

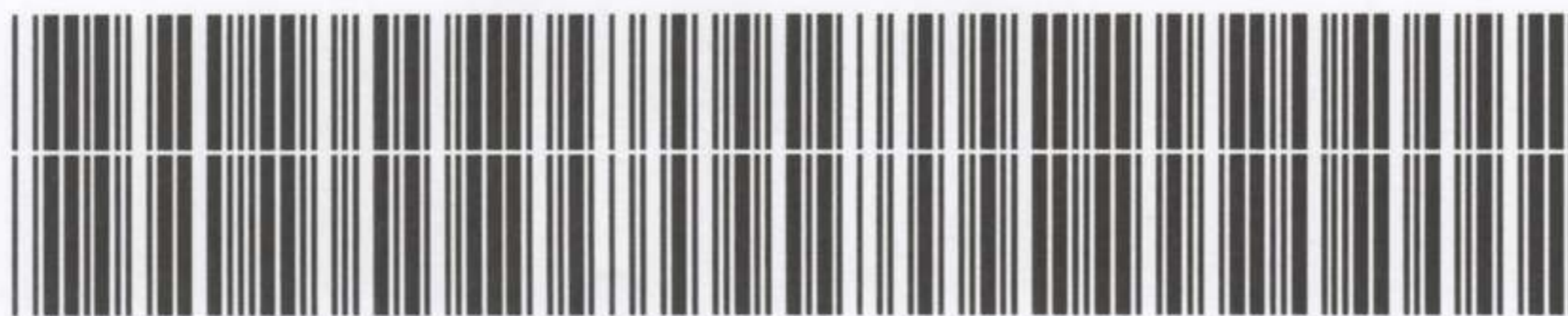
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/14/10 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 4th Army

August 1918



AWM4-1/14/10PART2

10th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 10th August, 1918. *e73*

1. The operations were continued with success. N. of the SOMME the III Corps advanced the line about 2,000 yards during the night 9/10th August, and the 4th Aust. Div. captured ETINEHEM on the evening of the 10th August. S. of the SOMME considerable opposition was met with, chiefly from machine guns. The Canadian Corps succeeded in advancing to the general line PARVILLERS (exclusive) - FOUQUESCOURT (exclusive) - HALLU (exclusive) and the Australian Corps captured MERICOURT. An enemy counter-attack N.W. of LIHONS was repulsed during the night with heavy losses.

In the ALBERT sector hostile artillery was very active on our front line trenches N. of the ANCRE. The SOMME Valley was shelled at intervals during the day.

S. of the AMIENS - CHAULNES Railway, shelling was light and scattered.

Our counter-batteries directed heavy neutralising fire against 48 hostile batteries, and a captured 15 cm. howitzer battery manned by our gunners fired 250 rounds into BRAY.

2. CAVALRY CORPS.

The 3rd Cav. Div. followed in rear of the attacking troops of the Cdn. Corps and pushed forward in the direction of DAMERY and FOUQUESCOURT. The 1st and 2nd Cav. Divs. remained in reserve.

The resistance of the enemy was found to be weakening and, in consequence, the 3rd Cavalry Division was ordered to press forward and secure the high ground N. and E. of ROYE, and the 2nd Cav. Div. to seize NESLE. The nature of the ground E. of MEHARICOURT - ROUVROY and the strength of the enemy's resistance rendered this movement impossible. At night fall the cavalry were withdrawn to the LUCE Valley, W. of CAYEUX.

III CORPS.

During the night and early morning the 58th Division, in conjunction with the 131st U.S. Regiment, advanced to the line of the old AMIENS defences E. of BOIS DE TAILLES. Over 50 guns were counted in the captured area.

The same evening a successful minor operation was carried out by the 12th Division advancing the line on the left to the old AMIENS defences. Several prisoners were secured.

The total prisoners captured by the III Corps since the 8th August numbered 100 officers and 2,860 o.r.

.... CANADIAN CORPS.

10th August, 1918.

CANADIAN CORPS.

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At 8.0 a.m. the 32nd Division and 4th Cdn. Div., supported by tanks, moved through the infantry holding the line and renewed the advance towards the ROYE - CHAULNES line.

By 10.0 a.m., in spite of strong opposition from CHILLY, the 4th Cdn. Div. established the line FOUQUESCOURT - CHILLY - W. half of HALLU - thence to the railway about A.9 central. The 32nd Division captured LE QUESNOY and pushed forward to the line LA CAMBUSE - L.28.a. - L.17 central. Notwithstanding the arrival of fresh divisions, the enemy's resistance was found to be weakening. Numerous fires were started by the enemy in villages and at dumps behind their lines.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

MERICOURT was occupied by the 2nd Aust. Div. on the evening of August 10th. Only slight resistance was encountered. The 4th Aust. Div. captured ETINEHEM and established the line E. of ETINEHEM - L.20 central - L.18 central. The enemy still held the ETINEHEM spur in the bend of the SOMME to S.E. of the village and it was not until two days later that the whole of the spur was captured.

During the day's operations 200 prisoners were captured and our casualties were light.

3. THIRD ARMY.

Situation quiet and unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

During the day the French renewed the advance in the direction of ROYE, and at the close of the day's operations, after severe fighting, established the line ELINCOURT - REQUEBERG - MANCEAU - station West of ROYE - CONCHY - LA POSTE - BUS - GRIVILLERS - MARQUIVILLERS - ANDECHY.

The British Mission G.A.R. reported that the French attacked at 4.20 a.m. between MERY and ANTHEUIL. At the end of the day the line was established CHEVINCOURT - ELINCOURT - PLESSIER - CONCHY. More than 1,000 prisoners and 24 guns were captured in this operation.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

964 hours were flown by 314 pilots.
7 successful reconnaissances, 57 contact and 24 artillery patrols were carried out. During the last

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34 zone calls were sent down and 3 hostile batteries successfully neutralised.

Our aircraft were very active and carried out 367 offensive patrols. 60 air combats took place resulting in 9 E.A. destroyed and 8 E.A. brought down out of control. 10 of our machines are missing.

23 - 112 lbs and 128 25-lbs bombs were dropped by night on LE PLATEAU station, BRIE and ST. CHRIST bridges. 44 112-lbs and 338 25-lbs bombs were dropped by day on various targets.

(b) Hostile.

Enemy aircraft activity showed a marked increase in the number of fighting planes operating over the army front. At night enemy machines were very active engaged in bombing the main AMIENS - WARFUSEE road and villages in the forward area.

6. PRISONERS.

27 officers and 991 o.rs. were captured.

7. WEATHER.

Fine with clouds.

8. RELIEFS and MOVES.

1st, 2nd, 3rd Cdn. Divs. reverted to Corps reserve on 4th Cdn. Div. and 32nd Div. taking over the line.

2nd Aust. Div. relieved 3rd Aust. Div. in line, Aust. Corps sector on night 9/10th August.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps. 1st*, 2nd and 3rd Cav. Divs.

III Corps. 12th, 18th, 47th, 58th, 63rd (G.H.Q. reserve) Divs.
1 bde. 33rd American Div.

Canadian Corps. 1st*, 2nd*, 3rd*, 4th Cdn.,
32nd Divisions.

Australian Corps. 1st, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th, 5th*, Aust.
17th (G.H.Q. reserve) Divs.
1 bde 33rd American Div.

* Corps reserve.

.... AMMUNITION.

10th August, 1918.

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10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13 pdr. A.A. H.E.	696
" " S.	351
13 pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	366
" " S.	631
18 pdr. H.E.	47414
" " S.	75990
" " smoke	1297
4.5" How. H.E.	34304
" " smoke	726
" " gas	300
60 pdr. H.E.	6689
" " S.	6067
6" How. H.E.	19878
" " gas	594
6" Mk. VII H.E.	936
" " S.	626
8" How.	4064
9.2" How.	2385

10th August, 1918.

Operation messages - 1.

6.5 a.m. From 5th Brigade R.A.F.

6 a.m. report: three E.A. crashed, one forced to land on our side, three out of control, one balloon in flames; 1268 25-lb., 68 112-lb. bombs on bridges, troops and trains etc. By night 23 112-lb., 126 25-lb. bombs on BRIE and ST. CHRIST bridges and LE PLATEAU Station.

6.18 a.m. From III Corps.

Right Battalion of 12th Division reported pushed back during the night to line K.11.c.4.3 to K.4.c.2.7. No report as to counter-attack ordered by 12th Division yet received. On remainder of Corps front situation quiet.

6.40 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning situation quiet. Light scattered shelling of forward area and some machine gun fire. Patrols moved into RAINECOURT and PROYART during night. Two O.R., one of 19th Australian Battalion and one of K.O.Y.L.I., both of whom were captured last April, came into Centre Division last evening.

7.5 a.m. From III Corps.

Unwounded prisoners through Corps cages since 6 p.m. yesterday 20 officers, 50 O.R.; estimated coming in - 400 O.R.

8.20 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Morning report. No report received yet from Canadian Corps this morning. Latest last night they had captured MEHARICOURT and part of ROUVROY. Australians captured LIHONS yesterday evening with Divisional H.Q. complete. Australian patrols have entered RAINECOURT and PROYART. III Corps attack yesterday evening successful. Their line now runs approximately K.24.c. - K.17.central - K.11.c.4.3 - K.4.c.2.7 - E.28.c. - E.28.a.5.7 - E.21.b.0.7. Prisoners taken by Fourth Army now exceed 17,000.

8.35 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Right Division report quiet night. Lines down to Centre and Left Divisions: no report received yet. Line last night as far as known East of BOUCHOIR - L.14.c.1.1 held by one brigade Right Division; L.14.c.1.1 to F.27.b.7.4 held by two brigades Centre Division; thence East of MEHARICOURT to railway in vicinity of quarry F.12.a., also by two brigades Left Division. 3rd Canadian Division believed to be pushing on with a view to securing LE QUESNOY.

10.43 am. From Australian Corps.

1st Australian Division reports right of Right Brigade practically on final objective. Situation in the centre not reported.

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10th August, 1918.

Operation Messages - 2.

12.25 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

1st and 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigades report at 10.30 a.m. that attack appears to be progressing favourably on their front. G.O.C. 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade reports big fires at CHAULNES: apparently enemy burning big supply depots.

12.30 pm. From Liaison Officer.

First French Army hold ERCHES - SAULCHOY - DAVENESCOURT - FIGNIERES - ETELFAY - FAVEROLLES - PIENNES - ONVILLERS.

1.25 pm. From General Webber (by telephone).

Reports not conclusive, but believed we hold MAUCOURT. Tanks reported going in there and infantry seen on far side. PARVILLERS believed taken. DAMERY is uncertain. Despatch rider went as far as LA CAMBUSE cross roads.

2.35 p.m. From 22 Wing (by telephone).

11.30 a.m. Our line runs CHILLY inclusive - W. edge FRANSART - FRESNOY. French hold ANDECHY - VILLERS-le-ROYE. On Southern front French line runs MARGNY - RESSONS-sur-MATS - ORVILLERS - MONTDIDIER all inclusive. Complete route of enemy West of ROYE.

~~11.45 am.~~ 11.45 a.m. (No. 41 Squadron) - 50 H.T. entering ROYE from N.W. ROYE itself and roads leading E. and S.E. packed with H.T. and M.T. attempting to get away.

12.30 p.m. (No. 48 Squadron) - Fire in PERONNE. 500 infantry entering ROYE from CARRE PUIITS. 20 M.T. entering ROYE from S.W. One battalion of infantry resting by roadside E. of CARRE PUIITS. 12.45 p.m.

12 M.T. West of PRUSLE. One train HAM to NESLE. Area N.E. of CHAULNES isolated transport, general tendency N.E. Isolated groups of men, 20 in each, moving towards SOMME from E. near BRIE and ST. CHRIST. GUIZANCOURT aerodrome quiet: no machines seen.

BRAY and neighbourhood quiet. CHAULNES quiet. 60 M.T. going North from ATHIES. 1.30 p.m. (No. 35 Squadron) - fair amount of movement on roads East of CAPPY in both directions. 20 M.T. moving South in

62.C. A.28.c. Uncertain if we hold whole of BOIS de TAILLES (K.12 & 18).

2.40 p.m. From Col. Lister (by telephone).

French have captured ANDECHY, WARSY and ETELFAY. 6th French Cavalry Division have gone through at ERCHES towards ROYE. 2nd French Cavalry Corps working from PIENNES towards ROYE.

2.53 p.m. From Cavalry Corps.

Situation 1.30 p.m. as follows:- 3rd Cavalry Division moving forward through WARVILLERS on ROUVROY. Advanced troops in touch with infantry at DAMERY and PARVILLERS. 2nd Cavalry Division ordered forward to position of readiness.

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10th August, 1918.

Operation Messages - 3.

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3.15 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

No. 5 Squadron R.A.F. report timed 11 a.m. - 6 tanks advancing between MEHARICOURT and CHILLY. Report timed 11.20 a.m. - first tank line entering MAUCOURT from N.W. and West.

4 p.m. From 22nd Wing (by telephone).

2.15 to 2.45 p.m. 48th Squadron at 4,000 feet, area MOISLAINS, TINCOURT, ESTREES-en-CHAUSSEE, MATIGNY, NESLE.

PERONNE-DOINGT Road full of transport going S.E. Five M.T. going East of TINCOURT; otherwise TINCOURT - PERONNE Road clear. PERONNE - NURLU Road clear. PERONNE - LONGAVESNES Road clear. BRIE - ESTREES-en-CHAUSSEE Road clear except for 12 stationary M.T. between BRIE and PRUSLE. PERONNE very active - three or four M.T. stationary at FOUCAUCOURT. 15 M.T. moving both ways between ESTREES and BRIE. Isolated transport moving N.E. between FOUCHES and OMIECOURT. 25 M.T. from MATIGNY - VOYENNES. Slight scattered movement NESLE - HAM Road. Area between COLOGNE VALLEY and HAM appeared quiet generally. Railways:- PERONNE station R.S. for about 10 trains. R.S. for three trains at LA CHATTELETTE. R.S. for three trains in NESLE. PERONNE - ROISEL line clear. TINCOURT Station empty. Large fire at dump FRESNOY-les-ROYE. One train entering ROYE from South. One train in NESLE with steam up.

7.7 p.m. From III Corps.

12th Division report attack appears to be going well. Enemy heavy artillery barrage stopped at zero plus 11 minutes. 58th Division report all trenches South of track running K.11.b. N.E. to K.6.d. taken. 9th Londons now have three companies in these trenches in touch with 131st American Regt. at K.12.d.9.0.

7.55 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation at 5 p.m. appears as follows:- LA CAMBUSE cross roads where we are in touch with the French thence West of DAMERY to centre of PARVILLERS to FOUQUESCOURT exclusive to MAUCOURT and CHILLY inclusive to HALLU exclusive thence along railway to A.10.c.1.0 where we are not in touch with Australians.

8 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Situation report. Canadian Corps have reached LE QUESNOY - DAMERY - PARVILLERS - FOUQUESCOURT - MAUCOURT and CHILLY. Australians have captured MERICOURT. Line now runs W. of GOYENCOURT, FRESNOY-les-ROYE and FRANSART - E. of CHILLY - F.6.c. - E. of LIHONS - S.19.b. - W. of RAINECOURT and PROYART - E. of MERICOURT to SOMME in Q.5.a. along W. bank of SOMME to K.24.central - L.13.c.5.0 - L.13.central - K.12.d.9.0 - AMIENS defences to K.6.c.8.2 - K.4.b.7.5 - E.28.a.2.2 - E.21.c.4.6. Enemy infantry resistance weakening notwithstanding arrival of fresh divisions. Numerous fires started by enemy in villages and dumps behind their lines. Prisoners now amount to 19,000.

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10th August, 1918.

Operation messages - 4.

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8.30 p.m. From General Home, per Lt.-Col. James, R.A.F.

From reports received it was decided to push two Cavalry Divisions through the infantry and attempt to reach ROYE and NESLE. All three divisions were ordered forward, the 3rd on ROYE and the 2nd on NESLE. Reports now received (5 p.m.) show that the infantry are still held up in DAMERY and PARVILLERS and the advanced brigade has been held up at these points. The 2nd Cavalry Division which was to have advanced via FOUQUESCOURT and LA CHAVATTE is reported held up on line through FOUQUESCOURT.

11.54 pm. From III Corps.

During the night and early morning the 58th Division and 131st American Infantry Regt. advanced their line through the woods to the line of the old AMIENS defences. Operations carried out successfully by 12th Division this evening advanced our line on the left to the old AMIENS defences, some prisoners being captured. Line now runs K.12.d.8.0 - 6.a.7.0 - 5.b. - trenches in E.29.d. - 29.a.3.4 - 28.b.8.8 - 22.d. and b. Over 50 guns have been counted by the 58th Division in their area. Total prisoners captured now amounts to 100 officers and 2,860 O.R.

11.58 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation as reported up to 8 p.m. Right Division held up on line LA CAMBUSE L.28.a.5.0 - L.17.central. Left Division have FOUQUESCOURT, CHILLY, Western half of HALLU (doubtful) thence to railway about A.9.central. Right Division captured 4 field guns with limbers in R.3.d. Right Division are attacking DAMERY, PARVILLERS and LA CHAVATTE at dawn.

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FOURTH ARMY. 281

10th August, 1918.

WEEKLY APPRECIATION.

FOR PERIOD FROM 3rd to 9th AUGUST, 1918 (INCLUSIVE).

1. OPERATIONS.

Between the 3rd and the 8th inst., the enemy showed increased activity, carrying out three raids between HANGARD and CASTEL, with the object, no doubt, of obtaining confirmation of reports he had received that the British had extended their front southwards. He probably obtained identifications sufficient to show that the Australian Corps had extended their front to the River LUCE.

On the 6th inst., the enemy attacked and captured three lines of trenches astride the BRAY - CORBIE road. The attack was a surprise and was carried out by a good division (27th) which had probably been transferred for the purpose from the direction of LILLE. A considerable amount of the ground lost was regained by counter-attacks on the following day.

At 4.20 a.m., on the 8th inst., the Fourth Army attacked on a front of 20,000 yards, extending from immediately south of MORLANCOURT to ROYE road, the French extending the attack southwards to MOREUIL. There seems little doubt that the attack was a complete surprise, although a document has been captured warning the 41st Div. (E. of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX) that heavy artillery fire was to be expected between 4.30 a.m. and 5.30 a.m. on the 8th August and prisoners of the newly arrived division (117th) captured in the HANGARD sector stated that they had been told that a British attack was expected in the near future.

On the evening of the 9th inst., the situation was as follows :-

North of the SOMME, we occupied the greater part of the old AMIENS defence line, between DERNANCOURT and TAILLES Wood, thence to a point on the SOMME immediately west of ETINHEM. This constitutes an advance of a maximum depth of 5,000 yards on a 6,000 yards front. This line offers a good defensive flank against attacks from the north-east.

South of the SOMME, a big advance has also been made, and an extent of country, of an average depth of 8 miles on a 9½ mile front, was gained.

The resistance offered by the enemy varied in different parts of the field, the greatest opposition perhaps being met with on the flanks of the attack, i.e., N. of the SOMME, where the newly arrived 27th Div. was holding the line, and in the wooded country along the ROYE road. The rout of the enemy is, however, complete, and a large number of prisoners, guns, and large quantities of material of all sorts have fallen into our hands.

The attack continues.

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2. ENEMY'S INTENTIONS.

Whatever may have been the enemy's intentions prior to our attack, there is no doubt that he will be forced to remain on the defensive for some considerable time, as his troops

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have suffered very heavily, and owing to the unexpected nature of our attack the number of his divisions in immediate reserve are few.. There is no doubt that Prince RUPPRECHT's offensive in the YPRES salient was definitely postponed about a week ago as several of his divisions in reserve, in the 4th and 6th German Armies, have already been engaged on this front. They were probably intended for the MARNE battle, as one division (179th Res.) was hurried up yesterday, in busses, from the direction of SOISSONS.

From a captured map, and from statements of prisoners captured yesterday, the enemy apparently intended to make a stand on a line running from PRESNES - MAZANCOURT - E. of CHAULNES - E. of CHILLY - FOUQUESCOURT - PARVILLERS - ANDECHY - LEHELLE - BEUVRAIGNES. This line is already in our possession from CHILLY southwards.

A map shows a reserve line running from MORCHAIN - CURCHY - MARCHE - OGNOLLES - BUSSY - CRISOLLES. It is probable therefore that he will make every endeavour to hold this reserve line at all costs. North of CHAULNES, he will probably endeavour to establish himself along one of the numerous trench lines west of the SOMME.

* * 3. DISPOSITION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES AND NUMBER OF RESERVES.

The enemy opposed our advance on the 8th inst. with 8 divisions in the line, and elements of two other divisions. The divisions were those expected, with the exception of the 117th which was in process of relieving the 109th Div. in the HANGARD Wood sector. We were also fortunate in finding the 108th Div. relieving the 43rd Res. Div. astride the SOMME. On the 9th inst. (the second day of the battle), a further 6 divisions were identified, of which 3 were fresh. One had already partly been engaged opposite the French, and elements of two others holding the line between DERNANCOURT and ALBERT had reinforced the enemy N. of the SOMME.

Sixteen divisions, of which 12 have been heavily defeated, have, therefore, already been identified by the Fourth Army. It is estimated that fresh reserves, at the rate of about 2 every two days, must be expected to arrive on the field of battle, from now onwards. To provide these, Prince RUPPRECHT has, at present, 18 divisions at his disposal.

* * 4. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Aircraft.

During the period previous to our attack, enemy aeroplane activity has been slight; unfavourable flying conditions partly accounts for this.

Activity has been more marked over the central and southern sectors, especially in the case of artillery planes.

During our operations on the 8th and 9th, enemy activity showed a decided increase over the whole battle front. A feature of the 9th inst. was the number of large fighting formations seen.

Three long distance reconnaissances were carried out, shortly after the Army front was extended to the LUCE, and their mission was probably to ascertain what this portended.

(b)/

Enemy bombing planes were active on the night of the 6th/7th August over WARLOY. This was connected with the German attacks at MORLANCOURT on that date. On the night of the 9th/10th August, bombs were dropped on BEAUCOURT and VILLERS-BRETONNEUX.

As a result of the week's fighting, 21 enemy planes were destroyed and 14 were driven down out of control, two of which descended in our lines. During the period, 36 of our planes are reported missing. This is probably largely accounted for by the misty weather rendering flying during the days of battle doubly dangerous.

(b) Artillery.

Enemy artillery activity remained generally normal up to the 8th inst.

On the 6th, in connection with his attack the enemy heavily bombarded our front system in the MORLANCOURT sector. This died down in intensity after the final hour.

The enemy's reply to our barrage in connection with our counter-attack on the 7th was not heavy.

During our operations on the 8th and 9th, the enemy's reply to our barrage in the central and southern sectors was slight, finally dying down practically altogether.

North of the SOMME, however, there was considerable shelling, including gas, chiefly from batteries north of the SOMME.

Gas shelling has been slight and generally mixed with H.E.

During our operations, no deliberate counter-battery work was attempted by the enemy, but scattered shelling from H.V. guns was directed against various localities in the captured area.

(c) Movement.

An abnormal amount of railway movement on lines converging on CHAULNES was seen during a brief period of visibility on the early morning of 7th inst.; this movement was no doubt due to the relief of the 109th Div. by the 117th Div. in the HANGARD Wood sector. Train movement on lines N. of the SOMME, also on the early morning of the 7th, was probably connected with the relief of the 43rd Res. Div. by the 108th Div.

Train movement has been remarkably slight since the commencement of operations on the 8th inst. No abnormal activity in NESLE station has been detected; on the other hand, air observers report a great deal of activity of rolling stock in PERONNE to-day (10th).

The transport traffic on roads in the NESLE area on the evening of the 8th, and the westward movement of troops and transport, chiefly through HERBECOURT and ESTREES on the 9th and 10th are probably connected with the moving up of units of the 107th Div. and 5th Bav. Div. into line in the RAINECOURT and LIHONS areas respectively.

Activity on roads in the MAMETZ Wood - BAZENTIN Wood and COUROLETTE areas, during the afternoon of the 9th, may indicate the arrival of the 26th Res. Div. behind the line N. of the SOMME.

The remainder of the movement reported by our air observers has been eastbound, and has been characterized by

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a great deal of confusion, especially behind the CHAULNES front. The withdrawal of transport and guns by the enemy since the beginning of the attack, is confirmed by British soldiers who escaped from the ETERPIGHY P.O.W. Cage on the afternoon of the 8th.

* * 5. PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners captured up to 6 p.m., 9th inst. was 13,302. of which 314 were officers. About 200 guns have also been captured of which 2 are 11" railway guns, complete with ammunition.

* * 6. GENERAL.

The defeat of the enemy by the Fourth Army and First and Third French Armies is, for the present, complete. He is being rapidly pressed back towards the SOMME. He will undoubtedly make a big effort by hurrying up fresh divisions to check our advance in order to withdraw guns and material across the SOMME.

It is not considered, however, that he will be able to maintain himself W. of the River.

V. Vivian

Fourth Army (I),
August 10th, 1918.

Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff, Fourth Army.

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DISTRIBUTION.

G.H.Q.I.	2	G.O.C., R.A.	1
Third Army I.	2	D.A. & Q.M.G.	1
Corps, I.	3	Inf. School.	1
Divisions (incl. Amer.)	2	S.O.S. School.	1
5th Bde., R.A.F.	3	First Army, I.	1
Capt. RENONDEAU.	3	Second Army, I.	1
A.D.C.	1	Fifth Army, I.	1
M.G., G.S.	1	B.I.O., 22nd Wing. (B.I.O.)	1
Operations.	1	R.C.E. No. 4.	1

G (for War Diary)

10th August, 1918.

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ENEMY GAS SHELL ACTIVITY ON FOURTH ARMY FRONT
FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 10th, 1918.

Gas shelling has been heavy during the week, mainly on the Northern Sector of the Army front. On the morning of August 6th between 3,000 and 4,000 rounds of yellow and green cross were fired into the BOIS de VAIRE - CORBIE - BONNAY - VAUX area. Casualties in Australian Corps due to this bombardment were very light.

On the night August 7/8th the area TREUX - BUIRE - MERICOURT was heavily shelled with over 2,000 rounds of yellow cross. Casualties were heavy, especially in the Northern Corps.

The estimated number of gas shell fired by the enemy during the week was about 8,500.

Casualties for the week :-

	46 Officers.
	999 Other Ranks.
Deaths :-	8 Other Ranks.

The proportion of casualties to total number of shell fired is unusually high, owing almost entirely to the yellow cross shelling on the night of 7/8th prior to the attack.

ENEMY GAS SHELL ACTIVITY FOR WEEK ENDING 9 a.m. AUGUST 10th, 1918.

Date. 9 a.m. - 9 a.m.	Formation.	Time of bombardment.	No. of rounds.	Nature of shell.	Map Location.
Aug. 3rd/4th.	12th Division.	4.30 a.m.	30.	Yellow cross.	K.1.a. E. TREUX.
	18th Division.	3.0 a.m.	Few.	Blue cross.	J.18.c. S.W. MORLANCOURT.
	47th Division.	12.5 a.m.	20.	-do-	V.29.c. N.W. MILLENCOURT.
	-do-	12.20 a.m.	25.	-do-	- -do-
	-do-	1.35 a.m.	5.	-do-	- -do-
	-do-	11.45 p.m.	8.	-do-	W.25.central. N.E. -do-
	-do-	9.10 p.m.	12.	-do-	W.25.c & d. N.E. -do-
	-do-	11.30 p.m.	12.	-do-	V.23. N. -do-
	-do-	12.5 a.m.	30.	-do-	V.23. N. -do-
	2nd Aust. Div.	-	70.	-do-	O.23.c & d. N. VILLERS BRETONNEUX.
Aug. 4th/5th.	3rd Aust. Div.	4.0 a.m.	100.	-do-	O.12. S.E. HAMELET.
	-do-	9.30 p.m.	80.	-do-	P.8.c. P.14.c. N. BOIS de VAIRE.
	2nd Aust. Div.	11.45 p.m.	60.	Unidentified.	P.25.a & c. and VILLERS BRETONNEUX.
	3rd Aust. Div.	1.30 a.m.	Light.	Blue cross.	P.14.a. N.W. BOIS de VAIRE.
	-do-	-do-	20.	-do-	J.24. N.E. SAILLY-le-SEC.
Aug. 5th/6th.	12th Division.	4.15 a.m.	200.	Blue & yellow cross.	D.16.21.22. S. & S.E. BRESLE.
	-do-	-do-	700.	Green cross.	D.28.29. J.5. W. & S.W. BUIRE.
	47th Division.	4.35 a.m.	50.	Blue cross.	D.9 & D.10. LAVIEVILLE.
	2nd Aust. Div.	-	400.	Blue & yellow cross.	O.17.b. N. VILLERS BRETONNEUX.
	-do-	-	300.	-do-	O.28.b.c & d. N.W. -do-
	3rd Aust. Div.	4.30 - 6 a.m.	1250.	Green cross.	P.13.14.19. W. BOIS de VAIRE.
	-do-	-do-	250.	Yellow cross.	-do- -do-
	-do-	4.0 a.m.	400.	Green cross.	I.29.30 & O.6. N. CORBIE.
	-do-	4.0 a.m.	800.	-do-	I.24. S.E. BONNAY.
	-do-	4.45 a.m.	500.	-do-	J.26. VAUX-sur-SOMME.
Aug. 6th/7th.	12th Division.	9.45 p.m.	70.	Yellow cross 1.	D.12.c. & d. } S.E. MILLENCOURT. D.18.a & b. }
	18th Division.	-	350.	Green & blue cross.	J.19. N.W. VAUX-sur-SOMME.
	-do-	-	200.	Blue X with yellow.	J.26.d. E. -do-
	-do-	-	50.	Green cross.	J.14.d. N. -do-
	-do-	10.0 p.m.	5 min. barrage.	H.E. with blue X.	J.12 & 16. S.E. MERICOURT.

cont'd.

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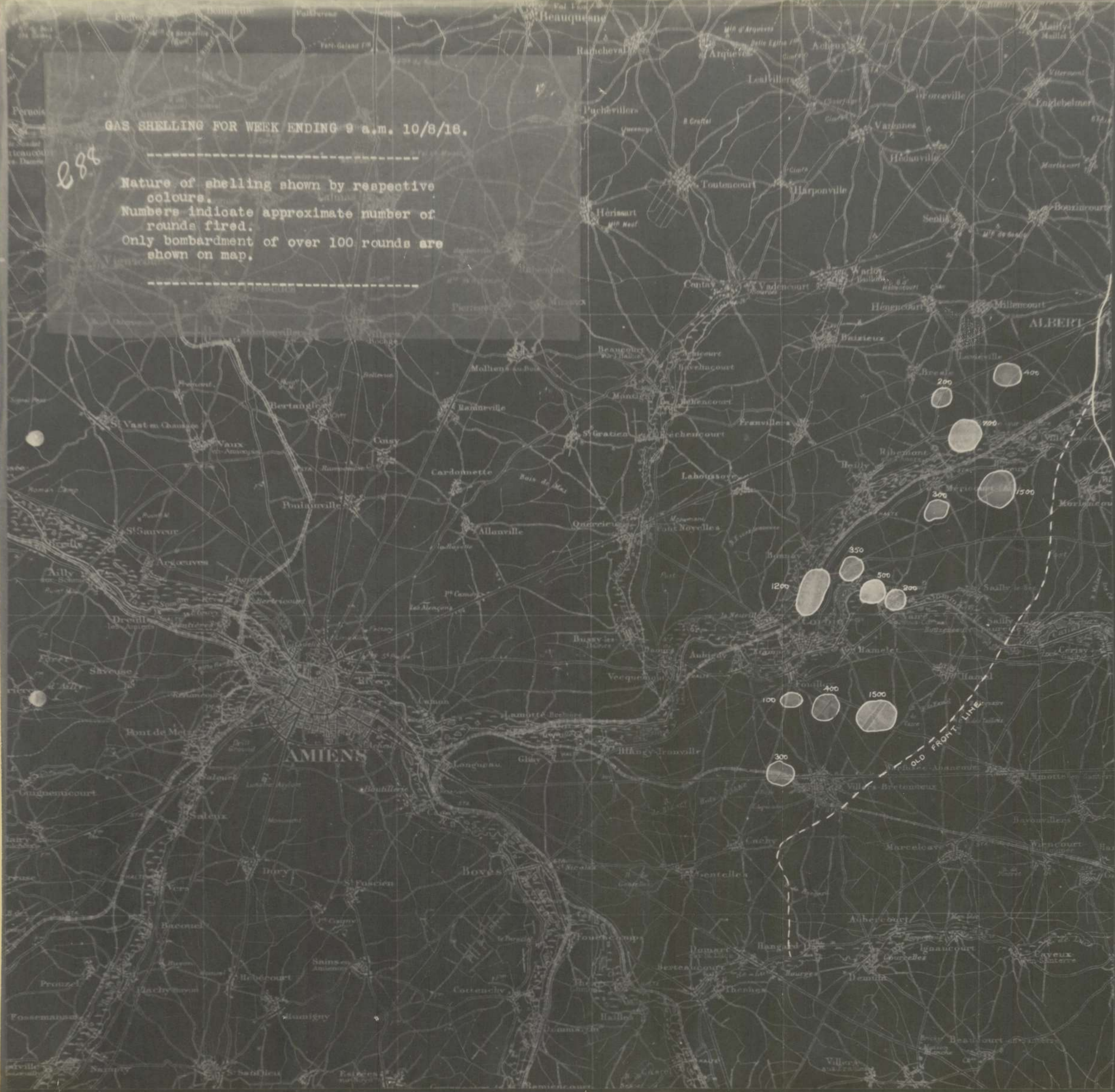
ENEMY GAS SHELL ACTIVITY FOR WEEK ENDING 9 a.m. AUGUST 10th, 1918. (cont'd).

Date. 9 a.m. - 9 a.m.	Formation.	Time of bombardment.	No. of rounds.	Nature of shell.	Map location.
Aug. 6th/7th.	2nd Aust. Div.	9.0 a.m.	50.	Yellow cross.	0.29 & 0.30. N. & N.E. VILLERS BRETON- NEUX.
	-do-	-do-	60.	Blue & yellow X.	0.16.c. N.W. VILLERS BRETONNEUX.
	3rd Aust. Div.	-	Light shelling.	H.E. & blue cross.	P.6. S. SAILLY LAURETTE.
Aug. 7th/8th.	12th Division.	6 - 9 p.m.	1500.	Yellow cross.	J.5.d. S. TREUX.
	-do-	10 pm. - 3 am.	400.	-do-	D.18.a. N. BUIRE.
	18th Division.	-	300.	-do-	J.9.d. J.10.c. S. MERICOURT.
Aug. 8th/9th.	-do-	-	-	Mixed gas shelling	on front line at Zero minus 15 minutes.
	18th Division.	-	Few.	Yellow cross.	Widely scattered area.
	47th Division.	6.55 a.m.	20.	-do-	LAVIEVILLE.
Aug. 9th/10th.	-do-	6.55 a.m.	30.	-do-	D.11.b. D.5.b. S. MILLENCOURT.
	18th Division.	9 - 10 p.m.	Light shelling.	-do-	Artillery positions TREUX.

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GAS SHELLING FOR WEEK ENDING 9 a.m. 10/8/18.

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Nature of shelling shown by respective
colours.
Numbers indicate approximate number of
rounds fired.
Only bombardment of over 100 rounds are
shown on map.



11th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 11th August, 1918.

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1. Enemy counter-attacks W. of BRAY during the night were unsuccessful.

South of the SOMME the enemy counter-attacked during the day N.E. of LIHONS and between the PARVILLERS and the AMIENS - CHAULNES Rly. and caused the line to be slightly withdrawn. In spite of enemy pressure the CANADIAN Corps slightly advanced the line in places, and the AUSTRALIAN Corps captured LIHONS and RAINECOURT.

On conclusion of the day's operations we held the line W. of DAMERY - PARVILLERS (exclusive) - L.16.d. - FOUQUESCOURT - HALLU (exclusive) - CHILLY - LIHONS - RAINECOURT.

The enemy's artillery was active during the afternoon on the ALBERT and MORLANCOURT sectors. Activity in the SOMME Valley was normal but South of the AMIENS - CHAULNES Rly. there was a slight increase. No heavy shelling was reported, but harassing fire against our communications and battery areas was more pronounced.

Our artillery carried out special programmes of barrage fire in support of operations. Heavy artillery bombarded villages and approaches.

2. III CORPS.

Situation fairly quiet and unchanged.

The HENENCOURT - MILLENCOURT area was shelled intermittently during the day. Areas N. and S. of MORLANCOURT were shelled heavily in the afternoon. MALARD Wood received special attention.

CANADIAN CORPS.

At 12 noon after a heavy bombardment the enemy counter-attacked in the vicinity of CHILLY and MAUCOURT and between FOUQUESCOURT and PARVILLERS, and, in consequence, our line was withdrawn about 1,000 yards immediately South of the AMIENS - CHAULNES Rly.

The 4th Cdn. and 32nd Divisions counter-attacked later in the day with varying success. The former gained FOUQUESCOURT and slightly advanced the line N. of the village. The 32nd Division succeeded in penetrating to the outskirts of DAMERY.

Our attacks were made under cover of heavy artillery barrage, directed chiefly against villages and hostile batteries between ROYE and CHAULNES. Fleeting targets were engaged with great success and many casualties inflicted upon the enemy.

.... AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

11th August, 1918.

AUSTRALIAN, CORPS.

e90

At 8.0 a.m. the enemy attacked the 1st Aust. Div. N. of LIHONS and penetrated as far as CREPEY Wood. Our troops counter-attacked later in the morning and surrounded about 150 of the enemy who had collected in the wood. These were all killed and 15 m.gs. captured. As the result of our counter-attack the line was advanced to the E. of LIHONS; the junction with the CANADIAN Corps was effected at A.8. central.

Hostile attacks W. of BRAY were repulsed with loss to the enemy.

During the morning the 2nd Aust. Div. captured RAINECOURT with slight resistance; 6 off. and 290 o.r. prisoners and 53 machine guns were captured.

The enemy artillery activity increased in the vicinity of PROYART. As the result of our operations LIHONS area was heavily shelled.

During the night our artillery directed concentrations of sneezing gas against VAUVILLERS.

3. THIRD ARMY.

Situation unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

During the day the French advanced the line West of L'ECHELLE, ST. AUBIN, ARMANCOURT, DANCOURT, POPINCOURT and TILLOLOY and captured a few prisoners.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

974 hours were flown by 304 pilots. 11 successful reconnaissances and 49 contact patrols were carried out. 250 photographs were secured.

During 18 artillery patrols 58 zone calls were sent down and 7 hostile batteries successfully neutralised. 19 line patrols were maintained.

Our aircraft were very active. 317 offensive patrols were undertaken and 62 air combats ensued, 24 of which were decisive. 14 E.A. were destroyed, 10 E.A. driven down out of control, one of the latter falling in our lines. 3 of our planes failed to return.

Night flying squadrons dropped 15 - 112 lbs and 186 - 25 lbs bombs on bridges at BRIE, FALVY and ST. CHRIST. By day 62 - 112 lbs and 417 - 25 lbs bombs were dropped on PERONNE Stn. and various ground targets.

(b) Hostile.

Enemy aircraft showed a considerable decrease. 150 machines were seen and more than 85% of the activity was S. of the SOMME.

Hostile night flying planes actively bombed the roads in the forward area, paying special attention to

.... the

11th August, 1918.

the AMIENS - ROYE and ST. QUENTIN Roads. 291

6. PRISONERS.

25 officers - 1,554 o.rs.

7. WEATHER.

Fine.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

2nd Aust. Div. took over the northern portion of the line ~~held by AUSTRALIAN CORPS~~ held by the 1st AUST. Div.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps. 1st, 2nd, 3rd Cav. Divs. (in reserve).

III Corps. 12th, 18th, 47th, 58th, 63rd (G.H.Q. Reserve) Divs.
1 Bde. 33rd American Div.

Canadian Corps. 1st*, 2nd*, 3rd*, 4th Cdn., 32nd Divs.

Australian Corps.
1st, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th, 5th* Aust.
1 Bde. 33rd American Div.
17th Div. (G.H.Q. Reserve).

IX Corps. G.H.Q. Reserve.

* Corps reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13 pdr. A.A.	H.E.	973
"	S.	520
13 pdr. R.H.A.	H.E.	345
"	S.	541
18 pdr.	H.E.	26667
	S.	36490
	Smoke	2206
4.5" How.	H.E.	12077
	Smoke	586
60 pdr.	H.E.	5343
	S.	5236
6" How.	H.E.	15008
	Gas	205
6" Mk. VII	H.E.	569
	S.	593
8" How.	..	1354
9.2" How.	..	571
12" How.	..	22

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Operation Messages Received and Issued.

12.45 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Following from 1st Australian Division:- our line is now confirmed to run from North to South as follows - X.16.b.1.8 - X.17.c.1.2 - X.23.central - X.24.c.2.4 - East of wood X.30.d.5.9 - A.1.b.2.8 then due South to railway. Enemy, under heavy bombardment, counter-attacked at 5.30 p.m. wood in X.30.a. without success. Prisoners taken today total 3 officers and 142 O.R. of 5th Bavarian Divn., 109th Div., 117th Division, 107th Division and 88th Bn. H.A. Two batteries heavy howitzers and numerous machine guns and trench mortars captured. Many enemy dead. Artillery fire increasing during afternoon.

5.20 a.m. From 5th Brigade R.A.F.

6 a.m. summary. By day ten E.A. crashed, ten out of control, 50 112-lb. bombs and 705 25-lb. bombs. By night 15 112-lb. and 186 25-lb. bombs on various targets.

6.33 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Minor operation by 12th Division yesterday evening completely successful. All objectives gained. So far 26 O.R. reported captured. Continued shelling of wood in K.27.a & c. and of MORLANCOURT Road in that vicinity. Left Division report gas shelling of D.24.a.1.8 at 11 pm. and D.17.a.9.3 at 11.30 p.m. Outpost line in vicinity of ALBERT heavily shelled from 3.15 a.m. to 4.15 a.m. All now reported quiet.

7.9 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Considerable hostile artillery and machine gun fire encountered by the division advancing along and North of the WARFUSEE - FOUCAUCOURT Road. Under very heavy fire our line was pushed forward to the road junction R.27.d. Situation around PROYART still uncertain. To the North of the river our line has been pushed forward to approximately a line running North and South through L.20.b.central with very few casualties. Attack has commenced on LIHONS but no news yet. Vicinity of VAUVILLERS has been shelled with sneezing and phosgene gas during night. Hostile bombing along the WARFUSEE - FOUCAUCOURT Road.

7.14 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation unchanged. Night passed quietly except for heavy bombing vicinity of ROYE, LE QUESNEL, BEAUFORT.

/ cont'd.

11th August, 1918.

Operation messages - 2.

9.55 a.m. From Australian Corps. 293

Night operations have resulted in the capture of ETINEHEM bend to outskirts of BRAY, also MERICOURT village and RAINECOURT village. We are on spur to S.E. of latter. Prisoners reported over 200. Our operation against PROYART not successful.

12 noon. From Col. Cavendish (by telephone).

Line of First French Army runs :- Western outskirts of following - 1'ECHELLE - ST. AUBIN - ARMANCOURT - DANCOURT - POPINCOURT - TILLOLOY.

2.45 p.m. From 22nd Wing (by telephone).

11.45 a.m. our machines dropping ammunition on Eastern outskirts of CHAULNES and village is in our hands. 12 noon - HERLEVILLE ours. We are shelling line North of FOUCAUCOURT M.20- 27- 33, F.3, S.9 - VERMANDOVILLERS - S.16, S.23 - East of CHAULNES.

2.55 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Enemy counter-attacked at 8 a.m. this morning on our Right Division front from the direction of S.20 and penetrated as far as X.30. After severe fighting over difficult ground our line was completely restored by 10.30 a.m. The 21st Regt. of 5th Bavarian Division was engaged. Our line now runs South to North - railway line at A.9.a.0.0 thence the Blue Line at A.3.c.3.0 - A.3.a.2.1 - A.2.b.central - S.26.b.central - thence along road East of the BOIS AUGER to X.17.d.0.0 thence due North to cross roads in X.17.central thence Blue Line.

3.20 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation at 1 p.m. appears to be:- 32nd Division - LA CAMPUSE - Western outskirts DAMERY - PARVILLERS (exclusive) - BOIS NOIRE (exclusive) ; FOUQUESCOURT (doubtful) - Western outskirts HALLU thence A.8.c.3.2 to railway A.7.b.5.6. About noon after heavy bombardment HALLU, CHILLY, MAUCOURT, enemy counter-attacked direction G.3.central to A.22.central. 4th Canadian Division report situation to be in hand.

6.30 p.m. From III Corps.

Right Division report intermittent shelling of front line, otherwise unchanged. Centre Division report line now runs E.22.a.2.2 - E.22.c.3.5 - E.22.c.2. - E.28.a.3.2 - E.28.c.8.8 - E.28.c.9.5 with post at E.28.d.5.3 thence along AMIENS defences to divisional boundary K.5.d.6.9. Enemy reported shelling HILL 105 in E.29.d. & c. Patrols ordered forward to clear up situation and establish posts there. Some shelling of left battalion front and support companies E.28.a. and E.27.a. Left Division report situation quiet. Several fires noticed in ALBERT. Right Division report that they have occupied AMIENS defences along divisional front.

/ cont'd.

11th August, 1918.

Operation messages - 3.

Reports to G.H.Q. 294

8.5 a.m.

Morning report. North of SOMME III Corps on line L.13.central - K.12.d. - K.6.central - E.28.b.8.8 - E.16.d.0.2. Attack last night by Australian Corps astride SOMME gained general North and South line through L.20.b. North of river. South of SOMME W. and N.W. of PROYART and along main FOUCAUCOURT Road attack met with heavy artillery and machine gun fire, and had considerable difficulty in getting forward. No details yet. No further report from Canadian Corps but last night their line ran approximately LA CAMBUSE - L.28.a.5.0 - L.17.cent. - FOUQUES COURT - CHILLY - W. half HALLU (doubtful) to railway A.9.central. Gas shelling of VAUVILLERS and North of BUIRE. Heavy bombing by enemy of main BRETONNEUX and ROYE Roads. Ten E.A. crashed, 10 out of control. One division III Corps estimate over 50 guns taken. Four guns with limbers captured by Right Division, Canadian Corps, W. of LA CAMBUSE.

7.15 p.m.

As result of last night's operation Australians captured ETINEHEM and RAINECOURT and advanced line to Western outskirts BRAY. Enemy displayed greater activity and resistance today. At 8 am he counter-attacked Australians from direction of S.20 and penetrated as far as X.30. After severe fighting over difficult ground our line completely restored by 10.30 a.m. After heavy bombardment of HALLU, MAUCOURT and CHILLY enemy counter-attacked Canadians from line G.3.central to A.22.central. Line now runs West of DAMERY and PARVILLERS - East of FOUQUES COURT - 500 yards East of CHILLY - A.8.central - A.2.b.2.0 - E. of LIHONS - S.26.b.3.0 - S.20.a.6.2 - S.19.a.2.0 - X.17.d.1.4 - X.17.a.8.4 - X.10.d.9.9 - R.34.d.9.0 - R.27.d.5.3 - R.26.d.9.3 - R.26.a.5.3 - R.26.a.9.9 - R.13.central - E. of MERICOURT to SOMME in Q.6.a. - North of SOMME E. of ETINEHEM - L.20.d.2.5 - L.14.central - K.12.b.central - K.5.central - E.28.c.8.8 - E.28.a.3.2 - E.22.c.2.0 - E.22.c.3.5 - E.22.a.2.2. Enemy reported shelling HILL 105 in E.29.d. & c. Patrols ordered forward to clear up situation and establish posts there.

12th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 12th August, 1918.

e95

1. Immediately South of the SOMME the Australian Corps advanced the line to the Western outskirts of CHUIGNOLLES. PROYART, CATEAUX and ST. GERMAIN WOODS were captured, together with 300 prisoners.
- An enemy counter-attack in the vicinity of FOUQUESCOURT was repulsed.
- In the ALBERT and MORLANCOURT sectors hostile artillery was less active. Between the SOMME and the AMIENS - NESLE Railway no heavy shelling was experienced, but South of the railway hostile artillery increased considerably in the form of harassing fire against our communications and battery areas.
- Our artillery maintained their usual activity and engaged numerous fleeting targets with success. FRICOURT was shelled with gas.

2. III CORPS.

Situation unchanged and fairly quiet.

The forward area East of MORLANCOURT was shelled intermittently during the day with H.E. and smoke, and the usual desultory shelling of the HENENCOURT - MILLENCOURT - LAVIEVILLE triangle occurred.

During the night light concentrations of gas shell were directed against the LAVIEVILLE and MORLANCOURT areas.

CANADIAN CORPS.

A hostile counter-attack against the 4th Canadian Division during the night was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. The enemy's resistance since August 10th has increased considerably, but from identification of prisoners it is apparent that the enemy is still very disorganised.

The situation on the 3rd Canadian Division front between DAMERY and PARVILLERS has been slightly obscure for the past 48 hours. The latest line reported was R.4.central - L.33.d.central - L.27.central.

FOUQUESCOURT was heavily shelled during the afternoon by field guns and field howitzers, and the enemy's artillery maintained harassing fire against our communications and battery areas throughout the day.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Between the AMIENS - ST. QUENTIN Road and the SOMME the 3rd Australian Division attacked during the morning and after severe fighting, in which the enemy lost heavily, CATEAUX and ST. GERMAIN WOODS and PROYART were captured. 300 prisoners and numerous machine guns were taken.

The remainder of the Corps front was fairly quiet.

The attack by the 3rd Australian Division

/ provoked

12th August, 1918.

e96 2.

provoked fairly heavy shelling by the enemy in retaliation. A 15 cm. gun fired on HARBONNIERES intermittently throughout the day. Otherwise the enemy's artillery were fairly quiet.

3. THIRD ARMY.

Situation unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

Situation unaltered.

The Tenth French Army captured LES LOGES, MONTIGNY and GURY and are pushing forward across the OISE near BAILLY.

5. AIRCRAFT. (a) British.

735 hours were flown by 202 pilots. 18 successful reconnaissances and 26 contact patrols were made. During 12 artillery patrols 56 zone calls were sent down and 5 hostile batteries successfully neutralised. Our aircraft were very active and carried out 211 offensive patrols. 39 air combats took place; 3 E.A. were destroyed, 13 E.A. driven down out of control, and 2 E.A. forced to land in our lines. Three of our machines failed to return.

Five 112-lb. and 174 25-lb. bombs were dropped on trains and transport by night.

Thirty-two 112-lb. and 378 24-lb. bombs were dropped during the day on PERONNE Station and various targets. Kite balloons were very active conducting artillery shoots.

(b) Hostile.

Enemy aircraft showed a slight increase in activity. 142 planes were seen of which 8 were reported North of the SOMME.

6. PRISONERS.

Total prisoners captured since August 8th exceed 20,000 including 3 regtl. commanders, over 20 battalion commanders, 3 artillery bde. commanders (about 600 officers in all), 1 Corps H.Q., 3 Divnl. H.Q., as well as 400 guns, several thousand machine guns and trench mortars, 3 complete trains and vast quantities of R.E. material.

7. WEATHER.

Fine with poor visibility.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

3rd Canadian Division relieved 32nd Division in Right Division Sector, Canadian Corps, on night 11/12th Aug.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd Cavalry Divns. (Army Reserve).

/ III Corps.

12th August, 1918.

3.

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III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th, 63rd (G.H.Q. Reserve),
Divisions, 1 Bde. 33rd American Division.

Canadian Corps.

1st*, 2nd*, 3rd, 4th Canadian Divisions, 32nd
Division*.

Australian Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th (less 1 Bde.)*, and 5th^{*}
Australian Divisions, 1 Bde. 4th Aust. Divn.,
1 Bde. 33rd American Division (Liaison Force),
17th Division (G.H.Q. Reserve).

IX CORPS H.Q. (G.H.Q. Res.)

* Corps Reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	1046.
" " S.	..	682.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	910.
" " S.	..	1033.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	21916.
" " S.	..	20692.
" " Smoke.	..	64.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	10592.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	4707.
" " S.	..	4041.
6" How. H.E.	..	13981.
" " Gas.	..	200.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	409.
" " S.	..	335.
8" How.	..	509.
9.2" How.	..	154.
12" How.	..	4.

11. GENERAL.

In order to facilitate the liaison between the III and Australian Corps a Liaison Force, comprising 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. and 65th American Inf. Bde., and commanded by Brig.-Gen. WISDOM, was formed. This force took over the sector N. of the SOMME formerly held by the 4th Aust. Div. -----

Command of the sector passed to the G.O.C. Liaison Force at 5.0 p.m. August 12th, 1918.

12th August, 1918.

Operation Messages Received and Issued.

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1 a.m. From III Corps.

Line now runs North to South E.22.a.2.2 - E.28.a.2.3 - E.28.c.8.8 - E.28.c.9.5 with post at E.28.d.5.3 thence along AMIENS defences to K.12.b.9.5 thence due South to Corps boundary.

5.30 a.m. From 5th Brigade R.A.F.

17 E.A. crashed, 17 out of control. 54 112-lb. bombs, 459 25-lb. bombs. By night: five 112-lb. bombs, 174 25-lb. bombs on various targets.

6.26 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Situation reported Right and Centre Divisions report quiet night except for some shelling of forward area. Some gas shells in K.9.a. Left Division report heavy shelling on our old front system between 3 and 3.30 a.m.

7.16 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Line held by 32nd Division exclusive BOIS de MILIEU, otherwise as previously stated. 3rd Canadian Division have not yet reported having taken over 32nd Division frontage. Late yesterday afternoon enemy counter-attacked both brigades of our Left Division. Attacks repulsed.

7.16 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Minor enterprise by Left Brigade of Left Centre Division to straighten our line just South of the SOMME entirely successful. Our line there now established along trench system R.1.b.9.0 to R.7.central thence old line. Strong enemy resistance and machine gun fire encountered. Two officers, 164 O.R. captured. No change of line on rest of front. General scattered shelling over whole area with light and heavy artillery. 80 rounds of blue cross gas just East and South of MORECOURT, also on BRAY-CORBIE Road North of ETINEHEM. Enemy aeroplanes active during evening and bombs dropped in valley North of CHIPILLY.

7.21 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Canadian Corps report hostile counter-attack yesterday evening on both brigades Left Division was repulsed. On Australian Corps front minor enterprise by 3rd Australian Division to straighten line just South of SOMME encountered strong resistance and machine gun fire but was quite successful. Two officers, 209 O.R. captured. Line established along trench system R.1.b.9.0 to R.7.central. Quiet night on III Corps front except for heavy shelling of old front system, North of ANCRE, early this morning. 17 E.A. crashed, 17 down out of control.

/ cont'd.

12th August, 1918.

Operation messages - 2.

9.25 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Communication during night with left brigade, 4th Canadian Division, down on account of bombing. Communication now again open. Comparatively quiet night reported. 38th Battalion, 12th C.I. Brigade, successfully withdrew two companies holding out at railway line vicinity HALLU during night.

5.55 p.m. From III Corps.

Evening report. Intermittent shelling of trenches in K.5.d and K.6.c. and of tracks in rear. Situation quiet between this point and Left Corps boundary, and hostile artillery inactive. Captures nil.

7.14 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Evening report. Our Left Centre Division attacked this morning South of the SOMME and captured GATEAUX WOOD after severe fighting in which the enemy lost heavily. The attack still in progress. ST. GERMAIN WOOD and village of PROYART have been captured. About 300 enemy evacuated ST. GERMAIN WOOD and were fired on by both enemy and our own artillery. A strong enemy post with machine guns at cross roads R.28.c.6.3 was also captured through these operations. Several hundred prisoners and number of machine guns taken. Our line on this front at 5 p.m. ran R.9.central - R.15.central - R.21.central - R.21.d.0.0 - R.22.a.5.0 - R.28.c.3.3 thence to original line. Patrol of Right Division gained contact near MADAM WOOD in S.13 this evening. Scattered shelling on rest of front, and forward villages and main roads.

6.35 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Prisoners captured since August 8th by Fourth Army now exceed 20,000, including 3 regtl. cmdrs., over 20 bn. cmdrs., 3 arty. bde. cmdrs. about 600 officers in all. One Corps and three Divisional H.Q. have been captured also over 400 guns, several thousand machine guns and numerous trench mortars not yet counted, three complete railway trains and vast stocks of engineer material and stores.

7.40 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation quiet. Hostile artillery normal. Southern Division advanced their line this afternoon as follows R.4.c.2.8 - R.4.central - R.4.a.9.8 - L.33.d.9.5 - L.33.d.6.5 - L.33.b.7.0 - L.33.b.5.8 - L.27.d.55.90 - L.27.b.2.3. Patrols advanced through old French system S.W. from FOUQUESCOURT and are reported to have reached road L.23.a.0.0 - L.16.d.0.0. Touch gained with Australians at A.8.a.9.2. Our 6" guns shelled bridges across SOMME YOYENNES to ST. CHRIST. Later: FOUQUESCOURT heavily shelled late afternoon.

7.40 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Canadian Corps advanced their line on right which now runs R.4.c.2.8 - R.4.central - R.4.a.9.8 - L.33.d.9.5

/ cont'd.

12th August, 1918.

Operation Messages - 3.

2100

- L.33.b.5.8 - L.27.d.6.9 - L.27.b.2.3. Australian Corps continued the attack commenced this morning and have captured ST. GERMAIN WOOD and PROYART. Line now runs R.28.c.6.3 - R.28.a.5.0 - R.21.d.0.0 - R.21.central - R.15.central - R.9.central. Estimated captures 400. Patrol of Right Division gained touch with enemy in MADAME WOOD S.13. Quiet on rest of front.

10.26 pm. From Canadian Corps.

46th Canadian Battalion encountered enemy nest in G.2.a. last night and killed one officer and 14 O.R.

13th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 13th August, 1918.

----- e 10'

1. North of the SOMME the Australian Corps captured the enemy's positions East of ETINEHEM in L.26 & 32, inflicting many casualties and securing prisoners. During the night the Canadian Corps improved the line in the vicinity of PARVILLERS. S.E. of FOUQUESCOURT a hostile attack was repulsed. III Corps advanced the line in a minor operation East of MORLANCOURT but were forced back to the original line by the enemy's counter-attack. Hostile artillery activity slightly increased in the ALBERT Sector and also between the SOMME and the ANCRE. South of the SOMME hostile artillery were fairly quiet. Our artillery maintained strong harassing fire against enemy communications, and counter-batteries were very active. Small parties of the enemy were dispersed with fire from field guns and howitzers.

2. III CORPS.

During the morning the 12th Division carried out a minor operation against enemy trenches East of MORLANCOURT at K.5.b. - E.29.c. & d. - E.28.d. The objective in K.5.b. was reached but the enemy counter-attacked from the South-east and our troops were forced to withdraw to the original line. Two prisoners, 8 machine guns and 2 light trench mortars were captured. Our casualties were fairly heavy.

There was a slight increase in hostile artillery activity on the Corps front. Enemy shelling occasioned by operations of 12th Division was very heavy N.E. of MORLANCOURT. During the afternoon the vicinity of BOIS de TAILLES was heavily shelled and H.V. guns were active on villages and communications throughout the day.

CANADIAN CORPS.

During the night the 3rd Canadian Division advanced the line slightly between DAMERY and PARVILLERS. In this sector the line now runs L.34.d.8.0 - L.34.central - L.28.c.central - L.17.c & d. - L.24.a. - G.13.d.

The enemy attacked the 3rd Canadian Division S.E. of FOUQUESCOURT with a party of 100 strong. The attack was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy.

Except for slight activity occasioned by our operation between DAMERY and FOUQUESCOURT the enemy's artillery were less active. ROSIERES, VRELY and MEHARICOURT were subjected to intermittent shelling.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

The Liaison Force North of the SOMME attacked enemy pockets in the bend of the river S.E. of ETINEHEM during the night and established the line L.32.b. & d - L.26.b. & d - West of BRAY. Over 200 prisoners and several machine guns were captured.

On the remainder of the Corps front the situation remains quiet and unaltered.

/ Hostile

13th August, 1918.

2.

Hostile artillery lightly shelled the forward area during the day, and H.V. guns fired on roads and villages behind the line.

e 102

3. THIRD ARMY.

Situation unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

Line unchanged and situation fairly quiet.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

637 hours were flown by 257 pilots. 17 successful reconnaissances and 5 contact patrols were carried out. Five artillery patrols were undertaken and 32 zone calls were sent down. Eleven machines secured 267 photographs.

Our aircraft were slightly less active. 196 offensive patrols were carried out and 6 decisive combats in the air took place. Four E.A. were destroyed and two E.A. were driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing.

Six night flying machines dropped 300 25-lb. bombs on roads, transport and bridges in the enemy's back areas.

By day twenty-one 112-lb. and 183 25-lb. bombs were dropped on CHAULNES and various targets.

Nineteen successful shoots were carried out with kite balloon observation.

(b) Hostile.

Enemy aircraft were less active, only 127 planes being seen.

Strong patrols of F.E.A., including one of 14 machines, were observed operating, chiefly over the Southern Sector of the Army front.

The enemy continued to bomb the roads in the forward areas during the night.

6. PRISONERS.

12 officers, 429 O.R.

7. WEATHER.

Fine.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

2nd Canadian Division relieved 4th Canadian Division in the line on the left of the Canadian Corps on the night 12/13th August.

17th Division relieved 3rd Australian Division in Centre Divisional Sector, Australian Corps, on night 12/13th August.

/ 9.

13th August, 1918.

3.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

e 103

Cavalry Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd Cavalry Divisions. (Army Reserve).

III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th Divisions, 63rd Division
(G.H.Q. Reserve), 1 Bde. 33rd American Divn.

Canadian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th* Canadian Divisions,
32nd Division*.

Australian Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th* (less 1 Bde.), 5th* Australian
Divisions, 1 Bde. 4th Australian Division, 1
Bde. 33rd American Division (Liaison Force),
17th Division.

X CORPS H.Q. (G.H.Q. RES.)

* Corps Reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	173.
" S.	..	323.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	638.
" S.	..	370.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	13127.
" S.	..	21247.
" Smoke.	..	136.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	8485.
" Smoke.	..	225.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	3586.
" S.	..	4782.
6" How. H.E.	..	15540.
" Gas.	..	151.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	590.
" S.	..	527.
8" How.	..	262.
9.2" How.	..	272.

13th August, 1918.

Operation Messages Received and Issued.

e104

5.45 a.m. From 5th Brigade R.A.F.

6 a.m. report by day 3 E.A. crashed, 1 forced to land this side, 3 out of control, 176 25-lb bombs various targets, 15 112-lb and 8 25-lb bombs various targets, by night 300 25-lb bombs various targets.

5.57 a.m. From III Corps.

Situation unchanged, quiet night. Some shelling forward area including some gas. 2 prisoners 246 R.I.R. captured in E.28.d. by our wiring party. 12th Divn attacked at 4.55 a.m. objective 105 CONTOUR E.29.c. and D.

6.25 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Our left Division attacked and captured enemy positions in L.26. and L.32. inflicting casualties and taking prisoners. Enemy Artillery generally quiet. E.A. active during night, bombing of forward area. Our right centre Division adjusted its line during the night, capturing prisoners and M.Gs. Relief of left centre Division completed at 4.25 a.m. Added Fourth Army.

7.25 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Quiet night. Hostile Artillery normal. Four prisoners 262 I.R. 79 R.Es. Division captured E. FOUQUESCOURT. Enemy party estimated 100 strong attempted an attack against new line, vicinity L.17.D.55.50. repulsed and line remains intact. Right Division improved position and line now reported R.9.B.8.7. along old line ^{at this point} W.E. ^{to} R.4.C.3.7. R.4.A.90.05. R.4.A.7.8. R.4.A.90.95. L.34.D.1.3. L.34.C2.4. L.28.C1.5. L.28.A8.8. L22.B8.5. L.17.C5.2. L.17.D.6.5. L.18.C2.0. L.18.A9.9. with posts at R.4.A9.9. R.4.B.2.1. and R.4.B.4.7.

7.30 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Situation report. Canadian Corps improved position on right, line now runs R.4.C.3.5. v R.4.A.90.95. - L.34.D.2.4. - L.28.C.1.5. - L.22.B.8.5. - L.17.C.5.2. v L.17.D.6.5. - L.18.A.9.9. Enemy attacked with about 100 strong, SE FOUQUESCOURT attack repulsed and line intact. Australian Corps captured enemy defences in L.26. and L.32. inflicting casualties and taking prisoners. Quiet night III Corps front. R.A.F. report 3E.A. crashed 3 out of control, 1 forced to land our side of line.

12.29 p.m. III Corps.

In minor operations this morning against enemy trenches in K.5.B. - E.29.C. - and D. and E.28.D. we at first reached objective in K.5.B. but were counter attacked from right and driven back to original line. On left we hold CONTOUR 105 E.28.D. 2 prisoners 8 M.Gs. 2 T.Ms. captured.

13th August, 1918.

Opn. messages, 2.

6.15 p.m. From III Corps.

e.105
Evening report AAA Front system of right division shelled during morning AAA Some gas shelling of J.12 AAA Increased shelling of forward area of centre division with all calibres during morning AAA Slightly increased artillery activity against left divn AAA Captures during last 12 hours 14 o.r. 8 m.gs. and 2 t.ms.

6.46 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Evening report. As result of operation north of SOMME last night our line now runs L.15.c.2.7 - L.26.b.9.0 - L.32.d.8.6. Nearly 200 prisoners captured in this operation. During this morning line west of CHUIGNOLLES was slightly advanced with slight opposition. Line in this vicinity now runs R.3.c.1.7 - cross roads R.9.a.95.10 - the old line at R.15.a.9.8. With exception of scattered shelling of forward area the day was quiet.

6.54 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation quiet. Enemy artillery moderately active vicinity of QUESNOY, and machine guns in PARVILLERS active. E.A. shot down 11.30 a.m. S.W. of VRELY. CAIX shelled by H.V. gun this morning. Wind north-west. No captures reported.

7.15 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Evening report. As result of operation by Australian Corps N. of SOMME last night line now runs L.32.d.8.6 - L.26.b.9.0 - L.15.c.2.7 otherwise line unchanged. Nearly 200 captured in this operation. During morning line W. of CHUIGNOLLES slightly advanced and now runs R.15.a.9.8 - cross roads R.9.a.9.1 - R.3.c.1.7. Slightly increased artillery activity N. of SOMME. Our artillery moderately active vicinity LE QUESNOY. H.V. gun shelled CAIX during morning. Captures in addition to above 14 o.r. 8 m.g. and 2 minenwerfers.

S E C R E T.

13th August, 1918.

First Army.
Second Army.
Third Army.
Fourth Army.
Fifth Army.

O.B./2268.

24

e106

The provisions of G.H.Q. letter No. O.B./2268 of the 17th July, 1918, in respect of the light railway systems to be constructed and maintained in Army areas will be brought into effect from the 15th instant.

2. The existing foreway organisation will be amalgamated with the light railway organisation and will be controlled by the Directorate of Light Railways in so far as construction, maintenance and operation is concerned.

3. Pending the approval of the Home Authorities to certain proposed new establishments for the Light Railway Directorate, no change will be made in existing establishments.

(sd) K. WIGRAM, B.G.,

for Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

General Headquarters,
13th August, 1918.

14th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 14th August, 1918. e107

1. Last night the Australian Corps raided the enemy's trenches West of BRAY and found them unoccupied. South of the SOMME the enemy's artillery activity increased during the night and continued throughout the day. H.V. guns were very active against villages in the forward area. North of the SOMME hostile artillery activity was fairly heavy. Yellow and blue cross gas shells were used freely. H.V. guns shelled HEILLY, BAIZIEUX, BRESLE, and CORBIE intermittently during the day. In addition to our usual harassing programmes, our artillery directed special concentrations against PARVILLERS and HAPPY VALLEY.

2. III CORPS.

The enemy's artillery directed heavy H.E. and gas concentrations against MORLANCOURT, VILLE-sur-ANCRE and TREUX.

The usual shelling of the HENENCOURT - MILLENCOURT - LAVIEVILLE triangle occurred, and, in addition, small quantities of blue cross gas shell fell around SENLIS.

CANADIAN CORPS.

The enemy displayed unusual activity in the neighbourhood of PARVILLERS which culminated during the day in an attempt to occupy our trenches in R.4.c. The enemy sustained numerous casualties from our artillery fire and his attack failed.

The situation remains slightly obscure around PARVILLERS. The village is held by the enemy with numerous machine guns.

During the night area shoots were directed against BEAUFORT, LE QUESNOY, BOUCHOIR and ROSIERES. The forward area astride the AMIENS - CHAULNES railway was continuously shelled. In the afternoon our forward area in the vicinity of PARVILLERS was subjected to intermittent shelling.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

A raiding party of the Liaison Force raided the enemy's trenches in L.20.b & d. West of BRAY but found them unoccupied.

The vicinities of VAUVILLERS, FRAMERVILLE, PROYART and LIHONS were heavily shelled at intervals during the day with guns of all calibres. A little blue cross gas shell was used.

Between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. a heavy barrage was placed in the valley South of RAINECOURT.

3. THIRD ARMY.

During the night the enemy withdrew to the general line BUCHOY - BEAUMONT HAMEL. Our patrols maintained touch with the enemy East of the above-mentioned villages but were unable to advance further owing to machine gun fire.

heavy

14th August, 1918.

2.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

No change.

2108

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

636 hours were flown by 259 pilots. 27 successful reconnaissances and five artillery patrols were maintained. During the latter, 22 zone calls were sent down and one hostile battery was neutralised.

In the course of 15 photographic flights 507 negatives were secured.

Our aircraft were active. 154 offensive flights were carried out and 38 air combats ensued, ten of which were decisive. Four E.A. were destroyed and six E.A. were driven down out of control. One of our machines failed to return.

Night flying squadrons bombed bridges across the SOMME, and roads in the back areas. Three 112-lb. and 353 25-lb. bombs were dropped.

Sixteen 112-lb. and 276 25-lb. bombs were dropped on PERONNE and suitable ground targets.

(b) Hostile.

Hostile aircraft activity showed a considerable decrease. 60 planes were seen, 50% of which were artillery and reconnaissance machines distributed equally over the Army front.

6. PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners captured by the Fourth Army since the commencement of operations on August 8th are as under :-

	<u>Off.</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
(a) Through Corps Cages (unwounded) :-	380	18759
(b) Through C.C.S. (wounded) :-	102	2603
TOTAL.	482	21362
	===	=====

7. WEATHER.

Fine - fair visibility.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

The 58th Division was withdrawn from the line and placed in Corps Reserve.

/ 9.

14th August, 1918.

3.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

2109

Cavalry Corps.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Cavalry Divisions (Army Reserve).

III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th*, 63rd (G.H.Q. Reserve) Divisions, 1 Bde. 33rd American Division.

Canadian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd, 4th^{Cdn.}*, and 32nd Divisions.

Australian Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th* (less 1 Bde.), 5th* Australian Divisions, 1 Bde. 4th Australian Division, 1 Bde. 33rd American Division (Liaison Force), 17th Division.

IX CORPS H.Q. (G.H.Q. Res.).

* Corps Reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	779.
" S.	..	341.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	23.
" S.	..	123.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	11199.
" S.	..	9055.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	5797.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	2546.
" S.	..	2235.
6" How. H.E.	..	9341.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	562.
" S.	..	458.
8" How.	..	519.
9.2" How.	..	464.
12" How.	..	20.

14th August, 1918.

Operation Messages received and issued. e 110

6.0 a.m. From 5th Bde. R.A.F.

6 a.m. report, by day 20 112 and 8 - 25 lbs bombs on PERONNE 211 - 25 lbs bombs on various targets. 5 E.A. crashed 7 E.A. out of control. By night 3 - 112 lbs 353 - 25 lbs bombs on various targets.

6.10 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation quiet. Hostile artillery active during night. M.Gs. active in PARVILLERS during evening.

6.30 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Further our G.159 situation now quiet. Marked increase in hostile artillery late yesterday. Area shoots put down repeatedly on support areas of right division. Continuous shelling of left of left division during night. M.G. defences at PARVILLERS active during evening.

6.30 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Hostile artillery fairly active on right sector and considerably more active on centre sector. Heavy gas shelling of valleys round MORLANCOURT. Few gas shells in K.14.d. Situation now quiet. HEILLY shelled by H.V. gun at intervals during night. Slightly increased artillery activity on front north of DERNANCOURT and intermittent shelling about D.21.b.5.2. Few gas shells near D.4.c. and SENLIS shelled with 77 mm gun between 9.30 and 10.30 p.m.

6.40 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Party of Liaison force raided re-entrant in L.20.b. and d. but found it unoccupied. Increased enemy artillery activity during night. Vicinity VAUVILLERS FRAMERVILLE PROYART and western outskirts of LIHONS heavily shelled at intervals by all calibres. Vicinity of FRAMERVILLE RAINECOURT and east of HARBONNIERES shelled with blue cross gas at 1.0 a.m. GRESSAIRE wood shelled with yellow cross gas during early morning. M.Gs. and T.Ms. active.

7.0 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Aust. Corps raided enemy positions west of BRAY but found unoccupied. Increased artillery activity vicinity VAUVILLERS FRAMERVILLE PROYART LIHONS N. of DERNANCOURT. Heavy gas shelling of valleys MORLANCOURT area RAINECOURT and HARBONNIERES and GRESSAIRE WOOD. Marked increase in hostile artillery on forward areas South of BRETONNEUX - CHAULNES railway.

5.33 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

3rd Cdn. Div. report capture of PARVILLERS this morning and line now runs approximately along PARVILLERS -

....FOUQUESCOURT

14th August, 1918.

Operation mges. 2. e 111

FOUQUESCOURT road to L.18.c.7.0 thence L.18.a.5.0 to L.12.c.9.0 AAA Exact location follows AAA During operations yesterday afternoon in this locality the trenches appeared to have been strongly held. Operations today trenches appeared to have been lightly held and prisoners state the enemy retired to next line of defence last night. Patrols now out verifying this AAA Captured prisoners were outpost troops exact numbers not yet reported.

6.30 p.m. From 5th Bde. R.A.F.

6.0 p.m. Summary. 1 E.A. crashed 3 out of control.

6.37 p.m. From III Corps.

Evening report. Right div report intermittent shelling of front line and forward area. Centre div report successful shoot this morning on trenches in E.29.d. resulted in enemy bolting and suffering casualties from our 18 pdrs. and aircraft. Left div report situation very quiet slight shelling by 150 mm how V.17.d. and c and V.18. No gas shelling reported. Left div report that at 3 p.m. 2 enemy seen entering ALBERT from BELLE VUE FARM E.5.c. also their patrol fired on from the cathedral. As yet no further report from patrol.

6.50 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Evening report. No change in line. Enemy artillery active at intervals on PROYART MORCOURT FRAMERVILLE and on line FRAMERVILLE - LA FLAQUE. During morning between 9 and 10 am heavy barrage on valley S. of RAINECOURT. Total prisoners wounded and unwounded captured by this Corps to date numbers 195 off 8552 o.r.

6.54 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation unchanged. Left div front. Right Div report fighting vicinity PARVILLERS late afternoon. Situation obscure. PARVILLERS heavily shelled this morning. H.V. gun active vicinity CAIX and LE QUESNEL. Heavy casualties inflicted on enemy party estimated 40 strong who endeavoured to gain SCHMITT trench R.4.c. Low flying E.A. active.

7.0 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Cdn Corps report fighting in vicinity of PARVILLERS. Situation there obscure. No change in line on rest of front. Hostile artillery active on PROYART MORCOURT LIHONS FRAMERVILLE and valley S. of RAINECOURT. Patrol to ALBERT fired on from cathedral. 1 EA crashed 3 down out of control.

10.40 p.m. From III Corps.

Continuation of evening report. Left div report left brigade left bn. report fighting patrol entered ALBERT 5 p.m. and penetrated to neighbourhood of cathedral W.28.c.8.4 where they met two Germans 1 of whom was hit. The second escaped. Patrol came under rifle and m.g. fire from river and are taking cover in present positions whilst a second patrol of 1 platoon works round enemy's positions from north. Enemy strength estimated 70 men and several m.gs.

15th August, 1918.

2112

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 15th August, 1918.

1. During the night the Australian Corps advanced the line between RAINECOURT and HERLEVILLE and pushed out a line of posts S.E. of PROYART. Early in the afternoon the Canadian Corps captured DAMERY and PARVILLERS. South of the SOMME the enemy's artillery was very active. During the afternoon the DAMERY - PARVILLERS area was heavily shelled, and H.V. guns shelled the villages and roads in the back areas. Hostile artillery was less active on the remainder of the Army front. In addition to the usual harassing fire maintained against enemy roads and areas of concentration, the artillery of the Canadian Corps fired a special programme in support of the infantry operations against DAMERY and PARVILLERS.

2. III CORPS.

Last night a hostile post North of ALBERT was rushed by a patrol of the 18th Division, a machine gun being captured.

Early in the morning the MORLANCOURT area was heavily shelled for an hour. DERNANCOURT and the main AMIENS - ALBERT Road South of BRESLE received heavy concentrations of fire from enemy field guns and howitzers during the day and night.

CANADIAN CORPS.

During the afternoon the 3rd Canadian Division attacked and captured DAMERY and PARVILLERS. The artillery co-operated with a barrage by field guns. Heavy guns and howitzers shelled both villages and engaged-known enemy strong points and centres of activity. Slight machine gun fire was encountered on the outskirts of PARVILLERS and the enemy's artillery retaliation was very severe along our old front line West of both villages.

As a result of the operation the line was established along North edge of BOIS de DAMERY - R.5.central - L.35.d. - L.35.central - L.29.d.2.0 - thence along the road through L.29.central.

The enemy counter-attacked at 4.30 p.m. under cover of a heavy artillery barrage. The counter-attack was completely repulsed.

200 prisoners and 40 machine guns were captured and it is estimated that between 1300 and 1400 of the enemy were killed and wounded.

3. THIRD ARMY.

Patrols crossed the River ANCRE during the night at AUTHUILLE and AVELUY, and in the morning advanced South of and through PUISIEUX.

Considerable shelling of BEAUMONT HAMEL and ESSARTS took place throughout the day.

15th August, 1918.

2.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY. 2113

In conjunction with the advance of the Canadian Corps the XXXI French Corps pushed forward their line East of L'ECHELLE and VILLERS-les-ROYE and captured a few prisoners and machine guns.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

458 hours were flown by 232 pilots. 21 successful reconnaissances, 4 contact and 3 artillery patrols were maintained. During the last-named patrol 28 zone calls were sent down and 6 hostile batteries successfully engaged for destruction.

Our aircraft were active and carried out 108 offensive patrols. 15 air combats occurred one of which was decisive, resulting in one E.A. being destroyed. Three of our machines are missing.

Our night flying machines engaged bridges crossing the SOMME at BRIE and ST. CHRIST and, in addition, bombed villages and billets in the enemy's back areas. 282 25-lb. bombs were dropped.

By day 142 25-lb. bombs were dropped on favourable ground targets and 3,820 machine gun rounds were fired at troops and transport on roads.

(b) Hostile.

Hostile aircraft activity was below normal. 32 planes crossed the line usually in the form of strong fighting patrols.

6. PRISONERS.

2 officers, 213 O.R.

7. WEATHER.

Fine.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

No reliefs or moves of any importance took place.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Cavalry Divisions (Army Reserve).

III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th*, 63rd (G.H.Q. Reserve) Divns.,
1 Bde. 33rd American Division.

Canadian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd, 4th* Canadian Divisions, 32nd Div.*

Australian Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th* (less 1 Bde.), 5th* Aust. Divs.,
1 Bde. 4th Aust. Div., 1 Bde. 33rd American Div.
(Liaison Force), 17th Div.

IX CORPS H.Q. (G.H.Q. RES.)

* = corps Reserve.

15th August, 1918.

3.

2114

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	1027.
" S.	..	398.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	323.
" S.	..	243.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	6085.
" S.	..	8252.
" Smoke.	..	152.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	3911.
" Gas.	..	200.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	2262.
" S.	..	2905.
6" How.	..	9171.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	462.
" S.	..	509.
8" How.	..	510.
9.2" How.	..	268.
12" How.	..	5.

15th August, 1918.

Operation messages received and issued.

1.55 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Following from 9th Bde. timed 9.35 p.m. 14th. GONA(?) reports as follows timed 8.50 p.m. Patrols pushing forward met strong resistance enemy attacked SCHMETZ trench in R.4 central but was driven off. Hostile arty. very active on right bn. front using gas shells freely our field and heavy firing on R.4.b. and d and DAMERY.

6.0 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Sitn. quiet. L.5.d. heavily shelled by enemy this morning since 3.0 a.m. PARVILLERS strongly held by enemy with machine guns. Our patrols were heavily fired on by m.gs. and concentrated rifle fire from this place. Wind SW.

6.25 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning situation. Our right centre div advanced their line during night between RAINECOURT and HERLEVILLE. Had severe fighting in vicinity of latter place. 1 m.g. captured. Scattered shelling over sector north of SOMME. Gas shelling on forward areas S. of SOMME yellow and blue cross shell being used. Right div front was barraged at intervals during night enemy using many flares. E.A. low flying planes very active bombing up to midnight in right divisional area.

6.35 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Patrols very active all night and enemy encountered at all points along Corps front. Just N. of ALBERT hostile post was rushed and one machine gun captured. Much fighting in ALBERT which is still strongly held by enemy. Opposite right of Corps front Very lights appeared normal and trenches K.5.b. E.29.c. were found occupied by enemy. Hostile shelling of right division forward area slightly less than usual. Centre Div active all night especially on MORLANCOURT with 15 cm. K.1.a. K.7.c. shelled with H.E. and gas. K.18.central with H.E. Identification from German killed 2 Bn. 448 I.R. 233 Div. in ALBERT.

6.35 a.m. From 5th Bde. R.A.F.

6.0 a.m. summary. By day 3 EA crashed 16 112 and 32 25 lbs bombs on PERONNE 210 25 lbs bombs various targets. By night 252 25 lbs bombs on various targets.

7.15 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Morning report. Cdn. Corps front situation quiet. L.5.d. heavily shelled by enemy this morning. PARVILLERS strongly held by m.gs. enemy. Aust. Corps right centre div. slightly advanced their line between RAINECOURT and HERLEVILLE. Severe fighting in vicinity of latter place. One m.g. captured right division front barraged at intervals. Some gas shelling S. of SOMME. III Corps Our patrols active all night. Enemy post rushed just north of ALBERT. 1 m.g. captured. Enemy encountered all along Corps front. ALBERT strongly held by enemy. Trenches in K.5.b and E.29.c. found occupied by enemy. Hostile shelling active round MORLANCOURT.

15th August, 1918.

Operation mges. 2.

7.30 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Following from right division begins. Line at 6 p.m. runs as follows. Right bde R.9.b.8.3 - along SCHMETZ trench to R.4.a.9.9 with posts at R.4 central. and R.4.b. 1.5. From R.4.a.9.9 to L.34.c.3.3 to L.34.c.3.5 to L.33.b.8.5 to L.28.c.4.5 then S.W. to L.28.c.1.2 then North to L.28.c.1.9 with posts at L.34.c.9.3 L.34.d.1.7 L.28.c.9.1 L.28.c.7.3. Connected with 47th French Div. on right and 7th C.I. Bde. on left. Left bde. L.28.c.4.5 to L.28.c.4.0.65 L.28.c.50.95 to L.28.a.70.30 to L.28.a.90.70 to L.28.b.0.5.85 to L.22.d.6.8 to L.23.a.6.1 to L.23 central to L.18.c.0.0 thence along trench to boundary at L.B.a. 5.0 connected with right brigade on right and 2nd Cdn. Div. on left.

8.50 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Further to our G.185. Some gas shelling mostly yellow cross reported L.5.d.

6.0 p.m. From III Corps.

Evening report. On right sector normal shelling by all calibres of forward area. Situation quiet on rest of front except for some shelling N.W. of ALBERT. E.As. patrol front of left division. No gas reported. Captures 1 m.g.

6.35 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Evening report. Situation quiet. Following posts have been established in "C" Div. sector R.22.c. 6.1 to R.22.c.5.7 to R.22.a.1.2 R.21.b.5.5. Enemy arty active on PROYART and Q.24 also FRAMERVILLE and valley in X.10 and X.4. Captures 3 o.r.

4.20 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Situation report. 3rd Cdn. Div. report that they hold DAMERY and PARVILLERS and that line runs as follows. N. edge of BOIS DE DAMERY where we are in touch with French W.15 central L 35.d.1.3 - L.35.central L.29.d.2.0 along road to L.29 central. Hostile artillery active during day shelling ROUVROY FOUQUES COURT DAMERY and intermittently active on left div. front. British plane brought down 12.50 p.m. in A.19b. No captures reported yet.

7.40 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Total no of prisoners captured by 4th Army from 8th Aug. to 4 pm. 14th. Through Corps cages unwounded 380 offs. 21759 o.r. Through C.C.S. 102 offs. 2603 o.r. Total 482 offs. 24362 o.r. Total all ranks 24844.

10.30 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Ref. G.921. For unwounded 21759 OR read 18759 OR. and amend total accordingly.

..... To G.H.Q.

15th August, 1918.

Operation mges. 3.

2117

7.10 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Cdn. Corps report we hold DAMERY and PARVILLERS. Line now runs north edge of BOIS DAMERY where in touch with French to R.5 central to L.35.d.1.3 - L.35 central - L.29.d.2.0 - along road to L.29 central. Aust. Corps have established posts S.E. of PROYART as follows:- R.22.c.6.1 - R.22.c.5.7 - R.22.a.1.2 - R.21.b.5.5. Hostile arty active on ROUVROY FOUQUESCOURT DAMERY PROYART and valley W. of it FRAMERVILLE and valley to S.E. Captures 3 o.r. and 1 m.g.

16th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 16th August, 1918.

e118

1. The Canadian Corps advanced the line today between ROYE and LIHONS to a depth of 500 yards on a front of 6,000 yards.
- A slight advance was made by the III Corps N.E. of MORLANCOURT.
- The enemy succeeded in occupying one of our posts in the vicinity of ALBERT, which was re-established later.
- South of the SOMME hostile artillery activity increased. H.V. guns were very active against villages and roads in Corps back areas. During our operations South of the AMIENS - NESLE Railway a heavy hostile barrage was put down in front of CHILLY.
- In the ALBERT Sector the enemy's artillery was normal.
- Special programmes of harassing fire were carried out by our artillery in conjunction with the operation of the Canadian Corps. Heavy harassing fire was also directed against LIANCOURT, FONCHES and all approaches to FOUQUESCOURT in view of a suspected divisional relief.
- PERONNE and MARICOURT were shelled with 14" and 12" guns respectively, and several hundreds of rounds were fired against the enemy's defences from captured enemy guns.

2. III CORPS.

Patrols of the 12th Division pushed forward East of MORLANCOURT during the night and established posts along the line K.5.a.8.0 - E.29.c.3.0. The enemy rushed one of our posts N.E. of ALBERT and succeeded in gaining a footing until ejected by one of our bombing parties.

During the night HENENCOURT and MILLENCOURT were lightly shelled. H.V. guns intermittently shelled the main ALBERT - AMIENS Road and the villages of RIBEMONT, BUIRE, BAIZIEUX and WARLOY. Desultory shelling of the MORLANCOURT Sector was reported. GRESSAIRE WOOD received 300 rounds of gas shell during the night.

CANADIAN CORPS.

Strong patrols of the Canadian Corps pushed forward today East of DAMERY and PROYART. After very hard fighting the line was advanced to a depth of 500 yards on a 5,000 yards front. The line now runs East of BLAUET WOOD - East of SCHWERTZ WOOD - West of LA CHAVATTE - East of FRANSART to original line in G.l.b. Eleven prisoners were secured.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

During the night the enemy's artillery bombarded PROYART and MERICOURT and our trenches in the vicinity of FRAMERVILLE.

H.V. guns were very active against VILLERS BRETONNEUX and BAYONVILLERS. The forward area between LIHONS and the main AMIENS - ST.QUENTIN Road was subjected to scattered shelling throughout the day.

16th August, 1918.

2.

2119

3. THIRD ARMY.

With the exception of numerous patrol encounters the situation was fairly quiet. The line is unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

During the day the French made a series of successful attacks on the enemy's defences West of ROYE. Over 200 prisoners were captured. The line at the close of the day's operations was established HILL 102 West of LES LOGES - LE CESSIER - TILLOLOY - GRODEMO WOOD - LAUCOURT-TILLOY Road (inclusive) - LAUCOURT - West edge of ST. MARD - East edge of GOYENCOURT.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

675 hours were flown by 207 pilots. Seven artillery patrols were carried out, 26 zone calls sent down, and three hostile batteries successfully engaged for destruction.

213 offensive patrols were maintained and 245 photographs secured.

Our aircraft were normally active. 24 air combats took place, 8 of which were decisive. Five E.A. were destroyed and three E.A. driven down out of control.

Thirty 112-lb. and 247 25-lb. bombs were dropped during the day on PERONNE Station, OMIECOURT Dump and on battery positions. 5,980 machine gun rounds were fired at favourable targets.
ground

(b) Hostile.

Enemy aircraft activity was below normal. Activity was chiefly confined to the Northern Sector of the Army front. F.E.A. were more active in the Southern Sector. A new type of monoplane was reported.

6. PRISONERS.

Eleven O.R. were captured.

7. WEATHER.

Fine with fair visibility.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

4th Australian Division (less 1 brigade) relieved the 1st Australian Division in right divisional sector, Australian Corps, on night 15/16th August.

1st and 2nd Cavalry Divisions were transferred to Third Army.

/ 9. COMPOSITION...

16th August, 1918.

3.

2120

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps.

3rd Cavalry Division. (ARMY RESERVE)

III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th* Divisions, 63rd
Division (G.H.Q. Reserve), 1 Bde. 33rd American Divn.

Canadian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd and 4th* Canadian Divisions, 32nd
Division*.

Australian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th (less 1. brigade) and 5th*
Australian Divisions, 1 Bde. 4th Australian Division,
1 Bde. 33rd American Division (Liaison Force), 17th
Division.

IX Corps H.Q. (G.H.Q. Reserve).

* Corps Reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	535.
" S.	..	164.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	334.
" S.	..	515.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	6453.
" S.	..	10037.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	3758.
" Gas.	..	233.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	3700.
6" How. H.E.	..	9601.
" S.K.	..	105.
" Gas.	..	1666.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	528.
" S.	..	302.
8" How.	..	1009.
9.2" How.	..	813.
12" How.	..	10.
60-pdr. S	..	3270.

16th August, 1918.

Operation messages received and issued.

2121

6.7 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Situation quiet on Corps front. No captures or gas shelling reported. Centre division have made slight advance. Line now runs K.5.a.6.4 - K.5.a.4.7 - E.29.c.0.3. Left division report enemy drove in one of our posts W.28.b. at 7 p.m. Post re-established later. Patrols kept in touch with enemy.

6.18 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Left div reports situation quiet. Our harassing fire active retaliation slight. Right div reports during early part of night burst of hostile artillery fire on FOUQUESCOURT - ROUVROY road and PARVILLERS. Line unchanged during night situation now quiet.

6.50 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Enemy arty shelling increased during night in all sectors. FRAMERVILLE and VAUVILLERS shelled with yellow cross also PROYART and locality and MERICOURT heavily shelled. Valleys in southern sectors shelled with phosgene and lachrymatory shells. E.A. active bombing rear areas.

8.0 a.m. From Adv. Cdn. Corps.

Situation. French report 47th Division now occupy BOIS DE DAMERY and BOIS ENZ. International section between DAMER Wood and cemetery then line runs R.5.b.6.4 - L.35.d.2.3 - L.35 central - L.35.a.9.7 - L.29.c.5.6 - L.29.d.0.7 along road to L.23.b.8.8 to L.18.a.6.0 in touch with troops on both flanks. Posts at L.29.b.0.6 - L.29.b.7.6 - L.23.d.8.4 - L.24.c.0.4. Heavy enemy counter-attack on rear position in DAMEROY about 5 pm was repulsed. Estimated captures for 24 hours 260 prisoners 40 m.gs. between 1300 and 1400 wounded and killed Germans. 250 of the prisoners were taken in the enemy's counter-attack.

6.50 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Cdn. Corps report situation quiet and only slight retaliation to our harassing fire. FOUQUESCOURT ROUVROY and PARVILLERS shelled early part of night AAA Aust Corps reports hostile artillery increased during night all sectors FRAMERVILLE VAUVILLERS PROYART and MERICOURT shelled yellow cross and H.E. Valleys northern sector shelled blue cross and H.E. Active bombing rear areas. 3rd Corps report quiet night. Cent. Div. advanced line to K.5.a.6.4 - K.5.a.4.7 - W.29.c.0.3. Left div post at W.28.b. driven in by enemy 7 pm but re-established later. 3 EA crashed 5 out of control by day.

1.20 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Enemy resistance in front of French reported to be weakening. 31st Corps on our right are advancing at midday objectives ROYE CARREPUITES. Divisions in line will push out patrols and gain ground if enemy withdraw.

....1st

16th August, 1918.

Operation mges. 2.

2122
1st Div will support French advance with artillery as much as possible and will relieve 9th Brigade by his own troops as soon as possible if general advance commences. Aust. Corps are pushing forward on our left. Corps northern forward boundary will be E. and W. grid line through A.8 central.

3.10 p.m. From III Corps.

Further to morning report. Left div report posts have been established as follows. - (1) E.3.d.7.3 day
E.4.c.1.2 night (2) E.4.c.0.7 (3) E.3.b.9.5 (4) E.3.b.6.2.
Enemy definitely located (1) W.28.c.6.4 (2) E.4.a.5.1
(3) E.4.d.1.6 to E.4.b.4.3.

5.50 p.m. From III Corps.

Evening report. Situation quiet. D.16.a. D.17 and U.30.c. shelled by H.V. guns at intervals. EA active over CONTAY in morning at high altitudes. 30 rounds H.V. fired on RIBEMONT and BUIRE between 8.0 a.m. and 11.0 a.m. Hostile arty active on main BRAY-CORBIE road. Gas shelling nil.

6.19 p.m. From 5th Bde. R.A.F.

6 pm report. 2 EA crashed 10 112 lbs 36 25 lbs bombs on PERONNE.

6.36 p.m. From Australian Corps.

Evening report. Situation quiet. MORCOURT and RAINECOURT shelled during afternoon. FRAMERVILLE and X.10 a. and c heavily shelled between noon and 2 p.m. Scattered shelling in VAUVILLERS.

7. 54 p.m. From Adv. Cdn. Corps.

Enemy artillery active this morning. MEHARICOURT MAUCOURT ROUVROY FOUQUESCOURT BEAUFORT and PARVILLERS all shelled during the morning with various calibres. Large fire south of HATTENCOURT. 3.30 this afternoon. In co-operation with French attack our battle patrols pushed forward this afternoon and are believed to have reached a line approximately as follows. M.2.a.8.0 where we are believed to be in touch with French to trench system W. of FRESNOY thence western edge of SCHWETZ wood west of LA CHAVATTE and E. of FRANSART. Prisoners taken in FRANSART belong to 10th Jaeger Bn. ALPINE Corps. Our artillery have bombarded BOIS DE CROISETTE and LA CHAVATTE. Patrols now advancing against these places.

7.20 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Sitn. quiet on III and Aust. Corps fronts; following localities shelled RIBEMONT BUIRE MAUCOURT FRAMERVILLE also BRAY CORBIE road. Cdn Corps report enemy artillery active against MEHARICOURT ROUVROY FOUQUESCOURT BEAUFORT area. Large fire 3.30 p.m. S. of HATTENCOURT. Our patrols pushing forward on line M.2.a.8.0 to west of FRESNOY to W. edge of SCHWETZ WOOD to E. of FRANSART. 2 EA crashed.

28

123

FOURTH ARMY.

Summary of casualties reported
between 6 p.m. Friday, 9th Aug.
& 6 p.m. Friday 16th Aug., 1918.

Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.	
O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.	O.	O.R.
241	2923	925	16344	36	2411

Total casualties :-

1,202 Officers.
21,678 Other Ranks.

CONFIDENTIAL.

16th August, 1918.

(29)

Fourth Army No. G.S.11/31.

III Corps.

e124

1. The Army Commander has just seen a report by the Chemical Adviser, III Corps, No. 5/17/1 dated 14th August, addressed to the General Staff, III Corps, and a copy sent to the Chemical Adviser, Fourth Army.

2. He considers there are certain paragraphs in this report which show that while ^{the} discipline as regards gas orders in some units is very good, in others there is still a distinct lack of proper supervision to ensure that the orders as regards gas precautions are carried out.

3. The matter is so important that he wishes you to take the severest measures wherever there is any failure on the part of officers to carry out the orders on the subject themselves or in ensuring that their men do so.

Wherever there is any neglect of duty in this respect, the officer should always be brought before a court martial.

4. It has been invariably found that where discipline in units is good, and an absolute compliance of orders has been insisted on, the number of gas cases decreases at once.

5. The Army Commander desires me to say that he wishes you to give this matter your personal attention at once.

(sd) A.A. MONTGOMERY,

Major-General,
General Staff, Fourth Army.

H.Q., Fourth Army,
16th August, 1918.

17th August, 1918.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS, 17th August, 1918.

e125

1. South of the SOMME the Australian Corps slightly advanced the line North of LIHONS and North of PROYART, capturing a few prisoners and machine guns. Numerous patrol encounters took place during the night. South of the AMIENS - NESLE Railway the enemy's artillery showed considerable activity at times, notably during the operations of the First French Army. DAMERY and MAUCOURT were heavily shelled by a 10.5 cm. H.V. gun which also shelled the villages in the forward area further North. Normal harassing fire and shelling of battery areas was maintained on the remainder of the Army front. Our artillery directed harassing fire against the enemy's communications throughout the night, and early this morning the artillery of the Canadian Corps carried out a special programme of fire in support of operations by the XXXI French Corps.

2. III CORPS.

During the night the forward area North of DERNANCOURT and the vicinity of MORLANCOURT was lightly shelled. Shelling during the day was light and very scattered. H.V. guns shelled HEILLY, WARLOY and the WARLOY-HENENCOURT Road.

CANADIAN CORPS.

No infantry operations took place during the day.

Normal harassing fire was directed against roads and villages in the forward area, and PARVILLERS and DAMERY were subjected to slight gas shelling with yellow cross gas. H.V. guns were active.

FRANSART was bombarded in the afternoon fairly heavily. The area West of QUESNOY received a considerable amount of shelling.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

During the night the 5th Australian Division advanced the line North of PROYART to an average depth of 300 yards and consolidated along the line R.9.c.5.5 - R.3.d.3.1.

The 2nd Australian Division pushed forward strong fighting patrols in the course of the day. After overcoming slight resistance the line was advanced 500 yards on a front of 1,500 yards. Seven prisoners and three machine guns were captured.

At 4 a.m. the enemy put down a barrage lasting half an hour on the front line in the LIHONS Sector. Otherwise hostile shelling was normal.

/ 3. Third Army

17th August, 1918.

2.

3. THIRD ARMY.

Several patrol encounters took place in the vicinity of PUISIEUX and BUCQUOY last night; otherwise situation remains unchanged.

4. FIRST FRENCH ARMY.

During the day the French captured the enemy's defences in CAMP de CESAR and penetrated to within 500 metres of ROYE Station.

South of the AVRE the French also gained a footing in BEAUVRAIGNES where sharp fighting still continues.

Since August 16th the First French Army has advanced the line about 3 kilometres on a front of 12 kilometres, and captured over 1,000 prisoners.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(a) British.

456 hours were flown by 220 pilots. 18 successful reconnaissances and 11 artillery patrols were carried out; 38 zone calls were sent down and 3 hostile batteries successfully engaged for destruction.

Our aircraft were active and carried out 140 offensive patrols. Ten air combats took place two of which were decisive resulting in the destruction of two E.A.

A special night reconnaissance of railways and roads was carried out by five machines. Night bombing squadrons dropped two 112-lb. and 188 25-lb. bombs on VERMAND, ATHIES and ROISEL.

During the day 203 25-lb. bombs were dropped on OMIECOURT Dump and various ground targets. 14,110 machine gun rounds were fired at trains, searchlights and transport.

(b) Hostile.

Activity below normal. Four artillery and 54 F.E.A. crossed the line, the latter operating chiefly over the Army area South of the SOMME.

6. PRISONERS.

15 O.R. were captured.

7. WEATHER.

Fine with low clouds and ground mist.

8. RELIEFS AND MOVES.

(a) Reliefs.

1st Canadian Division relieved 3rd Canadian Division in front line Right Divisional Sector, Canadian Corps, on night 16/17th August.

/ 5th Australian..

17th August, 1918.

3.

2127

5th Australian Division relieved 17th Division in front line Left Centre Divisional Sector, Australian Corps, on night 16/17th August.

(b) Moves.

32nd Division was transferred from Canadian Corps to Australian Corps.

9. COMPOSITION OF FOURTH ARMY.

Cavalry Corps.

3rd Cavalry Division. (ARMY RESERVE).

III Corps.

12th, 18th, 47th, 58th* Divisions, 63rd Division (G.H.Q. Reserve), 1 Brigade 33rd American Division.

Canadian Corps.

1st, 2nd, 3rd* and 4th* Canadian Divisions.

Australian Corps.

1st*, 2nd, 3rd*, 4th (less 1 brigade) and 5th Australian Divisions, 1 brigade 4th Australian Division, 1 brigade 33rd American Division (Liaison Force), 17th* and 32nd* Divisions.

IX Corps H.Q. (G.H.Q. Reserve).

* Corps Reserve.

10. AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

13-pdr. A.A. H.E.	..	1300.
" S.	..	568.
13-pdr. R.H.A. H.E.	..	221.
" S.	..	445.
18-pdr. H.E.	..	10401.
" S.	..	12551.
" Smoke.	..	198.
4.5" How. H.E.	..	7063.
" Smoke.	..	195.
" Gas.	..	185.
60-pdr. H.E.	..	3753.
" S.	..	4001.
6" How. H.E.	..	16286.
" S.K.	..	112.
" Gas.	..	394.
6" Mk. VII. H.E.	..	863.
" S.	..	458.
8" How.	..	2300.
9.2" How.	..	1572.
12" How.	..	80.
14" gun.	..	2.

17th August, 1918.

Operation Messages received and issued.

2128

4.40 a.m. From 5th Bde. R.A.F.

6 am summary. By day 1 EA crashed 316 - 25 lbs bombs on various targets. By night 2 - 112 lbs and 188 25 lbs bombs on VERMAND ATHIES ROISELLE and other targets.

5.50 a.m. From III Corps.

Morning report. Sitr quiet no gas shelling.

6.30 a.m. From III Corps.

Contn mornng report. Some gas shelling between W. of GRESSAIRE WOOD and K.22.c. between midnight and 2.30 a.m. Usual night firing on forward areas.

6.35 a.m. From Australian Corps.

Morning report. Sitr quiet on whole Corps front. Light scattered shelling of forward area. Little gas shelling of MALARD WOOD.

7.45 a.m. From Canadian Corps.

Morning report. Enemy gas shelled area between PARVILLERS and DAMERY during night and shelling slightly above normal on our trenches N. of FRANSART. Our fighting patrols made ground after hard fighting yesterday and line of rightdiv now reported to run as follows. E. of PLAVET WOOD E. of SCHMETZ WOOD believed E. of LA CHAVATTE E. of FRANSART VIZ from G.14.b.3.1 to G.8.b.8.6 thence G.2.a.4.0 G.2.a.3.4 G.1.b.9.6 thence as previously reported. Prisoners from two regiments ALPINE Corps and from 56 IR 121 Div. captured during yesterday's fighting also 38 Div identified S. of VILLERS BRET ONNEUX railway.

7.7 a.m. To G.H.Q.

Hostile artillery active North of FRANSART and considerable gas shelling between PARVILLERS and DAMERY otherwise quiet night. Canadian Corps line reported E. of BLAVET WOOD - E. of SCHWETZ Wood - believed to be E. of LA CHAVATTE - E. of FRANSART VIZ G.14.b.6.3 - G.8.b.8.6 G.2.a.4.0 - G,2.a.3.4 - G.1.b.9.6 - thence to old line.

5.50 p.m. From III Corps.

Evening report. Sitr quiet. Slight gas shelling about K.11.b. H.V. gun (believed 5.9) fired 5 rounds on HEILLY stn between 2 and 3 p.m. E.13.a. and V.28.a. shelled by 4.2 during morning. Marked diminution of hostile artillery activity during last 24 hours. Captures nil.

6.45 p.m. From Adv. Cdn. Corps.

Situation right centre quiet. 150 gas shells nature not yet reported vicinity DAMERY. Hostile artillery otherwise normal. Enemy seen nearing trenches in G.32.a.6.5 this afternoon. Captures 11 O.R. Six bombs dropped by E.A. on VRELY 11-30 p.m. yesterday. No report yet from left division.

... Cont'd.

17th August, 1918.

Operation mges. 2.

6.50 p.m. From Australian Corps.

0129

Evening report. During last night left centre div advanced their line to average depth of 300 yards and dug in along line from R.3.d.2.1 to R.9.c.5.5. Left bde right div advanced their line to depth of 500 yards on 1500 yards front during day meeting little resistance. Hostile arty active on forward area south of SOMME being particularly active on MORCOURT with 4.2 HV gun also on area along main ST. QUENTIN road S. of PROYART and on ROSIERES FRAMERVILLE and VAUVILLERS. Captures 7 o.r. 3 m.gs.

9.5 p.m. From Canadian Corps.

Further Cdn Corps G.236. Left div reports situation quiet. Hostile arty normal.

7.30 p.m. To G.H.Q.

Aust. Corps advanced line N. of PROYART last night. Avge depth 300 yards to line R.9.c.5.5 - R.3.d.2.1. Line advanced today N. of LIHONS to depth of 500 yards on 1500 yards front. Resistance slight 7 o.r. 3 m.gs. captured. Hostile artillery active S. of SOMME on villages in forward area with HV guns. Slight gas shelling vicinity DAMERY. N. of SOMME hostile artillery less active, slight gas shelling East of MORLANCOURT. Captures last 24 hours 18 o.r. 3 m.gs.

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FOURTH ARMY. 2130
17th August, 1918.

WEEKLY APPRECIATION

FOR PERIOD FROM 10th to 16th AUGUST, 1918 (INCLUSIVE).

* * 1. OPERATIONS.

During the period under review the attack which commenced on the 8th instant was continued, the Third French Army co-operating on the right of the First French Army.

N. of the SOMME the resistance of the enemy was broken on the 12th inst., on which date our line was established along the old AMIENS defences running from DERNANCOURT to TAILLES Wood inclusive, and thence to the high ground immediately West of BRAY, thus establishing a strong defensive flank facing N.E. In these operations our Left Corps succeeded in capturing 88 Officer 2,755 O.R. since the 8th inst., and also 60 to 80 guns.

The German order of battle is not easy to determine as elements of 7 Divisions have been identified in this area and no identifications have been obtained during the last few days.

South of the SOMME a considerable advance has been made in the face of increasing opposition. The area captured by us is shown on the accompanying map (limited issue). Considerable opposition was met with at PROYART, RAINECOURT and LIHONS. At the latter place an attack by the 5th Bav. Division was repulsed with loss.

In this part of the field the hostile Divisions are also considerably disorganized, the line being held at present with elements of probably 7 different divisions. Between LIHONS and ROYE the Germans have fought hard. HALLU was captured by our troops on the 11th inst, but counter-attacks by the enemy regained the village. Great opposition was offered at FOUQUESCOURT, PARVILLERS and DALERY. The seizure of the latter village immediately called forth counter-attacks on the afternoon of the 15th inst. These were bloodily repulsed with the loss to the enemy of about 1300 dead and 250 prisoners. In this part of the field we have penetrated the old pre-SOMME defence lines which, according to prisoners, the enemy intended to hold, at any rate, for the time being. This probably accounts for the number of counter-attacks delivered in this area by the enemy.

Further South the French have gained a considerable amount of ground and the fall of ROYE is imminent.

* * 2. ENEMY'S INTENT IONS.

North of the SOMME no further withdrawal has taken place. Active patrolling has revealed the fact that the enemy has established strong posts through ALBERT and East of the ANCRE. The Germans are also working hard on their defence lines on the high ground known as USNA and TARA Hills East of the town.

South of the SOMME from the resistance offered by the enemy it would appear it was not the intention of the Germans to withdraw East of the SOMME for the present. Men of the Alpine Corps who arrived on the battle field during the last few days stated they had received orders to hold the trenches and had heard nothing about withdrawal., Prisoners captured at PARVILLERS as the result of the counter attack on the 15th inst, state however that they were of opinion that the attack had been ordered with a view to inducing the British to believe that it was the intention of the enemy not to give up a single inch of ground without an effort to regain it whereas in reality it was the intention of the enemy to withdraw.E. of the SOMME, if attacked in strength.

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They stated that extra bridges had been prepared along the SOMME and that work was being done on the old German line running East of the river between PERONNE and EPENANCOURT.

From the fact that the enemy has made no effort since the afternoon of the 15th inst to regain the villages lost by him between LIHONS and ROYE and from the strong indications that his heavy artillery was withdrawn further to the rear in the same area it seems probable that in the face of continued pressure the enemy will retire fighting across the SOMME, making use of the large number of old trenches some of which are still well wired, to delay our advance and gain time to transfer his guns and material across the river. This conclusion is in agreement with statements of prisoners captured by the French and is, to a certain extent, in conformity with the withdrawal of the Germans opposite the Third Army front and the statement of prisoners captured there that the coming winter is to be spent by them in the HINDENBURG line.

*
* * 3. PRISONERS AND MATERIAL.

The number of prisoners captured between the 8th and 16th August is 22,217 of whom 482 are officers.

The number of guns is estimated at over 330. It is impossible as yet to count the number of machine guns, trench mortars, etc.

*
* * 4. DISTRIBUTION OF ENEMY'S FORCES AND REINFORCEMENTS.

During the period under review 11 Divisions have come into the line from reserve. They came in as follows:-

107th Div. brought in from close reserve on the night of the 9th/10th inst, in the RAINECOURT sector.

5th Bav.Div. brought in to the LIHONS area on the 10th instant from the BOYELLES area, where it was resting.

243rd Div. Elements came in to reinforce the line in the DERNANCOURT sector on the 10th instant from rest in the MONTAUBAN area.

204th Div. was identified by the French near GOYENCOURT, having moved from the LASSIGNY area, but a few prisoners were captured by our troops N. of the ROYE Road.

221st Div. came into line on the 11th instant in the DAMERY sector from rest in the SOMMAIN area.

38th Div. came into line on the 10th instant N. of CHAULNES from the LILLE area, detraining at CAMBRAI, and proceeding up to the line by bus.

26th Res.Div. Only 1 Regt. of this has been identified (on the 11th inst) but it is probable that the whole Div., is in the neighbourhood. It came from the BAPAUME area.

121st Div. came into line in the DAMERY sector on the 11th/12th instant, coming from rest in the LAON area, proceeding to the front by road, marching some of the way and bussing the remainder.

/79th R.Div.

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79th Div. came into line in the FRANSART sector on the 9th instant from rest in the GUNY area.

31st Div. Elements of this division came into line first in the LIHONS area on the 13th inst and then in the PROYART area, after having been at rest in the CAMBRAI area.

Alpine Corps. came into line in the FRANSART area between the 11th and 15th inst. They had been resting in the TOURCOING area, and detrained at HAM and NESLE.

The confusion and disorganization at present existing make it impossible to give an accurate order of battle. The assumed dispositions are given in the attached map.

5. NUMBER OF GERMAN DIVISIONS ENGAGED AND STRENGTH OF GERMAN RESERVES.

Since the 8th of August, the number of divisions identified by the Allied Armies is 39, with the addition of milked battalions from another division.

The Fourth Army alone has captured prisoners belonging to 26 divisions. Of the 39 divisions engaged, 18 have been drawn in from the German Reserves.

From documents captured, it appears that the situation as regards German Man Power confirms the evidence recently obtained from the low company strength in many units. Hence, it is estimated that divisions withdrawn after heavy fighting cannot be considered to be fit for offensive operations until they have been resting for four weeks. On this assumption, the number of German Infantry divisions in reserve, available for immediate operations on the Western Front, is as under :-

Crown Prince RUPPRECHT.	- Sea to ALBERT.	9.
General von BOEHN.	- ALBERT to NAMPREUIL.	6.
German Crown Prince.	- NAMPREUIL to W. of MEUSE.	4.
Gen. von GALLWITZ.	} - W. of MEUSE to OISE.	3
Duke of WURTEMBERG.		
Total. =		<u>22.</u>

There are in addition 2 dismounted cavalry divisions.

There are, however, in addition to the above a large number of German divisions withdrawn exhausted as a result of the AISNE fighting, and the French counter-attacks on the MARNE, which, in another fortnight should be ready again to take the field.

*6. ENEMY'S MORALE.

While there is no doubt that the enemy resisted our advance in some parts of the field with great bravery, yet there is a marked depreciation of his morale as compared with that of prisoners captured earlier in the year.

The belief is prevalent both among officers and men that Germany cannot now win the war. Since the French offensive on the MARNE, it has been brought home to them that AMERICAN troops in large numbers have given a very good account of themselves on

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battlefield, thus proving, in the most forcible manner that the 'U' Boat Campaign has failed.

The physique of the prisoners was, on the whole, extraordinarily good, and their power of endurance still appears to be great. From the reports of Intelligence officers received, they have never known the Germans so pleased to be captured. It is felt that the deterioration of morale due to the above mentioned causes will be an important factor in future operations.

7. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Aircraft.

Flying conditions during the period have been good, though visibility during the earlier part of the day has normally been poor.

During our operations in the earlier part of the period enemy aeroplanes were decidedly active. Strong patrols of F.E.A. were frequently seen and encountered, chiefly in the southern sector.

During the latter part of the period, activity has shown a tendency to decrease, though more artillery planes and R.E.A. have been seen, and activity has been distributed more evenly over the whole front.

A noticeable feature has been the great height at which hostile planes are flying, being driven into the upper air by the action of the R.A.F.

Seven long distance flights were carried out, the majority of them along the SOLME and north of it.

Hostile bombing planes have been active over the forward areas, and on the 11th/12th inst. succeeded in exploding the German dump at DOMART.

Fighting during the period has resulted in the destruction of 40 E.A., while 41 planes were driven down out of control, and 3 were forced down out of control.

In addition to the above, the A.A. sections have brought down 5 E.A., and forced one to descend in a damaged condition. Lt. BILLIK, commander of the 52 Pursuit Flight, and credited with 30 air victories, was captured, and a giant Gotha crashed during the period.

Twenty two of our planes are missing.

(b) Artillery.

During our operations in the early part of the period hostile retaliation was slight, and was chiefly of a harassing nature. North of the SOLME, enemy shelling was more active, though our operations on the 11th only promoted scattered shelling from field guns, chiefly from batteries in the vicinity of BRAY. Our new positions in the vicinity of ALBERT, LORLANCOURT and DERNANCOURT received most attention. There seemed to be no indications of special grouping or concentrations of batteries in this sector.

During the latter part of the period, artillery fire increased south of the SOLME. There is little doubt that the defence is stiffening here and that the artillery has been reinforced on this portion of the front.

H.V. guns have become increasingly aggressive, especially against villages in the captured area, and against our communications and battery areas.

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The enemy put down a heavy barrage between LE QUESNOY and ROUVRAY during our operations on the 14th, and there was considerable retaliation on the 15th to our operations in the RAINEVILLE area. On the same date, a heavy barrage was put down between DAMERY and PARVILLERS in support of the enemy's unsuccessful counter-attack in this area.

There were no particularly heavy concentrations of gas shelling though villages, batteries and our positions in the forward areas frequently received light concentrations of gas, usually mixed with H.E.

A feature of the period has been the great increase in the activity of hostile artillery planes. This was particularly noticeable towards the latter end of the period, and was chiefly over the area MORLANCOURT - BRAY and astride the main ALIENS - St. QUENTIN road.

(c) Movement.

On the 10th inst., a great deal of movement was reported westward on roads towards the CHAULNES front, probably in connection with the arrival in battle of units of the 5th Bav. and 38th Divs. The north-eastward road movement seen on the same day between the CHAULNES area and PERONNE was no doubt largely due to the evacuation of material from CHAULNES. About two battalions of infantry, probably of the 204th Div., identified by the French east of VILLERS-les-ROYE on the 12th, were seen marching west through GARREPUITS shortly after noon.

Night activity on railways in the St. QUENTIN neighbourhood, and subsequent eastward movement seen on the NESLE - HAM line early on the 11th was connected with reliefs on the French front. There was a good deal of eastbound train movement on the PERONNE - EPEHY line on the morning of the 11th, not accounted for, otherwise activity showed a distinct decrease as compared with the previous days.

There was much troop and transport movement on roads in the PERONNE and ATHIES areas on the 13th inst., on which date the 21st Div. came into line north of LIFONS.

Train movement, as observed during the 13th and 14th, was slight, but the amount of rolling stock reported in stations in the Army area was considerable, pointing to increased night movement, and the possible arrival of fresh troops. The Army on our Right reported railways and roads in the ROYE, NESLE, HAM, and VERLAND vicinities very active during the period 14th/15th August, and a concentration of troops in woods and villages, at CHALPIEN, OGNOLLES, ERCHEU, and ESMERY. This can probably be connected with the arrival of the 6th Bav. Div. Train movement between HAM and NESLE, and road movement, in both directions throughout the night of the 14th/15th on the ROYE - NESLE roads, is probably accounted for by reliefs in the COYENCOURT area.

Visibility during the latter part of the week has been generally poor.

* *
8. ENEMY REAR ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) Aerodromes.

Soon after the commencement of the battle, the aerodromes of the forward group disappeared, either destroyed or abandoned, though a few such as those at CAPPY, SUZANNE and

CIZANCOURT/

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CIZANCOURT were used up to the 12th inst. as advanced landing grounds.

Our continued advance made a similar move by the Southern Group necessary, 18 aerodromes being abandoned.

In the Central Group, the number of aerodromes abandoned (six) was counterbalanced exactly by the number of new grounds located. The large majority of new aerodromes are all west of a line drawn due south of EPEHY and all except three are east of the SOMME.

The Northern Group remains unchanged.

GOUZINCOURT changed the nature of its accommodation almost completely, the large hangars being replaced by those of ordinary size. It is therefore almost certain that scouts have taken the place of its bombing planes.

(a) Dumps and Stations.

No new dumps have been discovered since the battle started, the enemy has been forced to abandon those in the forward area, and for his present purposes to use those already existing in rear. The big dumps, in consequence, at NESLE, DOINGT, TINCOURT and others show great activity.

Work on railways has been at a standstill.

(c) Bridges.

In spite of our bombing, which caused considerable damage in places, the enemy has been able to use the bridges across the SOMME. Between PERONNE and VOYENNES, seven bridges have been constructed, of which four are footbridges.

It has been reported by the French that a number of infantry bridges have been thrown across the river at LIBERMONT.

* * 9. ENEMY DEFENCES.

The only part of the front where the enemy is making a big effort to entrench himself is east of ALBERT, where work is being pushed forward on the defences at USNA and TARA Hills. Although reports have been received from prisoners captured south of the SOMME that work is being pushed forward on rear lines of defence, yet air photographs have, up to the present, not revealed this.

* * 10. GENERAL.

The opposition offered to our advance has steadily increased throughout the week, thanks to the arrival of fresh divisions and additional artillery. The latter, however, appears to consist chiefly of field guns, field hows., and H.V. guns.

Counter-attacks have been delivered in strength at LIHONS and between CHAULNES and ROYE, and up to the 15th inst., it appeared probable that the enemy intended to stand on his old trench lines of the pre-SOMME Battle. Since that date, however, evidence has been accumulating that he intends to withdraw to positions further east, but whether across the SOMME or to positions west of it, it is not at present possible to determine. The danger he would run by standing to fight with an obstacle such as the SOMME in his immediate rear, is apparent, but it must be remembered that he held a similar position for four months early in 1917. Circumstances, however, since that

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date, have very considerably changed, and the question of Man Power is now of paramount importance to him. He sees himself faced by very considerable losses, by the failure of his operations which he fondly hoped would bring about a decision in his favour by the increasing strength of the American Army. His mind must, therefore, turn to husbanding his forces in order to meet the big battles of next year. He can effect this in only one way, and that is by shortening his line. Hence, it is considered that, as far as this Army is affected the enemy will fight a rearguard action to the SOMME, if pressure is applied. Whether he will ultimately retire to the HINDENBURG Line it is impossible to say, at present.

His morale has been very much lowered by the recent reverses which will undoubtedly affect his power of resistance.

V. Vorian

Fourth Army, I.
August 10th, 1918.

Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff, Fourth Army.

DISTRIBUTION.

G.H.Q., I.	2	G.O.C., R.A.	1
Third Army, I.	2	D.A. & Q.M.G.	1
Corps, I.	2	Inf. School.	1
Divisions (incl. Amer.)	2	S.O.S. School.	1
5th Bde., R.A.F.	3	First Army, I.	1
Capt. RENONDEAU.	3	Second Army, I.	1
A.D.C. c	1	Fifth Army, I.	1
M.G., S.S.	1	B.I.O., XXII Wing.	1
Operations.	1	R.C.E. No. 4.	1

(31)
17th August, 1918.

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Enemy Gas Shell Activity on Fourth Army Front
for week ending August 17th, 1918.

Gas shelling has again been heavy during the week, but has been mainly confined to the area north of the AMIENS - NESLE Railway.

700 Yellow Cross were reported on the night of the 13th/14th N. and N.E. of MORLANCOURT, and a heavy bombardment of 2,000 Yellow Cross E. of MERICOURT-SUR-SOMME and MORCOURT on the night of 14th/15th. The latter bombardment was productive of heavy casualties, the causes of which are being enquired into.

Fourteen bombardments of over 100 gas shell were reported.

Casualties for week :- 56 officers.
2098 Other ranks.

Deaths 5 Other ranks.

ENEMY GAS SHELL ACTIVITY FOR WEEK ENDING 9.0 a.m., AUGUST 17th, 1918.

Date 9 a.m. - 9 a.m.	Formation.	Time of Bombardment.	No. of Rounds.	Nature of Shell.	Map Location.	
Aug. 10th/11th.	12th Division.	7-40 - 8-10p.m.	30	Green Cross.	J.12.b.	W. MORLANCOURT.
	47th Division.	10-30p.m.	20	" "	D.13.a.	W. BRESLE.
	" "	12-10a.m.	50	Blue & Green Cross	E.20.b.	W. DERNANCOURT.
	3rd Aust. Div.	1-0 a.m.	50	Yellow Cross.	-	MORCOURT.
	" " "	4-0 a.m.	Scattered shelling.	Blue Cross	Q.17.23.24.	E. "
Aug. 11th/12th.	12th Division.	9-0p.m. - 4-30a.m.	400	Yellow Cross	K.8 & K.9.a.	MORLANCOURT.
	18th Division.	-	150	Unidentified.	D.16.b.	S.E. BRESLE.
	" "	-	25	" "	D.16.d.	" "
Aug. 12th/13th.	12th Division.	1-0 - 2-0 a.m.	50	Blue Cross.	E.28.c & d.	E.VILLE-sur-ANCRE.
	" "	-	100	Yellow Cross.	"	"
Aug. 13th/14th.	12th Division.	11-0p.m. - 5-0 a.m.	700	"	K.2.b.d.K.3.a.) K.1,K.7.a.)	N & N.E. MORLANCOURT.
	18th Division.	1-0 a.m.	12	Blue Cross.	E.8.b.	S.W. ALBERT.
	47th Division.	11-30p.m.	20	"	R.14.d.	N. PROYART
	18th Division.	2-0a.m. - 4-0 a.m.	150	Blue Cross mixed with H.E.	-	HENENCOURT.
	1st Aust. Div.	-	50	Yellow Cross.	X.29.c.	W. LIHONS.
	" " "	-	100	Yellow Cross and Blue Cross in H.E. Bombardment.	X.29.b. X.30.a.	" "
	2nd Aust. Div.	-	40	Blue Cross.	X.4.a.c.d. X.3.a.	E.FRAMEVILLE-VAUVILLERS.
	" " "	-	Light.	Yellow Cross.	Q.35	N. HARBONNIERES.
Aug. 14th/15th.	12th Division.	2-0 - 3-0 a.m.	80	" "	K.1.a.,K.7. & K.7.a.	N.W. MORLANCOURT.
	17th Division.	3-0 - 4-0 a.m.	40	" "	Q.23.c. Q.29.a.b.	S. MORCOURT.
	" "	12-30 - 4-40 a.m.	300	Blue & Yellow X.	R.26.c. Q.30.c.	S & S.E. PROYART.
	" "	3-15 - 4-45 a.m.	70	Yellow Cross.	Q.16.a.b.Q.15.cd.	MORCOURT.
	" "	12-30 - 3-0 a.m.	2000	Yellow & Green X.	R.1.d. R.14.a.) R.7.b.,R.8.a & c.)	E. of MERICOURT-sur-SOMME.
	1st Aust.Div.	4-20 a.m.	50	Blue Cross.	X.30.a. & b.	W. LIHONS.
	" " "	11-20 p.m.	30	Yellow Cross.	F.6.a.	S.W. LIHONS.
	2nd Aust.Div.	-	200	" "	X.8.b.	VAUVILLERS.
	" " "	-	300	Blue & Yellow X.	X.2.3.4.9.10.	FRAMEVILLE.
	" " "	4-20 - 4-50 a.m.	150	Yellow Cross.	Q.35.	N.HARBONNIERES.
2nd Can. Div.	8-0 - 9-0 p.m.	Light.	Blue Cross.	L.5.d.,L.11.b.	N. FOUQUESCOURT.	
" " "	4-0 - 5-0 a.m.	Medium.	Yellow Cross.	L.11.b.	"	

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ENEMY GAS SHELLING ACTIVITY FOR WEEK ENDING 9.0 a.m.
AUGUST 17TH, 1918.

Date	Formation	Time of Bombardment	No. of rounds	Nature of shell	Map location.
Aug. 15/16th	12th Division	1.30 a.m.	40	Blue and Yellow Cross	K.8.
	18th Division	2.0 a.m.	100	Blue Cross	D.4.a. V.28.a.
	2nd Aust.Div.	-	200	Yellow Cross	X.8 and 9
	,,	-	little	Blue Cross	X.4.a and b.
	Liaison Force	10.30 p.m.)	light	Yellow Cross	L.13.a. L.14.d.
	,,	1 am - 4 am)	shelling	Blue Cross and H.E.	K.23.b. and c.) K.29.a. and b.) K.18.c. and d.) E.28.a. D.18.a.) and D.30.c.)
Aug. 16/17th	12th Division	3.0 a.m.	60	Blue and Yellow Cross	E. and W. VILLE-sur-ANCRE.
	47th Division	10.20 p.m.	20	Blue Cross	S.E. MORLANCOURT.
	,,	12 noon -	few	,,	E. MORLANCOURT.
		3 p.m.			
	2nd Aust.Div.	-	few	,,	N.E. VAUVILLERS.
		(11.30 p.m.	slow		
	Liaison Force	(to	continuous	Yellow Cross	K.28.a. K.23) K.29.d. K.18.)
		(4.30 a.m. bombardment			
	1st Cdn. Div.	night	100	Yellow and Blue Cross	L.17 L.23

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ENEMY GAS SHELLING FOR WEEK ENDING 2 a.m. 17/8/18.

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Nature of shelling shown by respective colours.

Numbers indicate approximate number of rounds fired.

Only bombardments of over 100 rounds shown on map.

