

MARCH 1917 WAR DIARY APPENDIX 5

SECRET – NOT TO BE TAKEN IN THE TRENCHES

“J” Special Company R.E.

Orders for the Carrying of Projectors and Drums

Ice St - INDIA LANE

Reference ARRAS TRENCH MAP 1/10,000

GENERAL SCHEME

- 1 The day will be named A, B, C, D, E ... V.W.
 - 2 Day A Checking and preparation of stores (J Spec Coy R.E.)

Night	AB	Carrying of	320	projectors	
“	BC	“	320	“	
“	CD	“	260	“	by Infantry Parties
“	VW	“	900	“	
 - All nights Loading, Unloading, Guiding
Receiving of stores in the line (by J Spec Coy R.E.)
 - Early morning B Digging and laying of 320 projectors
C Digging and laying of 320 projectors
D Digging and laying of 260 projectors
 - Night DE Carrying of Exploders, Testing Boxes, Cable
Charge blocks and all technical stores to Store or
Firing Dug Outs
EV Ditto
 - Day V Laying out of electrical system and charge blocks
 - Evening V Laying out of electrical system and charge blocks
- 3 Projectors will be carried to eight sectors of trench as in Part II. They will be received by J Special Company R.E. and stored in the front trench until dug in.
 - 4 Drums will be carried to the same sectors and loaded straight into projectors by J Special Company R.E.
 - 5 Dumps and detail in Part II
 - 6 Carrying parties are of sufficient strength to allow for two men to carry a projector (a 5% margin being allowed) and for one man to carry a drum (a 5% margin being allowed)
 - 7 All poles and slings will be returned to dumps and loaded on the last lorry if possible or stacked in the cellar at Dump B.

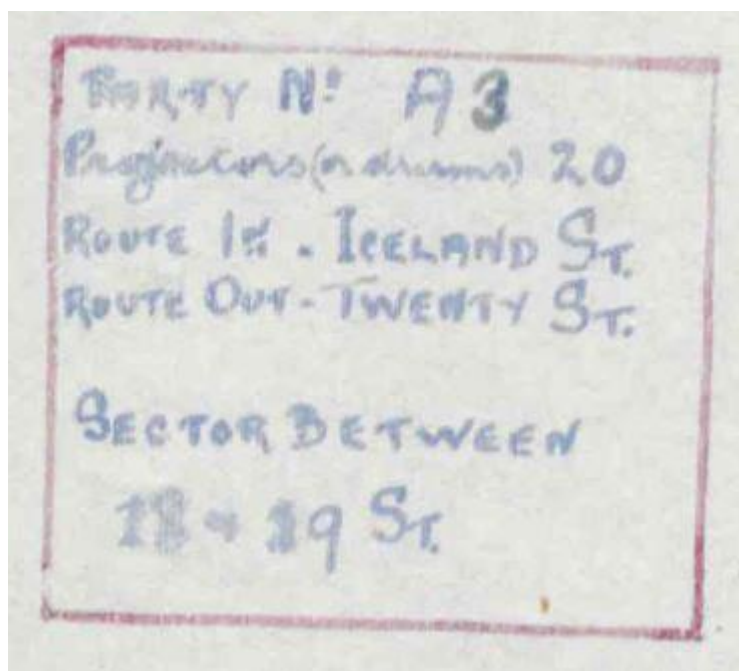
DETAIL

1	<u>Dumps</u>	RUE BEFFARA ARRAS		
	A	G.29.c.45.30	Near entrance to	Iceland St
	B	G.29.c.75.80		Imperial St

2 Sectors of the line

From Dump A	S1	IceSt to I51/5 (one bay S of 19 St)	Projectors	125
	S2	I52/5 to I52/5 (S of 20St)	"	125
	S3	I52/5 to I53/4 (just N of 20 St)	"	125
From Dump B	S4	I53/4 to Iodine St	"	125
	S5	Iodine St to I54/6 (just N of Iolanthe St)	"	100
	S6	I54/6 to Imperial St	"	100
	S7	Imperial St to I56/1 (N of Tunnel or Irrawaddy St)	"	100
	S8	I56/8 to India Lane	"	100

- 3 Carrying parties will be finished as shown in the attached tables
 Each party will do two trips each night
 The parties will be numbered A1 to A3 and B1 to B5 according to the dump from which they work
 A check will be given to each Officer and man of the type here shown.



These checks will be shown to the representative of J Special Company R.E. meeting the parties in the front line who will then guide them to their correct sectors.

O.C. Sector will dispose the projectors along the front of his sector ready for installation in the early morning (NOTE Sector S3 must be unloaded South of 20 St). All poles and slings will be handed back to carrying parties when the projectors have been received.

SILENCE must be maintained.

A Carrying of Projectors

Personnel:- (a) J Special Company R.E.

RUE BEFFARA Loading party 1 Officer, 2 NCOs, 20 men

Guides for lorries (NCOs L/R lorries) 6 NCOs

DUMP A Unloading party & checkers 2 NCOs, 12 men

DUMP B Unloading party & checkers 2 NCOs, 12 men

In line:-Guides at junction C.T.- Fire trench 8 men

In line:-Receiving Fire trench 8 Officers

2 NCOs men detailed by O.C. Sectors

(b) Infantry arranged by 3rd Division

As in the subjoined tables A, B, C, D.

B Carrying of Drums

All ranks will wear box respirators in the Gas **ALERT** position

NIGHT VW Personnel:- (a) J Special Company R.E.

RUE BEFFARA Loading party will not be required

NCOs L/R Lorries 10 NCOs

DUMP A

DUMP B

(b) Infantry According to attached tables

There will be no poles and slings

Transport

6 lorries will bring projectors to the dumps after loading in ARRAS. NCOs L/R Unloading parties and L/R Lorries will be responsible for seeing that the following number are delivered:-

Nights	AB	Dump A	120 projectors	Maximum load 60 projectors per lorry
	BC	Dump B	200 projectors	
	CD	Dump A	135 projectors	
		Dump B	125 projectors	

The projectors will be loaded on lorries already roped & poled

Nights	VW	Dump A	375	Load 100-200 drums per lorry
		Dump B	525	

O.C. Loading Party will be responsible for detailing duties to NCOs L/R lorries for projectors and the same.

Officers will detail the duties of NCOs L/R lorries for drums

After all unloading is finished, lorries will report to J Special Company R.E. H.Q.

Lorry Route

UP:- Bridge over Railway N of Station, Rue-de-CAMBRAI

DOWN:- RUE ST QUENTIN and Bridge over Railway S of Station

6 CARRYING OF TECHNICAL STORES

Nights DE, EV. All sections will take up their technical stores, and store under section arrangements in their dug outs allotted as in the sketch. All stores must be well protected against damp. The same on roads as in the carrying parties should be used. All charge blocks will be prepared according to special instructions before being carried up.

Sections 41, 42, 43 will use ICELAND ST in 20 St out. The remainder will use IMPERIAL ST in, and 20 St (or INDIA LANE in case Section 38, 39) as Out trench.

A guard will be left over all stores left in the trenches by each section. Parties to enter at 10 minute intervals just as for carrying parties in tables attached.

7 DIGGING AND LAYING

All sections will, after the receipt of all projectors on each night, dig their positions as far as possible during the dark hours and finish the laying by daylight. Not more than 20 men in each section will be in the line at day break and all precautions for invisibility must be taken. Sandbags for masking projectors should be "mudded" before being taken up.

Sections will be in position in the line by 9.30 pm each night (N.B. An infantry relief on 31 March will be complete by 9 pm)

8 LINE LAYING AND LOADING

The laying of the electrical system will be done by daylight on day V. All projectors will be charged and lines laid and tested by 10 pm night VW. The drums will be received and loaded direct into the projectors. Extreme care must be taken.

- 1 to withdraw the safety pin
- 2 to unscrew and salve the handle
- 3 to provide safety fuse and 5 oz charges for firing off drums undischarged at zero

Lines must be kept tested throughout the night VW every 10 or 15 minutes.

9 FIRING

The targets will be:-	Right	300 projectors	N1.a.40.95.
	Centre	300 projectors	N31.c.60.30.
	Left	300 projectors	N31.c.central

Firing will take place at a zero on Day W to be notified layer. All sections will detail personnel to inspect projectors after firing. If an undischarged drum is found it must be fired by safety fuse & as soon as possible. When this has been done, shelter must be taken and the electrical apparatus brought down (using the tunnel if necessary) as far as possible, the balance being stored carefully in a safe spot underground. Exploders and testing boxes must be brought back.

Only the personnel required for the actual operation will remain in the trenches after one hour before zero.

10 COMMUNICATIONS

Synchronisation of watches will be carried out and communications arranged under orders to be notified later.

27th March 1917 Attached Tables A, B, C, D, E.

J.A. Carpenter Capt R.E.
O.C. J Special Company R.E.

Copies to VI Corps
3rd Division
C.S.C. R.E. Third Army

Party No	Strength Night AB, BC.	Strength Night C,D.	Dump	Time 1 st trip each night	In	Out	No of projectors Nights AB, BC.		No of projectors Night C,D.		Grand Total Projectors all nights	Sector
							1 st trip	2 nd trip	1 st trip	2 nd trip		
A1	1 Officer 2 NCOs 42 men	1 Officer 2 NCOs 48 men	A	10 pm	Iceland St	Twenty St	20	20	23	22	125	S3 Between 19 St & 20 St
A2	-do-	-do-	A	10.10 pm	-do-	-do-	20	20	23	22	125	S2 Either side 19 Street
A3	-do-	-do-	A	10.20 pm	-do-	-do-	20	20	23	22	125	S1 Between 18 St & 19 St
B1	-do-	-do-	B	10 pm	Imperial St	Twenty St	20	20	23	22	125	S4 Between Iodine St & 20 St
B2	-do-	1 Officer 2 NCOs 21 men	B	10.10 pm	-do-	-do-	20	20	10	10	100	S5 Between Iodine St & Iolanthe St
B3	-do-	-do-	B	10.20 pm	-do-	-do-	20	20	10	10	100	S6 Between Imperial St & Iolanthe St
B4	-do-	-do-	B	10.30 pm	-do-	India Lane	20	20	10	10	100	S8 Between Cambrai Rd & India Lane
B5	-do-	-do-	B	10.40 pm	-do-	-do-	20	20	10	10	100	S7 Between Imperial St and Cambrai Rd
						TOTAL	160	160	132	128	900	

Party No	Strength	Dump	Time 1 st trip	In	Out	No of Drums 1 st trip	No of Drums 2 nd trip	Total Drums	Sector
A1	1 Officer 2 NCOs 42 men	A	10 pm	Iceland St	Twenty St	63	62	125	S3 Between 19 St & 20 St
A2	-do-	A	10.10 pm	-do-	-do-	63	62	125	S2 Either side 19 Street
A3	-do-	A	10.20 pm	-do-	-do-	63	62	125	S1 Between 18 St & 19 St
B1	-do-	B	10 pm	Imperial St	Twenty St	63	62	125	S4 Between Iodine St & 20 St
B2	-do-	B	10.10 pm	-do-	-do-	50	50	100	S5 Between Iodine St & Iolanthe St
B3	-do-	B	10.20 pm	-do-	-do-	50	50	100	S6 Between Imperial St & Iolanthe St
B4	-do-	B	10.30 pm	-do-	India Lane	50	56	100	S8 Between Cambrai Rd & India Lane
B5	-do-	B	10.40 pm	-do-	-do-	50	30	100	S7 Between Imperial St and Cambrai Rd
					TOTAL	452	448	900	

TABLE E

	SECTORS	PROTECTORS
INDIAN LANE S8 (f) □ S8 (S) □ I56 1/4	S8	2 nd LT. J.L. LIZIUS R.E. SECT ^N 39 100
IRRAWADDY INNOCENCE ST. IMPERIAL ST. S69 ST (f) □ S69 ST (S) □	S7	2 nd LT. F.T. WOOLNER R.E. SECT ^N 38 100
ISLANTHE ST. I56 1/6	S6	LT. C. VANDERMIN R.E. SECT ^N 37 100
IODINE ST. S5 (S) □ S5 (f) □	S5	2 nd LT. V.F. FARR R.E. SECT ^N 45 100
S4 (S) □ S4 (f) □ S3 (f) □ TWENTY STREET I57 1/4	S4	2 nd LT. G.L. ALLCHIN R.E. SECT ^N 44 125
S3 (S) □ I52 1/5	S3	2 nd LT. R.B. SANTER R.E. SECT ^N 43 125
NINETEEN ST. I51 1/5 S2 (f) □	S2	LT. L. TAIT R.E. SECT ^N 42 125
EIGHTEEN ST. ICE ST. S1 (f) □ S1 (S) □ ICELAND ST.	S1	LT. E.G. LAWFORD R.E. SECT ^N 41 125

(f) - firing
(S) - stores

Appendix 5