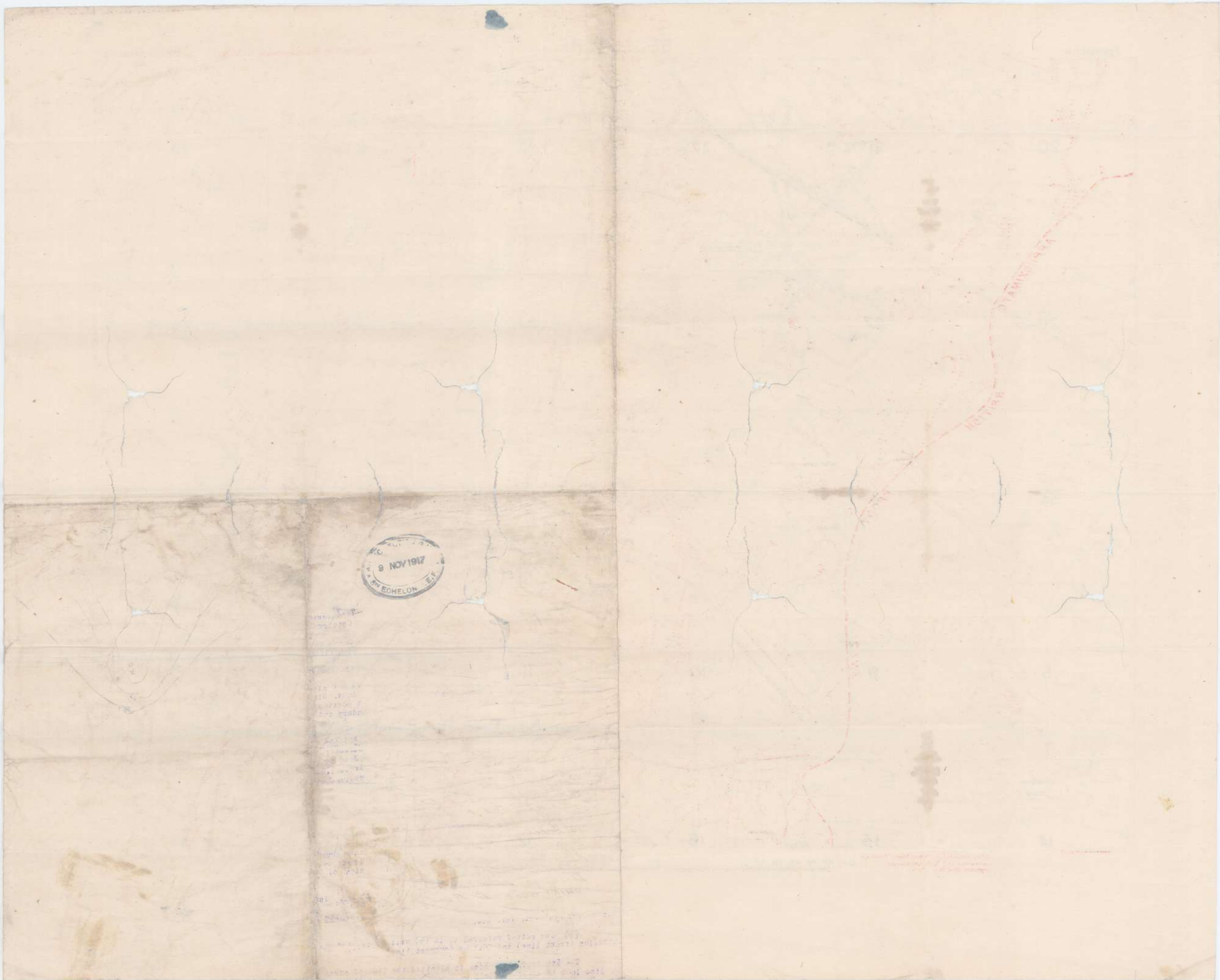
German Trenches corrected to 21-9-17.

Part of Sheet 28.



Battery Positions
Probably Timber or Camouflage
Probably Concrete
Organised Shell Holes





PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS No. 1
Series No. 2Brigade Headquarters
7th October 1917.

- 20th R
1. The 1st ANZAC Corps in conjunction with the Corps and Army to the north is going to advance on a date and hour to be notified later.
 2. The boundary between the 2nd Aust. Division and the Division next to the north is to be adjusted as follows :-
From the present northern boundary at D 22 a 5 0 along the YPRES - ROULERS Railway line is inclusive to the 2nd Aust. Division.
 3. The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. is taking over that portion of the Divisional frontage between the present northern boundary and the railway line (new boundary).
 4. The inter brigade boundary between the 5th and 7th Aust. Inf. Bdes will be SANS SOUCI (inclusive to right Bde.) - St. JOSEPHS Inst. (inclusive to left Bde) along ZONNEBEKE - BROODGELINDE Road to road junction at D 22 d 6 5 (common to both) - thence a direct line to the road junction at D 23 a 40 65 - thence through the north western corner of DAIRY LODD to road junction at E 13 c 15 95.
 5. Preliminary arrangements -

(a) The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. is taking over the portion of the front south of the YPRES - ROULERS Railway which is now held by the Division on our left. This is to be done on the night of 6th/7th October.

(b) On the night of 7th/8th October the 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. is taking over the present Divisional front from the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde., and the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. is the same night taking over the front held by the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde.

(c) The relief referred to in (b) will be carried out by 17th Battalion (front line) and 20th Bn (support line)

6. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. is allotted the task of advancing to the new line in D 18 c and a. This will be carried out by 18th and 19th Bns. The 6th A.I. Bde. on the right will advance at the same time to the line in D 24 c and a.

The 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be in Divisional Reserve.

The necessary reconnaissance will be carried out forthwith.

7. ACTION

(a) Formation - The formation adopted in the attack from WESTHOEK Ridge will be used in forthcoming operation.

(b) There will be two objectives, a RED Line and a BLUE Line.
1st Objective - RED LINE from D 18 c 1 4 - D 17 b 7 4.
2nd objective - BLUE LINE from RHINE D 18 c 6 4 ASSYRIA D 18 central - D 18 b 0 8.

(c) Method of attack - The 18th battalion will attack and capture the 1st objective. The 19th Bn will attack and capture the 2nd objective. Both lines will be consolidated. 17th and 20th Bns. will be held in readiness on present front and support lines.

Para 7 - ACTION (continued)

(d) Jumping off line - Tapes will be laid on approximate line D 23 a 6 7 - D 17 c 2 8.

(e) Machine Guns - 1 Section of 5th A.M.G. Coy. is allotted to each of 18th and 19th Battalions.

1 Section will be used for anti-aircraft work. Remaining section will be held in reserve.

(f) Trench Mortars - Two mortars will be allotted to each of the 18th and 19th Battalions. The remainder will be held in reserve.

(g) Consolidation - The attacking battalion is to link up shell holes into a continuous trench about 200 yards behind the BLUE protective barrage. About 100 yards in front of this line Lewis Gun posts are to be established. Supporting posts are to be dug in rear of the shell hole line.

As soon as consolidation starts one Lewis Gun per Coy. is to be detailed for anti-aircraft work.

(h) Routes to places of assembly - Routes will be marked out by stakes whitened at the top, and tapes.

(i) Time to be in position - All assaulting troops are to be in position on their jumping off line 1 hour before ZERO.

(j) Bayonets and Rifles - Bayonets will not be fixed until the barrage opens, to prevent them showing in the moonlight, or the noise of fixing being heard. Special precautions will be taken to prevent mud clogging the mechanism of the rifles or Lewis Guns, and the handles of the bayonets.

(k) Direction - Special arrangements will be made in each company to insure correct direction. The magnetic bearing will be taken for each company and special officers will be detailed to check direction.

(l) Moppers up - Each battalion sector will be divided into 4 Company sectors. Coy. mopping up parties will clear these areas thoroughly. Special parties will be told off to deal with known enemy positions. After mopping up, the mopping up parties will become supports to their companies.

(m) Move of battalion Headquarters - As each objective is gained, Battalion C.O.'s. will move forward as soon as possible to position to be selected by them, notifying Bde. H.Q. of their movement and location of new H.Q.

(n) Carrying parties - Carrying parties will dump their loads in positions to be indicated to them, and form battalion dumps. They may be either used as supports to their battalion or sent back for further supplies if required.

8. Communication -

(a) Success signals will not be used.

(b) Signal arrangements will be notified later.

Para 8 - Communications - (continued)

(c) Messages between Brigade and Battalion will be sent by Fullerphone. The sending of messages by buzzer is prohibited. Visual will be used where possible.

(d) Position calls will not be used in this area. The new 'Station Code Calls' alone will be used.

(e) S.O.S. Signals as in this office 12/88 of 30th ultimo. The S.O.S. signal to indicate a hostile infantry attack will be sent by telephone if the lines are holding, and by rifle grenade and pigeon. When our aeroplanes are over it should be sent by signal panel. All Officers and Sergeants to be provided with an S.O.S. Signal which will be collected by the senior commander on the spot on each company front ready for use

9. DRESS

Battle order. Greatcoats will be carried or worn according to weather. Waterproof sheets will be carried rolled on the back. Each man will carry 220 rounds of S.A.A., 3 rifle grenades, 4 sandbags and 48 hours rations. Each mopper up will carry a tool in the proportion of 3 shovels to 1 pick.

10. Artillery barrages will be notified later.

11. PATROLLING

It is essential that active patrolling be carried out each night before the attack day, to debar the enemy from moving near our advanced posts, and cover reconnaissances of that area in connection with the selection of the best jumping off line.

12. Medical, Administrative and Intelligence arrangements will be notified later.

13. LIAISON

Two Lieuts., one from 17th Bn and one from 20th Battalion will be detailed as Liaison Officers to flank Brigades. Names will be wired to Bde. H.Q. by 9 p.m. 7th Octr.

14. ZERO HOUR

The day of the attack will be notified later. Watches will be synchronised with Bde. H.Q. at a time to be notified later, on a day and night previous to the attack.

15. Preliminary reconnaissances will be carried out forthwith.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE.

L. P. Wear
 Captain

Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued through Signals
 at 3 pm.

D I S T R I B U T I O N

BRIGADE MAJOR

STAT. CAPTAIN

Bde. Signal Officer

Bde. Int. Officer

Bde. Bomb Officer

Bde. Transport Officer

17th Bn

19th Bn

21st Bn

20th Bn

5th A.M.G. Coy.

5th A.T. Bty.

6th A.V. Bde.

7th A.I. Bde.

2nd Aust. Div.

5th Field Coy.

5th Amb. Bde.

5th Bde.

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

Brigade Headquarters
7th October 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 23

Issued in conjunction with Prelim. Instns. No. 1, Series 2

Brigade Battle Dump - is situated at J 22 d 65 55 in charge of Lieut. LITTLE, 17th Bn., who will have attached to him 1 N.C.O. and 10 men from 20th Bn.

System of Supply - One platoon per Coy. from each of 17th and 20th Bns. will act as carrying party and will carry forward the following loads when their battalions move forward. This material will be dumped in selected positions and will form a battalion Dump in the vicinity of each battalion objective. Location of dump to be notified to Bde. H.Q. immediately on formation.

In the event of more material being required parties from these platoons will be sent to Brigade Battle Dump to collect. 1 Platoon per company will carry forward the following stores etc, which will be collected at ZONNEBEKE Church any time after 8 am. on 8th October.-

S. A. A.	5,000 rounds
Water	10 tins
Picks	4
Shovels	12

The 8 men per Vickers Machine Gun detailed as carriers will carry forward 4,000 rounds S.A.A. The 8 men per Stokes Mortar detailed as carriers will carry forward 4 Stokes Shells. S.A.A. and Stokes Shells will be collected at ZONNEBEKE CHURCH.

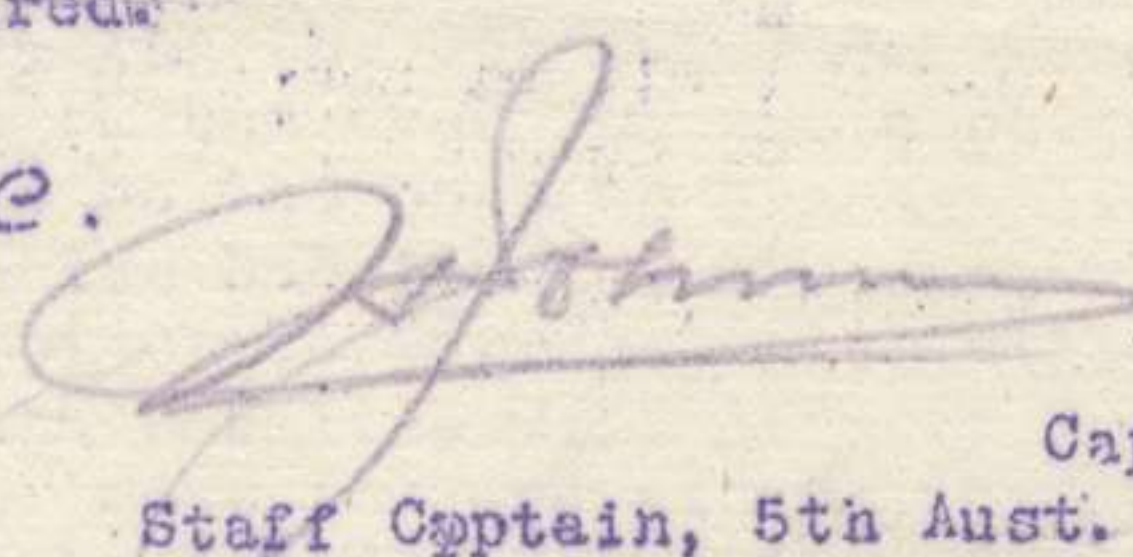
Units will apply to Brigade Battle Dump for any stores or ammunition required after the operations have commenced. The Officer in charge dump will notify Bde. H.Q. immediately any S.A.A. etc is sent forward.

Emergency Rations - On the man - 1 Iron ration, 1 Emergency Ration, and unexpended portion of current days' rations. 500 Emergency Rations for the Brigade are held at Brigade Battle Dump. Water - Water for troops will be drawn from water points at I 11 d 5 4 and I 18 b 1 7. At Brigade Battle Dump 500 water tins (filled) will be stored.

R.E. Material - will be supplied from Brigade Dump on application to Brigade H.Q.

In the event of any M.Gs. and Stokes Mortars being destroyed, units will at once make a demand on Brigade H.Q. stating whether gun complete, or gun only is required.

Acknowledge.


Captain,
Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution as for P.I. No. 1, Series 2.

O.O. 126

Points of Junction:

6. With 6th A.I. Bde. RHINE HOUSE D. 18 c 6 4. 20th Bn will detail a special party to establish connection with 6th A.I. Bde.
With 197th Inf. Bde.

20th Bn will detail a special party to get in touch with 197th Bde at VIENNA HOUSE D. 12 c 7. 1

Headquarters:

- 7. 2nd Aust. Div. Advanced HQ. RAMPARTS, VPRES.
- 6th A.I. Bde. do. HQ. SANS SOUCI
- 7th A.I. Bde. do. HQ. D 26 c 1 3
- 5th A.I. Bde. do. H.Q. D 22 c 95 35.
- 17th Bn H.Q. D 16 d 6 1
- 18th Bn H.Q. D 22 a 6 1
- 19th Bn H.Q. D 22 a 6 1
- 20th Bn H.Q. D 16 d 6 1
- 197th Inf. Bde. Outposts east of VAMPIRE, in D 26 a.

Engineering:

8. On the BLUE line being captured and consolidated, a communication trench will be opened up in the 5th A.I. Bde. Sector. This will be marked out under the orders of the C.R.E. 19th Bn will find the men to dig it. Strong points will be constructed at the following approximate localities:-
(1) D 17 d 4 8 (2) astride the railway at D 18 a 7 7.
A garrison of 1 platoon each strong point will be told off by 18th Bn. The strong points will be constructed under supervision ^{provided} by the C.R.E. At zero hour the garrisons and engineer parties will assemble in J 1 a and will be ready to move forward when required.

P.O.W. and Straggler Posts:

9. The D.I.O. 2nd Aust. Div. will establish himself at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q. D 26 c 1 3 with some intelligence personnel. All P.O.W. will be marched back to this place and not to KIT and KAT.

R.F.C.

10. The contact patrol work will be carried out by the 4th Squadron, R.F.C. Communication will be carried out as laid down in S.S. 135.

Telescopic Rifles:

11. Telescopic rifles may not be taken forward during the actual assault.

Liaisons:

12. Lieut. MARLAN, 20th Bn., will act as Liaison Officer between 5th and 6th A.I. Bdes. Lieut. VERRILLS, 17th Bn. will act as Liaison Officer between 5th A.I. Bde and 197th Inf. Bde. Assaulting Bns. will mutually arrange for Liaison Officers between one another.

Reports:

13. Attention is directed to the absolute necessity of sending reports to Bde. H.Q. Reports will be sent hourly to Bde. H.Q. from zero minus four hours.

SECRET

Copy No. 2

5th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 120.

Brigade Headquarters,
8th October, 1917.

References - BECELAERE
PASSCHENDAELE

1. On 9th October the Second and Fifth Armies are continuing their advance in co-operation.

The Second Army operation is to be effected by the 1st and 2nd Anzac Corps. The objective is a N.W. and S.E. line facing PASSCHENDAELE.

2. The 2nd Aust. Division is to -

(a) capture and consolidate the line D 24 a 3 8 -

D 18 c 3 0 - D 18 c 4 4 - D 18 c 8 8 - D 18 a 9 0 -

D 18 b 05 40 - to Railway (inclusive) at

D 18 b 0 8.

(b) The operation will be effected in two stages.

1. The advance to the RED LINE, D 18 b 2 0 -

D 18 b 0 3 - D 17 d 6 8 - to the Railway

(inclusive) at D 17 d 45 35.

2. The advance to the BLUE LINE D 18 c 4 4 -

D 18 a 9 0 - D 18 b 0 8 (Railway inclusive).

3. On the 2nd Aust. Div. front the attack will be carried out by the 6th A.I. Bde. on the right and 5th A.I. Bde. on the left.

The 7th A.I. Bde. will be in Div. Reserve.

The 66th Division (2nd Anzac) is attacking on the left of the 2nd Aust. Div.

The 197th Inf. Bde. will be the right Bde. of the 66th Division.

4. The 18th Bn. will attack and capture the RED line.

The 20th Bn will attack and capture the BLUE line. Both lines will be consolidated.

The 18th and 19th Bns. will be in reserve, and will move into old front and support lines respectively at zero plus two hours, notifying Bde H.Q. of move and completion.

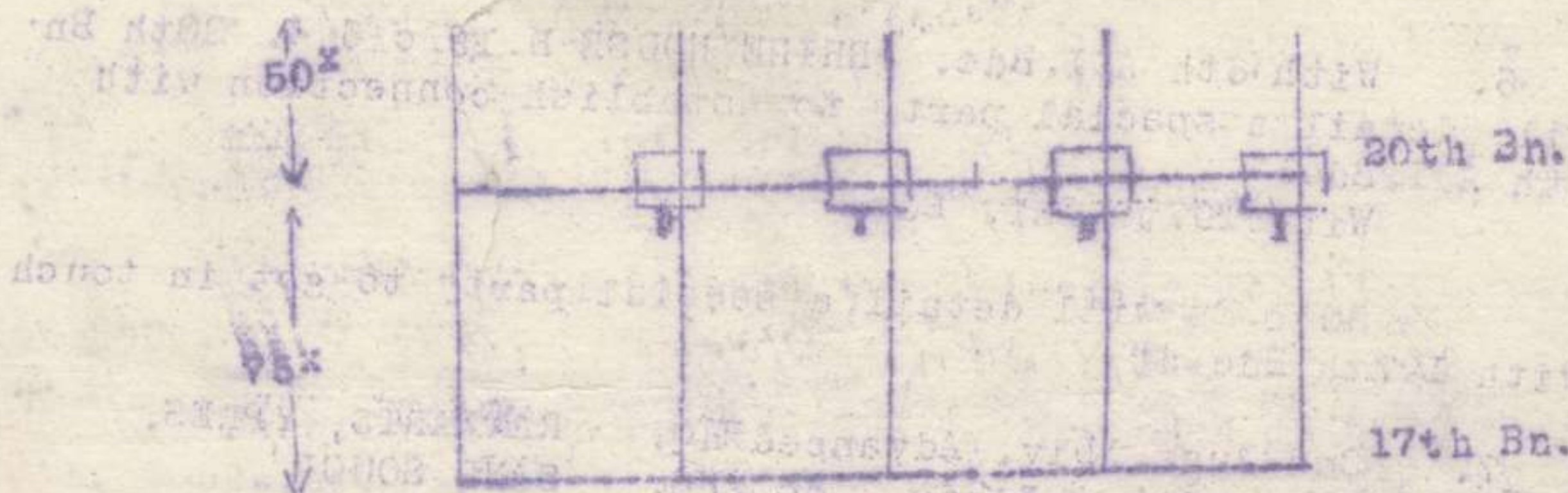
Artillery 5. (a) The 2nd Aust. Div. will be covered by 1st, 2nd and 4th Aust. Div. artilleries, 1st and 4th covering the 6th A.I. Bde, the 2nd, covering the 5th A.I. Bde.

(b) Barrage will be placed over the whole corps front and will be put down 4 minutes on the opening barrage line. It will then move forward to the RED line at the rate of 100 yards in 6 minutes. The RED protective barrage which will be placed 200 yards in advance of the RED line will lift at Zero plus 100 minutes. It will then move forward at the uniform rate of 100 yards in 6 minutes to the BLUE line.

(c) Barrage Maps will be issued to units of 5th A.I. Bde.

Continuation of para. 4 above : 'The front line will be held by 1 Lewis Gun per Company 17th Bn, which will be withdrawn at Zero minus 15 minutes. Assaulting Bns. will be on jumping-off position at Zero minus one hour.'

Jump-off Line 14. Tapes will be laid on the approximate line D 23 a 3 6 - D 17 c 2 8 by the engineers. The same arrangements as were made for the attack on 20th ultimo will be made.



Two guides per company from 17th and 20th Bns. will report to Engineer Officer at 17th and 20th Bn. H.Q. at D 16 d 6 1 at a time to be notified to Bns. by Engineer Officer. They will move on to jumping off line; one man will be left as right marker of his company, the other will report back to his Company and guide it into position.

Preliminary Instructions 15. Attention is drawn to Preliminary Instructions No. 1, Series 2, which hold good except for alterations contained in this order affecting Para 6. Para 7 (a).

B.M. 315 issued to Battalions is amended to conform to new arrangements.

Synchronisation of Watches 16. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. units will send representatives to Brigade H.Q. at 4 pm and 10 pm today.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. R. M. Callum

Captain,

Brigade-Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 1 pm through Signals.

Distribution

- | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| Copy No. 1 | G.O.C. | 13 | 5th ALFM Bty. | 21 | 5th Field Co. AE |
| 2 | B.M. | 14 | 6th AI Bde. | 22 | 5th Aust. Field Ambce. |
| 3 | Staff Capt. | 15 | 7th AI Bde | 23 | Liaison 17th Bn
(Lieut. RYRILLS) |
| 4 | Bde. Sig. Offr. | 16 | 197th Inf Bde. | 24 | Liaison 17th Bn
(Lieut. MARLAN) |
| 5 | Bde. Int. Offr. | 17 | 3rd A.I. Bde. | 25 | CRA 2 Aust Div. |
| 6 | Bde. Bomb Offr. | 18 | 8th AI Bde. | 26 | CRA 2nd Aust Div |
| 7 | Bde. Sport Offr. | 19/20 | 2nd Aust. Div. | 27 | ADMS 2 Aust Div |
| 8 | 17th Bn | 21 | 19th Bn | 28 | File |
| 9 | 18th Bn | 22 | 5th AMG Coy. | 29/31 | War Diary |
| 10 | 20th Bn | | | | |

32/40 Spares.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 121

SECRET
Copy No.

Brigade Headquarters
10th October 1917.

1. The 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade will be relieved by the 12th Aust Inf. Bde. in the left sector on the night of 10/11th Octr.
2. Moves and reliefs will take place in accordance with attached table.
3. Details of the relief will be arranged mutually between C.O's. Concerned.
4. Following distances will be maintained by units on the march -
400 yards between battalions
200 yards between Companies.
5. All Stores, Maps shewing dispositions, aeroplane photos etc. will be handed over and receipts taken in duplicate. The latter will be forwarded to Bde. H.Q. by 6 p.m. on 11th instant.
6. Details about guides will be notified later.
7. Completion of the relief to be reported to Bde. H.Q. by priority wire in Code.
8. On completion of Bde. relief the command of the sector will pass to the C.C.C. 12th Aust. Inf. Bde.
9. Brigade H.Q. will move to *Inf. Barracks YPRES* on completion of the relief.
10. Warning Order issued to units of 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will hold good.
11. A C K N O W L E D G E.

W. P. MacLellan
Captain,
Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 2 pm
through Signals.

D I S T R I B U T I O N

Copy No. 1	G.C.C.	11	5th A.M.G. Coy.
2	Bde. Major	12	5th A.L.T.M. Bty.
3	Staff Captain	13	2nd Aust. Division
4	Bde. Sig. Officer	14	12th A.I. Bde.
5	Bde. Bomb. Officer	15	6th A.I. Bde.
6	Bde. T'port Officer	16	7th A.I. Bde.
7	17th Bn	17	Area Comdt
8	18th Bn	18/20	War Diary
9	19th Bn	21	File
10	20th Bn	22/26	Spares

YPRES

RELIEF TABLE

To accompany 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 100

Date	Unit	From	To	Relieved by	Remarks
10/11 Octr	17th Bn 18th Bn 19th Bn 20th Bn	Support left Bde. sector	Inf. Barracks YPRES	46th Bn.	Relief to be completed by daylight
	5th AMG Coy. less 2 Sects	Line left Bde. Sector	do	12th AMG Coy.	do
	5th ALTM Bty less 3 Sects.	do	do	13th ALTM Bty.	do



111

TABLE

No.	Date	Particulars	Debit	Credit	Balance
1	1917	...			
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3	1917	...			
4	1917	...			
5	1917	...			
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