





Works Diary Quinns Post.
Sawman
to Field Coy
2nd Div.

The Official War Historian of the Commonwealth Government (Dr. C. E. W. Bean), after his study of the collection of private war records preserved in the Australian War Memorial Library, wrote:—

“The private diaries in this collection furnish some of its most valuable historical records, but, like all private memoirs which were not compiled with any historical purpose, they should not be regarded as first-hand evidence except where it is certain that they are so. The diarist is almost always sincere in his desire to record accurately, but he is subject to no obligation or inducement to indicate whether he is recording his own observations or incidents told him by friends or heard at third or fourth hand at the mess-table. Thus, in some of the diaries in this collection, scenes described with vivid detail, and without any warning that they are told at second or third hand, have been found to be completely inaccurate in important details. A certain number also have been written up or revised long after the events, though doubtless usually from notes made at the time. In most cases the student must rely on his experience and on internal evidence to guide him in judging what is and what is not likely to be historically accurate.”

Monday. 13/9/15. Landed Anzac with Section at 21.30. Proceeded to Rest Gully and bivouaced.

Tues. 14/9/15. Section fixing up camp and getting stores up from beach. During afternoon inspected Quinns with W. Butler.

Wed. 15/9/15. Started permanent trench party (1 N.C.O. + 3 Sappers). Continuous shifts of 6 Sappers & N.C.O. start at 17.00 repairing and deepening main envelope. 50 bags tamping stored in Rear Gallery. Enemy heard working at nos 23 & 43.

Thurs. 16/9/15. Shifts still working on main envelope. Find arrangements for disposal of spoil unsatisfactory. Enemy still heard working fairly persistently at same places.

Friday. 17/9/15. Shifts up to 13.00 still on envelope. 50 bags tamping stored in and around No 25. First shift (9 men) of fatigue party (1 Sgt. 36 men) comes on at 13.00 and with 4 Sappers start connecting up main envelope on night of Post; working from both ends. Mullock from faces raised through 1st & 1st Weiges and carried

out through Com. Trenches to M.G. positions. Enemy reported by listeners as being close to left arm of N^o 23. During the night reported that he was working near N^o 38 but considers it was only surface sounds that were heard owing to the shattered state of the ground in that vicinity. All sounds of enemy at work cease about 11.00. Ground exceedingly hard where shifts are at work. Rate of progress about 1 ft per 4hr. shift. Supplying Infantry party on latrine shaft with drills and explosives. Lt. Butler leaves for left flank.

Sat. 18/9/15. No sounds of enemy during night. Shifts still working continuously on N^{os} 1+2 faces. Started 1 Sap and 2 Supts, deepening main envelope near 1D Wing. Listeners report distant sounds at N^{os} 42+43, sounds commencing about 15.00. Slight delay owing to shortage of candles. During the morning inspection of Post made by Col. Elliott + Capt. Sturdee. Heavy rifle + artillery fire from enemy from 17.00 to 17.30.

Sunday, 19/9/15. No sounds heard during the night. Trench party filling in some of the recesses which undercut the parapet in N^{os} 5+6 Posts. N^{os} 1+2 faces still working. Started N^o 18 at 21.00. No sounds heard during the day.

Mon. 20/9/15. Listeners report distant sounds during the night at N^o 43. One listener slightly affected with bad air in N^o 44. Found the air there fairly good on morning inspection. Trench party still filling in undercuts and on general repair work. New mining fatigue replace old at 17.00 shift. Same faces still working.

Tues. 21/9/15. Listeners report enemy at work near N^o 37. At 10.00 consider him about 4 or 5 ft distant. Lay charge of 6 lb. Ammonal in face of right arm. Tamping about 16 feet. Two electric deton. in Series and 1 safety fuse. Enemy ceases work here at 12.30. Waiting for him to return before firing. Mining shifts in same faces. Trench party general repair work.

Wed 22/9/15. At 01.42 enemy explode mine above face of N^o 18. Owing to depth of our gallery no damage done. Start 09.00 shift on N^o 21. Faces N^{os} 1+2 still working. Listeners report during day sounds of enemy near N^o 43.

Thurs. - 23/9/15. No sounds of enemy at work during night. Start Sap. + Inf. @ 13.00 opening out old saps at rear of right of Courbueys Post for disposal of spoil. At 17.00 break through main envelope. Start N^o 17 same shift and N^o 16. 21.00 shift.

Friday ^{24/9/15}. During the night no sounds of enemy at work. At 08.00 he commences again near the right arm of N^o 37. At 09.45 explode mine laid there on 21/9/15. Judging by explosion and the small amount of back throw, consider the charge has blown well forward and been effective. Faces working. - N^{os} 21, 17 + 16. Sapping to edge of cliff still proceeding.

Sat. 25/9/15. At 22.40 (24/9/15.) enemy explode mine a little to the left and above face of N^o 17. As before it blew to surface and caused no damage. Sap. to cliff completed 01.00. Heavy rifle and machine gun fire damage screens considerably. Trench party occupied all day in repairing same. Start infant. fatigue on excavation for kitchens. Faces still working N^{os} 21, 17 + 16. Enemy heard working during day at N^{os} 43 and 42. Some distance off.

Sun. 26/9/15. Trench party on screens + overhead cover in support trenches. Sounds during forenoon at 42 + 43. Faces working N^{os} 16, 17 + 21. At 20.00 listened at N^{os} 42 + 43 for 1 hour. Judge enemy to be some distance to left and above face of N^o 42.

Mon. 27/9/15. At 08.30 start 4 sappers timbering main envelope. (2) Four extra sappers on trench work, fixing parapets etc. Saw fatigue men from infantry for mining. (Total 44 + 1 Sgt) NO sounds of enemy mining.

Tues. - 28/9/15. - No sounds of enemy at work during night.

Trench party on screens and parapets. Fatigue parties change over. At 07.00 shift start N° 18 face again, attempting to get beneath enemy's overhead cover. Y's of Nos 16+17 proceeding. Today, two lamps procured. Finish food storage cut.

Wed. 29/9/15. - From 16.00 to abt. 20.30 enemy heard working continuously at N° 42. Appears to be to the left of N° 42 face and above. No sounds elsewhere. At 17.00 shift start No 21 again N° 16 being completed. Timbering main curtain proceeding during day. Parapets and screens being repaired. Inspection by Gen. Digge.

Thurs. 30/9/15. Repairs to screens & parapets as usual. Trial screen of 1" piping erected. Appears satisfactory. N° 17 stopped ahead of 13.00 shift. N° 18+21 going. During night listeners reported distant sounds right front N° 23. Timbering main curtain still proceeding. At about 18.00 fairly close sounds above N° 42, but work not continuous.

Frid. ^{1/10/15}~~3/9/15~~. Trench party increased to 1 N.C.O and 20 men

Parapet work going fairly well. Found that pipe screens are not satisfactory; two men cut with flying chips owing to rifle fire on pipes. During night face of N° 18 became very drummy. Put auger hole in 18 ins. Probably so on account of ground being slightly loosened by surface mines fired by Turks. Work on screens becoming much greater due to increased bombing and other fire. During day no sounds anywhere of enemy at work underground. Trenches inspected by Major Sturdee.

Sat. 2/10/15. Bomb Screen party kept particularly busy during day. Started sapping out to high ground at right of post. Parapets & traverses being repaired. N° 18+21 still proceeding also timbering of main curtain. At 13.20 enemy exploded surface mine to right front of 17. Large crater formed but no damage done to our workings. At 15.30 enemy again commences at N° 42. About 10 to 15 ft away. Also heard working at N° 23 for short time.

Sun. 3/10/15. Screens & parapets as usual. Party sapping
N^o 3 Sap (N^o 1 Post) on day work only. Allow on
timber work N^o 6 Post. Timbering main envelope
still proceeding. Faces 18 & 21 still going.

At 18.30 enemy starts work again at N^o 42 &
works continuously for about 6 hrs. Do not yet
consider him close enough to blow. Sounds also
reported heard front of N^o 38. Nothing continuous.
Also worked intermittently during day right front
N^o 23. This may be a source of danger to N^o 21.
Visited H^o Qr. D.E. with plans.

Mon. 4/10/15. Screens & Trench repairs as usual. Lightly party
(3) 1 N.C.O and 5 men take over job of erecting screens.
Started work on overhead cover for M.G. site.
Progress in faces 18 and 21 very slow. Timbering
main envelope proceeding. During afternoon
listeners reported sounds at 38 as though
tamping was being removed. Sappers work

double shift here clearing out tamping as far
as the 'Y' and listeners told to watch it carefully
during the night. In all probability it was
surface noises as ground about here is very
much broken. Party on N^o 3 Sap absent
during day. No sounds at N^o 42 but enemy
works fairly consistently during day at
N^o 23. After dark recover 9 lengths 4x4
attached to French wire in front of parapet.

Tues. 5/10/15. Making and repairing bomb screens as usual.
Revesting up trenches & parapets also new M.G.
loop hole and overhead cover for same.
At 17.00 started new shifts (1 N.C.O + 5 men) on
Surface Tunnel, work commencing from 1st Whizze.
Party on Sap N^o 3 still absent. Timbering &
clearing out main envelope + N^{os} 44 and 38.
During afternoon enemy heard right of Face N^o 18
& a good deal above. Cannot be heard from 17.
At 19.30 he again starts at 42. Distance here
estimated at 7 or 8 feet.

Wed 6/10/15. Parapets & loopholes and general trench repairs. Bomb Screens as usual. One fitter on pipe work at Monash Tanks 17.30. Two timber hooks for Cpt Arnold finished. Overhead for Mr. G. still proceeding. Nos 18, 21 and surface tunnel progressing. Shift 17.00 shaft cutting recess at head of N° 18 for charges. Timbering main envelope & cleaning out tamping. Enemy heard during day at N° 23. Tamping taken out of N° 38 as far as Y & light timber put in. Ground here very much broken. No sounds during day at N° 42. N° 18 completed at end of 17.00 shift.

Thurs 7/10/15. Overhead cover for Mr. G. completed also loopholes & parapets N° 1 Post. Started new bombing position in N° 3 Post. Surface Tnl. proceeding slowly; N° 21 also going. Shift which usually work in N° 18 put on cleaning out tamping from Nos 44 & 37. Timbering main

envelope proceeding. During day enemy only heard working opposite N° 23. Indefinite sounds heard in N° 38 but most likely from surface.

At 21.00 Division reports enemy using gas on right flank. See that all parties are supplied with helmets.

Frid 8/10/15. Last night's report re gas inaccurate. Apparently gas bombs were used. Trench and screen parties as usual. Timbering and deepening main envelope proceeding. Parties on cleaning out tamping from Nos 45, 37, 31 and 32. Bombing Pit in N° 3 Northern Post completed. Timber repairs to Bomb Proof. Nos 21 and Surface Tnl. proceeding. Enemy heard working consistently some distance to left and above face of N° 21. Also heard from N° 23. Probably same party. Started party on Officers Shelter in N° 1 Post support Trench. Sat 9/10/15. Work in N° 21 ceased at 09.00. N° 20 started to take place of N° 19 which was blown on 29/8/15

Withdrawal of tamping in Nos 27, 31 and 32 proceeding. Timbering main envelope also going. Small footages in Surface Tnl. owing to shifts engaged in widening and deepening same. Trench & screen parties as usual. No 3 Sap going slowly. Sprayer damaged by bomb repaired. Only place enemy heard working. - Right front of No 23 & left of 21: still some distance away. Explosion felt at 17.15 which was afterwards found to be one of ours at Courtney's.

Sun. 10/10/15. Withdrawal of tamping from listening galleries already fired still proceeding; also repairs to main envelope. For part of the 24 hrs. shifts still engaged in enlarging Surface Tunnel. No 3 Sap progressing slowly. Repairs to parapets and Bomb Screens. Finding that screens are taking a fairly large quantity of 3" x 3". Enemy still working consistently between Nos 23 and 21. Officers shelter in No 1 Post completed. Sap. Brownlee still on water supply work.

Mon. 11/10/15. Work on main envelope & listening Galleries still proceeding. Face of No 20 into broken ground caused by No 19 blow. Turning to left. Surface Tunnel & No 3 Sap. moving slowly. Parapets & loopholes in Nos 1 & 2 Posts. Bomb screens still suffering. Enemy still going hard between Nos 23 & 21. During afternoon shell fire on M.G. in No 1 Post. Very little damage to overhead cover. Inspection by Col. White.

Tues. 12/10/15. Work on No 20, main envelope & listening galleries still progressing. Timber work below about completed. No 3 Sap going slowly. Parapets, loopholes & Bomb screens as usual. Odd timbering jobs in Fire trench. Enemy still going hard between Nos 23 & 21. Now within hearing distance of 22. He was also heard from present end of No 44 some distance to the front. During afternoon discovered him at work on excavation revetted with large rectangular mud bricks about 100 yards from No 2 Post. Considerable damage done with Garland mortar. Trench catapult used for first time & did excellent work.

Wed. 13/10/15. Bomb screens, parapets & general trench repairs.

Deepening & cleaning out main envelope & listening galleries. Stopped work on N° 20 at 13.00 & started left arm from N° 18 to cover front of N° 19. Surface Tunnel & N° 3 Sap going very slowly owing to difficulty in getting spoil away. Enemy working consistently at 23 & appears to be driving parallel with our main envelope. Also hear him occasionally at N° 44.

Thur. 14/10/15. Bomb screens, parapets & general trench repairs. Finding that nearly all traverses of under 5 ft. in width have to be cut right out & replaced with sand bags owing to weight of parapets causing them to break away from interior slope of trench. Cleaning out & deepening of galleries still in progress. Left arm of N° 18, surface Tunnel & N° 3 Sap still going. About 11.00 enemy ceases work in front of N° 23 & has not been heard there or elsewhere since. A few sticks mortar bombs come over during day close to traverses but no damage done. (see sketch.)

Fri. 15/10/15. General trench repairs and removal of earth traverses. Not so busy with bomb screens. Party on at night recessing N° 3 Sap (2-2 men) & building parapets: 10 screens from N° 4 Coy. Main & listening galleries still being cleaned out and deepened. Flynn's Party starting from 1 G end. About midday enemy again commences work underground. Heard periodically between N° 35 & 36 & is working fairly consistently in front of N° 23 his nearest point at this place being estimated between 6 & 8 feet.

Sat. 16/10/15. Demonstration @ 03.30 which draws heavy rifle fire from enemy. Right arm N° 18 and surface Tunnel progressing. Parapets & general trench repairs. N° 3 Sap loopholed. Deepening & cleaning out of galleries still proceeding. At 03.30 enemy ceases work at N° 23. Listener report hearing sounds close to N° 26 R, but very sporadic. From abt. 12.00 he has been working in ~~an~~ an intermittent sort of way over our front between N° 27 and 38.

Sun. 17/10/15. General trench repairs & replacements of sandbags on parapets. Two more loopholes in No. 3 Sap. Surface Tunt: No. 18 R. and work on galleries still proceeding. Repairs to firing line gas lamps. Started on Magazine just inside mouth of Main Tnt. During the day enemy has done very little work underground & has approached no nearer to No. 23 R. He did a little work about 17.30 immediately above face of No. 18, probably digging in his own trench.

Mon. 18/10/15. Parapets & general trench repairs.

(5) Magazine excavation completed. Extending dump cap in Courtney's towards the right on account of lumps falling on kitchen below. Started 09.00 shift on extension No. 16 L last shift having completed No. 18 R. Surface Tunnel still proceeding. During the day enemy very quiet below. At about 19.30 he starts in front

of No. 23 & works fairly consistently for some hours but does not appear to be getting much closer. Has not been heard elsewhere. During forenoon hostilities suspended while exchange of goods (tobacco, jam, bully beef etc.) are made.

Tues. 19/10/15. Sap in Courtney's completed. No. 16 L and Surface Tnt. proceeding. Parapets, traverses and general trench repairs. Deepening of Main envelope progressing. 350 lbs. Ammunition brought up & stored in magazine. Brown Co still on water supply. During afternoon enemy has worked fitfully in front between Nos. 23 and 24 but appears to be driving parallel with our gallery. Still working here at 21.00. Also reported as heard in the distance between left front of No. 44, Bennett & Howells leave.

Wed. 20/10/15. N° 16 Left completed at 17.00. Following shifts start on 21 Left in order to intercept enemy before he reaches that Gallery. At 57 feet Surface Tunnel turned a little to the right as at this point it should be clear of broken ground. Parapets & trench repairs proceeding also deepening of Main envelope. Officers sleeping position in N° 3 Post completed.

Only place enemy has been heard working is left front of end of N° 4 A R. Distance over 15 feet.

Thurs. 21/10/15. N° 21 Left & surface Tunnel proceeding. No sounds of enemy below during day. Deepening of Main Gallery proceeding. Three parties on replacing parapets. Timbered up Magazine. Repairs to Snipers positions on left of post. Timbering up over head traverses. Party of 5 men on dugout in N° 1 Post. At 08.00 6" Howitz. gets on to enemy's overhead cover of sap 800 yds from post. Good shooting at 3500 yds range.

Frid. 22/10/15. N° 21 Left & Surface Tunnel still going. Footage from latter slightly better (5'0"). Parties still on deepening Main Gallery and on Trench repairs parapets. Started small excavation for stores on Tunnel mouth terrace. One sapper on repairs to snipers positions on left. During 24 hrs. no sounds of the enemy underground have been heard.

Sat. 23/10/15. Surface Tunnel at 90' turned to right so that should it cut enemy's gallery there will be a better chance of striking it where there is tamping. W. 21 still progressing. Parapets & deepening of Galleries also proceeding. Started party on kitchen for Post. Moved store up to Tunnel mouth terrace. Repairs to snipers positions completed. No sounds underground during day. Inspection by O.C.D.E. in the afternoon. Repairs to Gas Sprayer by Browder.

Sun. 24/10/15. Parapet repairs and usual work on
Main envelope. Commenced tunnel connection
between N^o. 3 Sap and firing line at 1 Co. Winge.
Works on Kitchen side almost completed. At 09.45
Surface Tunnel breaks into enemy tunnel (tamped)
hole was quietly enlarged and a little tamping
with drawn. Strong draught is coming through &
a little daylight can be seen which indicates
only a little tamping on our left. Work stopped
here and listeners posted. Charge of 350 lbs. Ammol.
placed in head of N^o. 18 with three electric
detonators in series and one Mark 8 with
instantaneous fuse. Tamped back for about 15 feet.
Surface Tunnel shifts not working from 21.00
to 09.00 (25/10/15). During day enemy has been
heard working to left of N^o. 21 & front of N^o. 22.
Also heard at N^o. 23 fairly close and to left
front of N^o. 44 some distance away.

Mon. 25/10/15. Work on N^o. 21 left ceased at 09.00. Following
⑥ shift commenced N^o. 45 Winge from which it is intended
to drive out a listening gallery to replace N^o. 45. The
break through in Surface Tunnel has been sand bagged up
until further orders and shifts of listeners posted there.
Report on canteen O.C. D.F. General repairs to benches
& parapets as usual. Excavation for Kitchen side about
completed. Deepening of Main envelope still proceeding
also Tunnel connection between N^o. 3 Sap & firing line
at 1 Co Winge. Enemy has been heard working in an
half hearted fashion to left of N^o. 21 Left. Wooden
loop hole made for M.G. Officer.

Tues. 26/10/15. N^o. 45 Winge down 8ft. Started driving
N^o. 45^A. N^o. 5 Drive deepened also deepening of
Main envelope proceeding. Shelter for O.C. Nos 1 & 2 Posts
completed. Repairs to Parapets as usual. Party on cleaning
up steps. Kitchen side completed. During night enemy
worked a little to left of N^o. 21 but no work during day.
Surface Tunnel listeners reported once or twice hearing
sounds, but don't consider it anything important.

Wed. 27/10/15. No further developments in Surface Tunnel.

During the 24 hrs. enemy has apparently done no work underground. Work on Main Gallery almost completed. N^o 45^A proceeding also N^o 3 Sap connection. Parapets + trench work as usual. One sapper on kitchen covers. Tested explosive spirit die takes 3 N^o 13 detonators in parallel easily. Party still on support dug out also Party on steps.

Thurs. 28/10/15. Repairs to parapets + trenches. Deepening of Main Gallery completed + parties now cleaning up generally below ground. N^o 45^A proceeding also N^o 3 Sap connection. Drainage tunnel has been started from Sap to main latrines. Binnet legs for Catapult bomb thrower finished by Allan. List of distribution of section sent to H. Q. at 17.00. No sounds have been heard of enemy below ground during the day.

Fri. 29/10/15. Parapets + trench repairs as usual. Faces proceeding are N^o 45^A, N^o 3 Sap Tunnel, and Drainage Tunnel. Parties still on deepening galleries. Enemy has been working fairly consistently during the day to the left of N^o 21 Left. Listener put down as 5 ft distant but not consider him quite so close. Once or twice listeners in Surface Tunnel reported they could hear footsteps and sounds of voices, which are apparently coming from old Turkish trench about 8 ft distant. Heavy bombing from this trench about 17.00. Thom, Bowra and 3 sappers of N^o 4 Coy gassed at Selly about 12.00.

Sat. 30/10/15. Usual work on parapets + trenches. At 09.00 start right arm of N^o 45^A at 20 feet. Drainage + N^o 3 Sap Tunnels still going, also parties on deepening main workings. Enemy has been working almost continuously at N^o 21 Left where should say he is about 8 ft away. If he continues will probably have to slow him tomorrow. He also did a little work at N^o 42. Surface Tunnel listeners report sounds of movements + voices at intervals.

Sun. 31/10/15. Traverse in N°1 Post by Messia party completed.

N°3 Sap. Tunnel breaks through. In drainage tunnel strikes old dugout which causes a bit of a run of loose earth overhead; putting a little ^{timber} ~~padding~~ in. Work on parapets as usual. N°45^A progressing satisfactorily. Saps on 7 man dugout in N°1 Post support still going. Accident to Sgt Owen 18th Battr. listner. Shot himself in ankle while cleaning rifle in main envelope. Orders from Brigade not to clean out filling surface Tunnel. Barricade of sand bags built.

Mon. 1/11/15. Repairs to approach & fire trenches. W-3

①7th Sap Tunnel being enlarged & deepened. Parapets as usual. Graded N°1 Post firing line. Work still proceeding on galleries, N°45^A and Drainage Tunnel. Small footage here on account of timbering necessary. Enemy still working in a ~~new~~ ^{new} fashion to left of 21 Left. He must be making practically no progress here as he only gives about 6 blows with the pick & then hibernates intensely for about 20 minutes. He has also been heard during the day working some distance away from the face of N°45^A.

Tues. 2/11/15. N°45^A & Drainage Tunnel progressing. About 18 feet along right arm of 45^A the floor sounds very drummy which is characteristic of the ground at this post. Faced through remaining ground in Drainage Tunnel footage being better today. Deepening of galleries still proceeding floor being very hard. Parapets & trench repairs. To the left of N°21 enemy has apparently ceased work no sounds of him there being heard during the day. He is very active to the front of 45^A which makes one think that as far as his mining work is concerned he is entirely on the defensive.

Wed. 3/11/15. Parapets, loopholes & general trench repairs

Deepening of galleries proceeding. Drainage Tunnel should break through tomorrow. Repairs by blacksmith to German mortar. N°3 Sap. Com. Trench completed. Right arm of 45^A has been stopped & the gallery itself is being pushed out to meet enemy before he gets closer. This is the only place he has been heard working.

Thurs. 4/11/15. Drainage tunnel breaks thro' satisfactorily.

Front of trench in racecourse collapses which necessitates a fair amount of timber repairs. Usual work on galleries, parapets and other trench repairs as usual. During day enemy again does a little work to left of N° 21. At about 17.20 he explodes a surface mine about 15 yds from the left of N° 6 Post. Men working in face of 45^A severely shaken but otherwise unhurt. Large flying clouds bury one man in fire trench & break in overhead cover in support trench burying 3 others. At about 20.30 heavy rifle & bomb fire from enemy all along line; but only place he attempted to attack was Chepham's Post which beat off attacks.

Fri 5/11/15. Repairs to overhead cover & trenches in N° 6 Post. Parapets & loopholes as usual. Party at work on base drain in Drainage Tub. One slight on 45^A Post; party engaged clearing out trench N° 6 Post. Listeners in Surface Tunnel

reported sounds of picking on and off during the day. Think these are sounds of enemy to left of N° 21 where he has been working in an intermittent sort of way during the last 24 hrs. No other sounds below ground.

Sat. 6/11/15. N° 45^A (centre arm) has been stopped at 45' from our envelope and recess for charge is being cut. Work on galleries still proceeding. Repairs to firing line and overhead cover in support trenches; loopholes and parapets. Wallaby loophole fixed up in N° 2 Post. Filling in of Drainage tunnel proceeding. Enemy has been working fairly consistently to the front of N° 21 (i.e. behind his old trench); also a little picking heard close to N° 21 left, but don't consider he is making any progress here to speak of. Hunter memo. re protection from shell fire received today.

Sun.

7/11/15. Recess at head of 45^A completed. Left arm commenced 17.00 shift. Deepening of galleries and repairs to firing line, support trenches and parapets. Repairs to overhead cover in N^o 6 post bigger job than anticipated, practically all the rear wall having to come down and rebuild. During the night enemy has done very little work at N^o 21 and has not been heard elsewhere. 18th Batt. listeners replaced at 17.00 by 17th men.

Mon. 8/11/15. Left arm of N^o 45^A proceeding.

⑧ Repairs to support & firing line overhead cover, also parapets and loopholes. Filters on top of water tanks. Party on withdrawing camping from N^o 18. Trial for change being made. Enemy has been heard once or twice tapping at N^o 21 but don't think he is doing anything that can be called work.

Tues. 9/11/15. Left arm N^o 45^A still proceeding.

Galleries being deepened and N^o 4 Waize enlarged. General trench and overhead cover repairs. N^o 3 Section requiring much attention. During the night enemy worked a little harder at N^o 21 but has been very quiet there during the day. Once or twice listeners reported they could hear him in the distance from N^o 21 but probably this was surface sounds the ground overhead here being very broken.

Wed. 10/11/15. Recess cut at end of 45^A left-arm & work here stopped. Shifts now cutting T head at end of right-arm. Repairs to overhead cover in N^o 3 Post and usual trench and parapet repairs. Party on cleaning up steps in approach trenches. Work on galleries proceeding and X cut from main Tunnel going north started.

Enemy has been working harder than usual at N^o-21 and is getting rather close to heart of long arm. He has also been working out from left arm and appears to be working towards the other man.

Thurs. 11/11/15. Right arm of N^o-45^A branches off to cover ground between here and right arm of N^o-44. Deepening work on Main Rear Gallery continues also on X cut north from Main Tunnel. Usual repairs to overhead cover and firing trenches. At 12.30 laid charge of 340 lbs. Ammonal in recess at heart of N^o-21. Started tamping 13.30 and completed at 20.00 about 32 ft. Delay caused by bad air the men frequently having to come out. Before firing charge at 20.30 lighted fuse of small flare to ignite gasses. At the time of exploding charge enemy was working about 5 ft. distant. Instructed mining shifts in 45^A to cease work till 01.00. and listness to come on again at 01.00 (12/11/15), but not to go south of N^o-6 Drive.

Frid. 12/11/15. N^o-45^A still progressing footage being lower owing to one shift being put on to tampo N^o-21.

Parties deepening Main rear gallery and X cut north progressing slowly. Usual work on fire trenches and overhead cover. Since blowing N^o-21 no sounds have been heard of enemy at work underground.

Sat. 13/11/15. N^o-45^A completed about 20.00. Shifts then started on recess for N^o-38^A Winze.

Parties still deepening Main gallery, X cut north still going. States N^o-6 Tunnel underlie from Main gallery.

Usual repairs to overhead cover, benches parapets etc. After we had knocked off N^o-45^A enemy commenced work to the front & above right arm, so probably he has cleaned out as much tamping as possible from his last blow & commenced driving again. No other sounds.

Sun. 14/11/15. Recess for 38^A completed and 3' of winze sunk. Parties on Main gallery & cut north and N^o 5 tunnel underlie. Party on overhead cover in N^o 2 Post and the usual daily repairs to parapets & benches in general. Enemy can be still heard working from 45^A & 44.

He has also been heard once or twice during the day well out from N^o 23 which may possibly be the sounds listeners say they can hear from surface tunnel. Bomb screens in N^{os} 5 & 6 Posts having a rough time.

Mon. 15/11/15. Underground works progressing are -

① N^o 38^A Winze; & Cuts north & south from N^o 14 (Main) Tunnel; Underlie from Main gallery to connect with end of N^o 6 Tunnel. Also deepening of Main gallery northwards. Usual Repairs to overhead cover, fire benches & parapets. Bomb screens during the night got badly knocked about.

Enemy is still working above right-arm of N^o 45^A but in a nervous fashion and does not appear to be making much footage. He was also heard during the afternoon some distance out from face of N^o 18 (centre arm) but is not working continuously here.

Tues. 16/11/15. Party on all day with drawing temping from N^o 21 and stacking it in main curtain between 1st Winze and N^o 16. N^o 38^A Winze completed and drive started. At 17.00 shifts start on N^o 40 (extending). Day shifts on & cut south from N^o 7 tunnel and underlie to N^o 6 Tunnel. Repairs to overhead cover & benches in general.

Enemy is still working at 45^A and was also heard for a few minutes between but out from 18 Right & 17 left. Was heard as well out from 18 Centre probably same party.

Wed 17/11/15. At 09.00 shifts start on recesses in
N^o 1 Post for N^{os} 1 + 2 Tunnels, also on x Cut
south from N^o 7 Tunnel. Completed with drawing
tamping from N^o 21. laid 150 lbs. (4 times) in
right arm N^o 45^A. Party on till 21.00 tamping.
Usual repairs to fire trench + parapets.
Enemy working 45^A and 18 right.
At 20.30 demonstration by enemy. Heavy
storm at time.

Thurs 18/11/15. Since tamping 45^A enemy has done
no continuous ^{work} there. Disturb on working
for him to return. In N^o 1 Post 3 shifts lost
owing to storm and 2 shifts in other
faces. Very little damage done by storm
to trenches. Usual parties on trenches, parapets
+ overhead cover. W^o Jones (surveyor) starts
work with Hill. During night enemy did
a little work out from right arm of 18
at about 20.00 enemy started work again at
45^A. At 21.15 exploded mine there which

I consider was satisfactory. During night
mines from N^{os} 40 + 38^A coming out
of main Tnl.

Fri 19/11/15. At about 16 feet N^o 38^A strikes
broken ground so have turned off right
arm, and continuing N^o 40 in downward
grade. At 13.00 shifts start on N^o 8
Tnl. Grade 1 in 5 1/2. Recesses for N^{os} 1 + 2
Tnl. progressing in N^o 1 Post. Usual trench
+ parapet repairs. Since blowing N^o 45^A
enemy has not been heard working
anywhere below ground.

Sat 20/11/15. Work on x Cut north from N^o 7 Tunnel
intermittent consequently short forays there.
Work of N^o 8 Tnl. tramped up + work there
progressing satisfactorily. N^{os} 1 + 2 underlies
38^A, 40 + x Cut south. proceeding. Usual
trench + overhead cover repairs. Allen sent
off to hospital. During day enemy does
a little work 15 feet or so from N^o 23.

Sun

21/11/15. Due to fire shift on N° 40 did not come on so have had corporal in charge relieved. Three sets timber put in N° 2 Trench Underline. Other faces progressing satisfactorily. Work daily repaired to parapets and bomb screens which lately have been getting badly knocked about at night. Enemy has been heard out from left arm of N° 23 (distant) and also a few taps to right of N° 18.

Mon. 22/11/15. Usual parapet & bomb screen repairs.

Three sets timber put in N° 2 Trench Underline.

All other faces progressing fairly well.

At about 16.00 enemy started working

heard fairly close to left arm N° 37

apparently to try & stop right arm of 38^A

Recess being put in this from 17.00 to

21.00 shift. Enemy has also been

working fairly consistently to the right of N° 18, but very hard to place his exact

directions

Tues. 23/11/15. Party on day shift withdrawing tampering from N° 45^A. Just beyond right arm the ground very broken so probably little of the drive will be recovered. Overhead cover put in N° 1 Trench Underline. Other faces progressing satisfactorily.

Daily work on overhead cover & parapets.

At 37, enemy ceased work about 06.00

and has not been heard there since.

At intervals during the day & night he has been heard to the right of N° 18.

At about 20.00 while our men were working

in left arm of 38^A, enemy exploded mine

close to left arm of 37 where he had

ceased work this morning. No harm

was done to any of the men or underground

workings. A couple of screens in the

workings were flattened & one man

slightly injured in trench.

Wed. 24/11/15. Same faces working and usual daily repair work. At 18.00 all underground work ceases listeners only being kept on. During the night everything very quiet.

Thurs. 25/11/15. At daybreak enemy sent out bombing parties who were allowed to come up as far as our screens when they were driven off. All work ceases during the day. Enemy heard working at N^o 18 right arm, N^o 23 and N^o 32. Extra listener per shift put on. Arrangements made for shifts to come on again at 21.00.

Fri. 26/11/15. 75 lb charge laid in right arm of N^o 32, enemy working here until dark when he knocked off. Very small footage in W^os 1+2 under his. Putting shifts on tank work. After 21.00 shifts in W^o 1 lost - hands he knocked off on account of bad weather.

Sat. 27/11/15. - Face still proceeding. No work being done to parapets or fire trenches. Work on W^os 1+2 Tubs delayed owing to heavy storm. Started N^o 6 Tub. from approach trench, continue shifts on here tomorrow. Starting all mining work on 6 hr. shifts with 12 hrs off. Men from 17th Batta. - Mining 12 men 2 N.C.Os.

Surface 3 men.

From 20th Batta. - Mining 84 men 15 N.C.Os.

During the day enemy has not been so busy underground as his work in N^o 18 + 45^A was very intermittent since taking charge in N^o 32. He has not returned there.

Sun. 28/11/15. During night heavy snowstorm. Hand faces going but progress slow. X Cushman completed a shift now working towards left (W^o 6 Tub.) to meet under his from rear gallery. Repairs to approach trenches in N^o 3 both ways also to parapets & board screens things being again normal. Enemy doing a little work in 45^A under arm. Laid charge of 120 lbs (3 tons) in N^o 23 left & partly tamped same.

Mon. 29/11/15. Shifts from 20th Battalion coming in late and under strength, reported to Brigade. Repairs for 36^A completed & wings overhauled. Other faces as usual. No sounds of enemy at either 32 or 23; only place he has done any work being at 45^A where he appears to be working slowly across to left arm. Ground frozen hard and consequently dry.

Tues. 30/11/15. Repairs to parapets & screens. Party on deepening approach trenches to N^o 2 Post 36^A and other faces progressing as usual.

Footages in N^{os} 1 & 2 very poor.

Enemy did hear during a little work underground about 10 feet distant from left arm of N^o 45^A. No other sounds elsewhere below ground. Day fine & clear but very cold.

Wed. 1/12/15. Loopholes in N^o 1 Post and usual repairs to parapets and screens. Party on new bombing pit in N^o 2 Post supports. N^o 6 Tunnel central breaks through into underlie from main rear gallery. N^o 1 x cut from N^o 1 Tunnel cleared other faces as usual. During night enemy did a little work at N^o 23 left as completed tamponing charge laid there since when he has done no more work. Listeners to report immediately he starts again. No sounds elsewhere below ground. Day clear but cold.

Thurs. 2/12/15. Bomb pit N^o 2 Post completed. Other party on trenches & parapets. Infantry party of 1 happens on withdrawing tamponing from N^o 23 which had been blown at 20.30 last night. A few minutes before blowing enemy was working two pits. Explosion blew to surface owing to previous blow in N^o 21 loosening the ground over a considerable area, but thinks it was effective in smashing enemy's works. Right arm of

N^o 24 damaged but can be cleared out & timbered when men are available.

Reinforcements in faces for 24 hrs. a little better but can still improve a good deal.

From 3/12/15. Shifts usually on 36th Wing have, during the day, been withdrawing tamping from N^o 23.

The right arm and about 4 ft. of the left being opened up. N^o 6 Tunnel breaks through to a cut South. Parties again put on a cut North.

Progress in N^{os} 1 & 2, Tunnels rotten only about

1-3" from each face for 24 hrs. Usual work on support & fire trenches. At about 04.00 enemy

again starts work at N^o 32. At 07.00 mine laid here a week ago was exploded. Three

seconds after there was a second explosion causing a violent rush of air throughout

galleries and bringing down some of the roof of main envelope in the vicinity of N^o 32.

No surface disturbance was observed; tamping

was not displaced neither were there any signs on walls of drive of gasses having ignited. Do not consider the secondary explosion was due to heat detonation as charge (70 lbs) had two electric detonators in series, but it may possibly be due to deterioration in charge itself as it has been lying for a week & was not in this as is usually the case. Since blowing no sounds have been heard of enemy at work below ground.

Sat. 4/12/15. At 16 ft. N^o 36th starts driving out. N^o 8 Int party starts driving south to meet a cut from

N^o 7 Int. N^o 6 Int. party starts on recesses. Other faces the same. Cpl. Allen's party timbering up

fire trench in N^o 3 Post. Other work as usual on parapets & approach trenches. Enemy has not been

heard below ground during the day. Numerous rifle bombs on terraces during the morning.

Sun. 5/12/15. Footings in all faces slightly better, totalling 23' 6". Timber work in W^o 3 Northern after gassing. Fairly heavy day on bomb screens. Still no sounds of enemy below ground. Inspection by O.C.D.B. & Major Shuter.

Mon. 6/12/15. Total footings for day 28' 0". Timbering firing line in W^o 3 Northern completed. Thomson and assistant on ladder way from comm. trench into W^o 4 Domic. During afternoon Cpl. Mann & two men on reserve firing position behind W^o 3 Northern. Timber firing step for additional 3 men in W^o 2 supports. Enemy gave a few taps at 45^A but did no work.

Tues. 7/12/15. Owing to 20th Batta shifts being sent to shells for repairs to trench footage in all faces drop, totalling only 14' 6". Start W^o 6 2nd party on cutting approach to W^o 9 2nd. Other faces the same. Cpl. Mann & Bowler on rear firing position W^o 3 Post. Ladderway to W^o 4 Domic completed. Scrapets in W^o 2 Post backed up on outside with spoil from W^o 1 Post. No sounds of enemy below ground.

Wed. 8/12/15. Footings for day better. - Total 29' 9". W^o 7-8 & cut breaks through. Shifts closed down by 19.30 when work to W^o 9 will be commenced. Entrance to W^o 9 timbered up. Parkin still on reserve firing position in W^o 3 Post. One capper & assistant on sandbag traverses in firing line of W^o 4 Post, one about completed. Scrapets & bomb screens during the day have required a good deal of attention. One capper on general plumbing work on post. Surveyor & assistant kept busy. During the afternoon enemy has been working fairly close to centre arm of W^o 45^A.

Thurs. 9/12/15. Footage = 29' 0". Extra shift from 17th B.Lt. goes on to 36^A which releases 20th B.Lt. shift for work on shelters. Right arm of W^o 36^A commenced at 18'. Three cappers from this face put on shifts in W^o 2 Post. to try and push it a little faster. Last night enemy was again heard playing about 45^A about 6 or 7 feet distant. Charge of 80 lbs. laid in left T. of centre arm & partly lamped. No sounds

of line elsewhere below.

Parties still in firing positions in rear of W^o 3

Post and traverses in W^o 4 firing line.

Cpl. Allen & party commence on rebuilding of

shelters on terraces. Others employed on our face, -

Sapper on screens & sgt jobs, Flumber and

Surveyor & assistant.

Fri. 10/12/15. Footage for day = 30 feet. Marked increase

in W^o 2 Tunnel footage with corresponding decrease

in 36^F due to changing over of sappers. Footage in

W^o 3 Tub. falling as ground becomes harder. No counts

of enemy during the day.

Firing position in rear W^o 3 Central completed. Party

now on deepening approach trench to same. Position in

rear W^o 3 Northern should be completed tomorrow.

Traverse in W^o 5 firing line in progress.

One Sapper with infantry on repairs to W^o 5 Approach

trench which collapsed during the night.

Party on terrace shelters under Cpl. Allen increased to

8 men working 8 hrs. per day. During the day W^o 2 Post

and rear of W^o 3 heavily bombed.

Sat. 11/12/15. Footage 28' 3". At 19.30 all work on deep

shelters cease. The three 17th Batt. shifts on 36^F are

being reduced to two the 01.30 shift tonight - not

coming on. In W^o 1 Post there is only 5' to go to break

thro'. Consider this should be done as this Post would

then have a certain amount of shelter with

two outlets. During the afternoon enemy has been

heard distant from 3rd. He has also played a

little at 45^F. Firing position in rear W^o 3 Wth

just about completed. Traverse in W^o 5 holed

and completed, parados still to be reworked.

One Sapper & party deepening W^o 3 approach trench.

Fair progress being made on best for terrace shelters.

Two additional screens erected in W^o 2 Post.

Thomson on repairs to loophole & overhead cover

in W^o 3 blown in by bomb. Flumber & Surveyors

as usual.

