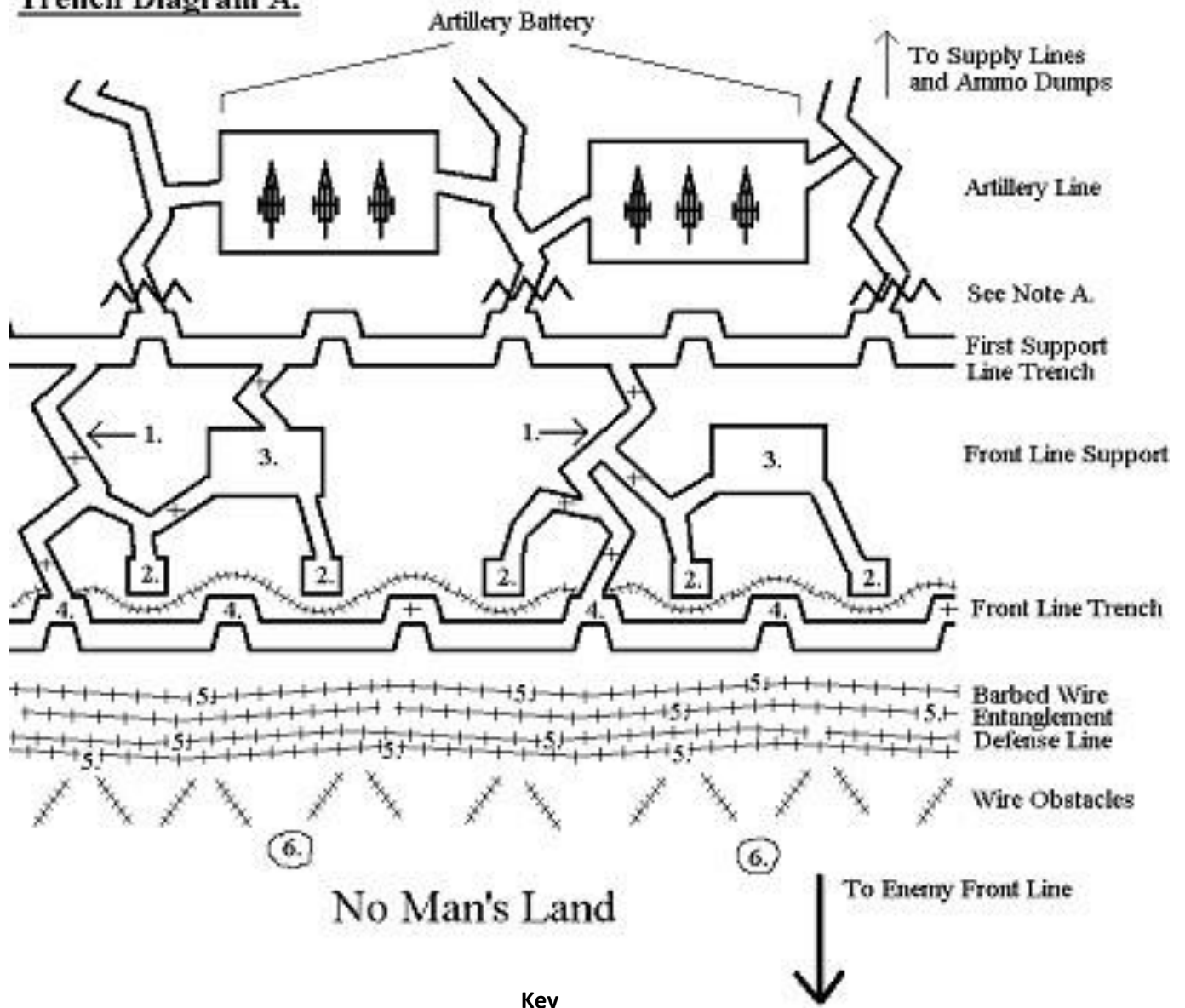


What is a Trench?

Trench warfare characterized much of the fighting during World War One, particularly along the Western Front. Trench systems were complicated with many interlinking lines of trenches.

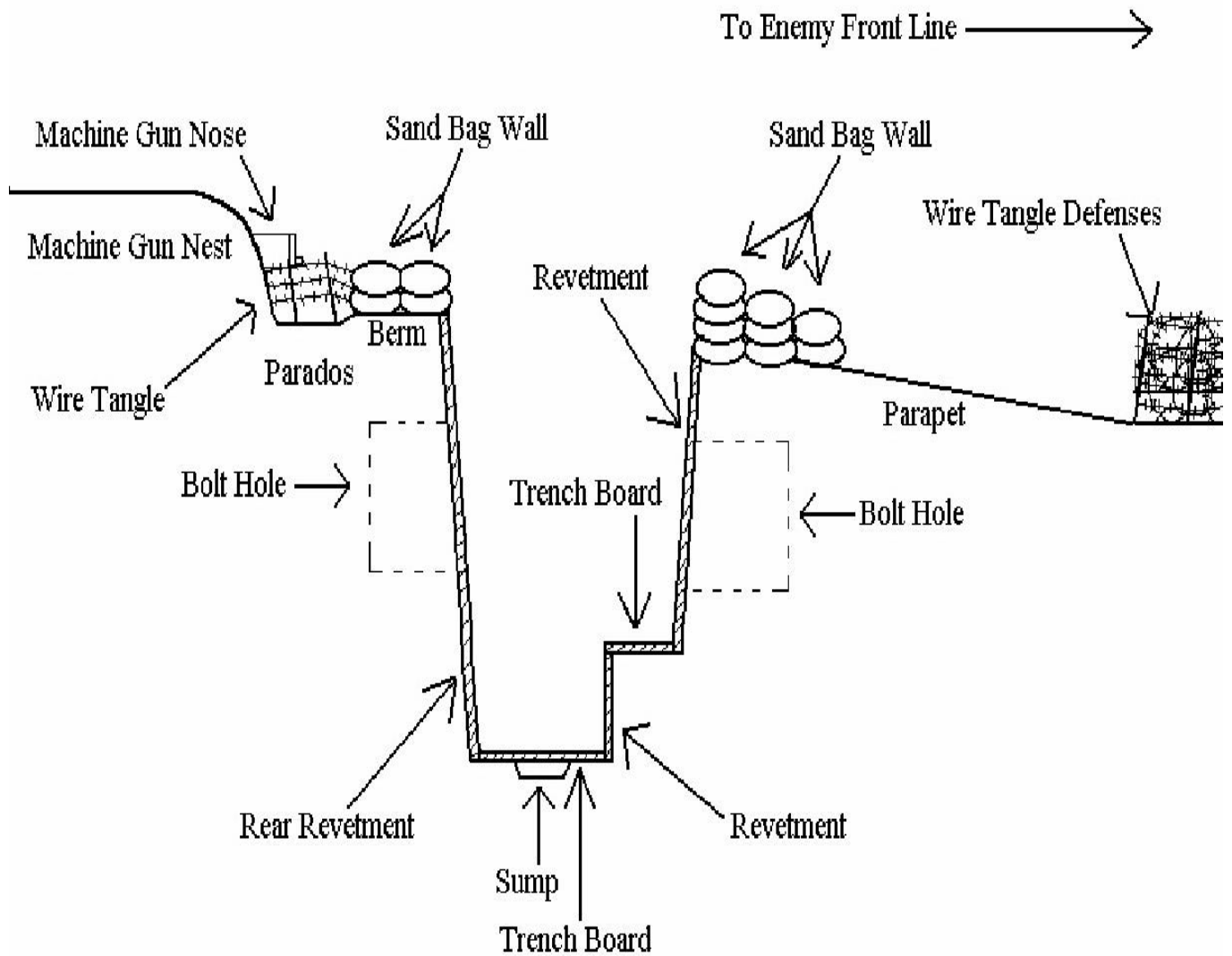
Trench Diagram A.



1. Communication Trench
2. Machine Gun Nest
3. Underground Bunker
4. Traverse
5. Wire Break
6. Listening Post
7. + represent Trench Block

- a. What links the front line and support trenches?
- b. Why are blocks placed in trenches?
- c. Why are machine-guns placed just behind the front line? Why are they so close to the bunkers?
- d. Why is there wire between the front trench and the machine-guns?
- e. Look at the barbed wire in No-Man's Land that is at angles to the front trench and also look at the position of the machineguns. Why is the wire at such an angle?

Trench Diagram B.



- What prevents bullets striking a soldier's chest when he is on the trench board (fire step)?
 - What is the purpose of the sump? What was normally placed over it?
- C** Barbed wire entanglements were often 40 yards (36m) from the front trench. Considering the types of weapons used on the Western Front, what would be their main defensive function?

